



Brussels, 4.12.2014  
C(2014) 9117 final

**COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION**

**of 4.12.2014**

**on the ENI East Regional Action Programme 2014 Part 2 to be financed from the  
general budget of the European Union**

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### on the ENI East Regional Action Programme 2014 Part 2 to be financed from the general budget of the European Union

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action<sup>1</sup>, and in particular Article 2 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The Commission has adopted the ENI East Regional Strategy Paper<sup>3</sup> and Indicative Programme<sup>4</sup> for the period 2014-2020, which provides for the following priorities: *Eastern Partnership including Flagship Initiatives; regional cooperation frameworks; energy and transport initiatives involving the wider region and horizontal and sectoral support.*
- (2) The objective pursued by the Annual Action Programme to be financed under the European Neighbourhood Instrument<sup>5</sup> is: (1) supporting the implementation of aviation agreements in the Eastern Partnership Countries and upgrading civil aviation safety and security standards in Central Asia (2) to support the activities of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and capacity development for civil society organisations through the Eastern Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility 2014 (3) to facilitate the implementation of the multilateral dimension of the Eastern Partnership, the Black Sea Synergy and the Northern Dimension.
- (3) The first action entitled "Support to the implementation of aviation agreements in the Eastern Partnership countries and upgrading civil aviation safety and security standards in Central Asia" supports the sustainable development of civil aviation and the civil aviation administration system in the beneficiary countries, i.e. the Eastern Partnership countries and 4 Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan). It aims at upgrading regulations and working practices to reach compliance with the international standards in the fields of air safety and security and, specifically for the Eastern Partnership countries, with the requirements of the Common Aviation Area Agreements (CAAA) being negotiated or signed with

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<sup>1</sup> OJ L77, 15.03.2014, p. 95.

<sup>2</sup> OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Decision C(2014)5200.

<sup>4</sup> Decision C(2014)5200.

<sup>5</sup> Regulation (EU) No 232/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing a European Neighbourhood Instrument, OJ L77, 15.03.2014, p.27.

the EU. The action will be implemented under direct management through grant contract(s).

- (4) The second action entitled "Eastern Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility 2014 – Support to the activities of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and to regional civil society capacity development projects" will support the functioning of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum in order for the Forum to become more representative and allow it to become an effective and reliable counterpart for national governments. Additionally, the action will support the creation of regional partnerships between civil society organisations allowing for exchanges of experience and increasing the capacities of less experienced organisations. The action will be implemented under direct management through grant contract(s).
- (5) The third action entitled "ENI-East Global Allocation 2014" is a Support Measure and will support the project management cycle in the Eastern Neighbourhood such as preparation of programmes, and information and communication activities. The Russian Federation will also benefit from the action. The action will be implemented under direct management through grant and procurement contracts.
- (6) The fourth action entitled "Implementation of the Eastern Partnership multilateral dimension and support to the implementation of the Black Sea Synergy and the Northern Dimension" will provide a flexible mechanism giving the possibility to finance small-scale actions in line with the objectives and priorities of the Eastern dimension of the European Neighbourhood Policy by supporting the multilateral dimension of the Eastern Partnership, of the Black Sea Synergy and of the Northern Dimension. The state of EU-Russia relations will impact the activities that may be implemented in the framework of the Northern Dimension and the Black Sea Synergy in which Russia could be involved. The action will be implemented under direct management through grant and service contracts.
- (7) This Decision complies with the conditions laid down in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union<sup>6</sup>.
- (8) It is appropriate to acknowledge that grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer who ensures that the conditions for an exception to a call for proposals according to Article 190 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 are fulfilled. The reasons for and potential beneficiaries of such award should be identified, where known, in this Decision for reasons of transparency.
- (9) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Commission Delegation Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (10) The Commission is required to define the term "non-substantial change" in the sense of Article 94(4) of Commission Delegation Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer by delegation, or under his or her responsibility, by sub-delegation (hereinafter referred to as the 'responsible authorising officer').

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<sup>6</sup> OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

- (11) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the European Neighbourhood Instrument Committee set up by Article 15 of Regulation (EU) No 232/2014.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*  
*Adoption of the programme*

The following Annual Action Programme, constituted by the actions identified in the second paragraph and attached as annexes, is approved:

ENI East Regional Action Programme 2014 Part 2

The actions constituting this measure are:

- Annex I: Supporting the implementation of aviation agreements in the Eastern Partnership countries and upgrading civil aviation safety and security standards in Central Asia;
- Annex II: Eastern Neighbourhood Civil Society Facility 2014 - Support to the activities of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum and to regional civil society capacity development projects.
- Annex III: ENI-East Global Allocation 2014
- Annex IV: Implementation of the Eastern Partnership multilateral dimension and support to the implementation of the Black Sea Synergy and the Northern Dimension.

*Article 2*  
*Financial Contribution*

The maximum contribution of the European Union authorised by this Decision for the implementation of the programme is set at EUR 21.5 million to be financed from the following budget lines of the general budget of the European Union for 2014:

- budget line 21 03 02 01 for an amount of EUR 5.0 million from the general budget of the European Union for 2014;
- budget line 21 03 02 02 for an amount of EUR 5.0 million from the general budget of the European Union for 2014;
- budget line 21 03 03 03 for an amount of EUR 11.5 million from the general budget of the European Union for 2014.

*Article 3*  
*Implementation Modalities*

Section 4 of the Annexes referred to in the second paragraph of Article 1 sets out the elements required by Article 94(2) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals by the responsible authorising officer according to Article 190 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012. Where known at the moment of the adoption of this Decision, the reasons for this as well as the potential beneficiaries shall be identified in the attached Annexes.

The financial contribution referred to in Article 2 shall also cover any possible interests due for late payment.

*Article 4*  
*Non-substantial changes*

Increases or decreases of up to EUR 10 million not exceeding 20% of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2, or cumulated changes to the allocations of specific actions not exceeding 20% of that contribution shall not be considered substantial, provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions. The use of contingencies shall be taken into account in the ceiling referred to in this article.

The responsible authorising officer may adopt these non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 4.12.2014

*For the Commission*  
*Johannes HAHN*  
*Member of the Commission*