

# Georgia-EU cooperation

<http://www.eu-nato.gov.ge/en/eu/cooperation>

## Facts and Figures

The EU-Georgia relations started in 1992 following the recognition of Georgia's independence by the European Union.

Georgia started preparation process to sign the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) from 1994. The Agreement was signed in Luxembourg on 22 April 1996. The PCA, which determines the major framework for future relations between the EU-Georgia, was signed by the EU Member States, the President of the European Commission and the President of Georgia and entered into force in 1999.

Since 1995 Georgia benefits from the EU's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP).

On 1 September 1997, in compliance with the resolution of the Parliament of Georgia, Georgia started the harmonisation process of national legislation with the EU law.

On 7 July 2003, the EU appointed the Special Representative for the South Caucasus demonstrating the EU's interest toward the region.

On 14 June 2004, the Council of the European Union decided to launch the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia to enhance cooperation with neighbour countries.

In 2005, Georgia was granted additional preferences offered under the Generalised System of Preferences Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance (GSP+). The Arrangement was valid until 2008.

The European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan (ENP AP) between the EU and the Government of Georgia was adopted on 14 November 2006. The Action Plan provides strategic objectives of the EU-Georgia cooperation and ensures implementation of relevant political and economic priorities.

During the Russia-Georgia war the EU and the U.S. partners were actively involved in conflict resolution. The EU engagement led to the signature of "Six-point Cease-fire Agreement between Russia and Georgia". The French Republic convened the emergency EU summit on 1 September 2008. Leaders of the EU Member States condemned Russia for unilateral declaration of the independence of Georgian regions and called on other countries not to recognise their independence.

The European Union Monitoring Mission in Georgia (EUMM) was established on 15 September 2008. The Mission, aimed at monitoring the "Six-point Agreement", started on 1 October 2008.

On 25 September 2008, the Council of the European Union appointed the European Union Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia (EUSR).

On 15 October 2008, the Geneva negotiations were launched between leaders of the EU, OSCE, UN, U.S. and representatives from Georgia and Russia. Main subject of the discussion was stability and security in the region, return of IDPs and refugees based on internationally recognised principles.

On 22 October 2008, the Georgian Donor's Conference, organised by the European Union and the World Bank was held in Brussels. Partner countries and international donor organisations pledged 4.5 billion dollars to support Georgia for 2008-2010.

In 2008, the EU extended the General System of Preferences (GSP+) Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance for 2009-2011.

On 3 December 2008, the European Commission adopted a Communication on the Eastern Partnership. The Eastern Partnership (EaP) is an EU policy aimed at bringing Eastern Neighbours (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) closer to the European Union. (For further details see the Eastern Partnership).

The 1st Eastern Partnership Summit was held in Prague on 7 May 2009.

On 30 November 2009, the joint declaration on the Mobility Partnership was signed in Brussels.

The EU-Georgia relations in the framework of the Mobility Partnership officially launched on 16 February 2010.

On 10 May 2010, the General Affairs Council approved a mandate of the European Commission to start negotiations on the Association Agreement with Georgia.

On 17 June 2010, the Visa Facilitation Agreement was signed between the EU and Georgia.

On 15 July 2010, the negotiations on Association Agreement including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) was launched.

On 22 November 2010, an Agreement on the readmission of persons residing without authorisation was signed in Brussels.

On 2 December 2010, the comprehensive air transport agreement on the establishment of a Common Aviation Area between the EU and Georgia was signed in Brussels.

The Visa Facilitation and Readmission Agreements entered into force on 1 March 2011.

The Eastern Partnership Parliamentary Assembly - the Euronest was established at an emergency meeting in Brussels on 3 May 2011.

The agreement on "Mutual Recognition and Protection of Geographical Indications of Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs", signed between the EU and Georgia, entered into force on 1 April 2012.

On 25 August 2011, the Council of the European Union appointed Philippe Lefort as the European Union Special Representative for the South Caucasus and the crisis in Georgia.

The 2nd Eastern Partnership Summit was held in Warsaw on 29-30 September 2011.

The negotiations on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) Agreement between the EU and Georgia were officially launched on 28 February 2012.

The visa liberalisation dialogue between the EU and Georgia was started on 4 June 2012.

On 23 July 2012, the Eastern Partnership Road Maps 2012-2013 were adopted at the Foreign Ministers Meeting of the Eastern Partnership countries.

On 22 July 2013, the EU and Georgia successfully concluded negotiations on the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), as part of the Association Agreement.

On 22 November 2013, the European Commission and the EU Member States recognised efforts by Georgia to comply with international standards on training and certification for seafarers, thus effectively allowing seafarers with Georgian certificates again to work on EU vessels

On 28-29 November 2013, 3rd Eastern Partnership Summit was held in Vilnius.

On 29 November 2013, the European Union and Georgia initialedthe Association Agreement (AA), including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) Agreement at the Vilnius Eastern Partnership Summit.

On 29 November 2013, the Framework Agreement on participation of Georgia in the EU-led crisis management operations, which opens for Georgia an opportunity to contribute to the security worldwide, was signed between the European Union and Georgia at the Vilnius Summit.

On 26 June 2014, the Association Agenda between the European Union and Georgia was adopted, which establishes a set of jointly agreed priorities for the period 2014-2016 with a view to preparing for the implementation of the Association Agreement, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).The Association Agenda has replaced the European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan (ENP AP).

On 27 June 2014, the Association Agreement was signed between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part, which aims to deepen political association and economic integration with the EU.

On 18 July 2014, the Parliament of Georgia unanimously voted in favor of the ratification the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA).

On 29 July 2014, 49th session of the Governmental Commission on Georgia's EU Integration approved the 2014 National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part and Association Agenda between the European Union and Georgia, as well as the 2014-2017 Action Plan for the implementation of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area of the Association Agreement between the European Union and Georgia.

On 26 August 2014, the Government of Georgia adopted the 2014 National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and Georgia, of the other part and Association Agenda between the European Union and Georgia.

On 1 September 2014, provisional application of the Association Agreement started whereby 80% of the Association Agreement came into force, including the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area. The process will continue until the European Parliament and national legislative authorities of the EU Member States finalise the ratification process.

On 19 December 2014, the 51st Session of the Governmental Commission on Georgia's EU Integration approved the 2015 National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Georgia, of the one part and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the other part and the Association Agenda Between Georgia and the European Union.

On 15 January 2015, the Government of Georgia adopted the 2015 National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Georgia, of the one part and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the other part and the Association Agenda Between Georgia and the European Union.

On 1st July 2016, EU-Georgia Association Agreement fully entered into force.