

CONCLUSIONS

Local Steering Committee

EU/CoE Partnership for Good Governance 2019 – 2021

Tbilisi, 1 October 2019

The Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) **Local Steering Committees (LSC)** of a tri-partite nature (European Union, Council of Europe, Beneficiaries) has been established regarding each of the countries covered by PGG. The LSCs meet once a year with a view to:

- monitor the implementation of the APAs in each country;
- monitor the implementation of regional/multi-country projects regarding both regional action and the specific actions of the country concerned;
- formulate recommendations with a view to steering the projects;
- transmit proposals for revised APAs to the PGG-SC and formulate recommendations as to the initiation of any other national intervention under PGG, as well as any recommendations regarding regional Action;
- make proposals to the PGG-SC as to the use of reserve funds.

The first meeting of the LSC for Georgia was held on 1 October 2019 in Tbilisi in accordance with the Agenda shown in Appendix I. The list of participants is shown in Appendix II.

Recommendations and conclusions

Further to detailed presentations of the different PGG projects involving Georgia and in-depth exchange of views, the LSC made some specific recommendations and came to the following conclusions:

- As demonstrated by phase I, the PGG Programme is an efficient instrument providing tangible and results oriented technical assistance to the EaP countries in the implementation of domestic reforms with the aim to bring the national legislation and practice closer to the European standards and to contribute to the achievement of the EU 2020 Deliverables. The PGG projects involving Georgia, both country-specific and regional, are relevant for the on-going reforms in the area of judicial reforms and preventing and combatting corruption and money laundering.
- LSC participants considered that the actions aiming to preventing and combating discrimination are also relevant for the country. Georgia is the only country from EaP region which ratified the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention. Domestic violence remains a priority too.

- The Quick Response Mechanism has been acknowledged. The two requests made by Georgia since the beginning of the programme show that the country has a good awareness of the tool and makes use of it.
- The LSC endorsed the PGG country specific and regional projects (including objectives, implementation modalities and proposed activities). Specific recommendations regarding the projects will be reflected in the relevant APAs with a view to their consideration by the PGG Steering Committee. Specific recommendations include:
 - ✓ Regarding the project « Implementation of judicial reforms » the co-ordination of the project component 2 "Supporting the criminal justice reforms - tackling criminal aspects of the judicial reforms in Georgia" needs to be ensured with the PGG regional project "Strengthening access to justice through non-judicial redress mechanisms for victims of discrimination, hate crime and hate speech in Eastern Partnership Countries" as well as with the on-going project "Fight against discrimination, hate crimes and hate speech in Georgia"¹.
 - ✓ It was also confirmed that the Component 1 "Enhancing the accountability and the efficiency of the judicial system and the professionalism of lawyers in Georgia" of the project "Implementation of judicial reforms" can start in November.
- In the light of the MONEYVAL evaluation in Georgia, the project "Enhancing the systems of prevention and combating corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing in Georgia" is of particular relevance to the Georgian authorities.
- Considering the current reform environment in Georgia, PGG needs to make sure that the flexibility of this programme, and notably with regards to the project in the field of judiciary, is fully taken into consideration. The LSC noted that the Programme beneficiaries, the Council of Europe and the European Union need to maintain permanent contacts in order to ensure that projects can be timely adjusted in accordance with the country needs and its reform agenda.
- The LSC participants took note of the request from the representatives of the Ministry of Justice and the General Prosecutor's Office to consider the provision of more targeted support for implementing the provisions under the Istanbul Convention, especially in view of the upcoming evaluation visit of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).
- The LSC noted that the main objective of the communication strategy and visibility actions is to demonstrate the concrete results and benefits of the PGG actions for citizens in Georgia.
- The LSC underlined that inclusive and comprehensive co-ordination was set up under PGG and this will contribute to ensure synergy and complementarity of the country specific and regional actions including with other international actors active in the field.
- The LSC also noted that a structured involvement of civil society in the PGG activities is important in order to ensure the success and support of the PGG actions.

¹ Funded outside PGG

APPENDIX I

LOCAL STEERING COMMITTEE

EU/CoE Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) 2019-2021 for Eastern Partnership countries

AGENDA

TBILISI, 1 October 2019

Hotel Sheraton Grand Metekhi Palace, Conference Hall "Shkhara"

09:45-10:00 **Welcome and registration**

10:00-10:30 **Opening session (open to the media)**

Chair: Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia

Vincent Rey, Head of Co-operation, European Union Delegation to Georgia

Arkadi Sytine, PGG Coordinator, Programming Department, Office of the
Directorate General of Programmes, Council of Europe

Ana Dzotsenidze, Third Secretary, Division for the Council of Europe,
Department for International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

10:30-10:45 **Coffee break**

10:45-12:30 **Presentation of the PGG II – state of implementation and programming**

Chairs: Council of Europe/European Union Delegation

Country specific projects

- **Project "Enhancing the systems of prevention and combating corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing in Georgia"**

Presentation by Tea Zarnadze, Project Officer, Directorate General of
Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe Office in Georgia
Exchanges of views

- **Project "Implementation of judicial reforms"**
Component 1: Enhancing the accountability and the efficiency of the

judicial system and the professionalism of lawyers in Georgia

Presentation by Sophio Tsakadze, Project Officer, Directorate General of
Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe Office in Georgia
Exchange of views

Component 2: Supporting the criminal justice reforms – tackling criminal aspects of the judicial reforms in Georgia

Presentation by Tigran Karapetyan/Mahir Mushteidzada, Human Rights Policy and Co-operation Department, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe
Exchange of views

Regional projects

- **Project “Strengthening measures to prevent and combat economic crime”**
Presentation by Tea Zarnadze, Project Officer, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe Office in Georgia
Exchange of views
- **Project “Strengthening the profession of lawyer in line with European standards”**
Presentation by Sophio Tsakadze, Project Officer, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe Office in Georgia
Exchange of views
- **Project “Strengthening the access to justice through non-judiciary redress mechanisms for victims of discrimination, hate crime and hate speech in Eastern Partnership countries”**
Presentation by Menno Ettema, Project Coordinator, Anti-Discrimination Department, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe
Exchange of views
- **Project “Women’s access to justice: delivering on the Istanbul Convention and other European gender equality standards”**
Presentation by Menno Ettema, Project Coordinator, Anti-Discrimination Department, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe
Exchange of views

**12:30-12:50
views**

Quick Response Mechanisms (QRM): presentation and exchange of

Presentation by Arkadi Sytine, PGG Coordinator, Programming Department, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, Council of Europe

12:50-13:30

Communication and visibility – Exchange of views

Presentation by Pauline Cadeac, Communication Officer, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes, Council of Europe

13:30-14:00

Conclusions and recommendations

14:00

Lunch

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EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

APPENDIX II
List of Participants

#	Invitee	Position	Organisation
1	Cristian Urse	Head of Georgia Office	Council of Europe
2	Vahagn Muradyan	Deputy Head of Georgia Office	Council of Europe
3	Arkadi Sytine	PGG Coordinator	Council of Europe
4	Pauline Cadeeac	Communications Officer	Council of Europe
5	Menno Ettema	Programme Manager	Council of Europe
6	Giorgi Giorgadze	Supporting the criminal justice reforms – tackling criminal aspects of the judicial reforms in Georgia	Council of Europe
7	Tea Zarnadze	Enhancing the systems of prevention and combatting corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing in Georgia	Council of Europe
8	Sopho Tsakadze	Enhancing the accountability and the efficiency of the judicial system and the professionalism of lawyers in Georgia	Council of Europe
9	Ucha Bakhtadze	Enhancing the accountability and the efficiency of the judicial system and the professionalism of lawyers in Georgia	Council of Europe
10	Ketevan Sakhelashvili	Assistant	Council of Europe
11	Vincent Rey	Head of Co-operation Section	EU Delegation to Georgia
12	Yvonne Gogoll	Programme Manager	EU Delegation to Georgia
13	Jurate Juodsnukyte	Programme Manager	EU Delegation to Georgia
14	Peter Danis	Programme Manager	EU Delegation to Georgia
15	Colombe De Mercey	Programme Manager	EU Delegation to Georgia

16	Ana Dzotenidze	Secretary of the Division of Council of Europe Department of International Organizations Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia	Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
17	Nino Balavadze		Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia
18	Shorena Mezurnishvili	Head of the Department of International Reations	High Council of Justice of Georgia
19	Tamar Papashvili		High Council of Justice of Georgia
20	Aniko Pharjiani	Head of Administration	High School of Justice
21	Vano Bolkvadze	Director	High School of Justice
22	Shorena Iremadze	Head of Department	Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia
23	Kristine Morgoshia		Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia
24	Nikoloz Chinkorashvili		Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia
25	Irakli Chilingarashvili	Head of Legal Department	Chief Prosecutor's Office of Georgia
26	Gulnara Topchishvili	Head of International Co-operations Unit	State Security Service of Georgia
27	Paata Tsikoridze		State Security Service of Georgia
28	Levan Sadunashvili		State Security Service of Georgia
29	Anano Tatishvili	Money Laundering Inspection Unit	National Bank of Georgia
30	Natia Jgarkava	Money Laundering Monitoring Unit	Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia
31	Tamta Devdariani	Committee Coordinator	Georgian Bar Association
32	Jaba Jamagidze		Chamber of Notary
33	Levan Saneblidze	Deputy Head of Internal Control	National Agency of Public Registry
34	Natia Jugheli		The Supreme Court of Georgia
35	Mariam Kutaladze		The Supreme Court of Georgia
36	Marina Kvachadze	Analitical Department	The Supreme Court of Georgia
37	Eka Mamamladze		The Supreme Court of Georgia
38	Lana Morgoshia	Analytical Department	Ministry of Justice of Georgia
39	Dzamashvili Beqa		Ministry of Justice of Georgia
40	Ana Ivanishvili		Ministry of Justice of Georgia
41	Ekaterine Siradze	Head of Department	Civil Service Bureau (CSB)

42	Tamar Japaridze		Revenue Service
43	Merabi Gugulashvili		Revenue Service
44	Teona Shiukashvili		Revenue Service
45	Goga Razmadze		Ministry of Internal Affairs
46	Nino Pachuashvili	Project Coordinator	Legal Aid Service
47	Anano Kheviashvili	Staff Office Lawyer	Service of Accounting, Reporting and Auditing Supervision
48	Mari Kapanadze		GDI
49	Guram Imnadze		EMC
50	Vakhushti Menabde		GYLA