**List of topics and speakers for lectures in Tbilisi for the project:**

**“2016 Series of European lectures”**

Date : Friday 18 March 2016

 Place : Europe House - Georgia, 1 Freedom Square, Tbilisi 0105, Georgia

1. From 10.00 AM to 11.30 AM : The ECtHR and the protection of Human Rights in Europe

Presentation of the origin, evolution and functioning of the ECHR, of its interaction with the EU Charter of fundamental rights; and a case-study.

Speaker: Mr Michal Kučera, senior lawyer at the Registry of the ECtHR

2. From 1.00 PM to 2.30 PM : Women’s role in the decision making process

The presentation will indicate how women empowerment could encourage women to gain the skills and knowledge that will allow them to overcome obstacles in life environment and ultimately such empowerment is necessary to help them to develop within themselves or in the society. The applicable European standards and the experience of some of the member States of the Council of Europe in this area will be highlighted in the presentation.

Speaker: Ms Ismeta Dervoz, independent expert, former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Committee of Equality and Non-Discrimination of the Council of Europe

3. From 2.30 PM to 4.00 PM Information Technology Communication related addictions

Access to social media and other IT communication tools has become extremely easy and available to all, including children from an early age, causing a form of addiction that is totally new but presents some common points with drug addictions. The present challenge for researchers, social workers, educators and policy makers is how to prevent and treat this new form of addiction.

Speaker: Mr Antti Jarventaus (Finland), Expert of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group) of the Council of Europe.

4. From 4.00 PM to 5.30 PM : The integration of disabled persons in society: education, work, housing and built environment

If discrimination on the basis of physical or mental disability is prohibited under the main legal text at the level of Council of Europe and of the UN, it is essential to integrate persons with disabilities into every aspect of society and in particular to ensure that the have access to education, work, housing and the general environment in general, as these are a pre-requisite for all other social activities like cultural, recreational and political ones. How to do so is a main challenge for most European societies.

Speaker: Ms Maria Walls, BSc., CQSW., MEd., LLM., Disability Advocate and Phd Researcher and Scholar in the Centre for Disability Law and Policy, NUI Galway, Ireland.

5. From 5.30 PM to 7.00 PM : Data protection: freedom of information and right to private and family life

With the development of IT, the processing of personal data has become very easy and fast. This called for the creation of clear rules that protect the individual while ensuring that the right to information is respected.

Speaker: Mr Graham Sutton, Council of Europe expert on data protection and access to Information, former member of the Home Office UK.

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