

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

Minutes

Monday 18th November and Thursday 21st November 2024 (hybrid meeting)

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

DAY 1, Monday 18th November (14:00 – 18:00)

Adoption of the Agenda and Introduction (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in-person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

1. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you approve the agenda of the Steering Committee meeting?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

2. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you agree to replace Ararat Mirzoyan with David Usupashvili, Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Georgia as a Speaker for the opening speeches on the morning of Wednesday 20th November?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

3. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you agree to invite non-SC WG Coordinators to attend the Steering Committee meeting?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

Review of Summit Agenda and SC duties (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

No decisions were taken by the Steering Committee.

Key updates from the Secretariat (meeting of the Board of the Association):

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (4): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk.

1. Formal question asked to the Board Group: Do you agree with the creation of a task force of five members [Lasha Tughushi, Gurgen Petorsyan, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Konstantin Zhgenti] to appoint an interim director for the period going from April 2025 to April 2026?

The Board members unanimously voted in favor.



Finance (meeting of the Board of the Association):

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

No decisions were taken by the Board of the Association.

DAY 2, Thursday 21st November 2024 (14:00 – 16:00)

EaP CSF Civil Society Summit 2024 – Lessons learned and next steps
(meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (9): Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (2): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko.

1. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you agree to hold the first Steering Committee meeting of the year on the dates of 3, 4 and 5 February 2025 in Brussels?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

2. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you agree to hold the second Steering Committee meeting of the year on the dates of 1, 2 and 3 July 2025 in Brussels.?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

- END OF THE MEETING -

DAY 1, Monday 18th November 2024 (14:00 – 18:00)

Adoption of the Agenda and Introduction (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

Participants:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Edgar Khachatryan, Ruslan Havryliuk.

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (3): Veronica Stefan, Nataliya Andrusevych, Hovsep Khurshudyan.

Secretariat Staff present (2): Tania Marocchi (Director), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager).

Discussion:

Co-Chair **Lasha Tughushi** opened the meeting, reminding colleagues about the importance of timely attendance and start of the meeting. The agenda was approved by all participants.

Tania Marocchi gave a short background intro on the event organisation covering:

- **Last minute updates on speakers.**
- **Assessment of the cooperation with the Austrian MFA.**
- **Preliminary assessment of local outreach.**
- **Assessment of the participation of EU Member states.**

Lasha Tughusi proposed to replace Ararat Mirzoyan with David Usupashvili, Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Georgia as a Speaker for the opening speeches on the morning of Wednesday 20th November.

Elen Manaseryan suggested that we invite WG coordinators who are not SC members to join the meeting (without voting rights), so that they can be in the loop of discussions. The SC agreed with this proposal. The Secretariat proceeded to invite them, but only Hovsep Khurshudyan, WG 4 Coordinator could join.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

1. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you approve the agenda of the Steering Committee meeting?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

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The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

3. Formal question asked to the Steering Committee Group: Do you agree to invite non-SC WG Coordinators to attend the Steering Committee meeting?

The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

Review of Summit Agenda and SC duties (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

Participants:

Steering Committee/Board members present in-person (8): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.*

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): *Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.*

Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): *Edgar Khachatryan, Ruslan Havryliuk.*

Working Group Coordinators present (non-SC members) (1): *Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (2): *Veronica Stefan, Nataliya Andrusevych.*

Secretariat Staff present (2): *Tania Marocchi (Director), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager).*

Discussion:

The Steering Committee members then discussed the **script** of the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit and clarified the roles of SC members when necessary.

Resolution of the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit

The discussion continued covering the text of the resolution, particularly sensitive parts of the text. Each National Facilitator agreed to discuss the relevant changes with their respective delegation.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in-person (8): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.*

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): *Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.*

No decisions were taken by the Steering Committee.

Key updates from the Secretariat (meeting of the Board of the Association):

Participants:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.*

Steering Committee/Board members present online (4): *Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk.*

Steering Committee/Board members absent (1): *Edgar Khachatryan,*

Working Group Coordinators present (non-SC members) (1): *Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (2): *Veronica Stefan, Nataliya Andrusevych.*

Secretariat Staff present (4): *Tania Marocchi (Director), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager), Alexandra Sabou (Advocacy and EaP Index Manager), Anastasia Murzanovska (Grants and Advocacy Officer).*

Discussion:

- **Regranting**

The EaP CSF Secretariat presented last updates on ongoing regranting processes.

Tania Marocchi shared updates pertaining to staffing with the Secretariat.

The agenda items 1) Debrief of advocacy and comms so far and 2) Advocacy – indicative planning for 2025 (SOM, Foreign Ministerial) were not discussed due to lack of time.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): *Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.*

Steering Committee/Board members present online (4): *Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau, Ruslan Havryliuk.*

1. Formal question asked to the Board Group: Do you agree with the creation of a task force of five members [Lasha Tughushi, Gurgen Petorsyan, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Konstantin Zhgenti] to appoint an interim director for the period going from April 2025 to April 2026?

The Board members unanimously voted in favor.

Finance (meeting of the Board of the Association):

Participants:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (8): Sergei Drozdovsky, Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Edgar Khachatryan, Ruslan Havryliuk.

Working Group Coordinators present (non-SC members) (1): Hovsep Khurshudyan.

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (2): Veronica Stefan, Nataliya Andrusevych.

Secretariat Staff present (3): Tania Marocchi (Director), Jeanette Fava (Chief Financial Officer), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager).

Discussion:

This session covered fundraising efforts and an overview of expenses related to the Summit.

Tania Marocchi gave an overview regarding existing fundraising efforts.

Jeanette Fava, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the finances related to the Summit.

OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:

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Steering Committee/Board members present online (3): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko, Sergiu Gurau.

No decisions were taken by the Board of the Association.

DAY 2, Thursday 21st November 2024 (14:00 – 16:00)

EaP CSF Civil Society Summit 2024 – Lessons learned and next steps
(meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee):

Participants:

Steering Committee/Board members present in- person (9): Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Elen Manaseryan, Lasha Tughushi, Lana Willebrand, Konstantin Zhgenti, Shahla Ismayil, Edgar Khachatryan.

Steering Committee/Board members present online (2): Gurgen Petrosyan, Anastasiia Halyko.

Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Ruslan Havryliuk, Sergei Drozdovsky.

Working Group Coordinators present (non-SC members) (1): Hovsep Khurshudyan.

Working Group Coordinators absent (non-SC members) (2): Veronica Stefan, Nataliya Andrusevych.

Secretariat Staff present (5): Tania Marocchi (Director), Alexandra Sabou (Advocacy and EaP Index Manager), Andrea Raimondi (Policy and Advocacy Manager), Pascal Willaumez (Membership and Governance Manager), Anastasia Murzanovska (Grants and Advocacy Officer).

Discussion:

Dates of the 2025 Steering Committee meetings

Lasha Tughushi introduced the meeting and thanked the Steering Committee and Secretariat for their involvement in the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit over the last days.

Tania Marocchi suggested to schedule the dates and location for the in-person meetings for 2025 already.

Upon discussion, **the Steering Committee members** decided that:

- The first Steering Committee meeting of the year, will be held on 3, 4 and 5 February 2025 in Brussels.
- The second Steering Committee meeting of the year will be held on 1, 2 and 3 July 2025 in Brussels.

Feedback and lessons learned from the EaP CSF Civil Society Summit

Steering Committee members discussed their impressions and gave feedback on lessons learned during the 2024 EaP CSF Civil Society Summit.

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The Steering Committee members unanimously voted in favor.

- END OF THE MEETING -