

GCRF COMPASS Executive Study Trip to Brussels

20-26 January 2019

Comprehensive Capacity-Building in the Eastern Neighbourhood
and Central Asia: research integration, impact governance &
sustainable communities





*****To all delegates: please kindly note that the working language of this study trip is ENGLISH, and no translation will be provided throughout the programme*****

GCRF COMPASS project wishes to record its gratitude to EUPPORTUNITY for the assistance with the organisation of this event.

DAY 1 - SUNDAY (20/01/19)

Arrival of the different delegations

Welcome reception at the hotel at 19.00 for all the arrivals

Venue: Hotel ibis Brussels City Centre, Rue Joseph Plateau 2, 1000, Brussels

DAY 2 – MONDAY (21/01/19)

Venue: Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart, 95

09:00 – 09:30	Registration-Refreshments
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09:30 – 11:00	EU Decision-Making
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Understanding the institutions' internal functioning

Marc Taquet-Graziani, Deputy Head of Unit, Oral Procedure & College Meetings, Secretariat-General of the European Commission

Seda Gürkan, Lecturer in Political Science and European Studies, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Robert Heiling, Political Administrator, General Secretariat of the EU Council

11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
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11:30 – 13:00	The EU's main policy priorities on Central Asia and Neighbourhood countries
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What role(s) does the EU play in Central Asia and Neighbourhood countries?

Domenico Valenza, PhD Fellow, United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)

Martin Russell, European Parliament Think Tank

13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
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14:00 – 15:30	Lobby – a key element of the political process
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How interest-representation contributes to policy-making at EU-level?

Frank Schwalba-Hoth, Founding member of the German Greens and former MEP

Bernardo Aguiar, Senior Consultant, Eupportunity

Daniel Debono, Manager EU Affairs and Head of Brussels Operations, Malta Business Bureau

16:00 – 18:00	Organised tour of Brussels
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DAY 3 – TUESDAY (22/01/19)

Venue: Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart, 95

09:00 - 17:00	Negotiation Skills Workshop
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Negotiations in theory - "From a policy idea towards a legislative act: simplifying rules and procedures"

Robert Weibel; Jonathan Weibel - Centre for European Negotiation and Decision Making (CENAD)

13:00 - 14:00	Lunch Break
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Negotiations in practice - "Hands-on approach towards policy-making: multi-country alliances and trade-offs"

Simulation of a real negotiation organized by CENAD

17:00 -18.30	Reception of National Representations - Residence Palace, Rue de la Loi 175, 1048
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Reception with participants' countries Ambassadors and Permanent staff representations to Brussels

Ambassadors

Azerbaijan - His Excellency Ambassador Fuad Isgandarov

Belarus - His Excellency Ambassador Aleksandr Mikhnevich

Tajikistan - His Excellency Ambassador Erkinkhon Rahmatullozoda

Uzbekistan - His Excellency Ambassador Dilyor Khakimov

UK - Her Excellency Ambassador Alison Rose

Delegations from partner-country HEIs and other Invitees

Permanent representations' staff

DAY 4 – WEDNESDAY (23/01/19)

Venue: Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart, 95

Panels on this day will be moderated by Gregor Küpper (Press Club)

09:00 – 11:00 Roundtable discussions on EU’s Global Strategy

Eastern Partnership and Central Asia

Nona Mikhelidze, Head of the Eastern Europe and Eurasia Programme, Istituto Affari Internazionale

Boris Iarochevitch, Head of Division Central Asia, European External Action Service

Hanna Jahns, Adviser, Cabinet of Commissioner Johannes Hahn (European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations), European Commission

11:00- 11:30 Coffee break

11:30 – 13:00 EU Trade Policies for the region- a strategic approach

What are the EU’s (current and foreseen) trade priorities towards neighbourhood countries?

Rūta Žarnauskaitė, Deputy Head of Unit, Russia, CIS, Ukraine, Western Balkan, EFTA, EEA and Turkey, DG TRADE, European Commission

Fredrik Erixon, Director, European Centre for International Political Economy (ECIPE)

Pieter Cleppe, Head of Brussels Office, Open Europe

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch

Venue: European Parliament, Rue Wiertz, 60

14:30 – 15:45 European Parliament – Room: PHS 4B49

European Parliament Guided Tour

16:00 – 17:00 Key note speeches – Room: A1H1

The role of the European Parliament delegations in shaping the Member States’ relations with these countries: lessons learned and recommendations

Sajjad Karim, MEP – Chair of Delegation for Relations with South Caucasus (DSCA), (ECR, UK) (Host)

Bogdan Andrzej Zdrojewski, MEP – Chair of Delegation: relations with Belarus, (EPP, Poland)

17:00 – 18:30 Cocktail with MEPs and staff - European Parliament – Room: ASP 3D Bar Forum

DAY 5 – THURSDAY (24/01/19)

Venue: Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart, 95

Panels on this day will be moderated by Gregor Küpper (Press Club)

09:30 – 11:00 Funding & Tenders Opportunities: Part I - H2020 and Horizon Europe

Overview, finding partners and how to apply

Maria da Graça Carvalho, Member of the Scientific Advice Mechanism Unit, DG RTD, European Commission

Henrique Burnay, Senior Partner, Eupportunity

Andrés Martínez, Coordinator, SOST (IGLO network)

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 12:45 Funding & Tenders Opportunities: Part II – The EU’s Cultural Diplomacy: Education and Youth (ERASMUS+)

Explanation about ERASMUS+ and its available funding opportunities

Irena Andrassy, Principal Adviser for International Cooperation, DG EAC, European Commission

Brikena Xhomaqi, Director, Lifelong Learning Platform*

Arthur Le Gall, Director, KEA European Affairs*

12:45 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 European Funding for Third Countries

Development cooperation (DG DEVCO) and international financial institutions (EIB and ERBD)

Daniel Weiss, Team Leader for Central Asian countries, DG DEVCO, European Commission

Jeroen Willems, Deputy Head of Unit, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Eastern Partnership, DG NEAR, European Commission

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee break

15:30 – 16:30 Dialogue to the European Cooperation in Science & Technology (COST)

Getting to know COST’s activities and future opportunities

Ursula Castro, Head of Policy Support Unit, COST

Monica Perez, Science Officer, COST

16:50 – 18:30 Reception hosted by the Uzbekistan Embassy– Brussels Press Club, Rue Froissart 95

16:50 – 17:00 Welcoming speech from HE the Ambassador Mr. Dilyor Khakimov

17:00 – 18:30 Cocktail

DAY 6 – FRIDAY (25/01/19)

Venue: Press Club Brussels, Rue Froissart, 95

Panels on this day will be moderated by Gregor Küpper (Press Club)

09:30 – 11:00 | EU’s Global Policy: Part I – The future of Europe according to the main media outlets

Priorities and their views on the future of the EU after the elections of May 2019

Alia Papageorgiou, Journalist and Vice-President, Association of European Journalists (AEJ)

Georgi Gotev, Senior Editor, Euractiv

James Wilson, Journalist, Brussels Express

11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee break

11:30 – 12:30 | EU’s Global Policy - Council: priorities for Eastern and Central Asia partners

Priorities of the Finnish and Romanian presidencies of the Council explained

Kaisa Honka-Hallila, Desk Officer for Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Finnish Permanent Representation to the European Union

Anda Hobjila, Adviser COEST - Belarus, South Caucasus, Central Asia; European Neighbourhood Policy; East Partnership; Northern Dimension / Arctic Council; OSCE/COSCE, Romanian Permanent Representation to the European Union*

12:45 – 14:00 | Lunch

14:00 – 16:30 | Wrapping up – The EU and challenges ahead

14:00 – 14:45 - “The EU’s foreign policy objectives towards the East”

Miriam Lexmann, Director, EU Office, International Republican Institute, Brussels

14:45 – 15:30 “Geopolitical challenges in the East”

Luc Devigne, Director for Russia, Eastern partnership, Central Asia, Regional cooperation and OSCE, European External Action Service

15:30 – 16:15 “President Juncker’s legacy and building blocks: Is the EU a more influent world player?”

Telmo Baltazar, Adviser, Cabinet of President Jean-Claude Juncker, European Commission

19:30 | Farewell Dinner – L’Huitrière, Quai aux Briques 20

DAY 7- SATURDAY (26/01/19)

09:00 – 11:00 | Steering Group (SG) Meeting

Venue: Hotel Breakfast Hall

Internal Compass Meeting:

- UoK (Professor Korosteleva (PI), Dr Conny Jumel (Project Manager),
- UoC (Dr Siddharth (Montu) Saxena)
- ADA University (Nargiz Ismayilova)
- BSU (Dr Artsiom Nazaranka)
- TNU (Professor Munira Shahidi)
- UWED (Professor Sherzod Abdullaev)
- GCRF Officer
- Members of the Advisory Board

Departure for London