

REGULATION ON OPERATION OF THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP PARLIAMENTS RESEARCH NETWORK

Section 1 General provisions

1. The Eastern Partnership Parliaments Research Network (hereinafter, the EPPRN) is a permanent research and analytical platform, created by the Yerevan Annex, dated 7 December 2018, under the multilateral cooperation framework established by the Tbilisi Memorandum (regional cooperation framework between the Parliamentary Administrations of the Eastern Partnership countries, established on 25 September 2018 in Tbilisi), with the aim to conduct joint research and analytical activities and to promote the exchange of information between the parliamentary administrations of the respectful Eastern Partnership countries.
2. The EPPRN consists of representatives of the administrations of the National Parliaments of the Eastern Partnership member states (hereinafter, the member parties): the Republic of Armenia, Republic of Belarus (represented by both chambers – the Council of Republic and the House of Representatives), Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. Interested representatives of the Eastern Partnership region may become partners upon their expressed commitment to contribute to the functioning of the EPPRN and further promote the cooperation.
3. This Regulation sets up the principles, objectives and the mechanism for the cooperation under the EPPRN to efficiently serve its purpose.

Section 2 Principles of Activity of the Eastern Partnership Parliaments Research Network

1. The EPPRN is based on the following principles:
 - a) **the principle of participation**, which provides for the active involvement and cooperation of member parties in all the initiatives and activities of the EPPRN to achieve the set objectives;

- b) **the principle of transparency**, according to which member parties shall communicate in a clear and accessible manner within the EPPRN. The member parties shall have equal access to all documents related to the EPPRN's activity;
- c) **the principle of efficiency**, according to which the member parties shall be involved, based on their competences and responsibilities, in the process of identification, solving, assessment and monitoring of the development activities, as well as of the eventual risk situations.

Section 3

Aim and Objectives of the Eastern Partnership Parliaments Research Network

1. *The aim of the EPPRN* is to establish and develop a sustainable and efficient partnership between the Administrations of the National Parliaments of the Eastern Partnership countries, in order to conduct joint research activities, share experience, obtain best practices and facilitate the exchange of information, as well as develop and enhance professional capacities in the field of parliamentary research.
2. *Objectives of the EPPRN*: i. to establish an efficient communication network; ii. to facilitate the exchange of existing data, useful information and opinions; iii. to ensure synergy and complementarity between the actions of all actors involved in the implementation of parliamentary research capacity building projects within the Tbilisi Memorandum framework.

Section 4

Operation Mechanism of the Eastern Partnership Parliaments Research Network

1. The management of the EPPRN's activity shall be ensured by the Secretaries General of the respectful national parliaments, in the framework of working meetings of Parliamentary Administrations of the Eastern Partnership Countries.
2. The operation of the EPPRN shall be carried out by the assigned persons (hereafter, the EPPRN Correspondents), responsible for coordination and

facilitation of the EPPRN activities on behalf of each member party, also appointed as such in reference to clause 3.5 of the Yerevan Annex.

3. The EPPRN Correspondents are responsible for the proper facilitation of correspondence, exchange of information and execution of joint research tasks. They assist in planning and implementing capacity enhancement activities in the field of research, as well as contribute to overall development of the EPPRN.
4. A period of seven working days is defined to be a standard timeframe for processing the EPPRN information request.
5. The EPPRN Correspondents shall communicate electronically, via specific e-mail addresses set up exceptionally for facilitating the operation of the EPPRN and consisting of the acronyms of the EPPRN title.
6. Without prejudice to copyright, EPPRN member parties may place the information, materials and documents obtained in the framework of EPPRN, on their website and/or preserve the information in relevant databases.

Section 5

Final provisions

1. This Regulation may be amended or supplemented upon the initiative of a Secretary General of the respective member party.
2. Amendments or additions to this Regulation shall be approved by the joint decision of the Secretaries General of the member parties.