

**Joint meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee and Board of
the Association**

Public Minutes

Monday 15th July and Tuesday 16th July 2024 (online)

Steering Committee/Board members present online (13): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Steering Committee/Board members absent (0): /

Working Group Coordinators present online (non-SC members) (2): Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (1): Veronica Stefan

Secretariat Staff present online (13): Tania Marocchi (Director), Iustina Haroianu (Chief Financial Officer), Alexandra Sabou (Advocacy and EaP Index Manager), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager), Maxence Salendre (Communications Manager), Pascal Willaumez (Membership and Governance Manager), Jeanette Fava (Finance Manager), Anastasia Murzanovska (Grants and Advocacy Officer), Anastasiia Suliak (Finance Assistant), Sofiia Pedos (Finance and Procurement Assistant), Konstantina Batsouli (Advocacy and EaP Index Trainee), Mario Martinez de Butron Garcia (Communication Trainee), Andre Andrade (Finance Trainee).

Secretariat Staff absent (1): Kristina Pitalskaia (Programme Officer - SHAPEDEM)

NOTA BENE: some Steering Committee members and WG Coordinators joined/left the meetings at different stages. Actual participation during each decision is noted in the detailed minutes below.

Overview of main decisions approved by the EaP CSF Steering Committee/Board of the Association:

DAY 1, Monday 15th July 2024

1. 10:00 to 11:00; Round of Introductions (Session 1 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you vote for the election of Gurgen Petrosyan to the position of SC Co-chair representing an EU-based organisation?

Gurgen Petrosyan was elected unanimously by the 12 SC members present online.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you vote for the election of Lasha Tugushi to the position of SC Co-chair representing an EaP-based organisation?

Lasha Tugushi was elected unanimously by the 12 SC members present online.

Both Mr. Gurgen Petrosyan and Mr. Lasha Tugushi were elected as Co-Chairs of the EaP CSF Steering Committee for the 2024-2026 cycle.

2. 11:00 to 12:00: Introduction to duties as Steering Committee members (Session 2 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

No decision was taken by the Steering Committee.

3. 12:00 – 13:30: EaP CSF goals and priorities for 2024 (Session 4, part 1 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:



Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

No decision was taken by the Steering Committee.

4. 14:00 – 16:15: EaP CSF goals and priorities for 2024 (Session 4, part 2- meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you approve the organisation of the three following EaP CSF events:

- Advocacy event on EU-Armenia relations, October 2024 (TBC), Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Georgia, including advocacy visit, October/ November 2024, online/ Tbilisi/ Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Azerbaijan, November / December 2024, online/ Baku/ Brussels.

The decision was approved unanimously by the 12 Steering Committee members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

5. 16:20 – 17:30: EaP CSF Civil Society Summit (Session 7 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the foreseen participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anastasiia Halyko, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you approve of the creation of a task force for coordination on the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit Agenda?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 8 Steering Committee members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anastasiia Halyko, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.



Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for coordination on the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit Agenda?

Three Steering Committee members volunteered: Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi.

DAY 2, Tuesday 16th July 2024

6. 09:00 – 11:00: EaP CSF Statutory Revision (Session 6 –meeting of the Board of the Association, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Board members present online (10)*: Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

*Konstantin Zhgenti was no longer in the meeting at the time of the decision.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve the creation of a task force for the elaboration of internal rules clarifying the common understanding of the Board on confidentiality?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 10 Board members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

Formal question asked to the Board: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for the elaboration of internal rules clarifying the common understanding of the Board on confidentiality?

One Board member volunteered: Lasha Tugushi.

One non-SC WG Coordinator volunteered: Hovsep Khurshudyan

It was further agreed that the Secretariat will share the new Articles of Association (AoA) with the Board for comments as a shared document. The deadline for comments is Monday 22nd June.

7. 11:15 – 13:00: EaP CSF current projects and planning (Session 3 – meeting of the Board of the Association)

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Board members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve of the creation of a task force for the identification of global fundraising needs for the EaP CSF?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 12 Board members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for the identification of global fundraising needs for the EaP CSF?

Five Board members volunteered: Anh Helge, Nino Elizbarashvili, Ruslan Havryliuk, Konstantin Zhgenti, Lasha Tugushi.

8. 13:00 – 13:30: EaP CSF Regranting process (Session 5 – meeting of the Board of the Association)

Board members present online (10): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve the creation of a task force to review the guidelines and provide ideas on how to proceed with the competitive awarding in the National Platforms?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 10 Board members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

The Secretariat proposed to send various Doodle forms to the SC/Board group in the coming week to inquire about the availability of members to join the various task forces discussed during the meetings.

DAY 1, Monday 15th July 2024

1. 10:00 to 11:00; Round of Introductions (Session 1 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Steering Committee (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

WG Coordinators (2): *Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Secretariat (13): *Tania Marocchi, Iustina Haroianu, Alexandra Sabou, Andrea Raimondi, Maxence Salendre, Pascal Willaumez, Jeanette Fava, Anastasia Murzanovska, Anastasiia Suliak, Sofii Pedos, Konstantina Batsouli, Mario Martinez de Butron Garcia, Andre Andrade.*

Discussion

Participants were welcomed to the session by the Director of the Secretariat.

WG Coordinators who are not SC members were invited to attend 3 out of the 7 sessions. This was done to strengthen the cohesion of the leadership group of the EaP CSF.

The group agreed to reschedule Session 3 dedicated to the EaP CSF current projects and planning to the next day (to Tuesday 16th July), and to replace it with Session 7 dedicated to the upcoming EaP CSF Civil Society Summit.

Vote on the adoption of the Agenda:

➤ **The revised agenda was unanimously adopted by all SC members present (10)*:**
Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

**Edgar Khachatryan and Konstantin Zhgenti joined the session at a later stage, during the round of introductions.*

Round of introductions:

A round of instructions was carried out between the Secretariat staff, Steering Committee members and Working Group Coordinators.

Election of the Steering Committee Co-chairs:

Two Steering Committee members had presented their candidacies to the position of co-chairs of the Steering Committee prior to the meeting. No additional candidacies were brought forward during the meeting.

- For the position of co-chair representing an EU-based organisation: **Gurgen Petrosyan**, EU Coordinator of Working Group 3, Human Development Research Initiative (HDRI), Italy.
- For the position of co-chair representing an EaP-based organisation: **Lasha Tugushi**, EaP Coordinator of Working Group 1, Foundation Liberal Academy Tbilisi, Georgia.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you vote for the election of Gurgen Petrosyan to the position of SC Co-chair representing an EU-based organisation?

Gurgen Petrosyan was elected unanimously by the 12 SC members present online.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you vote for the election of Lasha Tugushi to the position of SC Co-chair representing an EaP-based organisation?

Lasha Tugushi was elected unanimously by the 12 SC members present online.

Both Mr. Gurgen Petrosyan and Mr. Lasha Tugushi were elected as Co-Chairs of the EaP CSF Steering Committee for the 2024-2026 cycle.

2. 11:00 to 12:00: Introduction to duties as Steering Committee members (Session 2 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Steering Committee (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

WG Coordinators (2): *Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Secretariat (2): *Tania Marocchi, Pascal Willaumez.*

Discussion:

The Secretariat gave a presentation of the Steering Committee's legal responsibilities under Belgian law and decision-making processes. The Secretariat, in collaboration with the outgoing Steering Committee, has been working on the elaboration of new Articles of Association (AoA) for the EaP CSF Secretariat.

The Steering Committee Group will be asked to formally adopt the new Articles of Association (AoA) during the Extraordinary General Assembly and Board of Directors ('EGA') on Wednesday 18 September at 10:00 CEST, at the presence of a Belgian notary public, during the planned in-person SC meeting in Brussels.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

No decision was taken by the Steering Committee.

3. 12:00 – 13:30: EaP CSF goals and priorities for 2024 (Session 4, part 1 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Steering Committee (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

WG Coordinators (2): *Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Secretariat (7): *Tania Marocchi, Pascal Willaumez, Andrea Raimondi, Alexandra Sabou, Anastasia Murzanovska, Maxence Salendre, Konstantina Batsouli.*

Discussion

1. Advocacy Strategy 2024-2026

The Secretariat presented the general objectives of the Advocacy Strategy; to enhance civil society's participation in democratic reform processes in the six EaP countries and to contribute to an enabling environment for civil society in the EaP countries. The advocacy strategy is implemented through an Annual Work Plan. The activities related to the outputs and outcomes will be in the Annual Work Plan for 2024 which will be presented at the September SC meeting.

Participants discussed that the linkage between the Advocacy Strategy and NPs should be strengthened, underlining the importance of funding to all National Platforms. The situation should be integrated in the advocacy strategy.

2. Presentation of the EaP Index

The Secretariat presented the EaP Index 2023 which is a data-driven monitoring tool crafted by civil society from the Eastern Partnership region. Through a collection of data and statistics, the publication tracks the advancements made by the six EaP countries on their journey toward European integration and sustainable democratic development. It especially focuses on performance in the realms of Democracy and Good Governance, Policy Convergence and Sustainable development. Preparations are ongoing for the next EaP Index to be released in June 2025. National Platforms will be invited to comment/submit feedback on the draft publication.

3. Communication Strategy 2024

The Secretariat presented the Communication strategy for 2024. Among the main priorities for the year are the relaunching of communication tools, including through the redesign of the website and the integration of a CRM (contact database system). Interviews can be organized with local media, or closed-door events. SC members can draft opinion pieces for the Secretariat to place in Brussels media.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

No decision was taken by the Steering Committee.

4. 14:00 – 16:15: EaP CSF goals and priorities for 2024 (Session 4, part 2 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Steering Committee (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

WG Coordinators (2): *Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Secretariat (7): *Tania Marocchi, Pascal Willaumez, Andrea Raimondi, Alexandra Sabou, Anastasia Murzanovska, Maxence Salendre, Konstantina Batsouli.*

Discussion

➤ Calendar of advocacy activities

The Secretariat presented the calendar of activities for the year ahead (June 2024 - June 2025). The calendar features two categories of events: EaP events according to EaP policy Annual Work Plan to which the EaP CSF sends representatives and EaP CSF events.

Three of the events have budgetary implications as two EaP CSF representatives can be sent for each of them, totally to up to 3 advocacy visits:

- Advocacy event on EU-Armenia relations, October 2024 (TBC), Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Georgia, including advocacy visit, October/ November 2024, online/ Tbilisi/ Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Azerbaijan, November / December 2024, online/ Baku/ Brussels.

Participants discussed the practicalities for representing the EaP CSF in meetings.

4. Presentation of Work Plans by WG Coordinators:

Working Group Coordinators were asked to present the Work Plans they had worked on following the Working Group meetings held in June.

Working Group 1: 'Democracy, human rights, good governance and stability':

The Coordinators underlined the importance of having synergies between the work plans of the different Working Groups. The topic of the policy paper touches upon the EaP CSF's role in facilitating European integration. The general title is "Bolstering the democratisation in the Eastern Partnership Countries: the role of civil society in national reforms and European integration". This allows for the development of a policy paper covering main WG topics such as human rights, democratization, and the role of civil society in the reform agenda. The policy paper will also consider the differences between the EAP countries with regard to the rule of law, law enforcement, human security, gender and media.

Working Group 2: 'Economic integration and convergence with EU policies':

The objectives of the Work Plan include effectively engaging and advocating in the EaP multilateral track meetings as well as strengthening Working group 2 capacity through capacity-building, peer-to-peer learning and a stronger role in implementation and monitoring. Supporting National Platforms particular in relation to SME, trade, and digitalization is of importance, as well as collaborating with WGs 3 and 5. The topic chosen for the policy paper is 'Advancing economic and digital transformation in the EaP region – enablers and challengers. What is the role of civil society?'

Working Group 3: 'Environment, climate change and energy security':

The key priorities of the Work plan include the green deal for the future, climate neutrality, security in climate, energy, and fossil fuels, general idea - energy and climate, energy, climate and environmental protection in the EaP region and role of civil society.

Working Group 4: 'Contacts between people':

Activities outlined in the Work Plan will include mapping of reforms and the preparation of the EaP Youth Conference. Additional consideration is being given to adding a Workshop dedicated to reflecting on how to rethink the EaP. The title of the policy paper is 'Resilient Democracies in the EaP and EU: Strengthening Capacities of the Civil Societies'.

Working Group 5: 'Social and Labor Policies and Social Dialogue':

The Coordinators highlighted the importance of focusing on creating an enabling environment targeting the fundamentals. The policy paper will concentrate on 'ensuring labor and social

rights through social dialogue'. The policy paper will be linked to the group's main objective of promoting social dialogue. They underlined the importance of coordinating with the other Working Groups, including WG2.

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The Secretariat is in the process of finalizing the ToR to hire one Consultant per WG to work on the elaboration of the policy papers.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you approve the organisation of the three following EaP CSF events:

- Advocacy event on EU-Armenia relations, October 2024 (TBC), Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Georgia, including advocacy visit, October/ November 2024, online/ Tbilisi/ Brussels.
- Advocacy campaign on Azerbaijan, November / December 2024, online/ Baku/ Brussels.

The decision was approved unanimously by the 12 Steering Committee members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

5. 16:20 – 17:30: EaP CSF Civil Society Summit (Session 7 – meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee, with the foreseen participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Steering Committee (8): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anastasiia Halyko, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.*

WG Coordinators (0): /

Secretariat (4): *Tania Marocchi, Andrea Raimondi, Pascal Willaumez, Konstantina Batsouli.*

Discussion

The EaP CSF Civil Society Summit is scheduled to take place from 19 to 21 November in Vienna, Austria. The event will look into key advocacy questions for the future of EaP policy including security, gender, and enlargement. The Secretariat has been communicating with the Austrian MFA who is willing to support the opening session.

Regarding the draft Agenda of the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit. The programme needs to be populated with speakers and balanced participation is important. The agenda has a free slot for sessions organised by delegates.

The Secretariat suggests the formulation of a resolution of the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit. A task force of 3-5 SC members is usually appointed for more agile supervision.

Participants discussed the possibility of including more topical debates, focused on specific countries. The reconstruction of Ukraine and the Security perspective could be put forward in the agenda. Enlargement and democracy were also mentioned as subjects. The session dedicated to gender could be further elaborated. Additional consideration could be given to specific countries such as Armenia. Additionally, NP Facilitators and WG Coordinators agreed to shared lists of potential speakers for the panels.

Regarding logistics, the Secretariat stressed that a slot is foreseen on the 18th November for the Steering Committee to meet prior to the start of the Working Group meetings and EaP CSF Civil Society Summit.

As a rule, participants should cover their own travel costs should they wish to travel outside of the events dates. The approaches followed so far to allow flexibility for participants proved ineffective.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee members present online (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anastasiia Halyko, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Do you approve the creation of a task force for coordination on the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit Agenda?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 8 Steering Committee members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anastasiia Halyko, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.

Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for coordination on the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit Agenda?

Three Steering Committee members volunteered: Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Lasha Tugushi.

DAY 2, Tuesday 16th July 2024

6. 09:00 – 11:00: EaP CSF Statutory Revision (Session 6– meeting of the Board of the Association, with the participation of non-SC WG Coordinators)

Participants

Board members (11): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

WG Coordinators (2): *Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Secretariat: *Tania Marocchi, Andrea Raimondi, Pascal Willaumez, Konstantina Batsouli.*

Discussion

Presentation by lawyers

Lawyers who have been hired by the EaP CSF Secretariat to work on drafting the new Articles of Association (AoA) were invited to present at the session. They shared the main amendments brought to the 2012 Articles of Association in view of drafting the new ones. Intense consultation has been going on between the lawyers and the EaP CSF core team between March and June 2024.

Participants and the invited lawyers agreed on the possibility of changing the minimum composition of the Board of the Association to 7 Board members.

Additionally, explanations were given to the fact that the AoA give flexibility for geographical expansion of the EaP CSF's activities. possibility for future developments. The lawyers further expanded on the fact that members of the Board are bound by secrecy.

Participants discussed the fact that a common understanding of what confidentiality means should be agreed within the Steering Committee group, highlighting the importance of transparency. An agreement was reached for the SC group to comment the AoA, as well as to draft internal regulations that will clarify the nature of confidential information within the Association.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Board members present online (10)*: *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.*

*Konstantin Zhgenti was no longer in the meeting at the time of the decision.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve the creation of a task force for the elaboration of internal rules clarifying the common understanding of the Board on confidentiality?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 10 Board members present: *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand.*

Formal question asked to the Board: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for the elaboration of internal rules clarifying the common understanding of the Board on confidentiality?

One Board member volunteered: Lasha Tugushi.

One non-SC WG Coordinator volunteered: Hovsep Khurshudyan

It was further agreed that the Secretariat will share the new Articles of Association (AoA) with the Board for comments as a shared document. The deadline for comments is Monday 22nd June.

7. 11:15 – 13:00: EaP CSF current projects and planning (Session 3 – meeting of the Board of the Association)

Participants

Board members (12): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

Secretariat (3): *Tania Marocchi, Iustina Haroianu, Pascal Willaumez*

Discussion

The Secretariat presented an overview of the projects that the Secretariat manages and the current financial situation of the organisation to the Steering Committee members.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Board members present online (12): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve the creation of a task force for the identification of global fundraising needs for the EaP CSF ?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 12 Board members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anastasiia Halyko, Ruslan Havryliuk, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Gurgen Petrosyan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Who would like to volunteer to be part of the task force for the identification of global fundraising needs for the EaP CSF ?

Five Board members volunteered: Anh Helge, Nino Elizbarashvili, Ruslan Havryliuk, Konstantin Zhgenti, Lasha Tugushi.



8. 13:00 – 13:30: EaP CSF Regranting process (Session 5– meeting of the Board of the Association)

Participants

Board members (10): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.*

Secretariat (4): *Tania Marocchi, Iustina Haroianu, Anastasia Murzanovska, Pascal Willaumez.*

Discussion

The secretariat presented the three types of regranting it works with: regranting for members, for projects and to National Platforms.

Participants discussed that a task force of SC members should be created to review the guidelines and provide ideas on how to proceed with the competitive awarding in the National Platforms.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Board members present online (10): Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

Formal question asked to the Board: Do you approve the creation of a task force to review the guidelines and provide ideas on how to proceed with the competitive awarding in the National Platforms?

The decision was approved unanimously by the 10 Board members present: Sergei Drozdovsky, Sergiu Gurau, Anastasiia Halyko, Anh Helge, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tugushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti.

The Secretariat proposed to send various Doodle forms to the SC/Board group in the coming week to inquire about the availability of members to join the various task forces discussed during the meetings.

END OF THE MEETING