

Eurasia Foundation E-Bulletin

June 2005

www.eurasia.org

Washington, D.C.

"The contribution of your foundation to the growth and well-being of countries throughout the whole of Eurasia has been truly outstanding for more than a decade now. The outcome of your grant-making activities is manifested both by successfully completed individual projects and by their profound social impact."

- Yuriy Blaschuk, Chairman of the Board, International Mortgage Bank, Ukraine

Increased Impact: Donors Contribute to Eurasia Projects

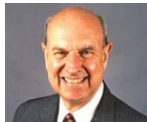
The Eurasia Foundation (EF) raised and leveraged almost \$4 million in 2004 from non-US government sources, including 72% in direct contributions. Horton Beebe-Center, EF executive vice president, says, "Our funding partners are diverse. They appreciate our hands-on experience in designing and managing a diversity of transparent development programs, many in remote areas."

Forward Motion: New Eurasia Foundation, Russia

Since its launch last November, the New Eurasia Foundation has embarked on a range of activities in the areas of private enterprise development, public administration, education, youth policy, international cooperation and evaluation.

Please see the latest [New Eurasia Foundation E-Bulletin](#) for details. "The New Eurasia Foundation has now begun to develop its programs to support Russia as it becomes an essential contributor to world stability." - Marie-Ange Gaiffe, Madariaga European Foundation

Trustee Receives Award for Public Service



The Eurasia Foundation congratulates Ambassador Thomas R. Pickering, EF trustee, for receiving the Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service on May 26. The award was presented by the Wilson Center in recognition of the Ambassador's outstanding leadership in business and diplomacy and for fostering strong relations between the United States and the Russian Federation. [More](#)

Russian Corporate Social Investment: USA Fellowship Tour

In May, the Hewlett Foundation, EF and the New Eurasia Foundation sponsored a study tour to New York City and San Francisco for Russian senior managers working in corporate philanthropy. The group met with representatives from companies such as Goldman Sachs, American Express, JP Morgan Chase, IBM, Citigroup, Cisco Systems and Levi Strauss. The tour was part of the [Social Investment Initiative](#), which assists Russian companies to improve their philanthropic policies and methods. "At present, we are in the process of restructuring the social investment component of the company's activities. American best practices will help articulate to the company's leadership the important changes to be made and the evident benefits the company will gain." - Ekaterina Koliada, GAZPROM

Knowledge Sharing: Washington Office Hosts a Series of Round-Table Events

- **Kaisha Atakhanova** (pictured at right), a 2005 Goldman Environmental Prize winner and head of the Kazakhstan EcoCenter, an EF grantee, joined foundation staff and guests on May 5 to discuss environmental issues in Central Asia. Through a grass-roots advocacy campaign, Ms. Atakhanova persuaded the Kazakhstan government to cease importing nuclear waste. [More](#)
- **Ghia Nodia**, chairman of the Caucasian Institute for Peace, Democracy and Development, a grantee in the Republic of Georgia, joined EF on May 9 to analyze the country's current political and economic status.
- **Mohammed Hadi Semati**, a leading Iranian political scientist at Tehran University and a current Woodrow Wilson Scholar, joined EF on June 1 to discuss civil society, elections and reform in Iran.
- **Rostyslav Pavlenko**, head of the Analytical Department of the Ukrainian Presidential Secretariat, joined EF on June 9 to share his views and answer questions about the economic and political reform process in Ukraine.



[Click here to join our DC event invitation list.](#)

South Caucasus

At a press conference on June 8, Tigran Sargsian, chairman of the Central Bank of Armenia, officially welcomed the entry of the Izmirlian-Eurasia Universal Credit Company into the credit market of Armenia. The company was set up by the Eurasia and Izmirlian foundations, who have operated a small-business loan program in Armenia since the 1990's. Through August 2004, the program had disbursed \$10.4 million to 294 businesses. [More](#)



In March 2005, the Armenian GIND Printing House made its final repayment on a \$350,000 loan from EF. With a modern printing press financed by the loan, GIND broke the government's newspaper printing monopoly and currently accounts for half the newspapers in circulation. [More](#)

For information about recent EF activities in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, please read the latest [South Caucasus E-Bulletin](#), covering:

- Improved legal environment for small enterprises
- Textbooks for visually-impaired children
- Projects with the British government on anti-corruption issues
- Social issues related to the BTC pipeline
- Workshops with the UNDP to reduce trans-boundary degradation of the Kura-Aras River Basin

Central Asia

In [Kazakhstan](#), EF partnered with TengizChevroil to create a microfinance center in Kulsary, bringing micro-lending services to suburban and rural regions. For more information about EF initiatives in Kazakhstan, including new partnerships with AES and ExxonMobil, please read the recent [EF Kazakhstan E-Bulletin](#).

"It is by far the best English-Russian-Uzbek dictionary that was ever published," says Ergash Umarov, head of the Lexicology Department at the Uzbek Academy of Sciences. A team of translators began work on this first-ever digital dictionary in 2003 with a grant from the EF Tashkent office. EF is also supporting the Namangan Regional Council of the Red Crescent Society to promote cross-border cooperation on humanitarian issues in the Ferghana Valley. For more information about projects supported by EF's Tashkent Regional Office, please see the recent [EF Uzbekistan E-Bulletin](#).

In the [Kyrgyz Republic](#), at the request of local administrators and with in-kind contributions from IT companies and local governments, EF Bishkek is implementing a program to improve the computer literacy of rural populations. The office also continues to support 'Ferghana Valley Lawyers Without Borders,' a program providing free legal consultation to the public on both sides of three border checkpoints in the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Ukraine



In Kyiv, EF and the International Renaissance Foundation sponsored a 100-day review session of the new Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers. The briefing brought together leading non-governmental think tanks, embassies, donors, media and numerous government representatives, including Mykola Tomenko, Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine.

An article by Olexiy Haran, EF regional vice president for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, was recently published in the [Ukrainian Weekly](#) (No. 24: June 12, 2005). The commentary examines the Ukraine government's reform plans and proposes a set of resources to enhance the domestic reform agenda.

For more information about EF activities in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, please contact Eric Boyle, regional director (eurasia@eurasia.kiev.ua) or visit the [Kyiv regional Web site](#).

If you wish to send us your comments or unsubscribe, please contact ebulletin@eurasia.org. The Eurasia Foundation has made more than 7,500 grants totaling over \$153 million in 12 countries of the former Soviet Union since 1993. This press release was made possible through support provided by the Office of Economic Growth, Bureau for Europe and Eurasia, [U.S. Agency for International Development](#), under the terms of Award No. EMT-G-00-02-00008-00. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

