

# DELIVERABLES OF THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND OF THE GOVERNMENT OF GEORGIA - 21 NOVEMBER 2018



The European Union  
for Georgia

## ECONOMY, TRADE AND CONNECTIVITY

- EU/International Financial Institutions support and investments under the upcoming **Energy Efficiency Programme** under the 2018 bilateral allocation to advance Georgia on key areas of legislation as this is an essential pre-condition for the planned investments.
- **Scientific support on Smart Specialisation**: institutional capacity building assistance and support by Joint Research Centre for the adoption of the smart specialisation (S3) principles.
- Support to alignment with EU acquis on **Intellectual Property Rights** through cooperation with EU Intellectual Property Office; included in the Annual Action Programme 2018 (to be signed on 21 Nov.)
- Roll-out of **Macro-Financial Assistance**: policy conditions to be fulfilled in the areas of public finance management, financial sector, social and labour market policies, as well as the business environment.
- Support provided under EU4Digital: Adoption by Georgia of its **Broadband Strategy** and implementation thereof.
- Definition of priority investments in line with the **Transport Investment** Action Plan; €3.4 billion of investments for 18 priority projects (road, rail, ports, airports) of which €2 billion new investments by 2030 have been identified in the plan for Georgia to be financed from public and private funds – possibly using grants from the Neighbourhood Investment Platform leveraging financing from international financial institutions.
- Invitation to join the EU initiatives on **road safety**: European Road Safety Charter and project European Day Without a Road Death. Proposal to organize a regional Road Safety Conference in July 2019.
- Signature of the Financing Agreement for the Sector Reform Contract on “**Economic and Business Development in Georgia**”
- Identification of **new products and services** where Georgia could develop further export potential; a roadmap for the new export products could be developed by Georgia (with EU to help to put together list of regulatory hurdles in Georgia that impede exports).
- New phase of **European Neighborhood Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development** in the pipeline under the Annual Action Programme 2019; support will be provided to improve export opportunities for Georgia under the Deep Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement through better sanitary and phyto-sanitary and food safety systems, approximated EU standards, and increase awareness of sanitary and phyto-sanitary/food safety matters amongst producers, food business operators and the general public.
- Cooperation within the framework of **Customs2020**: possible in longer term (with sufficient level of approximation reached); indicative turning point would be the harmonisation and implementation of the Georgia's Customs Code in line with the Union Customs Code and the accession of the country to the Convention on a common transit.
- Introduction of **EU Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics** in Georgia (EUROSTAT): technical support available if certain conditions are satisfied; the way to handle the question of administrative authority over the different territorial units is to be analyzed. Further support available under the new regional European Neighbourhood Policy East Programme on statistics (to start in 2019).
- Request for expansion of the **electronic identification and trust services** to Georgia (Regulation 2014/910): Dialogue and voluntary cooperation to be reinforced through the specific EU4 Digital regional network on trust services and e-identification. Potential mutual recognition in the long term provided dialogue on legal cooperation ensures comparable legal safeguards.

## EDUCATION, RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND CULTURE

- Additional possibilities for exchanges under **Erasmus+** (topping up of the already allocated regional amounts); with appropriate technical assistance from the EU analysis of cost and benefits for Georgia moving in the direction of becoming an **Erasmus+ Programme Country** in the long-term.
- Support to **mobility of Georgian researchers** to contribute to furthering scientific excellence in Georgia and increase competitiveness in EU Framework Programmes, included under the Annual Action Programme 2018 (signed on 21 Nov.)
- Continuation of the successful implementation of the **Eastern Partnership European School** based in Tbilisi; cooperation and co-financing with the Government of Georgia required for the **second phase**.
- Organization of a **study visit to the Joint Research Centre Ispra** site for policy makers and researchers.
- More favourable conditions for participation in **Horizon Europe** programme.
- Signature of Agreement for the Sector Reform Contract on “Skills Development and Matching for Labour Market Needs”

## JUSTICE AND INTERNAL SECURITY (INCLUDING CIVIL PROTECTION)

- Strategic cooperation within **EUROPOL**. Encourage strengthened cooperation in the areas of fight against organized property crime, excise fraud and document fraud, where Georgian organized crime groups are particularly active.
- Entry into force of cooperation agreement with **EUROJUST**, possible end 2019 provided the timely adoption by Council and Parliament.
- Implementation of the **Administrative Arrangement with the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (Commissioner Stylianides)** signed in July 2018 through a Multiannual Action Plan. Expected stability in the civil protection structure in Georgia.
- Encourage further application to the **Union Civil Protection Mechanism** calls for proposals, calls for exercises; organisation of at least one advisory mission. Membership not possible.
- **Access to the Joint Research Centre disaster risk management tools** in the area of floods, wildfires and droughts to meet Georgia’s natural hazard priorities. Continue cooperation an access to **Copernicus** information and products.
- Support under **new SAFE Programme** on Security, Accountability and Fight against Crime in Georgia. Importance of continued implementation of visa liberalisation benchmarks.
- Strengthen reform efforts in the area of law enforcement and justice. Expected cooperation from Georgian Ministry of Justice on the **justice surveys** launched by the World Bank.
- Support on **Strategic Communication** to be provided through capacity building and provision of a media monitoring platform to StratComm Departments of relevant Georgian Ministries by the Joint Research Centre.
- **Cyber security**: cooperation on the re-use of public sector information, under Directive 2013/37 and on high-level of security of network and information systems across the Union, under Directive 2016/1148. Support could be provided via SAFE and a new programme on cybersecurity to start in 2019.