

Eastern Partnership summit Brussels, 24 November 2017

The 5th Eastern Partnership (EaP) summit will take place in Brussels on 24 November. It will bring together heads of state or government of European Union member states with those of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

The summit will be chaired by the President of the European Council, Donald Tusk, who, together with the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker, will represent the European Union.

The EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the Commission, Federica Mogherini, Commissioners Johannes Hahn and Cecilia Malmström will also attend the summit.

The six partner countries will be represented by the President of Armenia Serzh Sargsyan, President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev, Prime Minister of Georgia Giorgi Kvirikashvili, President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova Pavel Filip and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus Vladimir Makei.

EaP Leaders will take stock of what has been achieved since the last summit in Riga in 2015 and look forward to future cooperation. The summit will allow them to discuss how to further strengthen cooperation in the four priority areas agreed in Riga: stronger economy, governance, connectivity and society. The summit is due to adopt a joint declaration.

[Meeting page: Eastern Partnership summit, 24/11/2017](#)

Media programme

08.15 Arrival of delegations (Europa Forum), doorstep opportunity

09.10 Official handshake

09.30 Plenary session of the 5th EaP Summit

13.15 Family photo

13.30 Working lunch

15:30 Joint press conference (Presidents Donald Tusk and Jean-Claude Juncker and Prime Minister of Estonia Jüri Ratas)

Public events and press conferences by video streaming: <http://video.consilium.europa.eu>

Video coverage in broadcast quality (MPEG4) and photo gallery on:

<http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/photos>

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

The summit is an opportunity to build on the EaP achievements to date and to discuss issues on which the European Union and partner countries can advance together.

It will focus on projects that are delivering and will continue to deliver tangible results to citizens, across each of the four priority areas of cooperation agreed in Riga. Under these four priority areas of cooperation, the European Union, together with the partner countries, has identified twenty concrete deliverables to be achieved by the year 2020.

[Eastern Partnership - Focusing on key priorities and deliverables \(Joint staff working document\)](#)

Economy and governance

The Association Agreements with Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine, have all generated important economic opportunities. Leaders should confirm their commitment to enhancing **economic development** and improving market opportunities, and access to finance in the partner countries, especially for SMEs.

Under the **EU4Digital initiative**, the EU will be focusing on the development of a high-capacity broadband internet network, the development of online services and harmonised roaming prices.

On **governance**, leaders are due to call for scaled-up efforts to strengthen institutions, accelerate the pace of judicial and administrative reforms to bring better, more efficient services and increase transparency and accountability.

The EU will also continue furthering meaningful engagement with civil society.

Connectivity and society

In the area of **connectivity**, leaders will discuss progress regarding interconnections between the partners in **transport network**, and **energy supply**. The External Investment Plan will support private investments in transport, energy efficiency, and logistics in view of having sustainable connections.

An **Aviation Agreement** with Armenia is also expected to be initialled at the summit.

Finally, leaders will express their commitment to **stronger society** through increased mobility and contacts between people. The entry into force of **visa liberalisations** with Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine demonstrate the EU and the partner countries' commitment to significant reforms.

The summit should also look at progress in **education**, research cooperation and fostering people-to-people contacts through the commitment to Horizon2020 and the Erasmus+ program.

Bilateral relations

The summit will be an occasion for the participants to reaffirm the sovereign right of each partner to choose freely the level of ambition and the goals to which it aspires in its relations with the European Union. The summit is expected to call for strengthened and **differentiated relations** between the EU and its six partners.

For Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine the implementation of the Association Agreements including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Areas (AA/DCFTA) has been a priority in the recent years.

For Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus the emphasis has been on further developing tailor-made relations with the EU.

The **EU-Armenia comprehensive and enhanced partnership agreement (CEPA)** is expected to be signed in the margins of the summit. Negotiations on a new framework agreement with Azerbaijan are in progress.

Eastern Partnership factsheets

[Factsheet on the Eastern Partnership's 20 deliverables for 2020 \(EEAS\)](#)

[Eastern Partnership \(background information\)](#)

[Factsheet on myths about the Eastern Partnership \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Armenia relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Belarus relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Azerbaijan relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Georgia relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Moldova relations \(EEAS\)](#)

[Facts and figures on EU-Ukraine relations \(EEAS\)](#)