

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## Council of Europe and the EU Delegation to present their new joint projects in Georgia for 2019-2021

Tbilisi, 26.09.2019 – On Tuesday, 1 October, the Council of Europe and the Delegation of the European Union will present to media in Tbilisi new projects under the Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) in Georgia for the period 2019 - 2021.

Two country-specific projects will be implemented in Georgia between 2019 and 2021 with a total budget of 2.2 million EUR, funded by the EU (80%) and Council of Europe (20%). These projects will assist the Georgian authorities with the improvement of the systems of prevention and fight against corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing, as well as with the implementation of judicial reforms and the efforts towards a more efficient and more accountable judicial system in Georgia.

In addition to these country-specific projects, Georgia is also taking part in four regional projects aimed at fighting against economic crime, strengthening the profession of lawyers, combatting discrimination and facilitating access of women to justice with a total budget of 2.4 million euros.

Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi; Vincent Rey, Head of Co-operation, European Union Delegation to Georgia; Arkadi Sytine, PGG Co-ordinator, Programming Department, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, Council of Europe (Strasbourg); and Ana Dzotsenidze, Third Secretary, Division for the Council of Europe of the Department for International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia will present the projects and reply to questions from media representatives.

The presentation will be part of the 1<sup>st</sup> PGG II Local Steering Committee meeting that will be open to media from 10:00 to 10:45 and will take place on Tuesday, 1 October 2019, at Sheraton Grand Metechi Palace. English-Georgian interpretation will be provided.

**Prior accreditation of media representatives is requested** through the Council of Europe's Office in Georgia.

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## **Background**:

In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed that targeted co-operation activities with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus – the EU's Eastern Partnership countries – would be implemented under the Partnership for Good Governance programme. The phase I of the programme (PGGI) started in 2015 and was

## Partnership for Good Governance პარტნიორობა კარგი მმართველობისთვის







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completed in 2018; the second phase of the programme (PGGII) was launched in 2019 and will run until 2021.

These co-operation activities aim to strengthen the capacity of the Eastern Partnership countries, which are member States of the Council of Europe, with the exception of Belarus, to implement domestic reforms to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

For more information on the <u>Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance</u> For more information about <u>Georgia country-specific projects</u>