

Policy paper

The Eastern Partnership's key deliverables compared with the Association Agreement provisions: **what is the added value for the EU-Ukraine relations?**

EU



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Ukrainian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum



The Ukrainian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (UNP) is a network of over 200 Ukrainian civil society organizations (CSOs) that aims at advocating Ukrainian interests within the framework of the Eastern Partnership initiative. The Platform, established in 2011, is a part of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, an association of representatives of Ukrainian, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Belarusian, Georgian, Moldovan and EU CSOs.

The goal of the EaP CSF is to enhance the potential of civil society in the region, foster cooperation and exchange of experience between it and EU institutions and civil society, as well as ensure public oversight of efforts made to attain EaP objectives.

The Ukrainian National Platform represents interests of Ukrainian civil society within the CSF framework, brings to the knowledge of authorities of Ukraine and institutions of the EU and its Member States its position, produces analytical papers, organizes discussion events and informs the public about the EaP potential and challenges.

Like the Civil Society Forum as a whole, its Ukrainian National Platform works in five working groups reflecting the official thematic platforms of the Eastern Partnership:

1. Democracy, human rights, good governance and stability
2. Economic integration and convergence with EU policies
3. Environment, climate change and energy security
4. Contacts between people
5. Social and labour policies and social dialogue

Civic Synergy Project

The Civic Synergy Project is aimed at strengthening public participation in the implementation of European integration reforms in Ukraine, through capacity-building and boosting of activities of the Ukrainian Side of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform (US CSP) and the Ukrainian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF UNP). The project is funded by the European Union and the International Renaissance Foundation and implemented by IRF's European Program Initiative.



UKRAINIAN NATIONAL PLATFORM OF THE
EASTERN PARTNERSHIP
Civil Society Forum

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This study was conducted by experts of the Ukrainian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

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Introduction

The EU sees the Eastern Partnership (EaP) as an integral part of the European Neighbourhood Policy, a framework policy addressing the EU's neighbour countries. From Brussels' point of view, the entire body of Ukraine-EU bilateral relations belongs to the bilateral dimension of the EaP. Besides bilateral relations of the EU with its Partner Countries, the EaP also provides for multilateral interaction. This introduction of the multilateral dimension of political and expert dialogue is one of its main distinctions from the classic European Neighbourhood Policy. The EaP multilateral dimension functions at several levels:

- Summits attended by the Heads of States or Governments of the EU Member States and Partner Countries;
- Meetings of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the EU Member States and Partner Countries;
- Four thematic platforms;
- Flagship initiatives;
- Civil Society Forum;
- Parliamentary dimension.

By the time of EaP establishment, Ukraine in its relations with the EU had largely achieved what the EaP was based on. Therefore, the Ukrainian authorities have been looking on it as not a framework policy but an addition to the more ambitious bilateral format of Ukraine's relations with the EU. Development of the bilateral format relations is an unquestioned priority for Ukraine, whereas the EaP remains primarily a forum for a multilateral dialogue on the reform implementation and relations with the EU.

As a result of the Fifth Eastern Partnership Summit, held on 24 November 2017 in Brussels, the EaP multilateral dimension was essentially changed through transformation of the thematic platforms. The summit's Joint Declaration lists specific results to be achieved by 2020 within the EaP framework. On the other hand, the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement (AA) is a fundamental instrument of European integration for Ukraine. Accordingly, there is a question: how much do objectives and expected results of the

EaP correlate with the AA content? Answering this question will help understand the actual value added of the EaP for Ukraine – a point that has been debated since the very establishment of the initiative.

This analytical paper presents findings of an expert study of each of 20 deliverables for 2020, suggested by the Joint Staff Working Document "Eastern Partnership – Focusing on Key Priorities and Tangible Results", for their correlation with the AA.

The study intended to answer the question on how much the EaP targets correlate with what the AA provides:

- 1.** Duplicate AA provisions;
- 2.** Supplement and elaborate on AA provisions;
- 3.** Are additional targets, which are not explicitly envisaged by the AA; or
- 4.** Offer a vision that is alternative to or in contradiction with what the AA provides.

A comparative analysis of the two instruments is also expected to answer another key question: whether the monitoring of results and targets needs any additional efforts that are not provided for by the AA Implementation Action Plans and the Association Agenda.

The text of this paper is structured following with the contents and presentation order of the 20 cross-cutting and sectoral deliverables as well as four key priority areas of the EaP.



Summary of findings

The Joint Staff Working Document (JSWD) “Eastern Partnership – Focusing on Key Priorities and Tangible Results” aims at developing predominantly the multilateral dimension, whereas the AA has solely a bilateral character. Even so, many of JSWD provisions, depending on their task, address individual countries or groups of countries in various configurations. The realization of the document’s targets is called to facilitate the convergence of EaP countries to the EU in the sectoral dimension, and only in some cases, to each other.

The JSWD is oriented toward solution of pinpoint tasks that are not associated in order to produce a systemic impact on internal transformations of countries, like it is the case with AA signatories. Unlike the AA, which is expressly binding in its nature, the JSWD is in essence a toolkit from which the EaP countries can pick those tools they are most interested in. By its content, the document does not take into account the differences between the EaP countries’ European integration progress and aspirations, offering them the same set of options, and as a result, it does not reckon in the interests of the AA signatory countries in having a deeper integration with the EU.

The JSWD does not contain provisions that would conflict with the AA, forming a correlation mix with the AA in nearly each of its proposed deliverables and outcomes. Just few of its targets (under Priority I: “Economic Development & Market Opportunities” and Priority II: “Strengthening Institutions and Good Governance”) duplicate AA provisions, namely within the deliverables *Regulatory Environment and SMEs Development*; *Harmonisation of Digital Markets*; *DCFTAs Implementation*; *Implementation of Public Administration Reform*; and *Security*.

In a significant number of cases, JSWD targets supplement and elaborate on AA provisions. Such targets predominate within the cross-cutting deliverables *Structured Engagement with a Wider Range of Civil Society Organisations* and *Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination* as well as in the *Regulatory Environment and*

SMEs Development; *Implementation of Public Administration Reform*; *Environment and Adaptation to Climate Change*; *Visa Liberalisation and Mobility Partnerships*; *Youth, Education, Skills Development and Culture*; and *Research and Innovation*.

Some of the deliverables have certain specifics:

- **Harmonisation of Digital Markets and Rule of Law and Anti-corruption Mechanisms** – it is difficult to tell whether its targets are additional to or supplement/elaborate on AA provisions;
- **DCFTAs Implementation** – a half of its targets will be an outcome of the AA implementation;
- **Energy Supply** – 60% of the targets do not concern Ukraine;
- **Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions** – 40% of the targets are *alternative to what AA provides*.

The targets being additional to the AA are of most interest, since they constitute a value added for Ukraine. The additional targets are present in all the cross-cutting deliverables, *Strategic Communication and Plurality and Independence of Media* being wholly represented by new tasks. Main attention of stakeholders should be drawn to the deliverables that wholly consist of new targets, as compared to the AA:

- **Gaps in Access to Finance and Financial Infrastructure**;
- **New Job Opportunities at Local and Regional Level**;
- **Implementation of Key Judicial Reforms**;
- **Extension of The TEN-T Core Networks**; and
- **Eastern Partnership European School**.

There are new targets also in the deliverables *Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions*; *Environment and Adaptation to Climate Change*; *Youth, Education, Skills Development and Culture*; and *Research and Innovation*.

Specific cross-cutting deliverables

Development of *Structured Engagement with a Wider Range of Civil Society Organisations* envisages achieving targets that mainly supplement or elaborate on AA provisions or are additional, not provided for by the AA explicitly. The Agreement provides for the establishment of a Civil Society Platform. Its operation can serve as a key to achieving the targets but not be limited to such activities.

Similarly, *Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination* presumes achievement of targets that supplement and elaborate on AA provisions or are additional, not explicitly envisaged by the AA. Activities in this area, in accordance with both documents, are mainly associated with the implementation of the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP II).

Strategic Communication and Plurality and Independence of Media provides additional tasks, not explicitly envisaged by the AA.

PRIORITY I: "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & MARKET OPPORTUNITIES"

The deliverable *Regulatory Environment and SMEs Development* contains targets that duplicate, supplement and elaborate on the AA as well as those not explicitly envisaged by the Agreement. These tasks largely correlate with AA Arts. 378-379.

Filling up *Gaps in Access to Finance and Financial Infrastructure* is an additional deliverable, not explicitly envisaged by the AA. Conceptually, its targets are formulated in the wake of the Agreement; however, they are not comprehensive in their character.

Taking *New Job Opportunities at Local and Regional Level* is associated with additional targets, which are not explicitly provided for by the AA. The latter does not have similar provisions, although it outlines the mentioned objectives, too; the expected results are in essence parallel to the AA provisions and are primarily related conceptually.

Harmonisation of Digital Markets is to be achieved through targets that duplicate, sup-

plement, elaborate on and are additional to the AA. The results and targets mostly concern Chapter 14 "Information Society" under AA Title V, as well as individual articles on telecommunication services, protection of databases, cross-border supply of electronic communication services and regulatory aspects of electronic commerce.

The *DCFTAs Implementation* is associated with targets that duplicate, supplement and elaborate on AA provisions. However, this deliverable's results would, in a significant extent, be an outcome of the AA implementations.

PRIORITY II: "STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE"

The targets within the *Rule of Law and Anti-corruption Mechanisms* deliverable are not mentioned in the AA explicitly; however, their achievement is necessary to fulfil commitments under AA Arts. 2, 3, 4, 6, 14, 20 and 22.

Implementation of Key Judicial Reforms presume achieving additional targets, which are not explicitly envisaged in the AA. These targets generally correlate with AA Art. 14 "The rule of law and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms"; which provides for co-operation for strengthening the judiciary, improving its efficiency, safeguarding its independence and impartiality, and combating corruption.

A majority of the targets within *Implementation of Public Administration Reform and Security* are not explicitly mentioned in the AA. Even in comparison with the more detailed Association Agenda, these targets are more specific and measurable.

The *Security* deliverable's targets relate to the AA in different ways, duplicating, supplementing and elaborating it or being additional to it, not envisaged by the Agreement. The targets predominantly correspond to the content of Title II on political dialogue in terms of gradual convergence on foreign and security matters, non-proliferation, arms control and arms export control, peaceful settlement of regional conflicts and crisis management.

PRIORITY III: "CONNECTIVITY, ENERGY EFFICIENCY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE"

The *Extension of the TEN-T Core Networks* is to be achieved through additional targets, which are not explicitly provided for by the AA. Some of them are tangential to the Agreement but generally do not fall within its purview, although the AA does aim at developing a multimodal transport network connected to the Trans European Transport Network and improving infrastructure policy (Art. 369).

The *Energy Supply* deliverable contains a number of targets that do not concern Ukraine at all as well as some additional ones, which are not explicitly envisaged by the AA.

Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions is based on objectives that are either alternative to the AA or additional, not envisaged explicitly by it. The Agreement contains provisions on climate change but does not take into account the particularities of follow-up commitments undertaken by Paris Agreement signatories. Nor does it provide for formats of co-operation with, or assistance from, the International Financial Institutions (IFIs).

The targets of *Environment and Adaptation to Climate Change* elaborate on AA provisions, *inter alia* by including additional tasks. The deliverable correlates with provisions of Charter 6 "Environment" and Annex XXX to the Agreement and contains both general targets and specific, measurable results.

PRIORITY IV: "MOBILITY AND PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE CONTACTS"

Visa Liberalisation and Mobility Partnerships presume achievement of targets that supplement and elaborate on AA provisions. In particular, AA Art. 16 "Co-operation on migration, asylum and border management" provides for establishing together an effective and preventive policy against illegal migration, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings.

The deliverable *Youth, Education, Skills Development and Culture* mostly elaborates on and supplements the AA (Title V, Art. 434). Some of AA articles deal with support of mobility of scientists, youth and teachers. The cross-cutting priorities also supplement the AA and enhance the effect of intercultural dialogue.

Establishment of an *Eastern Partnership European School* is an additional deliverable. Moreover, it supplements the provisions of AA Art. 431.

The *Research and Innovation* deliverable envisages both additional targets, which are not explicitly provided for by the AA, and ones that supplement and elaborate on it. The deliverable's content is in line with the AA and mentions the Horizon 2020 programme.

The approach used by drafters of the JSWD "Eastern Partnership – Focusing on Key Priorities and Tangible Results" is conceptually in harmony with the AA spirit. For Ukraine, the Association Agreement prevails, and the opportunities the JSWD offers are seen as rather supplementary, of which realization will help receive additional benefits within the framework of co-operation with the EU and other EaP countries. At the same time, the JSWD's targets have another configuration and, for the most part, are additional to the AA or supplement and elaborate on its provisions, so the monitoring of their achievement will require additional efforts. Experts are not unanimous as to whether it is necessary to carry out general monitoring of the JSWD on its all targets. However, such a need certainly exists for a majority of the deliverables.



Specific cross-cutting deliverables

1. STRUCTURED ENGAGEMENT WITH A WIDER RANGE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Target by 2020

Strengthened management capacities and technical expertise of CSOs to constructively engage with governments at grassroots, local and national level.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

AA Arts. 469-470 provide for establishment of a Civil Society Platform as a forum for holding meetings and exchanging views, which consists of representatives of Ukrainian civil society on the one hand, and members of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) on the other hand. The CSP meets at intervals which it itself determines. It has its own rules of procedure and may make recommendations to the Association Council. In general, achievement of the target will increase the CSOs' potential for participation in the CSP, proposals-making and monitoring.

Target by 2020

80 Civil Society Policy Fellowships awarded and 300 youth leaders supported.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

AA Art. 434 provides for encouraging closer co-operation and exchange of experience in the field of youth policy and non-formal education for young people. This will facilitate the integration of young people into society at large by encouraging their active citizenship and spirit of initiative as well as help them acquire knowledge, skills and competencies outside the educational systems, including through volunteering, and recognise the value of such experiences.

Target by 2020

Obtain meaningful information on evolutions in participation space for civil society organisations in the Eastern Partnership countries.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

According to the Agreement text, the Civil Society Platform in collaboration with authorities and the Association Council may make recommendations and participates in AA monitoring.

Target by 2020

Well-functioning and regular multi-stakeholder policy dialogue through the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and its National Platforms.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

AA Art. 470 reads: "The Association Committee and Parliamentary Association Committee shall organize regular contacts with representatives of the Civil Society Platform in order to obtain their views on how to attain the objectives of this Agreement". Art. 475 specifies that monitoring will mean the continuous appraisal of progress in implementing and enforcing measures covered by the Agreement. Monitoring may include on-the-spot missions, with the participation of EU institutions, bodies and agencies, non-governmental bodies, supervisory authorities, independent experts and others as needed.

2. GENDER EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Target by 2020

Gender mainstreamed in public policies with gender disaggregated data available per policy and better gender specific statistics available. Gender Action Plan implemented.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

Annex XL to Chapter 21 "Co-operation on Employ-

ment, Social Policy and Equal Opportunities in its section "Anti-discrimination and gender equality" contains a kind of entry points for integrating the gender issues as cross-cutting in the areas of gender equality and fight against discrimination. Specifically, it deals with gender-related Directives, whereof implementation is expected to facilitate gender equality and ensure equal opportunities for women and girls, as per the EU Gender Action Plan (GAP II). According to GAP II, a gender analysis must be carried out systematically in any external action of the EU, namely under its projects and bilateral and regional programmes.

Target by 2020

Anti-discrimination legislation adopted in remaining Partner Countries. Progress in harmonising relevant legislation. Ratification of the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention in Partner Countries. Sexual and gender based violence/domestic violence legislation adopted in all Partner Countries and effective referral mechanisms are in place. Track record of equality bodies established and effective monitoring of anti-discrimination law.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The EU-Ukraine Association Agenda to prepare and facilitate the implementation of the Association Agreement in its section 7 "Other sectorial issues" (7.17 "Social co-operation") lays down that the Parties will co-operate to enhance practical measures in the area of gender equality with the aim of reducing the gender pay gap as well as in the area of anti-discrimination. The JSWD target duplicates provisions of two articles in AA Chapter 21, namely Art. 419, which emphasises the necessity to strengthen dialogue and co-operation on "promoting the decent work agenda, employment policy, health and safety at work, social dialogue, social protection, social inclusion, gender equality and non-discrimination", and Art. 420, which mentions aiming at gender equality and ensuring "equal opportunities for women and men in employment, education, training, economy and society, and decision-making" as one of co-operation goals to be pursued.

Target by 2020

Young women targeted in EU4Youth calls (75% target).

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Its implementation arises from GAP II provisions.

Target by 2020

EU contribution to the Women in Business programme, leverages at least USD 55 million in sub-loans from local banks to Women-led enterprises.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target supplements and elaborates on Annex XL of Title V, whereby Ukraine undertakes to gradually approximate its legislation to that of the EU, including Council Directive 2004/113/EC of 13 December 2004 implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the access to and supply of goods and services.

3. STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND PLURALITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF MEDIA

The AA is not clear about the deliverable's targets. Some of them might indirectly come within the purview of the European Convention on Transfrontier Television mentioned in the AA.

Target by 2020

More coherent branding, messaging, visibility and outreach. Increased number of people in Partner Countries associates EU with positive change and concrete social and economic benefits for states and individuals.

Numbers of media professionals trained sustained/increased. Enhanced capacity of beneficiaries from EU assistance and agencies implementing EU support to promote and actively support communication activities and public diplomacy in the region.

Numbers of media organisations devoting space/air-time to EU related themes increased.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.
Monitoring of such targets requires additional efforts that are not provided for by the AA Implementation Action Plans and the Association Agenda.

Target by 2020

Increased number of people considers the EU reliable/credible/ understandable partner.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.
Monitoring of such targets requires additional efforts that are not provided for by the AA Implementation Action Plans and the Association Agenda.

Target by 2020

*A more independent and professionally strengthened media, to enhance its resistance to bias and propaganda.
Plurality of independent information improved.
The audience share of media outlets having received EU assistance is growing.*

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.
Monitoring of such targets requires additional efforts that are not provided for by the AA Implementation Action Plans and the Association Agenda.

Target by 2020

Public support for the EU is level or increasing in all Partner Countries. Improved resilience to disinformation.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.
Monitoring of such targets requires additional efforts that are not provided for by the AA Implementation Action Plans and the Association Agenda.





Priority I: Economic development & market opportunities

4. REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT AND SMEs DEVELOPMENT

Target by 2020

At least 10 000 additional SMEs to benefit from EU assistance (with 80% in DCFTA countries), since the end of 2016. At least another 60 000 new jobs created and/or sustained in the supported companies, since the end of 2016.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The task elaborates on AA Art. 379(f), Chapter 10. In the Action Plan on implementation of AA Title V, items 38 and 43 partially mention the target but provide no specific activities for its achievement. Therefore, monitoring of this target requires additional efforts, in particular the development and implementation of a mechanism for obtaining, on a regular basis, information on activities of the EU4Business initiative in Ukraine and discussing its results.

Target by 2020

Partner Countries to improve the score on a 2019 OECD Small Business Act assessment by 10% on the regulatory framework, the operational environment and support to SMEs (as compared to 2015).

Duplicates AA provisions. The target corresponds to AA Art. 379(a) as well as the objectives and tasks listed in the Action Plan on implementation of AA Title V, item 39. Therefore, monitoring of this target will not require any additional efforts in excess of those specified in these documents.

Target by 2020

Public Private Dialogue (PPD) institutionalised across the EaP region through appropriate mechanisms (e.g. PPD platform steering group / consultative forum established, PPD rules agreed upon).

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target corresponds to AA Art. 379(e) and item 41 of the Action Plan on implementation of AA Title V. It also elaborates on specific objectives and tools for their achievement. Monitoring of this target requires continuation of the East Invest project.

Target by 2020

150 supported client-oriented business support organisations improved their services to SMEs, also in relations to the DCFTA requirements, as well as global market requirements. Improved/increased number of assistance programmes by national authorities to their SMEs (dedicated SMEs agency in place in each Partner Country).

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target generally corresponds to AA Art. 378 and is partially specified in item 38(4) of the Action Plan on implementation of AA Title V. Monitoring of this target requires special efforts, the more so that the Action Plan does not provide for establishment of an SMEs agency.

Target by 2020

Setting up of a new regional economic diplomacy framework for increased trade and investment promotion in/across the EaP region.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target elaborates on AA Art. 379(b) and is partially specified in item 38(4) and 38(5) of the Action Plan on implementation of AA Title V. Monitoring of this target requires additional efforts and continuation of the East Invest project with participation of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

5. GAPS IN ACCESS TO FINANCE AND FINANCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Target by 2020

Pilot programmes developing a comprehensive approach to implement capital market reforms started in at least three Partner Countries. Efficient credit registries developed in three countries, assuring a wider coverage and a more efficient flow of information among financial intermediaries, to facilitate collateral based lending. Set up and development of alternative sources of financing for SMEs supported. This should include: instruments to facilitate investments (i.e. leasing, factoring) and instruments to increase export (i.e. export guarantee mechanisms, insurance schemes), as well as equity financing.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Conceptually, the target is formulated in the wake of the AA. However, it is different in that its objectives are not comprehensive in their character but address individual sectoral tasks. Monitoring requires additional efforts and will be complicated due to the fact that the document does not specify clearly the states that are expected to achieve the target and its main formulations are vague.

Target by 2020

At least 1/4 of EU financial support to SMEs is provided through local currency financing, since the end of 2016.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The Agreement is a different document both in its philosophy and its content. Monitoring requires additional efforts.

6. NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL

Target by 2020

At least 30 Partner Countries' Local Authorities implement a plan for local economic development, and at least 10 urban demonstration projects are kick-started.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Generally speaking, the target offers a tool that differs from the AA and provides additional opportunities for all Partner Countries. Monitoring requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Where appropriate, decentralisation process implemented per relevant Public Administration Reform strategy. Regional development projects implemented where appropriate in at least three Partner Countries via their pipeline and/or regional development fund. Regional/local stakeholders participating in planning and implementation of relevant local pipeline in at least three Partner Countries.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The Agreement does not contain similar provisions, although it sets such objectives among other things. Monitoring requires additional efforts and will be complicated due to the fact that the document does not specify clearly the states that are expected to achieve the target and its main formulations are vague.

Target by 2020

Smart specialisation strategies identifying key priorities for economic modernisation developed in at least two countries.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Ukraine is not a member of the Smart Specialisation Platform. Monitoring requires additional

efforts and will be complicated due to the fact that the document does not specify clearly the states that are expected to achieve the target.

Target by 2020

At least 15 000 farmers are members of business oriented farmer groups/co-operatives; at least 1 000 business-oriented farmer groups created to promote better market access.

Progress in the implementation of agricultural development strategies.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

In essence, the target is parallel to AA provisions and takes the Agreement into account conceptually. Monitoring requires additional efforts. The expected results are measurable, but again, the monitoring will be complicated due to the fact that the document does not specify clearly the states that are expected to achieve the target.

7. HARMONISATION OF DIGITAL MARKETS

Target by 2020

Independent national regulatory authority for electronic communications in place in at least five Partner Countries. Coordinated national spectrum strategies among the Partners and with the EU. Harmonised roaming pricing and reduced roaming tariffs among the Partners. Ongoing roaming discussions with the EU10. Roll-out of national Broadband strategies by all Partners, in line with similar EU strategies.

Duplicates/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. In part, the target is represented in AA Subchapter V "Telecommunication services" of Title 4 "Trade and issues related to trade" (Arts. 115-124) and duplicates the commitments:

- To establish an independent national regulator for electronic communication; and
- To coordinate national spectrum activities with the EU.

AA Title V is also supplemented with the necessity to develop coordinated national spectrum

strategies between Ukraine and the EC. These objectives supplement and are additional to provisions of Chapter 14 (specifically Art. 391).

Target by 2020

Pilot in place for interoperable cross border eSignature and regional framework for cross border eServices for businesses among Partners and with the EU in place.

Fully operational national CERTs in all Partners in place, linked to EU CERTs.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target partially supplements AA Art. 185 "Protection of databases" in the context of the necessity to develop general data protection rules and other relevant binding EU documents (*acquis*) as well as Art. 121 "Cross-border provision of electronic communication services" in the context of the necessity to develop interoperable cross-border eSignature pilot systems and a system for cross-border eServices for businesses among Partners and with the EU.

The commitment of EaP countries to approve eIDAS in the part of trust services for Ukraine is reflected in item 60 of the AA Implementation Action Plan, which deals with the implementation of provisions of Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market.

Target by 2020

Harmonised legislation for eCommerce, eCustoms and eLogistics among Partners and with the EU. Pilot in place for cross-border eTrade among Partners and with the EU. Pilot in place for a Digital Transport Corridor between the Baltic and the Black Sea.

Additional/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The commitment of EaP countries to approve EU eCommerce standards (*acquis*) partially duplicates item 59 of the AA Implementation Action Plan dealing with the implementation of provisions of Directive 2000/31/EC on certain

legal aspects of information society services, in particular electronic commerce, in the Internal Market ("Directive on electronic commerce"). The target supplements and is additional to AA Art. 140 "Regulatory aspects of electronic commerce" and provisions of Title V Chapter 14 "Information Society" (in particular, Art. 391).

Target by 2020

National digital skills strategies formulated and implemented by all Partners, in line with similar EU strategies. National coalitions for digital jobs established by all Partners, based on the EU's digital skills & jobs coalition.

Additional/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target supplements and is additional to provisions of Title V Chapter 14 "Information Society" (in particular, Art. 391).

Target by 2020

Well-structured ICT research, innovation and start-up ecosystems in place for all Partners. Established connections among Partners' innovation ecosystems and with similar EU ecosystems, including via the EaP Connect infrastructure and services.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA. Objectives of this target are absent in the AA.

Target by 2020

Harmonised legislation for eHealth among the Partners and with the EU. Pilot in place for cross-border eHealth services among Partners and with the EU.

Additional/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target supplements and is additional to provisions of Title V Chapter 14 "Information Society" (in particular, Art. 391).

8. DCFTAs IMPLEMENTATION

Target by 2020

Continuation of positive trend in total intra-regional trade (i.e. between Partner Countries).

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target is not an expected outcome of the AA implementation. Actually, there can be different dynamics: from upward to downward co-operation activity. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts¹.

Target by 2020

Continuation of a positive trend in total trade between Partner Countries and EU, and in particular between DCFTA countries and the EU.

An outcome of the AA implementation. The target is one of expected outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Enhancement of a positive trend in total exports from Partner Countries to the EU increased, in particular from DCFTA countries.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target is one of potential outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Strengthening of the positive trend in the number of companies (notably SMEs) from the Partner Countries exporting to the EU, increased, in particular from the DCFTA countries.

An outcome of the AA implementation. The target is one of expected outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

¹ Statistical data collection and analysis are not considered additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Further increase in number of companies authorised by EU SPS authorities to exports to its market, having met the regulatory and inspection conditions to do so.

Recognition by the EU of food safety measures for the sectors/products that will fully comply with EU acquis and feature enforcement by inspection structures in the DCFTA countries, with the aim (if conditions are met) of initiating the process of determination of equivalence of relevant measures.

An outcome of the AA implementation. The target is one of expected outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Strengthening of FDI's stock/inflow in Partner Countries due to successful reforms in creating transparent, predictable market economy.

An outcome of the AA implementation. The target is one of expected outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Increased market access opening on reciprocal basis in public procurement in accordance with the staging committed in the DCFTAs.

An outcome of the AA implementation. The target is one of expected outcomes of the AA implementation. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Achieving the state of regulatory approximation and institutional capacity building (including market surveillance) in priority sectors allowing to negotiate the Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA).

Duplicates AA provisions. The target is the direct implementation of AA provisions. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Implementation of compatible AEO programmes in DCFTA countries allowing further facilitation of customs procedures in mutual trade and a dialogue on mutual recognition of the AEO programmes.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target is a possible additional effect of the AA. Monitoring of ultimate achievement of the target might require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

If appropriate, accession to the Convention on a common transit procedure, and thus simplification of the customs and transit formalities in trade between the EU and DCFTA Partners and among the latter.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target is partially the AA implementation and partially – concerning the customs formalities among the DCFTA countries – an additional objective. Monitoring of ultimate achievement of the target might require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

If appropriate, accession to the Convention on the Simplification of Formalities in Trade in Goods that would allow simplifying the application of the common transit procedure between the EU and DCFTA Partners and among the latter.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target is partially the AA implementation and partially – concerning the customs formalities among the DCFTA countries – an additional objective. Monitoring of ultimate achievement of the target might require additional efforts.



Priority II: Strengthening institutions and good governance

9. RULE OF LAW AND ANTI-CORRUPTION MECHANISMS

Target by 2020

Effective systems of declaration of assets and conflict of interest developed and implemented for at least Members of Parliament (MPs), politicians and high ranking officials developed and implemented in at least four Partner Countries, including:

- *an electronic, easily searchable public registry of interests and assets;*
- *effective verification mechanism;*
- *dissuasive sanctions.*

Steps taken to implement GRECO recommendations on the prevention of corruption in respect of members of parliament, judges and prosecutors, based on the outcome of the fourth round of evaluations GRECO.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA does not envisage these measures but their realization is required to fulfil the commitments of fight against corruption provided for by Arts. 3, 14 and 22. Item 38 of the AA Implementation Action Plan provides for the necessity to enhance the institutional capacity of the National Agency for Corruption Prevention (NACP) to check electronic declarations of persons authorised to exercise functions of the state and local governments by developing and implementing examination of automation software. The percentage of duly checked declarations of MPs, politicians and high-ranking officials is an indicator needed for monitoring. As for GRECO, the monitoring is already carried out, so no additional efforts are required.

Target by 2020

Independent specialised high-level anti-corruption bodies fully operational in at least four Partner Countries.

Track record of investigations and convictions of high-level corruption cases.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions and also is additional.

According to AA Art. 14, the "Parties shall attach particular importance to the consolidation of the rule of law and the reinforcement of institutions at all levels in the areas of administration in general and law enforcement and the administration of justice in particular". Ensuring that independent specialised high-level anti-corruption bodies properly exercise their powers is elaboration on the said provision. The AA Implementation Action Plan provides for the necessity to ensure the NACP operation through the development of its HR, organizational and logistical capacity to carry out functions attached to it, access of the NACP to necessary registries and information bases of state agencies (item 13) and amendments to legislation authorising the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) to download information from communication channels (item 39). A track record of investigations and convictions of high-level corruption cases is not envisaged by the AA but its implementation will facilitate achievement of the objectives specified in Arts. 2, 3, 4, 6, 14 and 22. Indicators required for monitoring will include: a tool to access registries and information bases fully implemented at anti-corruption bodies; indicators of public/expert opinion of the operation of the specialised anti-corruption bodies; and the percentage of high-level corruption cases with a proper track record of investigations and convictions.

Target by 2020

Legal framework allowing for the effective seizure, confiscation and management of crime proceeds across the EaP region.

AROs in place with a track record for identification, freezing, management and confiscation of criminal/unjustified wealth across the EaP region.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA does not contain commitments on legal regulation of procedures for confiscation and management of crime proceeds and on the operation of asset recovery bodies. None-

theless, such measures will facilitate achievement of goals related to the fight against corruption (Arts. 3, 14 and 22) and reinforcement of institutions (Art. 14). Indicators of public/expert opinion of the operation of the National Agency of Ukraine for Finding, Tracing and Management of Assets Derived from Corruption and Other Crimes are the indicators required for monitoring.

Target by 2020

Effective tools for financial investigations are in place, in particular:

- *centralised bank accounts registries;*
- *reinforced Financial Intelligence and Investigation Units.*

Public registries of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements developed in at least three Partner Countries.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. AA Art. 20 binds the Parties to “work together in order to prevent and combat money laundering and terrorism financing” by implementing relevant international standards, in particular those of the FATF and standards equivalent to those adopted by the EU. Item 35 of the AA Implementation Action Plan provides for updating legislation in compliance with new acts of the EU law in this area. Item 63 defines that a Strategy to develop a system for preventing and combating money laundering, terrorism financing and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction is to be implemented before 2020. The AA does not contain commitments on the development and functioning of registries of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements; however, establishment of such registries aims at achievement of objectives of AA Arts. 3, 4, 20 and 22. Indicators required for monitoring will include: “work specification” for the functioning of a centralised bank accounts registry developed; the centralised bank accounts registry launched in a test/normal mode; indicators of public and expert opinion of the operation of the State Financial Monitoring Service; “work specification” for the functioning of a

registry of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements developed; the State Registry of beneficial ownership of legal entities and legal arrangements launched in a test/normal mode; the Strategy to develop a system for preventing and combating money laundering, terrorism financing and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction until 2020 being implemented.

10. IMPLEMENTATION OF KEY JUDICIAL REFORMS

The targets of judicial reforms are not specified in the AA explicitly but generally correspond to the tasks of Art. 14, which attaches importance to the consolidation of the rule of law and the reinforcement of law-enforcement and judicial institutions and the fight against corruption. It also provides for co-operation aiming at strengthening the judiciary, improving its efficiency and safeguarding its independence and impartiality.

Target by 2020

Track record of transparent and merit-based recruitment and promotion system disaggregated by gender in place in at least three Partner Countries.

Track record of judges’ and prosecutors’ performance, as per their career development, in place in at least three Partner Countries.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target adds details to the AA Art. 14 provisions but do not cover exhaustively all of its tasks.

Target by 2020

Track record of reported disciplinary cases, proceedings initiated and convictions in line with EU standards.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target adds details to the AA Art. 14 pro-

visions but do not cover exhaustively all of its tasks.

Target by 2020

Improved access to justice in at least three countries, in particular for women, children and the most vulnerable groups, and whenever civil rights or obligations are at issue or criminal charges are to be determined.

This would be assessed through the amount of legal aid spent per capita, public access to free legal aid, information mechanisms and special arrangements for vulnerable persons.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target adds details to the AA Art. 14 provisions but do not cover exhaustively all of its tasks.

Target by 2020

Comprehensive and effective training of the judiciary on judicial competences and ethics in at least three Partner Countries, demonstrated inter alia by an increase in budget allocated to initial and in-service training.

Independent training institutions delivering initial and continuous training to the judiciary, in line with the EU standards and best practices.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target adds details to the AA Art. 14 provisions but do not cover exhaustively all of its tasks.

Target by 2020

Substantial reduction of the backlog of civil and criminal cases and case disposition time across Partner Countries.

Improved enforcement of judgements in civil and administrative cases as well as court decisions' execution according to enforcement timeframe and recovery rates indicators in at least three Partner Countries.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target adds details to the AA Art. 14 provisions but do not cover exhaustively all of its tasks.

11. IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM

AA Art. 4 defines the aims of political dialogue, which, among other things, include "to strengthen respect for democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance, human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, non-discrimination of persons belonging to minorities and respect for diversity, and to contribute to consolidating domestic political reforms". Art. 6 deals with commitments related to dialogue and co-operation on domestic reforms. In fact, these articles define, although implicitly, Ukraine's commitment to take actions to implement a public administration reform. The AA Implementation Action Plan, approved by the Government of Ukraine in October 2017, provides for a number of measures aimed at implementing the public administration reform that are related just to the two abovementioned articles.

Target by 2020

At least three Partner Countries upgraded or adopted their PAR strategies in line with the Principles of Public Administration.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

Adoption of a PAR strategy in line with the Principles of Public Administration concretises Ukraine's commitments in the context of the general provisions of AA Arts. 4 and 6.

Target by 2020

Civil service laws led to a de-politicised civil service in at least two Partner Countries, including through improved merit-based and transparent recruitment and promotion.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

Civil service de-politicisation concretises Ukraine's commitments in the context of the general provisions of AA Arts. 4 and 6. More relevant issues are outlined in the Association Agenda, which has a special clause in its Operational Part on the public administration reform.

It reads: "Start a comprehensive reform of the public administration, and in particular the civil service and service in local self-government bodies focusing on European principles of public administration, including through the finalisation and adoption of the draft Law on Civil Service Reform".

Target by 2020

Accountability and openness of state administration strengthened in at least three Partner Countries:

- *access to Information Laws adopted/amended and implemented in at least one country;*
- *accessible, more service-oriented administrations in place, also through e-gov. services and one-stop-shops in one-two Partner Countries.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Improved access to information and the functioning of eGovernment better concretises Ukraine's commitments in the context of the general provisions of AA Arts. 4 and 6. The Association Agenda section on "Political Dialogue" (2.1. Democracy, rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms) provides for a commitment to "maintain dialogue and to co-operate to strengthen respect for democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance, human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities as enshrined in the core UN and Council of Europe Conventions and related protocols".

Target by 2020

Decisions taken on the changes required to approximate national governance with EU standards related to economic governance, including via reinforced budget oversight, fiscal rules and councils, and medium-term budgets, in at least two Partner Countries.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Increased transparency and accountability in economic governance better concretises Ukraine's commitments in the context of the

general provisions of AA Arts. 4 and 6. The Association Agenda section on "Political Dialogue" covers a number of areas that include: "work closely together in aligning the legal framework of Ukraine's civil service with European principles of public administration and enhancing the capacity of the public administration in Ukraine on the basis of an assessment by SIGMA, including effective public finance management, effective fight against corruption and public service reform" and "enhance the quality of official (state) statistics in co-operation with other data producers and data users, development and implementation a quality assurance framework including the production and publication of quality reports".

Target by 2020

At least four Partner Countries have revised their statistical laws in accordance with the "Generic Law on Official Statistics".

Increased availability and quality of statistical information to serve better transparency in the decision-making process.

Partially duplicates AA provisions. In particular, Arts. 355-356 of AA Title V Chapter 5 "Statistics" aim at co-operation on statistical issues. However, since Title V deals with economic and sector co-operation, relevant requirements have a more universal character. According to Art. 335, the "national statistical system should respect the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, taking into account the *EU acquis*, in statistics including the European Statistics Code of Practice, in order to harmonise the national statistical system with the European norms and standards. The *acquis* in statistics is set out in the annually updated Statistical Requirements Compendium, which is considered by the Parties as annexed to this Agreement". The target is partially duplicated, while the Association Agenda is setting more requirements in this area.

12. SECURITY

The Joint Staff Working Document aims at developing predominantly multilateral co-operation, whereas the AA has solely a bilateral character.

Although some of AA security provisions do take into account international and regional contexts, the European security standards are spread over the EaP region mainly on a bilateral basis. For the most part, the targets elaborate on the AA security provisions. While the AA is outlining generalised objectives, like "promote, preserve and strengthen peace and stability in the regional and international dimensions" and "enhance co-operation in the field of Justice, Freedom and Security"; the JSWD in its "Security" deliverable makes the general goal more specific: "support Partners, including through capacity building projects in their fight against organised crime..., to make them more resilient to hybrid threats, including cybersecurity to mitigate CBRN risks of criminal, accidental or natural origin, and to be better prepared to prevent conflicts and manage crises". The deliverable reflects one of the AA's essential elements set forth in its Title I "General Principles", namely "countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, related materials and their means of delivery", as well as one of the Agreement's key principles: "the fight against the different forms of trans-national organised crime".

The Security deliverable and its targets also correspond to the content of Title II "Political Dialogue..." concerning gradual convergence on foreign and security matters, conflict prevention, non-proliferation, arms control and arms export control, peaceful settlement of regional conflicts and crisis management. Unlike the AA, the JSWD does not single out co-operation in combating terrorism, mentioning it only in the context of CBRN risks neutralisation.

Since the Association Agenda is in fact a working document of the AA implementation, their objectives coincide. However, the Association Agenda contains detailed and concrete measures that aim at the implementation of AA provisions and in certain areas correlate with JSWD targets and deliverables.

Target by 2020

Improved capacity of Partner Countries in combatting organized crime.

Duplicates AA provisions. The target in fact duplicates the provisions of AA Art. 22. The Association Agenda provides an implementation mechanism for these provisions by ensuring the "implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan to fight against organised crime including effective coordination between relevant authorities". Therefore, this target falls under the Association Agenda monitoring and does not require any additional monitoring efforts. Moreover, Ukraine actively co-operates with Europol and Eurojust, and the EUAM efficiently works in Ukraine, too.

Target by 2020

Operational Action Plan aiming at sharing intelligence and operational data regarding the illicit firearms trafficking adopted by at least two Partner Countries.

List of risk indicators established in at least two Partner Countries about potentially dangerous firearms transport and hotspots.

Intelligence-led multinational Joint Actions conducted.

Additional/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. "Operational Action Plan aiming at sharing intelligence and operational data regarding the illicit firearms trafficking adopted" corresponds to Ukraine's commitments under AA Art. 12, and "intelligence-led multinational Joint Actions conducted" is in line with the content of Art. 22; however, the Agreement does not provide details for the two objectives and so these items of the target may be considered as elaboration. Neither the AA nor the Association Agenda mention a list of risk indicators about potentially dangerous firearms transport and hotspots, so this part of the target is additional. Although such a list of indicators have been already being developed in Ukraine, it would be worth to introduce monitoring of this target.

Target by 2020

Strategy or Action Plans to address cybercrime adopted across the region.

Fully-fledged, operational cybercrime units in law enforcement authorities created.

Budapest Convention fully implemented, particularly as per procedural law for the purpose of domestic investigations, public-private co-operation and international co-operation.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA. Since the target has been in fact achieved in Ukraine, it is not clearly stated in the AA, Art. 22 just mentioning cybercrime as a problem co-operation between Ukraine and the EU should address. It is also mentioned in the Association Agenda in the context of civilian security sector reform. Therefore, this target was somewhat reformatted for Ukraine: building capacity of cybercrime units and deepening international co-operation, whereas its monitoring is provided for by the Association Agenda.

Target by 2020

Reinforce protection of critical infrastructure.

Fully operational National CE

RTs in all Partner Countries are in place, linked to EU CERTs.

Actionable national Cybersecurity Strategies are in place in all Partner Countries, on the basis of EU best practices and guidelines.

Enhanced public/private and international co-operation on cybersecurity.

Additional/supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Neither the AA nor the Association Agenda mention objectives related to the CERT and Cybersecurity Strategy since these tasks are quite detailed and have been already executed in Ukraine anyway. The task to enhance public/private and international co-operation on cybersecurity is not clearly formulated in the AA but present in the general provisions on security issues. The task to reinforce protection of critical infrastructure correlates with the AA Title V provisions on protection of the energy (Chapter 1), transport (Chapter 7) and information (Chap-

ter 14) infrastructures. It is also envisaged in the Association Agenda as "strengthening of the networks security". This task is also present in a number of implementation plans of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine, the Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry of Ukraine and the State Service of Special Communication and Information Protection of Ukraine, as well as in decisions made by the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine. Monitoring is provided for by the Association Agenda and relevant plans.

Target by 2020

Strengthened capacity to respond to a Regional Chemical, Biological, Radiobiological and Nuclear incident, in connection with other threats related to cybersecurity, counter-terrorism and border management.

Duplicates AA provisions. The target in fact duplicates the provisions of AA Art. 11 and the task in the Association Agenda formulated as "Further develop co-operation in addressing common security threats, including combating terrorism, non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and illegal arms exports". Considering the blurred formulation of the target (does not specify any concrete result), its additional monitoring will be inexpedient.

Target by 2020

Conceptual and technical interoperability of Partner Countries' units with the EU facilitated, enabling systematic participation in EU missions. Stable participation in EU battlegroups.

Duplicates AA provisions. The task is clearly specified in AA Art. 10 and elaborated in the Association Agenda as a task (section 2.2 "Foreign and Security Policy", item ii). The Association Agenda also suggest concrete steps in this direction.

Target by 2020

Including CSDP/CFSP element in curricula of Defence colleges, police, diplomatic academies, universities.

Streamlining CFSP /CSDP in the training system of Partner Countries.

Duplicates AA provisions. The target is reflected in AA Arts. 10 and 22 and detailed in the Association Agenda (section 2.3 "Foreign and Security Policy", item ii). The Association Agenda defines it even in a more clear-cut way: "encourage and facilitate direct co-operation on concrete activities, jointly identified by both sides, between relevant Ukrainian institutions and CFSP/ CSDP agencies and bodies such as the European Defence Agency, the European Union Institute for Security Studies, the European Union Satellite Centre and the European Security and Defence College". This target requires separate monitoring and additional efforts, since there are just few reports on its implementation. In particular, the National Academy for Public Administration under the President of Ukraine has a special training course on national security, which includes CFSP/CSDP components; and the National Academy of the Security Service of Ukraine and the National Academy of Internal Affairs co-operate with the EU thanks to activities of the EUAM. There is no information on corresponding programmes at the National University of Defence of Ukraine.

Target by 2020

Comprehensive national and regional disaster risk management policies - including industrial risks - are developed and implemented based on risk assessment.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. The target is very detailed and concrete and so it is not defined like that in the AA but only in a generalized way in its Title II. On the other hand, it is almost literally stated in the Association Agenda's section 7.6 "Civil Protection". Thus, Ukraine has got a dual commitment in this area,

on both the bilateral and multilateral levels, of which monitoring is defined within the framework of the Association Agenda and the National Action Plan for implementing the Concept of Industrial and Natural Disaster Risk Management for 2015-20120.

Target by 2020

Partner Countries closely co-operate with the EU Civil Protection Mechanism.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Like in the previous case, the target is very detailed and concrete and so it is not defined like that in the AA but only in a generalized way in its Title II. Since Ukraine has reached the JSWD milestone, it was not reflected in the Association Agenda, whereas the document provides for the target in its section 7.6 "Civil Protection": "implement the Administrative Arrangement on co-operation in the field of Civil Protection between Ukraine and the European Commission". The implementation of the said Administrative Arrangement, according to the Association Agenda, envisages establishing and implementing bi-annual Work Plans with relevant monitoring mechanisms.

Target by 2020

Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction strategies are adopted at national and/or local level in line with the Sendai Framework, thereby increasing resilience.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Neither the AA nor the Association Agenda contain this target the concrete way it is set forth above. It is partially outlined in a generalized way in the Agenda's section 7.6 "Civil Protection": "progress with the implementation of the "Hyogo Framework for Action: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters". Taking into account that Ukraine's accession to the project on the implementation of the Sendai Framework is still underway, it would be expedient to have an action plan and a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of this target.



Priority III: Connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change

13. EXTENSION OF THE TEN-T CORE NETWORKS

Target by 2020

Implementation under way on six missing links on the extended core TEN-T network with agreed pipeline of projects in place.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target provides for resolving specific problems. Its monitoring requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Bottlenecks in the logistic chain removed, through smaller-scale projects with high added value i.e. "quick win" projects.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target provides for resolving specific problems. Its monitoring requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Having in place CAAs with the six Partner Countries.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Air transport services are mentioned in the AA but do not come within the purview of the Agreement. The mutual market access in this sector is regulated by the bilateral Common Aviation Area agreement, which is pending full ratification. Provisions of the Air Service Agreement will remain valid until the Common Aviation Area agreement comes into effect. Monitoring of this target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Inclusion of IWW into the indicative TEN-T network.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA does not provide for commitments on a

national regime or most-favoured treatment for national cabotage but still takes into account the transport rights reserved in accordance with effective or future agreements (e.g., on the Rhine–Main–Danube route). Ukraine is expected to gradually approximate its legislation (during five years from the moment the AA comes into force) with respect to conditions for access to the internal transport services market. The matter here is operator's skills, establishment of a central vessel registry, harmonisation of information services, vessel safety standards and the development of a new network of logistics hubs. The AA aims at developing the multimodal transport network connected to the TEN-T and improving infrastructure policy (Art. 369) but internal waterways in this context are not mentioned explicitly. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Number of fatalities due to road accidents reduced.

National road safety action plans adopted and national road safety agencies/platforms established in all Partner Countries.

Road design standards in line with EU standards and vehicle technical inspection services operational according to EU standards.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA provides that Ukraine and EU countries will promote efficient, safe and secure transport operations (Art. 367) but does not elaborate on the notion of secure transport operations. Monitoring of the target does not require additional efforts.

14. ENERGY SUPPLY

Target by 2020

Defining projects involving Eastern Partners outside Energy Community framework.

Does not concern Ukraine. The target does not concern Ukraine because our country is a member of the Energy Community.

Target by 2020

Projects implementation review; update and review of key priority projects related to Eastern Partners.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA does not provide for strategic co-operation development in the energy sector with countries that have not signed an association agreement with the EU.

Target by 2020

Gas interconnection Ungheni-Chisinau operational.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target has nothing to do with the AA. However, from the point of view of possible reconfiguration of the gas supply to Ukraine, it can be relevant as an additional regional route of gas supply to a part of Chernivtsi and Odesa oblasts.

Target by 2020

*Southern Gas Corridor operational and gas flowing to Turkey and the EU.
Relevant progress on SGC extension towards Central Asia.*

Does not concern Ukraine. The target has nothing to do with the AA. To a certain extent, it is contrary to interests of Ukraine, since it will increase the portion of gas supplied to the EU bypassing Ukraine and diminish attention to its problems with Russia. Achievement of the target, the SGC extension to Central Asia in the first place, is unlikely.

Target by 2020

Establishment of the NIF supported back-to-back electricity interconnection between Georgia and Armenia.

Does not concern Ukraine. The target has nothing to do with the AA.

15. ENERGY EFFICIENCY, RENEWABLE ENERGY AND REDUCTION OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Target by 2020

*At least 100 Partner Countries' Local Authorities reduced urban CO2 emissions of 20%.
At least 50 Partner Countries' Local Authorities committed to more ambitious objectives.*

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA only provides for general commitments on encouraging local governments to carry out such activities and creating proper prerequisites for these. The Government of Ukraine may not assume obligations regarding the operation of local governments. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

*Funds' disbursement rates improved following policy reform in Partner Countries.
Progress on supported investment projects achieved to targets.
EU investment funds provided in compliance with EU and/or international environmental requirements.*

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA does not provide for formats of international co-operation or assistance that would be intermediated by or took into account arrangements with the IFIs. Nor does the issue of energy efficiency activities funding specify sources of funds. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

Partner countries on-track with Paris Agreement to communicate and implement their NDCs as well as their mid-century, long-term low GHG emission development strategies.

Alternative to what the AA provides. The AA does not take into account the particularities of climate commitments undertaken by Paris Agreement signatories. Thus, the AA will need elaboration to dovetail the two reform tracks in fighting climate change. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

Partner countries getting on-track with Paris Agreement transparency requirements.

Alternative to what the AA provides. The AA does not take into account the particularities of climate commitments undertaken by Paris Agreement signatories. Thus, the AA will need elaboration to dovetail the two reform tracks in fighting climate change. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

At least one major climate action investment facility per Partner Country in place.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA. The AA does not provide for formats of international co-operation or assistance that would be intermediated by or took into account arrangements with the IFIs. Nor does the issue of energy efficiency activities funding specify sources of funds. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

16. ENVIRONMENT AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Target by 2020

*At least 30% of River Basin Management Plans developed and a Water Framework Directive compliant management commenced.
Risks for the Black Sea degradation and target environmental quality identified and marine litter clean-up carried out in Georgia and Ukraine based on active public participation.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions. Like the approximation of Ukrainian legislation to that of the EU, the implementation of basin-based Integrated Water Resources Management is one of the main areas in EU-Ukraine co-operation on environmental issues (AA Arts. 361, 362 and 365). Annex XXX to Chapter 6 contains a section on "Water Quality and water resource management, including marine environment" and the Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy as amended by Decision No 2455/2001/EC and Directive 2009/31/EC). According to the AA, the WFD provisions on preparation of river basin management plans, consultations with the public and publication of these plans (WFD Arts. 13 and 14) should be implemented within 10 years of the entry into force of the AA. The Agreement (Annex XXX to Chapter 6) also lays down implementation timetables for provisions of Directive 2008/56/EC Directive establishing a framework for Community action in the field of marine environmental policy: initial assessment of marine waters should be implemented within four years (before 2020) of the entry into force of the AA, and establishment of a monitoring programme for ongoing assessment, within six years until 2021. No additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

*Share of and revenue from green economy sectors increased.
200 SMEs trained.
10% cost savings realised by 60 pilot enterprises due to cleaner production.
Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) legislation compliant with relevant Conventions and EU benchmarks and applied in line with the intended scope across all sectors.
1000 SMEs aware of green economy benefits.
Green growth and adaptation measures identified as part of sector-specific actions.*

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA. The commitments under the AA do not directly deal with these activities. However, resource

efficiency and thrift are one of the important mechanisms in implementing the principles of green economy and sustainable development, mentioned as strategic areas of co-operation in AA Arts. 360 and 361 of Title V Chapter 6 "Environment". Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

Illegal logging addressed, and level of illegal timber exports prevented.

Improved and transparent forest governance.

Improved livelihoods for people in forestry-dependent communities.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

AA Title V Chapter 6 "Environment" does not mention forest protection and governance but Title IV Chapter 13 "Trade and sustainable development" does pay special attention to the necessity to observe environmental product standards and requirements of international environmental agreements. In addition, AA Art. 294 "Trade in forest products" directly binds the Parties to promote the sustainable management of forest resources, work together to improve forest law enforcement and governance as well as promote trade in legal and sustainable forest products. Additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

National and sectoral adaptation plans in place.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

In AA Art. 361, climate change is the first on the list of areas where "co-operation shall aim at ... promoting measures at international level to deal with regional or global environmental problems". Preparation of climate change adaptation plans for economic sectors is a commitment of Paris Agreement member countries. Observation of multilateral environmental agreements is too a commitment under the AA. Its Art. 365 provides for the development and implementa-

tion of a policy on climate change. In particular, Annex XXXI to Chapter 6 mentions the development of an action plan for long-term mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. No additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

Improved on-line access to data and state of the environment analyses.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

In the list in AA Art. 361, environmental governance and access to environmental information is the second, following climate change among six areas for co-operation aimed at preserving, protecting, improving, and rehabilitating the quality of the environment. No additional monitoring of the target is required.

Target by 2020

Increased share of officially designated protected areas under the Emerald Network.

Improved management of existing designated areas.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

Nature protection, in particular conservation and protection of bio and landscape diversity (eco-networks), is an important co-operation area envisaged by AA Art. 361. Nature protection is also the essence of Annex XXX to Chapter 6, which lists EU Directives Ukraine has to gradually approximate its legislation to. *Inter alia*, before 2020, Ukraine must prepare an inventory of sites, designate these sites and establish priorities for their management in line with Directive 92/43/EC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora as amended by Directive 97/62/EC, 2006/105/EC and Regulation (EC) 1882/2003. In particular, the inventory of potential sites within the Emerald network and establishment of protection and management measures for these sites should be completed. No additional monitoring of the target is required.



Priority IV: Mobility and people-to-people contacts

17. VISA LIBERALISATION AND MOBILITY PARTNERSHIPS

This deliverable concerns AA Art. 16, which provides for joint establishment of an effective and preventive policy against illegal migration, smuggling of migrants and trafficking in human beings. Other issues of border management and migration concern Arts. 18, 19, 97-102, 401, 431 and 437. Despite deliverable's linkage with relevant provisions of the AA, the reform implementation monitoring within the VLAP framework cannot be carried out using only the tools of the AA Implementation Plan monitoring. What can be used, however, is data of the AA Implementation Plan on migration management, re-admission agreement implementation, border infrastructure reconstruction, personal data protection as well as interagency co-operation on security and fight against organised crime, terrorism and money laundering.

Target by 2020

Continuous fulfilment of VLAP benchmarks for Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and annual reporting by the Commission.

Effective implementation of all Mobility Partnerships, with balance between the 4 pillars (legal migration, irregular migration, migration and development, international protection), including circular migration, return and reintegration schemes.

Significant progress made towards the possible conclusion of VLAP with Armenia and subsequent visa-free travel for its citizens, if all benchmarks are met.

Consider in due course the opening of a Visa Liberalisation Dialogue with Azerbaijan, if conditions allow.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The continuous fulfilment of VLAP benchmarks supplements and elaborates on the provisions of AA Arts. 16-19 on movement of persons. It also correlates with the provisions of the Preamble on border management, migration, non-discrimination, cross-border co-operation, enhancing

people-to-people contacts and combating organised crime, terrorism and money laundering. Moreover, the target is in accord with relevant provisions of Arts. 3, 4, 20-24, 76, 80, 368, 291, 419-420, 431 and 437 as well as with the provisions of Arts. 15, 129 and 141 on personal data protection. The effective implementation of Mobility Partnerships thematically correlates with a number of AA provisions but is not relevant in the contest of the Agreement, since Ukraine does not have such a partnership.

Target by 2020

Modernised network of Border Crossing Points among Partners and between them and EU Member States.

Contribution to enhanced trade flows and mobility among partners as well as between them and the EU.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target thematically corresponds to the AA Art. 77 provision on public availability of relevant notices of an administrative nature at customs offices and border crossing points as well as the Art. 368 provision on "removing administrative, technical, cross-border and other obstacles" for the movement of passengers and goods. The items dealing with border infrastructure correlate with the Chapter 27 provisions on cross-border co-operation. Monitoring of reconstruction and modernisation of border crossing points between Ukraine and other EaP member countries should be carried out separately. On other sections of Ukraine's border, such monitoring can be partially carried out within the framework of the monitoring of the AA Implementation Action Plan.

18. YOUTH, EDUCATION, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURE

Target by 2020

Along Civil Society Fellowships for youth, partnerships for Entrepreneurship and transnational co-operation projects implemented, with 100 youth organisations and organisations addressing youth issues supported and reduced skills - labour market demands mismatch.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA does not single out the area of youth entrepreneurship support. However, its Art. 434(a) mentions facilitating the integration of young people into society at large by encouraging their active citizenship and spirit of initiative. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts, not envisaged by the AA.

Target by 2020

*Over 1 200 bilateral projects among Higher Education Institutions and 110 capacity building projects carried out.
Over 20 000 mobility opportunities in the field of education.
Around 350 Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees full scholarships awarded.
Over 3 000 projects, 2 600 teachers and 1 000 schools connected via eTwinning Plus²⁴.
Improved quality and relevance of education systems, modernised teaching methods and reinforced employability of graduates.
Progress in adoption and effective implementation of legislation and policies in line with the European Higher Education Area and Bologna principles.
Increased internationalisation and excellence of higher education systems in Partner Countries.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target enhances the AA priorities where it comes to the issues of education and youth covered by Title V. The AA implies monitoring of the target.

Target by 2020

*Over 60 000 young people and youth workers from Partner Countries took part in Erasmus+.
Partner Countries' youth benefits from facilitated inter-cultural dialogue and increased employability and civic skills.
Enhanced openness/inclusiveness in EU-Partner Countries co-operation.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA provides for facilitating the integration of young people into society at large by encouraging their active citizenship and spirit of initiative (Art. 434(a)) and helping young people acquire knowledge, skills and competencies outside the educational systems, including through volunteering, and recognising the value of such experiences (Art. 434(b)). Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts, not envisaged by the AA.

Target by 2020

*Partner Countries reduce youth unemployment and NEETs²⁷ rates.
Partner Countries develop employment and transition strategies and skills-development actions.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA provides for facilitating the integration of young people into society at large by encouraging their active citizenship and spirit of initiative (Art. 434(a)) and helping young people acquire knowledge, skills and competencies outside the educational systems, including through volunteering, and recognising the value of such experiences (Art. 434(b)). Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts, not envisaged by the AA.

Target by 2020

*Enrolment in vocational education and training is increased.
The percentage of vocational education and training graduates in employment or further study after six months is increased.*

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target enhances the AA priorities where it comes to the issues of education and youth covered by Title V. The AA implies monitoring of the target.

Target by 2020

Reinforced co-operation under the Creative Europe network in the Neighbourhood.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA contains certain articles dealing with support of exchange (the mobility of scientists, young people and teachers). The Creative Europe programme in Ukraine aims at facilitating co-operation in culture and extending cultural exchange as well as the mobility of pieces of art and artists of Ukraine and the EU. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Cultural and creative sectors are integrated into cultural policy reforms and strategic document of Partner Countries.

Civil society and other relevant non-state actors in Partner Countries actively participate in the formulation of culture policies and in capacity building activities.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The focus on the development and implementation of cultural policies is an important supplement to the intercultural dialogue between individuals and organisations that represent interests of civil society and cultural institutions of Ukraine and the EU. The integration of cultural and creative sectors into the cultural policy reform in Ukraine elaborates on AA provisions. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Increased number of Partner Countries' researchers and research organisation benefitting from opportunities for mobility, training, and co-operation under Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The AA contains certain articles dealing with support of exchange (the mobility of scientists, young people and teachers). Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

19. EASTERN PARTNERSHIP EUROPEAN SCHOOL

Target by 2020

EaP European school set up.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

The target is only relevant for the regional dimension of the EU-Ukraine co-operation policy. Its achievement will neither be in conflict with the AA nor supplement it constructively. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Network of Partner Countries' universities will be up and running focusing on EU studies and excellence in teaching.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA does not single out support of programmes focused on studying EU practices but mentions intensified co-operation in reforming and modernising the higher education systems (Art. 431(a)) and promoting convergence in the field of higher education (Art. 431(b)). Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts, not envisaged by the AA.

20. RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Target by 2020

Associated countries' research and innovation stakeholders integrated in relevant EU networks/platforms, and alignment of associated countries' and EU's strategies for research and innovation.

Full access of Partner Countries to all Horizon 2020 funding schemes for individual researchers/innovators.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA mentions the Horizon 2020 programme but does not elaborate. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Reinforced co-operation in nuclear research (fission – direct and indirect actions - and fusion).

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The AA does not mention the target. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Substantially increased participation of Partner Countries in Horizon 2020. Science Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy Recommendations "EU-EaP beyond 2020" based on fact-finding reports for Partner Countries. Six new EU-EaP Innovation Clusters (one per country) established, and innovation managers in Partner Countries trained.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

National public research and innovation systems improved in performance, competitiveness.

Additional, not envisaged explicitly by the AA.

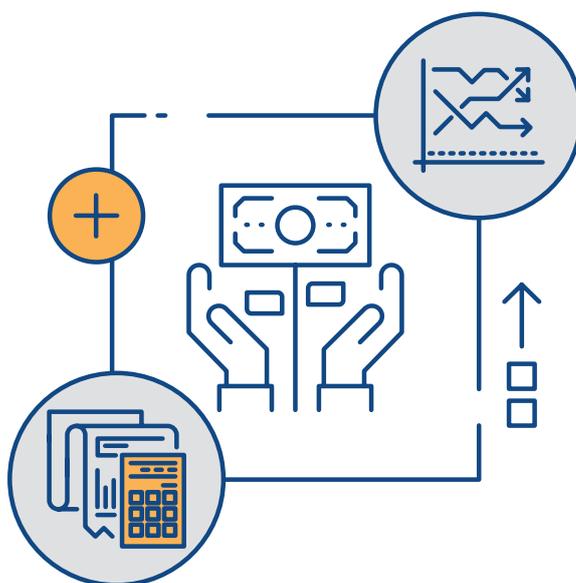
The target's content is in conformity with the AA. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.

Target by 2020

Six National research and education networks in the region integrated in pan-European GÉANT network, decreasing digital divide. Eduroam deployed and integration with GÉANT services stimulated.

Supplements and elaborates on AA provisions.

The target partially corresponds to the AA. Monitoring of the target requires additional efforts.





Annexes Abbreviations

- AA** – EU-Ukraine Association Agreement
- ACAA** – Agreements on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products
- CERT** – Computer Emergency Response Team
- CBRN safety** – chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear safety
- CFSP** – Common Foreign and Security Policy
- CSDP** – Common Security and Defense Policy
- CSO** – civil society organization
- DCFTA** – Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area
- GRECO** – Group of States against Corruption
- EaP** – Eastern Partnership
- EaP CSF** – Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum
- EIA** – Environmental Impact Assessments
- EU** – European Union
- FDI** – foreign direct investment
- ICT** – information and computer technologies
- IFIs** – international financial institutions
- JSWD** – the Joint Staff Working Document
- NABU** – National Anticorruption Bureau of Ukraine
- NACP** – National Agency on Corruption Prevention
- NGO** – non-governmental organization
- PAR** – Public Administration Reform
- SEA** – Strategic Environmental Assessment
- SMEs** – small and medium-sized enterprises
- TEN-T** – Trans-European Transport Network
- UA CSP** – Ukrainian Side of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform
- UCIPR** – Ukrainian Centre for Independent Political Research
- UNDP** – United Nations Development Program
- UNECE** – United Nation Economic Commission for Europe
- UNP EaP CSF** – Ukrainian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum
- USAID** – US Agency for International Development
- VLAP** – Visa Liberalization Action Plan
- WFD** – EU Water Framework Directive



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- **TETYANA IVANINA** is an expert on gender policy and gender budgeting. She graduated from the Poltava State V.G. Korolenko Pedagogical Institute with advanced studies at the Department of Political Science of the Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University. Her area of interest is gender policy and budgeting, women rights and community development. She is a chair of the Board of the "Bureau for Gender Strategies and Budgeting". This organization has been a member of the UNP since 2016 (Working Group 1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability"). Tetyana is a member of the Board of the NGO "Women's Consortium of Ukraine".
- **MAKSYM KORYAVETS** graduated from the Chernihiv National University of Technology (MA in Finance). He worked as a manager and later vice president of the NGO "Polissya Foundation for International and Regional Studies" from 2010 till 2016. In 2012-2014 Maksym Koryavets was a Chief Specialist of the State Budget Institution "Chernihiv Regional Center for Investments and Development". Since 2016 he has been a Chairman of the Board of NGO "Polissya Foundation for International and Regional Studies". His area of interests includes digital economy, digital markets and small and medium business. In 2017-2018 he fulfils duties of the Coordinator of the UNP Working Group 2 "Economic Integration and Convergence with EU Policies".
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● **ANDRIY KULAKOV** is the Program Director at Internews-Ukraine and a media expert with significant managerial experience in media and non-governmental organizations. He graduated from the National University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and worked as a journalist and editor in printed media, radio stations and TV projects, as well as the International Renaissance Foundation. At Internews-Ukraine he is responsible for managing all projects, including those supported by the EU Delegation to Ukraine, USAID, the World Bank and embassies of the EU Member States. He also represents Internews-Ukraine in the international platforms of non-governmental organizations, including in the EaP CSF. In 2017 he coordinated the UNP Working Group 1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability".

● **IVAN KULCHYTSKY** graduated from the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, where he later worked as a lecturer and researcher. Since 2004, he is one of the leading experts in the preparation of scientific, technical and innovation projects for participation in the EU Framework Programmes contests. Currently he is the National contact point of the Horizon 2020 Program in the area of information and communication technologies and the President of the European Innovation Agency NGO, which has been a member of the UNP WG4 since 2011. Ivan Kulchytsky is also the member of the Ukrainian Side of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform; in 2017 he coordinated the UA CSP Working Group 4 "Science and Technologies, Information Society, Education, Training and Youth, Culture and Sports".

● **VOLODYMYR KUPRIY** graduated from the Kherson State Pedagogical Institute with an MA in Ukrainian language and literature and foreign literature) and the National Academy for Public Administration under the President of Ukraine with an MA in Public Administration. He holds a PhD Decree in Public Administration. He has worked in public service and non-governmental organizations. Volodymyr teaches public policy analysis, strategic planning and foundations of democracy at higher educational institutions of Ukraine. He has experience in training and expert work in various international technical assistance programs. He was a member of the Commission on Supreme Corps of Civil Service and served during 2007-2017 as the Executive Director of the CCC Creative Center (a member of the UNP WG1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability"). In 2013 he was a co-coordinator of EaP CSF WG1. Since October 2017 – the First Deputy of the Head of the National Agency of Ukraine on Public Service.

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vate organizations, served as the Deputy Director for international affairs of the International Institute for Humanitarian Technologies, First Secretary (political issues) at the Embassy of Ukraine in Serbia and a foreign and security policy analyst at UCIPR. He is the author of series of analytical articles on NATO transformation, European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine, regional and energy security, Ukraine's relations with international organizations, the Balkan countries and the foreign policy of France.

● **YAROSLAV MINKIN** is a civic activist and a founder of the youth organization "STAN". He is a specialist in the development of intercultural dialogue in Ukraine, an organizer of artistic events of direct action and campaigns for protecting public interests and a promoter of cultural diversity and respect for human rights. By education he is a teacher, having graduated from the Physics and Math Faculty of the Luhansk Pedagogical University. For a long time Yaroslav worked on the democratization of cultural policy in Donbas but in March 2014 was forced to leave Luhansk and start public activities in Ivano-Frankivsk. Since 2015 Yaroslav has been coordinating educational, cultural and research initiatives in Ivano-Frankivsk and throughout Ukraine, creating a virtual museum of sociocultural movements in Luhansk of the beginning of the 21st century and working as an independent expert and a trainer in non-formal education. For 2018, he has been elected to fulfil the duties of the Coordinator of the UNP Working Group 4 "Contacts between people".

● **VERONIKA MOVCHAN** studied economics at the National University of "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" (in 1997 she obtained a BA with honors and in 1999 an MA with honors). She worked at the World Bank mission in Kyiv (1998-1999), Harvard Institute for International Development (1999-2000), and held an internship at Stan-

ford University (2000-2001). Since 2001, she has been working at the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (UNP Working Group 2 "Economic Integration and Convergence with EU Policies"), first as a researcher and since 2005 as an Academic Director. Also, as an independent short-term consultant, Veronika participates in projects commissioned by the World Bank, the EU, UNDP, USAID, etc. in the EaP and other countries of the region. Since 2014 she is a member of the VoxUkraine Editorial Board. Her main research interests are in the sphere of macroeconomics, primarily international trade, regional integration, WTO, assessing non-tariff trade restrictions, modeling the effects of economic policy changes using general equilibrium models. Recently, she focused her research on the implementation of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, as well as similar agreements with Georgia and Moldova.

● **DENYS NAZARENKO** graduated from the Institute of International Relations of the Kyiv International University with a BA in International Law, and also holds an LLM in Energy Law and Policy from University of Dundee, Scotland (UK). Since 2016 he has been working as a senior legal analyst with DiXi Group where Denys is engaged with Energy Sector Reforms, European Integration and Energy Efficiency issues. DiXi Group is a member of UNP Working Group 3 "Environment, Climate Change and Energy Security" since it was established.

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"Women's Consortium of Ukraine" and "Bureau of Gender Strategies and Budgeting" NGOs. The area of her interests includes gender budgeting, women's rights and the rights of a child. The All-Ukrainian "Women's Consortium of Ukraine" NGO is a member of UNP Working Group 1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability". In 2017 Yulia Savelyeva was appointed "Human Rights and gender equality" Subgroup's Coordinator.

● **LESYA SHEVCHENKO** is the President of the "Foundation "Open Society" NGO (member of the Working Group 1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability"). She holds an MA degree in Public Administration from the Academy of State Administration under the President of Ukraine and an MA in Business Administration from Kyiv National Economic University. Lesia is an expert on anti-corruption policy and public participation. Her skills cover project management and institutional development. Shevchenko led more than 70 successful projects in the area of public policy. She is a Senior Expert of the RPR-Kyiv Group of non-governmental organizations jointly pursuing the agenda of reform for Ukraine, a member of the public council at Asset Recovery and Management Agency (ARMA) and a coordinator of Parliamentary Expert Group on European integration (PEG).

● **IRYNA SUSHKO** is the head of the "Europe without Barriers" NGO since 2009. In 2006-2011 she worked as a history teacher at Kyiv "KROK" University and Kyiv Business Lyceum. Since 2001 Iryna was an expert and project manager at the research Centre for Peace, Conversion and Foreign Policy of Ukraine. She was the leader of many international and national projects researching, advocating and supporting Ukraine's integration in the EU. She is an author and co-author of informational and analytical publications devoted to the public freedom, in particular, freedom of

movement and interpersonal contacts. Since 2011 she has been an expert in two international projects: European Integration Index for EaP Countries and EaP Visa Liberalization Index (in the area of justice, freedom and security). "Europe without Barriers" organization is professionally engaged in areas mobility, support of reforms of security and public safety policies, management of migration and border control, and also carries out advocacy activities in the area of freedom of movement of the persons. In 2016 Iryna Sushko was the National Coordinator of the UNP.

● **MARIIA SYMONOVA** is an international communications and GR specialist. She graduated with a BA in Transportation Technology and Systems and International Maritime Business from Odessa National Maritime University in 2014. Mariia has been working in the third sector and international CSO institutions for three years. Her field of study and expertise is civic engagement policies in the Eastern Partnership and the Black Sea regions. During 2015-2017 Maria was a Coordinator of UNP Working Group 4 "People-to-People Contacts", delegated by the Clean universities Anti-Corruption Campaign. In 2015-2016 she also managed the group on youth policy reforms at the Reanimation Package of Reforms. Mariia is a Youth Delegate of Ukraine to the Council of Europe.

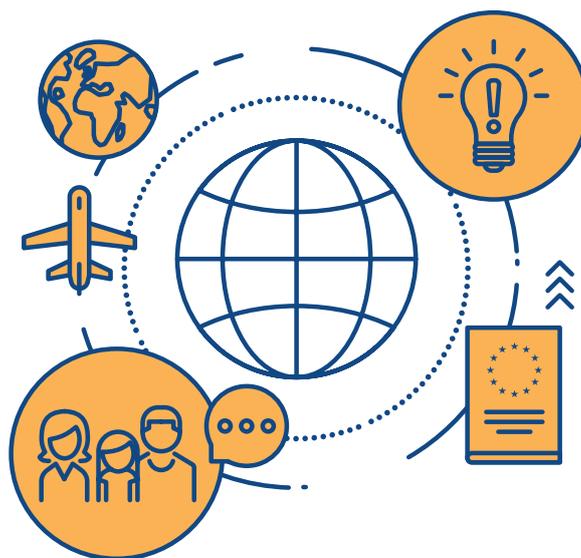
● **YULIA TYSHCHENKO** is the head of the programme for democratic transformations and co-founder of the Ukrainian Centre for Independent Political Research (UCIPR), a member of the Anti-Discrimination Coalition and a member of the Crisis Management Initiative (Martti Ahtisaari Centre). She graduated from the Philosophy department of the Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University and pursued postgraduate studies at the Institute of Philosophy of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. Yulia worked at the Presidential Administration, the National Security and

Defence Council and the National Institute for Strategic Studies. She has managed over 30 projects on establishing and developing democratic institutions and civil society organizations in Ukraine, as well as on electoral processes analysis, identity politics, intercultural communication and European integration issues. Yulia was a coordinator and expert of the Public Monitoring of the Implementation of Ukraine-EU Association Agreement Agenda and Ukrainian National Convention projects. UCIPR is a member of UNP Working Group 1 "Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance and Stability" since it was established.

● **YURIY VDOVENKO** graduated from the Cherniv National University of Technology with a Degree in Finance. He holds PhD in Economics and is an author of more than 90 scientific, analytical and popular papers. Yuriy's interests include European integration, cross-border cooperation, local economic development and

public private partnerships. He joined civil society in 2004 and the UNP in 2010. He coordinated the EaP CSF Working Group 2 "Economic integration and convergence with EU policies" and was a member of the EaP CSF Steering Committee.

● **VIKTOR ZHYKH** graduated from the Dnipropetrovsk National University with a degree in Mathematics. Since 1992 he is a private entrepreneur and a civic activist since 2010. Currently he is a Regional Coordinator of the NGO "Fortetsya" in Dnipropetrovsk region. Its main activity focus is the development of small and medium Ukrainian business. NGO "Fortetsya" became a member of the UNP Working Group 2 "Economic integration and convergence with EU policies" in 2010; Viktor Zhykh was elected as a Coordinator of the subgroup "Regulatory environment and development of small and medium business" in 2017.



The background features a large, stylized geometric design. It consists of several overlapping shapes: a large yellow diamond-like shape, a white diamond-like shape nested within it, and a blue shape that forms a large, curved, semi-circular element at the bottom left. The overall composition is dynamic and modern.

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