



EASTERN PARTNERSHIP
Civil Society Forum

**Proposal of the EaP CSF Steering Committee
on the internal reform**



Why is the reform proposed?

Challenges to face:

- The **expectations** of the Forum as a 9-year-old entity are growing but the Forum strives to perform a more ambitious role
- **Internal processes** of the Forum often become a limitation rather than facilitate achievement of the ambitious goals that the Forum has set for itself
- The reform will allow to build, maintain and use the expertise of the Forum members for the prolonged period of 2 years, what will result in **more effective participation** in all formats of the EaP



8 areas of the reform to be voted as a package



1. Moving to a 2-year cycle

Why? One year is a challenging timeframe to develop and implement all the planned activities

How?

- Cycle starts with WG meetings in April-June
- 2018 as a transition year where the Delegates for AA2018 stay as members of the Forum until the end of 2019 (and attend AA2019)



1. Moving to a 2-year cycle

Transitional cycle:

Two-year timeline

	2018: year 1 of cycle 2018-19	2019: Year 2 of cycle 2018-19
Transition cycle 2018-2019	<p>October 2018: internal reform adopted</p> <p>December 2018: Annual Assembly No elections of Steering Committee— current SC members continue until election at the WG/NP meetings before June 2019. Arbitration Committee is elected at AA2018.</p>	<p>April-June: WG meetings + NP meetings (elections of Steering Committee; the old SC steps down)</p> <p>1st meeting of the new SC in July 2019</p> <p>Autumn: Annual Assembly (no elections)</p> <p>November: launch of Delegate selection procedure for 2020-21 cycle (p. 4)</p>



2020: Year 1 of cycle 2020-21 EaP Summit year	2021: Year 2 of cycle 2020-21	2022: Year 1 of cycle 2022-23 EaP Summit year	2023: Year 2 of cycle 2022-23
<p>March: New delegates selected via the new procedure for 2020-21 cycle</p> <p>April-June: WG meetings; WG Coordinators/EU Facilitators + NP Facilitators elected at WG and NP meetings</p> <p>July: 1st meeting of the new SC; the old SC steps down</p> <p>Autumn: Annual Assembly (elections of Arbitration Committee), possibly combined with the EU Presidency event</p>	<p>April-June: WG meetings</p> <p>Autumn: Annual Assembly (no elections)</p> <p>November: launch of Delegate selection for 2022-23 cycle</p>	<p>March: Delegates selected for cycle 2022-23</p> <p>April-June: WG meetings; WG Coordinators/EU Facilitators + NP Facilitators elections at WG and NP meetings</p> <p>July: 1st meeting of the new SC; the old SC steps down</p> <p>Autumn: Annual Assembly (elections of ArCom), possibly combined with the EU presidency event</p>	<p>April-June: WG meetings</p> <p>Autumn: Annual Assembly (no elections)</p> <p>November: launch of Delegate selection for 2024-25 cycle</p>



2. Annual Assemblies without elections focusing on content

Why? Will allow to focus more on WG activities => Less time spent on annual statutory procedures and more on **content work**

How? 2 AAs and 2 Annual WG meetings (4 meetings in total on a 2-year period) => **More support** from the Secretariat to the WG coordinators and members



3. Different memberships

Membership dissociated from attending AAs

=> Any bona fide CSO that is non-partisan and free of government and business influence can apply and become a member of the EaP CSF

- Members of the EaP CSF:
 - Delegates (at the level of the Forum) => attending AAs and WG meetings
 - Members of the National Platforms (permanent status)
 - Members at the EU level (permanent status)
- Other categories:
 - Experts
 - Friends of the Forum
 - Observers



4. Delegate selection

Why?

- Mechanism of selection by 3 votes is inefficient
- NP regulation are not unified – protection from GONGOs or non-democratic governance is needed
- Will help empower the NPs, contribute to their sense of responsibility, and make use of their familiarity with the CSOs in their respective countries

How? After **independent audit** of NPs, they will select Delegates every 2 years – NPs should adjust their internal procedure to develop minimal standards and accountability

- Quotas of new/returning/coming after a break: $6+8+6=20$ delegates for EaP
- Validation of the lists by the European Commission

5. Steering Committee composition and selection



13 members of the Steering Committee:

- 6 NP Facilitators
- 2 EU Facilitators
- 5 WG Coordinators

Mandates: No more than 2 cycles (consecutively or not), applicable to organisations and people



6. Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct will include:

- fundamental principles
- operational standards

Implementation, assessment and compliance:

- Self-assessment
- Third party assessment

7. Membership and registration fee



- NPs are free to choose if to apply any
- At the level of the Forum: registration fee of 10 EUR for each AA



8. Establishment of Arbitration body

Why? Necessary mechanism to ensure balanced divisions of power, accountability and resolutions for dispute situations.

How?

- Arbitration Committee (ArCom) will be elected by Delegates during the first year of every cycle at the Annual Assembly of the Forum
- 5 members (2 EU and 3 EaP representatives) who will elect its Chair for the period of its mandate of 2 years



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Thank you for your attention!

Questions? Write us at support@eap-csf.eu

Dedicated page on our website (videos, FAQs...):
www.eap-csf.eu/reform

Access it via the QR code:

