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A new format of cooperation between Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia is necessary on the way of European Integration

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Profound changes have happened in Eastern Europe in the last decade that require establishing a new format for cooperation of Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia in their efforts of political and economic rapprochement to the European Union (EU). This is the conclusion of the joint declaration of Civil Society Platforms of the three countries, adopted on 13 November 2019 in Kyiv, at the third Association Exchange Forum.

According to the declaration, the cooperation between the three countries from the Eastern Europe should be further institutionalized. It should exist in parallel to and without jeopardizing the existing Eastern Partnership multilateral structure. It will include regular consultations and joint actions on the governmental, parliamentary and civil society levels in order to meet the political and economic criteria for European integration.

The goal of this trilateral format of cooperation is to facilitate discussions, experience exchange, and comparative assessments of their progress in democracy, the rule of law and good governance. Moreover, the three countries should facilitate trade and build a common market with free movement of goods, services, capital and persons. The three countries should conduct regular consultations on the issues of regional security and cooperate to raise resilience against hybrid threats.

The Civil Society Platforms of Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia call on:

- The Governments of the three countries: to launch trilateral high-level cooperation formats and thematic consultations, and a joint secretariat;
- The Parliaments of the three countries: to intensify cooperation within the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, and to focus it on peer learning in Association Agreement legislative implementation;
- The EU: to support the trilateral cooperation and institutionalise the enhanced dialogue in the EU+3 format.

Declaration was presented to the officials and expert community of the three associated countries as well as to the representatives of the EU institutions (European Commission, European External Affairs Service, European Parliament).

Declaration in English is available here.

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