



Kyiv, 30 May 2018

2018 EaP Civil Society Hackathon: Social Codefest to Make People Live Better

On 1-3 June 2018, the EU-funded *Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility Project* will hold its second Hackathon in Minsk to support and develop innovative civic tech ideas from the six Eastern Partnership countries.

Over 60 representatives of civil society, designers and IT professionals from Belarus, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine will gather in Minsk for three days to create prototypes of tools and applications to enable civil society organisations and activists better serve the needs of their communities, and help citizens participate in local decision-making processes in their countries.

The participants will work on 20 project ideas, including 5 from Belarus, to design and create e-Reporting services, interactive maps for communities' needs, interactive CSO budgets, mobile applications for women, people with disabilities and people in need, online non-discrimination and anti-hate speech verification facility, fake news hunter mobile game, crowd-funding and crowd-sourcing platforms and modules, etc.

These intensive three days will culminate in a presentation of projects on Sunday, 3 June 2018, where the teams will pitch their prototypes and compete for the Digitalisation for Civil Society Award to get the opportunity to win funding for full-fledged development and launch of their ICT tool.

The objective of the EaP Civil Society Hackathon is to empower digital participation of civil society in the Eastern Partnership countries, to improve transparency of public institutions and to enable broader citizen involvement in local decision making. The Hackathon will also contribute to sharing good local e-Democracy practices between civil society activists, will help building professional relations between civic activists and IT community, and will promote and strengthen cross-border cooperation.

Media are warmly invited to take part:

- What?** Opening of the 2018 EaP Civil Society Hackathon
Who? Jim Couzens, Head of Political, Press and Information Section, Delegation of the European Union to Belarus; experts of the *Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility Project* and hackathon participants from 6 EaP countries
When? Friday, 1 June 2018, 13:00
Where? IMAGURU Startup Hub, Fabritsiusa str. 4, Minsk

For accreditation and more information, please contact:

Ms. Elena PALIVODA, Communication Expert, EaP Civil Society Facility
elena.palivoda@eapcivilsociety.eu | +380 67509 78 18

Ms. Svetlana ZINKEVICH, Director of the Office for European Expertise and Communications, Hackathon partners in Minsk,
zinkevich.s@gmail.com | +375 17 392-21-53

Background information:

Eastern Partnership Civil Society Facility is the EU-funded Project working with six EaP countries to promote the role of civil society actors through support of innovations based on e-learning approach, development of digital solutions to improve public sector's transparency and accountability, strengthening cooperation and networking among civil societies and governments throughout the region. The Project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the consortium led by GDSI Limited (Ireland). For more information about the Project please visit: www.eapcivilsociety.eu or www.facebook.com/EaPCivilSociety/

