

## PRESS RELEASE



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### **Model UN Session for Youth**

**Tbilisi, October 24, 2005** – In commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UN, the United Nations Association of Georgia launched countrywide Model UN- Diplomatic Role-playing sessions for youth in October. The final conference was held in the Hotel Tori on October 23, 2005.

This conference represented a follow-up to a one-month preparation period which focused on developing concrete skills of youth and covered narrative sessions on various issues of the UN, international relations, international organizations, and national interest.

60 students from leading Georgian universities participated in these role-play games. The theme of the forum was UN Reform, which turned out to be very challenging for these youth. Participants decided to focus on Security Council reform, veto rights, gender issues and suggested to complement existing UN bodies with Human Rights and Gender Committees. Heated debates and consultations resulted in delegates coming-up with certain agreements and developing a final resolution.

Since 1996 - when the United Nations Association of Georgia first pioneered the idea of launching Model UN session role-playing games in Georgia - some 1000 junior-level students have had the opportunity to be exposed to the reality of the international world and place themselves in the shoes of famous diplomats, orators and speechwriters.

The event was supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Forum Syd.

To learn more about Youth and Education direction and UNA Georgia's operations, please visit the organization's web site: <http://www.una.ge>