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# Institution-building and promoting good-governance in the Eastern Neighbourhood: the Hungarian experience

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## Definitions

- **Capacity building or Institutional capacity building:**  
**Capacity**
  - to promote democratic governance,
  - to improve the structures and institutions of economic policy-making,
  - to invigorate the strength of civil society,
  - to contribute to national development and
  - to create an environment of social empowerment for the people where they can meaningfully contribute to decisions that affect their life and the development process.

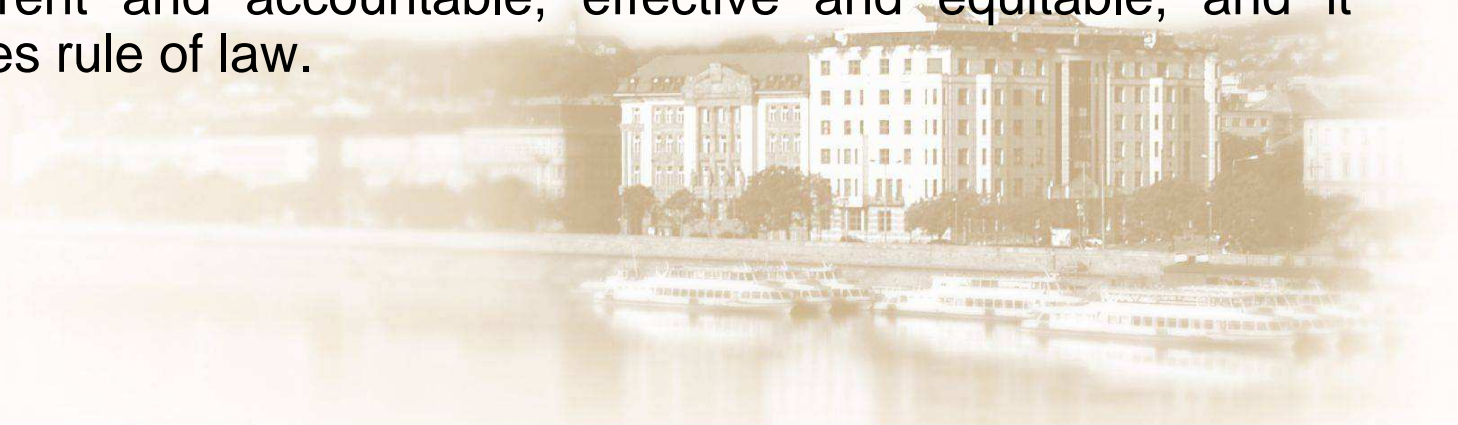
This entails the availability of the human, material and financial resources essential for efficiently managing the institution and the identification and recruitment of personnel with the required knowledge, expertise, experience, competence and leadership to manage the institution.



- **Good governance:**

According to UNDP:

- governance is „ the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country’s affairs at all levels.
- It comprises mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations and mediate their differences.
- Good governance is, among other things, participatory, transparent and accountable, effective and equitable, and it promotes rule of law.





## Eastern Neighbours

- **large variation in institutional and economic development from Armenia to Belarus**
- **Common patterns:**
  - **All of them successfully developed independent state structures (good news)**
  - **But suffer from:**
    - **Entrenched post-soviet political elites with low degree of openness to democratisation**
    - **Strongly centralized power structures/weak local govt's**
    - **Lack of human resources with democratic tradition and experience to build up market-compatible institutions**
    - **Almost non-existent civil society to promote transformation and control over politics**



## EaP's goals

- to assist transformation
- to facilitate approximation towards the EU *acquis*
- to cope with individual significancies





## Eastern Partnership - bilateral

- New contractual relations
  - Association Agreements
- Further economic integration
  - deep and comprehensive free-trade agreements
- Mobility and security
  - visa liberalisation
- Energy security
- Comprehensive Institution-Building Programmes
  - regional development, cross-border co-operation





## Democracy, Good governance and stability platform (No. 1) - multilateral

- **Stimulates advancement**
- **Market for best practices**
- **Brings together donors and donated**
  
- **Targets:**
  - **The legislature**
  - **The executive(including local authorities)**
  - **The judiciary**
  - **Political parties**
  - **Civil society**
  - **The private sector**





## Platform 1 Working programme 2009-11

- Focus on:
- Three aspects of Democratic Governance, namely:
  - Improved functioning of the Judiciary
  - Public Administration Reform
  - Fight against Corruption
- The launch and implementation of the Flagship Initiative on Integrated Border Management
- The launch and implementation of the FI on Prevention of natural and man-made disasters



## Like-minded EU Member States' role

- To fully exploit added value of donor and donated tradition
- To help to identify most critical areas for capacity building (inter-institutional co-operation; AP-assessment etc.)
- To stimulate co-operation among sponsor-institutions
  - Within the EU (COM Dir-s, SIGMA-project etc)
  - With other actors (UNDP, other UN, OECD, int. financial inst., like WB, EBRD etc)
- consultations for harmonising bilateral assistance programs
- exchange information on best practices (how domestic co-operation is developed etc)



## Hungarian contribution 1

- 20 years of democratic transformation, EU membership preparation, 5 years of membership
- Institutional memory on central and local administration levels
- Limited resources for big projects → visiting fellow programs, expert allocation, trainings etc.
- 2011 Presidency: special focus on the EaP



## Hungarian contribution 2

- Moldova:
  - EU adviser to the Prime Minister's Office
  - Assistance for establishing the ombudsman's office
  - Visiting programs: social security adm., MFA-diplomats
- Ukraine:
  - Local administration programs, capacity building
- Belarus:
  - Border management
- South Caucasus: to be continued...



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Köszönöm megtisztelő figyelmüket!  
Thank you for your kind attention!

