

## SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR THE 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM (KYIV, UKRAINE, 20-21 NOVEMBER 2015)

Participants will be selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- **Eligibility** - applicants must be non-governmental, non-partisan (not institutionally affiliated to a political party) organisations that respect democratic values. They should also be bona fide, independent organisations in their own right.
- **Diversity of spheres of activity** – to ensure the involvement of all the major components of civil society and adequate representation for each of the thematic working groups<sup>[1]</sup> and subgroups<sup>[2]</sup>.
- **Involvement** – applicants should be involved in activities relevant to Eastern Partnership priorities.
- **Rotation** - whereby eligible, independent CSOs that have not participated in previous Forum annual events are given priority over those that have participated in previous Forum meetings.
- **Involvement** – we invite applicants who were actively involved in the activities of previous Civil Society Fora, in the work of the national platforms and working groups, as well as those who express their intention and capacity to contribute to the work of the CSF in 2015/2016.

The CSF Steering Committee in consultation with the European External Action Service/European Commission will carry out the selection of the participants to the EaP CSF 2015. The selection procedure will be twofold.

### I. Preparation of three shortlists:

- (1) By EaP Country Facilitators elected by the CSF annual assembly in 2014 and supported by CSF national platforms.
- (2) By the thematic working group coordinators elected by the CSF in 2014.
- (3) By EU delegations in the six EaP countries.

### II. The final decision is made by the CSF Steering Committee members from the shortlisted organisations

The decision is made on the basis of the above-mentioned criteria plus bearing in mind:

- Balance in numbers in each working group between EU participants and EaP participants.
- Involvement in activities relevant to EaP-related priorities.
- Country (a minimum of 10% participants from each EaP country and a minimum of 25% from the EU as a whole).
- Participation in the previous Forum (with a minimum 40% of new<sup>[3]</sup> (at least half of them CSOs, that have not participated in the previous 5 Fora) participants and up to a maximum 60% of those who participated in the CSF Assembly in 2014) insofar as the number of new applications is high enough to make this formula possible. The formula applies primarily to each country list and to the EU participants, but will also be applied as far as possible in the respective working group allocations.
- Contribution to the activities of the Civil Society Forum, the work of the national platforms and working groups, in previous years (based on the evaluation of National Facilitator/Coordinator and Working Group Coordinators) - for those who participated in previous fora and intention and capacity to contribute to the work of the CSF in 2015/2016 and relevance of activities of the applicant's organisation to EaP CSF based on the information provided in the application form - for the new applicants.

**The final list of CSOs invited to participate to the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum prepared by the CSF Steering Committee will be consulted with the European External Action Service/European Commission.**

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<sup>[1]</sup>Working Groups: WG1 Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance & Stability, WG2 Economic Integration and Convergence with EU legislation WG3 Environment, Climate Change & Energy Security, WG4 Contacts between People, WG5 Social & Labour Policies and Social Dialogue

<sup>[2]</sup> WG1 subgroups: 1. Public administration sub-group 2. Visa facilitation sub-group 3. Election monitoring reform sub-group 4. Human rights sub-group 5. Fight against corruption sub-group 6. Media freedom sub-group 7. Judiciary reform sub-group 8. Regional cooperation and confidence building; WG2 subgroups: 1. Environment & Climate Change 2. SME Policy 3. Agriculture & Rural Development 4. Transport 5. Trade and Trade Regulated Cooperation linked to DCFTAs 6. Territorial, regional and cross border cooperation 7. Integration of ICT infrastructure in the EU; WG3 subgroups: 1. Environmental Governance 2. Energy Security 3. Climate change 4. Biodiversity 5. Sustainable Development; WG4 subgroups: 1. Youth 2. Culture 3. Education 4. Contacts between seniors

<sup>[3]</sup> Those who have not participated in the previous annual meeting of the EaP CSF