



9 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA AND ITS MEMBERS ATTENDED THE EXECUTIVE DINNER ORGANIZED BY EBA MEMBER IE BUSINESS SCHOOL

On 9 October EBA Armenia and its Members attended the Executive Dinner meeting organized by EBA Member IE Business School special for EBA Members. The meeting included great conversation and a peer networking cocktail. Serial Entrepreneur and IE Visiting Professor Mario Berta led the discussion, entitled "The Real Deal": a hands-on masterclass on persuasion skills, from sales to hiring and to fund raising.



IE exponential-learning



EBA MEETINGS WITH EU REPRESENTATIVES



15 October, 2019

**EBA ARMENIA MET WITH
CONFINDUSTRIA RUSSIA
COMPANY OF ITALY**

On 15 October, EBA Armenia had a meeting with Confindustria Russia, which is an international representation of Confindustria Italy in the territory of the Russian Federation. The meeting had the aim to discuss the possible prospects for the development of trade and industrial relations between the two countries, as well as the Italian investment environment in Armenia. Afterwards, Confindustria Russia had a meeting with Armen Sargsyan, the President of RA.

24 October, 2019

EBA BOARD MEMBERS HAD A MEETING WITH EU AMBASSADOR ANDREA WIKTORIN

SUPPORT OF EUROPEAN BUSINESSES IN ARMENIA

On 24 October, EBA Board Members had a meeting with the newly assigned Head of the EU Delegation to Armenia, Ambassador H. E. Ms. Andrea Wiktorin. It was an introductory meeting where EBA presented the aim of the organization, its main activities, the history and strong relations with EU. This kind of meetings will be continued as they are very important in terms of EBA activities and future goals.



EBA ARMENIA MEETINGS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS



9 October, 2019

OFFICIAL MEETING OF EBA ARMENIA STAFF AND OECD TEAM

On the 9th of October EBA Business Project Coordinator and Lobby and Advocacy Manager had a meeting with OECD team to discuss investment climate priorities, the main challenges that foreign investors face nowadays in Armenia, the actions that are taken for investment promotion and other aspects. In the framework of the meeting the legislative issues of CEPA were also represented.

4 October, 2019

EBA AND THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY HAD A DISCUSSION ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT COUNCIL IN ARMENIA AND EBA PRESENTED ITS INITIATIVE REGARDING THE FOREIGN INVESTMENT COUNCIL IN ARMENIA



On 4 October a meeting was held between the representatives of EBA, its Members and the Deputy Ministers of the RA Mr. Arman Hovnanyan and Mrs. Naira Margaryan. During the meeting EBA initiative for establishment of the Foreign Investment Council was discussed, the necessity and expediency of the formation of such a council were highlighted, and the parties agreed to present to the relevant officials a set of documents and drafts related to the initiative, after which an extended meeting will again be organized to develop and implement practical steps.





4 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA PARTICIPATED IN EU-ARMENIA STRATEGIC POLICY DIALOGUE 2ND MEETING

JUSTICE REFORM STRATEGY

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On 4 October EBA attended the EU-Armenia Strategic Policy Dialogue, Justice Reform Strategy 2nd meeting. The EU-Armenia Strategic Policy Dialogue on Justice Reforms aims at developing a justice reform in line with European standards and commitments under the EU-Armenia Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement. The meeting was devoted to the discussion on the recently published draft 2019-2023 Judicial Strategy and 2019-2022 Anti-Corruption Strategy. The dialogue served to link the EU support to the actions deriving from the Strategies, as well as to agree jointly on the EU instruments that will be made available to implement them. The Minister of Justice of the Republic of Armenia Mr. Rustam Badasyan, H.E. Andrea Wiktorin, Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to Armenia, Mr. Vassilis Maragos, Head of the European Commission's DG NEAR Unit responsible for Armenia, as well as representatives of the Supreme Judicial Council, Prosecutor General Office, Human Rights Defender's Office, business representatives and Civil Society Organisations participated in the event.

The Dialogue served as a platform for engagement of civil society organisations, business sector representatives, and the international community present in Armenia in the process of finalising the shape and future directions of the reform.



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16 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA PARTICIPATED IN THE 2ND ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS ARMENIA

EU-EBRD

On 16 October EBA Armenia participated in the second round of consultations for the EU-EBRD Country-specific Investment Climate Reviews and Action Plans for Eastern Partnership countries in Armenia. During the meeting the priorities of Technical Assistance were presented in detail and proposals for the latter were discussed. In EBRD's analysis priority areas of concern for the private sector and key areas for future reforms were highlighted.



10 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA WAS INVITED TO THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF EU4 ARMENIA PLATFORM

On 10 October, EBA participated in the launch of EU4Armenia.am platform. The whole spectrum of the EU-Armenia partnership and cooperation, the EU-supported projects implemented in various sectors and beneficiary stories are now available online. The EU4Armenia.am is an electronic map which showcases the framework of the EU-Armenia cooperation and EU-funded multi-sectoral projects implemented in different regions and communities of Armenia. It is a new online tool which provides insights into the large-scale actions that the European Union implements for Armenia. The EU Ambassador Andrea Wiktorin and the RA Minister of High-Tech Industry Hakob Arshakyan delivered opening remarks during the launching event. The EU Ambassador mentioned in her speech that the platform will ensure more transparency and easy access to the information regarding the EU-supported projects for the Armenian citizens.



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EBA ARMENIA MEETINGS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENTS



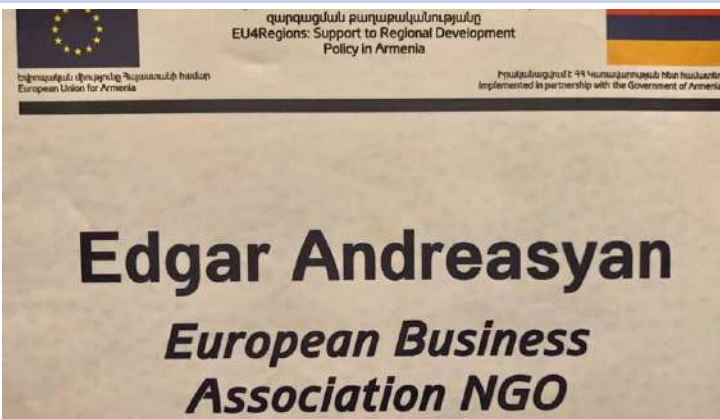
25 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA HELD A LOBBY AND ADVOCACY COUNCIL MEETING

On the 25th of October, EBA Lobby and Advocacy council meeting was held attended by council members. The meeting had the aim to discuss upcoming Round table discussion on Tax Administration and Legislation, which is being conducted for awareness of the representatives of business community regarding the new tax code that is coming into the force in 2020. Representatives of public sector and international organizations, such as IMF, World Bank in Armeni will lead the panel session.

4 November, 2019

EBA LOBBY AND ADVOCACY MANAGER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE COURSE ON RA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SMART SPECIALIZATION COURSES ORGANIZED BY THE MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF ARMENIA



Since June 2019, EBA Lobby and Advocacy Manager has been involved in the Territorial Development Strategy Working Group of the Republic of Armenia. In the framework of the latter, he participated in area specification training on regional development and smart specialization. The fourth and final round of the seminars took place on 24-26 October. Participation in the training enabled the participants to understand the economic development potential of the regions in RA in the future. As a result, it will be possible to determine the basis of statistics where to advise investors to implement their business plans. In addition, representatives of regional administrations are ready to submit their business plans to investors.

EBA ARMENIA PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL DAYS



5 October, 2019

**EBA ARMENIA ATTENDED THE
RECEPTION DEDICATED TO
GERMAN UNITY DAY**

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On the 5th of October, the German Embassy organized a reception dedicated to 29th anniversary of reunification, attended by Ambassadors accredited to Armenia, representatives of political, economic and cultural spheres. In his opening remarks, Ambassador Bantzaff emphasized the effective Armenian-German relations. The honorable guest of the evening, Deputy Prime Minister Mher Grigoryan

14 October, 2019
**EBA ARMENIA ATTENDED THE
RECEPTION DEDICATED TO
THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF
THE FOUNDATION OF AN
INDEPENDENT
CZECHOSLOVAK STATE**



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On 14 October, the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Armenia held a reception to celebrate 101st Anniversary of independent Czechoslovak state.

Representatives of the Government of the country, deputies of the Armenian National Assembly, members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Armenia, representatives of the Czech community and business, non-profit organizations, experts and politicians participated in the event. Both Ambassador and Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Avet Adonts held speeches ahead of the banquet.

22 October, 2019

**EBA ATTENDED THE MEETINGS
DEDICATED TO THE VISIT OF DELEGATION
FROM AUVERGNE-RHÔNE-ALPES**

The delegation of the French region of Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes had an official visit to Armenia from October 22 to 23. The delegation, which was headed by president of the regional council Laurent Wauquiez, visited the Armenian Genocide Memorial, TUMO center and the French University of Armenia. The main objective of the visit was introduction of potential investment opportunities in Armenia in different sectors, including tourism, vine and others.



Stephen Thomsen,
Head, Investment Policy Reviews, OECD
Yerevan, Armenia
8 October 2019



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8 October, 2019

EBA ARMENIA PARTICIPATED IN EXPERT WORKSHOP ON INVESTMENT POLICY AND PROMOTION IN ARMENIA

On 8 October Expert Workshop on Investment Policy and Promotion in Armenia was held at the RA Ministry of Economy and OECD specialists presented the OECD Restriction Index of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), which included Armenia.

The opening speech was welcomed by Arman Hovnanyan, Deputy Minister of Economy and William Thompson, Head of OECD Eurasia Division.

The OECD FDI Restriction Index currently includes all OECD member countries and approximately three dozen non-member countries, including the G20.

The index assesses the level of country restrictions in the foreign direct investment regulation environment, covering 22 sectors: agriculture, industry, electricity, manufacturing and main services - transport, construction, supply, communication, real estate, financial and professional services.

During the workshop, Stephen Thomsen, the Head of OECD Investment Policy Reviews, presented the results of Armenia's OECD Foreign Investment Regulation Restriction Index, mentioned about improving the investment environment and prospects.



10 October, 2019

EBA ATTENDED THE ARMENIA-DIASPORA 4TH BUSINESS FORUM IN YEREVAN

On the 10th of October, EBA Armenia attended the "Outline of Armenia-Diaspora Sustainable Economic Partnership" 4th Business Forum organized by Armenian Trade Network. During the meeting High Commissioner for Diaspora Affairs Zareh Sinanyan highlighted the activity of the Armenian Trade Network which has turned into a platform for exchange of experience between the Armenian businessmen, implementing new projects and initiatives in the Homeland. The Minister of High-Technological Industry of Armenia, Hakob Arshakyan touched upon the opportunities which the incumbent Armenian government enables for the development of the high-tech sector in the context of the new reality of Armenia, the programs aimed at the development of this sector, and the respective steps being taken. Chairman of the ATN Board Hrach Gaspar noted that the Armenian Trade Network can present an invaluable value both in the communities of Armenia and the Diaspora.



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29 October, 2019

**EBA ARMENIA PARTICIPATED
IN PRESENTATION OF 22ND
REPORT ON CSO SI 2018, ARMENIA**

On 29 October, presentation of 22nd report on CSO SI 2018, Armenia was held.

The stability of the CSO sector in Armenia has improved by 0.1 point, from 3.7 points in 2017 to 3.6 points in the same period in neighboring Georgia and Azerbaijan. Sonya Msryan, an expert at the Civic Development and Partnership Foundation, spoke at the presentation of the CSO Sustainability Index 2018, Armenia report. The latter presented to the attention of a number of NGOs, government, local and international organizations the results of the annual report. Overall, the stability of the CSO sector in the RA has improved due to the progress achieved on all seven indicators. Improvements in advocacy are particularly due to the key role played by CSOs during political events in April and May 2018.

Gagik Vardanyan, director of the Civic Development and Partnership Foundation, mentioned that the report was developed with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in partnership with Family Health International 360 (FHI360) and The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL). USAID-Armenia Director Deborah Greizer was also presenting the





INTRODUCING **EBA NETWORKING PARTY**



On the 1st of November, by the request of our members EBA Armenia organized a Networking party at Kami Club. Event was attended by EBA direct and indirect members, as well as ambassadors and consuls, having the chance to enjoy an evening of live music, drinks, dinner and networking with EBA Armenia.

During the event EBA Executive Director Ms. Diana Sarumova highlighted the significance of networking in business and professional success. This kind of initiative was quite successful, hence EBA members agreed to make it a continuous tradition and organize it every month.

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