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Eastern Partnership – Council of Europe Facility

CyberCrime@EAP

Cooperation against Cybercrime

Project summary

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Project title	Eastern Partnership – Cooperation against Cybercrime (CyberCrime@EAP)
Project area	Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine
Budget	EURO 894,000
Funding	European Union (ENPI)
Implementation	Council of Europe Programme Office on Cybercrime, C-PROC
Duration	1 March 2011 – 31 December 2014 (34 months)

BACKGROUND

The present project is one of the projects to be funded under the Council of Europe Eastern Partnership Facility and will address the question of cybercrime.

The Eastern Partnership was launched by the EU at a Summit meeting with the Eastern European partners on 7 May 2009 in Prague. It sets out an ambitious path for deeper relations with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, through both bilateral and multilateral dimensions.

The new Council of Europe Facility responds to the need to further enhance cooperation with Eastern European partner countries facing similar challenges in complying with commitments originating from their Council of Europe membership. It will contribute to supporting the reform processes in the six partner countries through a multilateral approach and to facilitating approximation to Council of Europe and EU standards in core areas covered by the Eastern Partnership and in particular in the work programme of Platform 1 ("Democracy, good governance and stability").

The Facility aims at strengthening the follow-up to the findings of Council of Europe monitoring and advisory bodies in selected priority areas. It will allow for the mobilisation of Council of Europe expertise, peer to peer advice and the exchange of best practices among participating countries.

Cybercrime is one of the themes that has been identified for action.

NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine are parties to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime while Georgia is preparing ratification and Belarus has indicated interest in accession. However, effective implementation of this treaty and of related tools and instruments remains a challenge.

The project will therefore address the following needs:

- Policies and awareness of decision-makers: The project will raise awareness among decision-makers and help them determine strategic priorities regarding cybercrime and electronic evidence
- Harmonised and effective legislation based on the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime: The project will assess legislation in place, help draft proposals for amendments to legislation and assess the effectiveness of legislation, among other things based on criminal justice statistics and case law
- Judicial and law enforcement training on cybercrime and electronic evidence
- Law enforcement – Internet service provider cooperation in the investigation of cybercrime
- International cooperation, including judicial and police cooperation and strengthening of 24/7 points of contact
- Financial investigations: measures to prevent and control laundering and to search, seize and confiscate crime proceeds on the Internet.

APPROACH

All activities will follow a regional approach and combine technical advice with assessments of measures taken and progress made:

Three regional conferences will be organised in which not only technical level experts from EaP countries but also decision-makers should be represented. The first one will serve as the launching event of the project and will allow the sharing of experience on effective measures against cybercrime. The second one will allow countries to define strategic priorities regarding cybercrime, and the third one will assess progress (and serve as the closing event of the project).

Between these three conferences, six regional workshops will be held that will focus on:

- Cybercrime legislation
- Specialised institutions
- Judicial and law enforcement training
- Law enforcement – Internet service provider cooperation
- International cooperation
- Financial investigations.

Each Eastern Partnership country will host one of these workshops.

Furthermore, each country will be visited once to carry out a peer-to-peer assessment of measures taken and to provide advice. The reports resulting from these visits and information gathered during the regional events will be presented for discussion and adoption at the final regional conference.

Finally, the project will support the participation of EaP experts in relevant international events.

OBJECTIVE, EXPECTED OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

Overall objective of CoE Facility	To enhance the reform processes in the six partner countries through a multilateral approach and to bring them closer to Council of Europe and EU standards in core areas covered by the Eastern Partnership Platform 1.
Specific project objective	**To strengthen the capacities of criminal justice authorities of Eastern Partnership countries to cooperate effectively against cybercrime in line with European and international instruments and practices**
Result 1	**Eastern Partnership countries have defined strategic priorities regarding cybercrime and assessed measures taken**
Activities 1.1 1.2 1.3	 Regional conference (launching event of the project) on effective measures against cybercrime Regional conference on strategic priorities regarding cybercrime Regional conference on the assessment of progress made (closing event of the project)
Result 2	**Eastern Partnership countries are provided with the tools for action against cybercrime**
Activities 2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4 2.5 2.6 2.7	 Regional seminar on cybercrime legislation Regional seminar on specialised cybercrime units (high-tech crime, cyberforensics, prosecution services) Regional seminar on judicial and law enforcement training Regional seminar on law enforcement – ISP cooperation Regional seminar on international cooperation against cybercrime Regional seminar on financial investigations Peer-to-peer assessment and advisory visits to each Eastern Partnership country
Result 3	**Eastern Partnership countries participate more actively in international cybercrime efforts**
Activities 3.1	 Support the participation of Eastern Partnership countries in international activities against cybercrime (Octopus conferences, G8 training events for 24/7 points of contact, Internet Governance Forum and others)

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