

4th Informal Working Group Meeting on Research and Innovation

Tbilisi, Georgia

20 – 21 October 2022

Hybrid event

DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday, 19 October 2022

Venue: Tbilisi Marriott Hotel, Rustaveli Avenue 13 Tbilisi, Georgia

Entire day: Arrivals and registration of participants at the hotel

20:00 – 22:30 Welcome Dinner

Venue: VINOTEL Wine Cellar, Address: #4 Elene Akhvlediani Ascent., Tbilisi 0103

Thursday, 20 October 2022

Venue: Tbilisi Marriott Hotel, Rustaveli Avenue 13 Tbilisi, Georgia

09:45 – 10:00 (07:45 – 08:00 CET) Registration and welcome coffee

10:00 – 10:30 TBS (08:00 – 08:30 CET) **Introductory remarks**

1. *Welcome words Ruta ZARNAUSKAITE, Head of Unit, Unit 04, DG R&I, European Commission, Catalin GHERMAN, Deputy Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Georgia and Dr Nunu Mitskevichi, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia*
2. *Eastern Partnership – future perspectives:*
 - (a) *Eastern Partnership – state of play, Julien Bourtembourg, Deputy Head of Division for Regional Eastern Partnership, Regional Cooperation & OSCE, European External Action Service*
 - (b) *Eastern Partnership Research and Innovation Cooperation – Jeroen WILLEMS, Deputy Head of Unit, DG NEAR C.2, European Commission*

Session I: Eastern Partnership Priorities in Research and Innovation – state of implementation

Moderator: Kakha Khandolishvili, Head of International Relations and Strategic Development Department, Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia

10:30 – 10:45 (08:30 – 08:45 CET) “Challenges for the implementation of the EaP R&I Priorities in the EaP Partner countries, including participation in Horizon Europe” - speakers from the Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

10:45 – 11:15 (08:45 – 09:15 CET) Round table discussion “Progress in developing and implementing national plans and programmes, with a view to supporting R&I reforms in the EaP Partner countries and challenges for the implementation of the EaP Priorities in the EaP Partner Countries” – speakers from the Republic of Armenia, Republic of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine

11:15 – 11:30 (09:15 – 09:30 CET) The next stage in the EaP R&I activities: a view from the Civil Society Forum (CSF), (Sintija Bernava and Ivan Kulchytskyy, Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum,

11:30 – 12:00 (09:30 – 10:00 CET) – Q and A and discussions

12:00 – 13:00 (10:00 – 11:00 CET) Networking lunch (standing)

Session II: EaP countries and Horizon Europe: How to increase participation in the programme?

Moderator: Silvia BOJINOVA, ENP Team Leader, Unit 04, DG R&I, European Commission

13:00 – 13:10 (11:00 – 11:10 CET) Strategic Plans and Work Programmes under Horizon Europe, Kalina TSVETANOVA, Policy Officer, Unit G3 Common Strategic Planning & Programming Service”, DG R&I, European Commission

13:10 – 13:20 (11:10 CET – 11:20 CET) Lessons learned from the EaP Partner countries participation in calls under the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2021-2022, Silvia BOJINOVA, ENP Team Leader, Unit 04, DG R&I, European Commission

13:20 – 13:30 (11:20 CET – 11:30 CET) Q and A and discussion

13:30 – 13:45 (11:30 CET – 11:45 CET) The role of National Contact Points in the EaP Partner Countries, Niccolò QUERCI, Policy Officer, DG R&I, Unit A.3 “R&I Actors and Research Careers”, European Commission

13:45 – 14:00 (11:45 – 12:00 CET) “Effective Use of Euraxess – Mobility of researchers”, Slaven MISLJENCEVIC, Policy officer, Unit A.3, DG RTD, European Commission

14:00 - 14:15 (12:00 – 12:15 CET) “How to make a better use of Marie-Sklodowska Curie Actions in Horizon Europe”, Marija FEDOTOVAITE, Policy Officer, DG EAC C.2, European Commission

14:15 – 14:30 (12:15 – 12:30 CET) “European Research Council – how to make a better use of its funding instruments”, Dr. Giuliano Scalzi, Synergy grant call co-coordinator, European

Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA), unit B.2 Call and Project Follow-up Coordination Unit

14:30 – 14:45 (12:30 – 12:45 CET) “Opportunities offered by the European Innovation Council for Investment in Research and Innovation to foster economic growth and jobs”, Eric-Olivier PALLU, Policy Officer, EISMEA, EIC

14:45 – 15:00 (12:45 – 13:00 CET) Proposal Writing Camp and Expert Consultations on preparing Horizon Europe applications, Matthias WURCH, Global Service Facility in support of International Cooperation in Research and Innovation

15:00 – 15:20 (13:00 – 13:20 CET)- Q and A and discussions

15:20 – 15:30 (13:20 – 13:30 CET) Coffee break

Session III: International cooperation in the European Research Area (ERA) - values and principles

Moderator: *Ruta ZARNAUSKAITE, Head of Unit, Unit 04, DG R&I, European Commission*

15:30 – 15:45 (13:30 – 13:45 CET)

Introduction “New ERA for Research and Innovation – 20 actions for implementation”, Anna SEIP, Policy Officer, unit A.2, DG RTD, European Commission

15:45 – 16:00 (13:45 – 14:00 CET) – Experience from the Republic of Armenia, Sargis Hayotsyan, Chairman of the National Science Committee, Republic of Armenia, speaker to be defined

16:00 – 16:15 (14:00 – 14:15 CET) – Experience from the Republic of Azerbaijan, speaker to be defined

16:15 – 16:30 (14:15 – 14:30 CET) – Experience from the Republic of Moldova, a speaker to be defined

16:30 – 16:45 (14:30 – 14:45 CET) – Experience from Ukraine, a speaker from Ukraine (to be defined)

16:45 – 17:00 (14:45 – 15:00 CET) – Experience from Georgia, speaker from Georgia, tbd

17:00 – 17:30 (15:00 – 15:30 CET) – Q and A and discussions

17:30 – 17:40 (15:30 – 15:40 CET) Coffee break

Session IV: Update on technology transfer and smart specialisation

Moderator: Manuel GONZALEZ EVANGELISTA, Economic and Policy Analyst, B3 - Territorial Development Unit, DG JRC, European Commission

17:40 – 18:30 (15:40 – 16:30 CET) EaP Partner countries experience in smart specialisation and technology transfer

- *Joint Research Centre (JRC) cooperation activities with EaP Partner countries; support in smart specialisation, (Manuel GONZALEZ EVANGELISTA, Economic and Policy Analyst, B3 - Territorial Development Unit, DG JRC, European Commission)*
- *Joint Research Centre (JRC) cooperation activities with EaP countries in Technology Transfer, Alessandro Fazio, Head of Sector, unit I.4, JRC, European Commission, tbc*
- *Smart specialization and implementation of a technology transfer roadmap in the Republic of Armenia, speaker from the Republic of Armenia (to be defined)*
- *Smart specialization and implementation of a technology transfer roadmap in Azerbaijan, speaker from Azerbaijan (to be defined)*
- *Smart specialization and implementation of a technology transfer roadmap in the Republic of Moldova, a speaker from the Republic of Moldova (to be defined)*
- *Smart specialization and Implementation of a Technology transfer Roadmap in Ukraine, speaker from Ukraine, (to be defined)*
- *Smart specialization and implementation of a technology transfer roadmap in Georgia, speaker from Georgia, (to be defined)*

18:30 – 18:45 (16:30 – 16:45 CET) Concluding remarks Ruta ZARNAUSKAITE, Head of Unit, Unit 04, DG R&I, European Commission

19:30 transfer to the restaurant “Metekhis Chrdili”

20.00 – 22.00 Wine tasting and Gala Dinner at Metekhis Chrdili restaurant, 29 Ketevan Tsamebuli Ave, Tbilisi

Friday, 21 October 2022

9:30 – 10:00 Transfer to the Georgia's Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA), Innovation Street No.7, Tbilisi, Georgia

10:00 – 11:00 Visit of GITA and the Technology Parc, Avtandil Kasradze, Chairman, GITA and George Kezherashvili, Tech Parks Network Service Manager, GITA

11:00 – 11:15 Welcome Speech, Avtandil Kasradze, Chairman, GITA

11:15 – 12:30 Panel Discussion *“Academia-Business cooperation for synergies in the knowledge triangle - a view from Georgia”*

Moderator: Annie Vashakmadze - Head of Donor Relations and International Relations Department, GITA

Panel Members: Avtandil Kasradze – Chairman of GITA

Levan Vepkhvadze – Executive Director, Business Association of Georgia

Levan Jioshvili – Tech Transfer Consultant, GITA

Rati Gholijashvili – General Manager, Biochimpharm

Sophio Bakhtadze – Vice-Rector, Tbilisi State Medical University

12:30 – 13:00 **Innovation Council Opportunities for Georgia’s Ecosystem;** Eric-Olivier PALLU, Policy Officer, Unit D-01, EIC Board, Strategy and Feedback to Policy, EIC and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA)

13:00 – 14:00 *Networking lunch (standing) in GITA*

14:00 – 15:30 Horizon Europe National Office Georgia, Presentation “National office Horizon Europe Strategic Goals and Perspectives” and discussion with all EaP Partner countries (the presentation will be delivered in the premises of GITA)

15.30 **Departure from GITA**

16:00 – 17:30 Visit of the **Eliava Institute of Bacteriophages, Microbiology and Virology**, 3 Levan Gotua St, Tbilisi

17.30 departure for Mtskheta

18.00	Arrival in Mtskheta
18:00 – 19.30	sightseeing in Mtskheta
19.30	dinner in a local restaurant “Chamber of Georgian Wine”

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