

Visegrad Fund

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Asociace pro mezinárodní otázky Association for International Affairs



Important, Forgotten, Irrelevant? #EaPtrends

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Structure of the presentation



3 Aims of the project

Methodology

Preliminary overall results

Discussion



Aims of the project



4 Goals of the project:

To map attitudes towards and perception of the Eastern Partnership initiative among important stakeholders.

To frankly **evaluate** the Eastern Partnership and identify **expectations** for next phase of this initiative.



5

Aims of the project



What kind of answers we will be able to respond at the end of the project?

Do all EaP countries expect the same from the EaP?

Do the expectations of the political elites and the civil society in the partner countries differ? How much and in which areas?

Which V4 country is perceived as the leader and which as the slacker of the EaP?

In which area have the partner countries benefited the most from the EaP?

How much has the Ukrainian crises influenced the EaP?



Methodology



To gain the data, i.e. stakeholders' opinion, on-line survey has been conducted.

We have used the application <u>SurveyMonkey</u>.

The questionnaire consisted of 16 open and closed questions.

The questionnaire was same for all respondents. The respondents from EaP countries responded one extra question.



Methodology



We have gathered around 400 fully completed questionnaires.

Questionnaires were prepared in national languages.

The survey was directed at diplomats, civil servants, NGO representatives, analysts, journalists, politicians, businessmen.



8

Further outputs



Presentation of the final analysis in Brussels in April 2015.

Bi-lingual (ENG+RUS) **interactive web-page** accessible from www.amo.cz/trendsEaP will include:

Freely downloadable dataset of collected responses (the identity of individual respondents will remain undisclosed).

A **sample questionnaire** which can anyone try and compare his/her results with the average.

Analytical study discussing the results.



Preliminary overall results I



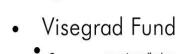
9

Which of the following options corresponds the best to your current profession?

politician	59
civil servant	172
analyst/researcher	178
NGO worker	131
journalist	70
businessman/businesswoman	13
other (please specify)	48



Preliminary overall results II



Do you think that there has been significant progress made towards reaching the below listed goals stated by the Joint Declaration of the Prague EaP Summit, May 7, 2009?

Answer options	yes, there has been significant progress	there has been some progress	heen anv	this area has	the situation in this area has worsened significantly	I don't know
Accelerating political association between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	66	262	52	12	5	7
Accelerating economic integration between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	28	269	81	10	7	10
Emphasizing multilateral confidence building between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	34	221	101	32	8	8
Supporting security and stability promotion between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	21	119	126	66	61	11
Bolstering pro-reform course in the EaP partner countries.	35	223	100	23	4	15
Upholding good governance in the EaP partner countries.	23	193	134	29	9	15
Supporting mobility of citizens of the EaP partner countries.	64	194	102	19	6	14
Ensuring energy security both in the EU and the EaP partner countries.	8	145	154	48	20	21
Commencing the legislative and regulatory approximation between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	17	213	99	7	3	20



Preliminary overall results III



11

To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the role of the EaP initiative?

Answer options	agree	somewhat agree	somewhat disagree	disagree	l don't know
The EaP initiative has represented a tool for transformation of the participating countries to European standards and rule of law.	181	165	26	23	4
The EaP initiative has represented void and unnecessary addition to the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP).	44	81	74	190	15
The EaP initiative has been effective in the promotion of economic development in the EaP countries.	53	180	90	58	20
The EaP initiative has represented a geopolitical instrument of the EU aimed against Russia's interests.	33	<u>130</u>	90	<u>140</u>	9
The EaP initiative has served as a key security guarantee for the EaP partner countries.	39	85	95	161	19
The EaP initiative has served as a precursor for the candidate status.	48	142	95	91	17
The EaP initiative has served as a source of identification with Europe in participating partner countries.	103	197	50	32	9
The EaP initiative has played a key role in deepening cooperation among the EaP partner countries.	63	174	88	66	14
The EaP initiative has contributed significantly to the cooperation of the non-profit sector between the EU and the EaP partner countries.	103	196	47	18	28

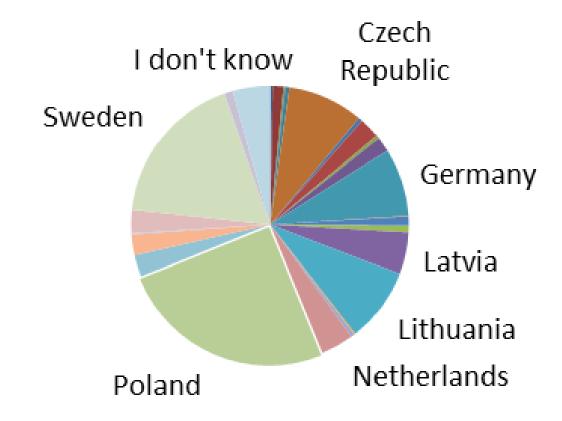


Preliminary overall results IV



12

Name three EU member states which have been the most important advocates of the EaP initiative.

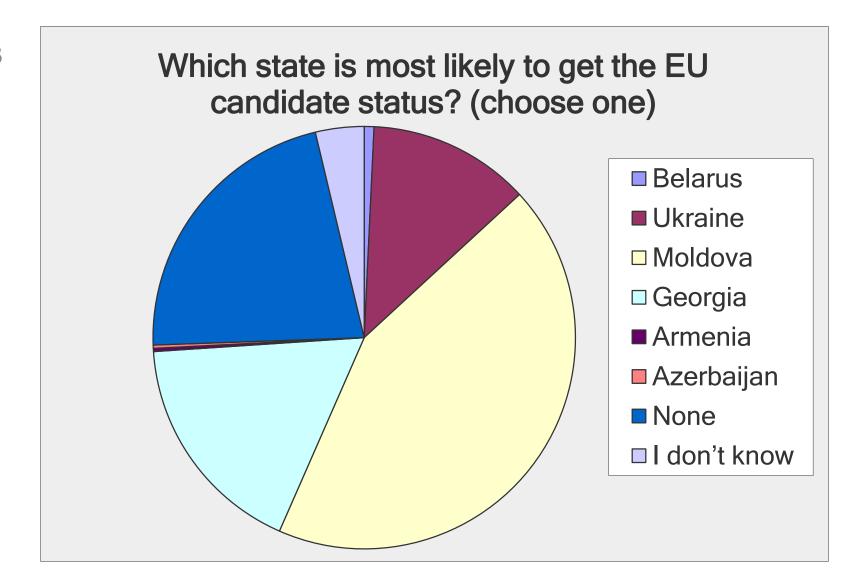




Preliminary overall results V



13





Preliminary overall results VI · Visegrad Fund



To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the role of the EU?

Answer options	agree	somewhat agree	somewhat disagree	disagree	l don't know
The EU should offer the perspective of membership as an incentive for reform in the partner countries.	215	130	33	15	4
The EU should never allow partner countries to obtain candidate status.	7	21	58	294	11
The EU should first integrate the Western Balkans countries and only then start contemplating the possible accession of the EaP partner countries.	34	81	95	170	12
The EU should provide the EaP partner countries with a "special status", which would include sectoral integration, but not the perspective of full integration.	41	<u>128</u>	84	<u>128</u>	10
The EU should provide the EaP partner countries with a necessary technical assistance without affecting the political and economic foundations of these countries.	83	<u>104</u>	87	<u>113</u>	6
The EU should support the growth in the mobility of individuals from the EaP partner countries.	250	119	17	2	1
The EU should strenghten the role of non-state actors in the framework of the EaP initiative.	231	121	19	9	7
The EU should consider the principle "more-for-more" as a foundation of the EaP initiative.	175	141	41	10	25



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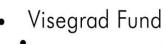


15 Select three policy areas of the EaP initiative where you think the funding should preferably go in the next five years.

Answer options	Response
	count
SME facility	197
regional energy market and energy efficiency	197
comprehensive institution building	195
participation of EaP countries in EU community programs	
(e.g. Erasmus+, Tempus, e-Twinning, Jean Monnet, etc.)	192
regional development programs	188
integrated border management program	99
initiatives to promote good environmental governance	52
cultural programs	47
prevention of, preparedness for, and response to natural and	
man-made disasters	37
other (please specify)	19
I don't know	1



Preliminary overall results VIII · Visegrad Fund



To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the future development of the 16 EaP initiative in the next five years?

Answer options	agree	somewhat agree	somewhat disagree	disagree	l don't know
At least one more partner country will sign the Association Agreement with the EU.	147	105	82	66	27
Trade turnover between the EU and partner countries will increase significantly.	127	210	62	12	17
At least one partner country will obtain the EU candidate status.	95	122	105	69	32
The EaP initiative will become more divided between those countries willing to deepen their integration and those opposing it.	165	178	37	23	19
The EaP initiative will not achieve any tangible results and will need to undergo restructuring.	75	183	96	51	21
Some of the EaP partner countries will leave the initiative.	47	103	58	60	36



Preliminary overall results IX



17

Integration to which structure would be the most beneficial to your country? (choose one)

Answer options	Response count
European Union	166
NATO	69
Eurasian Union	38
Neither	18
Customs Union	11
I don't know	8
CSTO	3



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