

## Common goals

EU-Georgia relations are governed by the **Partnership and Co-operation Agreement (PCA)**, entered into force on 1 July 1999) that serves as a political and legal framework for cooperation, as well as the **Action Plan** under the EU's **European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)**. The ENP was launched in 2004 to prevent the emergence of new dividing lines in Europe and strengthen the prosperity, stability and security of the enlarging EU and its Neighbours.

The bilateral **ENP Action Plan (AP)** is a mutually agreed political document laying out the strategic objectives of bilateral cooperation for a five-year period (2007-2011), with short and medium-term priorities. It is preceded by a **Country Report** prepared by the European Commission. By agreeing the AP, the EU and Georgia commit themselves to developing deeper economic integration and strengthening bilateral political cooperation, including on:

- Foreign policy;
- Justice;
- Energy;
- Transport;
- Poverty Reduction;
- Freedom and Security, notably in the field of border management and migration;
- Environment

## Cooperation priorities

The main EU-Georgia co-operation objectives and priority fields are outlined in two key documents: the Country Strategy Paper (CSP, 2007-2013) and the National Indicative Programme (NIP, 2011 - 2013).

### Identifying Objectives

The **Country Strategy Paper (CSP)**, prepared by the European Commission, covers the political, economic, social and institutional situation in Georgia. The report assesses when and how relations with the country can deepen and is the basis on which a political decision is taken for the next stage - the Action Plan.

Georgia's CSP includes **eight priority areas** for action: Rule of Law - Improvement of Business Climate - Economic Development and Poverty Reduction - Co-operation on Justice, Law, Security (JLS) and Border Management - Regional Co-operation - Resolution of Internal Conflicts - Co-operation on Foreign and Security Policy - Transport and Energy.

### Four NIP Priorities

The NIP funds four priority areas in Georgia, through the **ENPI**, with a total indicative allocation of €180.29 million for the period 2011-2013:

- **Democratic Development, Rule of Law and Governance** (€45- €63 million), supporting media freedom, political pluralism, human rights and civil society as well as justice sector reform, public finance management and public administration reform.
- **Economic Development** (€27- €45 million) covering **trade and investment and regulatory alignment** in particular through market and regulatory reform and preparations for a future deep and comprehensive Free Trade Agreement with the EU and support to reforms in line with the ENP Action Plan priorities.
- **Regional Development, Sustainable Economic and Social Development and Poverty Reduction** (€61- €81 million) covering social reforms and social protection, sustainable development, including environmental protection, education, skills development and mobility.
- **Support for Peaceful Settlement of Georgia's Internal Conflicts** (€9- €18 million).

## Find out more...

### Delegation of the European Union to Georgia

<http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/georgia>

### European External Action Service

[http://eeas.europa.eu/external\\_relations/georgia/index\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/external_relations/georgia/index_en.htm)

### DG EuropeAid

[http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/country-cooperation/georgia/georgia\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/neighbourhood/country-cooperation/georgia/georgia_en.htm)

### ENP

[http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm)

### ENPI

[http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/pdf/oj\\_l310\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/pdf/oj_l310_en.pdf)

### ENPI Info Centre

[www.enpi-info.eu](http://www.enpi-info.eu)

### EUMM

<http://www.eumm.eu>

**"The European Union is made up of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders".**

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## A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROSPERITY

# The European Union and Georgia



Delegation of the European Union to Georgia



Ties between the European Union (EU) and Georgia have been steadily growing since the 1990s, leading towards an ever closer partnership. Relations particularly intensified after the 2003 “Rose Revolution”, when the EU reiterated its pledge to back the country’s commitment for economic, social and political reform.

The EU is supporting Georgia’s efforts to implement an ambitious programme of aligning itself with European standards through activities carried out within the country on mutually agreed priority fields. It is keen to see Georgia

succeed in its ambition to become a modern prosperous country and is committed to help this Partner find peaceful solutions to its internal conflicts.

Following the military conflict of August 2008, the EU took a lead in contributing to stability in Georgia.

The Delegation of the European Union to Georgia, which opened in Tbilisi in 1995, plays a key role in taking bilateral relations and cooperation to a new level, facilitating their further development and cooperation between the country’s government on the one hand and the EU institutions on the other. It has full diplomatic status and its mandate includes the negotiation and co-ordination of the EU co-operation programmes in Georgia.



## How European Union assistance works

Georgia benefits from various financial instruments developed by the EU to effectively implement its assistance programmes to the Neighbouring countries.

The key one is the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), launched in January 2007 to implement agreements under the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP). The ENPI provides assistance to 17 countries: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Russia, Syria, Tunisia and Ukraine. With a budget of €12 billion for 2007-2013, the ENPI replaces the two previous assistance programmes, TACIS for the Eastern neighbours and MEDA in the South.

## Other cooperation mechanisms

Other cooperation mechanisms are:

- **Development Co-operation Instrument (DCI)** - helping eradicate poverty;
- **European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)** - supporting liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law;
- **Instrument for Stability (IfS)** - providing an effective, timely, flexible and integrated response to crises, emerging crises or continued political instability (e.g. conflicts in Abkhazia and South Ossetia);
- **Food Security and Poverty Reduction Programme (FSP)** – facilitating the reduction of poverty through budgetary assistance;
- **Macro-Finance Assistance Instrument (MFA)** – providing support to the balance of payments and budget support medium-term loans and grants (with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank).



## Wider Regional Cooperation

In spring 2009, the EU launched the **Eastern Partnership (EaP)**, that aims to support political and socio-economic reforms in Georgia, as well as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine, and foresees stronger political engagement with the EU, namely:

- The prospect of a new generation of Association Agreements\*;
- Far-reaching integration into the EU economy with deep free trade agreements;
- Easier travel through gradual visa liberalisation and measures to tackle illegal immigration;
- Enhanced energy security arrangements;
- Increased financial assistance.



Georgia also takes an active part in the **Black Sea Synergy**, an EU Regional Co-operation Initiative launched in 2007 which brings together the Black Sea littoral states and their neighbours. It focuses on areas of common interest and concern, from environment and energy to regional frozen conflicts. **Cross-Border Co-operation (CBC)** and working with civil society are also important parts of the Black Sea Synergy.

\* In 2010 the EU launched negotiations on the Association Agreement with Georgia

## Post-conflict relief

Since the early 1990s, the EU has been assisting Georgia’s efforts to overcome the consequences of internal conflicts. It has actively supported humanitarian, economic rehabilitation and confidence-building dialogue activities as an important measure towards building greater trust between the conflict-affected populations.

Assistance ranges from projects improving the living conditions of internally displaced persons and help to small business and NGOs, to the development of income-generation activities and the building of the capacity of institutions to deal with conflict issues.

With its post-conflict rehabilitation projects implemented in Georgia’s Abkhazia and South Ossetia, the EU was the largest donor in the two breakaway regions until August 2008. Although still able to support projects for the local population in Abkhazia, EC-funded projects inside South Ossetia came to an end since August 2008.

At the Georgia Donors’ Conference held in Brussels in October 2008, the EU pledged funding assistance of up to €500 million within a comprehensive post-conflict financial aid package covering the period 2008-2010. This budget includes the €35 million financing the European Union Monitoring Mission (EUMM) and the ENPI allocation 2008-2010.

The EUMM in Georgia is an autonomous mission led by the EU under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The mission was launched in October 2008, in order to observe the compliance of EU-mediated agreements between Moscow and Tbilisi.