

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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NOTE FOR THE PRESS

Support to the Georgian Bar Association

Who will benefit?

- ▶ citizens who will receive a decent legal service from highly qualified lawyers;
- ▶ the Georgian Bar Association through well-managed self-governance;
- ▶ individual lawyers through the enhancement of their legal skills;
- ▶ Georgian government through the legislation/regulations with harmonised European standards.

How will the project work?

- ▶ through the provision of legal expertise and transfer of best practices from Council of Europe member States on professional ethics, lawyers' training and entrance into the profession;
- ▶ through capacity building activities aiming at better management techniques.

How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget for the project is 400 000 Euros.

The aims of the project

- ▶ To increase compliance of national legislation and regulations with European standards;
- ▶ To strengthen the capacity of the Georgian Bar Association management;
- ▶ To increase legal skills of lawyers.

Project activities

- ▶ expert assessment and recommendations on the laws and regulations governing the mandate, functioning and general legal framework of the Georgian Bar Association;
- ▶ workshops, trainings and study visit to a Council of Europe member State Bar Association to learn about modern management techniques and post-exam induction period;
- ▶ integration of transversal issues, including gender and minorities rights mainstreaming, with recommendations for implementation.

Who is responsible for the project?

The project is implemented by the Council of Europe's Legal Cooperation Division of the Justice and Legal Cooperation Department, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law.

The Council of Europe Office in Georgia is actively involved and supports the implementation process.

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

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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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