



1st ASSOCIATION EXCHANGE FORUM

Draft Agenda

Kyiv, 13-14 November, 2017
(Vozdvyzhensky Hotel)

DAY 1 – 13 November

13:30-14:00	Registration of participants, welcome coffee & snacks
14.00-16:00	<p>Session 1. ACHIEVEMENTS AND FAILURES IN THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTATION: SNAPSHOTS FROM GEORGIA, MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE</p> <p>Moderator: Zoriana MISHCHUK, Co-Chair of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ukraine:</u> Ivanna KLYMPUSH-TSINTSADZE, Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration • <u>Georgia:</u> Archil KARaulashvili, First Deputy State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration • <u>Moldova:</u> Daniela MORARI, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration • <u>EU:</u> Katarina MATHERNOVA, European Commission Deputy Director-General for Neighborhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (video-address) <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
16:00-16:30	Coffee-Break
16:30-18:30	<p>Session 2: MAKING THE MOST OUT OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS: PAST ESTIMATES, CURRENT LESSONS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE</p> <p>Using a time machine: what AA negotiators would have done differently knowing the situation today?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are these really the same agreements? Similarities and differences between GE, MD, UA AAs, and the implications for their implementation • Are the AAs fully relevant for today’s needs of development and modernisation of Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova? • The challenge of weak national institutions and the quest for deregulation of the economy – how to reconcile with the AA acquis approximation obligations? • New horizons within the present framework: what is the room for evolution of



	<p>the AAs to allow for the ‘everything but institutions’ integration into the EU?</p> <p>Moderator: Ihor BURAKOVSKIY, Head of the Board of the Institute for Economic Research and Political Consultations (Ukraine)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hugues MINGARELLI, EU Ambassador to Ukraine• Katarina WOLCZUK, Associate Fellow at Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House• Guillaume VAN DER LOO, researcher, Centre for European Policy Studies• Taras KACHKA, Deputy Executive Director, International Renaissance Foundation, former member of Ukraine’s AA negotiation team <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
18:30-	Networking Dinner



DAY 2 – 14 November

9:30-11:00	<p>Session 3: NATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL SETTINGS FOR THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is politically in charge of the AA implementation? What is the real role of AA in national strategic planning and policy-making?• How is AA implementation planned, coordinated, evaluated and reported by the Cabinet? What is the coordination office, its role and relationship with the ministries?• Role of the Parliaments: who is in charge of European integration? What is the procedure for AA-related drafts? How is cooperation with the government organised?• What role for the regional and local authorities?• Impact of AA on the national institutions development – are the scores in AA implementation higher than the overall institutional performance? <p>Moderator: Balazs JARABIK, non-resident scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Association4U Project short-term expert</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Olga STEFANISHYNA, Director of the Government Office for European and Euro-Atlantic integration, Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine• Archil KARAULASHVILI, First Deputy State Minister of Georgia on European and Euro-Atlantic Integration• Valeriu GHILEȚCHI, Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy and European Integration, the Parliament of Moldova <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
11:00-11:30	Coffee break
11:30-13:00	<p>Session 4: ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT SUPPORT CHALLENGE: ROLE OF THE EU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lessons learned by the EU from similar agreements implementation support elsewhere? Is it the best toolbox EU is using for AAs with GE, MD, UA?• How much conditionality in the toolbox? Is EU quick enough in rewarding the successes? And what is the cost for non-compliance?• The success story of the Visa Liberalisation Action Plan – a methodology to apply for AA implementation too?• Aid as a leverage: time for methodology reflection before the new financial perspective?• Do the AAs make an impact on the EU’s own policy-making? How to increase



	<p>political prioritisation in Brussels?</p> <p>Moderator: Michael EMERSON, Associate Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Brussels</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter WAGNER, Head of the Support Group for Ukraine• Darius ŽERUOLIS, European Social, Legal and Economic Projects (ESTEP), Vilnius• Ewa SYNOWIEC, Principal Adviser, DG Trade• Peter HAVLIK, the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIIW), Vienna <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
13:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	<p>Session 5. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS IMPLEMENTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparing current governmental AA monitoring and assessment practices• Civil society assessments: methodologies, challenges and impact produced• Association implementation monitoring by the EU – methodology in place and scope for improvement <p>Moderator: Dmytro SHULGA, Director of the European Programme Initiative, International Renaissance Foundation</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Olga STEFANISHYNA, Director of the Government Office for European and Euro-Atlantic integration, Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine• Lyubov AKULENKO, Executive Director of Ukrainian Centre of European Policy• Iulian GROZA, Executive Director of the Institute for European Policies and Reforms, Moldova• Ivane CHKHIKVADZE, EU Integration Program Manager, Open Society Foundation Georgia• Evelina SCHULZ, First Secretary of the Political Section, EU Delegation to Ukraine <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>



15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	<p>Session 6. CIVIL SOCIETY AND STAKEHOLDERS PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy-making of AA implementation: where is the place for civil society and stakeholders' engagement? What are the best practices?• Is it possible to turn status-quo keepers into reform supporters? Which stakeholders' voices are missing? Can the EU help?• Is the AA seen by civil society as an effective tool to leverage democratic reforms? How united or polarised is civil society in viewing the AA (DCFTA and sectoral) related reforms?• The bilateral Civil Society Platforms under the AAs: real actors or formal institutions? What is their role in AA implementation policy-making? What is the added value to the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum?• What is the potential for inter-country civil society cooperation in the AA implementation? <p>Moderator: <u>Oleksandr SUSHKO</u>, Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, Ukraine</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Andzej ADAMCZYK, EESC member, Co-Chair of the EU-Georgia Civil Society Platform from the EU side, member of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform• Lasha TUGUSHI, Director of the Liberal Academy Tbilisi, elected National Facilitator of the Georgian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum• Dumitru FORNEA, Co-Chair of the EU-Moldova Civil Society Platform from the EU side• Zoriana MISHCHUK, Co-Chair of the EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform from the Ukrainian side <p>Q&A, Discussion</p>
17:00 - 17:30	FORUM WRAP-UP. WHAT NEXT?