



## ALERTĂ EMAIL – Februarie 2007

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### Politica UE privind Moldova

#### European Commission's evaluation report about the Action Plan with Moldova

The European Commission's 2006 progress report the EU's Action plan with Moldova showed an ambivalent picture. On the one side progress has been made in the border control between Moldova and Ukraine, also the police is getting more efficient in Moldova and the investment climate in Moldova was strengthened over the last years. However, there are also a lot of critical remarks in the report, the EU is concerned about the poverty in the country, the problematic situation of the judiciary, as well as open concerns about the right of free speech and the freedom of press.

The whole report can be downloaded from: the [homepage of the DG Relex](#) (External Affairs).

#### Comisia Europeană a dat undă verde propunerii României de a coordona Centrul comun de eliberare a vizelor pentru cetățenii R. Moldova

Statele membre ale UE, împreună cu reprezentanții Comisiei Europene, vor deschide, în data de 26 februarie, discuțiile cu privire la modalitățile concrete de înființare a centrului comun european de acordare a vizelor de la Chișinău, în conformitate cu propunerea inițiată de ministrul român al Administrației și Internelor, Vasile Blaga, anunță Serviciul de presă al ministerului respectiv, citat de Info-Prim Neo.

Pentru informații suplimentare: [Moldova Azi](#)

#### Parlamentul European a aprobat acordarea unui ajutor macro-financiar Moldovei

Parlamentul European a aprobat miercuri, 14 februarie, acordarea unui ajutor macro-financiar R. Moldova în valoare de 45 milioane de euro. Potrivit proiectului, asistența financiară va ajuta Moldova să ușureze constrângerile financiare în urma implementării unor programe economice. De asemenea, va încuraja autoritățile în efortul lor de a implementa reformele în cadrul Planului de Acțiuni RM-UE, Politicii Europene de Vecinătate și Strategiei de Creștere Economică și Reducere a Sărăciei.

Pentru informații suplimentare: [Moldova Azi](#)

## **UE a numit un nou reprezentant special pentru Republica Moldova**

Diplomatul ungar Kalman Mizsei, a fost numit la 12 februarie curent, de catre inaltul reprezentant al UE pentru politica externa, Javier Solana, in calitate de reprezentant special al UE pentru Republica Moldova. De mentionat ca anterior, Kalman Mizsei a activat in calitate de asistent al Secretarului General al ONU si Director pentru Europa si CSI al PNUD. Mizsei l-a inlocuit in functia de reprezentant special al UE pentru R. Moldova pe Adriaan Jacobovits de Szeded, care a detinut acest statut din martie 2005 pana in prezent.

Pentru informații suplimentare: [Moldova AZI](#)

## **Moldovans try to become EU citizens by applying for Romanian citizenship**

Hundreds of thousands of Moldovan citizens have sent letters of application for Romanian citizenship, raising concerns that a flood of Moldovan workers will use Romanian passports to enter the workforce of the European Union. With Romania's entry into the EU, the potential for people from Europe's poorest country to gain a backdoor entrance into Western labor markets has become a major concern for EU policymakers. At least four major British daily newspapers featured recently articles warning that hundreds of thousands of Moldovans, "without money or prospects," may be headed toward the European Union.

In a speech in Chisinau on January 16, Romanian President Traian Basescu said there were nearly twice as many applications pending for citizenship from Moldova. Concerns about mass Moldovan migration into the EU have been further inflamed by the large number of Moldovans already working abroad. Romania defines citizenship based on nationality rather than residence. Citizens of Moldova who can demonstrate that either they, their parents, or their grandparents lived in Moldova when it was a part of Romania before the end of World War II are eligible for dual citizenship. While some in the EU worry about immigration from Moldova, others raise concerns that restricting the border may produce even more economic migrants. Recognizing this dilemma, international donors have pledged \$1.2 billion in aid for Moldova over the next three years.

For more information: [Radio Free Europe](#)

## **Transnistrian conflict still far from solution**

The Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Ambassador Louis O'Neill, on February 14 said he was disappointed about the lack of consensus among the mediators in the Transnistrian settlement process on going ahead with the settlement talks scheduled to start on February 15 in Chisinau. "We deeply regret that there is no consensus among the mediators to uphold the invitation to the parties for a new round of settlement talks on 15 and 16 February," O'Neill said.

In the same connection, the Ministry of Reintegration issued a declaration saying the official Chisinau is disappointed and bewildered by the lack of success in organizing the Transdnistria conflict settlement talks following the absence of some participants in the negotiations that gave no founded reasons for the nonattendance. But it did not specify the party that did not come to the talks. At the same time, the Moldovan side expressed its readiness to resume the talks.

In other news it was reported that Ukraine President Victor Yuhshenko asked the EU to support Moldova's integrity. For him, this issue is a first class European one, which must be sorted out with the optimal solution. Despite the support for Moldova, Russian Former Minister of Defense and New Vice-Government Chief Sergey Lavrov was quoted saying that Russia is not willing to withdraw its troops from Transnistria. He argued that the Russian troops couldn't leave, because there is still no solution on where the weapons from the ammunition depots, which the Russians are securing, shall go.

For more information: [Moldova AZI](#), [Politicom Moldova](#)

### **Romania and Bulgaria lobby for Moldova's entry perspective to EU membership**

Brussels should give Moldova a clear perspective for future EU entry on the model of the Western Balkan states, Romanian president Traian Basescu said in the European Parliament on Wednesday (31 January) in a sign of how Europe's poorest state stands to benefit from the Bucharest lobby inside the EU.

"The people of Moldova subscribe to European values. I'm not talking about the Republic of Moldova, but the values of the people of Moldova who feel extremely European," he said. "If we think of countries that have a European perspective we should think of Moldova and the Western Balkans." But the linkage of Moldova with the Western Balkan countries - some of which are already EU candidates and all of which got a firm promise that their "future lies in the EU" at the December 2006 EU summit - runs counter to prevalent EU thinking on Moldova as a European Neighborhood Policy (ENP) state instead.

The ENP, which covers 19 countries in a ring stretching from Morocco to Belarus, gives zero promise of enlargement with EU-hopefuls such as Moldova or Ukraine seeing the policy as a 10-year or more waiting room before any talks on accession can even begin. Moldova wants to break out of the ENP club by converting its current "Partnership and Cooperation Agreement" with the EU - which expires in mid-2008 - into a new "Association Agreement" with a declaration that gives clear commitments on future accession: a feat that Ukraine is also trying and failing to accomplish. "We have to take one step at a time," Hans-Gert Poettering, the European Parliament president and self-proclaimed confidante of German leader Angela Merkel, said on Mr Basescu's ideas.

In other news it was stated that, Bulgaria would insist in front of the European Union to apply clear criteria concerning Moldova's union accession, Foreign Minister Ivailo Kalfin said.

For more information: [EU Observer](#), [The Sofia Echo](#)

### **EU to spend more money on Moldova from 2007 until 2010**

The European Parliament approved on Wednesday, February 14, a macro-financial assistance worth EUR 45 mln for Moldova. According to the project, the financial support will help Moldova to ease its financial constraints as a result of implementation of certain economic programmes. This assistance will also encourage authorities in their efforts to implement the reforms within the Moldova-EU Action Plan, European Neighbourhood Policy and Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper.

The financial support is also provided in light of Moldova's poor economy and decline in the trade balance, especially due to foreign factors, as price rise in energy and ban on agrifood products (wine) imposed by the Russian Federation. EUR 30 mln will be granted during this year, the rest EUR 15 mln – in 2008. The report of the European Parliament can be downloaded from the [EP website](#).

Furthermore, the EU decided on a Donor conference for Moldova in December 2006 to double its finance assistance for Moldova. From 2007 until 2010 there shall go 245 mln EUR to Moldova to support the fight against poverty, economic development and the stabilisation of Civil Society connected with further democratisation.

**For more information:** [Moldova AZI](#)

### **European NGOs support Moldovan NGOs concerning environmental issues**

Green groups are calling on the European Commission to put the environment on the same level as human rights and trade when working out new agreements with countries neighbouring the EU.

A team of NGOs led by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has told the commission that environmentally-sustainable development should not be set apart from other goals of the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) in states such as Belarus Ukraine, and Moldova. Green groups are calling on the European Commission to put the environment on the same level as human rights and trade when working out new agreements with countries neighbouring the EU. Brussels is currently revamping its ENP with two new fund worth up to €1 billion in the next seven years, but the main thrust of the reform is to address criticism that Brussels has not done enough on human rights and democratic reform in former Soviet states in the past.

Speaking about the so-called "ENP plus" model for 2007 to 2013, Ms Agrasot said the environmental content was "nice" but "in practical terms the problem is that the governments don't necessarily think that the environment is a priority."

She suggested more money should be spent on public awareness campaigns to help make the environment a priority in North African and east European societies, as well as putting pressure on governments to take green issues seriously. "Right now there is a lot of blah blah text [on the environment in the new ENP model] and not so much is being done," the campaigner stated. It is hard to sell green issues to ENP governments, one EU official said. "There is an [increasing] understanding in the countries that you need to work on the environment," he added.

**For more information:** [EU Observer](#)

### **Eurasia Foundation and PAUCI: Partners in the Region's Development**

The Eurasia Foundation (EF) and the PAUCI Foundation signed an important working partnership agreement this week. The agreement reflects both partners' commitment to working toward their mutual goals of European integration, citizen participation in government, ethical standards in public life, youth empowerment and promoting transparent philanthropy. The partners will work together to benefit the citizens of Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Poland and the Russian Federation, drawing on local financial and other resources for joint and coordinated programs.

or more information: [Eurasia Foundation](#)

### **Primul Centru Interactiv European din Moldova va fi deschis la Cahul**

Centrul va fi deschis la Universitatea de Stat din Cahul pe 20 februarie 2007. Centrul este parte a unui program comun al Ministerului Afacerilor Externe și Integrării Europene al Republicii Moldova și Fundația Eurasia, reprezentanța din Moldova. După deschiderea centrului, va avea loc conferința regională „Cooperarea dintre autoritățile publice locale și societatea civilă în procesul de integrare europeană” în sala de conferințe a Consiliului Raional din Cahul.

Sursa de informare: [Ministerul Afacerilor Externe și Integrării Europene al Republicii Moldova](#)

## **Oportunități de finanțare**

### **The European Youth Foundation (EYF) (deadline: varies)**

EYF's purpose is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe by providing financial support to such European youth activities which serve the promotion of peace, understanding and co-operation in a spirit of respect for the CoE's fundamental values such as human rights, democracy, tolerance and solidarity. In 2007, projects linked to the themes of the European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation "All Different - All Equal" will be given priority for EYF funding. Next deadlines for grant applications: 1 February 2007 (Category C), 1 April 2007 (Category A and B). For more information on how to apply, visit the [homepage of EYF](#).

#### **Contact Details:**

Directorate-General for Education and Culture (DG EAC)  
E-mail: [eac-youthinaction@ec.europa.eu](mailto:eac-youthinaction@ec.europa.eu)  
Website: [http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.html)

### **World Bank: Small Grants Programme**

The Small Grants Program (SmGP) is one of several facilities through which the World Bank provides grants to NGOs and other organizations of civil society. The SmGP aims to make development more inclusive and equitable by providing funds for activities that support the civic engagement of marginalized and vulnerable groups. The SmGP in Moldova is managed by the Country Office in Chisinau. Between 1997-2005, grants to Moldovan NGOs amounted to approximately **USD 300 thousand** for **78** projects (44 - national NGOs and 34 - local NGOs).

For additional information: Please visit the [homepage of the World Bank](#)  
**Deadline: March 15, 2007 at 18.00**

### **Jean Monnet Programme - Call for Proposals 2007**

The Jean Monnet Programme is designed to increase knowledge and awareness about European integration by promoting teaching, research and debate on European Union matters at university-level institutions (teaching and research activities may including the EU's relations with other regions in the world. Higher education institutions from all over the world are invited to apply on the standard application forms that can be found on the following webaddress:

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/lp/ajm/index\\_en.htm](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/lp/ajm/index_en.htm)

**For more information:** [Delegation of the European Commission to Moldova](#)  
**Deadline for application:** 15 March 2007

### **Erasmus Mundus - External Cooperation Window – Call for Proposals**

Reference: EuropeAid/124352/C/ACT/Multi  
Status: **Open (until 28 February 2007)**

The Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window aims at mutual enrichment and better understanding between the European Union and Third-Countries, through the exchange of persons, knowledge and skills at higher education level.

**For more information:** [Erasmus Mundus](#)

### **US Embassy announces next round of Democracy Commission Small Grants Programme**

For the March round, the US Embassy welcomes projects related to one of the following priorities: institutionalisation of open, pluralistic, and democratic political processes at the local level; public participation in decision making; independent media; free flow of information, transparency in Government; civic education, strengthening and promotion of civil society and democratic institutions; anti-corruption awareness; conflict resolution; development of market economy, economic reforms.

Grants are awarded to non-governmental, non-profit organisations and independent mass media officially registered in Moldova. The programme does not support humanitarian assistance or charitable activities, political or partisan activities, scientific research, conferences and individual trips abroad, trade activities or costs associated with establishing an organisation.

The deadline for submitting applications: 15 March 2007.

**For more information:** [US Embassy in Moldova](#)

## Conferințe și alte evenimente

### Conferința „Procesul integrării europene – istorie, present, perspective”

Ministerul Educației și Tineretului al R. Moldova, Universitatea „Perspectiva-Int” și Asociația de Instruire și Informare Europeană invită persoanele interesate să participe la conferința științifică „Procesul integrării europene: istorie, present și perspective” care va avea loc la 21 aprilie 2007.

Pentru informații suplimentare: [Universitatea „Perspectiva-Int”](#)

### Concurs de eseuri „Moldova – stat european”

Asociația de Instruire și Informare Europeană și Centrul de Resurse Academice, cu susținerea Consiliului Studenților Universității „Perspectiva-Int” anunță concursul de eseuri „Moldova – stat european”. Sunt invitați absolvenții școlilor medii de cultură generală și licee din R. Moldova în anul de studii 2006-2007. Data limită de expediere a eseurilor: **28 mai 2007**.

Pentru informații suplimentare: [Universitatea „Perspectiva-Int”](#)

### New Training on Strategic Relations, Coalition Building and Networks, 28 February - 2 March 2007, London, UK

This renewed course looks at the relationships between NGOs as part of strategic development processes. The course is for practitioners that already understand the basics, but need the skills to take their coalitions and networks to the next level - explore the issues, the context within which these different types of relationships occur, the power balances, and expectations to enhance organisational effectiveness. Course overview: Day 1: Analysing strategic relationships; values, purpose; models, types, and conceptual frameworks of relationships; Day 2: Issues; accountability; power; negotiation; Day 3: Developing successful networks and coalitions. For more information, visit: [INTRAC training](#).

### Meeting of the Monthly Chisinau Press Club on March 1

The monthly press club meeting of the Independent Journalism Centre in Chisinau, a NGO mainly dealing with democratisation and Human Rights issues, will hold its monthly meeting in March on the 1. Topic of the meeting will be “Preventing Human Trafficking.”

#### Contact Details:

Homepage of the [Independent Journalism Club](#).  
Sciusev, 53 str., MD 2012, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova  
Tel: +373 22 213652, 227539 / Fax: +373 22 226681  
E-mail: [dbase@ijc.md](mailto:dbase@ijc.md)

## **European External Aid Projects and Logical Framework on March 8/9**

Welcome Europe organises a 2 days training on EU external aid focusing on the new EU external aid programmes 2007- 2013 from the 8. to the 9. March 2007 and also including the CIS countries. The Location of the training will be Brussels, Belgium and there is a participation fee of 990 Euro (excluding VAT).

**Further Information:**

Welcome Europe

[Axelle Dreyer](#)

Tel.: +33 (1) 14254 6064

The programme can be ordered [here](#).

## **Competitiveness in new member states: a model for EU candidates and neighbours?**

Location: Hungary

What economic lessons do new Central European Member States (EU8) have for EU candidates and neighbours? Indeed can old member states learn from EU8 experiences in implementing market reforms? What can the EU8 do to improve their global competitiveness and to implement the Lisbon Agenda? Which economic policies and practices should candidates and neighbours emulate? Which should they avoid?

**For more information:** [here](#)

The conference administrator is Susan Linfield

Tel. 44 (0)1903 817728 / Fax: 44 (0)1903 814217

[Email Susan Linfield](#)

The conference secretary is Jan Hewitt

Tel. 44 (0)1903 817697 / Fax: 44 (0)1903 879231

[Email Jan Hewitt](#)

## **Publicații**

### **[Human Resources Development in the European Neighbourhood Region - Country by country](#)**

This document brings together the latest information that the ETF has compiled on the situation of vocational education and training in the countries that will be covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy instrument (ENPI) set to be launched by the European Union at the beginning of 2007. The country sections present an overview of the social and economic context of each of the ENPI countries, an analysis of the education system and a short review of the main initiatives in education and training carried out by international donors in the country. Each country chapter also puts forward suggestions for future donor investments in the HRD sector.