The European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)

Screening: Chapter 31
Foreign, Security & Defence policy
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The EU and its neighbours
Different neighbours, different relations

- **EFTA / EEA**
- **Candidate Countries** (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
- “**Potential candidates**” (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Serbia including Kosovo) – *Stabilisation and Association process*
- **Neighbours** – *European Neighbourhood Policy*
Which neighbours?

The immediate neighbours of the enlarged EU ... but not countries with an accession perspective (Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, Western Balkans ...)

- **Israel, Jordan, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Tunisia, Ukraine** (partner countries with Agreements in force in 2004, so ENP Action Plans negotiated in 2004, adopted in early 2005)

- **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Egypt, Georgia, Lebanon** (new ENP partners or those whose Agreements entered into force later, so ENP Action Plans negotiated during 2005-06, nearly finished)

- **Algeria** (latest Agreement to enter into force – preparing ENP Country Report)

- **Belarus, Libya, Syria** (no Agreements in force – prerequisite for ENP benefits)

Not the Russian Federation, with whom the EU instead has a Strategic Partnership.
Russian Federation

Not included in the European Neighbourhood Policy. Instead, a **Strategic Partnership** based on 4 “common spaces” on which Road Maps were agreed in May 2005:

- **economic** (incl. environment and energy) - promote integration via market opening, regulatory convergence, trade facilitation, infrastructure
- **freedom, security and justice** – JLS, human rights and fundamental freedoms
- **external security** - partnership on security issues and crisis management
- **research and education** (incl. cultural) - capitalise on strong intellectual and cultural heritage
ENP: Aims and principles

- A new **intensified relationship** between the enlarged EU and its neighbours

- **Not** about enlargement but **is** about mutual interest in supporting reform and modernisation, with the goal of promoting **mutual prosperity, stability and security**

- Responds to countries’ needs & efforts (**differentiation**)

- **Partnership-for-reform**

- **Joint** ownership (**agreed** priorities)
ENP: Common values & interests

Good governance, prosperity, stability & security:

- **Democracy**, human rights, rule of law
- **Market economy** and sustainable development
- **Sectoral reforms**
- Joint response to **common challenges** e.g. prosperity gaps, migration, crime, environment, health, terrorism ...
## Development of the ENP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>Thinking “beyond” enlargement (Wider Europe / New Neighbourhood)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>ENP Strategy Paper, First 7 ENP Country Reports</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>Adoption and beginning implementation of first 7 ENP Action Plans, preparation of 5 more</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>Adoption of next 5 ENP Action Plans, continue/start implementation of all 12, preparation of ENP Country Report on Algeria First ENP Progress Report (December)</td>
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ENP: Content of the policy

- **Focus**: A joint agenda to manage our common space (EU neighbourhood)
- **Aim**: Promote good governance and reform
- **Offer**: progressive economic integration, deepening political co-operation
- **Based on**: specific values and common interests
- **Assistance for**: agreed reform objectives, economic and social development & cross-border cooperation
How does it work?

- **Foreign policy** – wider than trade or aid or CFSP, uses all relevant instruments, dialogue about entire range of reform issues

- Invigoration of & building upon existing relations

- Selectively using experience from the enlargement process ("Transition Toolbox") e.g. how to support transition and sequence reforms, “twinning” officials & TAIEX (technical assistance) ...

- Gradual approximation with the acquis communautaire in relevant areas

- Socialisation, “soft power”, long-haul policy
ENP Action Plans

- Key operational instruments
- Country-specific, tailor-made political documents
- Jointly defining agenda on political and economic reforms
- Short & medium-term priorities (3-5 years)
- Guidance for assistance programming
ENP Action Plans – main areas

Same chapters in all, **content** is specific to each country:

- **Political** dialogue and reform
- **Economic** and social cooperation and development
- **Trade** related issues, market and regulatory reform
- Co-operation on **Justice, Freedom and Security**
- **Sectors**: Transport, energy, information society, environment, research and development
- **Human dimension**: People-to-people contacts, civil society, education, public health
Building on existing framework

ENP builds on:


- **established instruments** (Association and Co-operation Councils, Committees, sub-Committees) as mechanisms for promoting and monitoring implementation of Action Plans

Bringing **lessons learned** e.g. prioritisation and sequencing
ENP and the EuroMed Partnership

- Same general objectives. ENP **complements** the EuroMed Partnership, which **continues** to be the key multilateral element of EU relations with our Mediterranean neighbours.

- ENP offers **additional bilateral** incentives and opportunities.

- **Differentiated** rather than multilateral, new tools and methods (precise reform goals and steps, regulatory harmonisation).

- Example: EuroMed envisages **trade integration**, focusing on tariff issues, ENP goes beyond to offer **economic integration**, inclusion in networks, regulatory alignment etc.

- ENP helps to realise the **potential** of the EuroMed Partnership.
ENP and Regional Cooperation

- Reinforcing existing **regional / sub-regional cooperation** and providing framework for its development

- Developing **cross-border cooperation**, involving local and regional authorities (and e.g. Euroregions), as well as non-governmental actors

- Regional organisations *can* bring **added value** by transferring experience and know-how, helping with capacity-building and contacts, supporting cooperation among grass-roots organisations on wide range of issues

- Ensure **complementarity, coherence and coordination**
EC financial support

Until 2007:
- 2000-06: €8.4bn (MEDA €5.3bn, TACIS €3.1bn)
- Plus EIB lending (€6.5bn Mediterranean, €600m Eastern Europe)
- 2004-2006: Neighbourhood Programmes (cross-border)

2007 onwards:
European Neighbourhood & Partnership Instrument (ENPI)
- Approx €12bn for 2007-2013 (+32% increase)
- Much more flexible, policy-driven instrument
- Supporting priorities agreed in the ENP Action Plans
- Simplified approach for cross-border co-operation
- Technical assistance for institutional capacity-building
- EIB lending
Added value of ENP

- **Focus** on immediate neighbourhood as special category of external relations

- **Increased scope and intensity** of relations, covering and combining all policy fields and instruments (all pillars)

- **Encouragement** of reforms and development (economic, political, social, institutional)

- New forms of financial and technical **assistance** – offering elements **not offered to other “third countries”**
Economic effects?

Still early to quantify but, properly implemented, should contribute, directly & indirectly, to sustainable growth in partner countries:

- Incentives and support for economic and social reforms → better macroeconomic environment, long-term anchor for stability
- Facilitating poverty reduction and modernisation of public services
- Facilitating structural reforms, policy dialogue, improved regulatory framework, institutional modernisation, sub-regional connections and integration → conducive to investment & growth
Conclusions

- Key EU foreign policy priority – in political and financial terms

- An ambitious enhanced political framework for EU relations with neighbours

- Of mutual, long-term interest

- What can we achieve? ... a matter of political will!
ENP Website

Dedicated web site on Europa server under “Commission – Europe in the World”, containing all documents:

http://ec.europa.eu/comm/world/enp

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