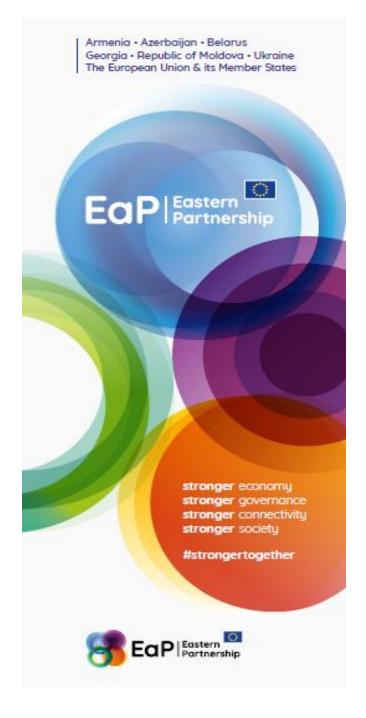


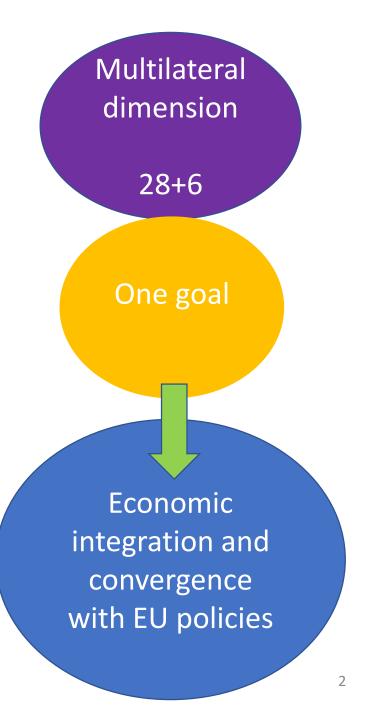
# The road to Broadband Development in the EaP countries

Inga Popovici Chair of IRB EWG ANCOM/ROMANIA

Warsaw 2<sup>nd</sup> of July 2019

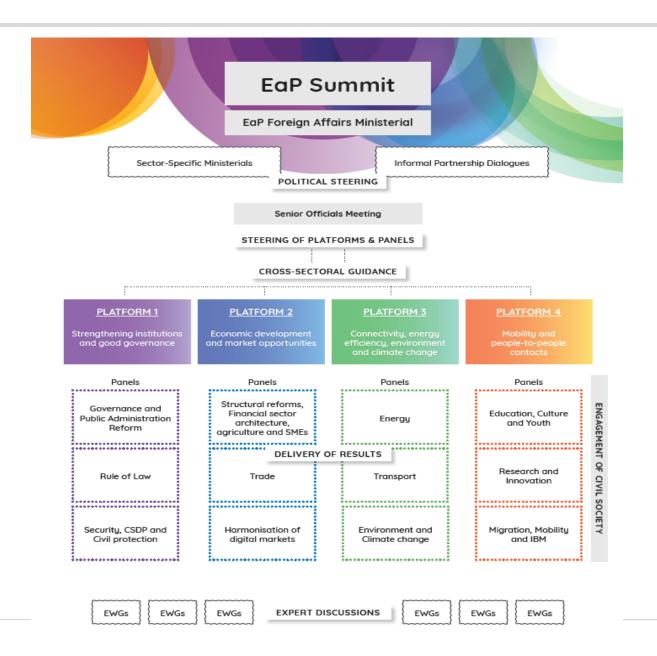






# **EaP Platforms and Panels**





### **EaPeReg as a part of the EaP Initiative**



# **Political agreements**

### Targets by 2020

- Independent NRA for electronic communications in place in at least five EaP countries
- □ Coordinated national spectrum strategies among the EaP countries and with the EU
- ☐ **Harmonized roaming pricing and reduced roaming tariffs** among the EaP countries. Good progress in roaming negotiations with the EU
- Roll-out of national Broadband strategies by all EaP countries able to ensure available, affordable and <u>reliable broadband key</u> element for growth, employment, innovation, trade

## EaPeReg Action Plan 2017-2020 (Mid-Term-Strategy) - 5 pillars:

- 1. Legislative approximation and fostering NRA independence
- 2. Spectrum coordination
- 3. Harmonization of roaming tariffs
- 4. Benchmarking studies
- 5. Broadband Development

# **Responsibilities:**

- ➤ <u>IRB EWG</u> Pillars 1, 4, 5
- ➤ SEWG Pillar 2
- ➤ REWG Pillar 3



## Thematic areas and expected results

### 1. TELECOM RULES



- Achieving common roaming space
- NRA independence strengthening
- Develop coordinated frequency distribution strategies for freeing 700MHz
- Develop broadband in EaP Region



### 2. TRUST & SECURITY

Cross-border **eSignature pilot** and regional framework for **cross-border eServices** for business, **cyber-resilience** strategies



### 3. eTRADE

Three pilots - cross-border eTrade, eCustoms, and eCommerce, preparatory actions to pilot Digital Transport Corridor



## 4. ICT INNOVATION

Actions to favour development of ICT research, start-ups & innovation ecosystems



### 5. eHEALTH

**Harmonised frameworks** for **eHealth**, among EaP partner countries and with the EU



### 6. DIGITAL SKILLS

Designing **digital skills strategies**, **Competence framework** for SMEs



### **COMMUNICATION**

Building EU4Digital brand to streamline **visibility** and leverage impact of EU cooperation across the digital economy and society in the EaP

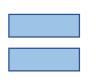
# **EaPeReg and the EU4DIGITAL Project: ways and format of cooperation**





# 1. TELECOM RULES

- Achieving common roaming space
- **NRA independence** strengthening
- Develop coordinated frequency distribution strategies for freeing 700MHz
- Develop broadband in EaP Region





- REWG
- IRB EWG
- SEWG

# **Ministerial meeting on Digital Economy in Bucharest**



# 28th February 2019









#### Third Eastern Partnership Ministerial Meeting on the Digital Economy

28th February 2019, Bucharest, Romania

#### DECLARATION

The Ministers responsible for the Digital Economy and the representatives of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Belarus, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, the representatives of the European Union and the Ministers and representatives of its Member States met in Bucharest, Romania, on 28th February 2019 to discuss the progress of the digital cooperation within the Eastern Partnership (EaP) framework and registered since the second Ministerial meeting in October 2017.

In this third Ministerial meeting and in view of the 10th anniversary of the Eastern Partnership due in May, the participants also addressed the challenges and opportunities of the digital economy in the EaP region. The participants reaffirmed the shared commitment to the digital economy, including the Harmonisation of Digital Markets (HDM) among the EaP partners and with the European Union.

Representatives of International Financial Institutions, regulatory authorities for electronic communications, research and education data networks, the EU4Digital project consortium, as well as representatives of the private sector and the civil society were also present.

Recalling the latest Ministerial Declaration of  $5^{th}$  October 2017 in Tallinn, which provided input to the Joint Declaration of the  $5^{th}$  Eastern Partnership Summit of  $24^{th}$  November 2017 in Brussels, the participants affirmed their commitment to deepen the cooperation in six joint priority topics (electronic communications and infrastructure, trust & security, eTrade, digital skills, ICT innovation & startup ecosystems and eHealth) and defined specific targets for 2020 as part of a roadmap for their digital cooperation, in the context of the 20 deliverables for 2020 and in order to ensure concrete benefits for citizens and businesses.

The participants have today adopted the following Declaration:

The participants reaffirm their commitment to the objectives stated in the Joint Staff Working Document "Eastern Partnership - 20 Deliverables for 2020 - Focusing on key priorities and angible results" of June 2017, in particular regarding Deliverable no. 7: "Harmonisation of Digital Markets".

The participants welcome the launch by the European Commission, of the first Eastern Partnership wide Action under the EU4Digital brand, to support swift and effective implementation of reforms in the EaP partner countries for further developing the digital economy and society, in line with European Union norms as appropriate, including legislation, standards and best practices.

















# Connectivity for a European Gigabit Society



# With better connectivity, what will we be able to do in 2025?

TIME TO DOWNLOAD	(typical European legacy networks – 20 Mbps)	(Fiber to the Home networks – 0.4 Gbps)
CT scan	14 minutes	40 seconds
Virtual reality game	34 minutes	102 seconds
Top smartphone storage	3.6 hours	11 minutes
4K movie	11 hours	33 minutes
Medium sized corporate server restore	28 days	33 hours
Human genome	33 days	39 hours



#connectivity #DigitalSingleMarket

# EU4Digital Initiative – Broadband Component: activities and milestones

Benchmarking Study & Gap Analysis

Conduct broadband market and legal and regulatory framework benchmarking and gap analysis for each of the EaP countries:

- against the EU framework
- technical missions
- survey
- policy gap analysis
- assess capacity building needs

Improving legal and regulatory frameworks for broadband

Support Broadband Mapping

Support broadband

mapping through:

- Workshop
- approaches for broadband mapping
- aligning national legislation with Directive 2014/61/EU

**Knowledge Sharing** 

Promote the sharing of experience and best practices through:

- EaP-wide Knowledge Exchange community
- Working Groups
- Regional workshops

Formulate/ Update
Strategy &
Implementation

Support formulation/updates to broadband strategies in line with relevant EU strategies and support early implementation:

- one policy note per EaP country
- outline broadband action plans
- identify investment opportunities

Develop a common approach to improve the legal and regulatory frameworks to facilitate broadband development in the EaP region:

- by enhancing Regulator's role in line with EU norms
- define specific and measurable targets
- reflect best international practices





# Legal and regulatory frameworks can be further harmonized

- Harmonized legal and regulatory frameworks improve investment potential
- Newer legal reforms (e.g. EU Directive on cost-reduction, on universal services) open new markets and ease investment further

Law/ Regulation/ Policy	AR	AZ	BY	GA	MD	UE
Strengthened independence and administrative capacity of the National Regulatory Agency (NRA)						
Establish public consultation procedures for new regulatory measures						
Establish effective mechanisms for appeal against the decisions of the NRA						
Define relevant product and service markets susceptible to <i>ex ante</i> regulation and analyze markets to identify operators with Significant Market Power (SMP)						
Regulatory powers to ensure adequate access to, and use of, specific network facilities						
Price controls on access and interconnection charges, including obligations for cost- orientation						
Transparency, non-discrimination and accounting separation for SMP operators						
Implement a regulation providing for general authorizations and restricting the need for individual licenses to specific, objectively justified cases						
Policy and regulation adopted ensuring the availability and efficient use of radio spectrum						
Implement regulations on Universal Service Obligations (USO), including mechanisms for costing and financing						
Ensure the respect of users' interests and rights, particularly through number portability and single emergency call number						



# Approach to gap analysis

Overall market analysis of mobile and fixed broadband markets to assess market outcomes and identify bottlenecks to development

Supply Side market
Analysis

**Market Analysis** 

**Enabling Environment Analysis** 

Policy Framework
Analysis

Comparative analysis of national level strategies or policies to support broadband development specifically, or the digital economy in general

Assessment of demand and internet use surveys available across countries, and analysis of available surveys

Demand Side market
Analysis

Legal & Regulatory Framework Analysis

Analysis of country laws and regulations, with respect to international best practices and relevant EU Directives

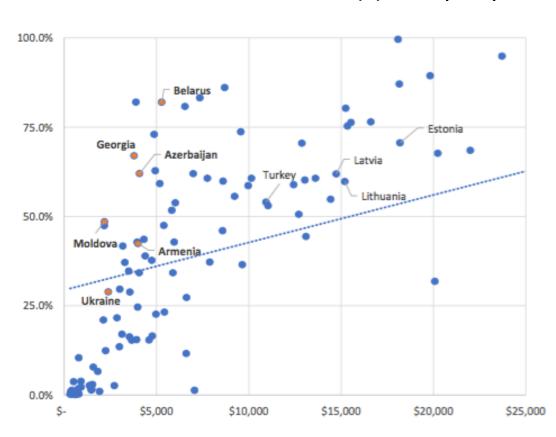
EaP | Eastern | Partnership

Identify and highlight **priorities for market development** along the above lines - common legal and regulatory approach, with country specific pathways to achievement of objectives

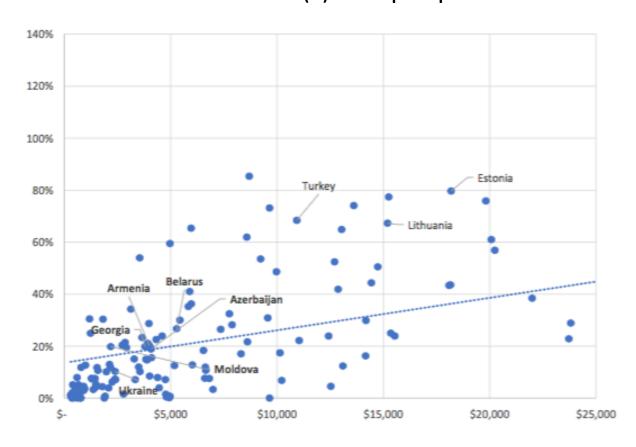


# Overall, EaP countries compare well with global income peers

### Fixed Broadband Household Penetration (%) vs. GNI per capita



### 4G Penetration (%) vs. GNI per capita



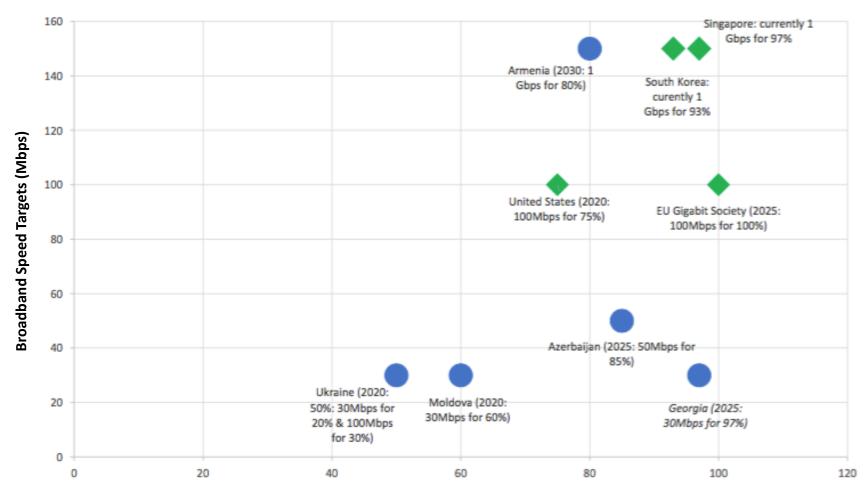
Source: TeleGeography Global Comms Data; World Bank

Source: GSMA Intelligence; World Bank





# Currently, national strategies have diverse targets, with potential to be more ambitious



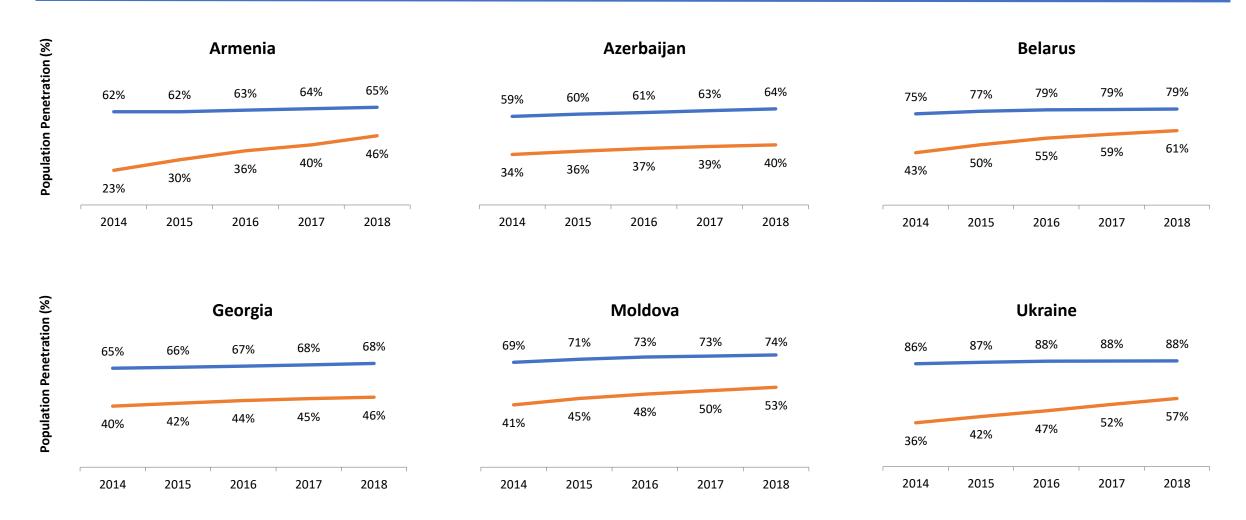




# Rate of growth of MBB also varies

**Unique Mobile Penetration** 

(% population)

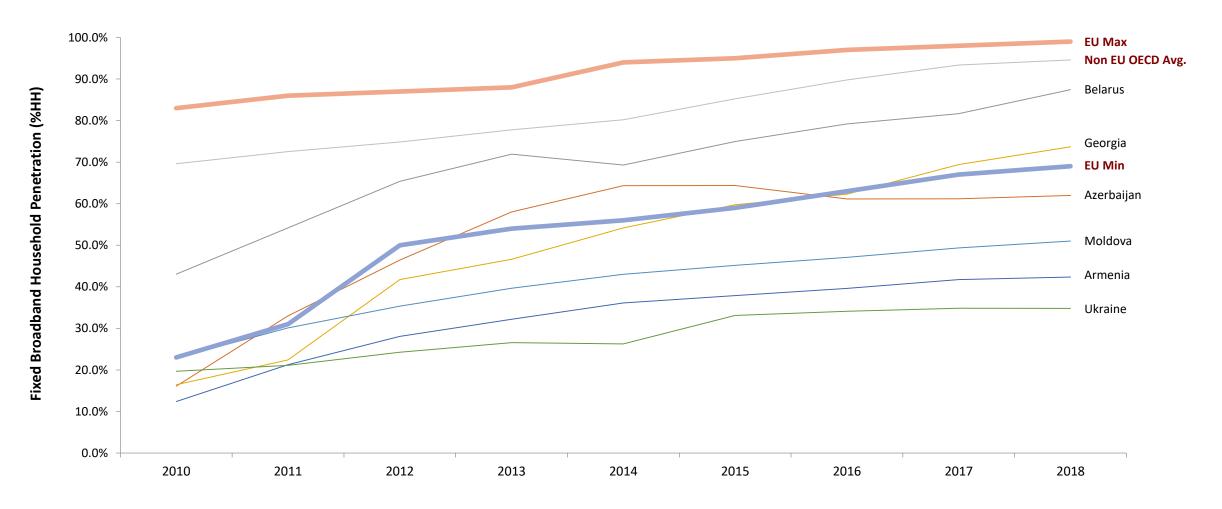




**Unique Mobile Broadband Penetration (% population)** 

Source: GSMA Intelligence
WORLD BANK GROUP

# FBB penetration trends demonstrate scope for further stimulation



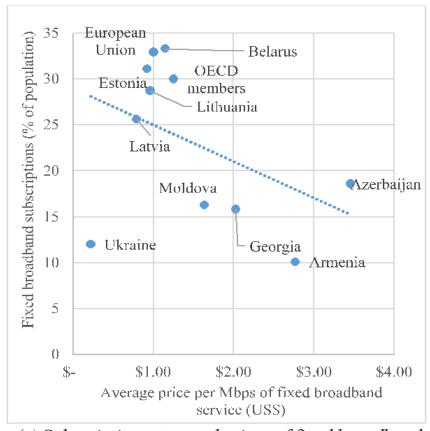
Source: Number of connections - ITU 2017; Population & No. of Households - EaPeReg Statistical Report GSMA 2018; EU statistics - EuroStat, 2018; OECD Statistics: TeleGeography, 2018



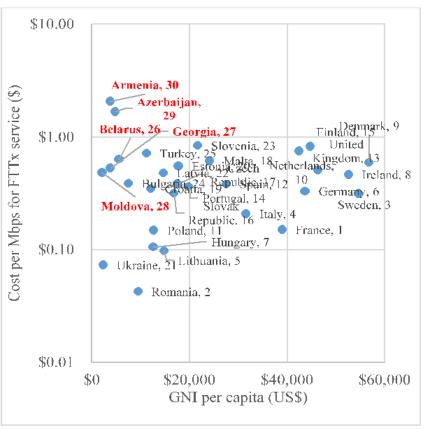


# Global affordability of fixed broadband and FTTH services scatter

Source: TeleGeography GlobalComms Data 2018



(a) Subscription rates and prices of fixed broadband services are negatively correlated



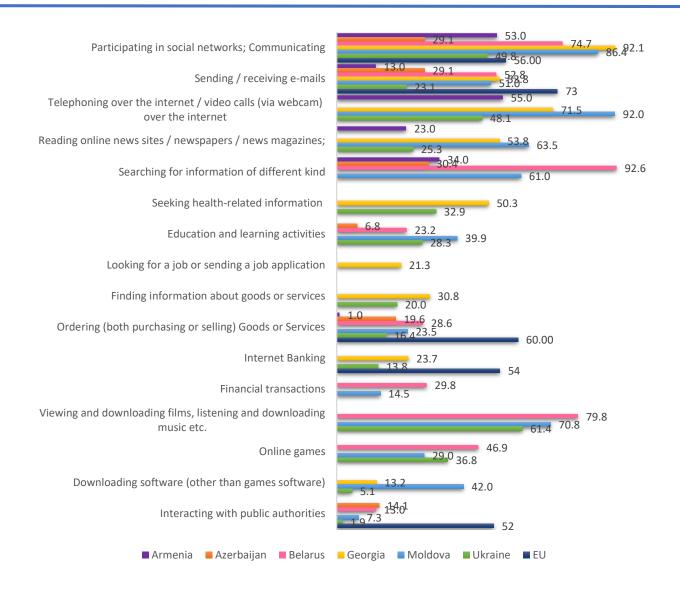
(b) EaP countries' fiber internet services are relatively less affordable





# Type of use of internet

# Source: National survey data from individual countries, EuroStat for EU







# **Connecting Georgia**

A National Broadband Development Strategy and Implementation Plan



- Technical Assistance provided by the World Bank on Infrastructure Law [EU Directive 61/2014]. Portugal and Poland experiences
- Twinning project with *UKE-Poland* on the comprehensive recommendation document for development of the infrastructure mapping
- Launch of the first trial version of the infrastructure mapping by the end of 2019

# **PRIORITY ACTIONS for EaPeReg**



Cooperation with other networks/organizations that are dealing with similar topics (BEREC, EMERG, REGULATEL, CEPT/ITU)



# Thank you for your attention!

Q&A