Stone Dreams: Literature and Peacebuilding in the Caucasus
Part of IERES's Behind the Headlines Series

with

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Please join us to discuss the significance for peacebuilding efforts in the Caucasus of the recently published novel, Stone Dreams, by the Azerbaijani writer Akram Aylisli (Naibov). The novel was published in December 2012 in the Russian journal Druzhba Narodov (Friendship of the Peoples). The main character of the novel is Azerbaijani actor Sadai Sadykhly, who tries to protect his Armenian neighbors during anti-Armenian violence in 1988 and 1990. The novel also discusses anti-Armenian violence perpetrated by Turkish troops in 1919.

Stone Dreams stirred up resentment in Azerbaijan by depicting Azerbaijani brutality against Armenians during the conflict, while failing to mention Armenian violence against Azerbaijanis. Protests broke out against the author in Nakhchivan and Baku, including one in front of his house, and threats of violence were issued against him. Meanwhile, peacebuilding activists have also been targeted in Armenia, leading to the cancellation of an Azerbaijani film festival in 2012 following threats of violence and vandalism.

Friday, May 10, 2013
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.
(light refreshments provided)
Voesar Conference Room
1957 E Street NW, Suite 412

Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/Azerbaijan

This event is on the record