



**CEPEJ(2024)2REV1
Part 3**

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE (CEPEJ)

**Support for a better evaluation of the result of judicial reform efforts in the Eastern Partnership
"Justice Dashboard EaP" Project**

Data collection 2023

Part 3 - Condensed Version of Key findings and Analysis

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Methodology

This third part of the report has been prepared based on the replies to the CEPEJ Questionnaire for the "Justice Dashboard EaP" Project provided by the beneficiaries through their respective Dashboard correspondents within the 2023 data collection. The CEPEJ Secretariat collected quantitative and qualitative data, as well as comments under each question to provide additional information on the specificities of each judicial system and to contextualize the data.

The content and format of the document follows what was agreed with DG NEAR during the first cycle of data collection (2020). The classification of indicators and content of each theme has been established by DG NEAR. Based on this, the report covers the following key topics: Efficiency, Quality, Mandate of judges and prosecutors, and Accountability. It combines quantitative and qualitative data under each theme. The analysis under each topic is accompanied by a reference to the table number from Part 1 of the report (comparative tables and graphs) and the number of the question in the EaP Questionnaire. Where necessary for data visualisation, new graphs have been created for the purpose of this Part 3.

The comparisons of data between beneficiaries with various size, economic and legal situations is a delicate task and should be approached with great caution. Moreover, the data on Ukraine needs to consider the damage to courts' infrastructure, the effect of the martial law and the staff shortage to collect and analyse data (see Part 2 A Country Profile for more details). This analysis treats all beneficiaries equally and compares them without any intention of ranking them or promoting any particular type of justice system. The focus of this report is placed on presenting data at the regional level.

The analysis covers all beneficiaries of the Action (**Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine**).

For more information regarding the methodology, please refer to the methodological note in the Part 1 of the report.

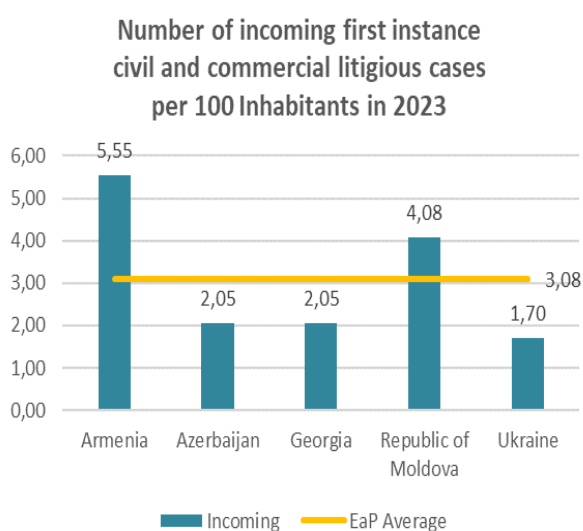
I. Efficiency (First instance cases)

This part focuses on civil and commercial litigious cases and criminal cases, both in first instance. In 2023 as previous EaP cycles, the case load in the EaP region was smaller for criminal cases than for civil and commercial litigious cases with less incoming cases. However, based on CEPEJ indicators (Clearance Rate and Disposition Time), in average, the most efficient type of cases was civil and commercial litigious cases. Indeed, for this type of cases a trend can be observed in the region and via the EaP Averages of higher Clearance Rates and shorter Disposition Times. The same was already observed in the previous cycles. In 2023, however, it is to be noted that **Georgia** and **Ukraine** do not follow this trend and dealt more efficiently with criminal cases than with civil and commercial cases. In 2023, the number of pending cases at the end of the year increased in all countries (showing Clearance Rates below 100%) for both types of cases, except in **Armenia** (civil and commercial litigious cases CR 111%) and the **Republic of Moldova** (criminal cases, CR 102%). On a regional level, only civil and commercial litigious cases appear to reach the pre-2022 levels (CR 98%).

Number of incoming civil and commercial litigious cases and criminal cases

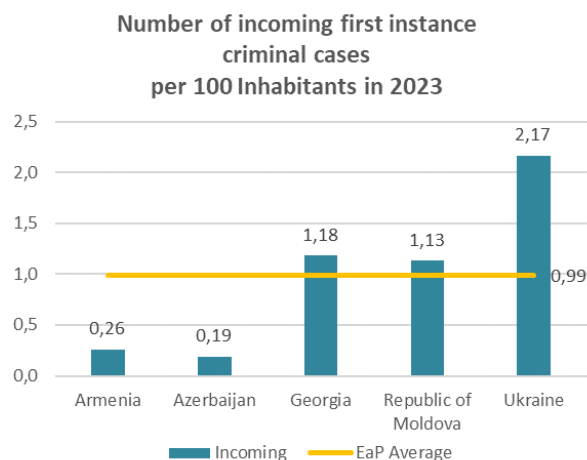
The incoming cases are all cases submitted to courts in the reference year for the first time.

CEPEJ 3.1.2 (Q35)



Compared to the EaP Average of 3,08, the highest number of incoming civil and commercial litigious cases per 100 inhabitants in 2023 is in **Armenia** (5,55) and the lowest one is in **Ukraine** (1,70). Notably, **Armenia** continues to lead significantly in this metric, maintaining stability from its 2021 figure of 5,54. Meanwhile, the **Republic of Moldova** shows an increase to 4,08 from 3,78 in 2021, surpassing the EaP average. **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia** have identical figures at 2,05, both below the EaP average, yet reflecting a slight increase for **Azerbaijan** from 1,90 in 2021 and a very slight decrease for **Georgia** from 2,19 in 2021. **Ukraine** shows a decrease from 1,93 in 2021 to 1,70 in 2023, continuing to remain below the EaP average.

CEPEJ 3.2.2 (Q38)



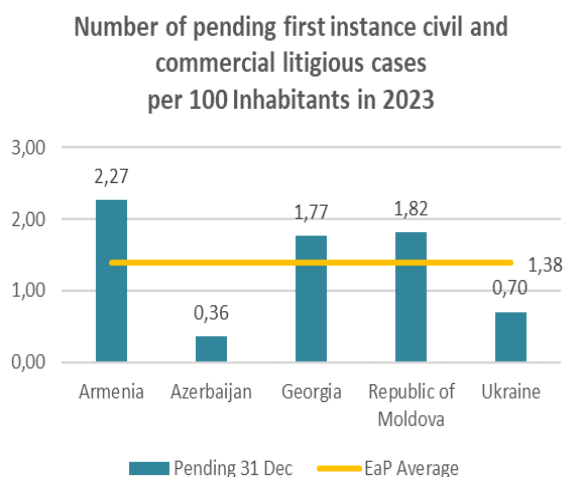
Compared to the EaP Average of 0,99, the highest number of incoming criminal cases per 100 inhabitants in 2023 is in **Ukraine** (2,17) and the lowest is in **Azerbaijan** (0,19). **Armenia** also shows a relatively low figure at 0,26. **Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova** have figures slightly above the EaP average, with 1,18 and 1,13 respectively. Notably, while **Ukraine** remains the highest, it has seen a slight decrease from 2,31 in 2021. **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** show a slight increase from 0,16 for each in 2021. **Georgia** shows a noticeable increase from 0,44 in 2021.

It is noteworthy that while the tendency is to have more incoming civil and commercial litigious cases, it is not the case for **Ukraine**, which has a higher standardised number of incoming criminal cases. While **Armenia** has one of the lowest numbers of incoming criminal cases per 100 inhabitants, their data shows the highest standardised number of incoming civil and commercial litigious cases.

Pending cases - civil and commercial litigious cases and criminal cases

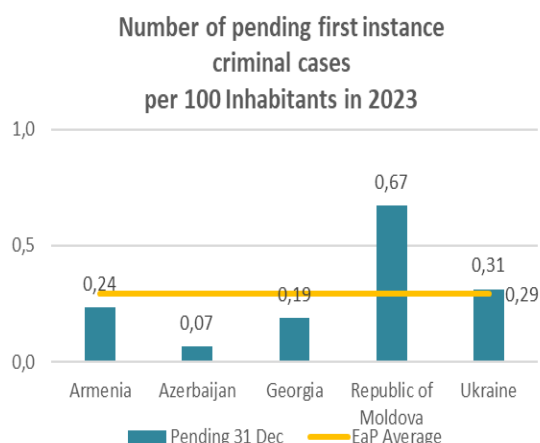
Pending cases on 31st December are the number of unresolved cases, which will be carried to the next year.

CEPEJ 3.1.2 (Q35)



Compared to the EaP Average of 1,38, in 2023, the highest number of civil and commercial litigious cases pending at the end of the year per 100 inhabitants is in **Armenia** (2,27) and the lowest is in **Azerbaijan** (0,36). **Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova** also have figures above the EaP average, with 1,77 and 1,82 respectively. **Ukraine** shows a figure of 0,70, which is below the EaP average. Notably, **Armenia's** number of pending cases remains the highest, unchanged from 2021. **Azerbaijan** shows an increase from 0,28 in 2021, so does the **Republic of Moldova** from 1,49 in 2021. **Ukraine's** figure has decreased from 0,81 in 2021, while **Georgia's** data has remained rather stable (1,78 in 2021) in this respect.

CEPEJ 3.2.2 (Q38)



Compared to the EaP Average of 0,29, in 2023, the highest number of first instance criminal cases pending at the end of the year per 100 inhabitants is in the **Republic of Moldova** (0,67) and the lowest number is in **Azerbaijan** (0,07). **Armenia** also shows a relatively low figure at 0,24. **Georgia's** figure is 0.19, which is below the EaP average. From 0,33 in 2021, **Ukraine** shows a slight decrease to 0,31, just above the EaP average. Notably, the **Republic of Moldova** remains the highest, although it has seen a decrease from 0,79 in 2021. **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** have shown increases from 0,16 and 0,04 in 2021, respectively. **Georgia's** figure has increased slightly from 0,15 in 2021.

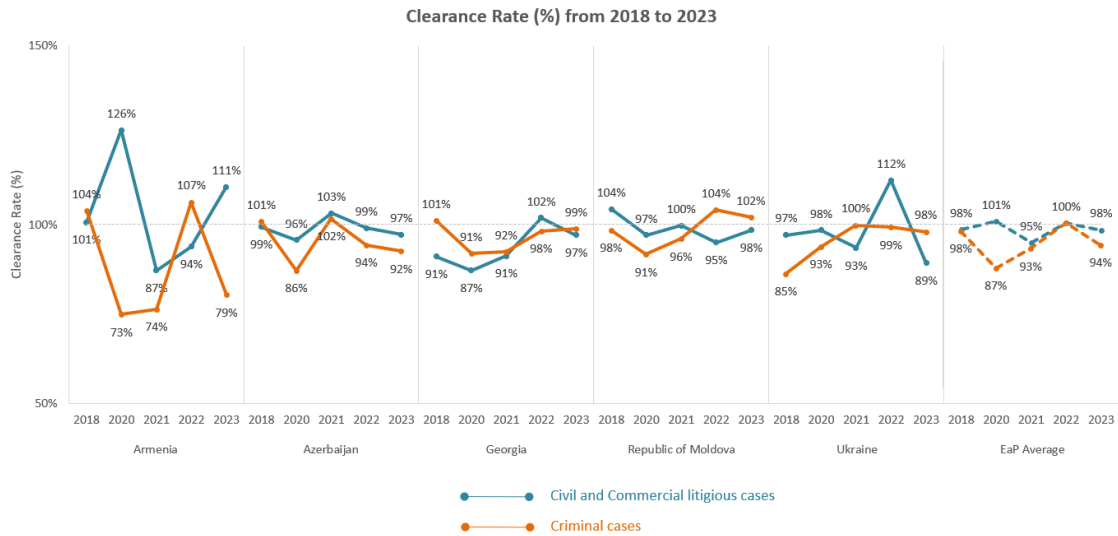
Some of the trends observed regarding the situation of incoming cases can also be observed for pending cases at the end of the year. Indeed, in 2023 and as it was the case in 2021, **Azerbaijan** has the lowest number of pending cases at the end of the year per 100 inhabitants for both civil and commercial litigious cases and criminal cases. Also mirroring the situation for the incoming cases, **Armenia** has a relatively low standardised number of pending criminal cases at the end of 2023 (below the EaP Average), but the highest standardised number regarding civil and litigious commercial pending cases.

Clearance rate

CEPEJ 3.1.4 and 3.2.4 (Q35, Q38)

The Clearance Rate (CR) is the ratio obtained by dividing the number of resolved cases by the number of incoming cases in a given period, expressed as a percentage. It demonstrates how the courts, or the judicial system is coping with the in-flow of cases and allows comparison between systems regardless of their differences and individual characteristics. Its key value is 100%.

- A value below 100% means that the courts were not able to solve all the cases they received and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases increases.
- A value above 100% means that the courts have resolved more cases than they received (they have resolved all the incoming cases and part of the pending cases) and, as a consequence, the number of pending cases decreases.



The graphic shows that there are no stable Clearance Rates in the region over the analysed period. Between 2020 and 2021, the overall tendency was an increase of the Clearance Rates in criminal cases and a decrease in civil and commercial litigious cases. Between 2022 and 2023, the overall tendency is a decrease of the Clearance Rates for civil and commercial litigious cases and criminal cases. In civil and commercial litigious cases, the decreasing tendency is seen more notably in **Azerbaijan**, **Georgia** and **Ukraine**. In criminal cases the decreasing tendency is seen in all except **Georgia**. It must be noted that the Clearance Rate in the EaP average for civil and commercial litigious cases is potentially impacted by the significant increase of CR in **Armenia**.

Some consideration needs to be given to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and related restrictions on the work of courts to explain the variations in particular in 2020-2021 and to some extent in 2021-2022 data.

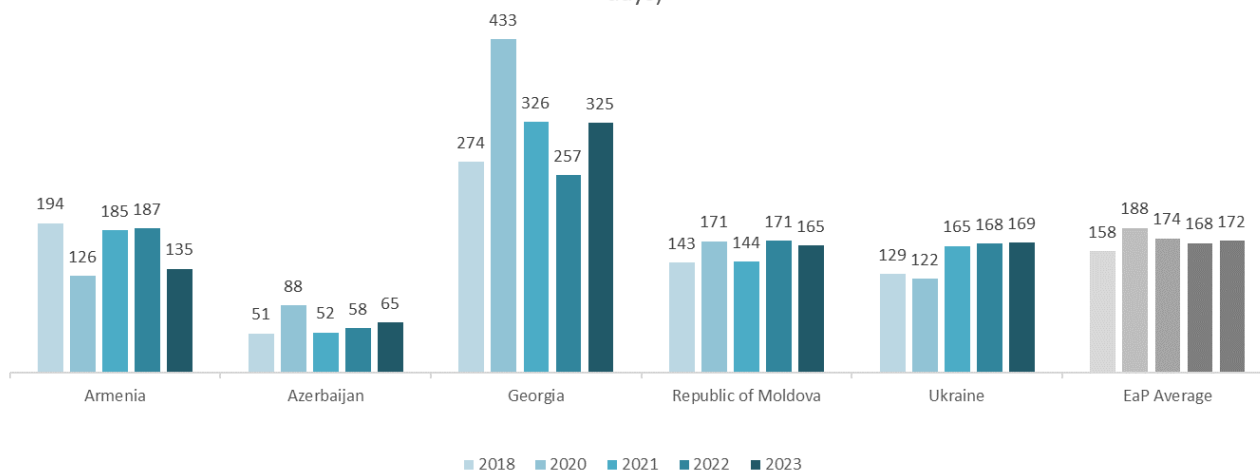
Despite some increases noted above, in 2023, the number of pending cases at the end of the year increased in all countries (Clearance Rates below 100%) for both types of cases, except in **Armenia** for civil and commercial litigious cases (CR 111%), and in the **Republic of Moldova** for criminal cases (CR 102%).

Disposition time

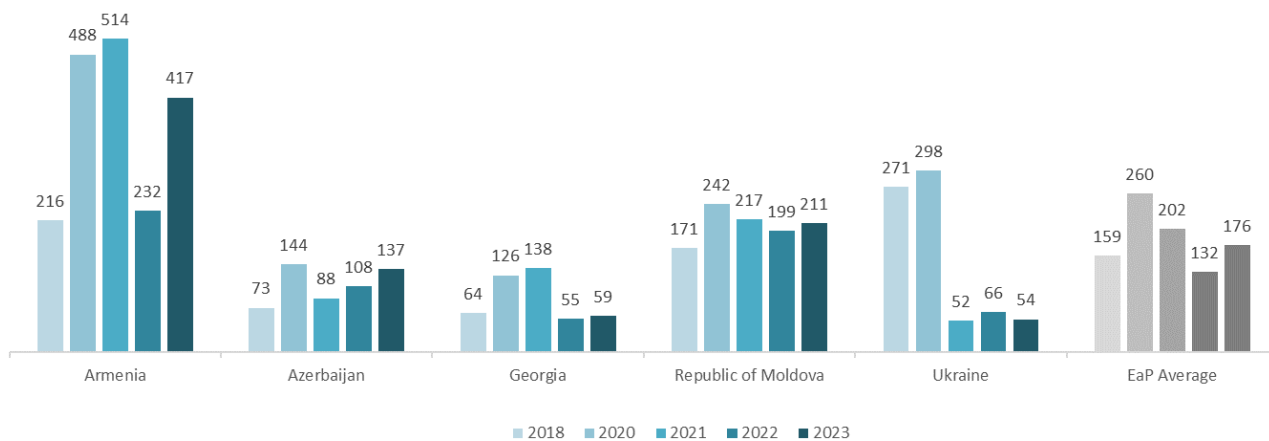
CEPEJ 3.1.4 and 3.2.4 (Q35, Q38)

The Disposition Time (DT) is the indicator that calculates time necessary for a pending case to be resolved and estimates the lengths of proceedings in days. It is a ratio between the pending cases at the end of the period and the resolved cases within the same period, multiplied by 365 days. More pending than resolved cases will lead to a DT higher than 365 days (one year) and vice versa.

Disposition time - Civil and Commercial litigious cases in first instance from 2018 to 2023 (in days)



Disposition time - Criminal cases in first instance from 2018 to 2023 (in days)



In 2023, like for the EaP Averages, criminal cases have higher Disposition Times than civil and commercial litigious cases in **Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the Republic of Moldova**, while it appears to be the opposite in **Georgia and Ukraine**.

Regarding civil and commercial litigious cases, the Disposition Times increased compared to 2022 for **Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine** and decreased for **Armenia and the Republic of Moldova**. Regarding criminal cases, Disposition Times increased for **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and the Republic of Moldova**, but decreased for **Ukraine**.

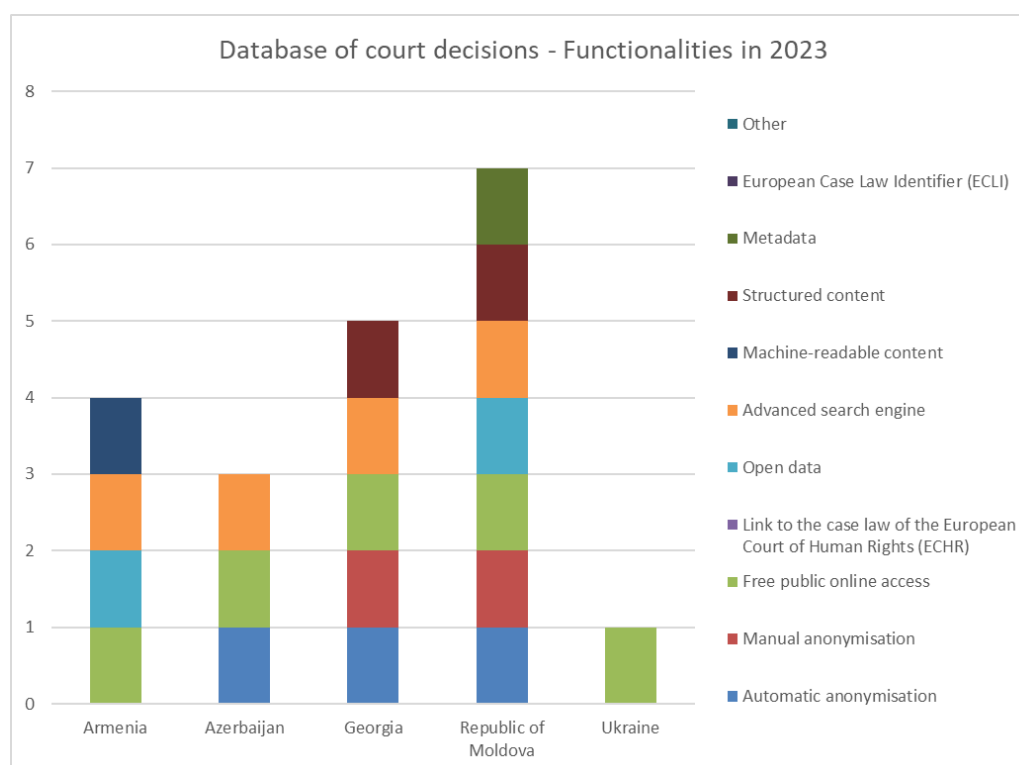
As for the Clearance Rate, the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and related restrictions on the work of courts must be taken into consideration for the 5-year period and this can explain partly an increase of the Disposition Times between 2018 and 2020 followed by a decrease between 2020 and 2021, as observed in some countries and on the EaP Averages.

For civil and commercial litigious cases, the highest Disposition Time in the region in 2023 is in **Georgia** (325 days) and the lowest in **Azerbaijan** (65 days), which was also the case in the previous cycles. For criminal cases, the highest Disposition Time in the region in 2023 is in **Armenia** (417 days) and the lowest is in **Ukraine** (54 days).

II. Quality

Availability - online access to courts' decisions

CEPEJ 3.8.6 (Q 84-2)



In 2023, all countries report that a national database of court decisions exists in their respective countries and that all three instances' decisions in civil and commercial, administrative, and criminal law cases are available therein. Compared to in 2021, more advanced functionalities have been reported.

Armenia's database includes 4 functionalities, as follows: machine-readable content, open data, an advanced search engine, and free public online access. **Azerbaijan's** database includes the following 3 functionalities: free public online access, automatic anonymisation, and advanced search engine. **Georgia's** database has the following 5 functionalities: structured content, an advanced search engine, free public online access, as well as manual and automatic anonymisation. The **Republic of Moldova** reported having 7 functionalities, such as metadata, structured content, an advanced search engine, open data, free public online access, and manual and automatic anonymisation. **Ukraine's** database includes free public online access.

In all countries, the databases are available online for free. **Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova** provide the most comprehensive databases with structured content, enhancing the usability and accessibility of legal information. However, in none of the countries, links to the ECHR case-law are implemented. The introduction of automatic anonymisation in **Azerbaijan**, **Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova** and represents a significant improvement, aiming at better protecting personal data while enhancing accuracy.

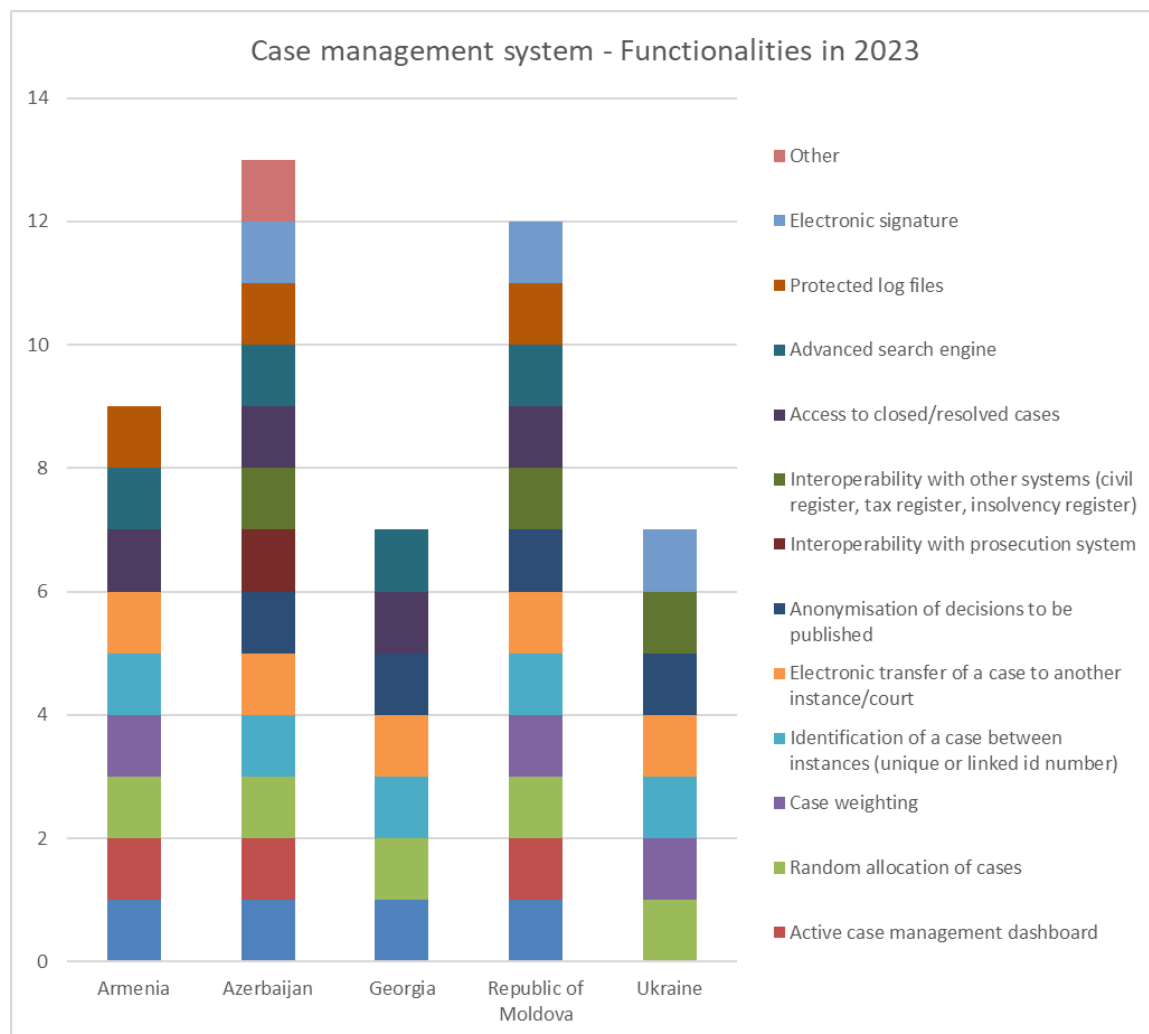
Availability of ICT for case management and court activity statistics

CEPEJ 3.8.1 (Q 82-0, Q82, Q 82-1 and Q 82-2)

In 2023, **Armenia**, the **Republic of Moldova** and **Ukraine** reported as having an IT strategy for the judiciary. All beneficiaries have a Case Management System (CMS) in place and **Ukraine** reported as having 3 CMSs. The latest developments of the running CMS have been reported as follows: the

Republic of Moldova (between 2 and 5 years), **Azerbaijan** (between 5 and 10 years); **Armenia, Georgia** and **Ukraine** (more than 10 years ago). **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine** reported on plans for a significant change in the IT system in the judiciary, including change of CMS or other major application.

Case management systems: deployment and status
 CEPEJ 3.8.3 (Q83-1, Q83-2)



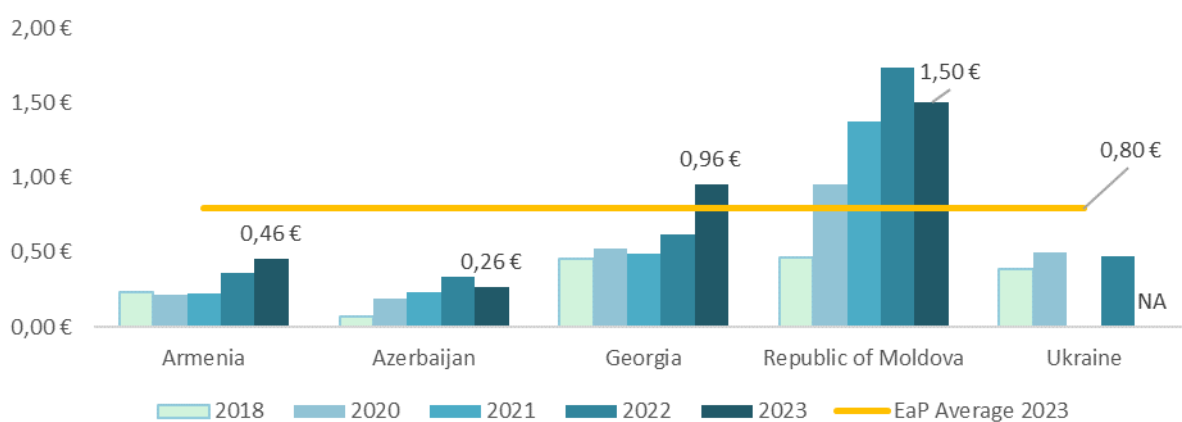
Overall, in 2023, **Azerbaijan** and the **Republic of Moldova** appear to have the most comprehensive Case Management Systems (CMS) with numerous functionalities, closely followed by **Armenia** in this respect.

The deployment rate of the CMSs remains high (see Part 2 of the Report for each country), with significant improvements and additions in terms of functionalities that can enhance the efficiency of judicial processes. These advancements indicate a commitment to a robust effort to modernise the judicial systems and integrate comprehensive digital solutions.

Legal Aid

CEPEJ 4.1.3 (Q1, Q13)

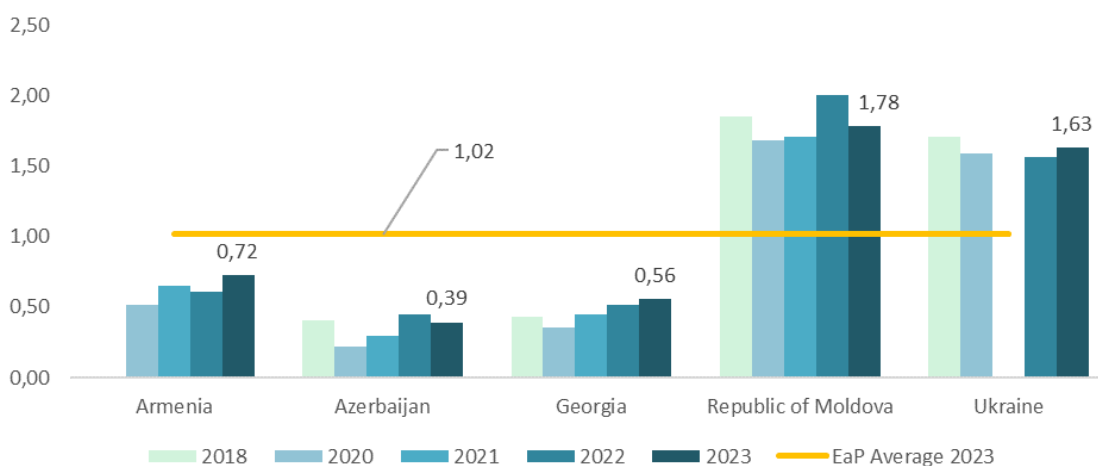
Implemented budget of legal aid per inhabitant



In general, the budgets of legal aid per inhabitant appear very modest in the region. The **Republic of Moldova** (1.50€) and **Georgia** (0,96€) have a higher budget of legal aid per inhabitant than the EaP average. Moreover, **Georgia** has reported a notable increase in the implemented budget for legal aid per inhabitant compared to 2022. **Azerbaijan** shows a decrease in 2023 compared to 2022. **Armenia's** budget has continued to increase, reaching 0.46€ in 2023.

CEPEJ 4.3.2 (Q1, Q86)

Total number of cases per 100 inhabitants where legal aid was granted

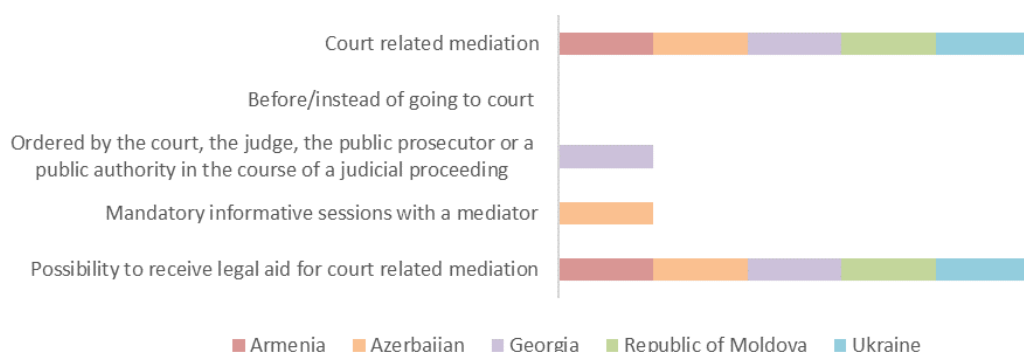


The **Republic of Moldova** (1.78) and **Ukraine** (1.63) are considerably above the EaP Average (1.02) of total number of cases per 100 inhabitants for which legal aid was granted in 2023. Conversely, **Azerbaijan** (0.39 cases), **Georgia** (0.56), and **Armenia** (0.72) are below the EaP Average.

The **Republic of Moldova** continues to have the highest number of cases where legal aid was granted, reflecting a policy to expand the scope of legal aid services. **Armenia** and **Georgia** show a rise in the number of legal aid cases per 100 inhabitants, although they still remain below the regional average in 2023.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)
 CEPEJ 9.1.1 (Q252, Q253, Q254 and Q256)

Court related mediation in 2023



Court-related mediation is reported as existing in all countries. In **Georgia**, court-related mediation can be ordered by the court, the judge, the public prosecutor, or a public authority during a judicial proceeding. In the **Republic of Moldova**, the legal provisions on mandatory court-mediation were abolished in 2022.

In **Azerbaijan**, mandatory informative sessions with a mediator are part of the mediation process. The possibility to receive legal aid for court-related mediation is a consistent feature across all five countries, supporting access to justice for court users.

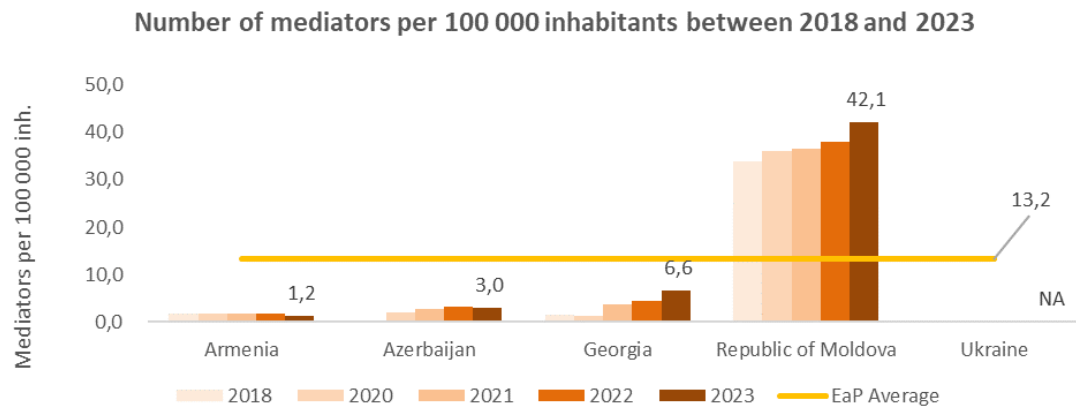
CEPEJ 9.1.6 (Q258)

For the 2023 cycle, the availability of data on court-related mediation across the region continued to be limited, as in previous data collection cycles, to enable more insights into the regional analysis.

Beneficiaries	Number of cases of court related mediation in 2023																							
	Total 1+2+3+4+5+6+7			Civil and commercial cases (1)			Family cases (2)			Administrative cases (3)			Labour cases including employment dismissal cases (4)			Criminal cases (5)			Consumer cases (6)			Other cases (7)		
	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement	Parties agreed to start mediation	Finished court-related mediations	Cases with a settlement agreement			
Armenia	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA			
Azerbaijan	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA			
Georgia	NA	NA	NA	9	185	52	0	72	13	NAP	NAP	NAP	0	48	41	NAP	NAP	NAP	NA	NA	NA			
Republic of Moldova	1 661	157	1 594	1 524	109	1 462	16	2	14	2	0	2	5	0	5	112	46	109	0	0	0			
Ukraine	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA			

Thus, **Georgia** reported numbers on court-related mediations in civil and commercial, family and labour cases. The **Republic of Moldova** reported data on court-related mediations in all inquired upon categories.

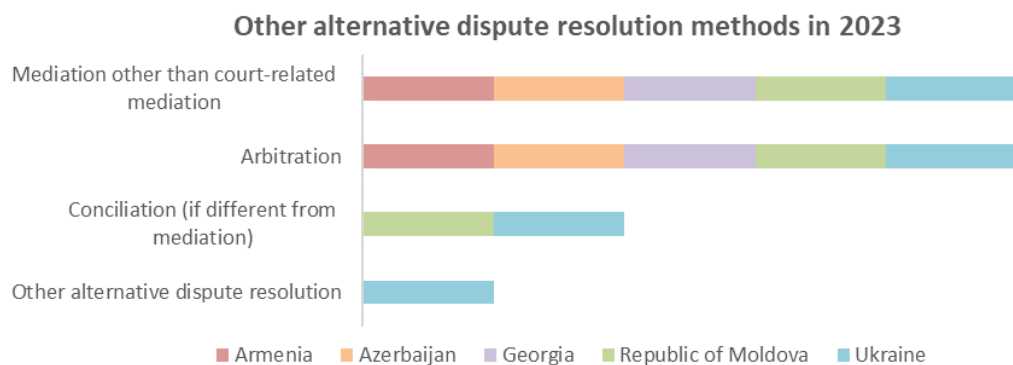
CEPEJ 9.1.4 (Q257 and Q1)



The EaP Average (13,2 mediators per 100,000 inhabitants) is impacted by a considerable number of accredited mediators in the **Republic of Moldova** (42,1). This makes **Armenia** (1,2), **Azerbaijan** (3,0), and **Georgia** (6,6) appear considerably below the region’s average.

From 2022 to 2023, the number of mediators decreased in **Armenia and Azerbaijan**. **Georgia** experienced a notable increase, reflecting ongoing efforts to promote the mediation profession in the country. The **Republic of Moldova** continues to lead significantly, showing a steady rise in the number of accredited mediators each year.

CEPEJ 9.1.8 (Q259)



In all beneficiaries, there are various other alternative dispute resolution methods in 2023, including mediation other than court-related mediation and arbitration (**all countries**); and conciliation (**Republic of Moldova, Ukraine**).

Existence of quality standards of judicial systems at national level

CEPEJ 3.7.1 (Q42, Q43)

The existence of quality standards of judicial systems at the national level were reported by **all countries, except Armenia**, in 2023. **These countries** reported having specialised personnel entitled to implement these standards within courts. In **Georgia**, the Department of Court Management of the HCJ ensures the efficiency and quality of the common courts system and the quality standards are implemented by court managers. In **Ukraine**, the Strategy for the Development of the Justice System and Constitutional Justice for 2021-2023, approved in June 2021, and the Prosecution Development Strategy for 2021-2023 set out the framework for the quality standards respectively in the judicial and prosecution systems. Only **Azerbaijan and Ukraine** reported having specialised personnel entrusted with the implementation of these standards within the prosecution services.

Performance and evaluation of judges and prosecutors

CEPEJ 3.7.10, 3.7.11 (Q74, Q75, Q75-1, Q76, Q76-1 and Q77)

Quantitative performance targets for judges

There are quantitative performance targets defined for each judge reportedly only in **Azerbaijan**. In **Azerbaijan**, the Parliament and the Judicial Legal Council are responsible for setting the individual targets for judges; and, if judges do not meet the targets, it is reflected in their individual assessment.

Qualitative individual assessment of judges' work

All beneficiaries, except **Georgia and Ukraine**, reported on the existence of a system of qualitative individual assessment of the judges' work, although in **Georgia** it is done part of the annual evaluation of judges who are still on a 3-year probation period. In **Armenia, Azerbaijan** and the **Republic of Moldova** the judicial power is responsible for setting the criteria for qualitative assessment of the judges' work. In **Armenia**, the criteria are also set in the Judicial Code, hence the Parliament plays a role in the process. In **Ukraine**, the High Qualification Commission of Judges is responsible for this assessment.

In **Armenia** and **Ukraine** judges are subjected to the qualitative individual assessment of work less frequently than annually. In **Azerbaijan** and the **Republic of Moldova**, different frequencies apply.

CEPEJ 3.7.12, 3.7.13 (Q78, Q79, Q79-1, Q80, Q80-1 and Q81)

Quantitative performance targets for prosecutors

Only **Azerbaijan** reported having quantitative performance targets defined for each public prosecutor, which is the responsibility of the Prosecutor General. If prosecutors do not meet quantitative targets, this is reflected in their individual assessment.

Qualitative individual assessment of public prosecutors' work

There are reportedly systems of qualitative individual assessment of the public prosecutors' work in all countries. In **Armenia, Azerbaijan** and **Ukraine**, the respective Prosecutors General are responsible for setting the criteria for qualitative assessment of the public prosecutors' work. In **Georgia**, the Head of the organisational unit or hierarchical superior public prosecutor and in **Armenia**, the Qualification Commission also play respectively a role in the process. In the **Republic of Moldova**, this responsibility belongs to the Prosecutors Council. In **Ukraine**, the qualitative assessment is done on an annual basis, while in **Armenia, Azerbaijan**, and the **Georgia** it is less frequent. In the **Republic of Moldova**, different frequencies apply.

Judicial system budget

CEPEJ 1.1.4 (Q1, Q2, Q4, Q5, Q6 and Q13)

Beneficiaries	Annual implemented budget in 2023 (standardised values)	
	Judicial system per capita	Judicial system as % of GDP
Armenia	20,2 €	0,27%
Azerbaijan	NA	NA
Georgia	16,3 €	0,22%
Republic of Moldova	21,3 €	0,39%
Ukraine	NA	NA
Average	19,3 €	0,29%

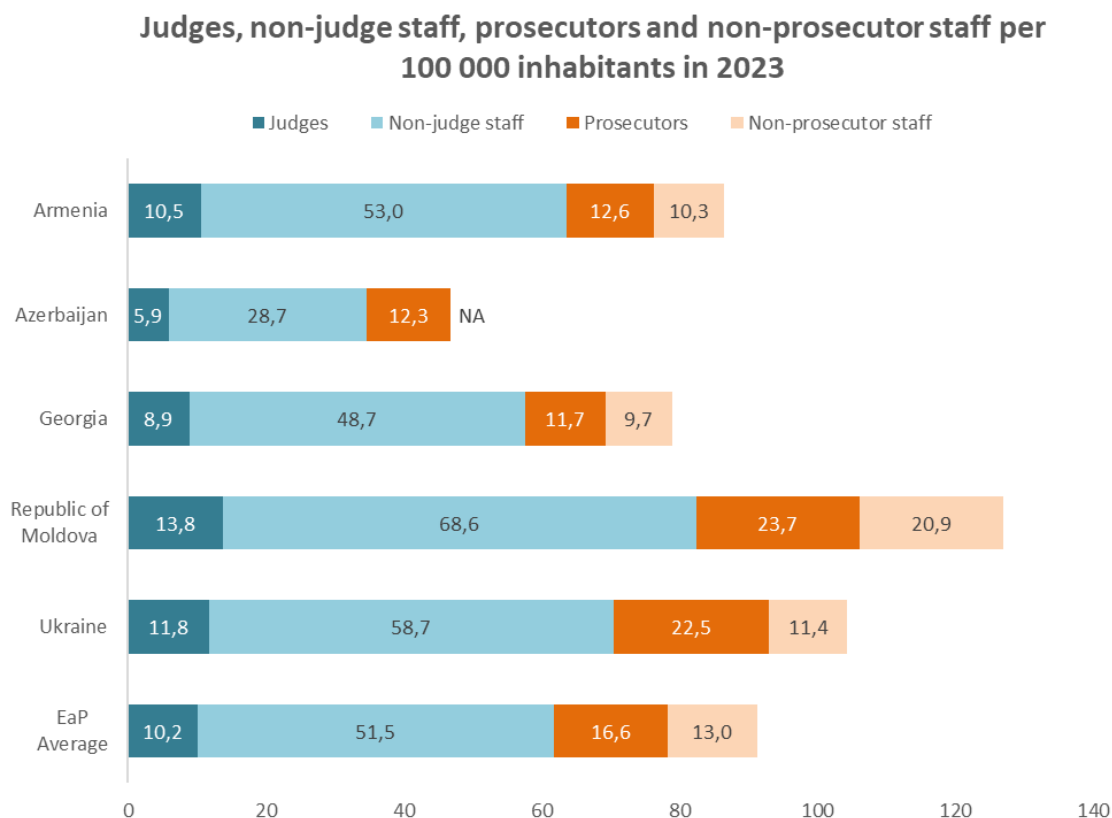
Compared with the EaP Average of 19,3 € in 2023, **Georgia** (16,3 €) spent less in terms of the implemented judicial system budget per capita, while **Armenia** (20,2 €) and the **Republic of Moldova** (21,3 €) spent more.

As a % of GDP, compared to the EaP average of 0,29 %, **Georgia** spent less on the judicial system (0,22 % of GDP), while the judicial system spending in the **Republic of Moldova** is higher (0,39 % of GDP). **Armenia** spent 0,27 % of GDP on the judicial system, slightly below the EaP Average.

The **Republic of Moldova** continues to have the highest judicial system spending per capita and as a percentage of GDP among the reporting countries, indicating its policy priorities. **Armenia** and **Georgia** report increases over the last 5 years, indicating an ongoing commitment to judicial systems' financing.

Number of legal professionals per capita

CEPEJ 2.1.1 (Q 19), 2.1.2 (Q26), 2.1.8 (Q27), 2.2.2 (Q28), 2.2.6 (Q32), 2.3.1 (Q33 - 34)



In 2023, **Azerbaijan** (5,9), **Georgia** (8,9), and **Armenia** (10,5) have a lower number of judges compared to the EaP Average of 10,2 judges per 100 000 inhabitants. **Ukraine** (11,8) and the **Republic of Moldova** (13,8) have a higher number of judges per 100 000 inhabitants.

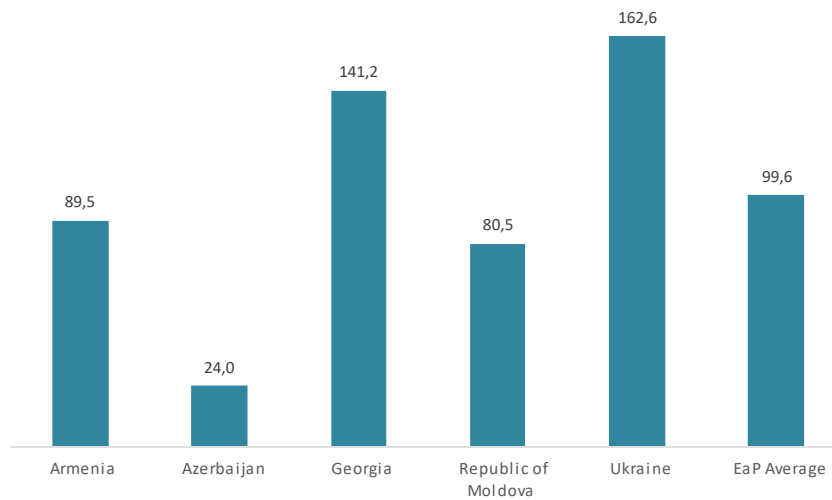
Compared to the EaP Average of 16,6 prosecutors per 100 000 inhabitants, **Georgia** (11,7), **Azerbaijan** (12,3), and **Armenia** (12,6) report a smaller number, while **Ukraine** (22,5) and the **Republic of Moldova** (23,7) report a higher number of prosecutors.

In 2023, **Azerbaijan** (28,7) reports a considerably smaller number of non-judge staff per 100 000 inhabitants compared to the EaP Average of 51,5. In **Georgia** (48,7), there are slightly fewer non-judge staff, while in **Armenia** (53,0) they are slightly above the EaP Average. The number of non-judge staff per 100 000 inhabitants is higher than the EaP Average in **Ukraine** (58,7) and the **Republic of Moldova** (68,6).

Only the **Republic of Moldova** (20,9) is above the EaP Average of 13,0 non-prosecutor staff per 100 000 inhabitants. **Armenia** (10,3), in **Georgia** (9,7) and **Ukraine** (11,4) continue to have figures below the EaP Average.

The **Republic of Moldova** continues to lead in terms of the number of judges, non-judge staff, and non-prosecutor staff per 100 000 inhabitants, reflecting policy priorities in terms of resources allocated to their judicial system. **Ukraine** and **Armenia** also show significant numbers, while **Georgia** and **Azerbaijan** have lower figures across several categories.

Lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants in 2023



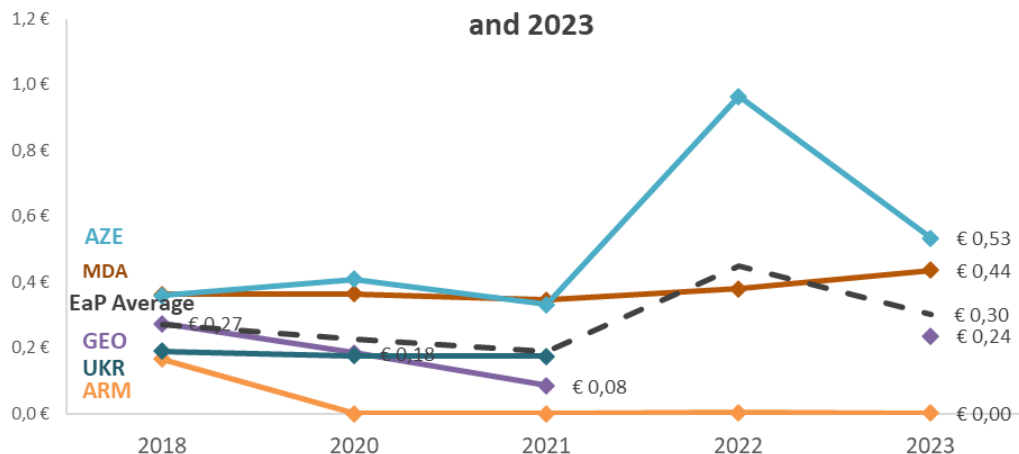
Compared to the EaP Average of 99,6 lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants in 2023, there is a considerably lower number of lawyers in **Azerbaijan** (24,0). The number of lawyers in the **Republic of Moldova** (80,5) and **Armenia** (89,5) are below the average. **Georgia** (141,2) and **Ukraine** (162,6) have a considerably higher number of lawyers per 100 000 inhabitants in 2023.

Overall, **Georgia** and **Ukraine** continue to lead in terms of the number of lawyers per capita, followed by **Armenia** and the **Republic of Moldova**. **Azerbaijan** remains significantly below the regional average, although it showed increases over the last three years.

Trainings

CEPEJ 7.1.3 (Q4, Q6, Q142)

Total budget for training per inhabitant covered by training institutions, court and prosecution budget between 2018 and 2023

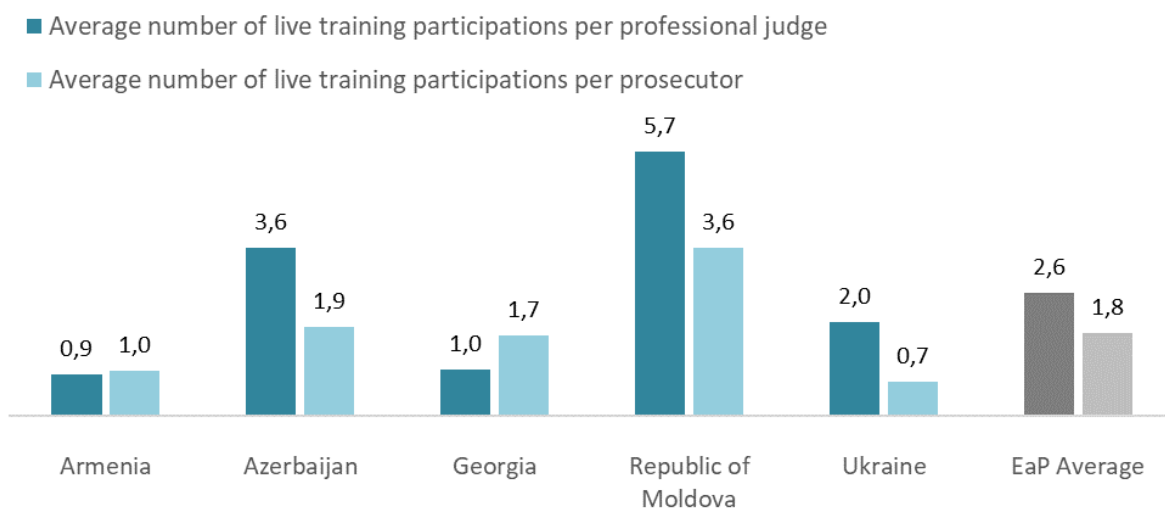


Compared to the EaP average of €0.30 per inhabitant in 2023, **Azerbaijan** (€0.53) and the **Republic of Moldova** (€0.44) spent more on judicial training per inhabitant. **Georgia** (€0.24) spent below the EaP Average. In 2023, there was an increase in the **Republic of Moldova** and a decrease in **Azerbaijan** in the training budgets per inhabitant compared to 2022, which is still more than in 2021. The decrease in 2023 in Azerbaijan is explained by the completion at the beginning of the year of the majority of trainings related to ICT in courts. In **Armenia**, the training institution still does not have a separate budget, remaining consistent with previous years.

Overall, data appears to show a varied approach to investment in judicial training across the region, with some countries increasing their budgets in this respect, while others remain below the regional average.

CEPEJ 7.2.5 (Q147 and Q147-1)

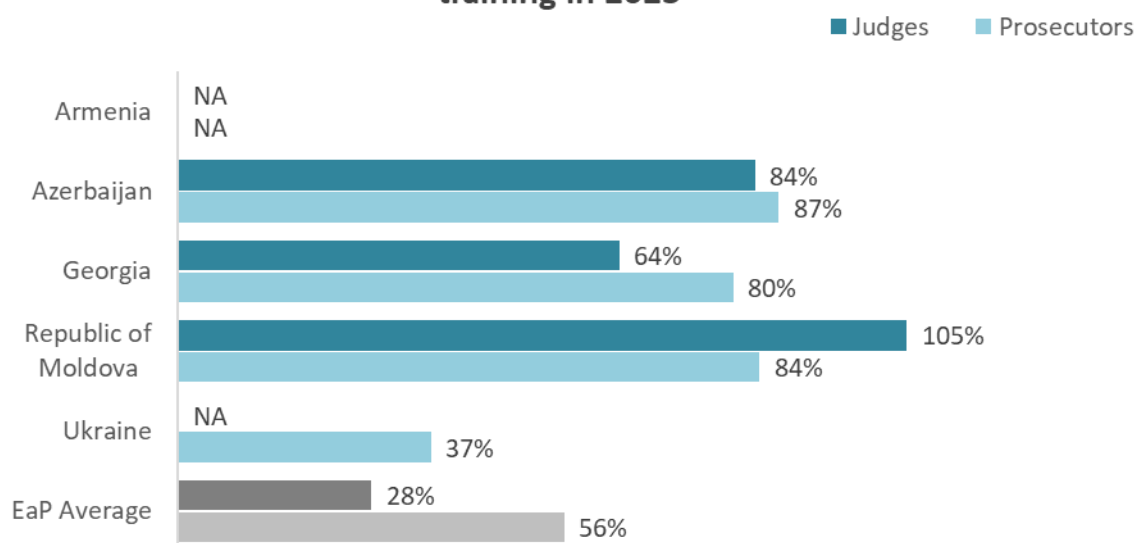
Average number of live training participations per judge/prosecutor in 2023



In 2023, judges in the **Republic of Moldova** (5,7) and **Azerbaijan** (3,6) participated in more live trainings than the EaP Average (2,6). For prosecutors, those in the **Republic of Moldova** (3,6) **Azerbaijan** (1,9) also participate in more live trainings than the EaP Average (1,8).

CEPEJ 7.2.8 (Q147-2)

Percentage of judges/prosecutors having attended at least one training in 2023

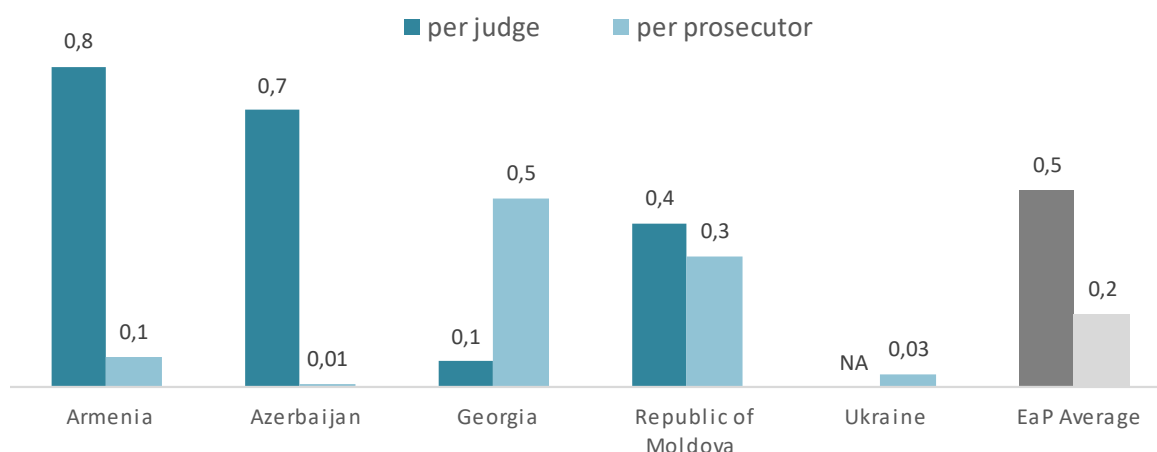


From the data available, only in the **Republic of Moldova** more judges and prosecutors participated in trainings (105% of judges - and this needs to consider that the reported total nr of judges was lower,

given a wave of resignations in 2023). In **Azerbaijan** (87%) and **Georgia** (80%) more prosecutors participated in trainings in 2023. 37% of prosecutors in **Ukraine** have participated in at least one training in 2023.

CEPEJ 7.3.1. (Q154-1)

Average number of live training participations in live trainings in EU Law and EU Charter of Fundamental Rights/European Convention on Human Rights in 2023



In terms of participations in live trainings on EU Law and the ECHR in 2023, judges in **Armenia** (0,8) and **Azerbaijan** (0,7) have a higher than EaP Average participation (0,5). Prosecutors' participations in these trainings are above the EaP Average (0,2) only in **Georgia** (0,5) and the Republic of Moldova (0,3).

CEPEJ 7.4.2 (Qs 155-2 and 155-3)

An annual **assessment of training needs** is reported as being done in **all beneficiaries** in 2023. The assessment of future training needs is reported as being done through courts/prosecutors' offices and other relevant judicial institutions in all countries. The target audience and previous participants in trainings are sources of the assessment of training needs in all countries. Trainers are involved in this process in all countries, except **Azerbaijan**. The Ministries of Justice are also a source of identification of training needs in **Armenia, Azerbaijan and the Republic of Moldova**. In the **Republic of Moldova**, other authorities (Bar Association, donors, civil society) also play a role in the judicial training needs assessment.

CEPEJ 7.4.3 (Qs 155-4, 155-5, 155-6, 155-7)

All beneficiaries reported in 2023 as having an **evaluation of the in-service judicial training** done usually immediately after the training. In **Georgia** and **Ukraine** it is also done 3-6 months after the training delivery and in **Azerbaijan** 1 year after the training. A combination of the Kirkpatrick and other training evaluation models is reported in all countries except **Armenia**, where surveys are used for this purpose. The feedback is mostly used to improve the training course (in all countries), to replace the training providers (all countries, except **Georgia**), to suppress a training course (only in **Armenia**), to introduce new courses (all countries, except **Georgia**).

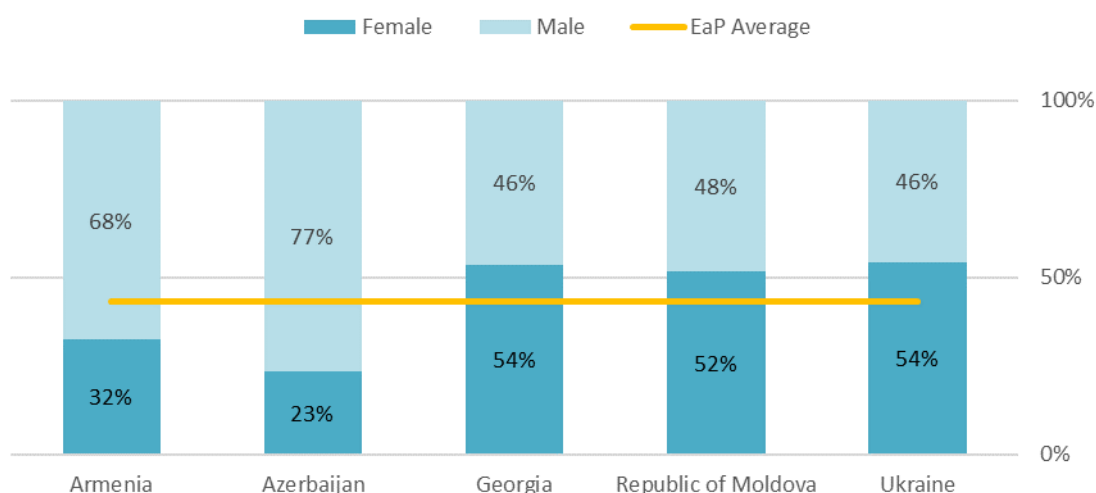
Gender profile of legal professions

In the following graphs concerning gender balance, the EaP Average represents the regional repartition between male and female (below are the males; above - the females).

Judges

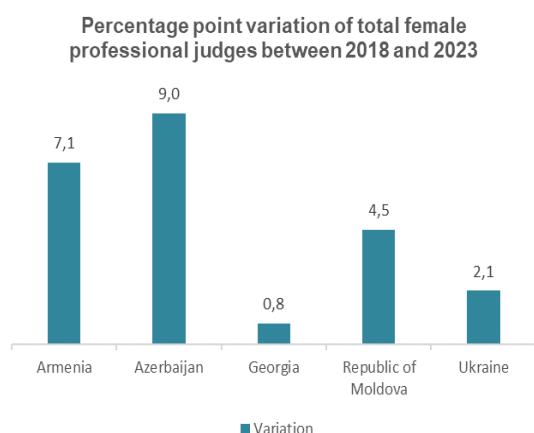
CEPEJ 12.1.1 (Q19)

Distribution of the total male and female judges in 2023

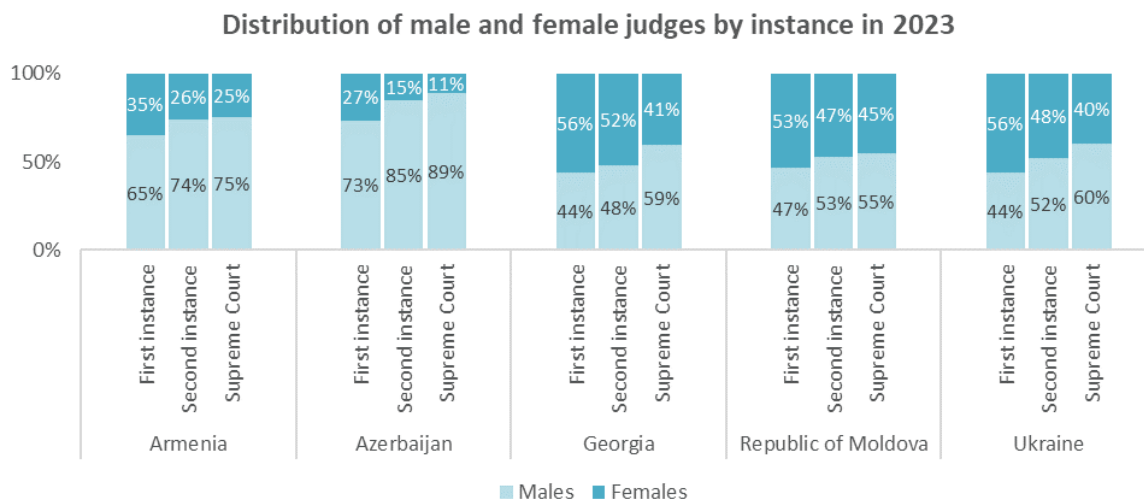


In 2023, the percentage of total female professional judges remains below the EaP average of 43,1% in **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** (32% and 23% respectively). In **Georgia** (54%), the **Republic of Moldova** (52%) and **Ukraine** (54%), the percentage of female judges is above the EaP average. This data indicates a positive trend towards gender balance in the judiciary system of these three countries, where the representation of female judges has not only surpassed the EaP average but has also shows an increase since 2021. However, **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** still show significant underrepresentation of female judges, highlighting a continued challenge in achieving gender parity in the judiciary.

CEPEJ 12.1.1 (Q19)



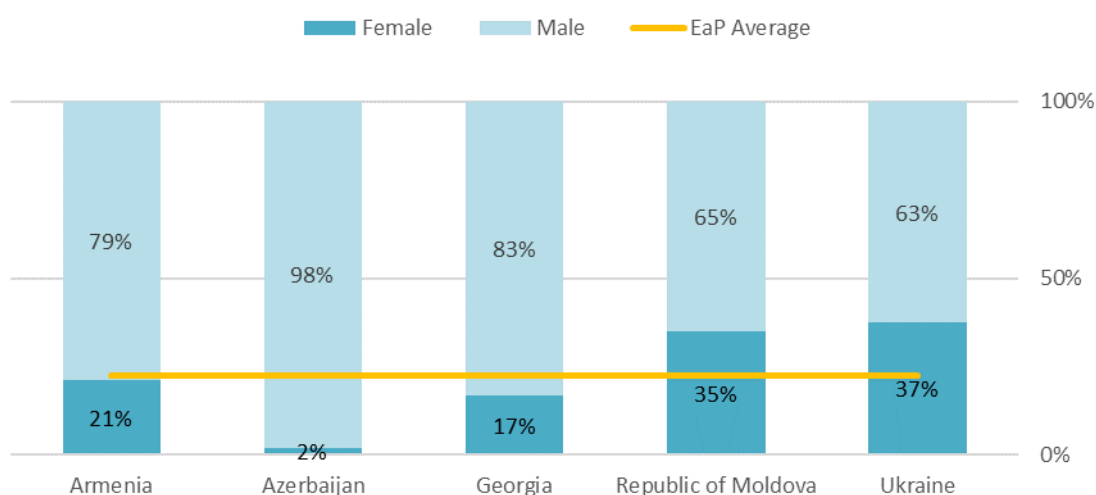
Compared to 2018, the presence of female professional judges in 2023 has shown notable increases in all beneficiary countries. **Armenia** experienced a significant rise of 7,1 percentage points. **Azerbaijan** saw the highest increase with a notable 9,0 percentage points variation, indicating a substantial improvement in gender balance. **Georgia** had an increase of 0,8 percentage points. In the **Republic of Moldova**, there was a notable increase of 4,5 percentage points, reversing the slight decrease observed between 2020 and 2021. **Ukraine** also showed a 2,1 percentage points increase. These changes reflect ongoing efforts and some positive trends toward achieving greater gender parity within the judiciary across these countries.



Indications of a glass ceiling continue to be evident in all countries in the 2023 data. There are fewer women judges in second instance courts compared to first instance courts in all countries. In **Armenia**, the percentage of female judges in first instance courts is 35%, whereas it drops to 26% in second instance courts and further to 25% in the Supreme Court. In **Azerbaijan**, the percentage of female judges is 27% in first instance courts, but only 11% in the Supreme Court. **Georgia** shows a higher representation of women with 56% in first instance courts, 52% in second instance courts, and 41% in the Supreme Court. In the **Republic of Moldova**, there is 53% female representation in first instance courts, 47% in second instance courts, and 45% in the Supreme Court. Finally, in **Ukraine**, female judges make up 56% of first instance courts, 48% of second instance courts, and 40% of the Supreme Court. The trend shows some improvement in gender balance at various levels, yet the underrepresentation of women in higher courts remains present.

CEPEJ 12.1.3 (Q19-1)

Distribution of the total male and female court presidents in 2023

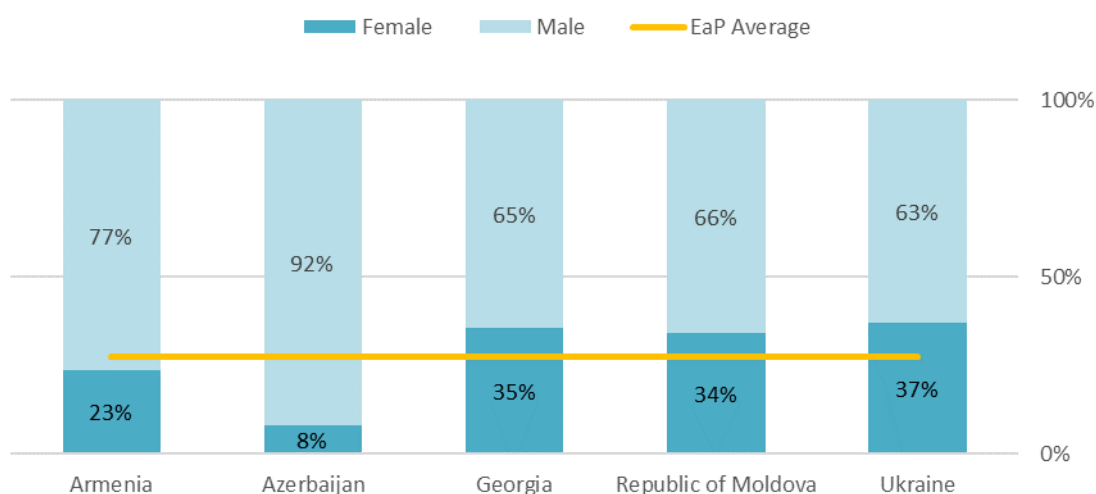


Despite slight improvements compared to 2021, the distribution of male and female court presidents in 2023 still indicates the presence of a glass ceiling in all countries, although to varying extents. The highest percentage of female court presidents is observed in **Ukraine** (37%) and the **Republic of Moldova** (35%). In **Armenia**, the percentage of female court presidents stands at 21%, while **Georgia** shows 17% of female representation in this role. In 2023, there were 2% female court presidents in **Azerbaijan**.

Prosecutors

CEPEJ 12.2.1 (Q28)

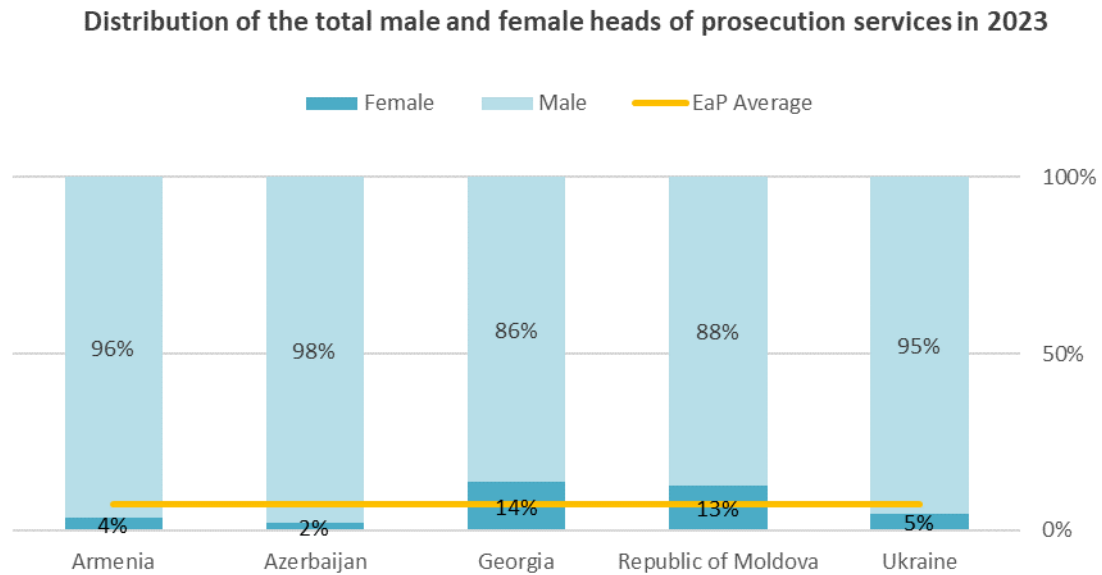
Distribution of the total male and female prosecutors in 2023



The presence of total female prosecutors in **Azerbaijan** (8%) and **Armenia** (23%) is below the EaP average. Although there is a greater presence of total female prosecutors in the **Republic of Moldova**

(34%), **Georgia** (35%), and **Ukraine** (37%), the gender balance in the prosecutors' profession remains an aspiration in the region.

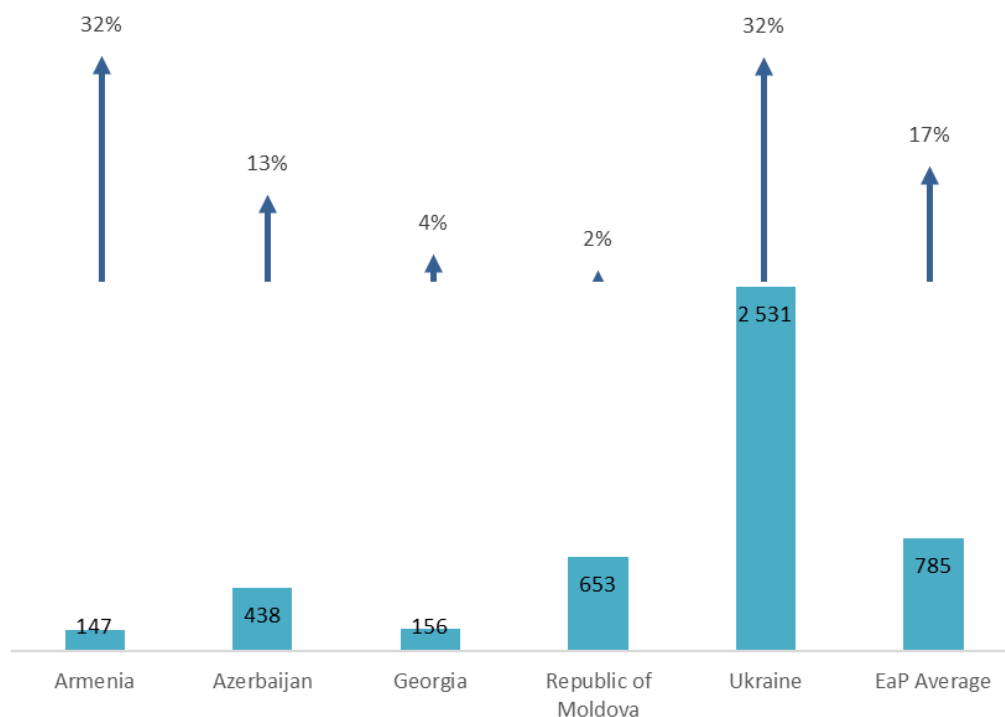
CEPEJ 12.2.3 (Q28-1)



In 2023, there was only one female head of prosecution services in **Armenia** and two female heads of prosecution offices in **Azerbaijan**. Although, there was some presence of female heads of prosecution services in **Georgia** (14%), the **Republic of Moldova** (13%) and **Ukraine** (5%), the gender balance in these positions could be seen as indicative of a glass ceiling in the region (to be seen together with total male and female prosecutors, above).

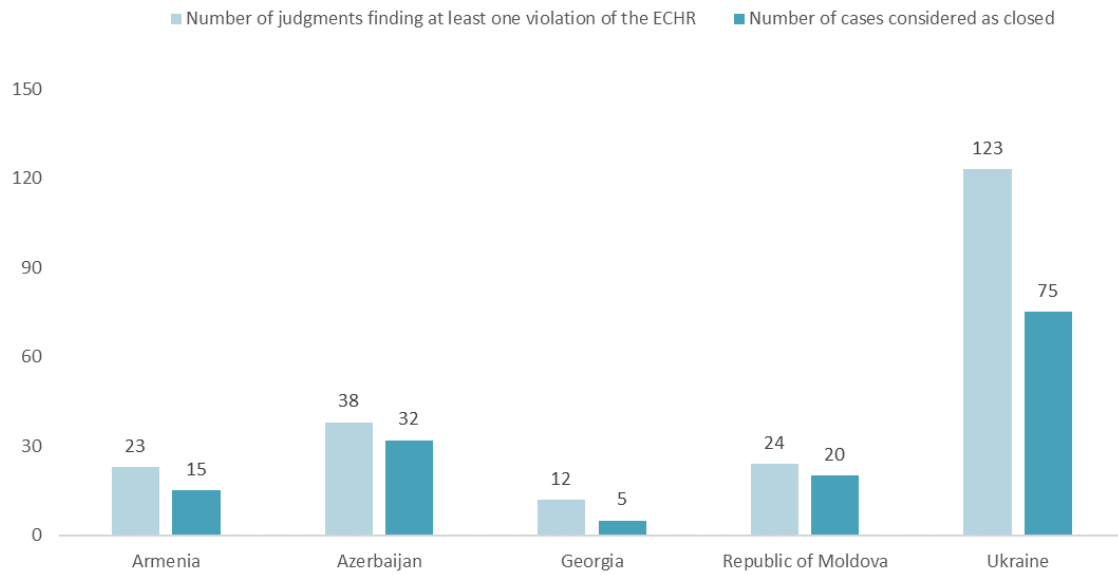
Number of judgements finding ECHR violations
CEPEJ 10.1.3 (Q262 and Q263)

**Applications allocated to an ECHR judicial formation in 2023
and % variation between 2022 and 2023**



In terms of the number of applications at the ECtHR, in 2023, the highest numbers were in respect of **Ukraine** (2 531) and the **Republic of Moldova** (653). There was a significant increase in the number of applications from **Ukraine**, showing a 32% rise compared to the previous year. **Armenia** also saw a considerable increase of 32%, with the number of applications rising to 147. **Azerbaijan** experienced a 13% increase, resulting in 438 applications. **Georgia** had a slight increase of 4%, reaching 156 applications. The **Republic of Moldova** showed an increase of 2%, with 653 applications. On average, the EaP region saw a 17% increase in applications, highlighting a growing number of applications with the ECtHR across these countries, although to different degrees.

Number of judgments finding at least one violation of the ECHR and number of cases considered closed in 2023



In 2023, the ECtHR issued 123 judgments finding at least one violation of the ECHR in respect of **Ukraine** and 75 cases against **Ukraine** were considered as closed after a judgment of the ECtHR. In respect of **Azerbaijan**, 38 judgments finding at least one violation of the ECHR have been issued, and 32 cases against **Azerbaijan** were considered as closed. The ECtHR issued 24 judgments finding at least one violation in respect of the **Republic of Moldova** and 20 cases in its respect were considered as closed. There were 23 judgments finding at least one violation of the ECHR in the case of **Armenia** and 15 cases were considered as closed. In respect of **Georgia**, the ECtHR issued 12 judgments finding at least one violation and 5 cases were considered as closed.

III. Mandates of judges and prosecutors

Entry criteria to become a judge or a prosecutor

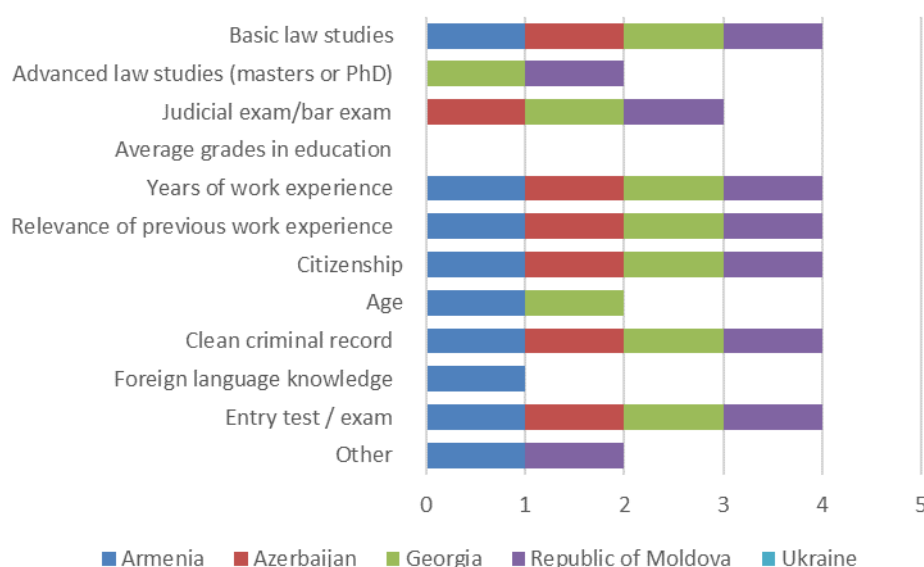
The entry criteria are general requirements that candidates need to fulfil to be shortlisted to participate in the exam to enter the judicial academy, or to be pre-selected for a procedure of recruitment to become a judge without judicial academy. Here, judicial academy should be understood as an institution responsible for training, but which also has a role in the appointment and recruitment procedure of future judges.

- **Entry criteria to become a judge**

CEPEJ 5.1.2 (Q90)

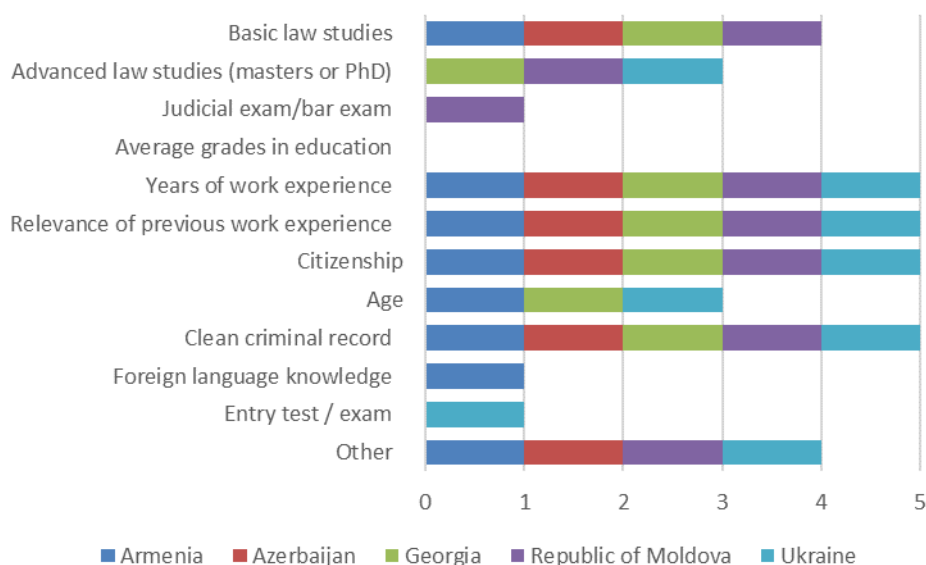
In all countries presented except **Ukraine**, it is possible to become a judge either via judicial academy, or outside of judicial academy. In **Ukraine** judges are only selected outside of a judicial academy.

Entry criteria via Judicial Academy to become a judge in 2023



In all countries except **Ukraine**, it is possible to become a judge either via judicial academy, or outside of judicial academy. In **Ukraine** judges are only selected outside of a judicial academy. Thus, in **all countries** where candidates go via the judicial academy, they must take an entry test. **All countries** ask for a certain number of years of relevant work experience and a clean criminal record. **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** ask for a level of basic law studies while **Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova** ask for advanced law studies (masters or PhD). In **Azerbaijan**, **Georgia**, and the **Republic of Moldova**, candidates must also have taken a judicial/bar exam. **All countries** have a citizenship criterion, and the **Republic of Moldova** also requires the candidates to have their domicile in the country. Some countries also have an age criterion (between 25 and 60 in **Armenia**; at least 30 years old in **Georgia**). Several countries (**Armenia**, **Georgia**, and the **Republic of Moldova**) require the candidates to have a command of their official languages. **Armenia** also requires the candidates to know at least one language from among English, Russian, and French, at the required level which shall be prescribed by the Supreme Judicial Council and checked through standardised test systems. **Armenia** and the **Republic of Moldova** have a medical requirement. Finally, the **Republic of Moldova** also requires candidates to pass a polygraph test.

Entry criteria without Judicial Academy to become a judge in 2023



Certain commonalities are observed in all five countries. In terms of Professional Experience and Qualifications: **all countries** require significant professional experience in the legal field. For instance, **Armenia** requires at least eight years in the last 10 years, **Azerbaijan** requires 20 years for high judicial positions, and the **Republic of Moldova** and **Ukraine** require 5 years in the field of law.

In terms of exemptions from judicial academy training: **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan** allow experienced legal professionals to bypass training, while **Georgia** exempts former SC judges, former common courts judges with 18 months experience and current Constitutional Court judges. Emphasis is placed on higher education degree in law as a common requirement across all countries.

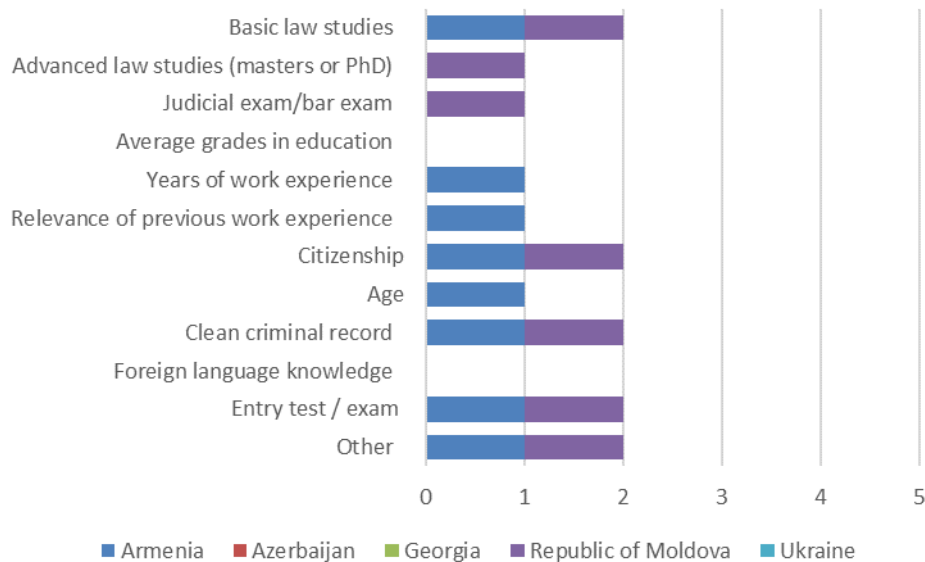
While these candidates are exempt from training, some countries still demand them to pass the judicial exam. For instance, in the **Republic of Moldova**, even exempt candidates (except for certain judges) must pass a graduation exam at the National Institute of Justice.

Candidates must be citizens of the respective countries. Some countries have explicit age threshold requirements, e.g. **Ukraine** specifies an age range (30 to 65 years) for candidates, or language requirement (e.g. Ukraine requires candidates to command the official language at a specific level).

- **Entry criteria to become a prosecutor**

CEPEJ 5.2.2 (Q112)

Entry criteria via Judicial Academy to become a prosecutor in 2023



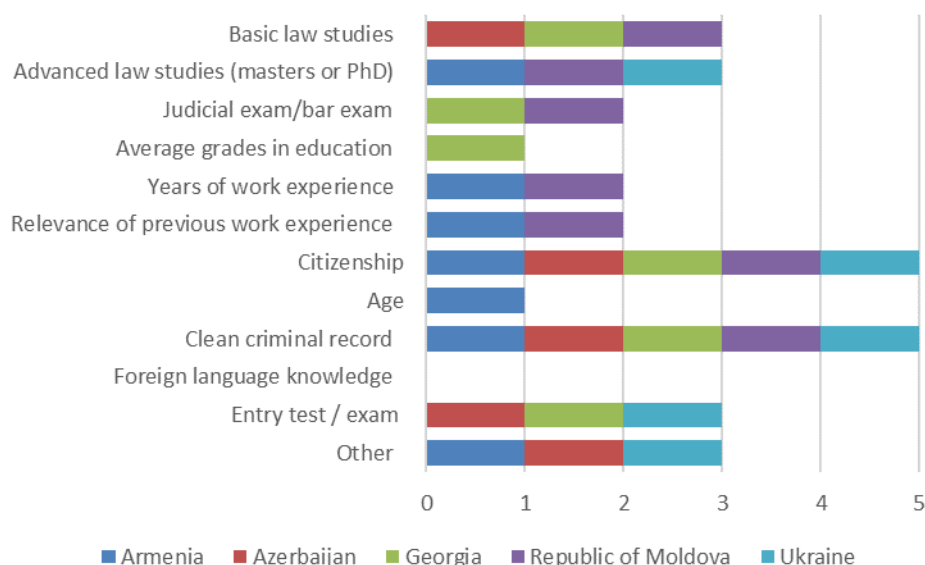
In 2023, in **Azerbaijan, Georgia, and Ukraine**, there is no judicial academy to become a prosecutor, while in **Armenia** and the **Republic of Moldova**, it is possible to become a prosecutor via studying in the judicial academy or without.

In Armenia, to enter the judicial academy, candidates must have basic law studies, relevant work experience, a clean criminal record (with an exception: an individual convicted of an intentional crime cannot be appointed as a prosecutor, regardless of whether the criminal record has been expunged or removed) and take an entry test. "Years of work experience" is a criterion only for the prosecutor of a unit performing functions aimed at the confiscation of property of illegal origin, where at least two years of professional experience as a lawyer is required for the appointment. Other criteria include being a citizen of the Republic of Armenia, between the ages of 22 and 65, with a command of the Armenian language.

In the Republic of Moldova, candidates must have Moldovan citizenship, advanced law studies, a clean criminal record, and pass an entry examination. Additional criteria include producing a medical certificate, knowing the official language of the Republic of Moldova, taking a polygraph test, having an impeccable reputation, and having no records of negative outcomes in their professional integrity test in the past five years.

Overall, the criteria emphasize the importance of legal education, relevant work experience, and clean criminal records. Advanced law studies and proficiency in the official language of the respective countries are also significant requirements. The inclusion of polygraph and professional integrity tests highlight the importance of ethical conduct.

Entry criteria without Judicial Academy to become a prosecutor in 2023



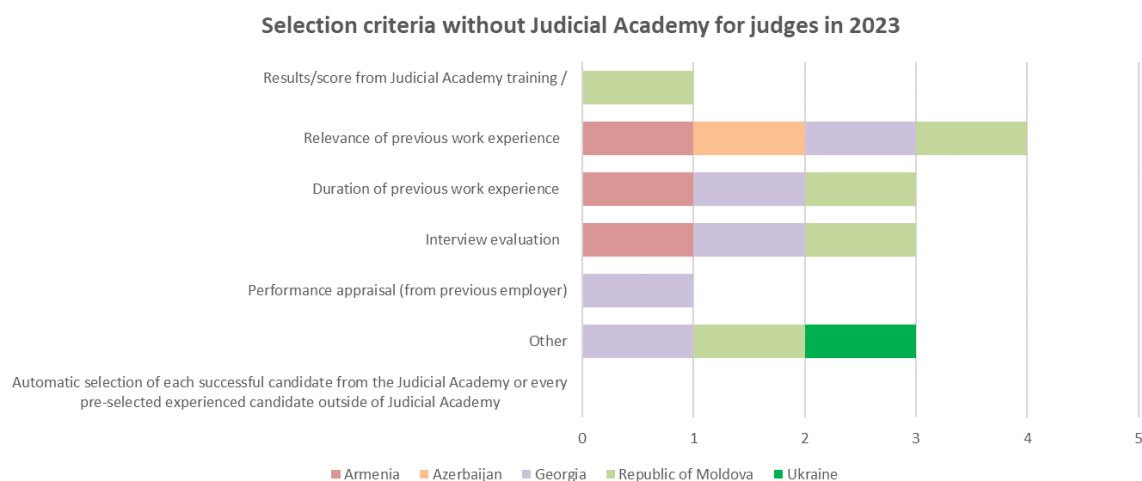
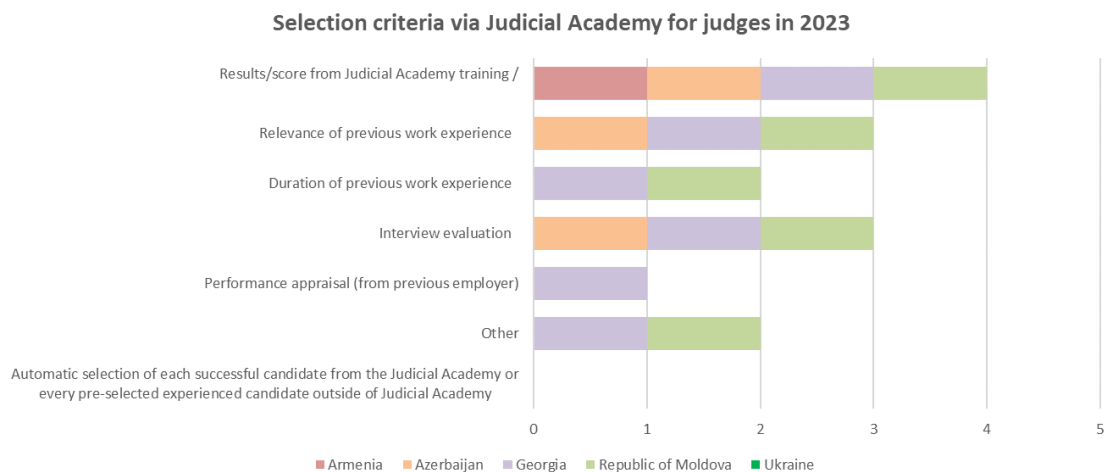
In **all countries**, candidates must have a clean criminal record and their respective countries' citizenship. In **Azerbaijan, Georgia**, candidates must have basic law studies, while in Armenia, the Republic of Moldova and **Ukraine** advanced law studies are required. A judicial exam is required in **Georgia** and the Republic of Moldova. In **Armenia**, the list of candidates exempted from studying at the Academy of Justice is established by Article 38 (10) of the "Law on the Prosecutor's Office". For example, this applies to candidates who are Doctors of Law with at least three years of experience in the field of law. In the **Republic of Moldova**, candidates can be exempted from studying at the National Institute of Justice based on relevant previous work experience (they, nevertheless, pass the judicial exam).

Criteria in selection procedure for judges and prosecutors

The criteria in selection procedure are the criteria which are used to decide which individuals from the pool of pre-selected candidates are best suited for becoming judges or prosecutors.

- **Selection criteria to become a judge**

CEPEJ 5.1.6 (Q97)



In **Armenia**, the selection of candidates is made based on their results from the Academy of Justice. For candidates who were exempted to study at the academy, the selection is made on the results from an interview. However, the qualification commission checks the compliance of the documents submitted by the applicant with the requirements provided by law, his/her personal qualities and merits to assess the qualities necessary to occupy this position.

In **Azerbaijan**, the selection is made based on their results from the Academy of Justice and on a final interview with the members of the Judge Selection Committee.

In **Georgia**, the selection is made based on the results from the High School of Justice for concerned candidates and on an interview. Two criteria are used in this process: good faith (integrity) and competence. The characteristics of good faith are personal good faith and professional conscience; independence, impartiality, and fairness; personal and professional behaviour; personal and professional reputation. The characteristics of competence are knowledge of legal norms; ability of legal substantiation and competence; writing and verbal communication skills; professional qualities; academic achievements and professional training; professional activity.

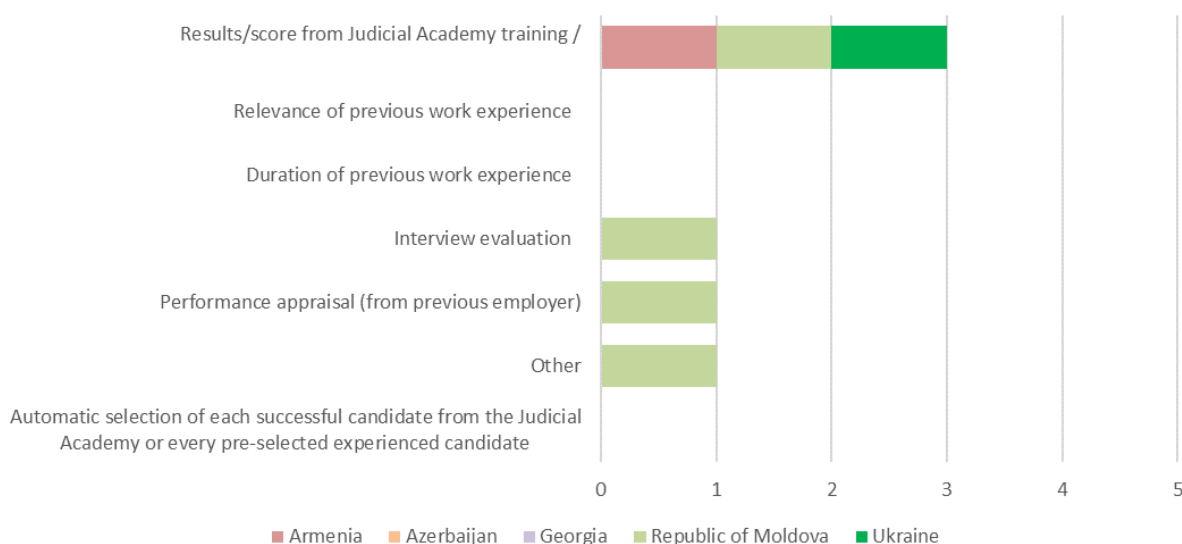
In the **Republic of Moldova**, the selection is made based on the results from the National Institute of Justice for concerned candidates, integrity checks and an interview.

In **Ukraine**, the selection is made based on the results of the selection examination managed by the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

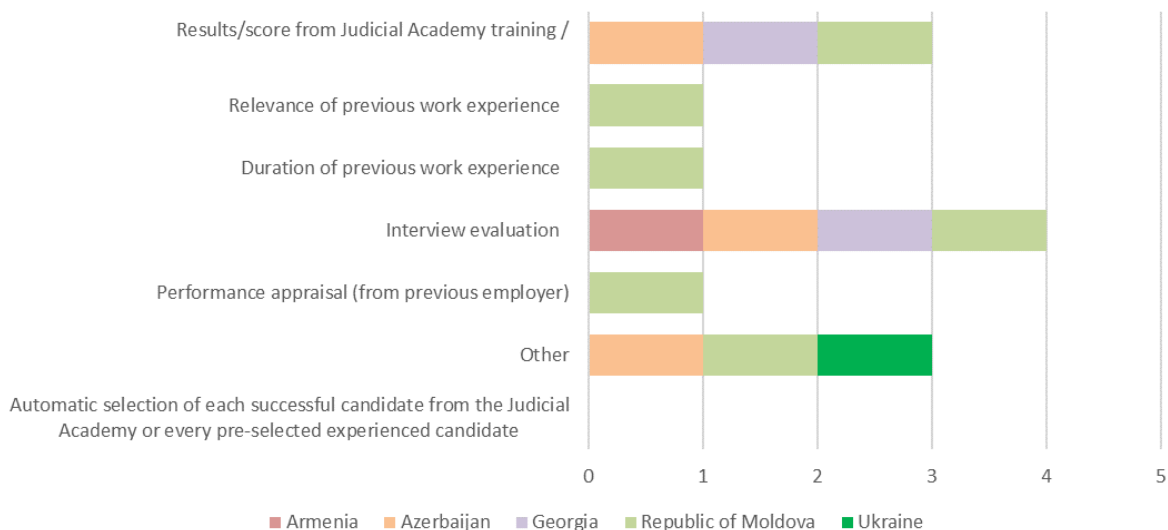
- **Selection criteria to become a prosecutor**

CEPEJ 5.2.6 (Q119)

Selection criteria via Judicial Academy for prosecutors in 2023



Selection criteria without Judicial Academy for prosecutors in 2023



In **Armenia** the selection of prosecutors is made based on the results from the Academy of Justice. For candidates who were exempted to study at the academy, the selection is made on the results from an interview.

In **Azerbaijan** the selection is made through an interview. Criteria used are efficiency, the level of professionalism, the results of work and moral qualities.

In the **Republic of Moldova**, an interview is conducted both for candidates who went through the judicial academy and those who were exempted.

In **Georgia**, an interview is also conducted. The candidates based on their working and moral qualities, as well as health status, must be able to perform the duties of a prosecutor or investigator of the Prosecution Service.

In **Ukraine**, the selection is made by the relevant body conducting disciplinary proceedings based on results of the qualification exam and the relevant work experience.

Authorities responsible for the appointment and promotion of judges and prosecutors

In this paragraph are presented the authorities, which are responsible for the selection, the formal appointment and the promotion of judges and prosecutors.

- **Authorities responsible for the selection of judges**

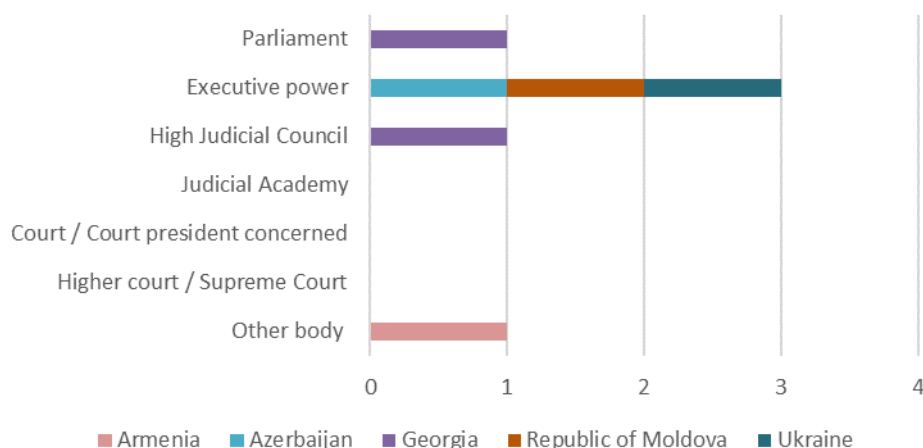
CEPEJ 5.1.8 (Q98)

In all countries, except **Ukraine**, the authority responsible for the selection of judges is the High Judicial Council. In **Ukraine**, the authority responsible is the High Qualification Commission of Judges. In **Georgia**, the Parliament, along with the High Judicial Council, plays a role in the selection of the Supreme Court judges.

- **Authorities responsible for the final appointment of judges**

CEPEJ 5.1.9 (Q99 and Q100)

Authority competent for the final appointment of judges in 2023



In **Azerbaijan**, the Republic of Moldova and **Ukraine**, the respective Presidents are in charge of the final appointment of judges. Armenia reported in 2023 the President under Other body.

In the Republic of Moldova, all judges at all instances are appointed by the President.

In **Georgia**, first and second instance judges are appointed by the High Judicial Council, while Supreme Court judges are appointed by the Parliament.

In all countries, except **Ukraine**, the responsible authority has the right to appoint some and reject some among the selected (proposed) candidates. In **Ukraine**, the responsible authority only confirms all the selected (proposed) candidates.

- **Authorities responsible for the selection of prosecutors**

CEPEJ 5.2.8 (Q120)

In **Armenia**, the authority competent for the selection of prosecutors is the Qualification Commission. The Qualification Commission consists of one deputy of the Prosecutor General, four prosecutors, three law academics and the Rector of the Academy of Justice. In **Azerbaijan** the selection is made by prosecutorial services. A Competition Commission, composed of seven members, appointed by the Prosecutor General, participates in all stages of the competition. In **Georgia** the selection is also made by prosecutorial services and more precisely by the Selection Board of the Prosecutor General’s Office. In the **Republic of Moldova**, the High Prosecutorial Council is the responsible entity. In **Ukraine**, the authority responsible is the Qualification and Disciplinary Commission of Prosecutors.

- **Authorities responsible for the final appointment of prosecutors**

CEPEJ 5.2.9 (Q121 and Q121-1)

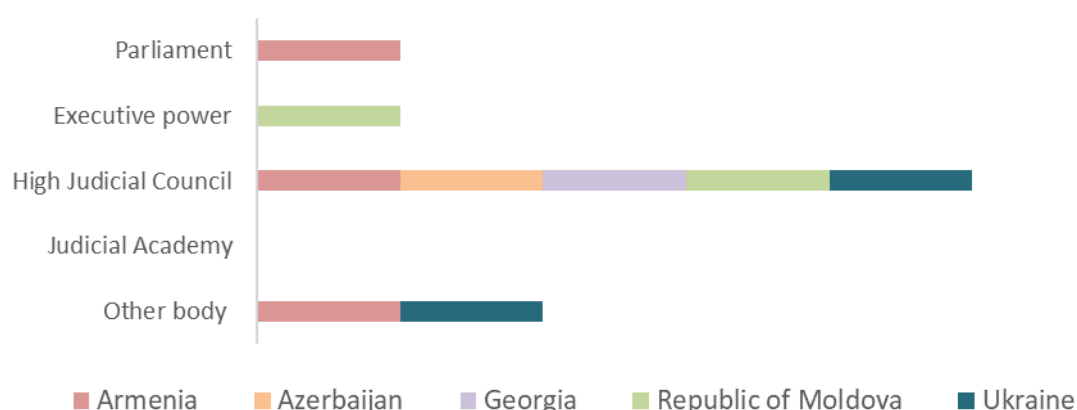
In all countries, except **Ukraine**, the final appointment is made by the Prosecutor General who has a right to appoint some and reject some among the selected (proposed) candidates.

In **Ukraine**, final appointments are made by the heads of public prosecutor’s offices who also have a right to appoint some and reject some among the selected (proposed) candidates.

- **Authorities responsible for the promotion of judges**

CEPEJ 6.1.1 (Q132)

Authority competent for the promotion of judges in 2023



In all countries, the High Judicial Councils have competencies in the promotion of judges. **In Armenia**, the Supreme Judicial Council supplements the list of candidates to the President of the Republic. Regarding the Supreme Court, judges are also appointed by the President of the Republic but upon recommendation of the National Assembly.

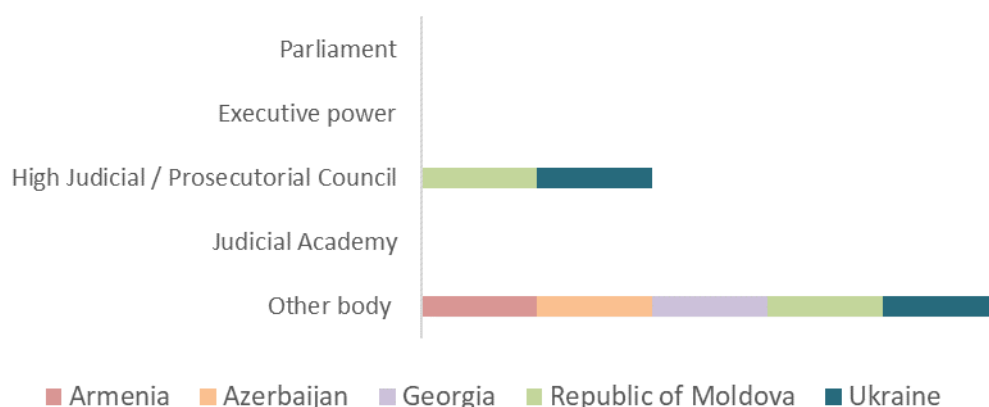
In Georgia, the election to the position of a Supreme Court judge is conducted by the Parliament, upon nomination of candidates by the High Judicial Council.

In the **Republic of Moldova**, the Superior Council of Magistracy proposes the candidates as a result of the evaluation process to the President of the country.

- **Authorities responsible for the promotion of prosecutors**

CEPEJ 6.1.4 (Q137)

Authority competent for the promotion of prosecutors in 2023



In **Armenia**, the authority competent for the promotion of prosecutors is the Qualification Commission (see explanations on this Commission in the paragraph on selection of prosecutors).

In **Azerbaijan**, the authority competent for the promotion of prosecutors is the Prosecutor’s General office.

In **Georgia**, the authorities competent for the promotion of prosecutors are the Career Management, Ethics and Incentives Council (created on 22 April 2019) and the General Prosecutor. The Career Management, Ethics and Incentives Council is composed of the following 15 members: the First Deputy General Prosecutor; 3 Deputy General Prosecutors; 8 members of the Prosecutorial Council; the head of the General Inspection Unit; the head of the Human Resources Management and Development Department and the head of the Department for Supervision over Prosecutorial Activities and Strategic Development. The General Prosecutor promotes the candidates recommended by the Career Management, Ethics, and Incentives Council. He/she may decline the recommended promotion but shall provide the reasons thereof.

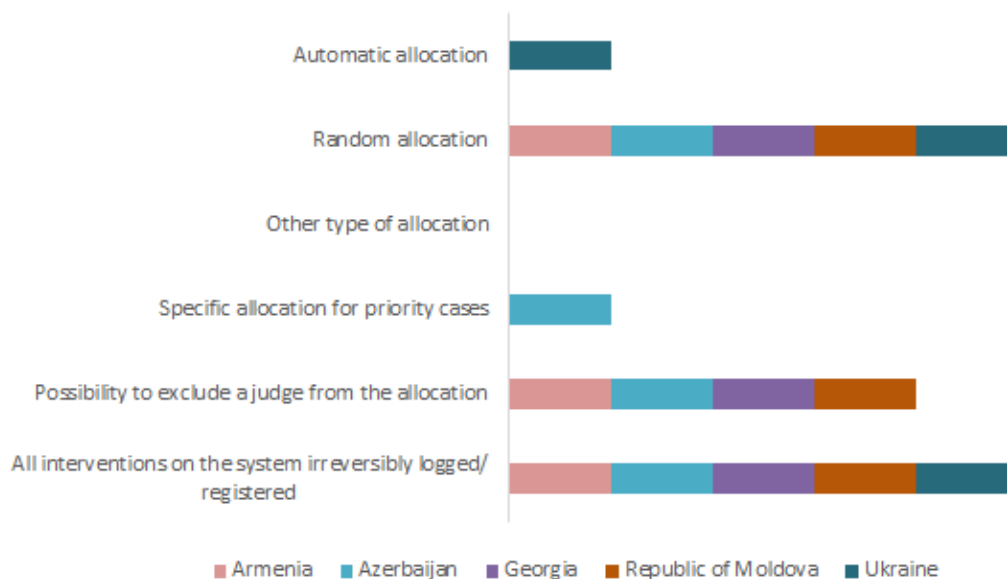
In the **Republic of Moldova**, the authority competent for the promotion of prosecutors is the Prosecutor General, who acts on the proposals for promotion made by the Superior Council of Prosecutors.

In **Ukraine**, the following are reported as being involved in the process of promotions: Prosecutor General, heads of regional prosecutor's offices, Deputy Prosecutor General - Head of the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office.

Allocation of cases

CEPEJ 8.6.1 (Q183, Q184)

Organisation in distribution of court cases in 2023



The random allocation of court cases (using random algorithm) is present in all countries. However, automatic allocation is reported for Ukraine, and only Azerbaijan has specific allocation procedures for priority cases.

In all countries except **Ukraine**, there is a possibility to exclude a judge from the distribution. In **Armenia**, a judge may, in case s/he is in charge of a case of particular complexity, apply to the Supreme Judicial Council proposing to be temporarily removed from the distribution list or to have a different percentage of cases to be distributed to him/her. In case the SJC finds the application of the judge to be reasonable, the proposal shall be granted but for a limited period not exceeding six months, which may be extended based on the judge's proposal, if the case of particular complexity has not ended. Other grounds for excluding a judge from the allocation are: 1. in case of leave — for the period of the leave and the period of the preceding ten days; 2. in case of secondment to another court — for the period of secondment and the period of the preceding ten days; 3. in case of temporary incapacity, participation in training courses, secondment abroad or suspension of powers — for the relevant period; 4. in case of expiry of the term of office — three months before the expiry of the term of office; 5. in other cases provided for by the Judicial Council. In **Azerbaijan**, there is a possibility to exclude a judge due to the judge's illness, business trip or vacation, in case a higher court sends the case back to a lower court for reconsideration or under exceptional circumstances. In the **Republic of Moldova**, according to a Regulation approved by the SCM, if a judge goes on annual leave for a period exceeding half of the total duration of the annual leave for the current year, the president of the court shall, by a reasoned decision, order his/her blocking from the list of judges eligible for random allocation in 5 calendar days before going on a leave, and the judge will be included in the list with active judges for case distribution from the day of returning to work, with the exception of the Supreme Court of Justice. The president of the court may order the temporary blocking/unblocking of the judge in other justified cases, with the issuance of a reasoned decision.

For all countries, all interventions are irreversibly registered in the system.

Organisation of reassignment of court cases
 CEPEJ 8.6.2 (Q185, Q185-1, Q186, Q187 and Q188)

Beneficiaries	Reasons for reassigning a case			
	Conflict of interest declared by the judge or by the parties	Recusal of the judge or requested by the parties	Physical unavailability (illness, longer absence)	Other
Armenia				
Azerbaijan				
Georgia				
Republic of Moldova				
Ukraine				

In **Azerbaijan**, **Georgia**, the **Republic of Moldova**, and in **Ukraine**, a case can be re-assigned due to a conflict of interest declared by the judge or by the parties, a self-recusal by a judge or as requested by the parties, physical unavailability of the judge. Additionally, in the **Republic of Moldova**, the president of a court may order the random redistribution to another judge or another panel of judges in other justified cases, with the issuance of a reasoned decision. In **Armenia**, a case can be reassigned due to the recusal of the judge at his or her own initiative or as requested by the parties, physical unavailability of the judge or in other cases such as when the powers of the judge have been suspended, automatically or imposingly terminated.

Beneficiaries	Does the reassignment of cases have to be reasoned?		
	Yes for all reassignments	Yes for some reassignments	No
Armenia			
Azerbaijan			
Georgia			
Republic of Moldova			
Ukraine			

In **Armenia**, the **Republic of Moldova** and in **Ukraine**, all re-assignments must be reasoned while in **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia** only some re-assignments must be reasoned.

Beneficiaries	Reassignments of cases processed through the computerised distribution of cases	If yes, how are reassignments of cases processed:				
		Automatic allocation	Random allocation	By discretion of a president of a court	Other	All interventions on the system are irreversibly logged/ registered
Armenia						
Azerbaijan						
Georgia						
Republic of Moldova						
Ukraine						

In all countries, the re-assignment is processed through the computerised distribution of cases and by random algorithm. Additionally, in the **Republic of Moldova** the re-assignment can be done by discretion of the President of the Court. Considering the judge's specialisation (insolvency, civil, criminal, adoption, administrative, investigative judges), the president of a court establishes at the beginning of the year by a general written act a limited number of judges or panels of the same specialisation who are active in the system if there is a need to reassign cases. The allocation in the CMS in these specific cases is random based on limitations established by the president's act. The act issued by the president of a court can be adjusted/modified during a year due to specific circumstances. For all countries except **Georgia**, all interventions are irreversibly registered in the system. Data on the number of processed re-assignments in the reference year was only available in **the Republic of Moldova** (18 166 in total in 2023 and 17 094 in 2021).

Specific instructions to prosecute or not, addressed to a public prosecutor

CEPEJ 8.3.2 (Q162, Q162-1, Q162-2, Q162-2-0, Q162-3, Q162-4, Q162-4-1 and Q162-5)

In **Armenia**, specific instructions to prosecute or not can be issued by the General Prosecutor or by a higher prosecutor or head of prosecution office. Such instructions are occasional. They can be oral or written. They are reasoned and recorded in the case file. The instructions are mandatory except in cases when the subordinate prosecutor finds that they are illegal or unfounded. In that case he or she shall not follow the given instruction and must file a written objection to the superior prosecutor who gave the instruction, except in cases when it was given by the General Prosecutor. It is not possible to oppose or report an instruction to an independent body. 2 instructions have been reported as issued in 2023.

In **Azerbaijan**, such specific instructions can be issued by a higher prosecutor or head of prosecution office. The instructions can only be written. Such instructions are exceptional. They are reasoned and recorded in the case file. The instructions are mandatory but in case of disagreement the prosecutor can send a motivated objection to the higher prosecutor. It is not possible to oppose or report an instruction to an independent body. The data on the nr of instructions was reported as non-available.

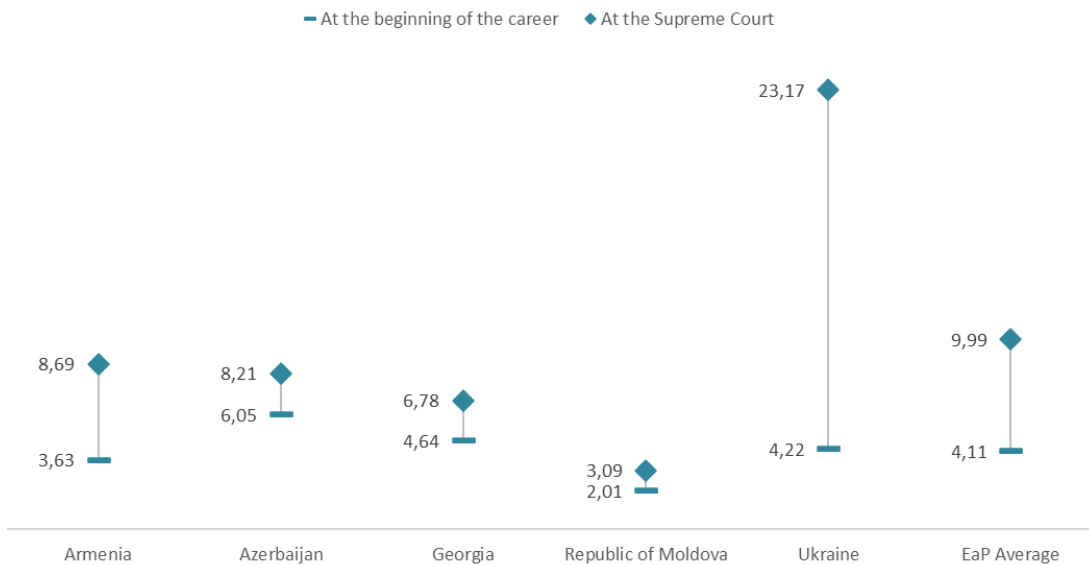
Salaries of judges and prosecutors vs national average

CEPEJ 2.4.1, 2.4.3, 2.4.6, 2.4.7 (Q14, Q15)

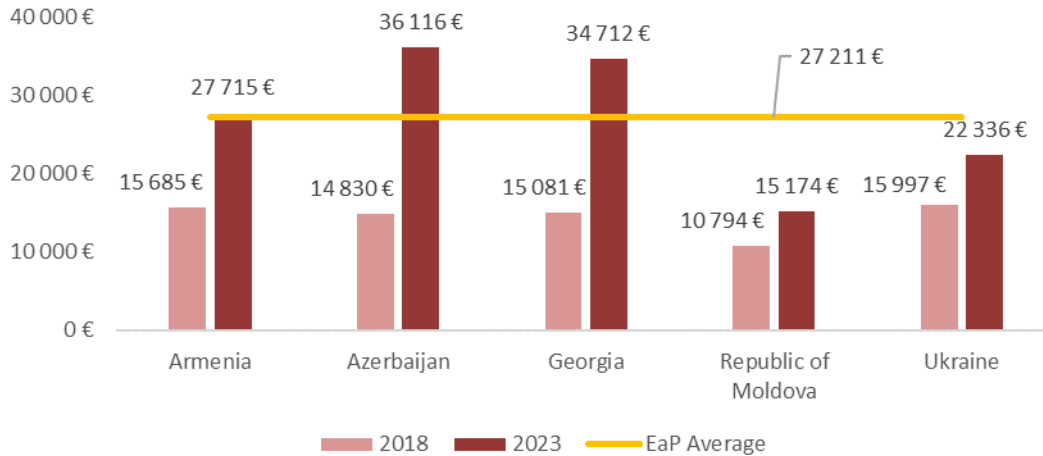
There are significant differences among salaries of judges and prosecutors in the beneficiaries, even if the average national salaries are similar. There is a regional trend, confirmed by the EaP averages, of higher salaries for judges at the beginning of their careers than for public prosecutors at the beginning of their careers.

- **Average salaries of judges**

Judges' salary - Ratio with average gross annual national salary in 2023

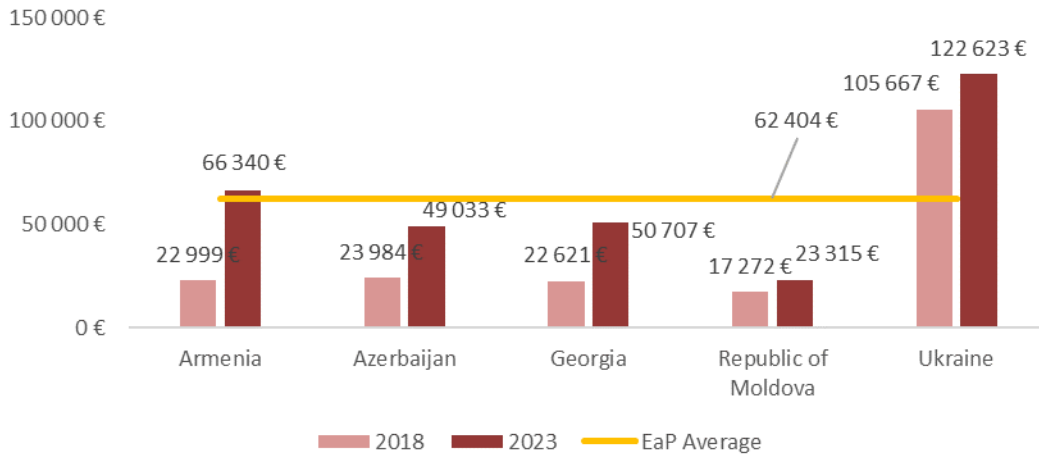


Average gross salary of professional judges at the beginning of career between 2018 and 2023



In all countries, the average gross salary at the beginning of the career of judges has increased between 2018 and 2023, perhaps the most prominently in **Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**, reflecting a general trend in the region. In 2023, this salary was equal to or above the EaP average of 27 211€ in **Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**. **Azerbaijan** reported the highest average gross salary in the region at 36 116€, followed by **Georgia** with 34 712€.

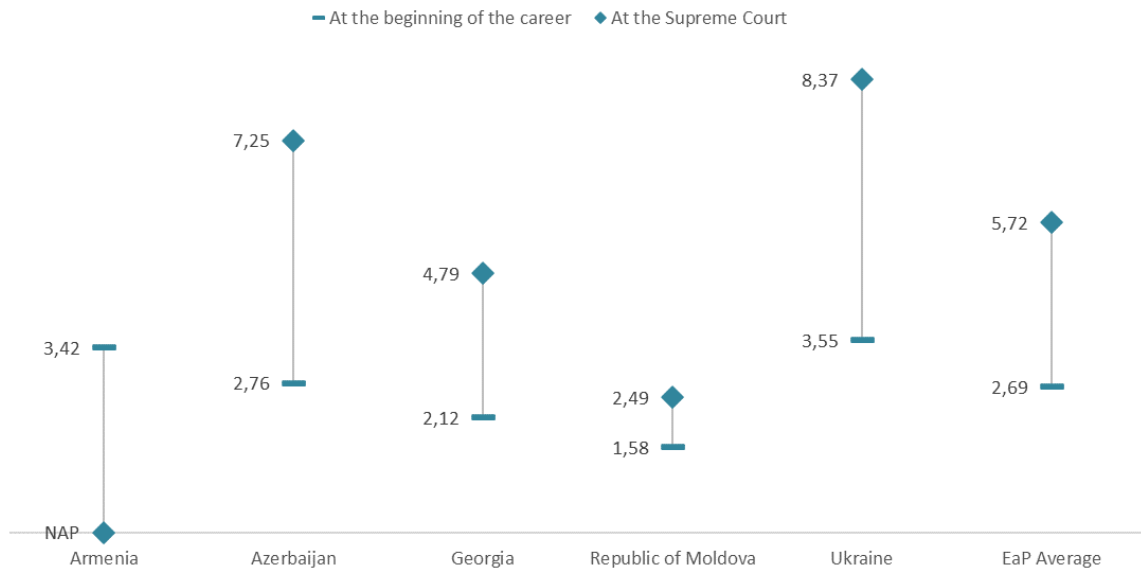
Average gross salary of professional judges at the Supreme Court between 2018 and 2023



In all countries, the average gross salary of judges at the highest instance has increased or remained stable between 2018 and 2023, again more prominently in **Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**. In 2023, this salary was higher than the EaP average of 62 404€ in **Armenia** and considerably higher in **Ukraine**. **Ukraine** reported the highest average gross salary at 122 623€, followed by **Armenia** with 66 340€, **Georgia** with 50 707€, **Azerbaijan** with 49 033€, and the **Republic of Moldova** with 23 315€. The high salaries in **Ukraine** at the end of the career impact the EaP average significantly.

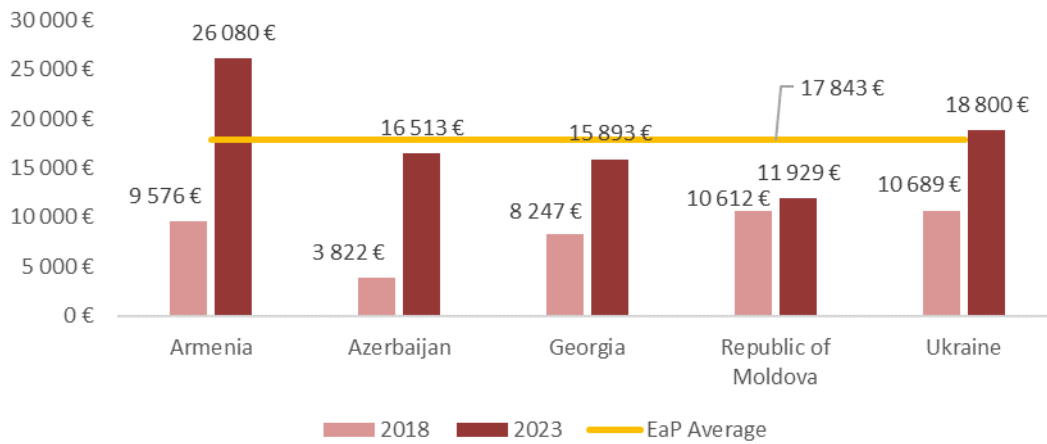
- **Average salaries of prosecutors**

Prosecutors' salary - Ratio with average gross annual national salary in 2023



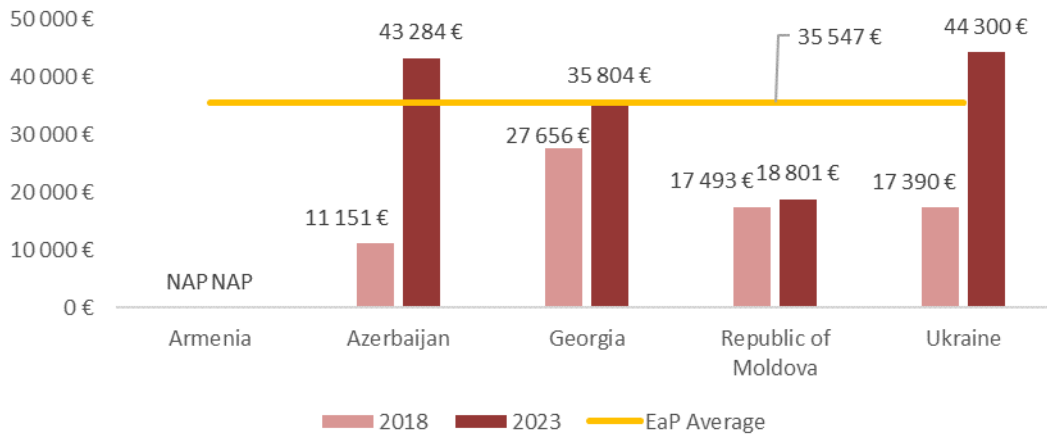
- **Average salaries of prosecutors**

Average gross salary of prosecutors at the beginning of career between 2018 and 2023



In all countries, the average gross salary of prosecutors at the beginning of their career has increased between 2018 and 2023 perhaps more prominently in **Armenia** and **Azerbaijan**, indicating a general trend of salary increases for prosecutors across the region. In 2023, this salary was higher than the EaP average of 17 843€ in **Armenia** and **Ukraine**. **Armenia** reported the highest average gross salary at 26 080€, followed by **Ukraine** with 18 800€, **Azerbaijan** with 16 513€, **Georgia** with 15 893€, and the **Republic of Moldova** with 11 929€.

Average gross salary of prosecutors at the Supreme Court between 2018 and 2023

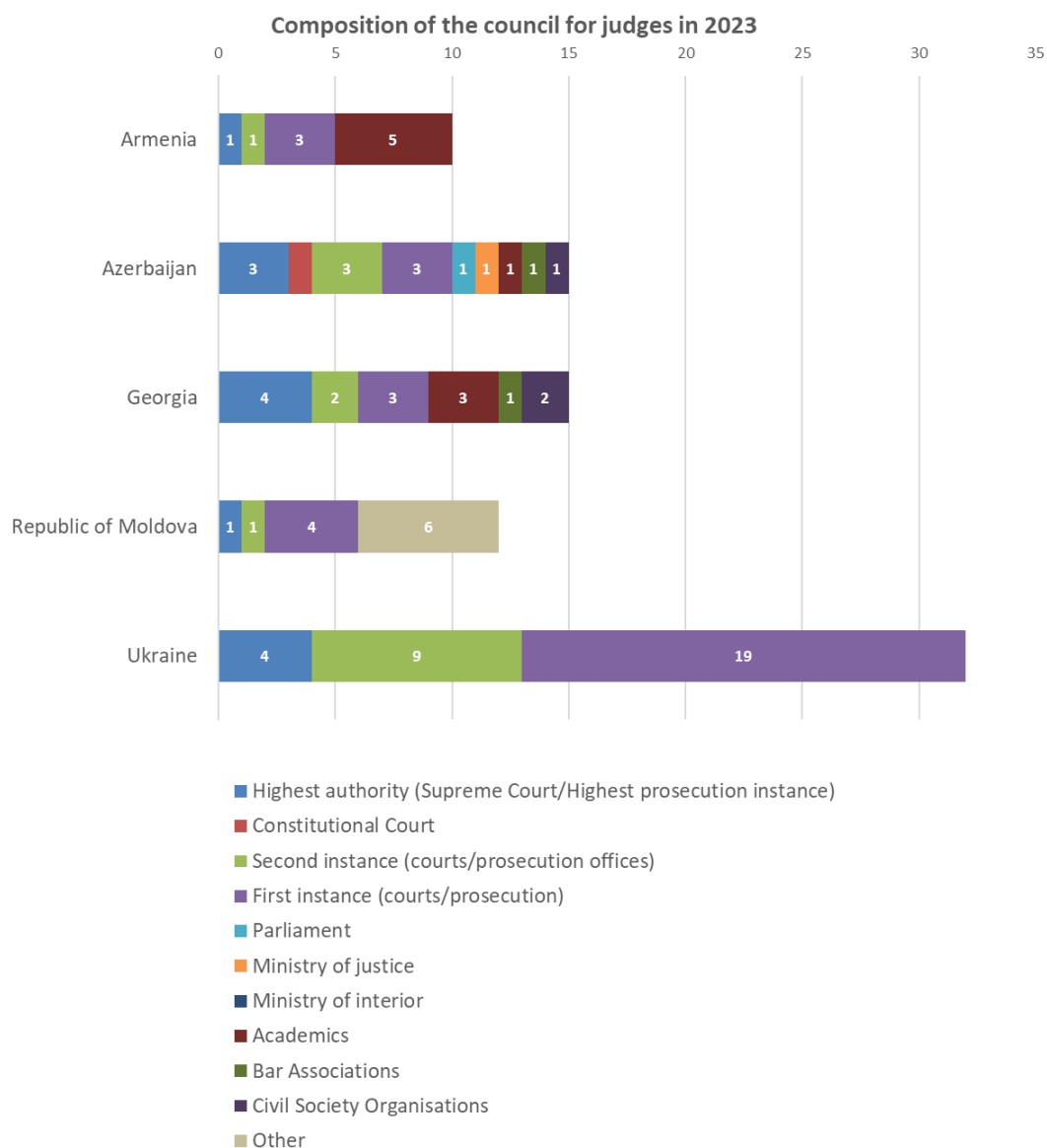


In **Azerbaijan**, there was a significant increase in the salary of prosecutors at the highest instance between 2018 and 2023. Similarly, the salaries increased between 2018 and 2023 in **Ukraine** and **Georgia**. In the **Republic of Moldova**, the salaries show some increase. In 2023, the salary of prosecutors at the highest instance was higher than the EaP average of 35 547€ in **Azerbaijan** and in **Ukraine**. **Ukraine** reported the highest average gross salary with 44 300€, followed by **Azerbaijan** with 43 284€, **Georgia** with 35 804€, and the **Republic of Moldova** with 18 801€.

IV. Accountability

Councils for judges in 2023: appointments and composition

CEPEJ 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 (Q266, 267)



All countries have a Council for the Judiciary, their sizes vary from 10 members in **Armenia**, 12 in the Republic of Moldova, 15 in **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia** to 32 in **Ukraine** (see particularity below).

The composition of councils for judges is as follow:

Armenia: the Supreme Judicial Council shall be composed of 10 members, including five judges of all levels (a chairperson of a court or a chairperson of a chamber of the Court of Cassation should not be represented) with at least 10 years of experience, elected by the General Assembly of Judges; as well as 5 members from among academic lawyers and other prominent lawyers holding only Armenian citizenship, having the right to vote, with high professional qualities and at least 15 years of professional work experience, elected by the National Assembly by at least three fifths of votes of the total number of Deputies.

Azerbaijan: the Judicial Legal Council is composed of the following 15 members appointed for 5 years after the amendments of 9 June 2023 to the Law on Judicial-Legal Council: three judges of the cassation instance court elected by the conference of judges; three judges of appellate courts elected by the conference of judges; three judges of first instance courts elected by the conference of judges; a judge appointed by the Constitutional Court; a person appointed by the Milli Majlis (Parliament); a person appointed by the relevant executive authority (Ministry of Justice); a lawyer appointed by the Bar Association; a legal scholar appointed by the National Academy of Sciences; and a representative of the legal community elected by the conference of judges.

Georgia: the High Council of Justice (HCJ) consists of 15 members: 8 judge-members - by the Conference of Judges; 5 non-judge members - by the Parliament and one non-judge member - appointed by the President of the country from among the Academics, lawyers or other Civil Society representatives with high professional experience and reputation. The chairperson of the Supreme Court is an ex officio member of the HCJ.

The Republic of Moldova: The Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM) is composed of 12 members (appointed for 6 years), as follows: 6 judge members – by the General Assembly of Judges, as follows: four from the first instance courts, 1 from the courts of appeal and 1 from the Supreme Court of Justice; and 6 non-judge members are appointed by the Parliament, with the vote of the 3/5 of the elected deputies, based on the proposals of the Commission on legal affairs, appointments and immunities of the Parliament.

Ukraine: Authorities reported that in Ukraine there are the High Council of Justice (Unified Council of the Judiciary) (competent for judges and prosecutors) and the Council of Judges of Ukraine (competent only for judges). The *High Council of Justice* has 21 members who serve a four-year term full-time: ten of whom are elected by the Congress of Judges of Ukraine from among judges or retired judges, two are appointed by the President of Ukraine, two are elected by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, two are elected by the Congress of Advocates of Ukraine, two are elected by the All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors, and two are elected by the Congress of Representatives of Law Schools and Research Institutions. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court is an ex officio member of the High Council of Justice. The *Council of Judges* has 32 members: 11 judges from local general court, 4 judges from local administrative courts, 4 judges from the courts of appeal for civil, criminal and administrative offences, 2 judges from administrative courts of appeal, 2 judges from commercial courts of appeal, one judge from each of the higher specialised courts and 4 judges from the Supreme Court. The Council of Judges is voted for by the Congress of Judges.

[Councils for judges in 2023: responsibilities](#)

CEPEJ 11.1.6 (Q271, Q273 and Q274)

Armenia: The Supreme Judicial Council has a key role in the selection of judges and court chairpersons, in secondment of judges to another court, in giving consent for initiating criminal proceedings against a judge, in disciplinary proceedings and in the termination of judges' powers. It is also competent in case of evident breach of the independence or the impartiality of a judge. It was reported that the Supreme Judicial Council publishes information about its activities.

Azerbaijan: The Judicial Legal Council ensures the organisation and operation of courts, the independence of judges and court system; it proposes the number of judges per court, decides on the selection, evaluation, promotion, transfer, and disciplinary measures against judges and implements self-governance functions of the judiciary. In case it is evident there is a breach of the independence or the impartiality of a judge, a judge must apply to the Council. The Council reportedly publishes activity reports, as well as its decisions, which are required to be reasoned.

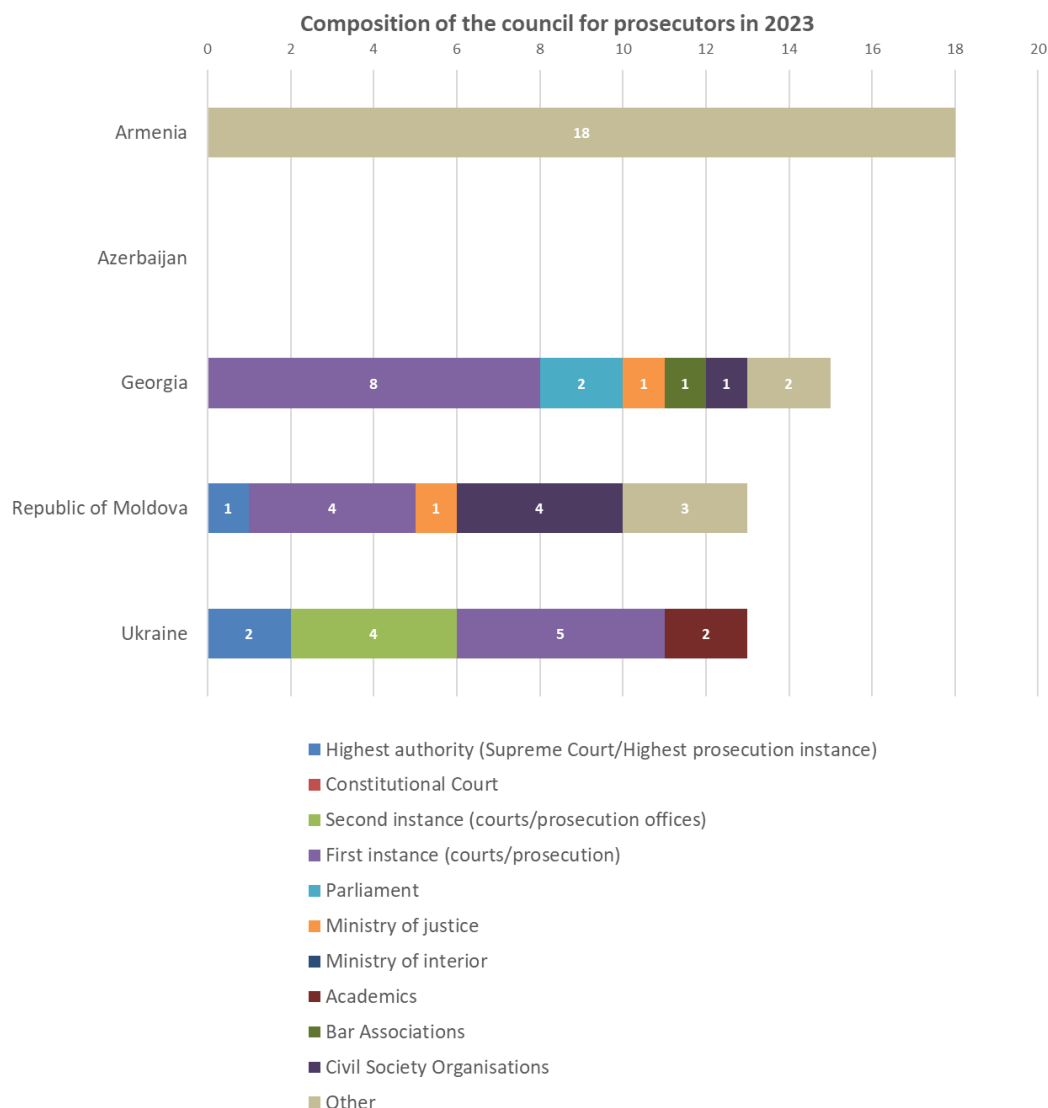
Georgia: The High Council of Justice is competent regarding appointments and dismissals of common court judges (other than the chairperson and judges of the Supreme Court); it determines the

composition of the Qualification Examination Commission, and the specialisation of judges of appellate courts and district/city courts; it approves the staff list and structure of the personnel of the Office of the High Council of Justice, conducts disciplinary proceedings against common court judges in the prescribed manner and within the scope of its powers, and it formulates proposals for judicial reforms. The HCJ is competent when it is evident that there is a breach of the independence or impartiality of a judge. It publishes its activity reports and decisions, which must be reasoned; and it is accountable to the Conference of Judges of Georgia.

The Republic of Moldova: The Superior Council of Magistracy is competent regarding the selection, training, evaluation, ethics, and disciplinary liability of judges. It has certain tasks regarding the administration of courts, notably as regards budgetary matters. The Council is competent when it is evident that there is a breach of the independence or impartiality of a judge. It publishes its activity reports and decisions, which must be reasoned, on its official website.

Ukraine: The *High Council of Justice* has competences in respect of judicial appointment; violations of incompatibility requirements by judges or prosecutors; considering complaints against decisions of the relevant body on bringing judges or prosecutors to disciplinary responsibility; dismissal of judges; consent to detain judges or hold them in custody; suspension of judges from the administration of justice; ensuring judicial independence; transfer of judges from one court to another. Information on the activities of the High Council of Justice, including decisions taken, are reportedly published on its official website. The *Council of Judges* is competent in respect of measures to ensure the independence of courts and judges, improvement of the organisational support for courts operation; the legal protection of judges, social security of judges and their families; oversee the organization of operation of courts; exercise supervision over compliance with legislation on conflict of interests in the activity of the judges. Its reports and decisions are published on its official website.

Councils for prosecutors in 2023: appointments and composition
 CEPEJ 11.1.1 and 11.1.2 (Q266, 267)



Georgia, the **Republic of Moldova** and **Ukraine** have councils for prosecutors. In **Ukraine**, there are the High Council of Justice (competent for judges and prosecutors – see above) and the Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine. **Armenia** has a Board (see explanation below). There was no council for prosecutors in 2023 in **Azerbaijan**.

Armenia: the prosecution service does not have a Council. Instead, it has a Board composed of 18 prosecutors. It is composed of the Prosecutor General, who acts as a chairperson, the Deputy Prosecutors General, the heads of the structural subdivisions of the Prosecutor General’s Office and of the Prosecutor of the city of Yerevan. Members are not elected but are members *ex officio* for the duration of their respective mandates as prosecutors.

Georgia: the Prosecutorial Council has 15 members, of which 7 are non-prosecutors. As of 2023, the procedure for the latest selection of non-prosecutorial members of the Prosecutorial Council was as follows: the Conference of Prosecutors - 8 members from among prosecutors. The Parliament - 2 members (MPs), one from the parliamentary majority and another from the MPs not belonging to the parliamentary majority; the High Council of Justice - 2 members (judges). The Parliament - one member (lawyer), nominated by the Minister of Justice; one member (lawyer), nominated by the Georgian Bar Association; and one member (representative of the civil society). The Council is

competent when it is evident that there is a breach of the independence or impartiality of a prosecutor.

The Republic of Moldova: the Superior Council of Prosecutors was composed of 13 members. The composition of the Superior Council of Prosecutors reflected in the graph has been valid in 2023 and included as ex officio members: the Prosecutor General; the Ombudsman; the President of the Superior Council of Magistracy (including interim). By Law, 4 members of SCP have to be elected from among the prosecutors from territorial offices and specialised offices. There is no distinction how many from territorial offices and how many from specialised offices. By an amendment (Law 200/2023 of 31-07-2023 on amendments to some laws (improvement of the selection, evaluation and disciplinary responsibility of prosecutors) published on 04-08-2023) the total number of members has been reduced from 13 to 10. By the same law, starting with 1 January 2024 the Ombudsman and the Prosecutor General ceased their activity as ex-officio members. The Minister of Justice will cease its activity as an ex officio member as of 1 January 2026.

Ukraine: For the High Council of Justice (competent both for judges and prosecutors) – see above. The Council of Prosecutors is composed of 13 members. The All-Ukrainian Conference of Prosecutors (hereinafter referred to as the Conference) appoints (elects) as members of the Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine 2 representatives (prosecutors) from the Office of the Prosecutor General, 4 representatives (prosecutors) from regional prosecutor's offices, 5 representatives (prosecutors) from district prosecutor's offices; 2 representatives (academics) appointed by the Congress of Representatives of Law Schools and Research Institutions.

Councils for prosecutors in 2023: responsibilities

CEPEJ 11.1.5 and 11.1.6 (Q271, Q273 and Q274)

Armenia: The Board discusses only fundamental issues related to the organisation of the activities of the Prosecutor's Office. The public is informed of the Board's decisions, which are reasoned. There was no specific provision in the law with regard to Board's competence in case of pressure on prosecutors reported for 2023.

Georgia: The Council is competent, inter alia, to select a candidate for the post of Prosecutor General, to conduct disciplinary proceedings against the First Deputy Prosecutor General and Deputies of the Prosecutor General, to decide on the issue of applying a disciplinary sanction or prematurely revoking it in relation to a member of the Prosecutorial Council elected by the Conference of Prosecutors, to hear a report of the Prosecutor General, First Deputy Prosecutor General or Deputy Prosecutor General on the activities of the Prosecution Service (except for individual criminal cases), to issue recommendations to the attention of the Prosecutor General and decide on matters of early termination of its membership. The Council publishes its decisions, which must be reasoned. The Prosecutorial Council is competent in case of a pressure on a prosecutor.

The Republic of Moldova: the competences of the Superior Council of Prosecutors (SCP) include the selection, promotion, training, evaluation, ethics, developing a draft Code of Ethics for prosecutors, approving its own budget and submitting it to the Ministry of Finance, participating in the development of the budget and strategic development plans for the prosecution service, establishing disciplinary liability of prosecutors, appointing prosecutors to the Council of the National Institute of Justice. SCP publishes its activity reports and decisions, which shall be reasoned. The SCP is competent in case of a pressure on a prosecutor.

Ukraine: The High Council of Justice does not carry out disciplinary procedures against prosecutors. The Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine is the highest body of prosecutorial self-governance. It organizes the implementation of measures to ensure the independence of prosecutors, improve the organizational support of the prosecution offices; it considers issues of legal protection of prosecutors, social protection of prosecutors and their family members and makes appropriate decisions on these

issues; examines appeals of prosecutors and other reports on threats to the independence of prosecutors; makes recommendations on the appointment and dismissal of prosecutors from administrative positions; resolves issues of internal activity of the prosecutor's office and exercises other powers prescribed by Law. The information on the activities of the Council of Prosecutors of Ukraine, as well as its decisions (which should be reasoned), are published on its official website.

Codes of ethics for judges and prosecutors

CEPEJ 8.5.1 (Q172, Q 173-1)

There are codes of ethics applicable to all **judges** in all five countries.

Beneficiary	Hyperlinks to texts of ethics codes for judges
Armenia	Code of Ethics in Armenian
Azerbaijan	Code of Ethics in Azeri
Georgia	Code of ethics in Georgian
Republic of Moldova	Code of ethics in Romanian
Ukraine	Code of ethics in Ukrainian

The following principles are reported as being included in the Codes of ethics of the **countries** concerned (with exceptions noted below): adherence to judicial values (independence, integrity, impartiality); relationship with institutions, citizens and users; competence and continuity education (except **Armenia**); extrajudicial activities; conflict of interest; information disclosure and relationship with press agencies; political activity; association membership and institutional positions, gift rules (except **Ukraine**).

CEPEJ 8.5.2 (Q174, Q 175-1)

There are codes of ethics applicable to **prosecutors** in all five countries.

Beneficiary	Hyperlinks to texts of ethics codes for prosecutors
Armenia	Code of ethics in Armenian
Azerbaijan	Code of ethics in Azeri
Georgia	Code of ethics in Georgian
Republic of Moldova	Code of ethics in Romanian
Ukraine	Code of Ethics in Ukrainian

All of the following principles, as listed in the EaP Questionnaire, are reported as being part of the codes of ethics in **the countries concerned** (with noted exceptions): adherence to judicial values of independence, integrity, impartiality (except **Ukraine**); relationship with institutions, citizens and users; competences and continuing education; extrajudicial activities (except **Ukraine**); conflict of interest information disclosure; relationship with press agencies; political activity, association membership, institutional positions and gift rules.

Assets declarations

- **Judges**

CEPEJ 8.7.1 (Q190 and Q192)

In **Armenia** the assets declaration by judges is a requirement of the Judicial Code; in **Azerbaijan**, this is applicable based on the Law “On Approval of Procedures for Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials”, Law “On combating corruption” (it was still not implemented in 2023 though, explained by the lack of approval of the financial information declaration form). Judges in **Georgia** are required to submit a declaration based on the Law “On Fight against corruption”. Judges in the

Republic of Moldova are required to submit a declaration of assets based on the Law on “the Status of judges”, Law on “Declaration of assets and personal interests”, Law on “the National Integrity Authority.” In **Ukraine** this is provided for in the Law "On the Judicial System and Status of Judges" and the Law "On Prevention of Corruption".

CEPEJ 8.7.2 (Q193, Q194, Q195 and Q196)

Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine require judges to declare assets, financial interests, sources of income, liabilities, and gifts. In addition to these, judges in **Armenia** shall also declare their expenditures and judges in the **Republic of Moldova** shall declare conflicts of interests. **Azerbaijan** does not require judges to declare gifts.

All countries require judges to make the declaration at the beginning of the term of office and all of them, except **Azerbaijan**, have this requirement at the end of the term of office. In **Armenia** and **Ukraine**, judges shall make the declaration as well as when there is a significant change in the items to be declared.

The spouse, the children, and other family members shall make declarations in all five countries. The partners of judges are concerned by the declaration only in the **Republic of Moldova** and **Ukraine**. Adult children are concerned by the declaration only in **Azerbaijan** and **Ukraine**.

In **Azerbaijan, Georgia** and the **Republic of Moldova**, the members of the family of a judge submit the same declaration as the judge.

- **Prosecutors**

CEPEJ 8.7.5 (Q203 and Q205)

In **Armenia**, prosecutors are required to submit the declaration of assets by the Law “On Public Service”. In **Azerbaijan**, the provisions of Law “On Approval of Procedures for Submission of Financial Information by Public Officials”, the Law “On Combating Corruption” and the "Rules of Work Organisation at the Prosecutor General's Office" require the prosecutors to submit assets declarations. In **Georgia**, the Law “On Fight against corruption” is applicable to prosecutors. The provisions of the Law “On the Declaration of Assets and Personal Interests” and the Law “On the Prosecution Office” require prosecutors in the **Republic of Moldova** to submit declarations. In **Ukraine** this is to be done based on the Law “On the Prosecutor’s Office” and the Law "On Prevention of Corruption".

CEPEJ 8.7.6 (Q206, Q207, Q208 and Q209)

In respect of items to be declared, prosecutors in **all five countries** are required to declare assets, financial interests, sources of income and liabilities. In addition to the above, gifts are to be declared by prosecutors in **Armenia, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine**. Other items are required to be declared in **Armenia** (expenditures), the **Republic of Moldova** (conflicts of interests) and **Ukraine** (full list provided in comments to this Question in Part 1. Comparative Tables).

In all five countries the prosecutors are required to make the declarations at the beginning of the term of office. In all, except **Azerbaijan**, the declarations are reportedly due also at the end of the term of office. In addition to the above, **Armenia** and **Ukraine** require a declaration when there is a significant change in the items. Each country has supplementary requirements as to the moment of declarations. Thus, prosecutors in **Georgia** submit it annually, during the term in office, and depending on the date of submission of the last declaration, twice or once after leaving the office, until the end of the next year. In **Armenia**, in case of doubts about any significant changes in the property (increase in property, reduction in liabilities or expenses) within 2 years after termination of official duties, the Commission shall be entitled to require from the declarant official to submit a situational declaration on property

and income (The law “On Corruption Prevention Commission”). Prosecutors in **Azerbaijan** and the **Republic of Moldova** submit declarations also annually.

The declarations concern spouses, children and other family members of prosecutors in **all five countries**. In **Azerbaijan** this obligation extends to adult children; in the **Republic of Moldova** and **Ukraine** – to partners. In the **Republic of Moldova** - to all family members who are financially or otherwise supported by the declarant.

In **Azerbaijan, Georgia, and the Republic of Moldova** the same declaration of assets applies to prosecutors’ family members.

Number of criminal cases against judges/prosecutors

CEPEJ 8.4.2 (Q171)

Beneficiaries	Number of criminal cases against judges or prosecutors in 2023					
	Judges			Prosecutors		
	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced
Armenia	1	0	0	5	3	0
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Moldova	4	0	0	NA	NA	NA
Ukraine	NA	NA	6	6	4	6

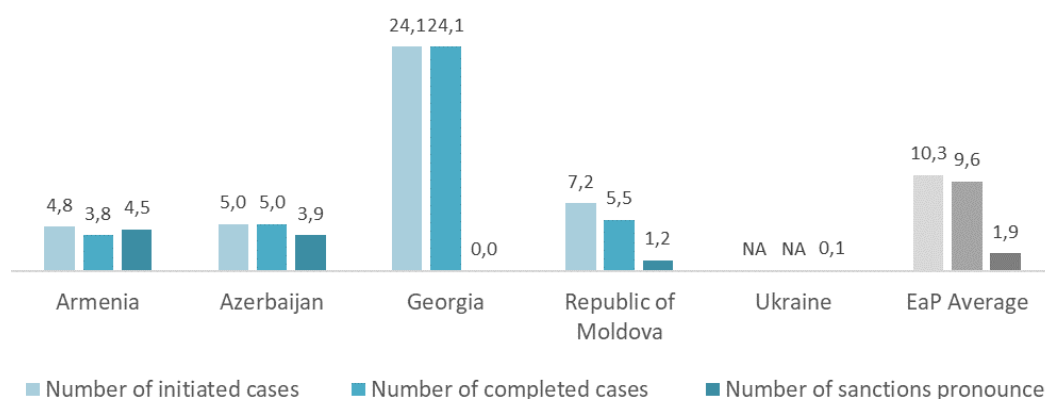
In 2023, regarding judges, **Armenia** reported 1 initiated criminal case, 0 completed cases, and 0 sanctions pronounced. **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia** reported no cases. **The Republic of Moldova** reported 4 initiated cases, with no completed cases or sanctions pronounced. **Ukraine** reported 6 sanctions pronounced.

In respect of prosecutors, **Armenia** reported 5 initiated cases, 3 completed cases, and 0 sanctions pronounced. **Azerbaijan** and **Georgia** reported no cases. **The Republic of Moldova** had no available data. **Ukraine** reported 6 initiated cases, 4 completed cases, and 6 sanctions pronounced.

Number of disciplinary cases against judges/prosecutors

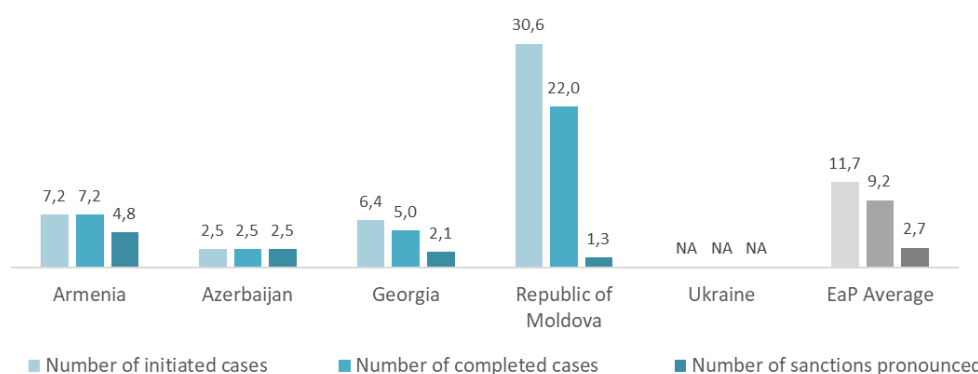
CEPEJ 8.9.5 (Q237, Q238, Q239, Q246, Q247 and Q248)

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary proceedings and number of sanctions pronounced against judges in 2023 (per 100 judges)



The highest number of **initiated disciplinary proceedings** in 2023 per 100 judges among the beneficiaries was in **Georgia** (24,1 vs 48 in 2021). **Armenia** had 4,8 such cases (vs 14 in 2021), and **Azerbaijan** had 5 (vs 3 in 2021). **The Republic of Moldova** reported 7,2 (vs 8 in 2021). The highest number of **completed cases** per 100 judges was in **Georgia** – 24,1 (vs 14 in 2021). In the **Republic of Moldova**, there were 5,5 cases (vs 4 in 2021), in **Armenia** – 3,8 (vs 4 in 2021), and in **Azerbaijan** - 5 (vs 2 in 2021). In terms of the number of **sanctions against judges**, there were 4,5 such sanctions per 100 judges in **Armenia** (vs 4 in 2021), 3,9 in **Azerbaijan** (vs 2 in 2021), 1,2 in the **Republic of Moldova** (vs 1 in 2021), and 0,1 sanctions for **Ukraine**.

Total number of initiated and completed disciplinary proceedings and number of sanctions pronounced against prosecutors in 2023 (per 100 prosecutors)



The highest number of **initiated disciplinary proceedings** in 2023 per 100 prosecutors among the beneficiaries was in the **Republic of Moldova** (30,6 vs 8 in 2021). In **Azerbaijan**, there were 2,5 such cases (vs 4 in 2021), in **Armenia** – 7,2 (vs 2 in 2021), in **Georgia** – 6,4 (vs 2 in 2021), and in **Ukraine**, there was no available data. The highest number of **completed cases** per 100 prosecutors was in the **Republic of Moldova** - 22 (vs 7 in 2021). In **Armenia**, there were 7,2 cases (vs 2 in 2021), in **Azerbaijan** - 2.5 (vs 4 in 2021), in **Georgia** - 5 (vs 3 in 2021). In terms of the number of **sanctions** against prosecutors, there were 1,3 sanctions per 100 prosecutors in the **Republic of Moldova** (vs 1 in 2021), 4,8 in **Armenia** (vs 2 in 2021), 2,5 in **Azerbaijan** (vs 4 in 2021), and 2,1 in **Georgia** (vs 2 in 2021).

Number of procedures for breaches of rules on conflict of interest against judges/prosecutors
 CEPEJ 8.8.7 (Q224 and Q233)

Beneficiaries	Number of procedures for breaches of rules on conflict of interest against judges and prosecutors in 2023					
	Against judges			Against prosecutors		
	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced
Armenia	0	0	0	2	1	0
Azerbaijan	0	0	0	0	0	0
Georgia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Moldova	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukraine	5	2	2	4	1	1

Regarding procedures for breaches of rules on conflict of interest in respect of **judges**, there were 5 cases reported as initiated in **Ukraine** (2 completed and 2 sanctions). **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia,** and the **Republic of Moldova** reported zero such cases. In respect of **prosecutors**, there were 2 initiated cases, 1 completed case and 0 sanctions pronounced in **Armenia**. There were 4 initiated cases and 1 completed case with 1 sanction pronounced in **Ukraine**. **Azerbaijan, Georgia,** and the **Republic of Moldova** reported zero such cases.

Number of proceedings against judges and prosecutors due to violations/discrepancies in their declaration of assets

CEPEJ 8.7.9 (Q202 and 215)

Beneficiaries	Declaration of assets for judges and prosecutors in 2023: number of proceedings against judges and prosecutors due to violations/discrepancies in their declaration					
	Proceedings against judges			Proceedings against prosecutors		
	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced	Number of initiated cases	Number of completed cases	Number of sanctions pronounced
Armenia	0	0	0	1	1	0
Azerbaijan	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP
Georgia	60	55	7	17	16	1
Republic of Moldova	4	2	1	8	6	6
Ukraine	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP	NAP

Regarding the proceedings against judges and prosecutors due to violations/discrepancies in their declarations of assets, data was reported by **Armenia, Georgia,** and the **Republic of Moldova**. In respect of **judges**, **Armenia** reported zero such cases. In **Georgia**, there were 60 initiated cases, 55 completed cases and 7 sanctions pronounced. **The Republic of Moldova** reported 4 initiated cases, 2 completed cases, and 1 sanction pronounced. For **prosecutors**, **Armenia** reported 1 initiated case, 1 completed case, and 0 sanctions pronounced. **Georgia** reported 17 initiated cases, 16 completed cases, and 1sanction pronounced. **The Republic of Moldova** reported 8 initiated cases, 6 completed cases, and 6 sanctions pronounced. Overall and compared to previous years, the data availability and reporting improved slightly in respect of proceedings related to asset declarations. In **Ukraine**, pursuant to the Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 64/2022 dated February 24, 2022 "On the Introduction of Martial Law in Ukraine" during the period of martial law or state of war, any inspections of the timeliness and completeness of submission of any reports or documents of a reporting nature by the authorized bodies are not carried out. Thus, no full inspections during the period of martial law until 20.12.2023 have been conducted.