

# State of Affairs and Future of the EU-EaP STI Cooperation

3 September 2015 - Brussels

## “STI Policy Mix Peer Reviews in Armenia and Georgia”

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*IncoNet EaP* is a project funded under  
the 7th European Framework Programme  
for research - Project number 609528



# A Policy Mix Peer Review

- **Review by *Peers***: Assistant Ministers; Directors in Ministries and Funding Agencies; Experts in STI; etc.
- **Review of the whole STI System**: Structure; Governance; Funding; Key players; Human Resources; role of Industry and Innovation; Internationalization; etc.
- **How**: **Kick-off** ('rules of the game'); **input from the country** (data + some assessment); **Mission and interviews** ('from Minister to PhD students'); **Confidential report**.
- **Approach**: '*critical friends*'

# Why it is important?

- Provides assistance to the countries in **improving their STI Systems** (changes in the Legal framework; changes in the processes; etc.)
- Contributes to a **successful Association to H2020**
- It is also a **mutual learning exercise** and creates **ties** among Peers and among countries for a **closer cooperation**

# Implementation

- **Kick-off** with participation of Stakeholders and Peers (Athens, January 2015);
- **Input** from AM and GE: provided by various stakeholders; very valuable material
- **Missions:** AM (16 – 20/3; 5 Peers; 23 Interviews);  
GE (16 - 20/3; 6 Peers; 25 Interviews)
- **Reports:** finalized for AM; almost for GE

# Some thoughts

- A brutal *downgrading* and tremendous *changes* occurred in the STI Systems in all the EaP countries, however
- We should maybe *stop talking* about a transition period:
  - The new economic landscape is in place;
  - The new Higher Education system is also in place;
  - Even the new values in the Society.

# Some thoughts... the needs

- There is a need to **redefine and strengthen the role of Research** in this new landscape, based on the **existing elements**
  - Integration; optimal use of resources; increase of funding (necessary but not sufficient!)
- The **Association to H2020** is an *opportunity* and an *urgent need* in doing the changes (in order to ensure the **success of the Association**)

**The EU – EaP STI cooperation provides the framework for the implementation of the Policy Mix Peer Review’s recommendations (availability of expertise, availability of assistance programmes, etc.)**

**However, there should be first of all a National will and a National demand**

*Thank you for your attention!*

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