

# 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 full execution of the European Court of Human Rights judgments and build the capacity of EaP national parliaments towards greater conformity of national legislation with the European Social Charter**

### Regional Project

#### Who will benefit?

- ▶ Chairpersons and members of National Parliaments, particularly those dealing with human and social rights issues;
- ▶ Staff of the National Parliaments' relevant Committees and structures working on Human and social Rights related issues;
- ▶ Citizens who submitted complaints to ECtHR,
- ▶ General public, in particular victims of human rights violations and groups affected by specific social issues who will benefit from better implementation or protection of social rights standards

#### The aims of the project

- ▶ To enhance the role of National Parliaments in the supervision of the government action in the implementation of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) judgments, via the creation of specific Parliamentary structures
- ▶ To support national parliaments on the revision of national legislation in order to bring it in line with the requirements of the European Social Charter (revised) as ratified by their country.
- ▶ Where appropriate, to remove national reservations (opt-outs) on certain articles of the Charter and steps to accede to the protocols to the Charter (in particular the Collective Complaints Protocol ETS 158)
- ▶ To increase the Parliamentary staff capacity in assisting members of their committees with supervising the execution of the ECtHR judgments by the government and on the compatibility of the adopted / draft laws with the ECHR and the ESC standards.

#### How will the project work?

- ▶ Review the current situation as reflected in the conclusions of the European Committee of Social Rights on the conformity of national legislation and practice with the European Social Charter in respect of these countries.

#### Project activities

- ▶ Parliamentary capacity-building seminar and national seminars on situations of non-conformity with the European Social Charter

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

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- ▶ Sharing experience of national parliamentary committees dealing with social rights, policies and challenges and present possible solutions and examples of good practice in this area.
- ▶ Increase the parliamentarians' understanding of mechanisms and structures on the supervision of human rights standards and on ensuring a proper and full execution of the ECtHR judgments in some of the Member States' parliaments
- ▶ Capacity development of the staff of parliamentary committees and legal units dealing with human rights issues who work on the compatibility of draft and existing legislation with the ECHR standards and its compliance with the ECHR case law.
- ▶ Regional and national training seminars for members of the staff of National Parliaments.

#### How much will it cost?

- ▶ The total budget for the project is 500,000 Euros

#### Length of project

- ▶ The programme will run from 1 January 2015-31 December 2017

#### Who is responsible for the project?

- ▶ The project is implemented by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

#### For more information

- ▶ Programme Manager  
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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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