



Regional Campaign

LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS

Հարավային Կովկասն առանց սկանների

Piyada əleyhinə minalardan azad Cənubi Qafqaz

სამხრეთ კავკასია ქვეითსაწინააღმდეგო ნაღმების გარეშე

Южный Кавказ свободный от наземных мин

The regional campaign, LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS was launched in October 2019 after a meeting in Tbilisi of stakeholders from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and representatives of international governmental and non-governmental organisations.

Campaign activities were held across the region in 2019, 2021 and 2022, aimed at highlighting the heavy cost that the South Caucasus region pays as a result of heavy contamination by landmines and other explosive remnants of war. The campaign has over the last five years engaged with different constituencies in all the three countries. At a policy level we engage with governments, state demining agencies and relevant official bodies in discussions on issues related to landmines, and their eradication across the region; the campaign also engages with opinion shapers to increase awareness both amongst decision makers and the

general public of the problem of landmines in the region. And last but not least, the campaign engages with segments of society to educate about the risk of landmines, and also mobilise public will towards their eradication. Particularly successful have been education events held with school children.

LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS is a regional campaign, taking its message across the region in five languages: Armenian, Azerbaijani, Georgian, Russian and English. Different publicity material has been produced, including leaflets, posters, cartoon videos and infographics for use on social media.

The campaign LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS is co-ordinated by LINKS Europe working with partners from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and beyond.

Dialogue with policy makers and opinion shapers

Since 2019, the campaign LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS has engaged in a dialogue process with the governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, and other decision makers, implementors and opinion shapers to encourage more action in support of a region free from landmines. We encourage a regional approach to these issues and promote the merits of the Convention to ban the use of Anti-Personnel Landmines (Ottawa Convention). The campaign calls on local and international partners to work together for a landmine free South Caucasus by 2030.



Academics, international stakeholders and representatives from Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia met at a conference in Tbilisi on 10 April 2019, to discuss regional efforts to alleviate the scourge of landmines and unexploded ordnance.

The conference 'Overcoming the challenges of landmines in Azerbaijan's quest for peace, development and reconstruction' took place in Baku on 12 October 2021.



The conference "Mobilising national and international efforts to make Armenia free of landmines and unexploded ordnance" took place in Yerevan on 4 November 2021.

A conference was held in Tbilisi on 30 November 2022 to mark the "Day of solidarity with the victims of landmines and other remnants of war in the South Caucasus".



Advocacy, education, awareness

The campaign LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS promotes advocacy for the banning of landmines, and their eradication across the region. We highlight the plight of victims and their communities, including those communities who in the past have been displaced by conflict and now cannot return to their homes and villages because of landmine contamination. The campaign works to educate children about the risks of landmines, and more broadly to increase support amongst the wider public for a South Caucasus that is free from landmines by 2030.

Getting the Message Across

The campaign, its events and messages attract the attention of the mainstream media in the South Caucasus, including national and local TV channels, as well as many websites.

The campaign media partner, commonspace.eu, provides coverage of the campaign activities.

commonspace.eu



Infographics

A number of the campaign's key messages are presented as infographics in five different languages, and are shared and interacted with on social media with the hashtag #LandminefreeSC, and the relevant year. This outreach highlights the campaign's emphasis on building regional cooperation and confidence.





WORKING WITH DIFFERENT CONSTITUENCIES FOR A LANDMINE FREE SOUTH CAUCASUS



In February 2020 in Tbilisi, LINKS Europe hosted organisations from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia for discussions on the issue of landmines in the South Caucasus. The meeting was also addressed by Mr Juan Carlos Ramon, Director of the implementation secretariat of the Ottawa Convention.

For further information about the Landmine Free South
Caucasus regional campaign, please contact:
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The campaign Landmine Free South Caucasus is co-ordinated by LINKS Europe working with partners in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and beyond, and is supported by the European Union.

