



# ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY

## AT A GLANCE

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2025

2026



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Ilia State University  
**AT A GLANCE 2025-2026**  
Ilia State University Press  
2025



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ABOUT  
**ILIA**  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY



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**Ilia State University (ISU)** is a flagship public research intensive and comprehensive university in Georgia, located in its capital, Tbilisi.

It was established in **2006** as a merger of six different institutions, each having a long history and a diverse institutional profile. Shortly afterwards it transformed itself into a multi-profile university with its significant research outputs visible at the national and international levels.

Over the past 16 years ISU has been growing and evolving gradually. Currently, the University encompasses **4 faculties, 76 research centers and institutes** spread

across the country, an academic community of over **1400 professionals**, and serves approximately **17000** students, with over **850 international students** among them.

Coupled with its highly qualified academic and administrative professionals and modernized research facilities in Tbilisi and in the regions of Georgia, ISU has become one of the most preferred choice universities for students and faculty members today.

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#### MAIN PRINCIPLES:

- UNITY OF TEACHING & RESEARCH
- UNITY OF LIBERAL & SPECIALIZED EDUCATION
- UNITY OF UNIVERSAL & LOCAL





# FACULTIES AND PROGRAMS

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Iliia State University's four academic units - **Faculty of Arts and Sciences**, **Faculty of Natural Sciences and Medicine**, **Faculty of Business, Technology and Education** and **School of Law** - deliver **35 Bachelor**, **46 Master** and **22 PhD programs**.

ISU offers **15 degree** programs in English, and a wide range of individual courses (over 300) in different study fields to its growing body of international students.

Currently, ISU implements 9 double/multiple degree programs with international partners

at BA, MA and PhD level. Two engineering programs offered by ISU are under ABET accreditation track. Computer Engineering (Bachelor English Program) is a newly ABET accredited program effective from May 1, 2023.

ISU is the only Georgian university awarding a degree within the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master program since 2017, first within the **International Masters in Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies (IMRCEES)** and since 2023 as part of the **European Masters in Lexicography (EMLEX)**.



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## FIELDS OF STUDY AT ISU

### Faculty of Arts and Sciences:

Liberal Arts, Philosophy, Political Science, International Relations, Psychology, Sociology, European Studies, History, Foreign Languages & Philology, Literary Studies, Theater and Film Studies, Music, Religion Studies, Public Policy, Caucasus Studies, Archeology, Art Studies, Medieval Studies, Social Work, Addiction Studies, Mental Health

### Faculty of Natural Sciences and Medicine:

Biology, Biochemistry & Biotechnologies, Applied Genetics, Neurosciences, Molecular Biosciences, Food Sciences, Physics & Astronomy, Atmospheric and Near Space Sciences, Earth Sciences, Ecology, Nature Protection and Forestry, Medicine, Public Health

### Faculty of Business, Technology and Education:

Business Administration, Tourism, Culture Management, Mathematics, Architecture, Computer Engineering, Computer Science, Civil Engineering, Electrical and Electronic engineering, Nano and Material Sciences, Energy, Teacher Education, Special Education, Education Administration, Public Relations

### School of Law:

Law, Private (Business) Law, Public Law and Politics, Criminal Law



# INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS TAUGHT IN ENGLISH

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## BACHELOR'S PROGRAMS

- Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA - Management, Tourism)
- Bachelor in Computer Engineering
- Bachelor of Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering
- Bachelor of Computer Science

## MASTER'S PROGRAMS

- Master in Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Public Health and Health Policy (MPH)
- Master of Science in Applied Genetics (MSC)

- Master of Atmospheric and Near Space Sciences
- Central and East European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (CEERES)
- European Masters in Lexicography (EMLEX)

## ONE CYCLE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

- Medical Doctor Educational Program – Medicine

## PHD PROGRAMS IN

- Ecology
- Medicine
- Public Health

**YOUR AMAZING  
LIFE EXPERIENCE  
STARTS HERE!**

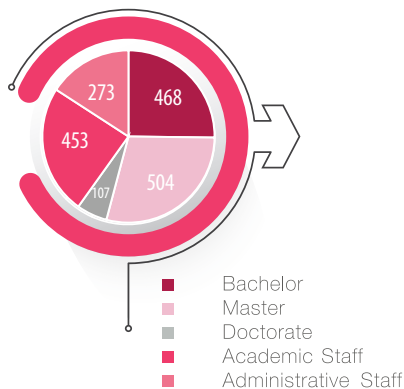


International Students Website

# STUDENTS AND STAFF

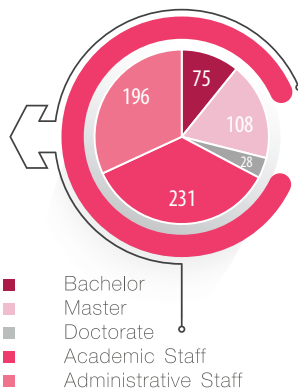
## International Student Mobility within Erasmus+

### OUTGOING



**TOTAL - 1805**

### INCOMING



**TOTAL - 638**

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**17,203 STUDENTS** (FALL 2024)



**841** International  
Students  
From **61** Countries

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**2,727**  
Graduate  
Students

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**61.5 %** Women

# INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL

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**ILIAUNI International Summer School** in BLACK SEA AND CAUCASUS: DIVERSITY, CONFLICTS, AND NETWORKS is designed to gather students from around the world for a fantastic international seasonal experience centered in Tbilisi, the main campus of Ilia State University, along with trips to regions of Georgia.

The summer school includes **2 Bachelor level** academic courses: Black Sea and Caucasus: Diversity, Conflicts and Networks

and a language course of student's choice. The program offers an opportunity to choose to follow the language course in Georgian, Ukrainian, or Russian language with intensive practice and interaction with instructors and the local community.

The program includes cultural and social events including field trips to historical and cultural sites in Tbilisi and the different parts of Georgia.



International Summer School 2024

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

ISU is actively involved in international cooperation and multinational consortium-type projects and programs funded by small- and large-scale higher education cooperation, research funding schemes, and individual donors.

The priorities of these international projects and programs range from infrastructure

development, new study and joint degree program design and delivery, improvement of academic and scientific potential, and sharing of international experience with the leading universities, research organizations, and institutions in Georgia and abroad (European, U.S. and Asian partners).



**350**

**INTERNATIONAL  
GRANT PROJECTS**

OVER

**67 MILLION**  
**GEL INCOME FROM  
INTERNATIONAL  
DONORS**



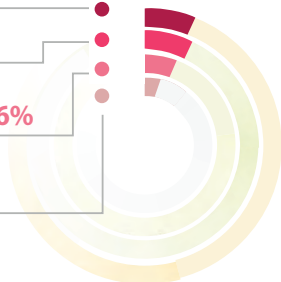
# INTERNATIONAL GRANTS

Curriculum/Academic Development **23%**

Research **41%**

Institutional Development **26%**

Other **10%**



# ONGOING PROJECTS

## KEY DONORS



## ISU IN EU FUNDED PROGRAMS

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The university has extensive experience in initiating, partnering, and leading EU-funded programs.

In a nutshell, ISU has been a partner of 27 Tempus, and 28 Erasmus + CBHE international consortia projects (4 under the leadership and coordinator status), Jean Monnet (4), KA220-VET (1), FP7 (2), Horizon 2020 (4), Horizon Europe (2), Cost Action (5), MSCA4Ukraine (1), Interreg NEXT Black Sea Basin Programme (4), NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme (3).

Currently ISU is collaborating with 139 European universities from 26 countries

within Erasmus + KA107 International Credit Mobility scheme and has implemented over 1200 student and staff mobilities since 2015.

ISU is the full partner of two Erasmus Mundus Joint Master programs: **International Masters in Russian, Central and Eastern European Studies (IMRCEES)** and **European Masters in Lexicography (EMLEX)**.

At the doctoral level, ISU administers 2 Double Degree Doctoral Programs with the University of Munster and the University of Gottingen in Germany.

# #weareiliauni



*University of  
Goettingen, Germany*

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*University of  
Limerick, Ireland*

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*Friedrich Schiller University Jena,  
Germany*

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*University of Bologna,  
Italy*

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*University of Applied Sciences  
Burgenland, Austria*

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# LEHMANN-HAUPT INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL SCHOOL

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In addition to ISU faculties and school, ISU established a transdisciplinary “Lehmann-Haupt International Doctoral School” (IDS) in 2017, an umbrella doctoral school with common, subject-overarching instruments for all faculties. With a strong focus on international exchange and mobility the IDS especially offers Cotutelle-based PhD supervision and quality assurance/control leading to double or even multiple degrees.

IDS implements two double degree PhD programs supported by Volkswagen

Foundation and Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia in partnership with the University of Göttingen (Germany) and the University of Münster (Germany).

The programs cover a wide range of disciplines, including General Linguistics, Language and Language Change, East-European History, Religious and Cultural Studies, Political Science, Forest Ecology, Cosmology, Geophysics and Astrophysics, Chemical Biology, Development Economics, Constitutionalism, Religion and Human Rights.



## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Modernizing Doctoral Education  
in the Caucasus and Central Asia:  
Key Achievements, Challenges, and  
Prospects



# RESEARCH AT ISU

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As a research-intensive institution, ISU is currently implementing over a hundred research projects supported by local and international partners, funded by various donors. Over the last decade, ISU engaged in more than **300 international and national projects** as a partner and leader of different research collaboration projects.

ISU dedicates significant resources and support to research activities - 30% of its annual

budget is allocated to research activities, operating **76 research institutes and centers** at Ilia State University, which cover wide range of fundamental and applied research.

Ilia State University Research Strategy seeks to underpin the development of ISU and its research impact by promoting: (a) high-impact research, (b) region- and country-specific research, and (c) socially responsible research.



IN ADDITION TO TBILISI CAMPUSES, ISU HAS  
THREE REGIONAL RESEARCH SITES ACROSS GEORGIA:

- Alpine Ecology Research Station in Stepantsminda
- Maritime Research Station in Grigoleti
- Field Research Station in Dedoplistkaro



Iliia State University  
Online Platform for Research

# CAUCASUS LEIBNIZ BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTER



**The Caucasus Leibniz Biodiversity Research Center (LBiC)** is a collaborative project between ISU and the Leibniz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change (LIB, Museum Koenig Bonn, Germany), established on April 30, 2024.

The LBiC is dedicated to the study and conservation of the biodiversity of the Caucasus. The objectives of the LBiC include:

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Combining the common interests regarding biodiversity research and education of ISU and LIB, it is expressed in clear governance structures and procedures for quality assurance and quality management and in establishing competitive scientific structures at ISU.

Analysis and modeling of the state of biodiversity and its controlling factors and its historical and current changes (also by means of natural history collections).



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- Introducing the latest methods of biodiversity research in Georgia and the Caucasus region.

- Strengthening working relationships with advanced European scientific institutions and integrating the LBiC and ISU into the European Research Area (ERA).

- Training of ecologists, taxonomists and biodiversity experts with the latest methods.

- Act as a connecting element between the parties of interest from Georgia, Germany, EU and other countries.

- Expansion of the ISU's and LIB's leading role in the field of biodiversity research in the Caucasus and development of viable, sustainable structures.

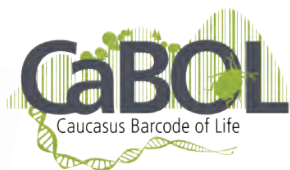


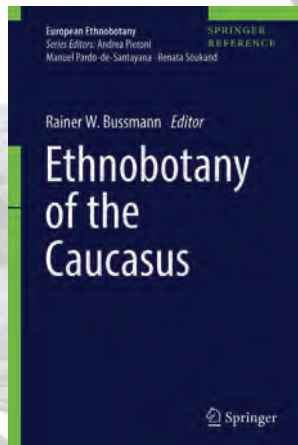
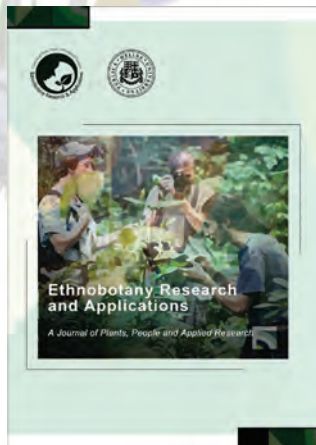
Caucasus Leibniz Biodiversity  
Research Center

# CAUCASUS BARCODE OF LIFE (CaBOL)

The Caucasus region is one of our planet's biodiversity hotspots containing a vast amount of animal and plant species. The BMBF-funded project **The Caucasus Barcode of Life (CaBOL)**, launched in 2020 with the coordination of Ilia State University and in partnership with several German

and Caucasian universities aims to catalog numerous animal and plant species of the Caucasus. The DNA barcodes of these species will be stored in a reference database and made publicly available. Initially, the project focus lies on the species-rich south-west Caucasus, on the countries Georgia and Armenia.





# THE NATIONAL HERBARIUM OF GEORGIA

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The National Herbarium of Georgia was founded by the end of the XIX c. It is the oldest Herbarium in the Caucasus. Its unique collections contain up to one million herbarium vouchers including collections made by outstanding botanists, type specimens, duplicates, etc.

Since 1974 it has been included into the International System of Herbaria (Index Herbariorum) under the abbreviation of the TBL.

Digital Collection  
of the National  
Herbarium of Georgia



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## SEISMIC NETWORK EXPANSION IN THE CAUCASUS AND CENTRAL ASIA

Iliia State University takes leading role in multinational project on the expansion of the seismic network in Caucasus and Central Asian countries. The project foresees ambitious expansion of national seismic monitoring networks by deploying additional permanent broadband seismic stations. The data from the new stations are openly available to the global scientific community in real time.

Project is supported by the US Department of Energy, Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and implemented in partnership with science and technology centers of Ukraine and Kazakhstan (STCU, ISTC). The participating countries are Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan.



All projects of the  
Institute of Earth Sciences and  
National Seismic Monitoring Centre

# DIGITAL HUMANITY PROJECTS

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**Georgian Language Corpus** - annotates corpora of about 128,000,000 tokens. The first section of the corpus combines primary sources of “Pre-Athonian” period (V-X AD) of Georgian literary tradition. The bilingual part of the corpus contains corpora of main Georgian literary and historical texts - The Knight in the Panther’s Skin (Georgian-English) and The Georgian Chronicles (Georgian-Armenian).

The Epigraphic Corpus of Georgia - documents the cultural heritage monuments preserved in Georgia, such as Georgian, Urartian cuneiform, Aramaic, Persian,

Greek, Armenian, Albanian and Arabic stone inscriptions and manuscripts dating from V AD.

The **Prosopographical Database** of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Georgia – compiles prosopographical dataset for Pre-Soviet and Soviet Georgia.



All projects of the  
Institute of Linguistic Studies



# BIOSTATISTICS IN IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE

In partnership with **Yale University**, Ilia State University implements the project “**Introducing Biostatistics Teaching into Applied Science Fogarty Training Program (GIFT)**”, funded by the US National Institutes of Health, Fogarty International Center.

A graduate training program in biostatistics aimed at addressing public health issues in the region. With a focus on HIV and opioid use disorder implementation science methods and analysis, GIFT strives to train the first generation of biostatisticians in the area and establish a cohort of academics to further the field of biostatistics. Through a **hybrid program** between Yale University and Ilia

State University, we plan to train **4 existing public health faculty** and **6 doctoral students**. Funding will also be provided for the execution of their own implementation methods and biostatistics research projects. In addition, GIFT will conduct a summer short-courses in Biostatistics and Methods Implementation Science Boot Camps.



THE FOGARTY  
INTERNATIONAL CENTER



ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF NATURAL SCIENCES  
& MEDICINE



YALE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH





# ISU IN INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

Ilia State University is the best research university in South Caucasus according to Scimago Institutions Rankings, as well as

No. 1 in Georgia according to the THE World University Rankings 2024.



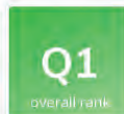
World University Rankings  
2025  
1202 - 1500<sup>th</sup>

Physical Sciences 2025  
601 - 800<sup>th</sup>

Life Sciences 2025  
601 - 800<sup>th</sup>

Social Sciences 2025  
601 - 800<sup>th</sup>

Ilia State University



1st  
GEO 2023



SCIMAGO  
INSTITUTIONS  
RANKINGS

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## THREE SCIENTISTS FROM ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY FEATURE AMONG THE WORLD'S TOP SCIENTISTS

Stanford University and Elsevier BV published a list of the world's top 2% of scientists annually, classifying over 100,000 scientists

into 22 scientific fields and 176 sub-fields. Five Georgian scientists are selected and three are from ISU.

### OZGUR KIŞI

Professor of Civil Engineering, ranked 6<sup>th</sup> in Environmental Engineering.

### MERAB SVANADZE

Professor of Mathematics, ranked 3037<sup>th</sup> in Mechanical Engineering & Transports.

### RAINER W. BUSSMANN

Co-founder of the Ethnobotany Research Centre at Ilia State University, founder and publisher of the series of Caucasus Ethnobotany (Springer Publishing), ranked 90<sup>th</sup> in Medicinal & Biomolecular Chemistry.



# INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

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ISU is a pioneer university in Georgia to administer its own university-wide consistent, targeted, and formalized initiatives in innovation and entrepreneurship at different levels, through different programs, and through different initiatives.

- Entrepreneurship Teaching and Education – Enterprise Education (EE) (bachelor, masters, and extra-curricular levels)
- Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Knowledge Transfer Services and Physical Spaces

- Knowledge Exchange and External Collaborations (inviting practitioners as keynote speakers on relevant topics, STEM Education Tours on campus, running Young Explorers' Club at ISU, Entrepreneurship Alumni Network, Youth Tech Clubs, Youth Coding Clubs, AI Clubs, STEAM BootCamps, etc.)

- Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Technology Transfer Support Activities (Global Entrepreneurship Week, Start-up Competitions, Hackathons, etc.).



# SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

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ISU's social responsibility dimension is an integral part of the university's third mission activities. ISU intensively focuses on designing and creating an inclusive and friendly environment for all individuals.

**Child Development Institute** - is a multi-functional and multi profile unit at Ilia State University, which creates a space for education, research and quality services in the domain of child and adolescents'

development. The Institute unites centers for Preschool and Inclusive Education, Practical Center for Education, Consulting and Rehabilitation of Children with Special Needs, Early Childhood Development Center, as well as Autism Center. It offers the most unique programs (ABC - Assisting Better Communication for Speech and Language Therapists) that has no analogue in the country.



# SCIENCE POPULARIZATION

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Iliauni Science Picnic - is one of the largest and most successful annual outdoor events organized by Ilia State University since 2012 annually attracting over 25000 visitors. The event aims to present science to people in an amusing way, and by doing so, make it attractive for attendants of different age groups and professional backgrounds. It has

been the first and only large-scale event in Georgia contributing to the promotion of science in all age groups. Iliauni Science Picnic unites various onstage shows, engaging experiments as well as contests related to biology, physics, astronomy, chemistry, architecture, robotics and many other disciplines.





## FACTS & FIGURES



Est.  
**2006**



**4**  
Faculties



**76** Research  
Centers & Institutes



**17,203**  
Students



**841** International  
Students



**61** Countries  
Represented



**1,249**  
Professors and  
invited teachers



**218**  
Researchers



ABET Accredited  
program



Programs

**35** Bachelor  
**46** Master  
**22** Phd



**15** English Taught  
Programs



**9** Double Degree  
Programs



**1<sup>st</sup>** in country in  
Scimago Institutions  
Rankings



**1<sup>st</sup>** in Country  
in the World University  
Rankings 2025



**67** Million  
Georgian Lari Income  
Generated From  
International Donors



**139** University Partners  
Within Erasmus + ICM

**28** Erasmus +  
CBHE Projects







ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY



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