

Moldova's Priority Reform Actions and EU responses

Moldova's Priority Reform Actions	Necessary Steps	Time Frame*	Possible EU response/support
Political reforms, including consolidating respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms			
Improve the effectiveness and fairness of the electoral framework	Ensure Parliamentary support for legislative changes in line with OSCE/ODIHR International Electoral Observation Mission and Council of Europe (Venice Commission) recommendations, in time for implementation in the repeat parliamentary elections	ST	Electoral support project, including in view of ensuring proper out-of-country participation.
Pursue and complete constitutional reform in an inclusive manner	Promote cross-party compromise on amending the constitution in consultation with international partners	ST-LT	Possible facilitation of consensus-building. Possible assistance on constitutional issues, to be coordinated with the Council of Europe (Venice Commission)
Reform the functioning of the Moldovan Parliament	Promote a political culture as well as procedures fostering consensus building. Set up a modern information system for Members of Parliament.	MT	Twinning and Democracy-support projects, with the participation of the French National Assembly, the Hungarian House of the Nations, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly
Reform the public administration, including the progressive decentralisation of decision-making	Implement civil service reform plans. Need for wide political agreement on law on civil service pay; and a decentralisation model with a clear financial resource base	MT-LT	High-level advisory group, Comprehensive Institution Building programme. [Possible TAIEX assistance on specific issues, in particular for advocacy purposes]
Adopt and implement the revised National Human Rights Action Plan	Ensure appropriate enforcement, funding and monitoring mechanisms involving civil society	ST-LT	Possible Rule of Law sector-wide programme. Regular dialogue on Human Rights and related TAIEX or IEDDH seminars. Assistance via High-level advisory group, Democracy-support project and Comprehensive Institution Building
Reform the judiciary in order to ensure the independence and efficiency of the courts, of the prosecution and of the Parliamentary Advocates	Adopt relevant legislation in line with EU standards and best practices. Ensure proper implementation	ST-LT	GPO participation in the Comprehensive Institution Building programme. Possible Rule of Law sector-wide programme, involving also non-CIB institutions. Assistance via High-level advisory group.

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Design and implement effective institutional reform of law enforcement bodies in line with European standards⁺	Need to build up administrative capacity and ensure proper enforcement	ST-MT	Comprehensive Institution Building. Possible Rule of Law sector-wide programme, involving also non-CIB institutions. Support via High-level advisory group.
Sign and ratify the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention of 1981 on the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data⁺	Take relevant administrative decision and ensure Parliamentary adoption	ST-MT	Progress in concluding agreements with Europol and Eurojust.
Revise and implement the Law on Personal Data Protection in compliance with the EU Acquis⁺	Build up Parliamentary support and ensure full operation of the Personal Data Protection Centre to ensure proper implementation	ST-LT	Technical assistance in the context of the possible Rule of Law sector-wide programme. Support via High-level advisory group.
Macro-financial stability			
Advance modernisation of the public finance management and internal control systems	Adopt Law on public finance management and internal control	ST	Macro-financial assistance. Continued assistance on PFM issues under budget support programmes. SIGMA support.
Implement the IMF Agreements	Requires significant planning, legislative and implementation efforts	ST-LT	Macro-financial assistance and possible scaling up of budget support. Support via High-level advisory group.
Trade and Business environment**			
Improve the investment climate by removing impediments to doing business	Need for Parliamentary support and strengthen administrative capacity to improve Company law and address outstanding obstacles for local and foreign businesses	ST-MT	Support via High-level advisory group. Possible Twinning and TAIEX assistance.
Combat corruption and money laundering⁺	Implement National Action Plans on corruption and money-laundering. Advance legal harmonization in the banking sector. Build up administrative capacity of the relevant enforcement agencies	MT-LT	Possible TAIEX and Twinning support. Support via Comprehensive Institution Building programme.
Establish a modern competition policy framework in line with the EU Acquis	Need for Parliamentary support in revising the Competition and the State Aid laws	ST-MT	Possible TAIEX support, including for advocacy purposes. Twinning project with the National Agency for the Protection of Competition
Ensure implementation of the public procurement framework	Strengthen the administrative capacity of the Public procurement agency in line with Directives 89/665 and 2007/66	MT	Twinning project with the Public procurement Agency

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Ensure full implementation of the EU Additional Autonomous Trade Preferences (ATPs)	Actively stimulate the use of the existing ATPs to diversify the export base. Approximate, and strengthen capacity to enforce, Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary and Industrial Standards. Attract greenfield foreign direct investments. Establish an effective monitoring mechanism to avoid enacting new duties, charges or quantitative restrictions that are inconsistent with the Autonomous Trade Preferences	ST-LT	Support via High-level advisory group and Comprehensive Institution Building programme. Assistance via the Export Promotion and Investment Attraction project.
Advance reforms in the field of intellectual property rights	Strengthen the National Commission for Intellectual Property. Complete negotiations on geographical indications.	MT-LT	Upgraded cooperation with the European Patent Office. Support via Comprehensive Institution Building programme. Possible TAIEX support.
Continue preparations for a possible future DCFTA	Ensure full cooperation of the relevant institutions with the European Commission in delivering concrete results. In particular, endorse and implement the "key recommendations" to be drawn up by the European Commission following its fact-finding mission.	ST-LT	Fact-finding mission. Key recommendations. When the necessary conditions are fulfilled, propose to launch negotiations.
Justice, Freedom, Security***			
Full roll-out of biometric passports	Implement relevant administrative decisions	LT	Possible ENPI technical assistance.
Align border management policy and practice with Schengen standards	Elaboration and implementation of a national integrated border management strategy. Complete the reform of the Border Guard services	LT	EUBAM assistance. Possible TAIEX support.
Adopt and implement a new Strategy on organised crime and trafficking in human beings	Build up Parliamentary support and strengthen implementation capacity.	MT-LT	Comprehensive Institution Building programme. Possible Rule-of-law budget support programme.
Implement the measures to be identified in the course of the future visa dialogue	Adopt the relevant decisions and ensure their effective implementation in a sustainable manner	LT	Progress towards visa liberalization. Possible technical assistance, including via Comprehensive Institution Building
Energy			
Full implementation of the Energy Strategy, including identified investment projects	Monitor fulfillment of the various actions in Annex 1 to the Strategy. Keep dialogue with IFIs concerning possible investment projects.	ST-LT	Possible budget support to the energy sector. Regular meetings in Chisinau together with international donors (EBRD, EIB, WB, SIDA)

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Harmonise primary and secondary legislation in the Energy Community Treaty context	Finalise the related Action Plan. Ensure Parliamentary support and enforcement capacity.	ST-LT	Support to Moldova's participation in Energy Community activities, including from the Energy Community Secretariat. Possible budget support to the energy sector.
Establish energy tariffs, including heating tariffs, at cost- and investment-recovery level	Improve conditions for the regulator to work independently and continue gradually increasing tariff levels, also in line with IMF Agreements	MT-LT	Macro-financial assistance. Possible income-support assistance. Support being provided by SIDA, to be possibly joined by the EU.
Address issue of historic debts in the heating and gas sectors to be able to develop a competitive market and attract investment	Continue efforts to solve issue through debt-restructuring and dialogue with all relevant parties, including those in the Transnistrian region	MT	Possible facilitation of settlement efforts. Possible EU contribution to support being provided by the World Bank and SIDA.
Promote energy efficiency	Revise tariff-setting policy. Adopt and implement Energy efficiency law. Set up Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Agency	ST-LT	Support to Moldova's participation in the Energy efficiency initiative. Possible EU sector-wide support to the energy sector.
Research and Technological development			
Increase research cooperation with the EU through association to the Seventh Framework Programme for research and technological development (FP7)	Fully implement the National Action Plan for FP7. Start and complete negotiations on the Memorandum of Understanding Associating Moldova to the FP7	ST-MT	Decision and Protocol enabling Moldova's participation in EU Programmes. TAIEX events and expert missions to support Moldova in preparations for FP7 association

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* ST: short term (up to 6 months)
 MT: medium term (6-18 months)
 LT: long term (18 months and more)

** To be updated to reflect the findings and recommendations of the European Commission

*** To be updated to reflect the measures to be identified in the course of the future visa dialogue

+ Relevant also to the area of Justice, Freedom and Security