

“CORRUPTION IN TAJIKISTAN: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES.”

APRIL 9, 2012

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

MUHIDDIN TOJIEV

Muhiddin Tojiev is currently a Visiting Scholar at the Department of Public and International Affairs at George Mason University. He is also a Junior Fellow at the Open Society Foundations' Central Asia and Caucasus Research and Training Initiative. As a PhD Student in Political Science at the Tajik Academy of Sciences Tojiev is doing his doctoral research on “The Problems of Optimization of the Anticorruption Policy of Tajikistan”.

Tojiev obtained his BA in Translation in 2004 and MA in Languages in 2005 from Khujand State University, where he was the Head of Youth Committee at the Department of Foreign Languages during 2001-2005. While studying at the University, Tojiev worked for the BBC Monitoring World Service's Office in Central Asia in 2004-2005. After graduating from the University in 2005, he continued his professional activity as Press and Public Affairs Officer at the British Embassy in Dushanbe. In 2007, Tojiev joined the International Finance Corporation's Office in Tajikistan as Public Education Specialist. Tojiev was involved in a number of national researches on the food market, domestic violence, youth political education and other issues conducted by different Organizations and Projects operating in Tajikistan.

His interest in the issues of governance and accountability took Tojiev to different educational events held within and outside of Tajikistan. Among others, Tojiev attended the Investigative Journalism Summer Course organized by the European Journal of *Transitions-on-Line* in Prague, Czech Republic in 2007. He also participated in a number of scientific conferences, including the 19th Annual Conference of Eurasian Studies at the Indiana University, Bloomington in 2012, where he made a presentation on the corruption in education, healthcare and social sector in Tajikistan.

SHAROFIDDIN SOLIEV

Sharofiddin Soliev is currently a visiting scholar at the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University. He graduated from the Political Science Department of the Tajik State National University in 2003. In 2004-2005, he worked as a junior researcher, and in 2005-2009 he has been a PhD Student in Political Science at the Institute of Philosophy, Law and Political Science of the Tajik Academy of Sciences. During 2006-2007, he took a part time teaching position in Political Science Chair of Tajik National University. He has been exploring socio-political aspects of corruption in transition period in Tajikistan and has several articles on this issue published with different local and regional publications. His publications included problems of democracy consolidation as factor of curbing corruption, trend of anticorruption policy in Tajikistan and other related issued to corruption. Also he coauthored and edited several methodical textbooks in Tajik language. He is currently a fellow of Faculty Development Fellowship Program of the Open Society Institute. Sharofiddin works at the Tajik State Pedagogical University in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan.

