

Peacebuilding indicators for the next Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance

How can the progress towards achieving the specific objective of reconciliation, peacebuilding and confidence building measures be assessed?

While the specific actions which promote peace or that can be taken as a sign of peaceful engagement will vary from country to country and should be determined by detailed analysis of conflict dynamics, there are certain indicators that could be used to measure progress towards meeting this specific objective across the region.

Those include:

1) Progress on security-related issues:

- Engagement of communities (including ethnic and religious minorities, IDPs and women) from across the conflict-divide in dialogue and policy processes related to security concerns and potential solutions (e.g. number of dialogue initiatives and policy processes as well as number of different communities participating);
- Democratic control over (e.g. parliamentary oversight, judicial control, public control exercised through civil society organisations, independent media etc.) and representativeness of security sector, including improving the gender balance and awareness within the security sector (e.g. percentage of minority communities and women represented in security forces).

2) Improved interethnic relations:

- Engagement of communities (including ethnic and religious minorities, IDPs and women) in genuine dialogue across the conflict divide (e.g. number of dialogue initiatives and number of different communities participating);
- Introducing and implementing legislation to protect the rights of minority communities;
- Desegregation of education systems while respecting rights of minorities to education in their own language where appropriate;
- Just settlements of conflict-related property disputes;
- Return of persons displaced by conflict and integration of IDPs (focusing on improving their living conditions and ensuring political participation);
- Cross-border co-operation (between local authorities, civil society etc.) that fosters peace in border regions;
- Ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

3) Strengthened relations between state and society:

- Existence and inclusion of civil society groups including women's organisations in official policy discussions and processes on issues related to conflict (e.g. existence of political processes that include civil society and percentage of representatives from civil society, including minority groups and women therein);
- Increased quality/impartiality/accessibility and representativeness of justice system (e.g. number of complaints lodged and considered, desegregation of justice sector staff by sex and ethnicity etc.);
- Increased participation of minority groups and women in public decision-making bodies (e.g. percentage of representatives from minority groups and women);

- Accession to/ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; adoption and implementation of National Action Plans on UN Security Council Resolution 1325.

4) Steps taken towards dealing with the past:

- Delivery of justice for victims of conflict (including victims of rape and sexual assault during and after conflict) (e.g. number of convictions related to number of prosecutions, existence of effective and timely remedy etc.);
- Support for reconciliation processes and truth commissions on local, national and regional level (such as the RECOM initiative, women's court and grassroots initiatives).

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