



ARMENIAN RESEARCH CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-DEARBORN

THE SOVIET EXPERIENCE IN ARMENIA AND ITS LEGACY

**Academic Conference
Quad E (Room 99), Fairlane Center North**

**DAY 1
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2022**

OPENING SESSION

5:00-7:15 p.m.

5:00-6:15 pm: **Opening Reception**

6:15-6:45 pm: **Words of Welcome**

Domenico Grasso, Chancellor, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Khatchig Mouradian, Armenian Center, Columbia University

6:45-7:15 pm: **Conference Introduction**

Ara Sanjian, Armenian Research Center, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Looking Back at Armenia's Soviet Past from the Diaspora

PANEL 1

7:15-8:30 pm

Propaganda and State-Building in the 1920s and 1930s

Chair: Khatchig Mouradian, Columbia University

Haykuhi Muradyan

Yerevan State University

Agitprop and the Sovietization of "National Heritage" in the 1930s

Vahe Sahakyan

University of Michigan-Dearborn

The Committee to Aid Armenia and Exclusionary State-Centrism in Soviet Armenia's Diaspora Policies (1920s-1930s)

DAY 2
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022

PANEL 2

10:00-11:15 am

Anti-Religious Propaganda and the Armenian Church in the 1920s and 1930s

Chair: R. Warren Anderson, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Jakub Osiecki

Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, Kraków

The Church in Soviet Armenia in the 1920s and '30s: An Attempt at Assessment

Hasmik Khalapyan

American University of Armenia

Killing God: The Forging of Atheist Citizens in Early Soviet Armenia

Coffee break, 11:15-11:30 am

PANEL 3

11:30 am-1:15 pm

Tackling the Legacy of Stalinism since 1953

Chair: Anna Muller, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Pietro Shakarian (via zoom)

National Research University–Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia

Yerevan 1954: Anastas Mikoyan and De-Stalinization in Soviet Armenia

Siranush Dvovyan

American University of Armenia

The Reception History of Soviet-Armenian "Gulag Literature"

Gayane Shagoyan

Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences of Armenia

"Victims" and "Executioners" of the Stalin Era Repressions in the Public Discourse of Post-Soviet Armenia

Lunch break, 1:15-3:30 pm

PANEL 4

3:30-4:45 pm

Revisiting the “Friendship of Peoples”: Armenians and Azerbaijanis

Chair: Ronald G. Suny, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (Emeritus)

Ararat Şekeryan

Columbia University

Between Yerevan and Baku: Mirza Ibrahimov and the Making of Soviet Armenian and Azerbaijani Brotherhood

Lusine Kharatyan

Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, National Academy of Sciences of Armenia

Armenian-Azerbaijani Co-existence Models and Mechanisms in Armenia under the Soviet Slogan of “Friendship of Peoples”

Coffee break, 4:45-5:00 pm

PANEL 5

5:00-6:15 pm

Soviet Modernism and Its Legacy

Chair: Gayane Shagoyan, Institute of Archaeology and Ethnography, Yerevan

Elizabeth Bishop

Texas State University

Soviet Modernism and Its Legacy: Spartak Kndeghtsyan and Telman Gevorgyan’s “Moscow Cinema” Hall (1966)

David Leupold

Leibniz-Zentrum Moderner Orient Berlin

Yerevan’s Unfinished Future? The “Ancien Materiality” of Late Soviet Urbanity in Armenia’s Capital Today

DAY 3
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022

PANEL 6

10:00-11:15 am

The “New Normal” in Soviet Armenian Society

Chair: Armen Zakarian, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Konrad Siekierski

King’s College, London, UK

A Domesticated Religion? Armenian Vernacular Christianity in the Soviet Period

Yulia Antonyan (via zoom)

Yerevan State University

The Birth and the Death of the Soviet Technical Intelligentsia in Armenia

Coffee break, 11:15-11:30 am

PANEL 7

11:30 am-1:15 pm

Is Armenia’s Present Simply Past Continued?

Chair: Ara Sanjian, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Tigran Harutyunyan (via zoom)

Architect and Independent Researcher, Moscow

Perceptual Ambiguity of Soviet Architectural Legacy in Post-Soviet Armenian Reality

Suren Zolyan (via zoom)

Russian-Armenian University, Yerevan

Is the Armenian SSR Still Alive? On Political Symbolism in Modern Armenia

Ashot Voskanyan (via zoom)

American University of Armenia

“Civil Society” in Soviet Armenia and Its Post-Soviet Metamorphoses

1:15 pm: **Closing Remarks** Ara Sanjian, University of Michigan-Dearborn