

## Major Challenges Ahead



**Rule of Law**, the implementation of **judicial reforms** and the **fight against corruption**



Further protecting the **environment** and actively tackling **climate change**



Increasing societal resilience by countering **hybrid threats** and **disinformation**



Strengthening the environment for **civil society** and a free and **independent media**



Stepping up EU engagement to help improve the lives of citizens affected by the **conflicts** in the region

Launched in 2009 as a joint policy initiative, the Eastern Partnership (EaP) aims to deepen and strengthen relations between the European Union (EU), its Member States and its six Eastern neighbours: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Within this framework, all partners have committed to demonstrate and deliver tangible benefits to the daily lives of citizens across the region.

#strongertogether

[www.EaP10.eu](http://www.EaP10.eu)

**EaP** Eastern Partnership 

**Top 10 Achievements  
of the Eastern Partnership  
in the last 10 Years**



1

The EU has **new political and economic bilateral agreements**, which guide relations and cooperation with **most Eastern Partner countries** and bring **tangible benefits to citizens** across the region.

2

More **trade and investment opportunities** between the EU Member States and the six Eastern Partner countries:

- ▶ More investment: The **number of companies** from DCFTA countries **exporting to the EU has significantly increased** since 2015: Georgia by 35%, Moldova by 40% and Ukraine by 26%.
- ▶ More trade: The six Eastern Partner countries together are now the **EU's 10<sup>th</sup> trading partner**. **Volumes of trade** have also increased: by 12% with Armenia, 28% with Azerbaijan, 16% with Belarus.

3

More **diversified and vibrant economies** across the region, which attract investment and create jobs. The EU has provided over **125,000 loans to SMEs**, of which more than **50% were in local currency**, to support growth in the region.

4

Better **transport links** and infrastructure under the EU's TEN-T extension which foresees **4,800 km of new and rehabilitated roads and railways by 2030**. This will open new opportunities for economic development and exchanges between the EU and the Partner Countries, as well as among the Partner Countries themselves.

5

**Visa free regimes** have been put in place between the EU and Georgia, Ukraine and Moldova. The EU has **facilitation and readmission agreements** in place with Armenia, and has finalised negotiations with Belarus. These are key in promoting the movement of both EU and partner country citizens in a **secure and well-managed environment**.

6

More **energy resilience and efficiency** by decreasing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and by increasing the share of renewable energy:

- ▶ Thanks to EU support, almost **100,000 families could reduce their energy bills** and improve their living standards.
- ▶ The Covenant of Mayors – the EU's trademark initiative for local energy and climate action – has grown into a network of **400 municipalities, covering around 40% of the 6 partners**, while over 10% of the whole population have benefitted from municipal infrastructure improvements thanks to the E5P Fund.

7

Support for **young people**, particularly in terms of developing their **skills** and fostering **their employability**, including through more access to EU programmes:

- ▶ More than **80,000 youth exchanges** by 2020 including through the **Erasmus+** programme.
- ▶ The **European School** launched in Tbilisi offers high quality education to the leaders of the future.

8

More accessible and service-oriented **public services for citizens** across the region with new service-centre one-stop-shops and/or e-government services across the six countries.

9

**Easier access to a high-capacity broadband internet** network for **2 million scientists, academics and students** at over 700 Research and Education institutions in the six Eastern Partner countries.

10

More awareness of **the EU among citizens across the Eastern Partner countries**, as well as the Eastern Partnership among EU citizens.