



## ANNEX C1: Twinning Fiche

**Project title:** Twinning – Strengthening the Capacities of the Moldovan Parliament and its role in the EU Accession Process

**Beneficiary administration:** Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

**Twinning Reference:** MD 21 NDICI OT 01 24 (MD/42)

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**EU funded project**

***TWINNING TOOL***

## **1. Basic Information**

### **1.1 Programme:**

Annual Action Programme 2021, Action Document for EU4Reforms (OPSYS ACT-60606 linked to JAD.943389), Twinning Grant under direct management;

C(2022) 2850 Commission Implementing Decision of 27.4.2022 on the financing of the second Individual Measure in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2021.

### **1.2 Twinning Sector: Other (Public Governance)**

### **1.3 EU funded budget: Maximum 1,400,000 EUR**

### **1.4 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**

SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions

Target 16.6: Develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

Target 16.7: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision making at all levels.

## **2. Objectives**

### **2.1 Overall Objective(s): to support the Republic of Moldova on its path towards EU Accession**

The overall objective is to facilitate the Accession Process of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union

### **2.2 Specific objective:**

To ensure an efficient, transparent and participatory legislative process in the context of EU Acquis approximation, as well as strengthen oversight by the Parliament in the form of greater accountability for government decisions.

### **2.3 The Elements Targeted in Strategic Documents i.e. National Development Plan / Cooperation Agreement / Sector Reform Strategy and related Action Plans:**

Due to its constitutional role as legislator and due to the distinct prerogatives of the Parliament, the action will support the main strategic policy documents of and agreements with the Republic of Moldova, including:

- Association Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova<sup>1</sup> and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) is an integral part of the Agreement;
- The Association Agenda between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova for 2021-2027<sup>2</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> See [eu-md\\_aa-dcfta\\_en.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> See [Publications Office \(europa.eu\)](#).

- The Action Plan<sup>3</sup> for the implementation of the steps proposed by the European Commission in the Opinion<sup>4</sup> on the Republic of Moldova's application for membership of the European Union;
- The National Accession Action Plan of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union for the years 2024-2027<sup>5</sup>
- The Moldovan Government's National Development Plan for 2023-2025 and related Action Plan<sup>6</sup>.

This project is in line with General Objective 7 of the Moldovan Government's National Development Plan for 2023-2025: *Ensuring effective, inclusive and transparent governance*; as well as Specific Objective: 7.1 *Building an integrated, accountable, efficient, transparent and open public administration to citizens' participation in decision-making processes" for the Parliament's work.*

### 3. Description

#### 3.1 Background and justification:

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova is a unicameral structure consisting of 101 elected MPs, elected for a legislature of 4 years. It is the supreme representative body and the only legislative body in Moldova, led by the Speaker of the Parliament and two Deputy-Speakers. Following parliamentary elections on 11 July 2021, a new government was appointed by the governing party – PAS (Party of Action and Solidarity), with 63 mandates in Parliament. The opposition party BECS (Electoral Block of Communists and Socialists) obtained 29 mandates, while independent got 5 mandates, and non-affiliated 3 mandates.

There are currently 71 political parties registered in Moldova, 24 of which participated in the last snap parliamentary elections (2021), 29 – in the last local elections (2019) and 7 – in the last presidential elections (2020). Only three of these parties are represented in Parliament:

- Party of Action and Solidarity (63 MPs)
- Electoral Block of Communists and Socialists (32 MPs)
- Sor Party (6 MPs)

The Parliament exercises its legislative functions in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, the Rules and Procedures of the Parliament adopted by Law nr.797/1996<sup>7</sup>. The work of the Parliament and its working bodies is performed at sittings.

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<sup>3</sup> See [pa - en.pdf \(gov.md\)](#).

<sup>4</sup> See [Republic of Moldova Opinion and Annex.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#).

<sup>5</sup> See [https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/nu-1182-maeie-2023\\_0.pdf](https://gov.md/sites/default/files/document/attachments/nu-1182-maeie-2023_0.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> See [907.pdf \(gov.md\)](#).

<sup>7</sup> Law No. 797/1996 on the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament, available in Romanian at:

[https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=111777&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=111777&lang=ro)

The Parliament holds two ordinary sessions per year. The spring session begins in February and must finish by the end of July. The autumn session begins in September and must finish by the end of December.

The Parliament meets for an extraordinary or special session upon the request of the President of the Republic of Moldova, the President of the Parliament or one third of the MPs.

The Parliament organizes its activity in the form of plenary sittings and meetings of the standing committees. Plenary sittings are considered deliberative if the majority of the elected MPs are present.

## Institutional Framework

See under 5.2.

## The Legislative Process

According to art.73 of the Constitution of Republic of Moldova and art. 47 of the Rules of Procedure, the right to legislative initiative belongs to MPs, the President of the Republic of Moldova, the Government, and the People's Assembly of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia. An MP can exercise the right to legislative initiative individually or together with other MPs.

The author of a draft law submits the draft in the form in which the law is adopted, with a statement. The statement contains the constitutional basis for adopting the regulation, reasons for adopting the regulation, explanation of the basic legal institutions, an estimate of the funds necessary for the implementation of the regulation, reasons for adopting the draft law by an urgent procedure, if an urgent procedure has been proposed. The statement may also contain the analysis of the regulation effect, with detailed explanations.

The draft law is debated together with the statement of the objective, the purpose, the concept of the future legal act, its place in the legislation in force, as well as its socio-economic and other effects, according to the requirements of the Law on legal acts No. 100/2017. An economical and financial rationale shall be attached if the fulfillment of the new regulations requires financial, material, and other kinds of expenses, and also the results of the expertise and research carried out during the preparation.

The President of the Parliament shall submit the draft legislative act or legislative proposal to be considered in the responsible Standing Committee under the competence of which it falls. Before being discussed at a plenary sitting of the Parliament, draft laws are discussed by the Standing Committees and the Government, if the latter is not the draft law initiator. The responsible Standing Committee and the Government in their opinion/reports may propose to the Parliament to accept or not to accept the draft law in principle.

The MPs, standing committees and parliamentary factions shall be entitled to present - as a rule in writing - conceptual proposals and reasoned amendments to the draft legislative act that shall be submitted to the responsible standing committee within a 30-day term after the receipt of the law.

The draft law is considered by the Parliament under a regular or an urgent procedure. The responsible Standing Committee initially puts to a debate in principle the draft law and

in their report, may propose to the Parliament to accept or not to accept the draft law in principle.

The author of the draft law/the initiator may withdraw the draft law or proposal at any time up to the final enactment in the plenary sitting.

The system of verifying the compatibility of new legislation and amendments proposed with the EU acquis was established by the Law No.100/2017<sup>8</sup> on normative acts and according to the provision of art. 33, 36, 39 and 40:

The approximation of national legislation with the legislation of the European Union is done in accordance with the commitments assumed by the Republic of Moldova based on the international agreements concluded with the European Union, legislative programs of the Parliament and action plans of the Government.

Draft legislative acts that have the purpose to approximate the national legislation with legislation of the European Union are marked on the first page on the top right corner with the EU logo and contain approximation clauses.

For draft legislative acts that have the purpose to approximate the national legislation with the legislation of the EU, the author of the draft must draft the Table of concordance that assesses the transposition degree of the legislation of the European Union into the national legislation. In compliance with the provision of art. 21 of the Law No.100/2017 on normative acts, at the stage of the drafting of law it is necessary to prepare the table of concordance with European legislation. The compatibility of the laws with the EU acquis is checked, by the Center for Legal Approximation, which issues, at the same time, the Statement of compatibility.

Draft legislative acts pertaining to the European Integration process are sent to the Center for Legal Approximation for a compatibility review with the EU legislation. Based on the results of the compatibility review, the Center for Legal Approximation drafts the Statement of compatibility. In case of draft legislative acts presented by the President of the Republic of Moldova, an MP or the People's Assembly of ATU Gagauzia, which have the purpose to approximate the national legislation with the EU legislation, these are sent for endorsement to the Government, accompanied by the table of concordance.

After the draft law is introduced to the Parliament, it will be verified by the relevant Standing Committee, and the General Legal Department. The General Legal Department compares the draft law with EU legislation, analyses if the EU acts were transposed partly or completely, verifies the existence and correctness of the table of concordance. According to the Law No.100/2017 on normative acts, the informative note/the statement includes the level of compatibility for the draft laws that are aimed to approximate national legislation with the European one.

In the context of ensuring the compatibility of amendments with the EU legislation (EU acquis), the relevant Standing Committees also check amendments and the table of compliance in their field. If necessary, a Committee may request a legal opinion of the General Legal Department.

The Committee for Foreign Policy and European Integration prepares the co-report for the draft laws pertaining to the European Integration process.

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<sup>8</sup> Law No. 100/2017 on normative acts, available in Romanian at:  
[https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=105607&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=105607&lang=ro)

The relevant Standing Committee of the Parliament ensures the public consultation on draft laws with the stakeholders by organizing debates and public hearings through other consultation procedures established by Law No. 239/2008 on transparency in decision making<sup>9</sup>.

Standing Committees may organize public hearings for the purpose of obtaining information, or professional opinions on proposed acts which are in parliamentary procedure, clarification of certain provisions from an existing or proposed act, clarification of issues of importance for preparing the proposals of acts or other issues within the competences of the committee, as well as for the purpose of monitoring the implementation and application of legislation.

Proposals for organizing public hearings, with the topic of the public hearing and list of persons who would be invited, may be submitted by any committee member, and the decision thereupon is made by the committee.

#### Rules of Procedures of the Parliament:

The legislative process in the Republic of Moldova is regulated by the Law No. 797/1996 on the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament<sup>10</sup>. The Rules of Procedure regulate the following issues:

- The establishment and functioning of the Parliament - the constituent sitting of the Parliament, formation of the parliamentary factions, election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Parliament, the establishment of the Standing Bureau of the Parliament and its competences, the establishment of the Standing Committees and their duties, Special Committees, Investigation Committees.
- Organization of parliamentary work - sessions of the Parliament, parliamentary sittings.
- Legislative procedure - conditions to exert the right of legislative initiative and the subjects of this right, registration of the draft law, organization of public consultation, submission of amendments, debate of bills in different readings, voting procedure by categories of law, submitting the law to the President of the Republic of Moldova for promulgation.
- Parliamentary oversight - oversight of legal acts implementation, simple motion, motion of no confidence, questions to members of the Government or to officials from other public authorities, interpellations, parliamentary hearings over Governments activity.
- Parliamentary ethics and conduct - non-attendances of MPs, interdictions, sanctions for infringement of the Rules of Procedure by MPs.
- Relations between the Parliament and the President of the Republic and the Government.

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<sup>9</sup> Law No.239/2008 on transparency of the decision-making, available in Romanian at: [https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=106638&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=106638&lang=ro)

<sup>10</sup> Law No. 797/1996 on the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament, available in Romanian at: [https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=130560&lang=ro#](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=130560&lang=ro#)

The Rules of Procedure of the Parliament have undergone multiple changes since their adoption, and the institutions regulated by it have been subject to constitutional review several times.

The changes and additions made as yet have contributed to increasing the quality of the Rules and have targeted parliamentary institutions and practices which have been strengthened. Those concerned in particular are the parliamentary majority, the institution of promulgation, the formation of parliamentary factions, the duties of the President and Vice-Presidents of Parliament, the duties of the Standing Bureau, the rights and responsibilities of Members, disciplinary violations, the procedure for lifting parliamentary immunity, etc.

The provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament have been amended several times. The latest amendments are the following:

- According to the Law nr.164/2021,<sup>11</sup> the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament were supplemented with Article 891 which describes the mechanism of e-voting. The provisions of the Law describe the actions of the chairman of the sitting and the MPs during the e-voting procedure, as well as following the occurrence of a technical failure of the electronic devices, the verification procedure by electronic means of the quorum at the plenary sessions, the obligations of the users of the electronic nominal cards. The use of electronic devices improves the voting procedure of the normative acts of the Parliament in the plenary sessions, ensures the correctness of counting the results of the vote cast by facilitating the activity of the Parliament.
- Law nr.58/2022<sup>12</sup> improves the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament in order to give the Parliament's Secretary-General the task of managing Parliament's budget and hiring/relieving civil servants of the Parliament's Secretariat in order to streamline the management of resources. The Secretary-General shall be required to report to the Permanent Bureau every six months or as required on expenses incurred.

#### Plans to amend the Rules of Procedure

The President of the Parliament, by the decision No. DGDP/C-1 No. 4 of 14.03.2022, created the working group, consisting of members of the Legal Committee, officials of the General Legal Directorate and Standing Committees, to analyse national and international good practice in order to draft a new Code of Parliamentary Rules and Procedures, including a new chapter on parliamentary ethics.

The working group has the task to harmonize the draft law with the multiple recommendations of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), the recommendations of civil society and the media, the aim of which is opening transparency and accessibility to the legislative process.

The working group studied best international practices regarding the legislative procedure, proposing several new institutions and elements like:

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<sup>11</sup> Law No.164/2021 on amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament, available in Romanian at: [https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=128618&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=128618&lang=ro)

<sup>12</sup> Law No. 58/2022 on amending the Rules of Procedure of the Parliament, available in Romanian at: [https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=130458&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=130458&lang=ro)

- To ensure the regulation of all areas of social relations, the organization of parliamentary hearings, parliamentary scrutiny and other activities, Parliament shall adopt the annual legislative program, which shall be drawn up considering the Government's action plan.
- Strengthening the institution of admissibility in the legislative procedure of the draft normative act.
- Strengthening the transparency of the law-making process and the cooperation with civil society.
- A separate section is dedicated to the relation Parliament-Government in the process of European integration of the Republic of Moldova. Within the annual report of the Government, a separate chapter will be reserved to describe the process of European integration of the Republic of Moldova, the progress made, and the priorities set.
- In the case of a draft legislative act pertaining to the Republic of Moldova's EU integration process, the report of the Committee on Foreign Policy and European Integration is mandatory.
- Parliament's relations with local public administration authorities.
- Regulation of relations between the majority and the parliamentary opposition in order to harmonize the views and divergences.
- Establishes general rules of conduct within the Parliament, the conduct of the MP in the exercise of his/her mandate, conduct restrictions during meetings, the conduct of the MP abroad, the conduct of the MP towards the staff of the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, the conduct of the MP towards the public and the media. A new element is the establishment of the position of Commissioner for Ethics.

According to the EU Enlargement Report for the Republic of Moldova, the process of amending Parliament's Rules of Procedures should be accelerated including to ensure a broader involvement of civil society.

#### Oversight:

Moldova's legislation envisions a number of instruments and forms of parliamentary control. In order to exercise the function of parliamentary oversight, the Parliament carries out an ex-post legal evaluation after one year after the adoption of the law and ex-post impact assessment of the law after 3 years after its adoption. If the ex-post legal evaluation is carried out by the Parliament Secretariat in full compliance with the planned ones, then the ex-post impact assessment by the standing committees is practically not executed.

The Parliament's oversight role, control of the government and scrutiny of legislative developments are generally in place and annual reports by public institutions are submitted on time, and Parliament is making efforts to organise hearings on the reports during the plenary. However, the Parliament, its working bodies and the MPs do not use constitutional tools to exercise authentic parliamentary control to its full extent, and implementation of some methods and instruments of parliamentary control, including ex-post impact assessments, should be improved, especially for legislation related to EU integration. The working methods of special investigative parliamentary committees should be strengthened as they have so far failed to deliver tangible results.



The Parliament exercises oversight to make sure that the laws are being correctly implemented, public finance is spent according to the applicable framework, and public institutions function in compliance with the law. The means of parliamentary oversight include:

**Hearings** – legislative hearings are frequently used to hold the executive to account and to inform parliaments' choices as regards. They are also used as a way to obtain evidence on specific subjects to inform their work and as public forums to give citizens access to information on policy issues.

**Motions** – there are two types of motions:

- A simple motion – can be initiated by a number of at least 15 MPs and if passed (with a simple majority) expresses the Parliament's position regarding a given domestic or foreign problem.
- Motion of no confidence – can be initiated with the signatures of at least one quarter of the total number of MPs and represents the withdrawal of confidence towards the government, hence its removal. If the vote of no confidence passes, the Prime Minister will hand in their resignation to the President of Moldova within 3 days. The motion of no confidence can pass with a simple majority.

**Interpellations** – are written requests for explanations directed at the Government, regarding a specific activity, be it of domestic or foreign policy. Every MP is entitled to issue interpellations, to which the Government has to respond within 15 days. Respective government members are thus summoned to appear in the interpellations parliamentary hearing.

**Questions** – every Thursday session order of business reserves time for questions from MPs directed towards Government members and other public authorities, except for the President, the judiciary, and local public authorities.

**Examinations and reports** – the Parliament will invite representatives of the Government to report on and answer questions about their activity. The Parliament can organize examination hearings on other major public interest matters every time it deems necessary. The extraordinary examination hearings are proposed by either the Standing Bureau, a Standing Committee, or a parliamentary faction.

Every year in April, the Prime minister is invited to a plenary hearing to present an annual activity report and answer questions. There are other executive and non-executive institutions that have the obligation to issue annual reports to the Parliament, such as the National Anticorruption Center, the National Agency for Contestations, the National Bank of Moldova, the National Committee for Financial Markets, the Court of Accounts, the Prosecutor General's Office. Some institutions are required to provide annual reports only upon request.

**Petitions** – are written requests from citizens, asking for support in a matter of public interest or reporting abuses. Petitions are analysed by the competent Committee or by the MP – if the petition is directed personally at them.

In the period August 2022 to July 2023, only 5 questions or interpellations were addressed, as opposed to 38 questions in the period prior to that. According to a Civil Society monitoring report<sup>13</sup>, the Parliament's official website does not ensure informing

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<sup>13</sup> See Report on the Monitoring the activity of the Parliament of the 11<sup>th</sup> legislature August 2022 – July 2023 by the [Promo-Lex Association: https://data.promolex.md/uploads/101/reports/report\\_14\\_en.pdf](https://data.promolex.md/uploads/101/reports/report_14_en.pdf)

the general public about the use of these instruments. The instrument of hearings, according to the monitors, was not used during the reference period, although proposals for hearings of public authority leaders or representatives were frequently put forward by Members of Parliament from the Bloc of Communists and Socialists fraction (36 proposals in 19 plenary sittings).

### Transparency and Efficiency

According to the EU Enlargement Report for the Republic of Moldova, efforts should be made to improve transparency by planning parliamentary oversight activities and public hearings, publishing the parliamentary calendar sufficiently early, and increasing the level of accountability of parliamentarians.

The rights and obligations of the elected parliamentarians, the key organs of the institution, the manner in which legislative procedures are to be conducted and ensuring management of the Parliament Secretariat are described in the Parliament Rules of Procedure (Law no. 797/1996) and the Standing Bureau decisions. A reform process of the existing Rules of Procedures is underway. By the decision DGDP/C-1 No.4 of 14.03.2022, a working group was created, consisting of members of the Legal Committee, officials of the Parliament Secretariat and Standing Committees, to analyse national and international good practice in order to draft a new Code of Parliamentary Rules and Procedures. The working group has the task to harmonize the draft law with the recommendations of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), the recommendations of civil society and the media.

The EU accession process will require a substantial increase of workload for the Parliament, including in the harmonisation of the national legislation with the EU acquis. The Parliament has a key role in monitoring the course of accession negotiations with the EU and approximation of legislation with the EU acquis. Its Rules of Procedure shall set the responsibilities and role of the Parliament in this process accordingly. In the period between July 2021 and July 2022, it was estimated that only 35% draft laws aimed at approximating the legislation of the Republic of Moldova with the EU legislation. The new status of candidate country calls for a revision of Parliamentary functions and its institutional capacities in the light of the declared expectations of the European Union toward Moldova.

The overwhelming majority of the draft normative acts in the last year were registered by the MPs, exceeding the weight of the initiatives submitted by the Government.

### 3.2 Ongoing reforms:

On 17 June 2022, the European Commission presented its opinions on the application for accession submitted by the Republic of Moldova. Based on the Commission's opinion, Moldova was given a European perspective on 23 June 2022 by unanimous agreement between the leaders of all 27 EU Member States. The Commission's opinion outlined nine steps which Moldova needed to address in order to progress on the path to the EU. It was complemented by Commission's analytical report on country's alignment with EU acquis of 2 February 2023. A more detailed review was part of the 2023 Enlargement Package reports, presented on 08 November 2023, where Moldova was included for the first time. The Commission also recommended opening accession negotiations with Moldova. On 14

December 2023, European Council decided to open accession negotiations with the country.<sup>14</sup>

The Support Package for the Republic of Moldova presented by the European Commission in July 2023 has the following five priorities aimed at addressing the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, and bringing Moldova closer to the European Union:

- Facilitating economic development and connectivity through the Priority Action Plan for trade under the DCFTA and the dedicated flagships of the Economic and Investment Plan (EIP). These focus on support to SMEs, trade, energy efficiency, human capital development as well as connectivity. Under the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes initiative, the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) for Transport will provide funding to projects addressing bottlenecks at key border crossing points. The priority is also aimed at addressing challenges faced by cross-border communities through strengthened Interreg programmes. Finally, building on the recent achievement to reduce roaming prices, we are working towards a long-term roaming arrangement.
- Supporting Moldova's reforms through strengthening administrative capacity, advisory services focusing on challenges arising on the enlargement path, dedicated training and support programmes as well as increasing the participation of Moldova in EU programmes like Horizon Europe, Fiscalis, Customs, LIFE and EU4Health.
- Ensuring Moldova's energy security through increasing domestic electricity production, participating in the EU common gas purchasing mechanism, boosting renewables and focusing on energy efficiency.
- Enhancing Moldova's security through targeted actions guided by the High Level Political and Security Dialogue; expanding cooperation through the newly-launched EU Partnership Mission to Moldova, the EU-Moldova Support Hub for Internal Security and Border Management, the EU Border Assistance Mission, as well as with European agencies notably Frontex, Europol, Eurojust and CEPOL; strengthening Moldova's defence sector through the European Peace Facility, and its internal security and border management through targeted investments and provision of equipment.
- Countering foreign information manipulation and interference, including disinformation, and enhancing strategic communication through providing technical support to the Moldovan government and capacity building for independent media civil society and youth to address disinformation and to communicate actively on the benefits of EU integration.

The willingness for reform and the EU accession process have sparked reforms in almost all sectors, including:

#### Public Administration Reform

A new strategic framework for public administration reform for 2023-2030 was adopted by the government on 15 March 2023 and the implementation program of the strategic framework for the period 2023-2026 was approved on 7th of June 2023. This followed

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<sup>14</sup> See [Moldova - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/en/press-operations/infoboxes/item-detail/25470).

an extensive consultation process with key stakeholders, including local public administrations, the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova, civil society, development partners and Members of Parliament. Their input has been taken into consideration and is reflected in the final approved version of the strategy. The strategy and the implementation program were made available on the platform of the Joint Commission for Decentralisation to increase transparency. The public administration reform strategy targets five major areas: (i) management of the civil service; (ii) the institutional framework of the central public administration; (iii) the strategic planning system and development of public policies; (iv) the simplification and development of e-services; and (v) local public administration reform, mainly a territorial reform by voluntary amalgamation. In addition, the strategy provides a three-level monitoring framework to coordinate the implementation and monitoring process. A set of performance indicators measuring the achievement of policy objectives have been identified, and their baseline or target values are set by the implementation program 2023-2026. A functional review was published in October 2023 and an action plan was established to implement the ensuing recommendations.

### Justice Sector

Moldova has been implementing the justice sector reform strategy and action plan for 2022-2025, with strong focus on restoring public trust in the judiciary. Similarly, the new judicial map, reforming the court system and reducing court districts from 44 to 15 needs to be finalised. The reform of the main self-government bodies of the judiciary – the Superior Council of Magistracy and the Superior Council of Prosecutors – is ongoing reducing the number of respective sub-ordinate bodies and amending internal procedures such as of the selection and appointment of judges and disciplinary procedures against judges and prosecutors. In 2022, Moldova has started a series of vetting processes of candidates to the Superior Council of Magistracy and the Superior Council of Prosecutors as well as certain categories of judges and prosecutors, in line with Venice Commission recommendations. In 2023, the Parliament also adopted a law on Supreme Court of Justice reform moving towards a court of cassation and reducing the number of its members. At the end of October, Moldova announced a competition for the position of Prosecutor General. The Superior Council of Prosecutors is expected to evaluate the candidates in the first quarter of 2024. One of the main objectives of the justice reform is to streamline the work of anti-corruption and integrity authorities. In particular, the reform addresses the division of responsibilities of the Anti-corruption Prosecutor's Office (APO) and of the National Anticorruption Center (NAC). The relevant legislation was adopted by Parliament in August 2023. A law establishing a separate Anti-Corruption Court is expected to be adopted by summer 2024.

### Economic governance

The government continued to introduce reforms to cushion the impact of the energy crisis and supported those fleeing Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine. Structural reform measures focused, in particular, on ensuring energy security, further fighting corruption and increasing the transparency of the justice sector as well as reforms of state-owned enterprises. The authorities also adopted a new public finance management strategy, aiming to improve revenue mobilisation and expenditure allocation as well as making budgeting more transparent. Likewise, Moldova has accelerated energy sector reforms

and investments to ensure security of supply and energy diversification, and its electricity grid has been synchronised with that of the EU.

### Public Financial Management and Financial Control

On 22 February 2023, Moldova adopted a new multiannual strategy for the development of public finance management for 2023-2030 in line with the national and sub-national public expenditure and financial accountability assessments published in 2022 and 2023. The ex-post evaluation of the 2013-2023 public finance management strategy emphasised improvements in the implementation period, notably on the budgetary process at central and local levels. The strategy includes seven major reform areas with medium- and long-term priorities and expected results. Moldova has also applied to participate in the economic reform programme, which will help the country with medium-term budget planning and prioritisation of structural reforms. The Ministry of Finance continued its efforts to improve the transparency of public finance management, which is reflected in the improved Open Budget score.

The new public finance management development strategy continues to offer the strategic framework for public internal financial control reforms and contains specific measures for both internal control systems and internal audits. The Law on internal financial control and the Law on internal audit and supplementary regulations set out the principles for organising internal financial controls and internal audits. The national internal control standards are based on the model of the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Human capacity remains the biggest challenge for internal control and audit units as recognised by the Public Finance Management Reform Strategy. There are internal audit units in most central government institutions, and new units have been set up in many public entities. Related to managerial accountability, efficient implementation of managerial accountability remains a challenge for budget users at central and local level. Public bodies report to the central harmonisation unit on implementation of the internal control and audit measures.

### EU Technical Assistance

The project will support the change of parliamentary culture, procedures and capacities to strengthen the parliamentary activity in the process of EU integration. General objectives are focused on the improvement of the legislative, oversight functions and procedures of the Parliament, specifically budget oversight, peer reviews, inter-institutional cooperation with the Government, and transparency.

The European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) was the EU financial instrument dedicated to the Neighbourhood for the period 2014-2020. It has been replaced by the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI) – ‘Global Europe’ for the period 2021-2027. The EU’s indicative bilateral allocation to Moldova for the period 2021-2024 amounts to €260 million.

EU assistance to Moldova takes mainly the form of country Action Programmes. Moldova benefits also from regional and multi-country Action Programmes funded under NDICI. Other possible funding sources are the thematic programmes, focused on human rights and civil society, and macro-financial assistance.

### 3.3 Linked activities:

This Twinning will be based on the results of the previous Twinning Project – “Strengthening the capacities of the Parliament of Moldova for EU approximation process” MD 13 ENPI OT 02 17 (MD/28), implemented from September 2017 until December 2019 by the Czech Republic Chamber of Deputies, the Slovak Republic National Council, and the Hungarian National Assembly.

The overall objective of the previous Twinning Project was to facilitate the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement. The purpose of the project was to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Parliament for a better understanding of the EU approximation process, in line with the Association Agenda. Special focus was put on improving the Parliament’s structures, internal procedures as well as the capacity of its technical staff.

The activities of this Twinning Project focused on the Parliament’s role in the approximation of EU laws (such as the Parliament’s standing committees and the Parliament administration), the Rules of Procedure regarding such legal approximation, compliance checking methodology, review of several areas of EU acquis, peer reviews of several draft laws which approximated EU laws, research methodology, presentation skills, EU data bases, EU institutions and their decision-making roles, overview of EU law, Parliament-Government cooperation referring to approximation and legislative planning, oversight of implemented laws. There were no activities which focused on IT systems at Parliament.

In 2023, TAIEX facilitated a study trip of the Moldovan Parliament to the Parliament of Estonia. The main objective of this study visit was to improve the IT systems used in the Moldova Parliament so as to strengthen Parliament’s legislative, oversight and communication capabilities, especially addressing the increased future demands of the EU accession process on Parliament, and since the June 2022 European Council decision awarding EU Candidate State status to Moldova, the Moldova Parliament is reviewing its existing systems and the work flows to determine which improvements should be made to accommodate the expected increased workload resulting from Moldova’s EU accession process.

#### Ongoing projects:

The EU-funded technical assistance project “Support for structured policy dialogue, coordination of the implementation of the Association Agreement and enhancement of the legal approximation process” is being implemented from June 2020 to June 2025 by DAI Global Austria GmbH & Co KG together with European Projects Management and DTGlobal. The Project’s overall objective is to increase the capacities of the Republic of Moldova Government and other key national institutions in implementing the EU-Republic of Moldova Association Agreement and to support Moldova’s implementation of this Association Agreement.

Assistance to the Parliament under the 3rd component focuses on its role in the Association Agreement implementation process by building its capacities for legal approximation and oversight of the Government in these areas. Improved formal/informal cooperation between the Parliament and Government is also supported. Activities include assessment reports, capacity-building activities, and different types of trainings. Special focus is placed on Parliament’s General Legal Department and the Secretariat of the

standing Committee on Foreign Policy and European Integration. Activities for the Members of Parliament are also conducted, including sessions for the newly elected MPs (as necessary) and especially the leadership of the Sectorial Standing Committees.

The European Parliament supports the Moldovan Parliament with a roadmap of activities to strengthen the Parliament's capacities including mediation and dialogue between the political fractions under the Memorandum of Understanding with the European Parliament. .

Through the *UNDP Project – Women Caucus* - based upon a joint effort of UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, and UN Women - the Parliament is implementing the Project “Strengthening the Parliament’s role in enhancing gender equality and addressing the needs of vulnerable groups in the Republic of Moldova”. The overall objective of the Project is to support fostering and dialogue among women MPs, members of the caucus for gender responsive legislation, representation, and oversight.

The technical assistance project funded by Sweden – “Strengthening Parliamentary Governance in Moldova” aims to strengthen parliamentary law-making, oversight and representation functions with a specific focus on EU integration and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It is implemented between 2016 and 2024 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and was designed to address the main needs of the Parliament in the areas of legislation making, oversight and representation. One of the project components supported the operationalization of a Parliament Information Management System – e-Parliament. As a result of this component implementation, the e-Parliament information system was launched at the Parliament of Moldova in March 2023. The system allows for the digitization of the entire legislative process by interconnecting the following three components: legislative document management system, e-Voting and web portal. The Objectives of this project are:

- Enhance the capacity of the Parliament to timely review draft laws and their compliance with international treaties and EU legislation;
- Strengthen the cooperation between the Parliament and Government to ensure a transparent, participatory and gender-sensitive law-making process;
- Enhance capacities of the Standing Committees to effectively oversee implementation of laws and policies;
- Support the Secretariat to align its organizational structure, internal procedures and work practice with the needs of the legislature;
- Strengthen the role of thematic cross-party groups (Women Platform, GOPAC Chapter and others) to oversee implementation of the gender and anti-corruption legislation;
- Enhance the capacity of the Secretariat of the Gagauz People’s Assembly to assist committees in the review of legislation;
- Support the Secretariat of the Parliament in the operationalization of the information management system e-Parliament, enhancing the institutional transparency to meet information demands of the civil society, media and citizens.

The project “Monitoring the activity of the Parliament” is implemented by the Civil Society Organisation Promo-Lex Association between July 2026 and March 2025 with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - "Democracy, Transparency, and Accountability" Program. The purpose of monitoring the activity of the Parliament is to ensure greater transparency of the institution, streamline legislative procedures, and hold all involved parties accountable, including by enhancing interaction between the Parliament/members of Parliament and society. This programme includes monitoring, analysis and research, information and advocacy activities.

#### 3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis*/standards/norms:

The Enlargement process and specifically the screening process will result in a comprehensive and analytical examination of the EU acquis in the areas of all negotiation chapters, evaluating the degree of preparedness of the Republic of Moldova as a candidate country. The screening report together with the negotiations positions and benchmarks will determine the Union acquis, standards and norms the Parliament has to take into account during the legal approximation process. The annual Enlargement Report of Moldova and the Moldovan National Accession Plan 2024-2027 will reflect the findings of the screening report as well as sequence, timing and prioritization of reform areas during the lifecycle of this Twinning.

A significant number of legal acts will be envisaged to be brought in line with the European Parliament and the Council Directives/Regulations during this process. This Twinning will broadly contribute to the approximation process by enhancing capacities and improving toolsets for the effective law-making and legislative oversight.

#### 3.5 Components and results per component

##### **Component 1 – Capacities of the Moldovan Parliament to analyse, draft and amend legislation in the context of EU approximation is improved**

- **Result 1.1** – Cooperation of the Parliament of Moldova and Government of Moldova (in particular with the Bureau of European Integration of the State Chancellery) is improved for better planning and coordination of the EU approximation process.
- **Result 1.2** – The Parliament is better able to oversee ex-ante evaluations of EU-related draft legislation, including regulatory and financial impact assessments (as well as mitigations mechanism).
- **Result 1.3** – The Parliament is more effective at scrutinising draft legislation including against compliance with relevant EU legislation (legal harmonisation) through reviews of selected draft laws.

##### **Component 2 – The Parliament is more effectively exercising oversight over the Government**



- **Result 2.1** – Awareness among MPs and the Secretariat staff members on the importance of a ‘culture’ of effective parliament oversight in a democratic society is raised and parliamentary oversight capacities are increased
- **Result 2.2** – The Parliament is more effective at conducting oversight over EU *and other external* assistance
- **Result 2.3** – The Parliament is better able to conduct budget oversight and ex-post evaluations

**Component 3 – Internal procedures of the Parliament are optimized, and institutional capacity building is strengthened to efficiently tackle the increased legislative workload and to ensuring transparency**

- **Result 3.1** – Internal procedures and, if relevant, the Parliament Rules of Procedures are revised for its conformity with European standards and to efficiently cope with an increased workload in the EU enlargement context
- **Result 3.2** – The structures of the Parliament (standing committees, units of the Secretariat) are improved to deal with matters linked to European Integration and, if relevant, the establishment of a new permanent Committee is supported
- **Result 3.3** – The mechanism for interaction of Parliament with citizens is improved to ensure more effective participatory process

Indicative Activities:

- Indicative Activity 1.1.1 Assessment report on current cooperation between the Parliament and Government with recommendations for increased cooperation
- Indicative Activity 1.1.2 Presentation of findings of assessment and recommendations, as well as best practices
- Indicative Activity 1.1.3 Workshop on the best practices on cooperation of Parliaments and Government in the legislative process
- Indicative Activity 1.1.4 Study visit to EU Members on inter-institutional cooperation mechanism between Parliament and Government (for MPs and Parliament Secretariat staffs)
- Activity 1.1.5 Further Workshop(s) for increasing cooperation between Parliament and Government and follow-up coaching sessions
- Indicative Activity 1.1.6 Best practices on cooperation mechanism with the EU Parliament and European Commission on EU integration (e.g. reporting on the legislative approximation etc.)
- Indicative Activity 1.2.1 Analysis of the current ex-ante evaluation mechanism of the Parliament
- Indicative Activity 1.2.2 Roundtable on EU MS best practices in the area of ex-ante evaluation (with a focus on EU-related draft legislation) including on the elements of regulatory and financial impact assessments
- Activity 1.2.3 Workshop for presentation of findings and best practices

- Indicative Activity 1.3.1 Peer reviews of selected draft legislation for compliance with the EU Acquis
- Indicative Activity 1.3.2 Workshop(s) on the preparation of Committee Opinions, Co-reports, Reports, Research Analysis, Amendments and other documents relevant for draft legislation (with a focus on transposition of EU Acquis)
- Indicative Activity 1.3.3 Workshops on structured analytical techniques on legislative drafting (incl. manuals, guidelines, etc.)
- Indicative Activity 2.1.1 Expert briefings for MPs and Secretariat staff on parliamentary oversight functions and the use of different oversight tools (with specific briefings on the role of the opposition and on oversight during a state of emergency)
- Indicative Activity 2.1.2 Experts briefings for MPs and staff from relevant committee(s) in charge of EU Affairs on effective oversight of Government activities related to EU integration
- Indicative Activity 2.1.3 Training for Secretariat staff on parliamentary oversight function based on a separate training needs assessment
- Indicative Activity 2.1.4 Study visit for MPs and Parliament Secretariat staff respectively to EU Member states on best practices of parliament oversight over the Government
- Indicative Activity 2.2.1 Assessment report with recommendations on the existing oversight mechanism over EU and other external assistance
- Indicative Activity 2.2.2 Workshop for presenting the findings and best practices
- Indicative Activity 2.2.3 Support to the implementation of relevant recommendations of the Assessment Report
- Indicative Activity 2.3.1 Assessment report on the normative framework for budget oversight and recommendations for its improvement in compliance with the EU standards
- Indicative Activity 2.3.2 Presentation of assessment and recommendations related to budget oversight and best practices
- Indicative Activity 2.3.3 Coaching for compilation of ex-post evaluation reports for a selected number of laws
- Indicative Activity 3.1.1 Assessment Report of the Parliamentary Rules of Procedures with recommendations for improvement
- Indicative Activity 3.1.2 Presentation of findings and EU best practices, and support for the implementation of relevant recommendations
- Indicative Activity 3.2.1 Assessment Report with recommendations on the existing Parliamentary capacities
- Indicative Activity 3.2.2 Presentation of findings and best practices and support for the implementation of relevant recommendations
- Indicative Activity 3.2.3 Support to new parliament capacities (standing committees, units of the Secretariat) mandated to deal with European Integration

- Indicative Activity 3.2.4 Training needs assessment for the Secretariat staff and support for implementation of Annual Professional Development Plan
- Indicative Activity 3.2.5 Improved forward planning of parliamentary with a focus on legal approximation with the EU Acquis
- Indicative Activity 3.3.1 Assessment of the current state of effective participatory process with the civil society
- Indicative Activity 3.3.2 Presentation of findings and recommendations and support to the Parliament Open Day (thematic – e.g. EU, promotional material etc.)
- Indicative Activity 3.3.3 Support for improving the mechanism of communication with the citizens on EU integration (accession advantages, values, opportunities etc.)
- Indicative Activity 3.3.4 Study visit for MPs and Parliament Secretariat staff on effective participatory processes

### 3.6 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration(s):

The project will be implemented in the form of a Twinning contract between the country and an EU Member State. The implementation of the project requires one Project Leader (PL) with responsibility for the overall coordination of project activities.

Due to the specificity of the beneficiary institutional structure, a Resident Twinning Adviser (RTA) and three Component Leaders to manage project activities will be appointed as follows:

- Resident twinning advisor for the overall coordination and implementation of the Twinning Project
- Component Leader 1
- Component Leader 2
- Component Leader 3

In addition, medium-term and short-term experts will be engaged for specific activities. It is essential that the team have sufficiently broad expertise to cover all the areas included in the project description.

The interested Member State institution shall include in its proposal the CVs of the designated Project Leader, the Resident Twinning Adviser and Component Leaders.

Proposals submitted by Member State(s) shall be concise and focused on the strategy and methodology and an indicative timetable, the quality of the expertise to be mobilised to clearly show the administrative structure and capacity of the Member State entities. Proposals shall be detailed enough to respond adequately to the Twinning Fiche, but focus on key activities during the implementation of the project to ensure the achievement of overall and specific objectives and mandatory results/outputs. The set of proposed activities will be further developed with the Twinning partners when drafting the initial work plan and successive rolling work plans, keeping in mind that the final list of activities will be decided in cooperation with the Twinning partner.

The Twinning project will be implemented in close co-operation between the partners aiming to achieve the mandatory results in sustainable manner. Interaction between beneficiary institution's staff and the Twining experts shall be based on 'expert-to-expert' cooperation through joint working sessions for review and elaboration of documents, and mentoring and backstopping focussing on 'on the job'-knowledge transfer rather than single short term expert missions and participation in trainings.

It is important to note that this Twinning project extends not only on transposition (of legal texts) but is focused on *implementation* (i.e., real-life / best practice) and related transposition.

Two or more Member States may form a consortium of one senior and one junior partner, provided that consistency within a consortium can be secured.

### 3.6.1 Profile and tasks of the PL:

The Project Leader is responsible to coordinate the activities, disseminate project information among stakeholders, take part in discussions with high level officials, present and defend project input and expected outputs, manage the project team, prepare project management reports, help overcome project related problems, and assist the RTA for continuous development of project initiatives. The PL will be expected to devote sufficient time towards ensuring effective steering tasks to the project when being in his/her home administration. In addition, he/she will coordinate, from the MS side, the Project Steering Committee (PSC), which will meet in Moldova every three months. He/she will involve other relevant entities, taking into account on-going horizontal public administration reform efforts and sectorial activities that could have an impact on the project, and bear – together with the Beneficiary Country Project Leader – the final responsibility for an efficient and effective implementation of the Twinning project.

The profile of the PL shall comply with the following:

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body as defined under Twinning Manual 4.1.3.;
- Master degree/education in the field of Political Sciences, Public Administration, Economics, Law or related field, or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in the absence of the required degree;
- At least 3 (three) years of specific experience as high-ranking official in the field of Parliaments in an EU Member State Public Administration,
- Strong analytical and report writing skills
- Very good command of written and spoken English (minimum C1 level);
- Good communications, team work, and inter-personal skills
- Experience in project management with focus on EU funded projects and in particular twinning would be an advantage

#### *Project Leader Tasks:*

- Overall leadership over project implementation;
- Mobilization of the necessary expertise required for the implementation of project activities;

- Preparation of project quarterly/ final reports together with BC Project Leader and with support of RTA;
- Monitoring and evaluating the needs and priorities in the respective sector, project risks, progress against the project budget, benchmarks and outputs, and tanking any necessary remedial actions if needed;
- Co-chairing and participation in quarterly meetings of the Project Steering Committee;
- Provision of legal and technical advice and analysis when needed

### 3.6.2 Profile and tasks of the RTA:

The Resident Twinning Advisor (RTA) will be based in Moldova for 24 months to provide full-time input and advice to the project for the entire duration of the project. This expert will be the main liaison partner for the Beneficiary, will bear the responsibility to coordinate in the field and on a day-to-day basis all the activities planned in the Twinning. The RTA will be responsible for the selection and supervision of the RTA Assistant and the management of the short-term experts' input. S/he will brief, guide and support the STEs seconded to the project and participants of study visits. S/he will provide continued guidance and support in the organisation of workshops and roundtable discussions. The RTA can come from a Member State administration or mandated bodies (full or ad hoc).

The profile of the RTA shall comply with the following:

- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body as defined under Twinning Manual 4.1.6.;
- University degree in relevant discipline (law, political science, economics, etc.) or at least eight years of working experience in the parliament sector related to the implementation of the *Union acquis* and/or policy objectives and mandatory results/outputs agreed by the EU and the Beneficiary administration(s) defined in the Twinning Fiche;
- Minimum 3 (three) years of professional experience in parliamentary affairs in an EU Member State relevant to the scope of the project;
- Strong analytical and report writing skills;
- Good communications, team work, and inter-personal skills;
- Excellent spoken and written English language skills (minimum C1 level);
- Experience in EU approximation and knowledge of EU *acquis* will be considered an asset;
- Experience in project management will be considered an asset;
- Knowledge of Romanian language would be an asset;
- Cultural and interpersonal sensitivity in working with diverse stakeholders and interest groups;
- Computer literacy.

The tasks of the RTA shall include the following:

- Coordination of all Twinning project activities and experts' inputs in the country;
- Ensuring smooth correlation between the activities, deadlines and the envisaged results in the Work Plan;
- Provision of technical advice and assistance to the administration or other public sector bodies in the BC in the context of a predetermined work-plan to ensure timely completion of project outputs;
- Guiding and coordinating assistants to the RTA;
- Coordination, facilitation and monitoring of the STEs work during their missions (organize briefings and debriefings, sharing of mission report and recommendations);
- Document and knowledge management allowing an appropriate record of the delivered outputs;
- Liaison with MS, BC Project Leaders, EU Delegation Sector/Programme manager; daily contact with the RTA counterpart;
- Monitor and follow-up on implementation of expert mission findings;
- Drafting of project progress reports with the Project Leader;
- Ensure visibility of EU support provided through the Twinning and establish the communication strategy.

The RTA shall be supported by a full-time project assistant and by a full-time language assistant, therefore in sum by two full-time assistants. Both RTA assistants will cooperate on organisational matter under the direction of the RTA and will be recruited and funded by the project. The RTA assistants will provide logistical and administrative support, technical translation and interpretation services for the RTA to facilitate the implementation of the Twinning project activities and assist in the preparation of working documents, organisation of seminars, training and study tours. The profile of the RTA assistants will be specified by the RTA who will proceed to their recruitment following the provisions of the Twinning Manual.

### 3.6.3 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders:

For each of the three mandatory results, the Member State(s) will identify and assign a Component Leader with appropriate skills and knowledge. These Component Leaders will ensure continuity and consistency within each of the fields concerned as well as monitoring progress and the implementation of recommendations. While Component Leaders will not be resident in Chişinău, they are expected to visit Chişinău and work locally with the beneficiary institution at least 3 times per working year. CV's and proposed activities of each Component Leader shall be an integral part of the MS proposal. The detailed expert input shall be established when drawing up the Twinning Work Plan. The Component Leaders of each Mandatory Result will work in close collaboration with the RTA. They will report to the RTA and Project Leader and cooperate with their counterparts and other beneficiaries at the PSC meetings. The main task of the Component Leaders is to coordinate the activities under the area of responsibility in liaison with the partner institutions.

The profile of the Component Leaders shall comply with the following minimum requirements:

- Be a civil servant or a staff member in a Member State public administration or mandated body responsible for the parliament sector

- University degree in a field relevant to this assignment (law, economics, law, political science, etc.) or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in the absence of the required degree;
- Minimum 3 years of relevant professional experience in parliamentary affairs in an EU MS, relevant to the scope of the Component.
- Experience in providing trainings and coaching;
- Excellent spoken and written English language skills (minimum C1 level).;
- Strong analytical and report writing skills;
- Good communications, team work, and inter-personal skills;
- Cultural and interpersonal sensitivity in working with diverse stakeholders and interest groups.
- Computer literacy.

The tasks of the Component Leaders shall include the following:

- Coordinating planning and implementation of the assigned project Component;
- Providing technical input on the knowledge areas relevant to the assigned Component;
- Ensure the delivery of requested outputs per component;
- Provide needs assessment and inter-institutional relations as required per component;
- Contribute to effective monitoring and reporting;
- Proposing to the RTA corrective measures needed to achieve timely delivery according to work plan;

#### 3.6.4 Profile and tasks of other short-term experts:

The Project will require a number of short-term experts (STE) in order to cover the full range of specialised expertise required. These will be suitably qualified and capable of providing the necessary skills and experience according to the activities mentioned above.

The profile of the short-term experts shall comply with the following:

- University degree in a discipline relevant to the assignment or equivalent professional experience of 8 years in the absence of the required degree;
- Minimum 3 years of professional experience in MS institutions relevant to the scope of the project;
- Experience in policy analysis, legislative drafting and parliamentary oversight, including in carrying out public consultations and impact assessment; human resources management in public administration; public finance management; legal affairs;
- Good communication, team work, and inter-personal skills;
- Excellent spoken and written English language skills (minimum C1 level).

#### STE Tasks:

- To provide technical inputs in specific areas of project implementation of the activities listed in the twinning fiche, including organisation of workshops, training, coaching, drafting of methodological and relevant hand-out materials as per the terms of reference provided by the RTA prior to each mission;
- To liaise with the RTA, the RTA counterpart and beneficiary component leader;
- To report to the project.

#### 4. Budget

Maximum 1,400,000 EUR

#### 5. Implementation Arrangements

##### 5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting:

The European Union Delegation to Moldova (EUD) will be responsible for operational management, payments and financial reporting, and will work in close cooperation with the Beneficiary.

Contact person - **Mrs Natalia Burciu**

Contact person for Twinning

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##### 5.2 Institutional framework

The beneficiary administration will be the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, while the project target group will be Departments of Secretariat represented by the Head of Departments, as well as Members of Parliament for certain activities.

In structural terms, the Parliament Secretariat is made up of the Leadership of the Secretariat, the cabinets of publicly appointed officeholders, 11 secretariats of standing committees, 16 structural subdivisions with the status of general divisions, divisions, units and services. There are sixteen structural subdivisions:

- General Directorate for Parliamentary Documentation
- General Legal Directorate
- Directorate for Parliamentary Studies
- Directorate for Interparliamentary Relations
- Directorate for Communication and Public Relations
- Directorate for Parliamentary Assistance and Ceremonial
- Directorate for Petitions and Hearings
- Directorate for Information Technologies and Communications
- Directorate for Assistance and Development
- Directorate for Human Resources
- Directorate for Finances, Budget and Accounting
- General Administrative Directorate



- Public Procurement Unit
- Information Resources Unit
- Security and Integrity Service
- Internal Audit Service

### The staff of the Secretariat

At present, the Parliament Secretariat staff consists of 355 positions, as follows:

- Secretary General - 1
- Senior management civil servant - 1
- Middle management civil servants - 27
- Executive civil servants - 179
- Personnel of publicly appointed office-holders - 48
- Auxiliary staff - 99.

Besides the staff of the Secretariat working in the subdivisions mentioned above, there is a number of counsellors to the MPs. The Parliament Speaker has six counsellors and both Deputy-Speakers have five counsellors each. Each of the parliamentary factions also has some consultants who are employed to assist them. Also, each Standing Committee has its Secretariat composed of a number of civil servants varying between 3 and 8 depending of the workload of the Committee.

### The working bodies of the Parliament

According to the provisions of the Rules of procedures, the Parliament develops its activities in plenary sittings and in sittings of the standing committees. According to the Regulations of Parliament, in connection with the activities of Parliament in its entirety, all committees that can be established have preparatory tasks mainly. There are three types of committees: standing, special and investigatory.

The standing committees are the working bodies of Parliament, established to fulfil the tasks they are given to prepare the activity of Parliament. The committees are responsible to Parliament. At present, there are the following eleven standing committees:

1. Legal, Appointments and Immunities Committee (11 MPs);
2. Committee for Economy, Budget and Finance (10 MPs);
3. National Security, Defence and Public Order Committee (9 MPs);
4. Foreign Policy and European Integration Committee (9 MPs);
5. Human Rights and Interethnic Relations Committee (6 MPs);
6. Committee for Public Administration and Regional Development (9 MPs);
7. Committee for Environment, Climate and Green Transition (8 MPs)
8. Committee for Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sports and Media (12 MPs)
9. Agriculture and Food Industry Committee (9 MPs);
10. Committee for Social Protection, Health and Family (10 MPs)
11. Public Finance Control Committee (6 MPs).

The Moldovan Parliament consists of 101 members. The MPs are organized in the following parliamentary groups:

- Party of Action and Solidarity (63 MPs)
- Block of Communists and Socialists (29 MPs)
- Independent MPs (5)
- Non-affiliated members (3 MPs)

The current Parliament structures have insufficient capacity to play a value-added role in assisting the members of Parliament to develop legislation and amendments consistent with EU accession requirements and to improve the often poorly drafted legislation prepared by ministries. This Project will contribute to the optimisation of its structure for better functioning of the institution.

### 5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:

*The PL and RTA counterparts will be staff of the Beneficiary administration and will be actively involved in the management and coordination of the project.*

#### 5.3.1 Contact person:

Mr Victor Beșleaga  
 Head of the Directorate of Assistance and Development of the Parliament of Moldova  
 Bd. Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt 105  
 MD-2073 Chișinău

#### 5.3.2 PL counterpart

Ms. Tamara Gheorghiu  
 Secretary-General of the Parliament of Moldova  
 Bd. Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt 105  
 MD-2073 Chișinău

#### 5.3.3 RTA counterpart

Mr Victor Beșleaga  
 Head of the Directorate of Assistance and Development of the Parliament of Moldova  
 Bd. Ștefan cel Mare și Sfânt 105  
 MD-2073 Chișinău

## 6. **Duration of the project**

24 months

## 7. **Management and reporting<sup>15</sup>**

### 7.1 **Language**

The official language of the project is English. All formal communications regarding the project, including interim and final reports, shall be produced in English.

### 7.2 **Project Steering Committee**

A project steering committee (PSC) shall oversee the implementation of the project. The main duties of the PSC include verification of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results/outputs chain (from mandatory results/outputs per component to impact), ensuring good coordination among the actors, finalising the interim reports and discuss the updated work plan. Other details concerning the establishment and functioning of the PSC are described in the Twinning Manual.

### 7.3 **Reporting**

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<sup>15</sup> Sections 7.1-7.3 are to be kept without changes in all Twinning fiches.

All reports shall have a narrative section and a financial section. They shall include as a minimum the information detailed in section 5.5.2 (interim reports) and 5.5.3 (final report) of the Twinning Manual. Reports need to go beyond activities and inputs. Two types of reports are foreseen in the framework of Twinning: interim quarterly reports and final report. An interim quarterly report shall be presented for discussion at each meeting of the PSC. The narrative part shall primarily take stock of the progress and achievements via-à-vis the mandatory results and provide precise recommendations and corrective measures to be decided by in order to ensure the further progress.

## **8. Sustainability**

This Twinning Fiche has been initiated and elaborated by the highest technical level of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, demonstrating a high level of commitment to project objectives.

Mechanisms installed within this project will be embedded in internal documents such as manuals, guidelines, rules of procedures and other acts of the parliaments. Furthermore, the project foresees embedding project results in the strategic planning process of the parliament.

As a result of this Twinning project and the provided assistance given, the MPs and parliamentary staff will work to ensure that all knowledge gained through the project will be systematically transferred to all new employees by on the job training delivered through everyday work and manuals developed.

Furthermore, this Project will further develop existing partnerships with EU and work as a catalyst in the harmonisation of the legislation with the Union acquis.

Finally, all project results including increased parliamentary oversight capacities, enhanced internal processes and structures and strengthened capacities to deal with an increased workload during Moldova's EU access process is expected to have positive, long-term effects on the outputs of the Parliament. Consequently, it will allow the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova to play a unique role in the country's reform process over the next decades.

## **9. Crosscutting issues**

Enhancing good governance and deepening democracy in the Republic of Moldova is at the core of this project. The project is also directly contributing towards advancing key reforms including in the framework of the enlargement process. Crosscutting priorities such as in the Rule of Law, Human Rights and Gender Equality, as well as Environment and Climate Change will be targeted by project activities such as peer review of draft legislation implementing reform policies. The equal opportunity principle will be taken into account when selecting participants for project activities including trainings and study visits.

The Project will make an identifiable contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals SDG 16 "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions".

## **10. Conditionality and sequencing**

## 10.1 Conditionality

The project includes the following conditions:

1. Endorsement by all key stakeholders of the Twinning Project Fiche;
2. Appointment of counterpart personnel by the beneficiary;
3. Making the staff that will be involved in the Twinning implementation available;
4. Participation by the beneficiary in the selection of twinning partner;
5. Allocation of working space and facilities by the beneficiary for twinning assistance before the launch of the tender process/Work plan process;
6. Organisation, selection and appointment of members of working groups by the beneficiary as per work plan of the project;
7. Appointing relevant staff and MPs by the beneficiaries to participate in training activities as per work plan;
8. Good coordination and cooperation between the involved parliaments in the activities of the twinning project;
9. Maintaining political support to the project.

In the event that conditions are not met, suspension or cancellation of the project will be considered.

## 10.2 Sequencing

Key milestones will be:

1. Approval of the Twinning project fiche;
2. Completion of the selection of the twinning partner;
3. Signature of the Twinning Contract, including the Twinning Work Plan;
4. Establishment of the Steering Committee;
5. Commencement of the implementation of the twinning (inter alia, the arrival in the country of the Resident Twinning Advisers);
6. End of the implementation period;
7. Submission of the final report.

## 11. Indicators for performance measurement

### **Component 1: Capacities of the Moldovan Parliament to analyse, draft and amend legislation in the context of EU approximation are improved**

- *Overall number of laws and policies the quality of which has been reviewed (2024: 0/20; 2026: 20/20)*
- *Score on EU Integration & Convergence, Approximation dimension of the EaP Index, : overall score on (2023 0.7; 2026: 0.75)*
- *Share of MPs and Parliament staff who have proper level of awareness of the EU Enlargement and Approximation Process (2024: N/A, 2026: 60%)*

### **Result 1.1: Cooperation of the Parliament of Moldova and Government of Moldova (in particular with the Bureau of European Integration of the State Chancellery) is improved for better planning and coordination of the EU approximation process.**

- *Number of joint meetings between the Government and Parliament to discuss the session work plan (2024: N/A; 2026: 1 per session)*

- Number of workshops for increasing cooperation between Parliament and the Government (2024: 0/2; 2026: 2/2)

**Result 1.2: The Parliament is better able to oversee ex-ante evaluations of EU-related draft legislation, including regulatory and financial impact assessments (as well as mitigations mechanism)**

- Number of working discussions / training courses related to ex-ante evaluations of EU-related draft legislation, including regulatory and financial impact assessments (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)
- Share of relevant Secretariat staff trained on ex-ante evaluations (2024: N/A; By 2026: 40%)
- Share of MPs participated in the working discussions on ex-ante evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 10%)

**Result 1.3: The Parliament is more effective at scrutinising draft legislation including against compliance with relevant EU legislation (legal harmonisation) through reviews of selected draft laws**

- Number of workshops on structured analytical techniques (incl. manuals, guidelines, etc.) on legislative drafting (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)
- Number of laws which have been peer reviewed (2024: 0/10; 2026: 10)

**Component 2: The Parliament is more effectively exercising oversight over the Government**

- Core Parliamentary oversight function modernised and applied according to EU best practices (2024: 0/1; 2026: 1/1)
- Score on State Accountability, Approximation dimension of the EaP Index: (2023: 0.72; 2026: 0.80)

**Result 2.1: Awareness among MPs and the Secretariat staff members on the importance of a ‘culture’ of effective parliament oversight in a democratic society is raised and parliamentary oversight capacities are increased**

- Number of expert briefings on effective parliament oversight over the Government (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)
- Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)
- Share of MPs participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)

**Result 2.2: The Parliament is more effective at conducting oversight over EU and other external assistance**

- Number of expert briefings on effective parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)
- Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)
- Share of MPs participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)

**Result 2.3: The Parliament is better able to conduct budget oversight and ex-post evaluations**

- Number of trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)

- *Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)*
- *Share of MPs participated in the trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)*
- *Number of budget oversight measures initiated per session (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)*
- *Number of ex-post evaluations conducted per session (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)*

**Component 3: Internal procedures of the Parliament are optimized, and institutional capacity building is strengthened to efficiently tackle the increased legislative workload and to ensuring transparency**

- *Number of joint meetings between political fractions to discuss the optimization of internal procedures to increase parliamentary work efficiency (2024: 0/4; 2026: 4/4)*
- *Political and technical measures taken to make the law-making process more transparency*

***Result 3.1: Internal procedures and, if relevant, the Parliament Rules of Procedures are revised for its conformity with European standards and to efficiently cope with an increased workload in the EU enlargement context***

- *Assessment Report of the Parliamentary Rules of Procedures with recommendations for improvement is drafted*
- *Revised Parliament Rules of Procedures are adopted (if applicable)*

***Result 3.2: The capacities of the Parliament (standing committees, units of the Secretariat) are improved to deal with matters linked to European Integration and, if relevant, the establishment of a new permanent Committee is supported***

- *Legislative time tables / schedules are published*
- *Training needs assessment for the Secretariat staff and Annual Professional Development Plan are drafted (2024: 0/1; 2026: 1/1)*
- *A new permanent Committee is established (if applicable)*

***Result 3.3: The mechanism for interaction of Parliament with citizens is improved to ensure more effective participatory process***

- *Number of outreach sessions to Civil Society representatives (2024: 0/3; 2026: 13/3)*
- *Percentage of new legislation approved based on consultation with the Civil Society (2024: N/A; 2026: 30%)*

## **12. Facilities available**

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova commits itself to actively contribute to the success of the project, including by providing the project team with adequate facilities within its headquarters, including:

1. Adequately furnished office space at its premises, sufficient for the RTA and the RTA assistants;
2. Until hiring of assistants is possible, one of its staff members to be made available to cover project-related needs;
3. Office accommodation at its premises for short-term experts (including with relevant Parliament counterparts);
4. Normal access to the common telephone, internet connection, as well as photocopying facilities;

5. Suitable and equipped venues for the training sessions and meetings organized by the Project;
6. Security of premises by the standards and practices applicable for public institutions in the Republic of Moldova.

#### **ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE**

1. The Simplified Logical framework matrix as per Annex C1a (compulsory)
2. List of relevant Laws and Regulations

Constitution of the Republic of Moldova.

Link: <https://www.parlament.md/CadrulLegal/Constitution/tabid/151/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

The Electoral Code

Link: <https://www.parlament.md/CadrulLegal/Codulectoral/tabid/153/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Rules of Procedures of the Parliament

Link:

<https://www.parlament.md/CadrulLegal/RegulamentulParlamentului/tabid/294/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Law on the status of the MP in Parliament no. 39-XIII of 04/07/1994

Link:

<https://www.parlament.md/CadrulLegal/Statutuldeputatului%20c3%a2enParlament/tabid/296/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

Parliamentary Decision no. 10/2022 for the approval of the Rules of Procedure regarding the organization and operation of the Parliament Secretariat, its structure and limited staff

Link:

<https://www.parlament.md/CadrulLegal/Regulamentuldeorganizare%20c5%9fifunc%20c5%a3ionareaSecret/tabid/299/language/ro-RO/Default.aspx>

3. Reference to relevant Government Strategic plans and studies (may include Institution Development Plan, Business plans, Sector studies etc.) (optional)

Annual Action Plan of the Secretariat of the Parliament for 2024. Link:

<https://www.parlament.md/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Sb77AVXkZjE%3d&tabid=213&language=ro-RO>

Communication Strategy of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova 2020 – 2024. Link:

<https://www.parlament.md/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=POIThOkHZYo%3d&tabid=212&language=ro-RO>

4. Mapping of related interventions by government and/or other actors (see below)
5. Sector assessment reports of any kind including publically available reports from other International organisations (SIGMA, IMF, etc.)

SIGMA Report “Public Administration in the Republic of Moldova. Assessment against the Principles of Public Administration”, October 2023. Link:

<https://www.sigmaweb.org/publications/Monitoring-Report-2023-Republic-of-Moldova.pdf>

Commission Staff Working Document. Republic of Moldova 2023 Report. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions. 2023 Communication on EU Enlargement policy. Link:

[https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-11/SWD\\_2023\\_698%20Moldova%20report.pdf](https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-11/SWD_2023_698%20Moldova%20report.pdf)

Summary Report. Monitoring the activity of the Parliament of the 11<sup>th</sup> legislature in the 2021-2022 period. Link:

<https://promolex.md/22895-raport-anual-monitorizarea-activitatii-parlamentului-de-legislatura-a-xi-a-pentru-perioada-anilor-2021-2022/?lang=ro>



**Annex C1a : Simplified Logical Framework**

	Description	Indicators (with relevant baseline and target data)	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions (external to project)
<b>Overall Objective</b>	To facilitate the Accession Process of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union				
<b>Specific (Project) Objective(s)</b>	To ensure an open, transparent and participatory legislative process in the context of EU acquis approximation, as well as to strengthen oversight by the Parliament in the form of greater accountability for government decisions	<p>(a) Implementation rate/scale of EU Acquis according to screening benchmarks and of obligations under the Association Agreement (AA) including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA). (2024 baseline: not applicable; 2026 target: satisfactory progress)</p> <p>(b) Share of Moldovan women and men who have positive image of the EU (%) (2023 baseline: 62%; 2026 target: 70%)</p>	<p>EU Progress Reports</p> <p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>CSOs and other independent reports</p> <p>Annual Opinion Survey, EU Neighbours East</p>	Disruption and instability in the region caused by the escalation of the war in Ukraine.	All institutions of the Republic of Moldova maintain full support and commitment to the harmonization of the national legal framework with the EU Acquis in all areas of Copenhagen and Madrid criteria.

<p><b>Mandatory results/outputs by component 1</b></p>	<p><b>Component / Result 1: Capacities of the Moldovan Parliament to analyse, draft and amend legislation in the context of EU approximation are improved</b></p>	<p>(a) Overall number of laws and policies the quality of which has been reviewed (2024: 0/20; 2026: 20/20)</p> <p>(b) Score on EU Integration &amp; Convergence, Approximation dimension of the EaP Index.; overall score on (2023 0.7; 2026: 0.75)</p> <p>(c) Share of MPs and Parliament staff who have proper level of awareness of the EU Enlargement and Approximation Process (2024: N/A, 2026: 60%)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>CSOs and other independent reports</p> <p>EU Reports and other development partner reports</p>	<p>Slowed pace of Government reforms</p> <p>Delays in the start of the screening process and slow screening pace</p>	<p>The administration of the Parliament of Moldova is committed with the project and with the follow-up of its deliveries</p> <p>The Parliament and Government are willing to increase their cooperation mechanisms and arrangements</p> <p>The financial and human resources of the Parliament of Moldova are not diminished</p>
<p><b>Sub-results per component 1 (optional and indicative)</b></p>	<p>Result 1.1: Cooperation of the Parliament of Moldova and Government of Moldova (in particular with the Bureau of European Integration of the State Chancellery) is improved for better planning and coordination of the EU approximation process.</p>	<p>(a) Number of joint meetings between the Government and Parliament to discuss the session work plan (2024: N/A; 2026: 1 per session)</p> <p>(b) Number of workshops for increasing cooperation between Parliament and the Government (2024: 0/2; 2026: 2/2)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Government Reports</p> <p>CSOs and other independent reports</p>	<p>Lack of political willingness to improve cooperation and coordination between the Parliament and Government structures</p> <p>Reluctance of the executive to openly and timely engage with the Parliament in improvement of their own sponsored draft laws.</p>	<p>All stakeholders collaborate closely</p> <p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>The Republic of Moldova remains committed to the EU enlargement process</p>

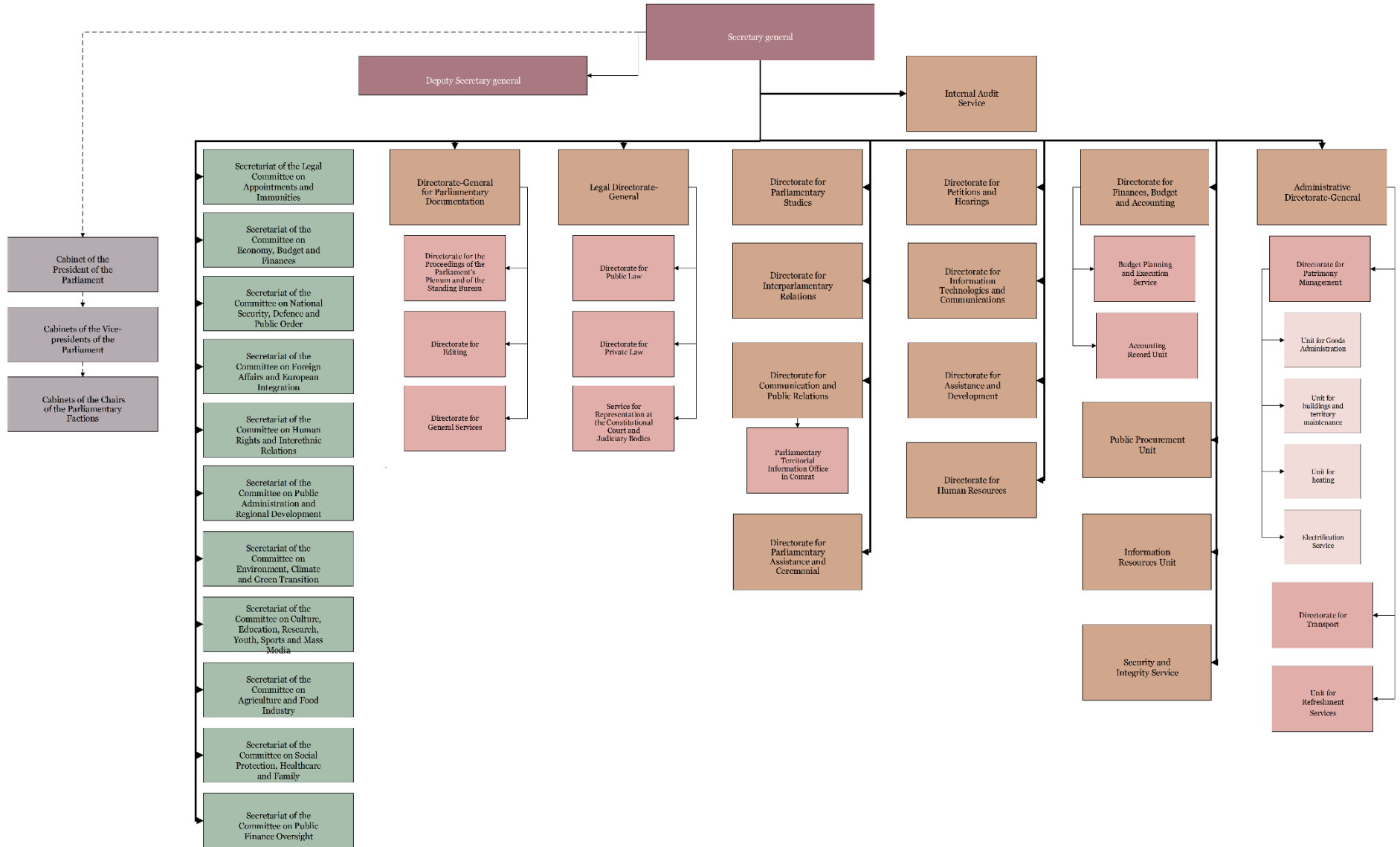
	<p>Result 1.2:</p> <p>The Parliament is better able to oversee ex-ante evaluations of EU-related draft legislation, including regulatory and financial impact assessments (as well as mitigations mechanism)</p>	<p>(a) Number of working discussions / training courses related to ex-ante evaluations of EU-related draft legislation, including regulatory and financial impact assessments (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(b) Share of relevant Secretariat staff trained on ex-ante evaluations (2024: N/A; By 2026: 40%)</p> <p>(c) Share of MPs participated in the working discussions on ex-ante evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 10%)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p>	<p>Lack of motivation and/or time of the MPs and Secretariat staff to participate in working discussions and apply new techniques</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p>
	<p>Result 1.3:</p> <p>The Parliament is more effective at scrutinising draft legislation including against compliance with relevant EU legislation (legal harmonisation) through reviews of selected draft laws</p>	<p>(a) Number of workshops on structured analytical techniques (incl. manuals, guidelines, etc.) on legislative drafting (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(b) Number of laws which have been peer reviewed (2024: 0/10; 2026: 10)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p>	<p>Lack of motivation and/or time of Secretariat staff to participate in working discussions and apply new techniques</p> <p>Lack of funds or delays result in delivery of trainings to a smaller group only</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p>
<p><b>Mandatory results/outputs by component 2</b></p>	<p><b>Component / Result 2:</b></p> <p><b>The Parliament is more effectively exercising oversight over the Government</b></p>	<p>(a) Core Parliamentary oversight function modernised and applied according to EU best practices (2024: 0/1; 2026: 1/1)</p> <p>(b) Score on State Accountability, Approximation dimension of the EaP Index: (2023: 0.72; 2026: 0.80)</p>	<p>Parliament accountability reports</p> <p>CSO reports</p> <p>The EaP Index (the last published update)</p> <p>EU Reports and other development partner reports</p>	<p>Lack of motivation and/or time of the MPs and NA staff to apply new techniques.</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p>

<p><b>Sub-results per component 2: (optional and indicative)</b></p>	<p>Result 2.1: Awareness among MPs and the Secretariat staff members on the importance of a ‘culture’ of effective parliament oversight in a democratic society is raised and parliamentary oversight capacities are increased</p>	<p>(a) Number of expert briefings on effective parliament oversight over the Government (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(b) Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)</p> <p>(c) Share of MPs participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament Project Reports</p>	<p>Lack of funds or delays result in delivery of trainings to a smaller group only</p> <p>Low participation of MPs to the joint consultative meetings</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>Government structures are willing to actively cooperate with Parliament oversight bodies</p>
	<p>Result 2.2: The Parliament is more effective at conducting oversight over EU and other external assistance</p>	<p>(a) Number of expert briefings on effective parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(b) Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)</p> <p>(c) Share of MPs participated in the expert briefings on parliament oversight over EU and other external assistance (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament Project Reports</p>	<p>Lack of funds or delays result in delivery of trainings to a smaller group only</p> <p>Low participation of MPs to the joint consultative meetings</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>Government structures are willing to actively cooperate with Parliament oversight bodies</p>

	<p>Result 2.3: The Parliament is better able to conduct budget oversight and ex-post evaluations</p>	<p>(a) Number of trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(b) Share of relevant Secretariat staff participated in the trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 40%)</p> <p>(c) Share of MPs participated in the trainings on budget oversight and ex-post evaluations (2024: N/A; 2026: 20%)</p> <p>(d) Number of budget oversight measures initiated per session (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p> <p>(e) Number of ex-post evaluations conducted per session (2024: 0/3; 2026: 3/3)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p>	<p>Lack of funds or delays result in delivery of trainings to a smaller group only</p> <p>Low participation of MPs to the joint consultative meetings</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>Government structures are willing to cooperate with the Parliament on matters of budgetary oversight</p>
<p><b>Mandatory results/outputs by component 3</b></p>	<p><b>Component / Result 3:</b> <b>Internal procedures of the Parliament are optimized, and institutional capacity building is strengthened to efficiently tackle the increased legislative workload and to ensuring transparency</b></p>	<p>(a) Number of joint meetings between political fractions to discuss the optimization of internal procedures to increase parliamentary work efficiency (2024: 0/4; 2026: 4/4)</p> <p>(b) Political and technical measures taken to make the law-making process more transparency</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p> <p>CSO Reports</p> <p>EU Reports and other development partner reports</p>	<p>Lack of interest by the Parliament leadership to adopt new work practices;</p> <p>Uneven quality of implementation (e.g. urgent procedure)</p>	<p>The Parliament remains committed to reforms</p>
<p><b>Sub-results per component 3: (optional and indicative)</b></p>	<p>Result 3.1: Internal procedures and, if relevant, the Parliament Rules of Procedures are revised for its conformity with European standards and to efficiently cope with an increased workload in the EU enlargement context</p>	<p>(a) Assessment Report of the Parliamentary Rules of Procedures with recommendations for improvement is drafted</p> <p>(b) Revised Parliament Rules of Procedures are adopted (if applicable)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p> <p>Reports by the International Organisations</p>	<p>Lack of political willingness for compromise to adopt revised rules of procedures</p> <p>The new Rules of Procedure will be adopted before the Project activity will start.</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>All relevant stakeholders are willing to look for effective solutions across party lines</p>

	<p>Result 3.2:</p> <p>The capacities of the Parliament (standing committees, units of the Secretariat) are improved to deal with matters linked to European Integration and, if relevant, the establishment of a new permanent Committee is supported</p>	<p>(a) Legislative time tables / schedules are published</p> <p>(b) Training needs assessment for the Secretariat staff and Annual Professional Development Plan are drafted (2024: 0/1; 2026: 1/1)</p> <p>(c) A new permanent Committee is established (if applicable)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p> <p>Reports by the European Parliament (Jean Monnet Dialogue)</p>	<p>Lack of human resources and capacity to apply the improved legislative procedure and toolsets;</p> <p>Lack of funds or delays result in delivery of trainings to a smaller group only.</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>The Parliament is willing to adjust its structures needed to effectively deal with matters linked to European integration</p>
	<p>Result 3.3:</p> <p>The mechanism for interaction of Parliament with citizens is improved to ensure more effective participatory process</p>	<p>(a) Number of outreach sessions to Civil Society representatives (2024: 0/3; 2026: 13/3)</p> <p>(b) Percentage of new legislation approved based on consultation with the Civil Society (2024: N/A; 2026: 30%)</p>	<p>Reports of the MD Parliament</p> <p>Project Reports</p> <p>CSO Reports</p>	<p>Lack of political interest for more citizen and for more civil society involvement</p>	<p>The Parliament is willing to implements project-proposed measures</p> <p>Citizens are interested in participating in public hearings</p>

## ORGANIZATION CHART of the SECRETARIAT of the PARLIAMENT



## ***Donor Mapping 2023***

### ***Analysis of donor programs in Moldova supporting parliamentary development***

Version: 3 July 2024

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## **EU-funded Projects supporting parliamentary development**

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1. Support for structured policy dialogue, coordination of the implementation of the Association Agreement and enhancement of the legal approximation process

*Implementer: DAI, consortium partners: DT Global IDEV SL (Spain), European Management Ltd EPM (Latvia)*

*Project Period: 06/2020-06/2025*

*Projected Budget: \$5 million*

*Beneficiary: Ministry on Foreign Affairs and European Integration, State Chancellery, Ministry of Finance and Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*

The objective is to increase the capacities of the Government of Moldova and other key national institutions in implementing the EU-Republic of Moldova Association Agenda and support the implementation of the Association Agreement throughout all sectors. The project provides expert assistance throughout various sectors (e.g., personal data protection, copy rights, phytosanitary, etc.) to enhance the legal approximation process, as well as the capacities of relevant staff within the Ministry on Foreign Affairs and European Integration, State Chancellery (especially the Centre for Legal Approximation), Ministry of Finance, and Parliament to transpose the EU acquis.

The core assistance is dedicated to the Government. Nevertheless, there is a small sub-component on parliamentary development, design to cover the needs of parliament until a new Twinning Programme will be launched in 2024. So far, under this sub-component, the following has been delivered:

- Training Needs Assessment of parliamentary staff carried out in 2021. Training on PLS for parliamentary staff provided by IALS/WFD
- Assessment Report on the Government-Parliament Cooperation on EU integration agenda
- Assistance in drafting the new Parliamentary Rules of Procedure
- Support to the development of a Step-by-step Handbook on post-legislative scrutiny.
- Peer-to-peer visit to a national parliament on the role of EU Affairs Committee

## 2. Supporting institutionalized and sustainable dialogue on Gagauzia Autonomy

*Implementer: Crisis Management Institute (CMI)*

*Project Period: 02/2022-05/2025*

*Projected Budget: \$2.2 million*

*BENEFICIARY: Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, People's Assembly of Gagauzia, Moldovan citizens*

“Supporting institutionalized and sustainable dialogue on Gagauzia Autonomy” or “Gagauzia Dialogue” is a three-year project bringing together legislators, experts and interested parties from Chisinau, Comrat and across Moldova to find joint solutions to common issues related to the Gagauzia autonomy. Gagauzia Dialogue works to create a positive political environment for dialogue between Chisinau and Comrat, and to enhance the capacities of all parties to address institutional disputes and legislative contradictions between the centre and the autonomy. This work builds on the results of three years of dialogue between MPs from the Moldovan Parliament and the Gagauz People's Assembly within the Working Group on Gagauzia (GWG).

This parliamentary dialogue platform was supported to emerge and function by a previous CMI project, which launched in 2015 with the support of Sweden. In 2019, the second phase of the project expanded the scope of the dialogue to include civil society and academia, to ensure that all perspectives contribute to the agenda, substance and objectives of the parliamentary dialogue and policy development activities.

## 3. European Parliament's support to the Parliament of Moldova

*Implementer: European Parliament, Directorate for Democracy Support, Parliamentary Support and Capacity Building Unit*

*Duration: 2021-2024*

*Budget: up to 150k EURO/annually*

In November 2021, the European Parliament and the Parliament of Moldova signed a Memorandum of Understanding on a joint framework for parliamentary democracy support. The purpose of MoU is to establish a joint framework for parliamentary support, capacity building and dialogue facilitation for the Parliament of Moldova. All such parliamentary support activities will be in line with Moldova's national reform agenda and development programmes, with the priorities of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, and will be coherent and complementary to the overall EU efforts to consolidate democracy and the rule of law in Moldova. To this end, the European Parliament committed to provide assistance in

- improving the quality of legislation and of the legislative process in Moldova;
- strengthening the capacities of parliamentary committees, including through the best European practices of their work planning and organisation, as well as policy analysis support in view of achieving legal harmonisation with EU acquis;
- reviewing the Rules of Procedure and other instruments guiding the internal organisation of the Parliament of Moldova;
- improving the efficiency of interaction between the majority and the opposition, between the political factions as well as between the committees of the Parliament of Moldova;
- enhancing the staff potential and transforming the Secretariat of the Parliament of Moldova into a modern service-oriented body;
- enhancing communication and facilitation of dialogue and cooperation of the Parliament of Moldova with the citizens, civil society, media and other stakeholders

A Roadmap detailing the EP's assistance was developed. Support activities include *inter alia*: mentoring, study visits and exchanges of best practices between parliamentarians; training, mentoring and capacity building for parliamentary staff, political parties and factions; parliamentary conferences, seminars and roundtables in Moldova or in one of the work places of the European Parliament; Triangle for Democracy Programme to fight disinformation, hate speech and foreign interference.

#### 4. UNDP, UN Women/ UNICEF/UNFPA

*Supporting Women MPs Caucus in Parliament*

*UNDP overall responsible for project administration*

*UN Women/ UNICEF/UNFPA – partner institutions*

*Duration: 2021-2024*

*Seed Funds: Government of Sweden*

The Project provides multidimensional support primarily to members of Women MPs Caucus in Parliament but also to economy and social protection standing committees. The last ones receive legal expert advice requested by parliament in relation to new legislation to address social issues (e.g., gender pay gap, allocation for vulnerable groups). In addition, female MPs are trained about their roles and responsibilities, strategic

oversight (public hearings and consultations) and advocacy skills. Women MPs platform has been officially established within the Parliament of Moldova, has a Telegram account and a Facebook page.

UN Women plans to expand the program. In the new phase, female candidates running for the next local elections (2023) will be trained. All political parties will be invited to delegate participants for these trainings. Similar training will be provided to women candidates for parliamentary elections (2025).

#### 5. German Agency for International Cooperation (GiZ)

*Project: Modern and Strong Parliamentary Administration in the Eastern Partnership Countries, Phase 2*

The Network of Secretaries General of Parliament of the Eastern Partnership Countries was established in 2018. The National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus, the Parliament of Georgia, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are members of the Network. The scope is to foster regional cooperation among partner countries and form the professional network of Secretaries General and parliamentary practitioners to share experience and enhance cooperation in various fields of common interest. GiZ supports the organization of the platform's meetings.

#### 6. Other parliamentary development support

Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE)

In March, 2023 IPRE in partnership with Hans Seidel Foundation delivered a 3-day training to the staff of the Parliament of Moldova on ex-ante and ex-post evaluation of public policies.