

Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

Funded
by the European Union
and the Council of Europe



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by the Council of Europe

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

Promoting penitentiary reforms (from a punitive to a rehabilitative approach)

Regional Project

Who will benefit?

- ▶ Offenders serving sentence in custody in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (target countries);
- ▶ The general population of the target countries Relevant ministries of the target countries responsible for implementation of custodial sanctions and probation.

The aims of the project

- ▶ to combat prison overcrowding and support use of community sanctions and measures;
- ▶ to establish regional co-operation and a strategic approach on prison overcrowding;
- ▶ to reduce recidivism of former prisoners contributing to a healthier society and less crime.

How will the project work?

- ▶ through bilateral work as well as multilateral exchange of experience and cross-interaction;
- ▶ through holding working meeting with participation of the representatives of the relevant ministries of the target countries through developing a comparative analyses report based on carried study on combating prison overcrowding in target countries;
- ▶ through establishing a network and a forum for exchange of good practices between medium and high level representatives of the relevant ministries of the target countries for combating the prison overcrowding.

Project activities

- ▶ Translate into six languages: Armenian, Azeri, Georgian, Romanian, Russian and Ukrainian the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers recommendations and the extracts from the CPT general reports related to combating prison overcrowding;
- ▶ Develop e-compendiums of the Council of Europe documents on combatting prison overcrowding in the six target languages and disseminate among the penitentiary and probation agencies and the training centres in charge of training prison and probation staff in target countries;
- ▶ Conduct study on prison overcrowding in target countries and develop country specific recommendations;
- ▶ Hold a high level conference to highlight main findings of the study on prison overcrowding, discuss the recommendations provided and define the possible ways for their implementation.

<http://eap-pcf-eu.coe.int>

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How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget for the project is 110,000 Euros.

Length of project

- ▶ the programme will run from 1 August 2015 – 28 February 2016;
- ▶ the project was launched on 3 August 2015.

Who is responsible for the project?

The project is implemented by the Council of Europe's Directorate of Information Society and Action against Crime

For more information

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In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed that targeted cooperation activities with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus - the EU's Eastern Partnership countries - would be implemented under a 'Programmatic Cooperation Framework' (PCF).

These cooperation activities will strengthen the capacity of 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.

The overall PCF budget for 2015-2017 is €33.8 million.

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