

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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Implemented
by the Council of Europe

NOTE FOR THE PRESS

Georgia: Protecting internet freedom through legislation and arrangements for multi-stakeholder dialogue

Who will benefit?

- ▶ Internet users;
- ▶ Companies operating on the Georgian telecommunication market;
- ▶ Representatives of the local civil society;
- ▶ Georgian National Communications Commission;

The aims of the project

- ▶ to increase compliance of national legal frameworks and policies with CoE standards on freedom of expression;
- ▶ to increase knowledge of relevant state authorities about CoE Internet governance and human rights standards and related European Court of Human Rights case-law;
- ▶ to increase knowledge and awareness of Internet users about available remedies (CoE Guide of the Human Rights of Internet Users);
- ▶ to increase commitment of Internet service providers;
- ▶ to establish a multi-stakeholder national Internet Governance Forum;
- ▶ to enhance participation of key Georgian stakeholders in the international Internet governance and human rights debates;

How will the project work?

- ▶ through direct cooperation with the beneficiaries as well as multilateral exchange of experience;
- ▶ special emphasis on common issues and comprehensive approach;
- ▶ flexible forum for stakeholders to discuss standards of the council of Europe on Internet governance, rights of internet users, responsibilities of internet service providers etc.

Project activities

- ▶ studies on the rights of internet users, responsibilities of the internet providers;
- ▶ training sessions; workshops; conferences;
- ▶ specific studies and publications;
- ▶ development of recommendations for reform and legal expertise

How much will it cost?

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

Who is responsible for the project?

The project is implemented by the Council of Europe's DGI-Human Rights and Rule of Law

- ▶ Media and Internet Governance Division
- ▶ Information Society Department

<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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