

# YOUNG PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP 2025 *Georgia*

## Event Report

📍 Tbilisi Marriott, Georgia

📅 15 - 18 July, 2025





# Event Summary

In the historically rich and layered city of Tbilisi, over 50 young leaders from more than 20 nations came together for the Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025. The program blended intellectual discourse with immersive cultural engagement, offering high-impact expert sessions on global governance, leadership, diplomacy, sustainability, and innovation. Interactive workshops sharpened critical thinking, strategic problem-solving, and collaborative project design. Cultural exchange activities brought global heritage, traditions, and artistry to life for participants. Diplomatic panel talks connected youth with seasoned professionals, bridging generational and ideological perspectives. Experiential learning exercises encouraged cross-cultural understanding and real-world leadership application.

Moreover, networking sessions built enduring professional and personal bonds. Creative group projects highlighted the delegates' ingenuity and dedication to global causes. Overall, the fellowship expanded knowledge while deepening empathy for diverse narratives. Tbilisi, with its timeless charm, became both a classroom and a catalyst for meaningful change among the participants.





# Message from the Organizing Committee

“Organizing the Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025 came with its share of challenges, but the journey was as rewarding as it was demanding. Delegates from across the globe brought an unmatched energy that made every effort worthwhile. Their active participation, insightful questions, and candid sharing of ideas enriched every session. Many challenged traditional notions with fresh perspectives, opening space for deeper dialogue and reflection. The cultural display added a vibrant layer, turning the program into a true celebration of diversity. We were inspired by their curiosity and commitment to meaningful conversations. Each exchange reminded us why global youth engagement matters. Such an incredible cohort of young leaders strengthens our resolve to create even more impactful initiatives ahead. We leave Tbilisi with memories and motivation to continue this journey with greater purpose”.



# **Topics of Discussion**

- **Youth and Career Mapping:**  
Finding Purpose in a Technology-driven World
- **Women in Leadership:**  
Can Gender Equality Ensure Ethical Governance Measures?
- **Youth and Climate Change:**  
How can Youth use Crowdsourced Policy Proposals and Digital Advocacy to Shape Climate Action?
- **Global Solidarity in Crisis:**  
Can Citizen-Led Aid Complement Governments' Efforts?
- **Towards Global Citizenship:**  
Inspire a Shared Vision to Become an Exemplary Leader

## **Theme of the Fellowship**

“Driving global progress through unity, ideas, and leadership”

## **Fellowship Aims**

- To equip young leaders with actionable knowledge on diplomacy, peacebuilding, and sustainable governance through engaging expert-led sessions.
  - To develop leadership skills via immersive simulations, critical discussions, and collaborative problem-solving exercises.
  - To promote cross-cultural understanding by facilitating dialogue, cultural showcases, and the exchange of impactful ideas.
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# Day 1

The **Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025** began amidst the living history of Old Tbilisi, a beginning as vibrant as the city itself. The day commenced at the Tbilisi Marriott Hotel, where initial introductions quickly gave way to genuine conversations. Delegates soon ventured into the city's heart, greeted by the intense Georgian weather. The narrow cobblestone streets, colorful facades, and the mingling scents of fresh fruit and spices created an immediate sensory immersion.



As the group explored, Georgian delegates stepped into the role of informal guides, sharing stories and local insights. A stop at the iconic leaning clock tower led to an impromptu moment where several delegates from Japan participated in a lighthearted Tbilisi tradition, having their photographs printed in a vintage newspaper style. The simple gesture carried a charm that sparked delight among the group.

The tour continued to Narikala Fortress, offering panoramic views of the city: the Metekhi Church poised dramatically on a cliff, the Mtkvari River landscape. Nearby, the Mother of Georgia (Kartlis Deda) stood as a powerful emblem of the nation's hospitality and resilience. Crossing the modern glass-and-steel Bridge of Peace, linking the old with the new, felt emblematic of the fellowship's purpose, bringing together diverse perspectives while honoring tradition.

Along the way, delegates paused for ice cream, exchanged stories, captured photographs, and even witnessed a Georgian wedding procession, a vivid reminder that the city's culture is as alive in its streets as in its monuments. Despite the heat and the day's long walk, spirits remained high, with smiles and animated conversations marking each stop.

Though framed as a city tour, the day's true significance lay in the connections formed, shared experiences that built familiarity, trust, and a sense of common purpose. It was an opening chapter that blended the beauty of Georgia with the spirit of global unity, setting the tone for the days ahead.





# Day 2

The second day of the **Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025** commenced with a spirited **Welcome Ceremony**, setting an atmosphere of cultural vibrancy and engagement.

**Georgian musicians** delivered a live performance blending Spanish and Turkish melodies, their rhythmic harmonies enlivening the hall. The soloist's emotive voice resonated with the audience, creating an immediate cultural connection that transcended language barriers. **This was a moment of cross-cultural dialogue through music.**



Following the ceremony, the **Orientation Session** provided a comprehensive overview of the **Young Professional Fellowship's** mission, history, and achievements, with particular emphasis on youth empowerment and the legacy of past events. Opening Remarks were then delivered by **Mr. Muhammad Ahmed**, Vice Chairman of YPF, who underscored the fellowship's emphasis on participation, action, and leadership. His address positioned the day's **agenda** as an active journey rather than a passive observation





The **Ice-Breaking Session** enabled delegates from diverse nations to introduce themselves, share unique aspects of their cultures, and establish a sense of familiarity. This exchange of backgrounds and experiences encouraged both cultural appreciation and the beginnings of meaningful connections.



The first thematic session, **“Youth and Career Mapping: Finding Purpose in a Technology-Driven World”**, was co-facilitated by **Ms. Nino Gogokhia** and **Ms. Ana Mindiashvili**. With a blend of personal narrative and actionable insight, they encouraged delegates to embrace career transitions, view creative hobbies as potential professional assets, and strategically position themselves in competitive job markets. Practical advice ranged from **résumé refinement** and strategic keyword usage to interview presentation and leveraging professional networks such as **LinkedIn**. The discussion explored self-awareness, life balance through the **“Wheel of Life”** framework, and the disciplined art of declining commitments as an act of self-respect. One notable sentiment, **“Rejection isn’t the end; sometimes it is redirection,”**



encapsulated the session’s forward-looking tone. **Ms. Gogokhia’s** metaphor of **“jumping into hot water”** further reinforced the necessity of risk-taking and adaptability in **professional growth**.



A **Group Activity** followed, in which delegates were divided into small teams to identify personal skills, share strategies for mastering them, and consolidate these into a collective resource for the wider group. This exercise facilitated skill exchange and highlighted the diversity of expertise within the cohort. After a **lunch break**, which provided additional opportunities for informal networking, the YPF team conducted **Delegate Interviews**, capturing participants' reflections on their fellowship experience thus far.



The afternoon featured a thought-provoking session led by Prof. Dr. Nino Kekelidze on “Women in Leadership: Can Gender Equality Ensure Ethical Governance?” Drawing on empirical research and regional case studies, Dr. Kekelidze initiated a dialogue on equitable power structures, representation, and ethical decision-making. The conversation extended into the balance between professional achievement and personal fulfilment, with reflections on public figures such as Steve Jobs offering compelling perspectives on the multifaceted nature of success.



A brief **Coffee Break** preceded the Team Challenge, one of the day's most engaging segments. Delegates collaborated to conceptualize youth-led organizations, articulating their missions, values, and strategic priorities. Teams designed conceptual youth-led organizations addressing a range of global and local issues. One example was “**EduRise**”, an NGO model aimed at bridging educational disparities between rural and urban communities. Proposed values included equity, inclusion, accessibility, diversity, and collaboration, supported by initiatives such as affordable education,



educator training, multilingual learning resources, and community-based workshops. Logos and mottos were crafted to visually represent each organization's mission, for instance, EduRise adopted a candle illuminating a bridge as a symbol of hope, guidance, and connection. The activity generated rich cross-cultural dialogue, with delegates exchanging insights on challenges in their respective regions and identifying shared approaches to long-term impact.



The day concluded with a Closing Segment and a **Group Photograph**, a symbolic capture of the unity, leadership, and shared vision cultivated throughout the day.





# Day 3

The final day of the **Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025** began with the arrival of delegates in vibrant cultural attire, infusing the venue with a rich display of traditions and global heritage. The Welcome Ceremony featured a deeply moving performance by **Korean musician Sherwin**, who shared his personal experiences of racism and his determination to combat discrimination against Asian communities. Through heartfelt songs such as *I Am Yours* and a Taylor Swift cover, he intertwined activism and artistry, leaving a lasting impression of courage and hope.



An Opening Speech by **Ms. Ani Samadashvili, Global Peace Ambassador**, urged the delegates to embrace their roles as changemakers within their own communities, setting a purposeful tone for the day.

The first session, “Youth and Climate Change: How can Youth use Crowdsourced Policy Proposals and Digital Advocacy to Shape Climate Action?” was led by Ms. Elene Jguburia. Delegates examined the intersection of technology, advocacy, and policy making, discussing how digital platforms can amplify youth voices, encourage accountability, and generate grassroots solutions. The conversation touched on practical and relatable issues, from the environmental costs of fast fashion to the





government's response to the Racha tragedy, as well as examples of international good practice such as Germany's bottle-return system, the expansion of electric vehicles, and innovative digital tools linking consumer purchases to social impact.

The morning continued with a Youth Challenge Group Activity, in which teams were assigned real-life youth-related challenges, such as online bullying, gender-based discrimination, and exclusion due to financial limitations. Within thirty minutes, each group developed three actionable responses. Proposed solutions included mentorship programs, peer support networks, inclusive budgeting models, and mental health advocacy. The exercise encouraged delegates to think critically, act empathetically, and connect their problem-solving approaches to immediate and tangible impact



After a networking Lunch Break and a round of Delegate Interviews, the program resumed with **“Global Solidarity in Crisis: Can Citizen-Led Aid Complement Governments’ Efforts?”** by Ms. Nino Margvelashvili. This session examined how citizen-driven initiatives can bridge gaps left by government responses in times of crisis, whether during pandemics, natural disasters, or large-scale displacement.

Delegates explored the balance between civic action and institutional policy, as well as the potential of grassroots movements to catalyze systemic change. The session also featured a meditative empathy exercise, where participants



practiced active listening without responding. This simple exercise proved unexpectedly powerful, allowing individuals to feel acknowledged without judgment or unsolicited advice

In the **Social Project Presentations**, delegates showcased their innovative social impact projects, including a spirited talk on women in leadership, GAT (Give and Take)-a digital initiative enabling people to share surplus clothing or food with others in need through location-based connectivity and others.



The final speaker, Ms. Tamta Tskhovrebadz, delivered “**Towards Global Citizenship: Inspire a Shared Vision to Become an Exemplary Leader**”, introducing the Kuramoto model as a metaphor for unity through diversity. Just as differing rhythms can eventually align without losing their individuality, the session demonstrated that global leadership thrives when differences are embraced rather than erased.



The program concluded with a **Parade of Cultures**, where delegates proudly carried their **National flags** and wore traditional dresses,





Followed by the **Awarding Ceremony**. Speakers received honorary awards, while each delegate was presented with a certificate and branded gifts, including a pen, notebook, t-shirt, and other mementos.



The day ended with **group photographs**, exchange of contacts, and farewells filled with mutual respect and warmth





# Conclusion

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The Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025 concluded as a shared space of dialogue, cultural exchange, and purposeful collaboration.

Across three days, delegates confronted pressing global issues, exchanged innovative solutions, and strengthened their capacity to lead with integrity.

As the program ended, it was clear that its impact would endure, carried forward by each delegate into their communities and future endeavors.



## Key Takeaways

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- Career choices thrive when anchored in personal purpose yet fluid enough to meet the shifting tides of a tech-reshaped future.
- Equal representation of women in leadership ignites cultures of integrity, where decision-making balances vision with empathy.

- Crowdsourced policies and digital advocacy transform youth from passive stakeholders into architects of climate resilience.
- Citizen-led aid becomes the lifeline that fills the silences between delayed or fractured government responses.
- True global citizenship emerges from a shared vision that fuses empathy, accountability, and the courage to collaborate across cultures.

## **Key Achievements**

- Empowered a diverse cohort of 80+ emerging leaders from over 20 countries through immersive sessions on ethical governance, climate action, digital diplomacy and human rights advocacy.
- Led experiential learning modules and real-time crisis simulations that enhanced policy design and negotiation skills, and solution-oriented leadership.
- Enabled direct dialogues between youth and high-level policymakers, ensuring actionable partnerships and insider perspectives on shaping global agendas.
- Curated transformative cultural and intellectual exchanges that dismantled biases, built trust, and expanded participants' capacity for cross-border collaboration.
- Cemented an active international network of changemakers committed to driving systemic reforms and advancing the principles of equity, sustainability, and peace.



# Media publication and Outreach



Actual : Maroc : Communauté : Tiliou : Agence Ben Jaa s'inscrit le jeudi 03/01/2011 pour une Matinée.

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## Tbilissi : Aymane Ben Jaa relance le projet CEMER pour une Méditerranée verte

Toll-free: 22 juillet 2025

Du 13 au 18 juillet 2025, la capitale géorgienne a vibré au rythme de la Rencontre Internationale des Jeunes Engagés, un sommet organisé par l'organisation américaine Young Professional Fellowship (YPF). Parmi les 70 jeunes leaders venus des quatre coins du globe, Aymane Ben Jaz, délégué du Club Jeunes du Cercle Eugène Delacroix, a marqué les esprits en annonçant la relance du projet CEMER, une initiative audacieuse pour une Communauté Méditerranéenne des Énergies Renouvelables.



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مشاركة سعودية مميزة في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب -  
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مشاركة سعودية مميزة في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب - Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025



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## مشاركة سعودية مميزة في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب



منابعات - سمية للقطان

شارك رائد الأعمال الاجتماعي والمدرّب الدولي السعودي عبدالله السعد في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب (Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025)، الذي عُقد في الفترة من 15 إلى 18 يوليو 2025 في فندق مارينوت ألبيسي وكورادون ألبيسي، بمشاركة 70 شابًا وشابة من أكثر من 15 دولة.

ახალგაზრდა დიპლომატ ანი სამადაშვილის ორგანიზატორობით, თბილისში მსოფლიოს 16 ქვეყნის ახალგაზრდა პროფესიონალების ლიდერების ფორუმი გაიმართა.



მხატვრულ პროექტების დროს, რეგულარულად 18 ქვეყნის 70 ახალგაზრდა პროფესიონალი გახლდათ მონაწილე, რომლებსაც კონკურსის სახელით "YOUNG PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP GEORGIA 2025" მიენიჭა.

მონაწილეები - სمية للقطان



## مشاركة سعودية مميزة في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب Young Professional – Fellowship Georgia 2025

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## مشاركة سعودية مميزة في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025



منابعات - سمية القطان

شارك رائد الأعمال الاجتماعي والمدرّب الدولي السعودي عبدالله السعد في مؤتمر الزمالة المهنية للشباب (Young Professional Fellowship Georgia 2025)، الذي عُقد في الفترة من 15 إلى 18 يوليو 2025 في فندق

This report is compiled and written by Ms. Alya Farooq with valuable contributions from Anano Sikmashvili, Barbare Lagvilava and Prof. Urmi Chakravorty.