

**Selection Procedure for the 9th Annual Assembly
of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum
(place TBD; week of 23 October 2017)**

The attendees will be selected based on the following criteria:

- **Eligibility** – applicants must be non-governmental, non-partisan (not affiliated institutionally to a political party) organisations that respect democratic values. They should also be bona fide, independent organisations in their own right.
- **Diversity of spheres of activity** –the involvement of all the major components of civil society and adequate representation for each of the thematic Working Groups and subgroups should be ensured.
- **Involvement in the EaP** – applicants should be involved in activities relevant to the Eastern Partnership priorities.
- **Involvement in the EaP CSF** – we invite applicants who were actively involved in the activities of the previous EaP CSF Annual Assemblies, its National Platforms and Working Groups, as well as those who are ready to be actively contributing to the work of the EaP CSF in 2017/2018.
- **Rotation** – whereby eligible, independent CSOs that have not participated in the previous Annual Assemblies are given priority over those that have already participated.

The EaP CSF Steering Committee in consultation with the European External Action Service (EEAS)/European Commission will carry out the selection of the participants to the EaP CSF Annual Assembly 2017. The selection procedure will include the following steps:

I. Preparation of three shortlists for applicants from the EaP countries

- By the six EaP Country Facilitators elected by the Annual Assembly in 2016 and supported by the National Platforms.
- By the five thematic Working Group Coordinators elected by the EaP CSF Annual Assembly in 2016.
- By the EU delegations in the six EaP countries

II. Preparation of a shortlist for applicants from the EU Member States

The CSOs/networks representing the EU Member States and third countries, as well as international organisations/networks are shortlisted by the Coordinators of the respective WGs and the EU Coordinators.

III. The final decision made by the EaP CSF Steering Committee based on the shortlists

The Steering Committee makes the decision relying on the above-mentioned criteria and bearing in mind the following:



- Balance in numbers in each Working Group between the EU participants and EaP participants
- Involvement in activities relevant to the EaP-related priorities
- Country of organisation (a minimum of 10% participants from each EaP country and a minimum of 25% from the EU as a whole)
- Participation in the previous Annual Assemblies (with a minimum 40% of new¹ (at least half of them CSOs that have never participated in the EaP CSF Annual Assemblies) participants and up to a maximum of 60% of those who did participate in the EaP CSF Assembly in 2016) insofar as the number of new applications is high enough to make this formula applicable. The formula applies primarily to each country list and to the EU participants, but will also be applied as much as possible to the respective working group allocations.
- Contribution to the activities of the EaP CSF, the work of the National Platforms and Working Groups, in previous years (based on the evaluation of Country Facilitators/Coordinators and Working Group Coordinators) – for those who participated in the previous Annual Assemblies, for the new applicants - the intention and capacity to contribute to the work of the EaP CSF in 2017/2018 and relevance of applicant organisation's activities to the EaP CSF based on the information provided in the application form.

¹ Those that did not participate in the previous EaP CSF Annual Assembly

