



Нацыянальная платформа

Форум грамадзянскай супольнасці
УСХОДНЯГА ПАРТНЁРСТВА

To the Ukrainian National Platform of the EaP Civil Society Forum

To the Steering Committee of the EaP CSF

Statement of the Belarusian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

Minsk, November 26, 2013

Statement of support of the Ukrainian civil society organizations in favor of further European integration of Ukraine

We, representatives of the civil society organizations of Belarus, members of Belarusian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, on the eve of the third summit of the Eastern Partnership in Vilnius express our solidarity with partners, colleagues and friends - representatives of civil society of Ukraine, which work in favor of further European integration of their country, despite the recent decision of the Ukrainian government to temporarily suspend the preparation for the signing of an Association Agreement with the European Union.

The Eastern Partnership initiative today is on the threshold of a new stage of its development. In this context, the recent decision of the government of Ukraine is counter-productive and prevents implementation of needed reforms and approximation of Ukrainian state and society to the European norms and standards.

From the situation in our own country - Belarus - we know how hard for civil society is the task of initiating and carrying out the required changes in the society when this kind of operation is not supported at governmental level.

We express our sincere solidarity and support to Ukrainian National Platform of the EaP Civil Society Forum and in through it - to all the Ukrainian civil society organizations actively working for the benefits of their country towards European integration. We fully share the position reflected in the Statement of the Ukrainian National Platform from November 23, 2013, ascertaining the unacceptability for Ukrainian citizens the government's decision.

We also fully support the Statement of the Steering Committee of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (25.11.2013) and the Statement of our partners – National Platform of Georgia condemning involvement of third countries in the definition of the political course of Ukraine and other countries of the Eastern Partnership, as well as appealing all stakeholders to keep all the possibilities for Ukraine in the near future to sign an Association Agreement and continue previously chosen course of European integration, also within the framework and mechanisms of the Eastern Partnership.