



# Structured consultation on the Eastern Partnership beyond 2020

## **CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVE**

Country Report: Armenia

This report offers the perspectives of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum member organisations from Armenia on the future of the Eastern Partnership following its tenth anniversary year. It is one of a series of six country reports, with other editions covering Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine.

The findings presented here are the result of a comprehensive process of internal consultation, conducted in October 2019 in order to inform the EaP CSF's response to DG NEAR's structured consultation on the Eastern Partnership beyond 2020.

The official DG NEAR consultation addressed the fields of 'Economic and Human Capital Development', 'Good Governance, Rule of Law, Security Cooperation', 'Development of Bilateral and Multilateral Partnership with the EU and among EaP Countries', 'Improving Strategic Communication and Visibility', and 'Other Areas'. For the purposes of its own internal consultation, the EaP CSF chose to organise these fields into the following themes:

1. Economic and Human Capital Development
2. Good Governance, Rule of Law, Security Cooperation
3. EU-EaP and Intra-EaP Cooperation: Ensuring Inclusiveness and Differentiation
4. Boosting EU Visibility in the EaP Region
5. Strengthening the Role of Civil Society

# Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum Structured Consultation on Eastern Partnership

## The civil society perspective: Country Report **Armenia**

### SUMMARY

The EaP CSF prepared its response to DG NEAR's structured consultation on the future of the Eastern Partnership by launching a comprehensive process of internal consultation of its membership base. The internal consultation was based on three pillars: six in-country focus groups, four online focus groups and one online questionnaire combining qualitative and quantitative elements. Over 200 civil society organisations participated in at least one pillar of the consultation. The results presented below offer a **detailed overview of the input received from Armenia**. A total of 38 Armenian civil society organisations participated in the consultation process (1 or more pillars): 27 organisations took part in the online survey, 11 took part in the in-country focus group and 3 in the online focus groups.

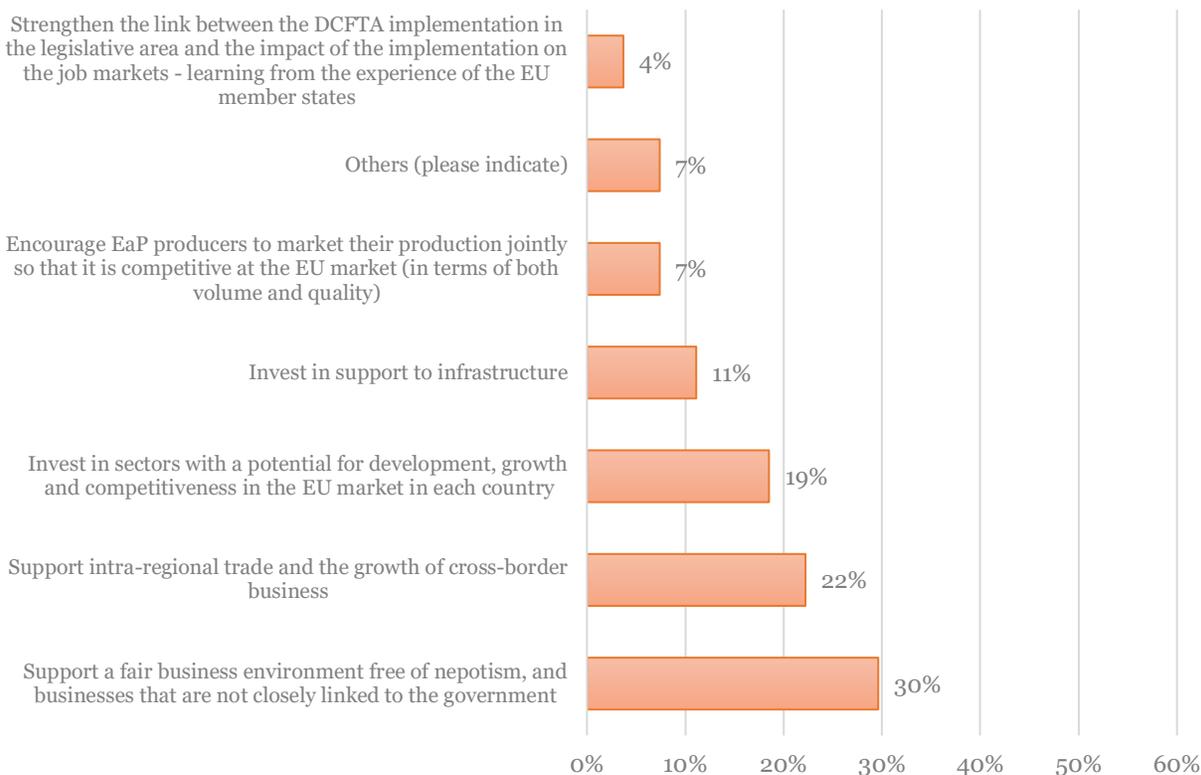
### 1. ECONOMIC AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

The results of the online survey of Armenian organisations suggest **the most urgent and effective measure through which the EU should support sustainable economic development in the EaP region is to push for a fair business environment free of nepotism (30%)**. The EU should continue offering incentives for policies aiming at promoting a fair business environment and levelling the field for regular competition. Given that Armenia is a landlocked country and that Armenian products have difficult access to the three neighbouring markets, **22% of respondents suggest focusing on intra-regional trade and supporting the growth of cross-border business as the main priority**.



### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In your opinion, what would be the most urgent and effective measure that the EU should promote to support sustainable economic development in the EaP region? (you can choose only one)



## Recommendations

### Supporting sectors with a potential for development, growth and competitiveness in the EU single market

- Support to specific sectors of the Armenian economy should be preceded by a thorough analysis and inventory of resources in the country.
- Support the processing industry, precision machinery, further processing within the metal and mineral mining industry, the modernisation of agriculture and IT, and the tech sector and digitalisation in general, as well as ecotourism.
- Support environmentally friendly businesses and production, as well as the creation of small industrial complexes and knowledge-based, low energy, portable industry.
- Invest in alternative renewable energy resources, especially solar energy, including individual solar and wind power sources in the form of home appliances, in order to strengthen the resilience of Armenian energy security. Focus on improving energy efficiency in order to reduce the population's expenses for consumed electricity. Support digitalisation in the energy sector in order to reduce corruption risks and increase the individual responsibility of consumers.



- Support the development of SMEs, especially in the regions, where such enterprises generally represent the most feasible means of fostering economic development. Support smaller-scale support and loans - these are more efficient than large grants or subsidies, as they motivate the SMEs to develop further. Support the exchange of experience among regional SMEs from EaP countries, especially in the areas of business education and sustainability.
- Support transport and infrastructure development with an aim to reduce transport costs for producers and the isolation of Armenia from the world markets. Support the development of the land transport corridor connecting the Persian Gulf and the Black Sea through Iran, Armenia and Georgia.

### **Fair business environment**

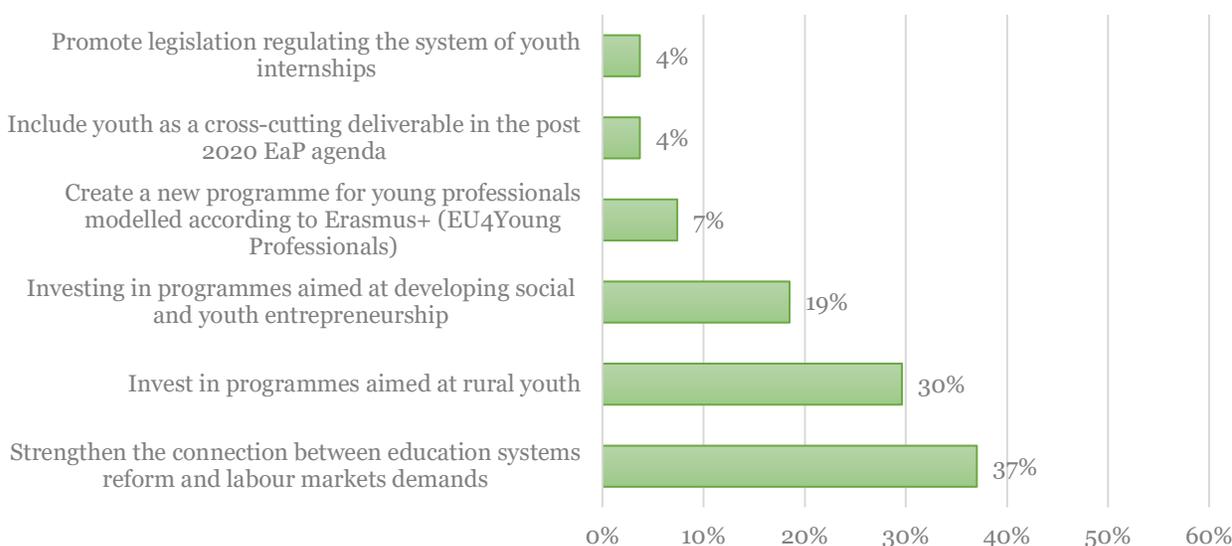
- Support efforts to fight corruption, as it is one of the major problems hampering the business environment and economic development. Focus on supporting improvements to the transparency of public procurement procedures.
- Support knowledge and implementation of EU standards in the production process and knowledge of export certification.
- Support the establishment of civil society contacts with business in order to assist their cooperation in areas of mutual interest and encourage a joint platform focusing on general and sectoral issues.



In Armenia, 37% of civil society respondents believe that the EU should focus on **strengthening the connection between education system reforms and labour market demands** as the most urgent priority in order to support the development of human capital. Supporting and **investing in rural youth** is considered to be the most effective measure to take in the near future by 30% of respondents of the survey, as a means of further empowering young people and addressing the economic challenges they face.

#### HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

In your opinion, what would be the most urgent and effective measure that the EU should promote to further empower youth and address the economic challenges they are facing?



## Recommendations

### Education and labour market

- Create a programme to strengthen the partnership between Armenia's businesswomen and female entrepreneurs and their EU, EaP and Turkish counterparts, with the aim of encouraging cooperation and joint business ventures. The program should build on the experiences of a similar activity implemented with Turkish businesswomen in 2011-2015.
- Support the development of skills within secondary education and vocational training. There is a need in the labour market for specific professions, but young people are not attracted to studying at vocational education centres because they have not been modernised and well equipped. A needs analysis should be conducted in order to develop an action plan for vocational education reform that would reflect the needs of the labour market and the necessity of developing the employment skills of young people.
- Support the formation of a system of life-long learning and continuous professional education, based on experience sharing with the EU countries.

## Youth and mobility

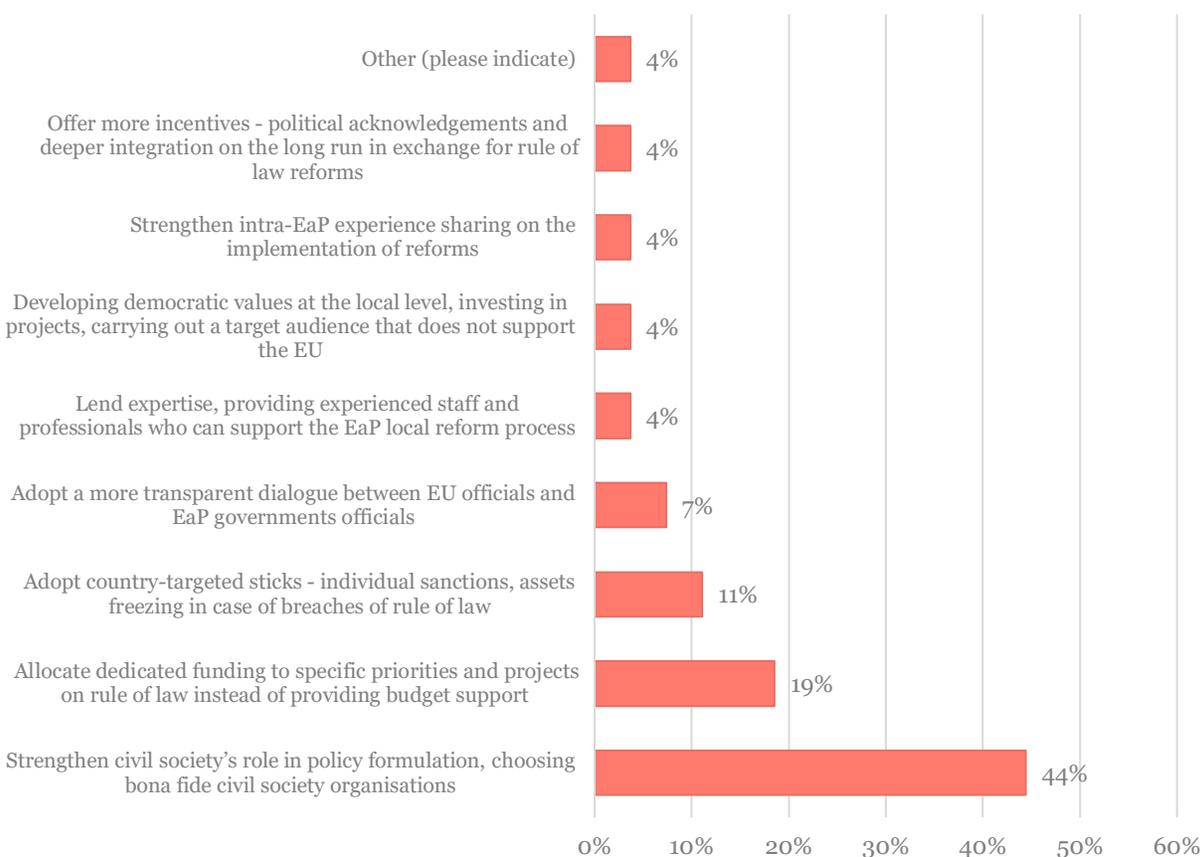
- Enlarge the target groups for youth mobility programmes; they are currently too narrow and limited by factors such as participants' knowledge of English. Mobility programmes should also focus on specific target groups like women entrepreneurs or specialists in various fields, with an aim to get European expertise into the country via expert exchanges.
- Liberalise the visa regime with the EU. The visa-free regime and cheap flights from Armenia are the best tool to support the mobility of ordinary people, and these measures could also have a positive impact on tourism from the EU.
- Create conditions for young people to stay in the country, and support the opening of EU company branches in Armenia, rather than encouraging young Armenians to work for the same companies within the EU. Measures to motivate young people to stay in their communities should also be developed, including by supporting the empowerment of rural youth – not just individually, but as a collective.
- Encourage the introduction of the youth internship legislation that is currently lacking within Armenian legislation.
- Support already existing programmes in the IT sector as a new kind of after-school educational experience at the intersection of technology and design. These programmes and projects, such as the TUMO Centre for Creative Technologies ([www.TUMO.org](http://www.TUMO.org)), can focus on primary school children already while using also the knowledge of Armath – Armenian Education Foundation.
- Enhance funding for already existing techno parks and support the establishment of new ones, creating workplaces and conditions for tech-savvy young people to stay in the country.
- Support youth entrepreneurship and young people's business literacy through a scheme of mentors and young specialists who can provide practical training, transfer knowledge to their peers, and contribute to their professional development.



## 2. GOOD GOVERNANCE, RULE OF LAW, SECURITY COOPERATION

Some **44% of respondents** of the survey in Armenia believe that in order to support good governance and rule of law reform in the EaP countries, the EU should focus on **strengthening the role of civil society in policy formulation, through the participation of bona fide organisations**. More specifically, the EU should support the active involvement of civil society as a third equal partner in policy design, implementation and evaluation, and should encourage the EaP governments to accept such a status for civil society. Even with the CEPA agreement in place, there is no road map for civil society inclusion into all stages of the decision-making process. According to 19% of survey respondents, the EU should **allocate specific funding to projects and priorities on the rule of law, rather than provide the government with budgetary support**; such a step would effectively support good governance and rule of law in the country.

In your opinion, what would be the most urgent and effective measure that the EU could promote to support good governance and rule of law reform in the EaP? (you can choose only one)



## Recommendations

### Rule of law

- Provide prompt and consistent responses in reaction to any deterioration of the rule of law, without regard for the current state of the relationship between the government and the EU.
- Support CSOs in monitoring the implementation of strategic programmes; new information and response mechanisms should be created within the EU-Armenia civil society platform envisaged under the CEPA.
- Improve the EU's own capacity to deliver prompt responses when needed; advise EU Delegation representatives to participate in all kind of meetings and consultations with CSOs, not only to have better picture of the situation on the ground and to make contact with CSOs representatives, but also to raise the status of such events.
- Suggest that the composition of Public Councils adjunct to ministries should be changed in order to include more representatives of civil society than of the respective ministry; with such a composition, the Council could better oversee the implementation of strategic programmes and reforms.
- Support programmes for retraining judges at all levels of the judiciary.

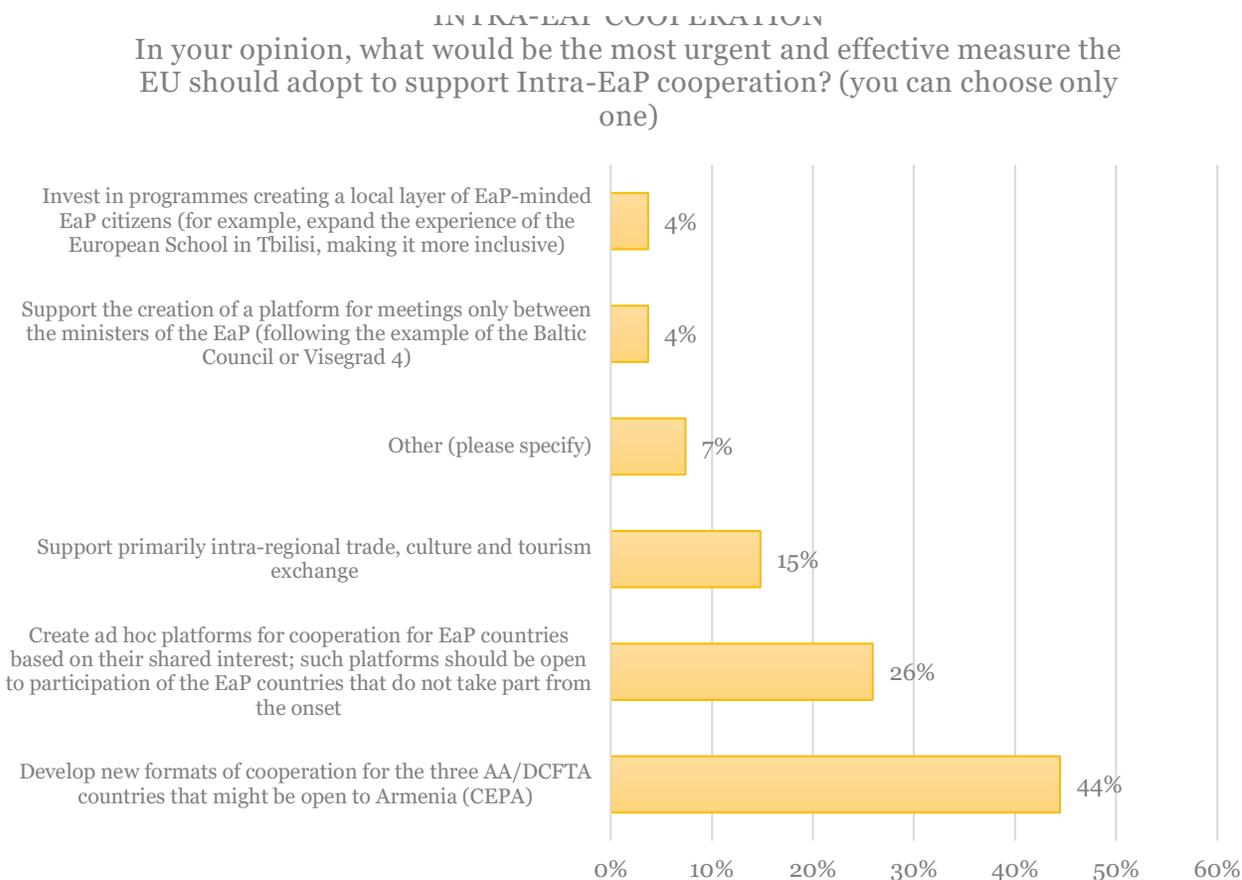
### Security

- Support cyber resilience and cybersecurity in Armenia, since no specific programmes are currently being implemented. The population's awareness of cybersecurity issues should be raised and new behavioural norms introduced. The involvement of Armenia in cyber resilience programs should be communicated well to the public, as it has the added potential to raise the profile of the EU.
- Support projects tackling both home-grown and foreign disinformation (particularly coming from Russia via Russian media). Supporting media literacy and providing better information sources on the EU in the Armenian language would be important steps, since most ordinary citizens get information about the EU from Russian sources. The establishment of an Armenian Euronews service could be very effective in this respect.
- Support regional cooperation among EaP countries in fighting cyber threats and support the establishment of an appropriate state agency that would manage the cybersecurity agenda in every partner country.



### 3. EU-EAP AND INTRA-EAP COOPERATION: ENSURING INCLUSIVENESS AND DIFFERENTIATION

The results of the survey show that the option chosen by the greatest number of Armenian respondents (44%) is **developing new and creative formats of cooperation for the three AA/DCFTA countries that might be open to Armenia**. This is followed by **creating ad hoc platforms for cooperation for EaP countries based on their shared interest, and open to participation of EaP countries that do not take part from the onset (26%)**.



#### Recommendations

##### Boosting intra-EaP cooperation

- Increase the number of EU programmes and agencies that EaP partners have access to within the roadmap substantially, in order to facilitate the sharing of best practices and to increase socialisation.
- Open participation in EU working groups to EaP representatives – even without voting rights – to facilitate their engagement in policy debates within the EU. Such a target could be incorporated into the respective deliverables for the policy areas that are important for



Armenia. The EU should initiate and support these processes, with a strong monitoring role for civil society.

- Organise separate regional events for each of the four EaP priority areas of cooperation in order to facilitate a more frequent exchange of best practices among EaP partners and to address shared problems.
- Continue facilitating the sharing of best practices between EU and EaP CSOs. Armenian CSO respondents stressed that they highly value EU programmes aimed at facilitating regional cooperation between EaP countries and EU member states, as this type of cooperation allows them to develop capacity, and learn from EU countries' best experience in specific sectors.
- Develop and finance a project aimed at producing a jointly-developed model of cooperation among EaP countries. Jointly-developed models of cooperation can be more successful in facilitating regional cooperation – particularly between conflicting countries – as they enjoy a higher level of ownership, and the process of developing the model can help improving cooperation in itself.
- Provide more funds to already existing platforms like the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum.

### **Supporting regionalisation in selected areas**

- Prioritise intra-regional cooperation in the following areas:
  - Regional trade, by:
    - i. assisting in the enhancement of the numerous existing cross-border trade and business programs with Georgia's Marneuli region, of the legal regulation of border crossing, and of customs duty;
    - ii. supporting initiatives that increase the level of cooperation between enterprises of the EaP countries;
    - iii. supporting the development of joint businesses between EU, EaP and the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) countries;
    - iv. supporting the creation of a common body aimed at stimulating exports to fellow EaP countries;
  - Agriculture, by financing joint grant projects of EU-EaP countries on the development of agriculture and rural areas;
  - Environmental protection at the intercommunal level in almost all sectors by using the ecosystem approach and by promoting regional projects in the nature and environmental protection sectors in transboundary areas of mutual interest;
  - Infrastructure and transport, especially with Georgia;
  - Tourism;
  - IT services and digitalisation;
  - Urban development and energy (particularly renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate change issues);
  - Protection of consumers rights.

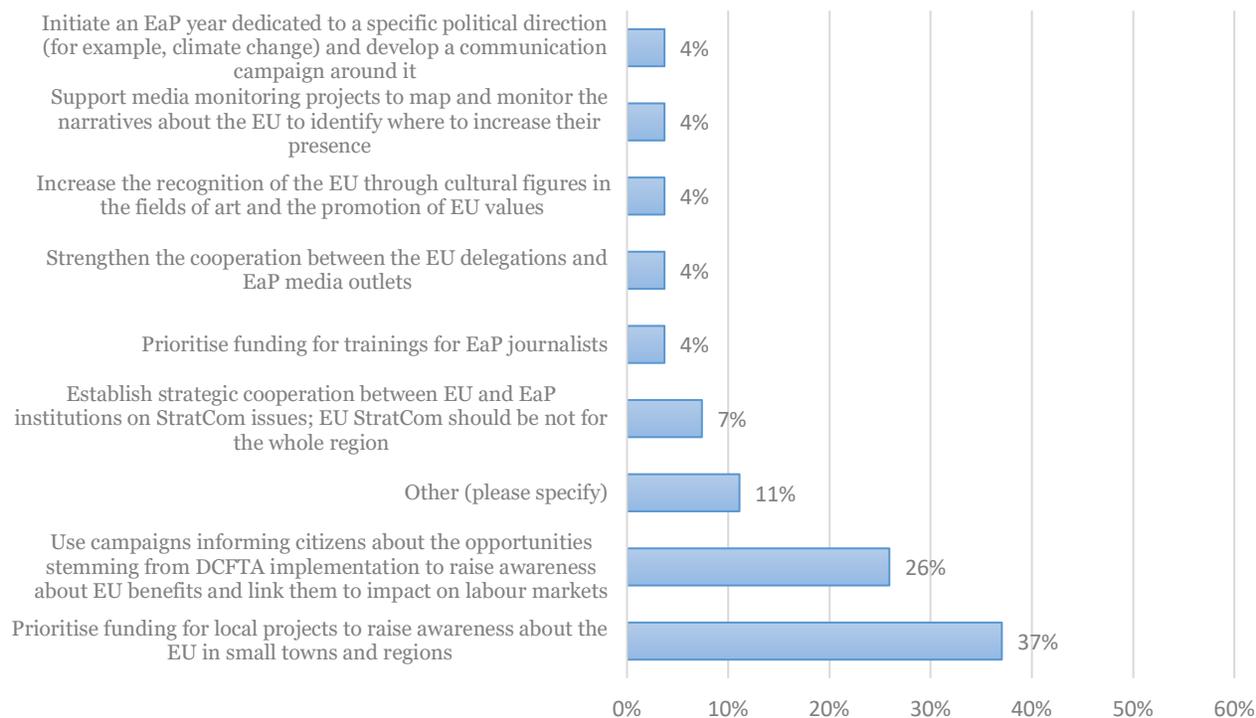


## 4. BOOSTING EU VISIBILITY IN THE EAP REGION

The results of the online survey of Armenian organisations suggest that the most urgent and effective measure that the EU should support to enhance its visibility in the EaP region is **prioritising funding for local projects raising awareness about the EU in small towns and regions and going beyond EU-minded cohorts** (chosen by 37% of Armenian respondents), followed by **using campaigns to inform citizens about the opportunities stemming from DCFTA/GSP+/CEPA implementation** to raise awareness about their positive impact on the labour market (26%). **Respondents to all segments of the consultation acknowledged that there is a big gap in EU visibility in Armenia.** According to experts who participated in the in-country focus group, the vast majority of the Armenian population has a poor idea of the EU, particularly in the regions. This lack of knowledge leaves room for disinformation and misconceptions about European values, culture and lifestyle. Closed-doors or experts-only discussions and consultation meetings taking place in the capital do not help the situation. **The EU Delegation in Armenia slightly improved the situation in recent years, but more needs to be done.**

### EU VISIBILITY IN EAP REGION

In your opinion, what would be the most urgent and effective measure to enhance the visibility of the EU in the EaP region? (you can choose only one)



## Recommendations

### Increasing EU visibility

- Increase the EU's presence at already-existing events (such as local festivals and street fairs) and organise more awareness campaigns in smaller towns and villages.
- Allocate more funding to NGOs carrying out local projects aimed at increasing awareness of the EU. Citizens should not be involved merely as observers/receivers, but as partners in programmes, which should necessarily have replication potential. Involve local citizens who benefited from the CEPA but are not part of political circles in communication campaigns.
- Provide extra support to Armenian language information services, promoting information especially by local public TV, which still remains the main source of information for elderly people in the *marzer*.
- Initiate an EaP Year dedicated to a specific policy direction as an umbrella framework for events organised in strong cooperation with local civil society organisations and European NGOs.
- Involve Young European Ambassadors from Armenia strategically in EU visibility initiatives.
- Create more opportunities for EU citizens, especially young people, to participate in study visits to Armenia and EaP countries.
- Organise intellectual competitions, including online, around various subjects – history, culture, literature, theatre, painting, music, dance, sports, geography, legends – pertaining to both EU and EaP countries as a way to promote citizens' knowledge about the EU.
- Collaborate with relatable and influential cultural figures like artists and musicians, who can serve in the role of ambassadors of universal and European values.
- Make EU visibility guidelines less cumbersome and less changeable in order to be easily implemented by the grantees and recognised by beneficiaries.
- Pay particular attention to local project communication: Armenian respondents noted that citizens tend to be scarcely informed about projects implemented in their area, sometimes leading to mistrust, with locals thinking that some projects are funded through money laundering.
- Carry out projects in cooperation with NGOs working in the field of public utilities (gas, water, energy, telecommunications), since this sphere directly affects the interests of almost the entire population, and changes for the better will increase their understanding of the positive benefits of EU projects.
- Create an academy promoting the EU in EaP countries to educate CSOs and the media.
- Strengthen the focus on projects' expected impact while awarding grants. Only projects that solve real problems should be considered successful. Evaluate projects' effectiveness and provide assessments of best practices.



## Working with Media

- Support professional journalistic organisations in the implementation of media monitoring initiatives to map and track common narratives about the EU and identify the needs of the EU inside Armenia. These initiatives should be built on the already existing media monitoring experience of the OSCE and other international donors.
- Improve cooperation between the EU Delegation and national and local media outlets. The EU Delegation should establish or improve connections with local and national media, meeting on a regular basis and proposing to establish TV or radio programs featuring representatives of the EU Delegation.
- Continue to organise training for Armenian and EaP journalists on reporting about the EU and on positive communication, to promote more positive and factually correct narratives about the EU in the media; expand the occasions for contacts between EaP and EU media.

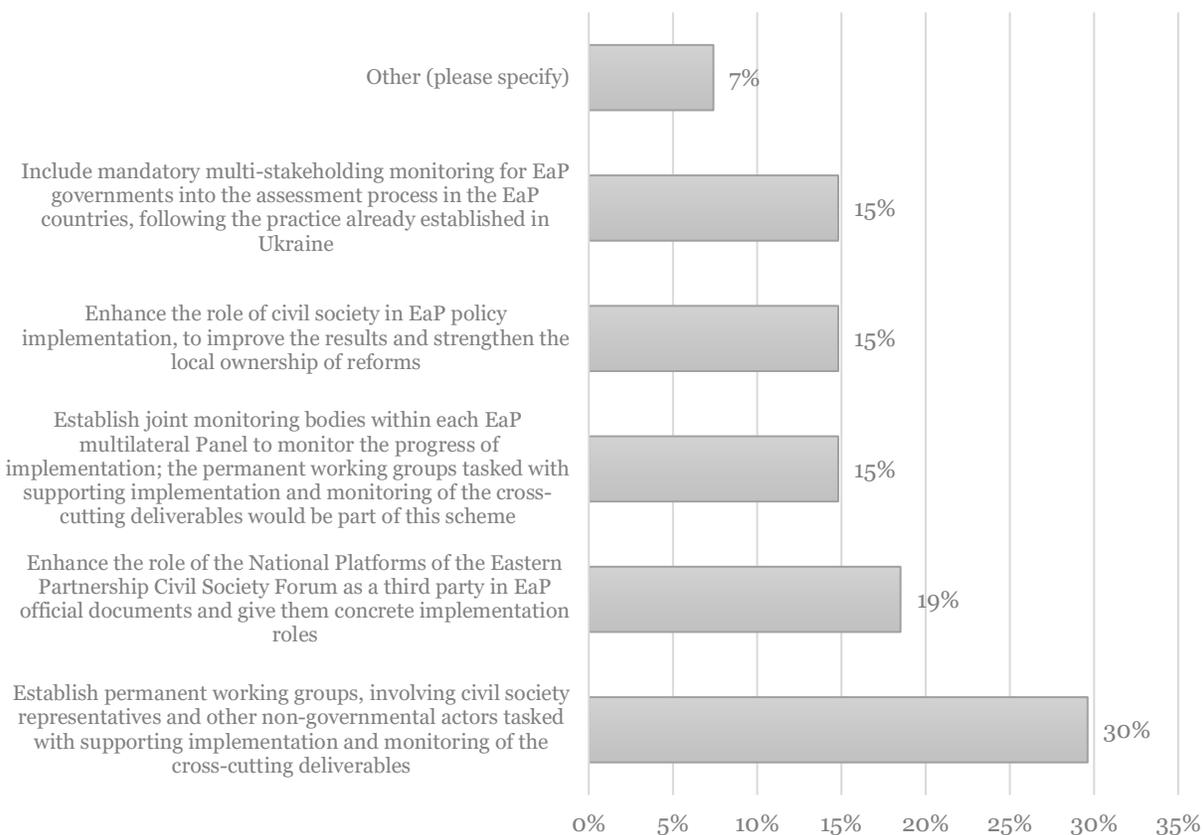
## 5. ENHANCING THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

While the majority of respondents from all EaP countries indicated **enhancing the role of CSOs in policy implementation** as the most urgent and effective measure to increase civil society's involvement in the EaP policy, Armenian respondents pointed to the following two as the most effective measures: (1) **to establish permanent working groups involving civil society representatives and other non-governmental actors tasked with supporting implementation and monitoring of the cross-cutting deliverables** (30%), since such working groups would ensure the timely and effective transfer of needs-based knowledge and expertise, and feed the information directly into the regular assessments of policy implementation, run by EU institutions and EaP governments; and (2) **to enhance the role of the National Platforms of the EaP CSF as a third party in EaP official documents and give them concrete implementation roles** (19%).



### STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

In your opinion, what would be the most urgent and effective measure to increase civil society's involvement in the EaP policy? (you can choose only one)



## Recommendations

### Improving dialogue between government and NGOs

- Support the inclusion of new actors currently not involved in policy debates. At present, different processes tend to feature the same people, excluding experts on key issues that could propose effective solutions, were they to participate in decision-making processes.
- Support amendments to national legislation allowing civil society organisations to protect the interests of their members and beneficiaries in court without restrictions, obstacles and discrimination.
- Feature programmes aimed at enabling key civil society functions in annual state budgets and medium-term spending programmes, particularly relating to the management of anti-corruption committees and the evaluation of their activities, the monitoring of non-financial indicators of the implementation of national budget programmes, the exercise of some oversight functions, and the implementation of social assistance programmes.



- Facilitate constructive dialogue between civil society and the government. Currently, cooperation is often tense, with some respondents pointing out that meetings between civil society actors and public authorities often turn into meetings of defendant *versus* defender.

### **Enhancing the role of civil society organisations in EaP policy implementation and monitoring**

- Include civil society as an equal partner in EaP processes, particularly in policy formulation, and CEPA and roadmap implementation and monitoring.
- Recognise civil society as an ally and a key pillar in the process of democratisation in Armenia, in particular by facilitating its direct participation in assessing the progress and results of reforms. This would contribute to creating an enabling environment for civil society and increase civil society's credibility vis-à-vis the public and public confidence in its structures.
- Take into official account the EaP CSF Armenian National Platform's monitoring reports on the process of reform implementation. Maintain the mandatory inclusion of NGOs in the development of the EU cooperation roadmap, and in its monitoring and evaluation.
- Strengthen the space given to projects dealing with current global developments (climate awareness, IT and digital tools) to promote cultural changes within society at large. In Armenia, the young generation of civil society representatives faces resistance from the older civil society generation, which resists cultural changes within civil society.

### **Improving access to funding and tailoring it to needs**

- Reduce the 50% internal contribution for projects, since this requirement increases the risk of corruption inside NGOs and excludes perspective CSOs from participation in grant competitions.
- Dedicate some funding opportunities to first-time NGO grantees in order to break the monopoly of NGOs that constantly receive funding from the EU and tend, as a result, to become less concerned about the effectiveness and efficiency of the projects they implement.

### **Improving technical support**

- Make NGOs' field experience a criterion in assessing applicants to institutional support schemes. In some cases, organisations' abilities to fulfil bureaucratic requirements receive greater attention than their field experience during assessments for technical support. This results in technical support being granted to organisations that do not necessarily have firm experience and an adequate understanding of the local context.
- Deliver technical assistance to EU grant beneficiaries and to future potential beneficiaries of the Civil Society Facility to strengthen their internal governance and sustainability, and to ensure a more effective implementation of EU funded projects, including by dedicating



special funds for institutional development within current grants. Currently, most grants do not allow any action not related to the core activities of the funded project activities.

- Prioritise providing direct capacity development to Armenian CSOs working on the implementation process of the CEPA.
- Assist and support civil society organisations in the regions and rural communities, and establish dedicated support for the development of civil society in the regions, whose needs reflect the real state of the country.
- Carry out screening of the effectiveness of European cooperation projects organised under the Creative Europe umbrella.
- Create incentives for NGOs working in the same sector to form consortiums so that the initiatives they implement within the framework of development programmes are more efficient.





## ANNEX – SUMMARY OF METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH

The Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum’s contribution to DG NEAR’s Structured Consultation is a synthesis of a comprehensive process of internal consultation of the Forum’s membership base. The consultation was based on a methodology especially conceived to distill recommendations that would: (i) have a regional dimension while preserving country specificities; (ii) give a clear sense of prioritisation; (iii) be the result of a debate among civil society experts with complementary expertise on cross-sectoral areas; and (iv) ensure a high number of contributions to ensure the recommendations’ legitimacy, as well as country and expertise balance.

Within the elaborated methodology, three different but complementary mechanisms were used to gather the collective input of EaP CSF member CSOs from the six EaP countries and the EU:

- *six national in-person focus groups*, to debate and formulate recommendations featuring each EaP country’s national perspective on EaP and national priorities;
- *four online focus groups*, to formulate regional, thematic recommendations featuring experts with different profiles, but the same areas of specialism, from the EaP countries and the EU
- *one online survey*, intended as the most inclusive segment of the consultation, adding a quantitative element to the methodology that enabled the prioritisation of policy recommendations.

All three segments were conducted in October 2019 and involved over 200 experts.

The input from the segments was used to put together a synthesis report based on major common patterns that emerged across the focus groups and the online survey. The results of the survey and focus groups were also segmented by country and further distilled into dedicated country reports.

### **National in-person’ focus groups**

The national focus groups were designed to capture in-country perspectives and country-specific recommendations. Six focus groups were conducted in October 2019 – one in each of the EaP states – with a total of 68 participants. Each discussion lasted for about four hours and was aimed at gathering the input of a group of EaP CSF member organisations, with balanced yet diverse expertise, on a set of questions formulated around the structure of DG NEAR’s Structured Consultation – i.e. four clusters of questions built around one scenario each. Each focus group followed the same protocol, built around four scenarios and containing a set of mandatory and optional questions that national FG facilitators could select from. Questions were formulated for national-level discussions to allow the aggregation of a balanced set of recommendations for the EU based on:

- Identifying current policy practices, actions and deliverables that the EU should retain in its post-2020 policy framework and ineffective or counter-productive practices which should be discontinued;
- Identifying new policy practices, actions and deliverables the EU could initiate;



- Testing policy ideas and actions already identified by the EaP CSF in previous rounds of internal consultations, or proposed as part of its existing written output (c.f. “Advancing Eastern Partnership: 23 Civil society ideas for the policy beyond 2020” policy paper);
- Identifying processes and policies that the EaP CSF should advocate further;
- Identifying umbrella recommendations as well as concrete policy actions that the EU could adopt.

Each focus group’s facilitator prepared an analytical report of the discussions and submitted it to the methodology expert who used the six summary reports in the drafting of the synthesis report.

### **Online focus groups**

Online focus groups captured thematic recommendations in a regional discussion, and were open to both EaP and EU civil society experts. Four online focus groups were conducted in October 2019. These addressed the following thematic areas:

- FG1: Economic development
- FG2: Human capital development
- FG3: Good governance, rule of law, and security
- FG4: Civil society engagement

Each focus group hosted 5-10 civil society experts – 24 in total – all of whom are active within the working groups of the EaP CSF with relevant professional background and expertise specific to the thematic area discussed. Each focus group hosted a one-hour discussion on a set of 7-9 questions, which addressed each thematic cluster from a regional perspective. Questions were formulated to allow aggregation of a set of recommendations at regional level for the EU, based on the same logic and criteria as the in-person focus groups elaborated above. Furthermore, questions sought to build upon and complement the key findings from the national focus groups with regional recommendations, as well as to triangulate the conclusions of overlapping discussions.

Four summary reports were produced as a result of the online focus groups, and used in the drafting of the final synthesis report. These included a general set of recommendations as well as one for each question asked in a summary form. When drafting the summary recommendations, the following questions were asked to guide the narrative: *What patterns emerge from the discussions? What are the common themes across the EaP region? What new policy actions could the EU pursue beyond 2020? Can these be generalised for the region based on the focus group discussions?*

### **Online survey**

The online survey was conceived as the most inclusive segment of the consultation, adding a quantitative element to the methodology that enabled the prioritisation of policy recommendations. One general online questionnaire complemented the focus groups. The survey was offered in two languages, English and Russian, and it was made available to all six partner countries of the Eastern Partnership, as well as to EaP CSF member organisations based in EU

member states. A total of 160 representatives of EaP CSF member organisations filled out the online questionnaire from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

The survey asked a mix of 15 open-ended and closed questions (+2 identification questions) grouped into six themes, following the structure of DG NEAR's Structured Consultation questionnaire:

- a. Economic development (Q1, Q2)
- b. Human capital development (Q3, Q4)
- c. Good governance, rule of law, and security (Q5, Q6, Q7)
- d. Intra-EaP cooperation (Q8, Q9)
- e. EU visibility in the EaP region (Q10, Q11)
- f. EU support to civil society (Q12, Q13, Q14)
- g. Other (Q15)

An online survey report was produced which synthesized the 160 responses of the EaP CSF member organisations into summaries of recommendations per question asked. All responses in English and Russian were individually analysed and grouped at the national level first. These were then clustered to identify regional and thematic patterns across the six EaP partner countries. The summaries of recommendations provided for each of the questions thus reflect common patterns identified across the region, and are presented in the form of recommendations for the EU.



**More Information**

*The Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF) is a unique multi-layered regional civil society platform aimed at promoting European integration, facilitating reforms and democratic transformations in the six Eastern Partnership countries - Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Serving as the civil society and people-to-people dimension of the Eastern Partnership, the EaP CSF strives to strengthen civil society in the region, boost pluralism in public discourse and policy making by promoting participatory democracy and fundamental freedoms. For more information, please visit the EaP CSF website at [www.eap-csf.eu](http://www.eap-csf.eu)*