INTRODUCTORY LETTER

ABOUT EPD

THE EPD NETWORK

2011 AT A GLANCE

PROGRAMMES

ARMENIA:
AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IN ARMENIA

BELARUS:
PARTNERS IN EUROPE – WARSAW-BRUSSELS-MINSK. STUDY VISITS
ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF YOUNG OPINION LEADERS

GHANA:
SUPPORT TO INITIATIVES PROMOTING PEACEFUL,
TRANSPARENT AND CREDIBLE ELECTIONS IN GHANA AND INCREASING
THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN POLITICS

MOLDOVA:
SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION

UKRAINE:
ENHANCING CIVIC OVERSIGHT OF REFORMS IN UKRAINE
IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY

ZIMBABWE:
FACILITATING ZIMBABWE CIVIL SOCIETY’S IMMEDIATE
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM PROCESS

EGYPT, GEORGIA AND ZIMBABWE:
PRESS FREEDOM ALLIANCE 2.0

ADVOCACY AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

FINANCES
2011 was an exceptionally interesting year for the European Partnership for Democracy (EPD). Founded in 2008 by a group of European civil society organisations, multiparty institutes and think tanks, EPD has made considerable progress in becoming a truly European hub for knowledge exchange and advocacy and in developing its reputation in the field of democracy assistance.

Since becoming the Executive Director at EPD in 2010, I have focused on restructuring and consolidating the organisation of our Secretariat in Brussels, which serves as a back office for project implementation and to service our growing network of partners in Europe and abroad. At the same time, throughout 2011, EPD has continued to play an active role in advocating for improved democratisation policies and practices at the EU level and in countries receiving EU support.

Through facilitating open exchanges of information and informed dialogue, EPD aims to address the most pressing challenges for the societies in the countries we are working in. In 2011, while closing activities in Armenia, we continued to work in Ghana and Moldova, supported Belorussian youth activists and organisations and begun implementation of new projects in Ukraine, Egypt, Georgia and Zimbabwe. At the same time, we consolidated our role as an advocacy stakeholder vis-à-vis the European institutions and a growing number of EU member states.

EPD also actively followed the reform of the EU Neighbourhood Policy, which came as a result of the popular uprisings against longstanding dictatorships in several countries in the Middle East and North Africa and facilitated the debate about possible ways and means to support those societies on their way towards democracy.

The following report summarises EPD’s activities in the three core areas of our mandate – Programmes, Advocacy and Knowledge Sharing. This includes projects in Africa, Eastern Europe and the Middle East as well as other activities in Brussels and the EU member states.

While writing this message, the transition processes in Egypt, Tunisia, Libya, Morocco or Burma continue to unfold, in most cases, in a rather unpredictable manner. EPD remains committed to mobilising the expertise and the resources of the organisations in its network in order to continue supporting those who work everyday in advancing the consolidation of democracy and civic rights around the world.

Carlos Hernández Ferreiro
Executive Director
European Partnership for Democracy
ABOUT EPD

The European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) is an independent European non-profit organisation supporting democratic transformations outside the European Union. As a network of European civil and political society organisations working on democracy assistance, EPD advocates for a stronger presence of democracy support on the European Union’s agenda and facilitates the exchange of knowledge and good practices in democratic transformations around the world. We do this through innovative methodologies based on the development of effective partnerships with organisations in third countries and the facilitation of political and social dialogue.

EPD’s philosophy is distilled in four operational principles that cut across all our activities:

- Community of practice - EPD is conceived as a community of practice. That is, a group of organisations that work together because, by doing so, they can substantially improve the way they operate in the realm of democracy support. This notion does not only apply to the EPD as a network and its institutional development, but also to all the actions and partnerships constructed under the EPD banner;

- Subsidiarity – EPD is at the service of its partners, hence EPD activities are built to maximise our collective added value, leaving each partner to do what they do best and avoiding unnecessary duplications;

- Bottom-up and mutually reinforcing – The strength of EPD as a network is based on the capacities of each partner and associated organisation. The work of EPD as a network is devised to maximise the added value of each partner in any given collective endeavour and to strengthen the capacities of each partner and supporting their own development;

- Emergence – EPD’s actions and added value are defined by the way in which they can transcend the disciplinary boundaries of each of the EPD partners taken individually. In other words, the overarching principle of any activity of EPD is that the whole has to be more than the sum of its parts. This, in turn, transforms EPD into a laboratory of ideas for finding innovative ways of articulating strong partnerships amongst local and international stakeholders.

Following these operational principles, EPD’s actions are structured around three areas of activity: advocacy, knowledge sharing and programmes. All three areas are interrelated and interdependent. Activities in third countries serve as the basis for the analysis of needs and demands from local stakeholders and to map potential areas of intervention and complementarity for the actors of the international community. Similarly, EPD establishes the links between democracy support organisations in the field and donor organisations in Brussels and in member states’ capitals. But it also advocates in Brussels and elsewhere to streamline democracy and support concrete policies that could specifically help democratisation processes in third countries. Activities organised by EPD in beneficiary and donor countries also contribute to experience and knowledge-sharing in a way that fosters the aim of EPD’s activities: supporting democracy through informed ownership.

ADVOCACY

EPD fundamentally contributes to advancing the policy debate in Europe. The last few years have witnessed the opening of an important debate on the role of the EU in worldwide democracy support. EPD has been involved in this debate as a proactive partner, working in close cooperation with the EU institutions and member states, as well as with other stakeholders. It channels contributions and expertise from member states, disseminating the outcomes of the debates in Brussels, participating in various forums and platforms, as well as organising and supporting conferences and knowledge-sharing events, where the fundamental issues surrounding the EU’s engagement in democracy support can be further debated.
Secondly, EPD can act through the establishment of tailor-made consortia. These consortia represent a unique operational modality as they permit EPD and its partners to exploit its mandate to the fullest of its potential: combining in an integrated approach various methodologies and the existing capacities within the network in a way that is consistent with the needs and demands of local transformation processes and the priorities of the international community.

**KNOWLEDGE SHARING**

Pooling lessons learned by European democracy support organisations is one of the key instruments for strengthening European efforts in worldwide democracy assistance. EPD facilitates the exchange of a growing number of lessons learned and good practice case studies from democracy assistance. We also work together with partners in third countries to ensure that their experience informs the policy debate in Europe, thereby building a stronger link between the decision-making process in Brussels and the on-the-ground reality of the political process.

**PROGRAMMES IN THIRD COUNTRIES**

EPD functions as a hub for project implementation in countries outside of the European Union. EPD’s actions on the ground are designed to deliver support to democracy and human rights organisations in an effective and timely manner.

EPD’s work is structured around a **process oriented approach**. That means that we try to avoid to ‘piecemeal’ the reality that we are working with in the context of transition processes, but that we try instead to articulate our support to a diverse set of political and social actors in a coherent and coordinated fashion and across the political transformation process.

In doing so, EPD’s programmes benefit from the unique composition of its network of associated organisations and their capacity to deliver support to key drivers of change (political parties, women organisations, youth or civic activists and actors) and to operate at various levels (grassroots level, policy level and political level). At the same time, we contribute to enhancing domestic democratic ownership in the context of the transition process. EPD and its partners act at the service of local actors, supporting their agendas and their capacity to advance the processes of political and social reform, which by nature have to be inclusive and participatory.

In practice the work of EPD in third countries is structured in two alternative but complementary ways. Firstly, EPD acts as hub for the mobilisation of European and international expertise in key areas such as civil society structuring and reform or political and policy dialogue. EPD’s programmes have facilitated and continue to facilitate exchanges of best-practices and experiences between partners in third countries and its associated organisations, as well as to mobilise international expertise in key areas of political dialogue and constitutional reform.
EPD PATRONS

BERNARD BOT
former Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands

ETIENNE DAVIGNON
former Vice President of the European Commission

JACQUES DELORS
former President of the European Commission

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SIMON PANEK
Executive Director of People in Need, Czech Republic

JACQUES RUPNIK
Research Director FNSP/CERI, SciencePo, France

SARI VARPAMA
Executive Director of Demo Finland

EPD PARTNERS

ASSOCIATED ORGANISATIONS:

THE NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY (The Netherlands)
www.nimd.org

DEMO FINLAND (Finland)
www.demofinland.org

PEOPLE IN NEED (Czech Republic)
www.peopleinneed.cz

INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS (IPA) (Poland)
www.isp.org.pl

INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS (IVO) (Slovakia)
www.ivo.sk

INSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL STUDIES (Portugal)
www.ucp.pt

EASTERN EUROPE STUDIES CENTER (Lithuania)
www.eesc.lt

PARTNERS:

ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS - DEMAS (Czech Republic)
www.demas.cz

EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT (The Netherlands)
www.ecdpm.org

FRIDE (Spain)
www.fride.org

POLICY ASSOCIATION FOR AN OPEN SOCIETY - PASOS (Czech Republic)
www.pasos.org
In 2011, EPD and our associated partners worked in 73 countries to support democracy, covering a wide range of issues such as multiparty dialogue, media support, civil society capacity building and civic education.
2011 AT A GLANCE

1 JANUARY
Start of new projects in Zimbabwe, Georgia and Egypt under the Press Freedom 2.0 programme

14-15 APRIL
YEREVAN
Conference: “Supporting Civil Society Organisations in Armenia”

16 MAY
BRUSSELS

14-22 SEPTEMBER
THE HAGUE AND BRUSSELS
International Day of Democracy

15 SEPTEMBER
THE HAGUE
Roundtable on second edition of the Moldova Basket Fund

22 NOVEMBER
CHISINAU
Working Meeting on Libya

24 NOVEMBER
BRUSSELS
Democracy Ribbons Award Ceremony

1 JANUARY
Start of a new EU-funded project in Ukraine

13-15 MARCH
BRUSSELS
Transatlantic Dialogue on Strengthening Cooperation on Democracy Support

23-27 MAY
BRUSSELS
Armenian Delegation visit

14 - 21 SEPTEMBER
THE HAGUE AND BRUSSELS
Egypt Delegation visit

16-22 OCTOBER
BRUSSELS
Study visits of young Belarusian opinion leaders

25 NOVEMBER
AMSTERDAM
Democracy Ribbons Award Ceremony
“From my own experience, I know how enormously important it is for those who are fighting for human rights or against authoritarian regimes to receive assistance from the democratic world”

VÁCLAV HAVEL, former President of the Czech Republic
ARMENIA
AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY IN ARMENIA

Although there has been some limited progress with regards to political reform in Armenia over the past two years, the country’s democratic transition remains incomplete. The development of a more resilient, pluralist and participatory democracy is challenged by the inherently closed nature of the country’s political system and institutions. The absence of the rule of law has fostered an “arrogance of power” of the Armenian government and has allowed corruption to flourish unchecked. Lingering discontent with the Government has resulted in an ever more politically active population.

In 2011, EPD managed the project “An Enabling Environment for Civil Society in Armenia” funded by the National Endowment for Democracy (NED) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The overall objective of the project was to foster greater cross border networking and support for Armenian civil society. To this end, an assessment meeting, a conference and a study visit of an Armenian CSO delegation to Brussels were organised. The assessment meeting on “Strengthening Civil Society in Armenia” aimed at decreasing tensions and polarisation in view of the 2012 elections.

Representatives from civil society organisations discussed the need to increase political pluralism, the freedom of assembly and expression as well as to implement electoral and judicial reforms in Armenia. Finally, the conference “Supporting Civil Society Organisations in Armenia” aimed at assessing Armenia’s recent developments in the areas of civic participation and decision-making; protection of the environment; government transparency; the fight against corruption and the promotion of free media.

BUILDING A STRONG CIVIL SOCIETY IN ARMENIA IS AN INDISPENSIBLE PART OF THE DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS. IT SERVES AS AN IMPORTANT CATALYST IN MANY FIELDS OF GOVERNANCE AND WILL CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY.
AMBASSADOR SERGEY KAPINOS, HEAD OF THE OSCE OFFICE IN YEREVAN

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2008
Serzh Sargsyan, backed by incumbent President Kocharyan, wins the presidential election. Mass manifestations against alleged electoral fraud start to be held, followed by clashes with the police, which leave 10 people dead.

JUNE 2008
A parliamentary commission is established for three months to investigate the March events, which does however not function since the opposition refuses to participate.

JUNE 2009
A presidential pardon releases some of the civilians detained in relation to the March 2008 violence. A separate fact-finding group comprising members of different political factions and the Ombudsperson with the mandate to conduct formal inquiry into allegations of use of force by police during the March events is disbanded by presidential decree.

SEPTEMBER 2009
The Armenian Government approves draft changes to the NGO Law, which threaten to restrict freedom of association and increase government control over NGOs’ finances and activities.

MAY 2010
A package of amendments to the Civil Code, the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code decriminalizing libel and insult is adopted. Nevertheless, high monetary fines for libel and defamation are introduced, leading to an increase in lawsuits against newspapers.
### Projects in ARMENIA

#### An Enabling Environment for Civil Society in Armenia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment meetings with civil society representatives and the international community</td>
<td>EPD</td>
<td>NED</td>
<td>November 2010 – May 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference on civic participation in media freedom, environmental issues, increasing government transparency and combating corruption</td>
<td></td>
<td>OSCE</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Study visit of an Armenian CSO delegation to Brussels</td>
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</table>

#### JUNE 2010
The President signs into law amendments and supplements to the Law on Television and Radio, which give the National Commission on Television and Radio broad powers to revoke TV licenses and impose programming restrictions.

#### MARCH 2011
A rally of the opposition Armenian National Congress (ANC) is held in Yerevan Liberty Square, in which its leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan demands from the authorities the release of political prisoners, the right to hold rallies freely and the setup of an independent committee to investigate the cases of those killed in the March 1 events.

#### APRIL 2011
A new Law on Assembly is adopted, which contains a number of improvements in the field of freedom of assembly.

#### MAY 2011
A general amnesty is declared for all the people imprisoned in connection with the 2008 protests.
The European Union has repeatedly affirmed its strong interest in Belarus becoming a stable and democratic neighbour and its readiness to deepen bilateral relations in order to build mutual understanding on issues that affect both sides. Nevertheless, the Belarusian regime is still far away from respecting the European core values of democracy, respect of human rights and the rule of law. Events during and after the 2010 Presidential election illustrated the state-orchestrated repression that the Belarusian civil society is facing. The EU and its member states have repeatedly affirmed their support to the Belarusian population as well as their commitment to assist civil society in its struggle to promote pluralism and the freedom of speech in Belarus.

Furthermore, the delegation met with MEP assistants who explained the role and position of the European Parliament in the EU’s institutional triangle. EPD also organised a visit to the NATO Headquarters including a panel discussion on NATO-Russia relations. Moreover, EPD arranged meetings with representatives of several think tanks, such as the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) or the Centre for Eastern Studies as well as with Representatives of the Polish Permanent Representation to the EU.

Throughout the study visit, the Belarusian activists learned about the European decisional process, the role of the European institutions and their country’s relations with the EU and other international organisations. For EPD and the Brussels-based participants in the meetings, the exchange with the Belarusian delegation brought valuable insights into the current state of affairs in the country.

In the framework of the project “Partners in Europe – Warsaw-Brussels-Minsk. Study visits on European integration of young opinion leaders”, which was funded by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, EPD together with its partners the Polish Institute of Public Affairs and the Belarusian Institute of Strategic Studies organised a study visit of a delegation of 14 young Belarusian opinion leaders to Brussels from 16 to 22 October. The overall aim was to exchange perceptions on the current political situation in Belarus and to discuss the efforts needed to make real change in Belarus possible.

During the six days visit EPD organised a series of meetings with EU officials and experts involved in EU-Belarus relations.

Projects in BELARUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partners in Europe – Warsaw-Brussels-Minsk. Study visits on European integration of young opinion leaders</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study visit of young Belarusian opinion leaders to Brussels</td>
<td>Belarusian Institute for Strategic Studies (BISS), Polish Institute of Public Affairs (IPA)</td>
<td>Polish Aid</td>
<td>16 – 22 October 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DECEMBER 2010**
Following the re-election of Alexander Lukashenko as President in elections considered, as all the previous ones during his presidency, not fair by Western monitors, hundreds of protesters as well as former presidential candidates are imprisoned.

**JANUARY 2011**
The European Union imposes an asset freeze and visa ban on President Lukashenko and other top officials in response to the crackdown on the opposition after the presidential elections.

**JANUARY-JUNE 2011**
Trials continue against political activists in connection with their participation in, or organisation of, the December 2010 demonstrations.

**JUNE 2011**
Journalist Andrzej Poczobut receives a three-year suspended prison sentence for “insulting” and “libeling” the President for articles that he had written for the Polish newspaper Gazeta Wyborcza.

**OCTOBER 2011**
The Council of the EU decides to extend until 31 October 2012 its travel ban on those responsible for violations of international electoral standards and for the crackdown on civil society following the December 2010 elections.
GHANA
SUPPORT TO INITIATIVES PROMOTING PEACEFUL, TRANSPARENT AND CREDIBLE ELECTIONS IN GHANA AND INCREASING THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN POLITICS

Being the first Sub-Saharan country gaining independence in 1957, Ghana is often considered as a model of economic and political reform in Africa. However, the country has still a long way to go in terms of achieving a fair representation of women in public life. This is exemplified by the low number of seats occupied by women in the Ghanaian Parliament, which has been fluctuating between 8 and 11% over the last two decades.

In view of the upcoming parliamentary elections in December 2012, EPD together with its partners the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA) and DEMO Finland in September 2010 launched the project “Support to initiatives promoting peaceful, transparent and credible elections in Ghana and increasing the participation of women in politics”. The objectives are to increase the number of women among Ghanaian MPs and to enable female MPs to effectively articulate in the decision making process the concerns, needs and priorities of their constituents, as well as of women in general.

In 2011, IEA organised a workshop on increasing women representation in Parliament. As a result, a “Women’s Manual” was published, serving as a guiding document for increasing women’s participation and representation in the political decision-making process.

In 2012 and 2013, further workshops and a mentoring programme for female MPs are foreseen.

Projects in GHANA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support to initiatives promoting peaceful, transparent and credible elections in Ghana and increasing the participation of women in politics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Main activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Production of “Women’s Manual”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

JULY 2009
The Ghanaian government adopts a four-year Sector Medium Term Development Plan. It stresses the need to promote the practice of democracy and women empowerment in order to attain, among other objectives, transparent and accountable governance.

AUGUST 2009
A Domestic Violence Management Board is created with a view to providing technical advice to the government on tackling domestic violence.

NOVEMBER 2009
The Gender Responsive Skills and Community Development Project, funded by the government of Ghana and the African Development Bank, is launched, which aims at promoting gender equitable socio-economic development through institutional capacity building and improvement of women’s gainful employment and entrepreneurship.

SEPTEMBER 2011
Samia Nkrumah becomes the first female Chairperson of a political party (the Convention People’s Party) in the country’s history as an independent state.
Throughout 2009, Moldova witnessed increasing political instability and social unrest. The contested results of the parliamentary elections in 2009 and the lack of transparency led to political violence between the government and the alliance of pro-European opposition forces. The pressure from the opposition and the international community led to early elections that resulted in a clear victory of the opposition, which has since paved the way for a sustainable democratic transition, in which civil society organisations are playing a pivotal role in ensuring effective democratic governance in the country.

The focus of EPD’s involvement in Moldova lies on generating the conditions for substantive political dialogue by mobilising EPD’s own capacity as well as international expertise to support local actors in promoting the Moldovan democratisation process.

In 2010, EPD launched the Basket Fund, giving eight selected Moldovan initiatives the possibility to realise projects, focusing on sharing knowledge and experience and boosting cooperation between CSOs. The donors for the Basket Fund were the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), East Europe Foundation Moldova, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and the Finnish Embassy To Bucharest. In 2011, EPD managed the following four out of the eight projects that were selected:

- **THE PARTNERSHIP FOR A CLEAN ENVIRONMENT**
  In partnership with Hologen (Romania), Dialogue (Hungary), Center for Dialogue and Cooperation (Romania) and Lower Danube (Romania), Caroma Nord aimed at raising awareness among youth and the wider society regarding environmental matters.

- **STRENGTHENING YOUTH ACTIVISM: PARTICIPATING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**
  The Institute of Study in Development “MilleniuM” and its partner, Foundation Local Activity Group Partnership for Warmia (Poland), promoted and strengthened civic activism amongst the youth and NGOs working with young people.

- **ABSOLUTELY NO SECRET**
  Implemented by Youth Union SiiN (Estonia) together with the Social Informative Centre for Human Rights and Democracy “Apiori” (Transnistria), this project aimed at creating better opportunities for freedom of expression and belief through forming and training a group of independent (young) journalists.

- **EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SOCIAL WORK AND SOCIAL SERVICES**
  Organised by Mámeotevěn? together with the Non-commercial partnership Centre of Rehabilitation and Counselling (OSORC), the project aimed at sharing information on a variety of social services available for people with special needs in the Czech Republic.

**APRIL 2009**
The Communist Party wins an absolute majority in parliamentary elections. Opposition parties accuse the authorities of falsification and demand new elections. Following demonstrations in Chisinau, hundreds of people are detained.

**JULY 2009**
Early parliamentary elections are held after the Parliament fails twice to elect a President. Although the Communist Party wins a majority of the seats, four other parties manage to secure a greater percentage of the total vote.

**AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2009**
The Alliance for European Integration between the Liberal Democratic Party, Liberal Party, Democratic Party and Our Moldova Alliance is born and builds a governing coalition.

**DECEMBER 2009**
Opposition Communist MPs refuse to back the governing coalition’s candidate for the presidency.

**MARCH 2010**
The Constitutional Court orders new parliamentary elections to be held in a bid to end the deadlock over the parliament’s failure to elect a president.
Following the termination of the abovementioned projects in the Spring 2011, EPD on 22 November organised a roundtable in Chisinau, Moldova, on the second edition of the Basket Fund, which saw the participation of past grantees and donors. During the roundtable, the outcomes of the first Basket Fund were presented and the possibility of a next edition was discussed. Participants were positive about this idea and agreed to maintain a bottom-up approach, making it possible for a variety of smaller and less-experienced CSOs to apply for a grant. Tentative thematic fields are “Engaging the Youth” and “Fostering Democratic Processes”. Moreover, all participants agreed that the upcoming Basket Fund should have more funds at its disposal, with a view to giving more CSOs the possibility to participate.

Secondly, EPD has been actively involved in the launch on 4 May in Brussels of the EU-Moldova Forum. The Forum aims at creating a multi-layered platform for permanent and institutionalised dialogue between business communities, civil society, think tanks, politicians and personalities from the Republic of Moldova and the European Union.

Finally, in 2011 EPD continued publishing its Moldova Weekly Bulletin, summarising in 3-5 pages the most important events and news from Moldova, with a focus on the political situation and the foreign engagement in the country.

### Projects in MOLDOVA

#### Supporting Moldova’s Democratic Transition Initiative 1: Basket Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. Projects Under EPD Management</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening Youth Activism: Participating in Community Development</td>
<td>The Institute of Study in Development “MilleniuM” in partnership with: Foundation Local Activity Group Partnership for Warmia (Poland)</td>
<td></td>
<td>October 2010 – March 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absolutely No Secret</td>
<td>Youth Union SiIN (Estonia) in partnership with: Social Informative Center for Human Rights and Democracy “Apriori” (Transnistria)</td>
<td></td>
<td>November 2010-February 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Projects in MOLDOVA

## Supporting Moldova’s Democratic Transition

### Initiative 1: Basket Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B. Other Projects</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfer of good practices in the field of volunteering between organizations from Moldavia and Romania</td>
<td>Youth for the Right to Live TDV in partnership with: Foundation “Next to You” (Romania)</td>
<td>EEF</td>
<td>December 2010 – May 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children have the Right to Play – with the Play-bus towards a happy childhood</td>
<td>Children’s Friends in partnership with: Cultural Association “Dolcetto o Scheryetto?” (Italy)</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 2010 – June 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Partnership for promoting youth initiatives</td>
<td>Center for Debates Criuleni CDC in partnership with: Association “A Smile” (Romania)</td>
<td></td>
<td>December 2010 – April 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“Eco-School” – the way to sustainable development</td>
<td>National Environmental Center in partnership with: Center for Ecological Consultancy Galati (Romania)</td>
<td>Finish Embassy</td>
<td>December 2010 – April 2011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Initiative 2: Moldova Forum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Launch of EU-Moldova Platform</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4 May 2011</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Under President Viktor Yushchenko, an Association Agenda between Ukraine and the European Union was adopted in 2009, including provisions for deeper political cooperation and economic integration and a commitment by Ukraine to strengthen the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms in the country. However, Viktor Yanukovych, who succeeded Mr. Yushchenko as President in 2010, has been steering a middle course between the EU and Russia, attaching less importance to the implementation of the Association Agenda.

In January 2011, EPD together with its Ukrainian partner Civic Network OPORA started the project "Enhancing Civic Oversight of Reforms in Ukraine in the Framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy", funded by the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). The overall objective is to boost the European integration efforts of Ukraine. More specifically, EPD and OPORA aim to enhance civic engagement in monitoring the Government’s commitments to and obligations for reforms in the area of democracy, rule of law and human rights, as stated in the Association Agenda.

The project follows a twofold approach. Firstly, a monitoring of Ukraine’s progress in fulfilling its obligations stemming from the Association Agenda has started in 2011 and will continue in 2012. Secondly, a civic education, information and communication campaign is foreseen for 2012. The latter will aim to raise the population’s awareness of the relevance of the Association Agenda for their daily life.

Moreover, the campaign will also aim at feeding back to the Government the results of the mapping process along with the input from the grassroots level. In 2011, EPD in cooperation with OPORA has developed and launched a website (http://www.eu-ukraine.org) informing about the latest updates of the project.

We really appreciate to work with EPD and hope that our findings will help people to better understand the EU-Ukraine relationship.

Member of the OPORA staff

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 2004
In a presidential election marred by massive corruption, voter intimidation and electoral fraud, sitting Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych becomes Head of State.

NOVEMBER 2004
Protesters around the country ask for renewed presidential elections (Orange Revolution).

DECEMBER 2004
A second presidential election is held and Viktor Yushchenko becomes Head of State.

FEBRUARY 2005
The EU-Ukraine Action Plan is adopted, which aims at reinforcing the political and economic interdependence between the two parties.

MARCH 2006
Parliamentary elections are held. The Party of Regions wins a majority of the seats. Viktor Yanukovych is appointed Prime Minister in August.

SEPTEMBER 2007
Following several months of political crisis triggered by a presidential decree to dissolve parliament, pre-term parliamentary elections are held. The Party of Regions wins a majority of the seats and Tymoshenko is appointed Prime Minister.

NOVEMBER 2009
The EU-Ukraine Association Agenda, which replaces the Action Plan, is adopted by the EU-Ukraine Cooperation Council.
Projects in **UKRAINE**

**Enhancing Civic Oversight of Reforms in Ukraine in the Framework of European Neighbourhood Policy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
<th>Funding</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring the implementation of Ukraine’s obligations under the EU Association Agenda</td>
<td>Civic Network OPORA</td>
<td>EU - European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR)</td>
<td>April 2011 – December 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic education, information and communication campaign on relevance of Association Agenda for citizens’ daily life</td>
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</table>

**JANUARY 2010**

Presidential elections are held, with a second run-off between Tymoshenko and Yanukovych, the latter becoming President.

**OCTOBER 2010**

the Constitutional Court of Ukraine overturns the 2004 amendments, which had changed Ukraine from a presidential to a parliamentary-presidential system.

**MAY 2011**

A List of the UE-Ukraine Association Agenda Priorities for 2011/2012 is agreed. Democracy and human rights figure prominently.
In September 2008, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe (ZANU-PF), Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai (MDC) and Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Mutambara (MDC) signed the Global Political Agreement (GPA), which foresees the drafting of a new constitution. With a view to increasing public support, the drafting process has been coupled with public consultations, led by the Parliamentary Select Committees (COPAC). The aim is to engage parliamentarians in close dialogue with civil society representatives, thereby ensuring that the new constitution encompasses the views of the people of Zimbabwe.

From March 2010 to December 2011, EPD implemented the project “Facilitating Zimbabwe Civil Society’s immediate contributions to the constitutional reform process” through a local Project Office (ZEPAD), which served as the management body within the context of the partnership between EPD and 10 local Zimbabwean civil society organisations. The project aimed at anchoring the democratic reform process as set out in the GPA within Zimbabwean society with a view to overcoming divisions and making the reforms lasting and visible.

Already in 2010, a mapping exercise of stakeholders, activities and donors was conducted to improve coordination between civil society organisations during the reform process. This phase was followed in late 2010 and 2011 by the dissemination of over 2 million pieces of information, education and communication material to the Zimbabwean population, ensuring that during the COPAC-led consultation meetings, Zimbabweans were able to participate meaningfully in the reform process.

A second set of activities following the outreach meetings aimed at strengthening synergies between CSOs and political society as well as community leaders; developing advocacy strategies of Zimbabwean civil society; and enriching the quality of debate during the last phases of the constitutional reform process.
### Projects in ZIMBABWE

**Facilitating Zimbabwe Civil Society’s Contributions to the Constitutional Reform Process**

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<tr>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
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<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly partner coordination meetings</td>
<td>ZEPAD</td>
<td>EU - Instrument for Stability (IfS)</td>
<td>1 March 2010 – 31 December 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSO coordination meetings</td>
<td>Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)</td>
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<td>Civic education meetings</td>
<td>Bulawayo Agenda (Byo Agenda)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Production and distribution of outreach material</td>
<td>The Women's Trust (TWT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Media training for journalists</td>
<td>Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (Crisis)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community outreach meetings</td>
<td>National Constitutional Assembly (NCA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drama and theatre performances and road performances</td>
<td>Youth Agenda Trust (YAT)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ball game events</td>
<td>Center for Community Development in Zimbabwe (CCDZ)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Focus group conversations</td>
<td>Civic Education Network (Civnet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community discussions</td>
<td>Student Christian Movement in Zimbabwe (SCMZ)</td>
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<td>Savanna Trust (SA)</td>
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### Main activities

- Grass-roots Community Workshops
- Ward-level workshops
- Diaspora public hearings
- TV Adverts
- Coverage through Radio programmes and newspaper articles
- Thematic workshops
- Children’s right workshops
- School consultative meetings
- Women and leadership reporting awards
- Constitutional expertise, opinion papers and working sessions

**NOVEMBER 2011**

A team of experts is tasked to develop constitutional principles, the constitutional framework, and the compilation of constitutional issues derived from the public consultations and submissions from special interest groups and individuals.

**DECEMBER 2011**

Judge Justice Moses Chinhengo, lawyers Mrs. Priscilla Madzonga and Mr. Brian Crozier, together with the Select Committee and 17 technical experts, start to draft the Constitution.

**AT FIRST THE COMMUNITIES WERE FRIGHTENED TO DISCUSS ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE CONSTITUTION OR HUMAN RIGHTS FOR FEAR OF REPRISALS. AS THE PROGRAMME ROLLED OUT AND MORE OUTREACHES AND WORKSHOPS WERE CONDUCTED PARTICIPANTS OPENED UP AND PARTICIPATED FULLY. BULAWAYO REPRESENTATIVE AT A MEETING ORGANISED BY LRF.**
On 1 January 2011, EPD started a five-year programme in Egypt, Georgia and Zimbabwe under a grant provided by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The grant was awarded to five Dutch organisations cooperating under the Press Freedom Consortium (PFC). The project links media, grass roots communities and democracy support civil society organisations (CSOs) in the different countries, with the aim to create a positive impact in the areas of good governance, capacity building of CSOs and international advocacy.

**EGYPT**

Following over two weeks of mass protests throughout the country beginning on 25 January 2011, President Mubarak stepped down from power. Ever since, Egyptians have been struggling to build a new democratic system. Despite the successful holding of parliamentary elections in the autumn, the country was confronted with a number of challenges on its way to democracy throughout the year, including human rights violations by state police and security agents and the continued political role of the military.

The long term objective of the PFC programme in Egypt is to create synergies among, as well as provide support to local partner organisations with a view to enabling them to participate more actively in political processes at different societal levels and to undertake activities which create checks and balances in the political system.

EPD’s support in 2011 aimed at increasing the legitimacy and outreach capacity of local CSOs by involving them closely in the democratic transformation process. This was done through developing projects in three areas: (1) promoting multi-stakeholder dialogue initiatives for the building of a democratic agenda of reforms in various sectors; (2) supporting local CSOs in achieving good qualitative and quantitative monitoring of the transition within coalitions including European partner organisations; and (3) directly investing in the capacity of local partner organisations.

In 2011, EPD supported projects and activities by four local partners in Egypt, namely the Arab Forum for Alternatives (AFA), the Budgetary and Human Rights Observatory (BAHRO), the Better Life Association (BLDT) and the Egyptian Association for Community Participation Enhancement (EACPE).

In the framework of a project aimed at contributing to the multi-stakeholder dialogue process in Egypt through round table discussions inspired by the East European democratic transitions, which is implemented by AFA, EPD organised advocacy meetings in Brussels and The Hague for representatives from four Egyptian democracy activist organisations. The Egyptian delegation met with the representatives from the Dutch MFA, EU officials, colleague NGOs, journalists and members of the Egyptian diaspora. Moreover, they participated in workshops organised by EPD on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy celebrations. Finally, EPD realised the participation of one of the laureates of the Democracy Ribbons in the award ceremony in Amsterdam.
Thanks to the monthly “Democracy watch” reports produced and distributed by EACPE, over 500 citizens, human rights activists, journalists, politicians and different CSOs in Egypt have been informed regularly and in detail about the progress of democratic reforms.

In the frame of a project aimed at supporting local democracy by strengthening the voice of rural associations vis-à-vis local councils, EPD through its partner BLDT supported the participation of 1,300 young people in meetings, workshops and sport camps in the Minia governorate, where they learned about the concept of political participation and the role of local popular councils. Finally, with the support of EPD, BAHRO has improved its capacity in the areas of advocacy and communication, enabling the organisation to implement major press and media campaigns; launch a website; and use social media tools more effectively to spread information on issues related to the economy and finance.

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**GEORGIA**

Georgia’s independence in 1991, the Christmas Coup of 1991 and the Rose Revolution of 2003 marked the beginnings of important phases in the country’s democratic transition. Although some progress in constructing a democratic political architecture has since been achieved, democracy has never been consolidated, leaving the country with state institutions that are too weak to overcome the de facto one-party dominance which has always been at the core of revolutionary protests.

EPD’s country programme for Georgia seeks to build trust between civil society and political parties and to establish durable crosscutting knowledge sharing and cooperation links between both spheres of influence. Furthermore, the programme targets a specific niche issue in the Georgian media landscape: the lack of in-depth, well-researched economic corruption investigative journalism stories.

In 2011, EPD and its partner organisations Caucasus Institute for Peace Democracy and Development (CIPDD) and New Generation New Initiative (nGnI) organised eight roundtables on democratic reform issues and topics related to the Georgia-EU integration process. The roundtables were attended by more than 250 representatives from political parties, civil society, international organisations and embassies and resulted in the publication of six discussion papers and reports.

The project implemented by CIPDD aims at (1) countering political polarisation through facilitating trust building and knowledge sharing between political parties and civil society organisations, thereby strengthening a more pluriform political society; and at (2) raising the intellectual level of political discourse in the country.

**EFFECTIVE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM TO PROMOTE THE RULE OF LAW DEPENDS ON FIVE MAIN REFORMS: CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM WHERE CHECKS AND BALANCE EXIST, REFORMING THE PARLIAMENTARY SYSTEM, JUDICIARY REFORM, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM AND FIGHTING CORRUPTION.**

QUOTE FROM A PARTICIPANT TO AN AFA WORKSHOP

**NOVEMBER 2003**
A coalition of parties supporting President Eduard Shevardnadze wins flawed parliamentary elections. Massive anti-governmental demonstrations take place throughout the country (“Rose Revolution”). President Shevardnadze resigns.

**JANUARY 2004**
The National Movement-Democrats (NMD) of President Mikheil Saakashvili, the leader of the opposition United National Movement Party and a major figure in the Rose Revolution, wins the parliamentary elections.
CIPDD and EPD planned to achieve project goals by engaging civil society, political parties and state agencies in an open, informal dialogue on democratic reform issues, offering them the opportunity to deepen their understanding of each others’ viewpoints, interests and challenges. Six roundtables were organised on: using modern communication technologies for developing more effective and accountable policies, Georgia’s agricultural reforms, current challenges facing Georgia in developing its social policy, education policy in minority schools, contributing to peace in Georgia, and developing a policy agenda for democratic reform.

nGnI’s project is aimed at strengthening cooperation among civil society, political party representatives and governmental structures by developing joint approaches for promoting Georgian integration into the Euro-Atlantic region. During the initial stage of the project, two round tables were held on Georgia-EU trade integration and environmental issues. Representatives from international organisations, political parties, government and NGOs attended the events and shared skills and knowledge on the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) implementation process.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ROUND TABLE WAS THE FIRST INSTANCE I’VE EXPERIENCED IN GEORGIA WHERE STAKEHOLDERS HAVE COME TOGETHER FROM SUCH DIVERSE AND UNIQUE BACKGROUNDS TO DISCUSS SUCH AN IMPORTANT ISSUE.

ILIYA OSEPASHVILI, FOREST EXPERT, WWF

EPD HAS SIGNIFICANTLY HELPED NGNI INCREASE ITS CAPACITY AS AN ORGANIZATION WHICH HAS FOSTERED ITS ABILITY TO MORE EFFECTIVELY TAKE ON IMPORTANT ISSUES AFFECTING THE DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT OF GEORGIA.

MEMBER OF THE NGNI STAFF
ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is undergoing a process of political opening since the signing of the Global Political Agreement (GPA) between the country’s three main political parties in September 2008, which foresees the drafting of a new constitution. However, many of the country’s TV channels, radio stations and newspapers are still controlled by Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe’s ZANU-PF party and its supporters. Moreover, civil society organisations that want to report on human rights and other abuses of power still find it hard to convey their message to the wider public, given the lack of access to independent media and other communication channels.

The long-term objective of the PFC2 programme in Zimbabwe is to build the capacity of local media and democracy support CSOs and to strengthen the synergies between the two groups of actors. In 2011, EPD’s local project office (ZEPAD) worked towards building bridges between media, CSOs and key policy makers. Using its strategic links with various CSOs, media and government bodies, ZEPAD has started to implement a series of activities aimed at creating stronger synergies between the three spheres, including: a baseline survey to establish the current flow of information between partners’ grassroots, their media desks and the mainstream media; a basic journalism training for media officers and key CSO staff; a seminar aimed at increasing links and cooperation between media officers and journalists; and providing partners with information gathering and dissemination equipment, enabling them to capture and send quality information to the press.

Furthermore, in response to the constant political threat on CSO staff and activists, ZEPAD organised a two-day security training targeting 30 staff and activists from eight local partners. Finally, in September 2011, EPD organised a visit of a Zimbabwean delegation to Brussels and The Hague aimed at instigating a constructive dialogue with European policy makers.

MARCH 2008
Presidential and parliamentary elections are held, in which ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) loses its majority in the House of Assembly for the first time after independence in 1980, as the two factions of the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) win most of the seats.

JUNE 2008
A second round of elections is held. In the context of serious political violence, Tsvangirai (MDC) decides to withdraw. Mugabe wins the election and is appointed President.

SEPTMBER 2008
A Global Political Agreement (GPA) is signed between ZANU-PF and the two MDC formations.

FEBRUARY 2009
A coalition government (the Government for National Unity) is formed.

SEPTEMBER 2007
COPAC leads public consultations on the constitution-making process.

JUNE-OCTOBER 2010
COPAC Thematic Committees collect and assess the data from the public consultations.

MARCH-MAY 2011
A Select Committee of Parliament on the new Constitution (COPAC) is formed with the aim of drafting a new constitution through an inclusive, people-driven and democratic process.

In line with the project’s broad objective to strengthen the advocacy capacity at grassroots level and in recognition of the role of grassroots activists in information gathering, ZEPAD facilitated a citizen journalism train-the-trainers seminar, with a focus on the main aspects of citizen journalism, basic news gathering, use of new media, mobile activism, archiving information on the internet, blogging and social network activism.
### Projects in EGYPT, GEORGIA & ZIMBABWE

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Implementing and/or Partner Organisations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EGYPT</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reports on democratic progress</td>
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<tr>
<td>Capacity building support</td>
<td>Budgetary and Human Rights Observatory (BAHRO)</td>
<td>Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs</td>
<td>1 January 2011 – 31 December 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for the development of a local democratic culture in the Minia governorate</td>
<td>Arab Forum for Alternatives (AFA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitoring of the state budget</td>
<td>Better Life Association (BLDT)</td>
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<td>Egyptian Association Research for Community Participation Enhancement (EACPE)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GEORGIA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roundtables on democratic reform issues and Georgia-EU integration</td>
<td>Caucasus Institute for Peace Democracy and Development (CIPDD)</td>
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<td>Trust building and knowledge sharing activities</td>
<td>New Generation New Initiative (nGni)</td>
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### ZIMBABWE

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trainings on citizen journalism, basics of journalism, monitoring and evaluation and security information sharing seminar for journalists &amp; CSO staff</td>
<td>Zimbabwe-Europe Partnership for Democracy (ZEPAD)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)</td>
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### NOVEMBER 2011

A team of experts is tasked to develop constitutional principles, the constitutional framework, and the compilation of constitutional issues derived from the public consultations and submissions from special interest groups and individuals.

### DECEMBER 2011

Judge Justice Moses Chinengho, lawyers Mrs. Priscilla Madzonga and Mr. Brian Crozier, together with the Select Committee and 17 technical experts, start to draft the Constitution.
ADVOCACY AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

ROUND-TABLE: “EU DEMOCRACY SUPPORT: INSTRUMENTS AND EFFECTIVENESS” (16 MAY 2011, BRUSSELS)

On 16 May 2011, EPD together with the Council for a Community of Democracies organised a round-table hosted by the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the EU. Officials from EU institutions and European Member States, Members of the European Parliament, together with experts on democracy support were invited to discuss instruments and effectiveness of EU democracy support.

ROUND-TABLE: “EUROPE AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD: TOWARDS A RENEWED PARTNERSHIP FOR DEMOCRACY” (25-26 MAY 2011, BRUSSELS)

On 25-26 May, another round-table was organised by EPD and the Council for a Community of Democracies hosted by the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Poland to the EU. It brought together high-level policy makers and civil society representatives to discuss the political, social, economic and institutional implications of recent development in the European Neighbourhood. The aim was to facilitate the dialogue between civil society representatives and policy makers at the EU and national levels, contributing to building bridges for enhanced cooperation and coherence in supporting the neighbouring countries’ democratic evolution.

ARMENIAN DELEGATION VISIT (23-27 MAY 2011, BRUSSELS)

On 23-27 May, EPD hosted a study visit of Armenian civil society representatives to Brussels. The Armenian delegation included representatives from CSOs advocating for media freedom, accountability, transparency and good governance in their country. The aim of the visit was to raise awareness among high-level stakeholders of the EU-Armenia relationship. The visit included participation in an event celebrating Amnesty International’s 50th Anniversary; a panel discussion with the President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek; a meeting with MEP Gerald Haefner; and a roundtable conference on “Europe and its Neighbourhood: Towards a Renewed Partnership for Democracy?”. Moreover, the delegation met with Michael Emerson from the Centre of European Policy Studies and Hrant Kostanyan from the Council of the EU’s Working Party on Eastern Europe and Central Asia (COEST). During the four-day study visit, the Armenian CSO representatives had the chance to voice their concerns and to advocate for enhanced EU-Armenia relations, as well as discuss current topics and network with European officials.
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY (15 SEPTEMBER 2011, THE HAGUE)

On 15 September 2011, EPD together with Netwerk Democratie, ProDemos and NIMD organised the International Day of Democracy in The Hague. Already on 14 September in the evening, the “Night of Dictatorship” saw 500 guests attending debates, lectures, movies, theatre performances as well as sharing personal stories about life in a dictatorial regime. EPD’s guests from Zimbabwe shared their experiences with electoral violence and electoral fraud while participants from Egypt reported on Internet activism in their country. On the International Day of Democracy several lectures were held and activities such as the start of the journey of Syrian activists with the Democracy-caravan ‘from The Hague to Damascus’ and a workshop on political cartoon drawing were organised. In the evening a network event brought together 40 Internet entrepreneurs, democracy activists, democracy supporters and politicians from The Netherlands, Zimbabwe, Egypt, Georgia and Ghana to discuss opportunities and challenges of digitisation for democracy support.

EGYPT DELEGATION VISIT (14-21 SEPTEMBER 2011, BRUSSELS & THE HAGUE)

In September 2011, EPD organised a visit of representatives from Egyptian civil society organisations to Brussels and The Hague. The aim was to support the participants from Egypt in connecting to Dutch and EU policymakers. In Brussels a number of meetings and conferences were organised focusing on how Egypt can be supported in its democratic transition. The delegation met with representatives from the European External Action Service (EEAS), the Polish Permanent Representation to the EU and the Egyptian Embassy in Brussels. In The Hague the delegation met with representatives from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

ZIMBABWE DELEGATION VISIT (14-22 SEPTEMBER 2011, BRUSSELS & THE HAGUE)

In September 2011, EPD organised a visit of a Zimbabwean delegation to Brussels and The Hague aimed at instigating a constructive dialogue with European policymakers. In Brussels the delegation met with policy makers and officials from the European Institutions and the Dutch government, which gave all participating parties the opportunity to exchange their views on the current situation within the Global Political Agreement and on the challenges the Zimbabwean government as well as multiparty and civil society organisations are facing.

In The Hague, the delegation attended lectures about the upcoming elections and democratic transition in Zimbabwe and visited the Dutch Electoral Council. Moreover, in cooperation with Zimbabwe Watch EPD organised an expert meeting on democratic transitions in Zimbabwe, in which the delegation participated actively.

WORKING MEETING ON LIBYA (24 NOVEMBER 2011, BRUSSELS)

On 24 November, EPD together with the Club de Madrid and FIIAPP organised a working meeting on Libya, which was held in FIIAPP’s Brussels office. The meeting provided the opportunity for representatives from the European External Action Service (EEAS), DG DEVCO, EPD, Club de Madrid and implementing agencies of EU member states to discuss challenges and opportunities for providing external support in the transition process in Libya. The discussions focused on the current challenges in the country, the role of the European Union and potential entry points for democracy support organisations and implementing agencies.

DEMOCRACY RIBBONS AWARD CEREMONY (25 NOVEMBER 2011, AMSTERDAM)

On 25 November 2011, EPD together with Netwerk Democratie, ProDemos and NIMD organised the annual Democracy Ribbons Ceremony, which awards individuals, groups and organisations that have made an extraordinary contribution to democracy. This year’s award focused on the impact of digitisation on the society and democracy.
Due to the start of an EU funded project in Ukraine and the Press Freedom Alliance 2.0 programme in Egypt, Georgia and Zimbabwe, which is funded by the Dutch MFA, EPD’s income increased by over 36 percent in 2011, as compared to the previous year.

EPD further diversified its sources of income, mostly through additional funding from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs under the Press Freedom Alliance 2.0 programme.

EPD invested relatively more resources on advocacy activities and the development of the organisation. Nevertheless, project-related spending remained predominant with more than two thirds of the total budget. The low percentage for knowledge sharing can be explained by the lower costs involved in facilitating networking and other exchanges as compared to more cost-intensive project management.

* NB: Due to a miscalculation in attributing project funds, the income for 2010 as listed in EPD’s Annual Report 2010 is incorrect. The Annual Report 2011 contains the correct numbers.
Compared to 2010, EPD increased spending on advocacy and other Brussels based activities. Project related expenditures in African countries decreased, while they increased in the Post-Soviet region, due mainly to the start of a new project in Ukraine.