

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

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

### **(In person meeting)**

***Steering Committee/Board members present (11):*** Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgun Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.

***Steering Committee/Board members absent (2):*** Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.

***Secretariat Staff present (9):*** Andrea Raimondi (Director), Jeanette Fava (Chief Financial Officer), Pascal Willaumez (Membership and Governance Manager), Yana Brovdiy (Policy and Advocacy Manager), Alexandra Sabou (Advocacy and EaP Index Manager), Anastasia Murzanovska (Senior Grants and Advocacy Officer), Adriana Hrushynska (Events and Admin Officer), Antonella Aloia (Junior Advocacy Officer), Giuseppina Carfora (Communications Trainee).

**NOTA BENE:** some Steering Committee members 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:**

#### **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

- **10:00 to 11:20: SESSION 1. Round of Updates (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee)**

#### **OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

No decisions were taken during the session.

- **11:45 to 12:30: SESSION 2. Presentation of the accounts (meeting of the Board of the Association)**

#### **OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

No decisions were taken during the session.

- **13.30 to 15:00: SESSION 3. Governance and Delegate Selection (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee)**

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

**Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group:** Do you vote for considering the current guidelines on the exclusion of GONGOs as a base for discussion and for the task force to pursue its work?

- **Steering Committee members present in favour (10):** *Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*
- **Steering Committee members present abstaining (1):** *Hovsep Khurshudyan.*

- **15:30 to 16:30: Meeting with the European External Action Service**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

- **09:00 to 10:00: Meeting with journalists**
- **10:30 to 12:00: SESSION 4. Advocacy Annual Work Plan 2026 (Meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee and Board of the Association)**

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

**Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group:** Do you vote for the adoption of the Advocacy Annual Work Plan 2026?

**All Steering Committee members present unanimously voted in Favour.**

**Votes in favour (11):** *Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

- **15:00 to 16:00: Meeting with the Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the European Union**

\*\*\*

**DAY 1, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**

- **10:00 to 11:20: SESSION 1. Round of Updates (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee)**

***Steering Committee/Board members present (11):*** Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gorgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.

***Steering Committee/Board members absent (2):*** Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.

***Secretariat staff present (7):*** Andrea Raimondi, Pascal Willaumez, Yana Brovdiy, Alexandra Sabou, Anastasia Murzanovska, Adriana Hrushynska, Giuseppina Carfora.

**Vote on the adoption of the agenda:**

**Co-Chairs Gorgen Petrosyan and Lasha Tughushi** opened the meeting and welcomed participants and put the agenda of the meeting to vote.

**The agenda of the meeting was unanimously adopted by all Steering Committee members present (11):** Nino Elizbarashvili, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gorgen Petrosyan, Lana Willebrand, Ruslan Havryliuk, Sergiu Gurau, Elen Manaseryan, Konstantine Zhgenti.

**Discussion:**

The Steering Committee members proceeded with a tour de table.

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

No decisions were taken during the session.

- **11:45 to 12:30: SESSION 2. Presentation of the accounts (meeting of the Board of the Association)**

***Steering Committee/Board members present (11):*** Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gorgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.

***Steering Committee/Board members absent (2):*** Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.

***Secretariat staff present (3):*** Andrea Raimondi, Pascal Willaumez, Jeanette Fava.

**Discussion:**

**Jeanette Fava** began with a presentation of the accounts for the financial year 2024 to the Board.

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

No decisions were taken during the session.

- **13.30 to 15:00: SESSION 3. Governance and Delegate Selection (meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee)**

*Steering Committee/Board members present (11): Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

*Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.*

*Secretariat staff present (3): Andrea Raimondi, Pascal Willaumez, Yana Brovdiy.*

**Discussion:**

**1. Delegate Selection**

**Pascal Willaumez** gave a general presentation of the ongoing delegate selection process, including the current state of play and next steps. The final selection of delegates for the 2026-2028 cycle is scheduled for the end of March. The thematic and structural quotas remain unchanged, and the procedure has been streamlined, as agreed by the Steering Committee during its meeting of December 2025.

**Andrea Raimondi** acknowledged understanding that the process is rather complex and that a revision of the process is considered for the selection of delegates in the next cycle.

representation of local Working Groups at the Forum level.

**The Steering Committee group** had the common understanding that both the Steering Committee task force on the delegate selection and the task force on Statutory revision should be reactivated in the future.

**2. Guidelines on the GONGOs**

**Pascal Willaumez** gave a presentation on the 'Guidelines of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF or "Forum") to identify and exclude Government-Organised Non-Governmental Organisations (GONGOs) involved in state propaganda and/or in attempts to compromise or disrupt the legitimate non-governmental organisations'.

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

**Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group:** Do you vote for considering the current guidelines on the exclusion of GONGOs as a base for discussion and for the task force to pursue its work?

- **Steering Committee members present in favour (10):** Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.
- **Steering Committee members present abstaining (1):** Hovsep Khurshudyan.

- **15:30 to 16:30: Meeting with the European External Action Service**

*Steering Committee/Board members present (10): Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

*Steering Committee/Board members absent (3): Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky, Gurgen Petrosyan.*

*Secretariat staff present (4): Andrea Raimondi, Yana Brovdiy, Alexandra Sabou, Pascal Willaumez.*

- **17:30 to 18:30: Meeting with the European Commission (DG ENEST)**

The meeting with the European Commission (DG ENEST) was postponed to another date.

## **DAY 2, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

- **09:00 to 10:00: Meeting with journalists**

*Steering Committee/Board members present (11): Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

*Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.*

*Secretariat staff present (1): Yana Brovdiy.*

- **10:30 to 12:00: SESSION 4. Advocacy Annual Work Plan 2026 (Meeting of the EaP CSF Steering Committee and Board of the Association)**

*Steering Committee/Board members present (11): Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgen Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

*Steering Committee/Board members absent (2): Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky.*

*Secretariat staff present (5): Andrea Raimondi, Yana Brovdiy, Pascal Willaumez, Anastasia Murzanovska, Antonella Aloia.*

### **Discussion:**

**Yana Brovdiy** started the meeting by presenting the Advocacy Annual Work Plan 2026.

Following the meeting with journalists, she mentioned that keeping contacts with journalists is crucial, and this will be nurtured with the future Communications Manager. Help from the National Platforms is also welcome.

**OUTCOME AND DECISIONS:**

**Formal question asked to the Steering Committee group:** Do you vote for the adoption of the Advocacy Annual Work Plan 2026?

**All Steering Committee members present unanimously voted in Favour.**

**Votes in favour (11):** *Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Shahla Ismayil, Gurgun Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

- **15:00 to 16:00: Meeting with the Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the European Union**

**Steering Committee/Board members present (10):** *Lana Willebrand, Elen Manaseryan, Ruslan Havryliuk, Nino Elizbarashvili, Sergiu Gurau, Anh Helge, Hovsep Khurshudyan, Lasha Tughushi, Gurgun Petrosyan, Konstantine Zhgenti.*

**Steering Committee/Board members absent (3):** *Edgar Khachatryan, Sergei Drozdovsky, Shahla Ismayil.*

**Secretariat staff present (4):** *Andrea Raimondi, Yana Brovdiy, Anastasia Murzaovska, Pascal Willaumez.*

- **END OF THE MEETING** -