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## **THE EASTERN PARTNERSHIP CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM (EaP CSF) Between Implementation Tools and Objectives: The Case of Georgia**

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### **Abstract**

Understanding the role of civil society organizations as drivers of the Europeanization process contributed to the establishment of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF) with aims to facilitate the eastern partner countries' Civil Society Organizations' (CSOs) capacity building, their expert engagement, their cooperation with each other, with government entities and with CSOs within the EU member states. To what extent are the implementation tools, specifically the National Platforms of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, adapted to its objectives? This thesis analyzes the Georgian National Platform (GNP), which has established itself as one of the most successful National Platforms within the Forum. However, four major areas are outlined in which the Georgian National Platform needs to further adapt to the needs on the ground in order to strengthen its contribution to the objectives of the EaP CSF:

- 1) needs regarding managing the diversity;
- 2) needs regarding level of active participation;
- 3) needs regarding GNP Secretariat; and
- 4) needs regarding written strategy, increased accountability and transparency.