



## E-Bulletin

July 2006

### Eurasia Foundation Media Expert To Be Editor of New Moscow Newspaper

This fall, the Norwegian publisher Schibsted plans to start an independent community newspaper in Moscow modeled after its successful *Moi Raion* publication in St. Petersburg. Dmitry Surnin, long-standing manager of the Foundation's independent media programs in Russia, was asked to be the editor. The new paper will be a free weekly with an independent editorial policy and clearly marked advertising. [More](#)

### New Strategies for Social Investment

The Eurasia Foundation in Azerbaijan recently completed a two-day workshop in partnership with the Boeing Company and USAID entitled "Building and Branding a Corporate Social Investment Program." The workshop, conducted by Ms. Antoinette Bailey, retired Boeing vice president for community and education relations, is the most recent step in the Foundation's Social Investment Initiative, which supports businesses in developing, managing and evaluating corporate social investment programs. [More](#)

### CRRC Conference: Leading Economists Discuss Economic Development in the South Caucasus

More than 40 participants, including the chairmen of the central banks of Armenia and Georgia and representatives from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) from all three South Caucasus countries, gathered in Tbilisi on June 1-2 for a conference on regional economic development. Participants discussed issues affecting economic development in the region, including macroeconomic growth in Armenia, oil revenue in Azerbaijan and post-revolution expectations and challenges in Georgia. The conference was organized by the [Caucasus Research Resource Centers](#), the IMF and the National Bank of Georgia. [More](#)

### Investigative Journalism in Georgia

On June 7, graduates from an investigative reporting course published their stories on Georgia's judicial system and energy reform efforts in local print media outlets. The Caucasus Investigative Reporting Center (CIRC) trained the young writers and divided them into two task teams of 8 individuals. The ongoing program is sponsored by the Eurasia Foundation, the International Center for Journalists and the Global Conflict Prevention Pool. The investigative reports are available online at [www.circ.ge](http://www.circ.ge).

### Mushroom Farming in Ukraine

#### *Innovative Rural Development*

People in Ukraine's remote regions struggle for ways to improve their local economies. The Eurasia Foundation identified that mushroom farming as an agricultural business can contribute to rural economies if production cycles and reliable distribution networks are properly organized. A one-year project by the Eurasia Foundation, completed on March 28, helped develop mushroom farming in Ukraine's northern Chernihiv Oblast. Consultations, skills training, study trips, networking events, information materials and detailed guidebooks were developed. At the end of the project, the participants saw a 280% increase in mushroom production. Contact [Sarah Jewett](#) in Kyiv for more information.

### Eurasia Foundation-Moldova Grantee Appointed Member of European Election Monitoring Network

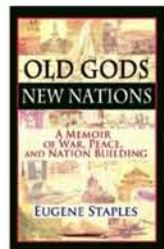
This June, the League for the Defense of Human Rights in Moldova (LADOM) became a member of the European Network of Election Monitoring Organizations. LADOM was an active member of the Civic Coalition for Free and Fair Elections (Coalition 2005), a 200-member group organized and supported by the Eurasia Foundation and other donors. LADOM was the first Moldovan NGO to monitor elections, train domestic observers and conduct a parallel vote count. Contact [Sorin Mereacre](#) in Chisinau for more information.

### Impact: Uzbekistan's Campaign Against the Third Sector

The Government of Uzbekistan continues to shut down domestic and international NGOs. At a June 8 briefing at [Radio Free Europe/RL](#) in Washington, DC, Andrew Wilson, president of the Eurasia Foundation of Central Asia, discussed the methodology and impact of the forced NGO closures on Uzbek society. Wilson said, "The government is using intimidation tactics, including requiring NGO workers to fill out forms naming their family members and sometimes even making them provide photographs." [More](#)

### Recommended Reading: Old Gods, New Nations: A Memoir of War, Peace and Nation Building

This newly released memoir by Eugene Staples, former Eurasia Foundation CEO, president and trustee, devotes a chapter to the Eurasia Foundation's early history. The section discusses the original discussions about the goals of the Foundation, the nature of its programs, the role of the Board and the opening of overseas offices. [More](#)



### Commentary

#### A Soft Power Tool-Kit for Dealing with Russia

by Eurasia Foundation President Charles William Maynes

"Over the past five years the Russian economy has begun to revive and Russia's government has gained in policy coherence, if not always in directions to Europe's liking. Today, the question is whether Europe has the policy tools to deal with this new phenomenon."

Click [here](#) for the full article • See the abridged versions in the [Moscow Times](#) and [St. Petersburg Times](#).

### In the News

#### NGOs Endorses First-Ever Accountability Charter

Oxfam, June 6, London—The heads of 11 of the world's leading social development organizations have publicly endorsed the first global accountability charter for the non-profit sector. [More](#)

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