

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

Civic Integration of National Minorities in Georgia and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML)

Who will benefit?

- ▶ National minorities will gain a better knowledge of the ECRML and of how to promote their languages in accordance with European minority standards.
- ▶ The general population, staff of judicial authorities, social care facilities, representatives of small local businesses, schools principals and teachers and journalists will be provided with accurate and objective information about the ECRML, national minority protection and minority language promotion.
- ▶ National and local authorities, decision makers, members of the Parliament and national minority organisations through enhanced capacity to deal with national minority issues.

The aims of the project

- ▶ To create the conditions for the ratification and subsequent implementation of the ECRML;
- ▶ To advise on linguistic, educational and cultural aspects of civic integration of national minorities.

How will the project work?

- ▶ through information meetings organised for national minorities with the participation of national and local authorities and the local population;
- ▶ awareness-raising activities using multiple dissemination channels;
- ▶ production and distribution of promotional material;
- ▶ through capacity building activities.

Project activities

- ▶ conduct awareness-raising activities on the ECRML and its ratification;
- ▶ undertake subsequent capacity building activities for the implementation of the ECRML;
- ▶ facilitate developing a system of plurilingual education for the national minorities which combines teaching of the Georgian language with teaching of minority languages;
- ▶ assist in developing a cultural policy that includes national minorities;
- ▶ develop a touristic cultural route which links sites related to the heritage of national minorities with a view to furthering a positive image of national minorities in the population.

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How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget for the project is 350.000 Euros.

Who is responsible for the project?

The project is implemented by the ECRML Secretariat, Anti-discrimination and Social Cohesion Department, Directorate of Human Dignity and Equality, Directorate General of Democracy.

Who is responsible for the project?

- ▶ Mariam Tsikvadze, Project Officer
Mariam.TSIKVADZE@coe.int

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.