



**Support to Capacity and Institution Building
of the Diplomatic School in Armenia**
Աջակցություն Հայաստանի դիվանագիտական դպրոցի վարչական
և ինստիտուցիոնալ կարողությունների ամրապնդմանը



Funded by the
European Union

Support to Capacity and Institution Building of the Diplomatic School in Armenia

The Diplomatic School of Armenia was established in 2010 to train future and serving diplomats, as well as staff of government agencies working at departments of external relations. The School has successfully fulfilled that role in the past years with direct support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international donors, including the European Union and OSCE.

A new EU funded project providing support to capacity and institution building of the Diplomatic School in Armenia was launched in May, 2013. This project provides practical support to the activities of the Diplomatic School of Armenia and gives advice on developing a strategy for the institution's future. The launch of this project also marks the start of an overarching Capacity and Institution Building programme for public administration that has been agreed between the European Union and the Government of Armenia.

A team of advisors, coordinators and trainers from the EU and non-EU countries will be brought in to assist the staff of the Diplomatic School in offering different theoretical and practical skills courses for future Armenian diplomats in the "International Relations and Diplomacy Programme at the School. Students who graduate from this Programme can apply to become diplomats with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Every year, there is a strong competition for the 27 available places at the Diplomatic School. A total of 41 graduates of the first three years have joined the ranks of Armenian diplomacy.

Part of the project is dedicated to assisting the School in developing mid-career training for diplomats based in Yerevan. International trainers will be teaming up with high level Armenian experts in diplomacy and international relations. They will develop short modules, offering skills' training and specific knowledge on relevant policy fields.

The project will introduce a number of supplementary outreach and extra-curricular activities, like a study tour to Brussels and Vienna based European and international institutions and internships for young diplomats in international organizations.

To assist the School in outlining its strategy for the future, a team of advisors will work closely with the Director, HE Ambassador Vahe Gabrielyan, to analyse relevant best practices in other countries. The ongoing networking with these diplomatic peer institutions will be intensified and avenues for further cooperation will be explored.

The project receives EU funding in the amount of 900 000 Euro and will be implemented between May 2013 and May 2015.