The Brussels Summit adopted the **revised Eastern Partnership multilateral architecture** to contribute to the goals of the Eastern Partnership, particularly by supporting the **implementation of the "20 Deliverables for 2020"** as endorsed by the **2017 Eastern Partnership Summit Declaration**. The revised architecture will take into account the provisions of the EU **Global Strategy** and of the reviewed **European Neighbourhood Policy**, as well as the key global policy goals set by the **Sustainable Development Goals** of the UN 2030 Agenda and the European Consensus on Development.

The revised architecture aims to refine the process of consulting, steering and enabling policy implementation in order to jointly and effectively work towards reaching the "20 Deliverables for 2020". The revised architecture facilitates closer inter-Platform/Panel cooperation, enhanced engagement with relevant stakeholders and strategic, result-oriented activities. The priorities of the Eastern Partnership regional and bilateral multiannual programming documents will also be reflected in order to improve the **link between policy dialogue and financial assistance**.

The 2018-19 Work Programme is being extended to 2020 in view of the Eastern Partnership Summit expected during the Croatian Presidency of the European Council in the first half of the year. At this stage, the focus is on the achievement of the four deliverables outlined in the 20 Deliverables for 2020 [Deliverables 9-12] which are specific to this platform.

**Overall objectives and role of the Platforms**

The Eastern Partnership **Platforms** correspond to the four key priorities for cooperation:

- Economic development and market opportunities;
- Strengthening Institutions and good governance;
- Connectivity, energy efficiency, environment and climate change;
- Mobility and people-to-people contacts.

The Platforms are tasked with ensuring and monitoring progress of the implementation of the "20 Deliverables for 2020", while exploring synergies and cross-fertilisation across the architecture to effectively support comprehensive reforms. In this context, while Panels advance the work at
technical level under each of the "20 Deliverables", the Platforms steer and monitor them, notably with a view of reporting to the Foreign Affairs Ministerial, with the active engagement of the Senior Officials Meetings. Each platform will approve a yearly report on the basis of inputs from the Panels, including political messages to feed high-level political discussions such as sectoral Ministerial meetings, Informal Partnership Dialogues and, ultimately, the Foreign Affairs Ministerial.

This Work Programme translates the objectives of the revised architecture and the "20 Deliverables for 2020" document into **concrete steps for delivering results**. Within the core objectives of the four Platforms, the Work Programme can be reviewed and adapted, as appropriate, on the occasion of future Platform meetings. The work of the Platform and the Panels will be in line with the objectives pursued through the cross-cutting deliverables on civil society, gender equality and strategic communication.

The Platform will strive to ensure **ownership, engagement and exchanges** with relevant stakeholders in Partner countries and EU Member States at all levels: Ministers, representatives of the national Parliaments through EURONEST, local and regional authorities through CORLEAP, civil society organisations through the Civil Society Forum, International Financial Institutions, business representatives as well as experts and specialised organisations when relevant.

**Core objectives of Platform 1**

- Strengthen Partner Countries’ **rule of law and anti-corruption** mechanisms;
- Support the implementation of key **judicial reforms** in Partner Countries;
- Contribute to the implementation of **public administration reforms** in Partner Countries;
- Foster cooperation between the EU and Partner Countries in the areas of **security and disaster risk management**.

**Main goals and actions Platform 1**

Platform 1 will address the steps required in pursuit of the core objectives, the relevant best practices and explore potential for regional efforts. It will ensure the implementation of Deliverables 9 to 12 by monitoring progress made on each of them and steering the technical work of the Panels on Governance and Public Administration Reform; Rule of Law; and Security, CSDP and Civil Protection.

While good progress has been made on the Milestones for 2017 related to Deliverables 9 to 12, challenges remain, notably, in increasing effective execution of reforms. Hence, a strategic and target-oriented approach is needed in order to build productively on the current achievements in this priority area.

In this context, the work of Platform 1 will focus on the below **intermediate objectives** for 2018, 2019 and 2020:

- Contribution of Deliverables 9 to 12 to strengthening of resilience of the partner countries, as foreseen by the EU Global Strategy.
- Overall progress in the establishment of the legal framework necessary for the implementation of reforms in the area of Rule of Law (e.g. asset declaration in place; implementation of GRECO recommendations; anti-corruption bodies in place).
Ensuring the alignment of Strategies in the area of PAR with the Principles of Public Administration across the region.

- Enhancing cybersecurity (e.g. Computer Emergency Response Teams - CERTS in place and linked with EU CERTS; development of strategies; enhanced public private coordination).
- Ensuring implementation of cross-cutting deliverables on gender (e.g. legislation on gender based violence, anti-discrimination and ratification of Istanbul convention), communication and media, and/or civil society.

In order to ensure cross-sectoriality across the four Eastern Partnership key priorities, Platform 1 will explore synergies with the other Platforms whenever needed or useful. The Platform may therefore decide to organise additional meetings on one or more policy areas, if it deems this valuable. In the coming year, Platform 1 will focus on identifying key issues which need to be addressed together with other Platforms.

Sectoral Ministerial meetings may be recommended, when Ministerial level intervention would help to strengthen the implementation of the objectives pursued.

Taking the above into account, Platform 1 will steer and closely monitor progress of the respective Panels which in turn will focus on the following in 2018, 2019 and 2020:

**Panel on Rule of Law**

The Panel on Rule of Law will focus in particular on the implementation of Deliverables 9 and 10, leading the technical discussion on rule of law, anti-corruption and judicial reforms. To effectively facilitate this process, in 2018, 2019 and 2020 the Panel will focus on the following goals:

- Enhancing the capacity of Partners Countries to recover criminal assets.
- Combatting organized crime activities.
- Strengthening the capacity of Partner Countries’ Prosecutors.

To achieve the above the following activities are planned:

**2018**

Panel on Rule of Law to meet twice, with a particular focus on:

- Strengthening tools for financial investigations (access to centralised bank account registries and beneficial ownership registries) in order to trace, freeze and confiscate criminal assets (linked to targets 3-4 under deliverable 9);
- Reforms of prosecution service, including composition of prosecutorial councils, specialised anti-corruption prosecutors, autonomy of prosecutors, appointment and disciplinary proceedings, evaluation and promotion, relation to police and courts, and discretion to dismiss cases;

**2019**

Panel on Rule of Law to meet two/three times, with a particular focus on:

- Asset declaration systems (linked to target 1 under deliverable 9);
• Fight against organised crime/or alternatively fight against cybercrime (depending on whether we organise a TAIEX regional meeting on Cybercrime in the second half of 2018 linked to the new regional programme or not);
• EaP Justice and Home Affairs Ministerial meeting to be organised in July 2019 (tbc).

2020

Panel on Rule of law to meet once or twice, with a particular focus on:

• Improving the measurement of justice systems through case management systems and the Justice Dashboard, based on EU best practices and international standards.

Panel on Governance and Public Administration Reform

The Panel on Governance and Public Administration Reform will focus in particular on the implementation of Deliverable 11, leading the technical discussion on how to help Partner Countries establish professional, depoliticised, accountable and ethical public administrations. In order to strengthen shared ownership, the Panel will support and guide initiatives taken by the Member States and Partner Countries for focused discussions, workshops and trainings in support of the implementation of the core principles of the Public Administration Reform. To effectively facilitate this process, in 2018, 2019 and 2020 the Panel will focus on the following goals:

➢ Establishment of the strategic framework in the field of PAR
➢ Improve service delivery
➢ Continue implementation of civil service reforms

To achieve the above the following activities are planned:

2018

Panel on governance and public administration to meet twice, with a particular focus on:

• Management of a strategic planning process (linked to the 4th 2020 target under the PAR EaP deliverable) – first meeting;
• Better services to citizens and businesses through simplification of administrative procedures and rationalisation of public administration (linked to the 3rd 2020 target under the PAR EaP deliverable) – second meeting;

Experts Working Group to be set-up to further explore some key issues identified in the panel meetings (e.g. proliferation of agencies without clear accountability lines and/or out of the scope of the CSL etc.)

2019

Panel on governance and public administration to meet twice, with a particular focus on:

• Results and challenges with implementation of the Civil Service Reforms (linked to the 2nd 2020 target under the PAR EaP deliverable) – first meeting;
• Evidence-based policy making, monitoring and evaluation (linked to the 5th 2020 target under the PAR EaP deliverable) – second meeting;
Panel on governance and public administration to meet twice, with a particular focus on:

- **Accountability: Organisation of state administration and ministries-agencies relations**

Experts Working Groups to be set-up to further explore some of the key issues identified in the panel meetings. The use of statistics and administrative data in policy design, monitoring and reporting in a specific sector could be, for example, one of the topics to be further discussed in 2019. Involvement of Ministries of Finance in the Panel work is necessary to ensure a whole government approach. Specific line ministries should also on a case-by-case basis be invited to attend an event to promote the understanding that public administration reform needs to be implemented at sector level.

**Panel on Security, CSDP and civil protection**

The Panel on Security, CSDP and civil protection will focus in particular on the implementation of **Deliverable 12**, leading the technical discussion on how to build Partner Countries' **resilience to security threats, including hybrid threats, and to disasters**. To effectively facilitate this process, in 2018 and 2019 the Panel will focus on the following goals:

- Cooperation of Partner Countries in CSDP missions and operations.
- Enhance Partner Countries' capacity in the field of CSDP/CFSP, in particular on cybersecurity, conflict analysis and strategic communication.
- Establish closer working relationships between Partner Countries and the EU Civil Protection Mechanisms.

To achieve the above the following activities are planned:

**2018**

The Panel on Security, CSDP and civil protection will meet twice per year, with a particular focus on:

- Update on the implementation of the **EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy** in the field of defence, to discuss developments in the field of CFSP/CSDP policy, security sector reform, capacity building to enhance Partner Countries' resilience, ways of enhancing the participation of Partners in CSDP missions and operations and civil protection policies;
- Provide generic courses/conferences on the **Common Security and Defence Policy** of the European Union in the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP);
- Specific workshops on **strategic communication, gender issues, conflict analysis and participation in CSDP missions and operations** will be carried out;
- In the field of **Civil Protection, an Annual regional meeting** with programme coordinators under the PPRD East Programme, the flagship initiative on civil protection and disaster risk management, will take place on 22 February 2018 in Kiev. **The European Civil Protection Forum** on fostering resilience in the Neighbourhood will take place on 5-6 March 2018 in Brussels.
- Establishment of an **eLearning platform with a focus on CFSP/CSDP and civil protection**.

**2019**
The Panel on Security, CSDP and civil protection will meet twice per year, with a particular focus on:

- The developments in the field of **CFSP/CSDP policy**, security sector reform, progress in the capacity building projects to enhance **Partner Countries’ resilience to hybrid threats**, progress in the establishment of **Computer Emergency Response teams (CERTs)** and cybersecurity strategies;
- Provide **generic courses/conferences on the Common Security and Defence Policy** of the European Union in the wider context of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP);
- Specific workshops on **cyber security, hybrid threat and strategic communication**;
- In the field of participation in **CSDP missions and operations**, the Panel will address the **conceptual and technical interoperability** of Partner Country’s units with the EU;
- Progress in **streamlining CSDP/CFSP elements in curricula of national training and education institutions**, such as Defence universities/colleges, police and diplomatic academies, universities;
- Workshops on **critical infrastructure, CBRN** in connection with other threats.
- Establishment of an **eLearning platform with a focus on CFSP/CSDP and civil protection**.

**2020**

The Panel on Security, CSDP and civil protection will meet twice per year, with a particular focus on:

- Involvement in different **UCPM activities** and usability of results; **response capacities** in Partner Countries;
- Preparedness for **international assistance** (e.g. Host Nation Support, exercises);
- **Regional cooperation** on disaster risk management; DRM plans;
- **Disaster risk assessments and mapping**; multi-sectoral approach.
- [activities in relation to SOC and cybercrime to be defined]

Moreover, the following events will be organized:

- CSDP Conflict Analysis Course for EaP Countries
- CSDP seminar on hybrid threats
- CSDP Orientation Course for EaP Countries
- Reflection Seminar on CSDP
- Panel on Security, CSDP and Civil Protection
- CSDP workshop on cyber security
- Workshop on environmental protection for armed forces for EaP Countries
- CSDP Orientation Course for EaP Countries
- CSDP seminar on strategic communication
- High Level conference on CSDP for EaP Countries