





DID YOU KNOW?

We held a real time **cybercrime** exercise for the six Eastern Partnership countries to ensure interagency co-operation to handle computer incidents, cybercrime investigations and exchange of financial intelligence.

In Armenia we supported **democratic elections** through improving the national legal framework and running training courses for politically active women, domestic observers, and investigative journalists as well as running an education campaign for first time voters.

In Azerbaijan we helped set up the on-line monitoring and reporting system **against corruption**.

We produced 52 kindergarten textbooks in 13 minority languages which will help improve the quality of education for **national minority children** in Georgia.

In the Republic of Moldova we showed courts how to improve their efficiency through collecting judicial statistics which will **reduce delays in justice** for Moldovans.

In Ukraine we assisted the national preventative mechanism and trained judges, lawyers, prosecutors, prison governors and staff increasing their knowledge of **human rights, anti-discrimination and ethics**, further ensuring that Ukrainians' rights are protected.

In Belarus we trained 17 public institutions on how to carry out **corruption risk assessments**.

We helped twelve municipalities from Armenia, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine implement local initiatives to improve **ethical governance and transparency**. Their experiences were fed into country-specific handbooks on transparency and citizen participation, which will lead to improvements in the quality of local democracy and public services.

We identified obstacles to **women's equal access to justice** in the Eastern Partnership countries and put forward country-specific recommendations. A training manual was developed to support gender responsive justice: including non-discrimination on the basis of gender, violence against women and domestic violence, family law and labour law. Already more than 500 judges and prosecutors in the region have followed the training.

A cross-border complaint advisory commission was created which receives complaints from Eastern Partnership countries **against political propaganda, hate-speech discourse and "information disorder" in the media**. The commission examines the complaints and issues specific recommendations to the media to address unprofessional behaviour.



WHAT IS THE PARTNERSHIP FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE?

■ In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed in a Statement of Intent that targeted co-operation with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus - the EU's Eastern Partnership countries - would be implemented under a Partnership for Good Governance (PGG).¹

■ This co-operation programme aims to strengthen the capacity of Eastern Partnership countries, which are member states of the Council of Europe, with the exception of Belarus, to implement domestic reforms to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.

HOW MUCH WILL THE PGG COST?

■ The budget for 2015-2018 is €36 million. The PGG is funded 85% by the European Union and 15% by the Council of Europe and is implemented by the Council of Europe.

WHO DECIDED ON THE PGG PRIORITIES?

■ The PGG actions, both country-specific and regional, were designed in close consultation with national stakeholders, in line with the Council of Europe's country-specific action plans and the European Union's "Deliverables 2020 for the Eastern Partnership" as well as association agreements where they have been signed.

1 Previously known as 'Programmatic Co-operation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus'.



■ The Secretary General and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe define the priority areas for co-operation with member states and these are reflected in the country action plans. The action plans are mostly prepared on the basis of findings and recommendations from Council of Europe's monitoring bodies and are intended to support the national reform agendas in areas of the Council of Europe's expertise.

■ Five priority areas for co-operation were identified, with 14 sub-themes.

Protection and promotion of human rights

- ▶ strengthening the implementation of European Human Rights standards at regional and national level
- ▶ protecting national and ethnic minorities' rights
- ▶ promoting equality and human dignity
- ▶ promoting human rights education and democratic citizenship

Ensuring justice

- ▶ strengthening the independence and efficiency of justice
- ▶ strengthening constitutional justice
- ▶ promoting penitentiary reforms (from a punitive to a rehabilitative approach)

Combating threats to the rule of law

- ▶ fight against corruption and fostering good governance/fight against money-laundering
- ▶ criminal justice action on cyber crime

Addressing challenges of the information society

- ▶ improving the freedom, independence, pluralism and diversity of media
- ▶ information society and Internet governance
- ▶ enhancing the right to data protection

Promoting democratic governance

- ▶ reforming electoral legislation and practice
- ▶ strengthening institutional frameworks for local governance



HOW DOES THE PGG WORK?

■ The PGG activities provide extensive and substantial expertise on strengthening the capacity of Eastern Partnership countries' institutions to implement domestic reforms and to bring them closer to the Council of Europe standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. This is done through a variety of activities: legislative review, conferences, seminars, working groups, networking, analytical reports and training sessions led by Council of Europe staff and international experts.

■ The national stakeholders who play a decisive role in the implementation of reforms are: parliaments, governmental bodies at all levels (ministries responsible for justice, finance, interior, health, education, labour and social protection, and public administration), public institutions in the relevant areas such as anti-corruption and anti-money laundering, public prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, penitentiary administrations, central and local electoral commissions, ombudspersons, the judicial community, judicial self-governing bodies, legal professionals, the media, local and regional authorities, non-governmental organisations, academia as well as the general public.

■ The Council of Europe has a multi-institutional advantage, through its Parliamentary Assembly and Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, this enables the PGG to involve different institutions and stakeholders at national, regional and local levels in all Eastern Partnership countries.

■ All PGG actions address cross-cutting issues such as gender mainstreaming, protection of minorities' rights and ensure the inclusive involvement of civil society in the implementation of the PGG.



WHO COORDINATES THE PGG?

■ A permanent co-ordination mechanism between the Council of Europe, European Union, Council of Europe Field Offices, European Union Delegations and the PGG National Coordinators ensures inclusive and comprehensive co-ordination between the Council of Europe, the European Union, the national stakeholders and partners as well as with other international organisations.

■ This ensures synergies with other existing, and planned, country-specific and regional actions in the Eastern Partnership countries and guarantees tangible results and the impact of the PGG for the final beneficiaries and the general public.

ARE THE RESULTS SUSTAINABLE?

■ National stakeholders' ownership of the reform process is crucial to the PGG's result-oriented implementation and sustainability. PGG actions focus on the development/improvement of national legal frameworks, enhancement of national institutional capacities, and on development and consolidation of the professional skills and knowledge of both partners, and national stakeholders. Sustainability is achieved by enhancing the institutional capacity and training national staff.

■ The PGG is contributing to building the knowledge and capacity of national actors, so that they may promote the objectives amongst their peers within the country and the region, beyond the duration of the PGG.

The Partnership for Good Governance actions contribute to the following “**European Union’s 20 Deliverables for 2020: bringing tangible results for citizens**”

CROSS CUTTING DELIVERABLES

More engagement with civil society organisations
Increase gender equality and non-discrimination
Strengthen strategic communications and supporting plurality and independence of media

STRONGER GOVERNANCE

Strengthening institutions and good governance:

Strengthen the rule of law and anti-corruption mechanisms
Support the implementation of key judicial reforms
Support the implementation of public administration reform
Stronger security co-operation



WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

Website:
<http://partnership-governance-eu.coe.int>

Facebook
[@partnershipgovernance](https://www.facebook.com/partnershipgovernance)

Twitter address
[@CoeEapPCF](https://twitter.com/CoeEapPCF)

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The Council of Europe is the continent’s leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

www.coe.int

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership between 28 democratic European countries. Its aims are peace, prosperity and freedom for its 500 million citizens – in a fairer, safer world. To make things happen, EU countries set up bodies to run the EU and adopt its legislation. The main ones are the European Parliament (representing the people of Europe), the Council of the European Union (representing national governments) and the European Commission (representing the common EU interest).

<http://europa.eu>

Partnership for Good Governance



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE