



# Asociace pro mezinárodní otázky

## Association for International Affairs



# **Trends of Eastern Partnership #AMOtrendy, #AMOEaP**

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# Structure of the presentation

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Goals & methodology

Addressed & respondents

Has the EaP succeeded?

Was the EaP security dimension robust enough?

What should the EU do?

Conclusions



# Project goals

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What **values** and qualities did the EaP bring into the relationship between EU and EaP partner countries?

How is the EaP **perceived** by those actors?

In what aspects could the EU **change** its approach towards the EaP partner countries to enhance **mutual cooperation**?

Should the **more-for-more** formula be uphold?

How should the EaP reflect the development in **Ukraine**?

Where should the EU **channel** the development assistance?



# Project goals & methodology

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Project was aiming at mapping the **ideas and opinions** of influential figures from the Visegrad Group and EaP partner countries regarding the EaP initiative, and how they believe it could **move forward**.

Project was supported by the **International Visegrad Fund** within the V4EaP Extended Standard Grants. It was carried out jointly by 9 think-tanks and 1 independent expert.

The project has been conducted since February 2014. The data was gathered from September till November 2014.



# Methodology

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The research was based on an **online survey**. We addressed stakeholders who were involved in, or had the opportunity to engage in, the EaP on a regular basis, and as such were theoretically in a position to offer a **frank assessment**.

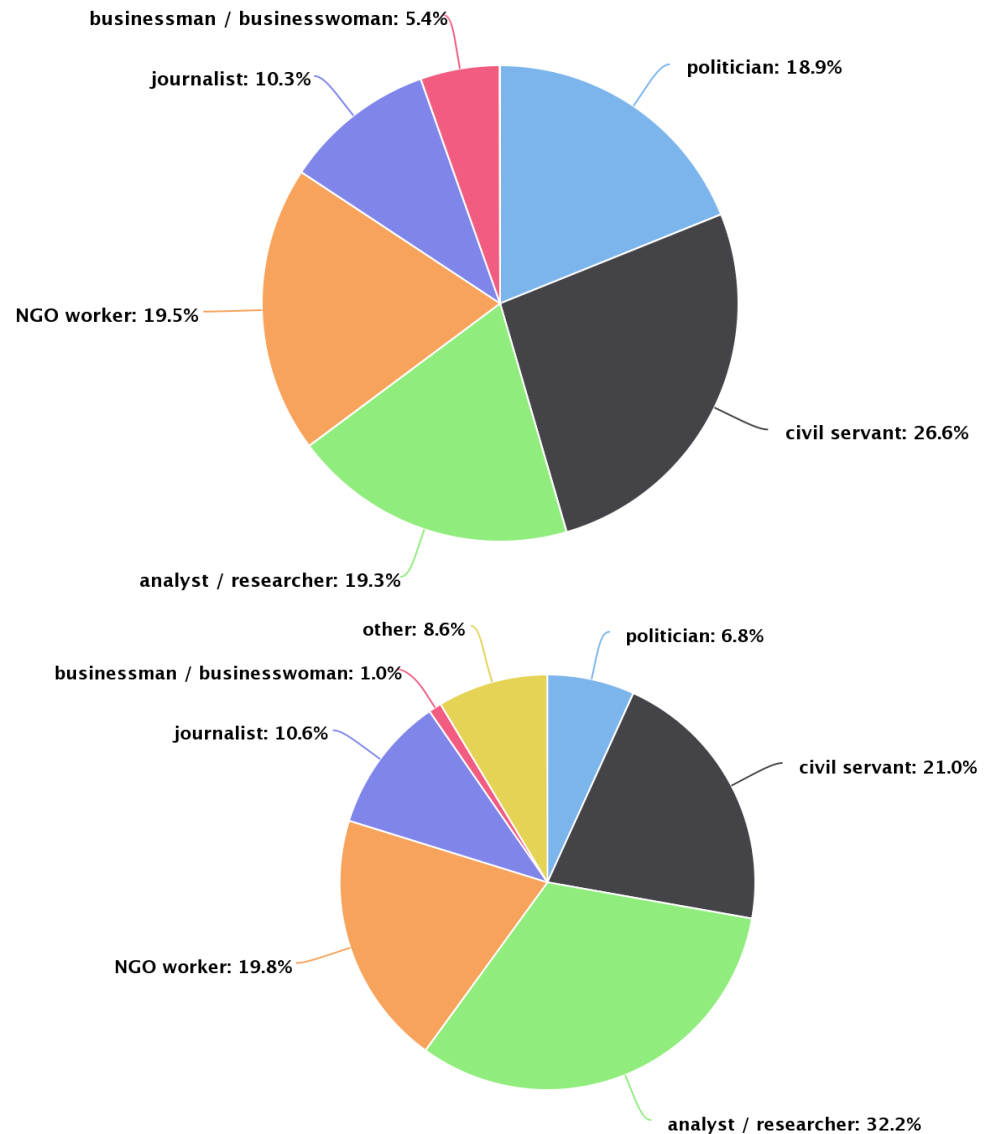
The questionnaire comprised **15 questions** (one question was intended strictly for EaP countries). The questions can be thematically divided into three areas. First, we solicited an **evaluation** of the EaP since its inception in 2009. Secondly, we probed **expectations** regarding the EaP's future direction. The final set of questions was given over to **recommendations**.



# Addressed & respondents

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In all, 1,783 people from the V4 and EaP countries were approached, of whom **651 (36.5%)** responded to the questionnaire, with 390 (21.9%) replying to all questions.

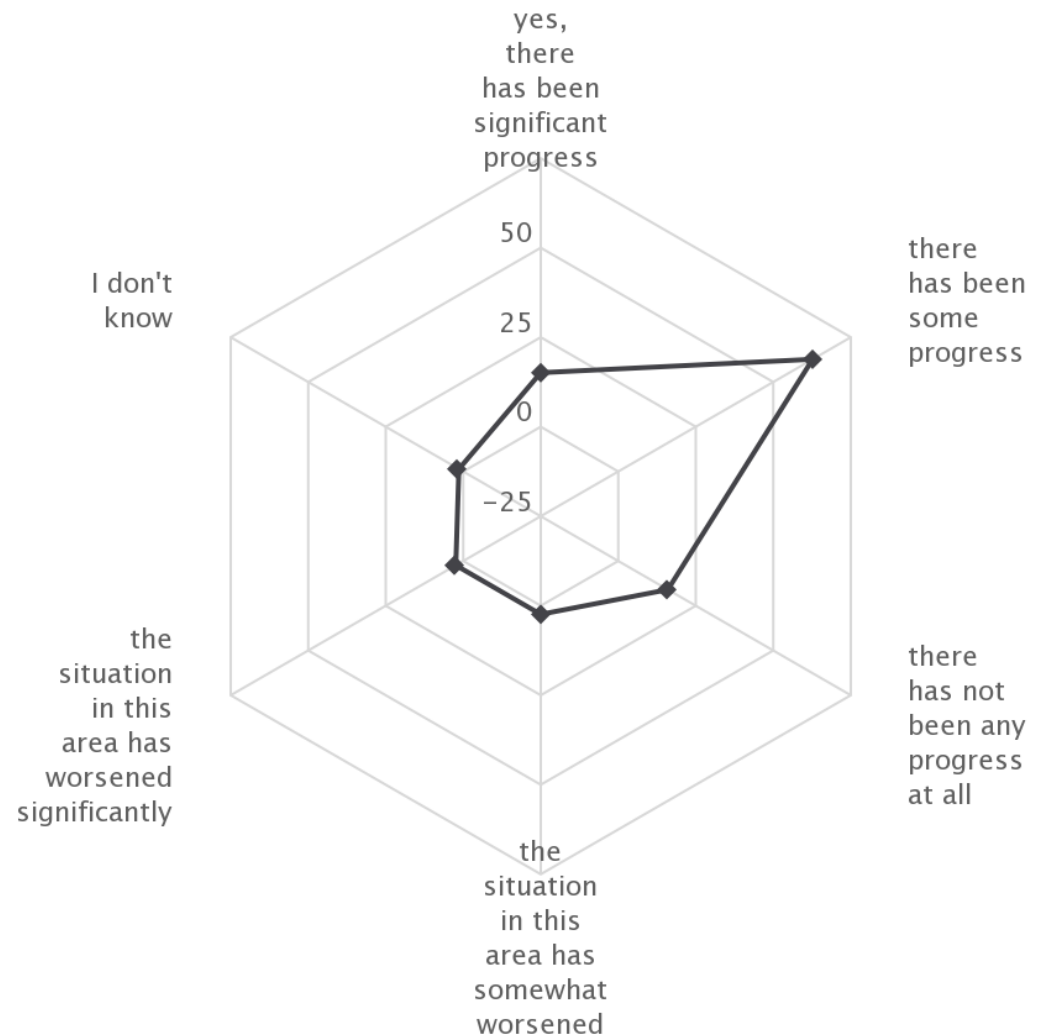




# Has the EaP succeeded?

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The EaP initiative is generally viewed in **a positive light**, with the vast majority of respondents from EaP countries asserting that **there had been progress in the political association** between EU and EaP partner countries.

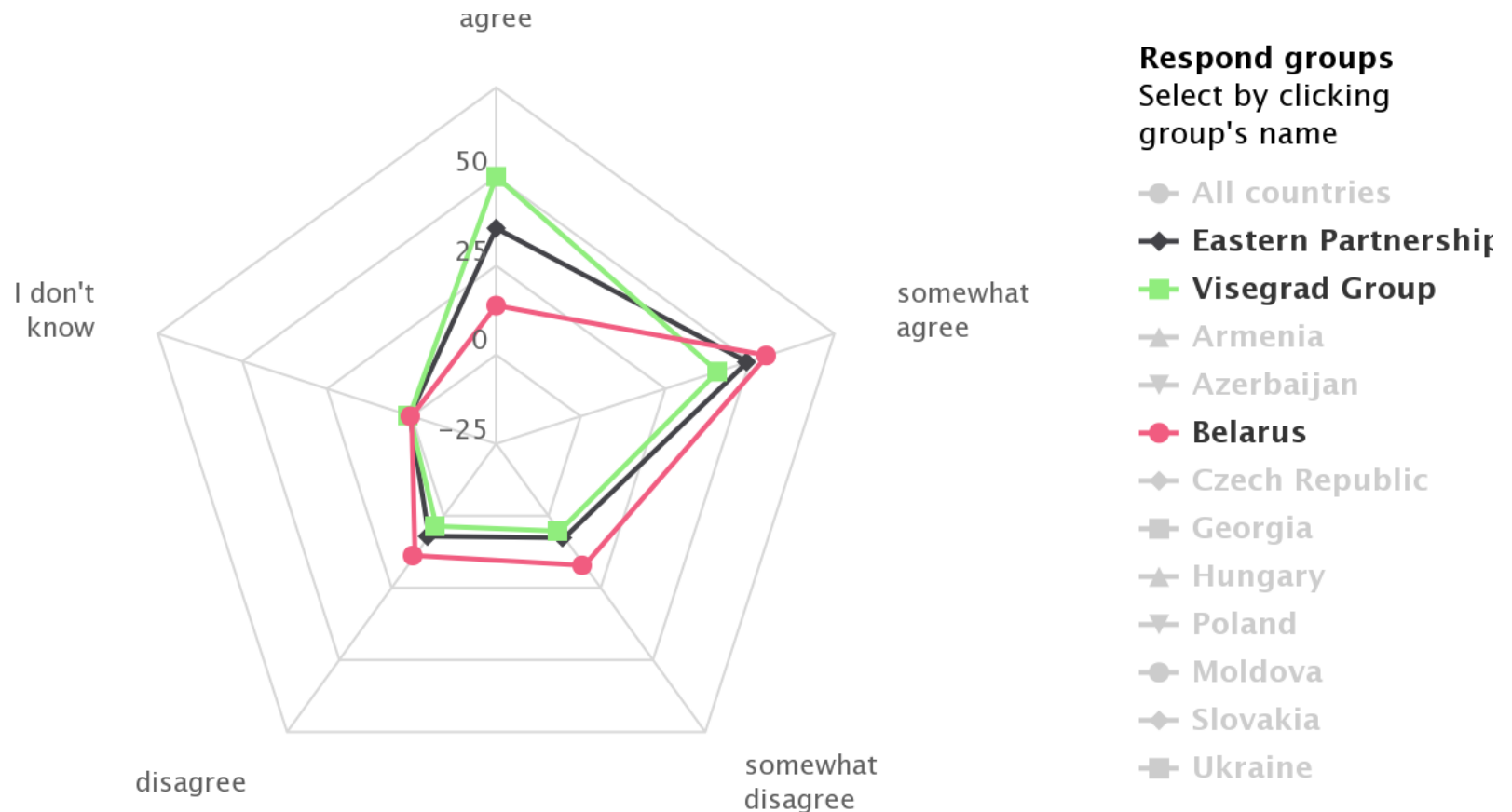




# Has the EaP succeeded?

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The EaP initiative has represented a tool for transformation of the participating countries to European standards and the rule of law.

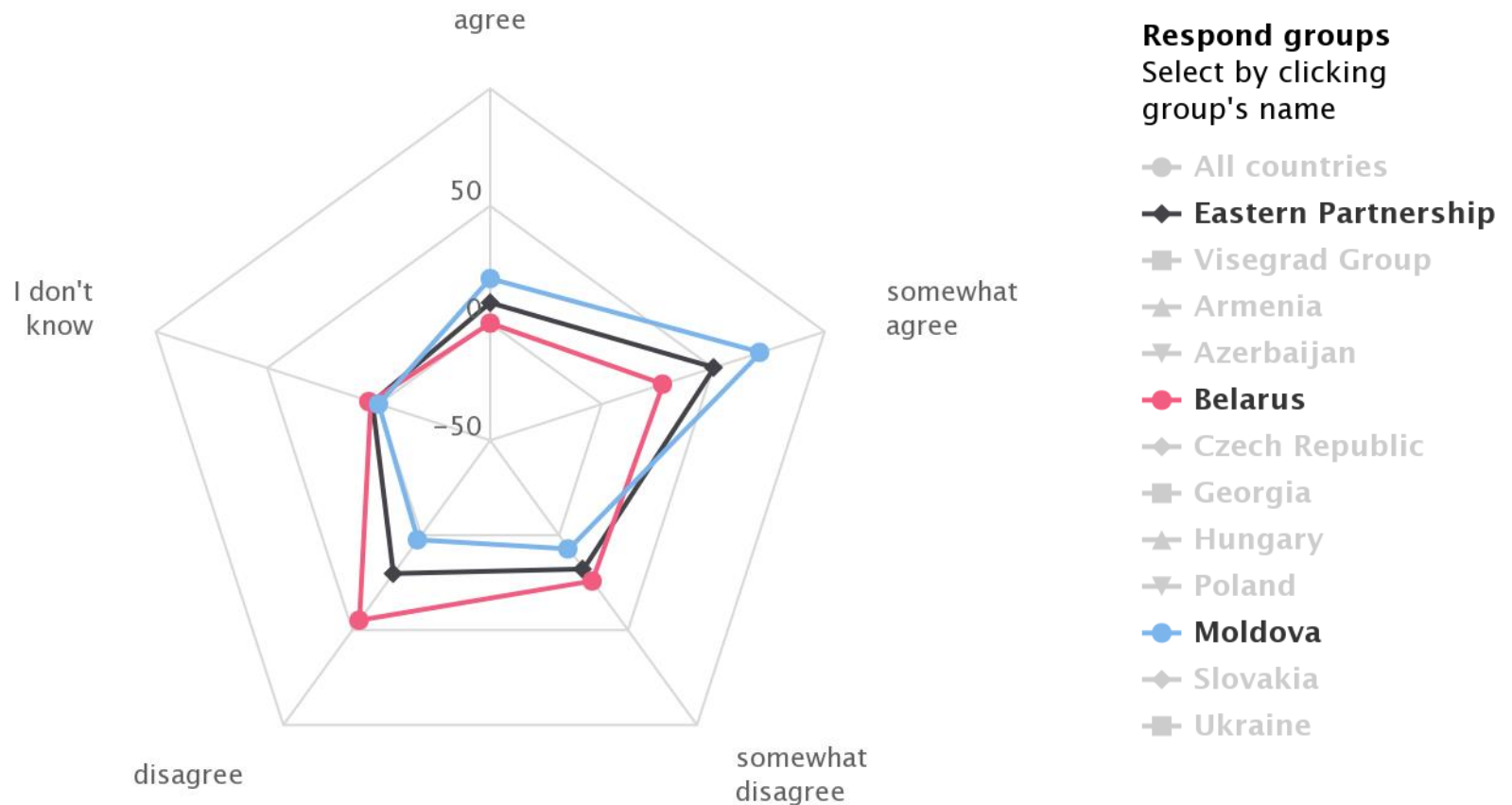




# Has the EaP succeeded?

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The EaP initiative has been effective in the promotion of economic development in the EaP countries.

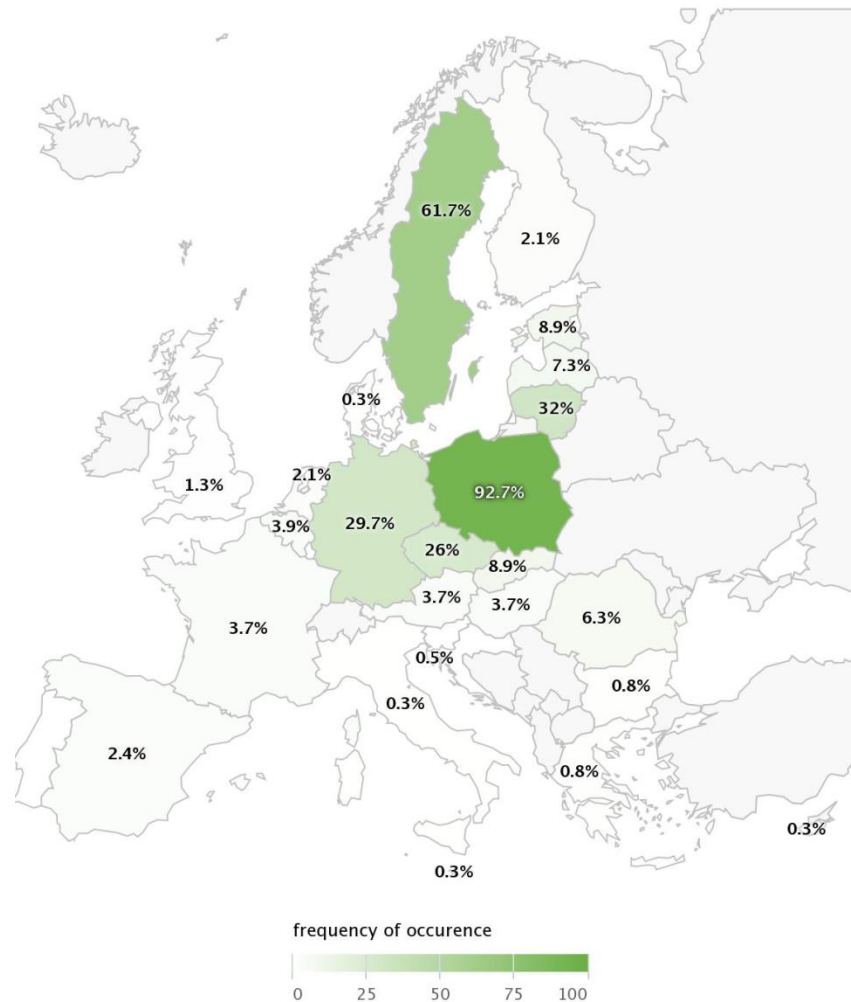




# Has the EaP succeeded?

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

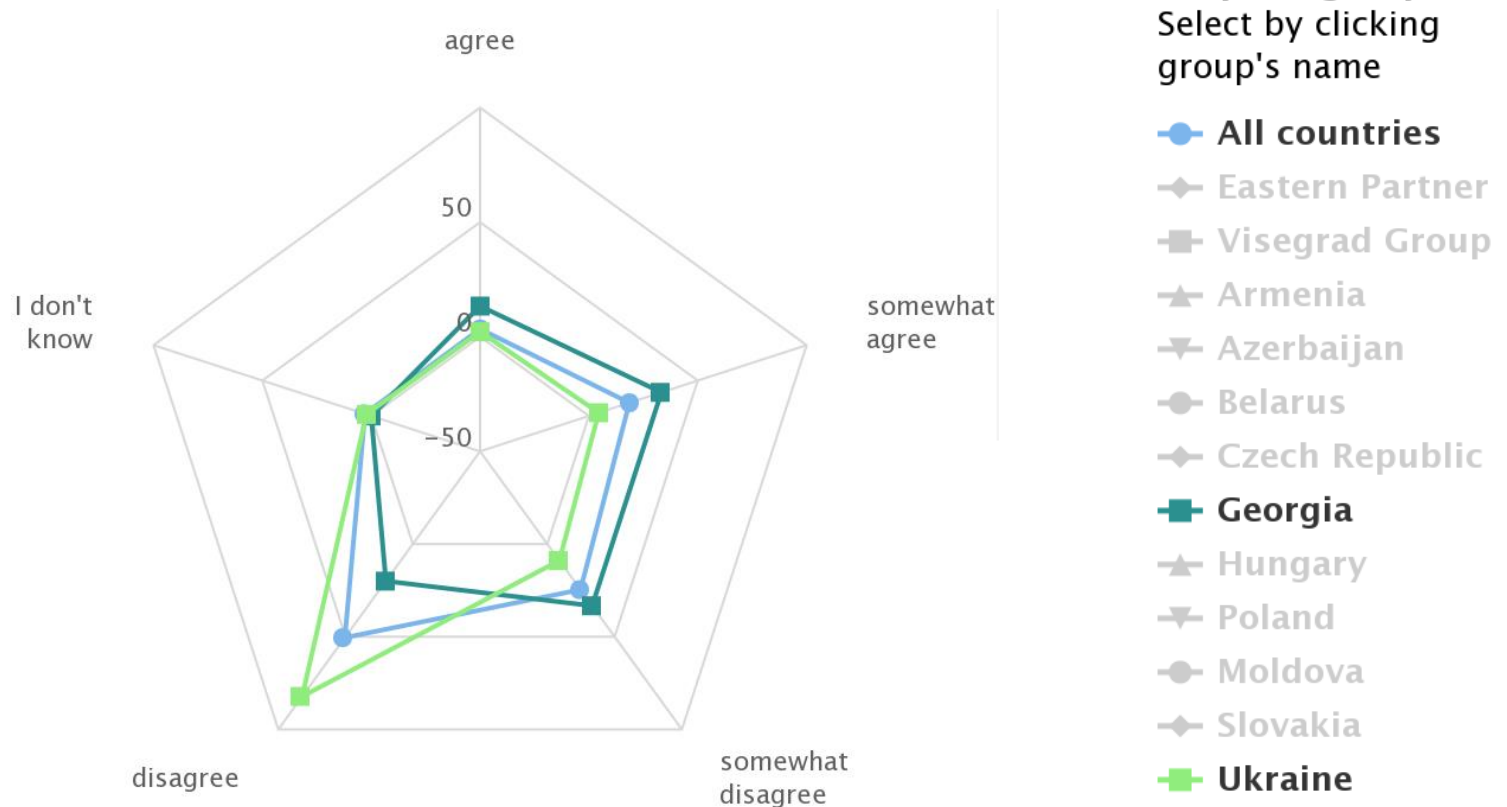




# Was the EaP security dimension robust enough?

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The EaP initiative has served as a key security guarantee for the EaP partner countries.

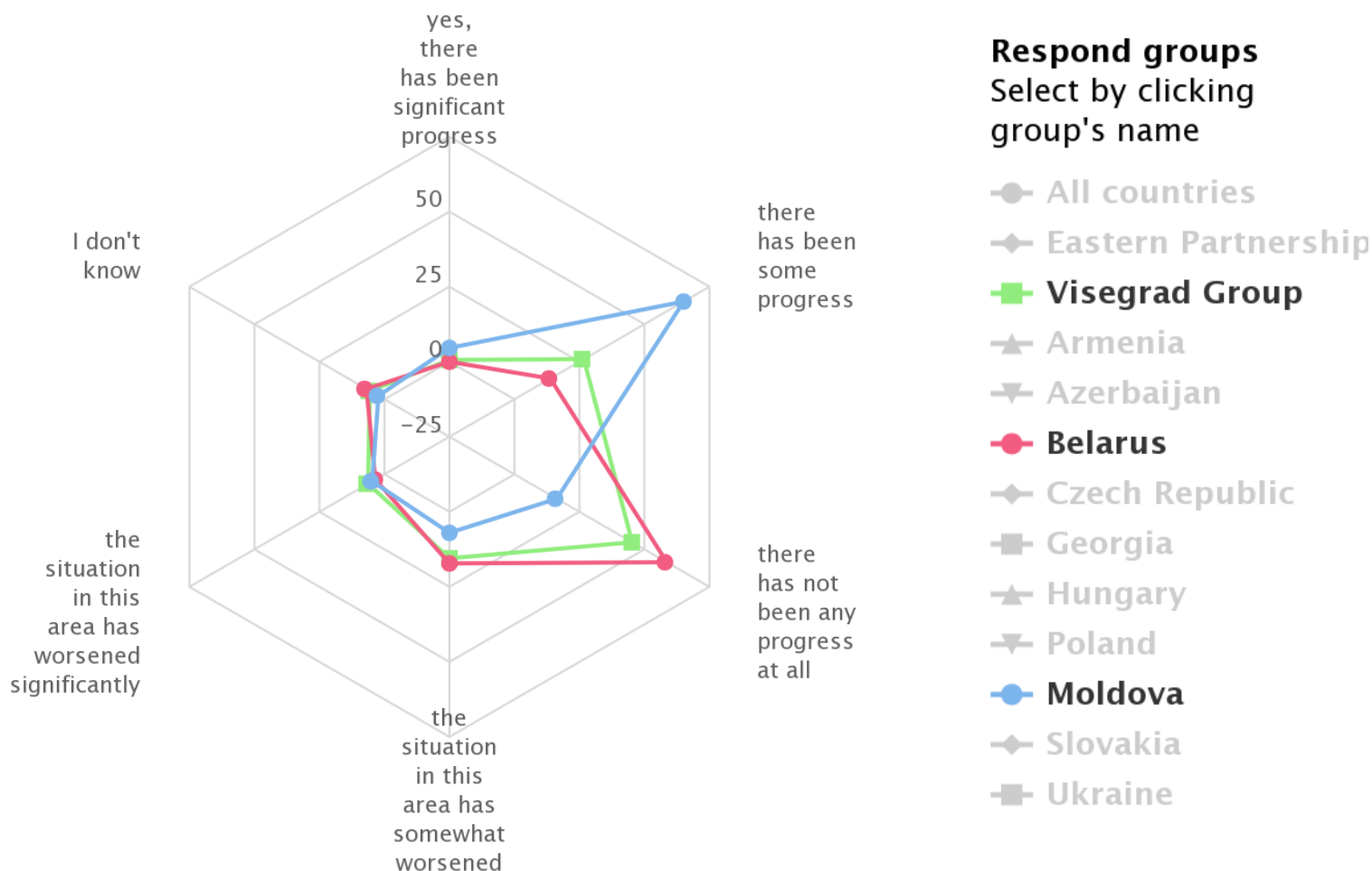




# Was the EaP security dimension robust enough?

13

Ensuring energy security both in the EU and the EaP partner countries.

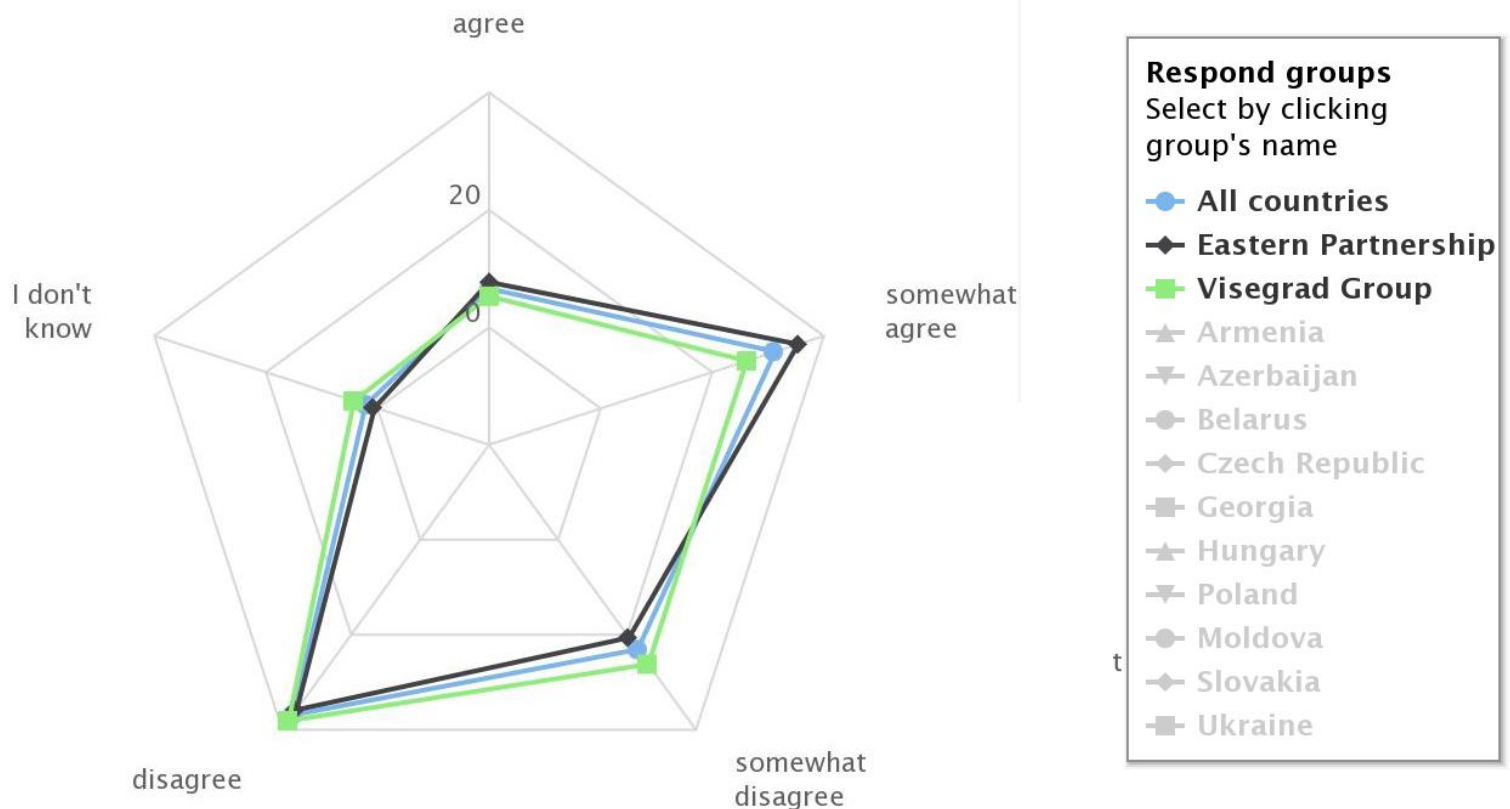




# Was the EaP security dimension robust enough?

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The EaP initiative has represented a geopolitical instrument of the EU aimed against Russia's interests.

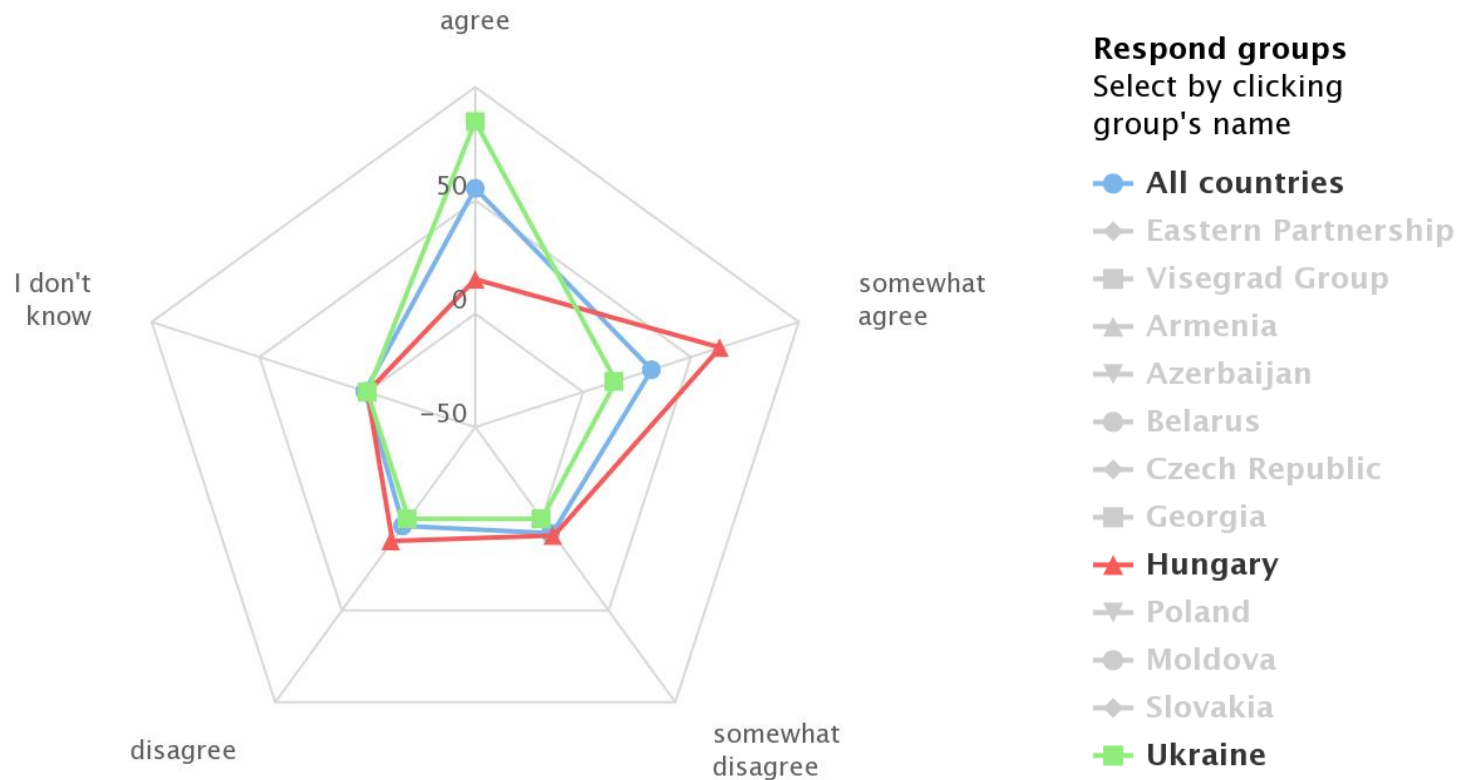




# What should the EU do?

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The EU should offer the perspective of membership as an incentive for reforms in the partner countries.

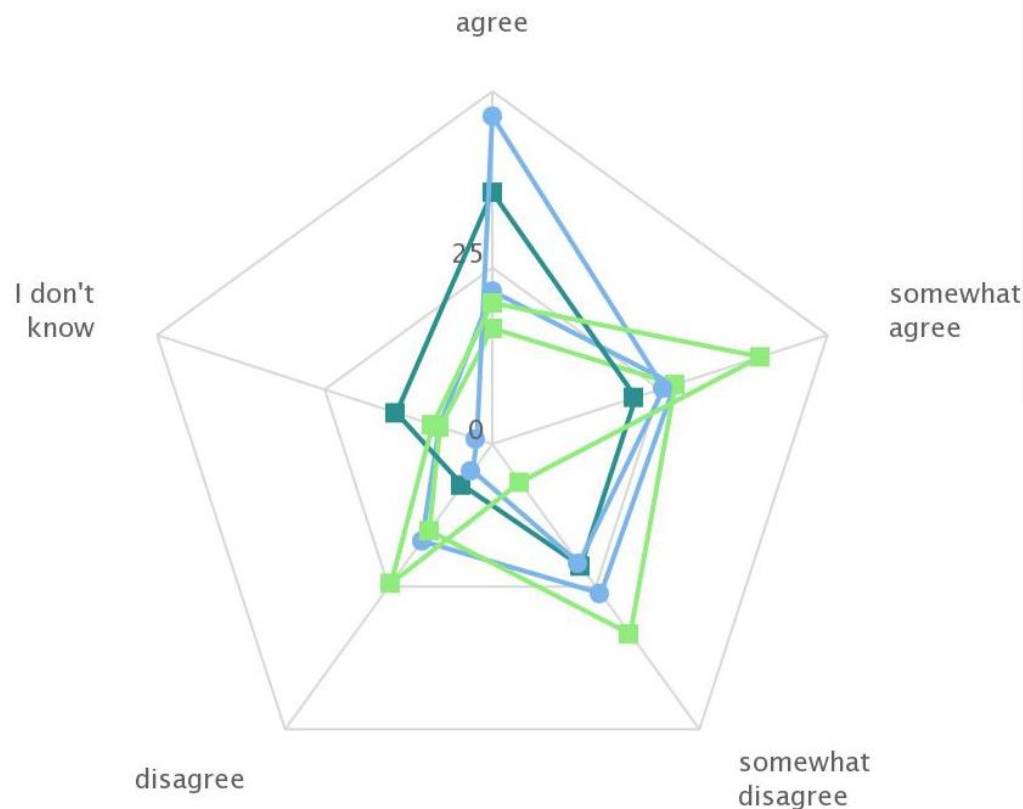




# What should the EU do?

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At least one partner country will obtain the EU candidate status.



## Respond groups

Select by clicking group's name

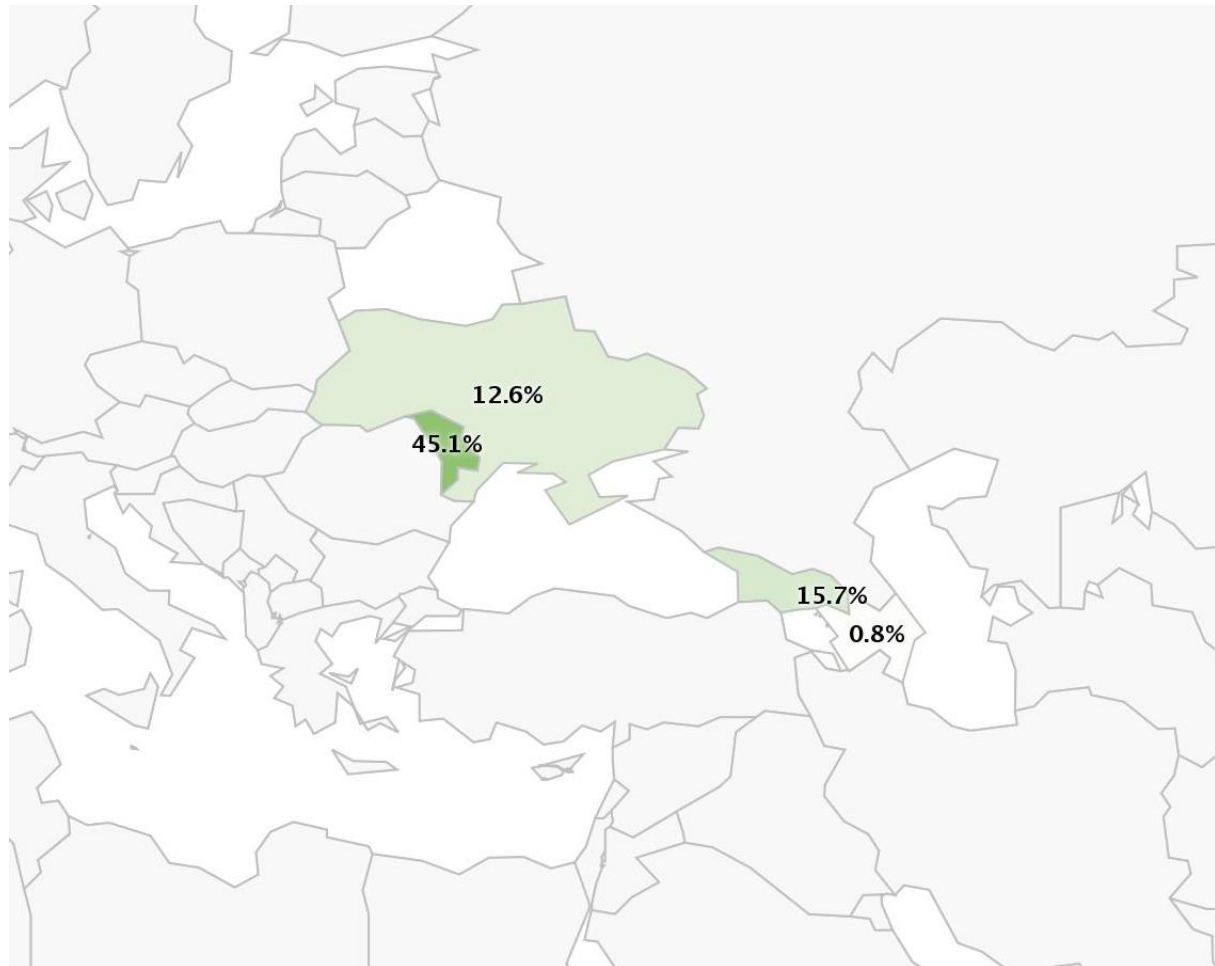
- All countries**
- Eastern Partnership**
- Visegrad Group**
- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Czech Republic
- Georgia
- Hungary
- Poland
- Moldova
- Slovakia
- Ukraine



# What should the EU do?

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Which state is most likely to get the EU candidate status?

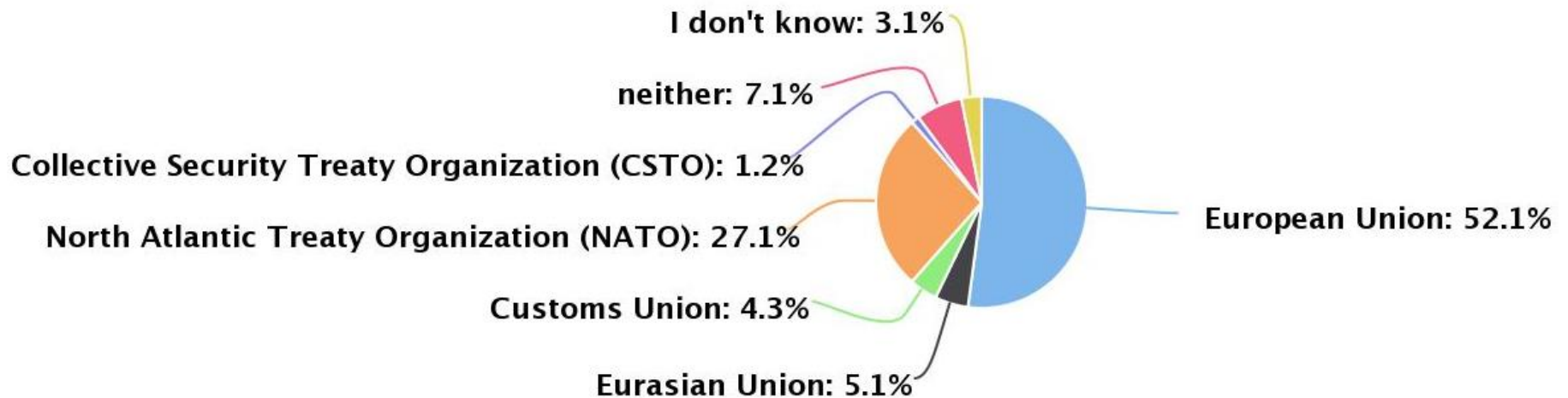




# What should the EU do?

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Integration to which structure would be the most beneficial to your country?





# What should the EU do?

19 Though it was security dimension what failed, respondents would, as a matter of preference, channel **EU's aid into regional development programmes, the SME Facility, the development of regional energy market, energy efficiency, and EaP partner countries' participation in EU Community programmes.**

Although **mobility** has been an EaP priority since the initiative's inception in 2009, there is **room for improvement** according to the stakeholders approached, with the overwhelming majority of EaP and V4 stakeholders (94.2% and 95.2%, respectively) holding this view. Individual mobility was cited by 40.9% of EaP-country respondents as a **policy area that ought to be covered by the EaP in future.**



# Conclusions

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This research has found that the **idea of the EaP is still alive** among those who interact with it. The results six years since its launch in Prague tend to be viewed positively and there is confidence that at least **some partner countries are on a track to Europe**.

However, the survey has also identified certain issues **requiring attention**.

First, the **Russian factor** has been neglected. It is all the harder to ignore it now. Therefore, the EaP must focus on security, including energy security, as these issues are interconnected with Russian policy.



# Conclusions

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Secondly, the EaP needs to be restructured. More attention ought to be paid to **individual mobility, SMEs and regional development programmes.**

Thirdly, it should be noted that there is **no yawning gulf of opinion between the EaP and V4 countries**, which suggests that a solution acceptable to all could be found in talks on EaP or ENP reform.



# For your free use

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Full results are available in three forms:

- interactive [charts and visualizations](#) at [trendy2015.amo.cz](http://trendy2015.amo.cz)
- [research paper](#) in hard copy and pdf
- downloadable [datasets](#) for further research

You can try completing the [questionnaire for yourself](#) or [download it](#).

We would appreciate your feedback!



# Participating organizations

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- **Analytical Centre on Globalization and Regional Cooperation (ACGRC, Armenia)**
- **Association for International Affairs (AMO, Czech Republic)**
- **Caucasian Institute for Economic and Social Research (CIESR, Georgia)**
- **Center for EU Enlargement Studies of the Central European University (CENS CEU, Hungary)**
- **Center for National and International Studies (CNIS, Azerbaijan)**
- **Foreign Policy Association of Moldova (APE, Moldova)**
- **Institute of World Policy (IWP, Ukraine)**
- **Kosciuszko Institute (KI, Poland)**
- **Slovak Foreign Policy Association (SFPA, Slovakia)**
- **Aliaksandr Filipau, independent expert (Belarus)**



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**Thank you for your attention.**

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