ADDENDUM No. 1

To Financing Agreement

Republic of Moldova – "EU4Reforms Annual measure in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2021"– Cris No NDICI-GEO-NEAR/2021/43053 (44608) – OPSYS ACT-60606 linked to JAD.943389

The European Commission, hereinafter referred to as "**the Commission**", acting on behalf of the European Union, hereinafter referred to as "**the EU**",

of the one part, and

the Government of the Republic of Moldova, hereinafter referred to as "**the Partner**", represented by the Prime Minister,

of the other part,

have agreed as follows:

The above-mentioned Financing Agreement, signed on 29.11.2022, is modified as follows:

Special Conditions

Article 1 – Nature of the action

Article 1.2 is replaced to read as follows:

"The total estimated cost of this action is EUR 29 000 000 and the maximum EU contribution to this action is set at EUR 29 000 000."

Annex I: Technical and Administrative Provisions for Implementation (TAPs)

The new version of Annex I is attached to this addendum.

All other terms and conditions of the Financing Agreement remain unchanged.

The addendum shall enter into force on the date on which it is signed by the last party.

Done in two original copies, one copy being handed to the Commission and one to the Partner.

Done at Chisinau

Done at Brussels

For the Partner: Dorin RECEAN Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova Signature: Date: 27.06.2025	For the Commission: Adrienn KIRÁLY Director Neighbourhood East and Institution Building Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations Signature: Adrienn Király Date: 5/5/2025

Encl.: Annex I: Technical and Administrative Provisions EU4Reforms (2 copies)

ANNEX 1: Technical and Administrative Provisions

1. SYNOPSIS

1.1. Action Summary Table

1. Title **CRIS/OPSYS** **Basic Act**	EU4Reforms *Annual measure in favour of the Republic of Moldova for 2021* CRIS number: NDICI-GEO-NEAR/2021/43053 – OPSYS ACT-60606 linked to JAD.943389 Financed under the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)
2. Team Europe Initiative	No
3. Zone benefiting from the action	The action shall be carried in the Republic of Moldova
4. Programming document	Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) 2021-2027 for the Republic of Moldova[1]
5. Link with relevant MIP(s) objectives/expected results	Priority area 2: Accountable institutions, the rule of law and security
PRIORITY AREAS AND SECTOR INFORMATION	
6. Priority Area(s), sectors	Population Policies/Programmes & Reproductive Health (130), Government & Civil Society-general (151), Conflict, Peace & Security (152)
7. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Main SDGs: 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions; Secondary SDGs: 4 Quality education, 5 Gender equality, 10 Reduced inequalities
8 a) DAC code(s)	13010 – Population policy and administrative management 15 % 15110 – Public sector policy and administrative management 50 % 15130 - Legal and judicial development 15 % 15152 – Legislatures and political parties 5 % 15153 – Media and free flow of information 10 % 15210 – Security system management and reform 5 %
8 b) Main Delivery Channel	42000 - European Commission

[1] To be adopted first half 2022

9. Targets	☐ Migration ☐ Climate ☒ Social inclusion and Human Development[2] ☐ Gender ☐ Biodiversity ☒ Human Rights, Democracy and Governance			
10. Markers (from DAC form)	**General policy objective**	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Participation development/good governance	☐	☐	☒
	Aid to environment	☒	☐	☐
	Gender equality and women's and girl's empowerment	☐	☒	☐
	Trade development	☐	☒	☐
	Reproductive, maternal, new-born and child health	☒	☐	☐
	Disaster Risk Reduction	☒	☐	☐
	Inclusion of persons with Disabilities	☒	☐	☐
	Nutrition	☒	☐	☐
	RIO Convention markers	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Biological diversity	☒	☐	☐
	Combat desertification	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change mitigation	☒	☐	☐
	Climate change adaptation	☒	☐	☐
11. Internal markers	**Policy objectives**	**Not targeted**	**Significant objective**	**Principal objective**
	Digitalisation Tags: digital connectivity digital governance digital entrepreneurship job creation digital skills/literacy digital services	☒	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐
	Connectivity Tags: transport people2people	☒	☐ ☐ ☐	☐ ☐ ☐

[2] For the Neighbourhood, activities related to education shall be marked as part of the "Social Inclusion and Human Development" target, in line with the NDICI-GE programming guidelines.

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	energy digital connectivity		☐ ☐	☐ ☐
	Migration	☒	☐	☐
	Reduction of Inequalities	☒	☐	☐
	COVID-19	☒	☐	☐

BUDGET INFORMATION	
12. Amounts concerned	Budget line: 14.020111 Eastern Neighbourhood Total estimated cost: EUR 29 000 000[3] Total amount of EU budget contribution EUR 29 000 000
MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION	
13. Type of financing and implementation modality(ies)	**Direct management** through: - Grants - Procurement **Indirect management** with the entrusted entities to be selected in accordance with the criteria set out in section 3.1.3

1.2. Summary of the action

In light of the priority areas of EU assistance in Moldova as included in the Multiannual Indicative Programme 2021-2027 for the Republic of Moldova, this action aims to further implement the EU-Moldova Association Agreement with a focus on relevant reforms in the area of governance, highlighting the importance of the rule of law, the role of parliament in a democratic society, justice, improving public administration structures and security. Governance is directly linked to sustainable economic development. Legal certainty and functioning democratic institutions are key to attracting investment, supporting political stability, ensuring human rights and rule of law reforms. These efforts are in line with the Association Agenda 2021-2027 (to be adopted), the Economic Recovery Plan for Moldova, and the 2 July 2021 Joint Staff Working Document on post-2020 Eastern Partnership priorities[4] with its Economic and Investment Plan and five Flagship initiatives for Moldova will support Moldova in the implementation of EU-related commitments by advancing reforms in the area of governance and security.

This action will support the Republic of Moldova in the implementation of reforms linked to the EU-Moldova Association Agreement including a Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) and Association Agenda 2021-2027 with a particular focus on the following topics:

- A continuation of the High Level Adviser's Mission will provide support to central and local public authorities including to help build capacity within the government which is instrumental for the efficient and effective implementation of the Association Agreement and Association Agenda.
- Strengthen the Parliament's oversight functions and its institutional capacities, based on its clear commitment to reforms and to legislative approximation and implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement/DCFTA. Support will also be offered in view of a comprehensive review of the electoral legislative framework in line with outstanding OSCE/ODHIR recommendations.

[3] The budget for this action may increase subject to the allocation of umbrella funds

[4] SWD(2021) 186 final

- Enhancing the capacity and accountability of the justice sector at various levels, including through increased technical assistance to support the implementation of reforms.
- Support for the implementation of the Public Order and Security Integrated Concept will aim at improving the main forces responsible in this sector, the Carabinieri and the Police, with a central focus on strengthening the respect for human rights standards in exercising law enforcement duties in the context of regional security challenges to tackle hybrid threats and transnational crime.
    - Support for the establishment of a Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) database accessible for EU Member States' law enforcement agencies will further contribute to security and stability of Moldova and strengthen capacity-building in data protection and privacy in line with human rights standards and principles. Furthermore, this action serves as a tangible expression of the external dimension of the EU Security Union (EU Security Union Strategy, July 2020).
- Support for the National Bureau of Statistics to conduct the 2024 population and housing census in line with Eurostat and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) standards, as well as further expand the collection of statistics with sex disaggregation. This will ensure data comparability of Moldovan census results with the other European countries and the correct estimation of the official population, Gross domestic product (GDP) and all other people-related national statistics. Based on the official data provided by the National Bureau of Statistics, national programmes for different sectors are developed, including reallocation from the state budget to local budgets.
- Support for increased visibility of EU assistance for the Republic of Moldova, and targeted support for independent media, strategic communications and building resilience to disinformation, including through improving media and information literacy.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION

2.1. Objectives and Expected Outputs

The Overall Objective (Impact) of this action is to support Moldova in the implementation of EU-related commitments, notably the Association Agreement/DCFTA.

It will also enhance Moldova's resilience to respond to urgent needs by the Moldovan central and local authorities as well as the population that are resulting or could result from the war situation following the Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine.

The Specific Objectives (Outcomes) of this action are:

1. Moldovan reform efforts in good governance have been advanced;
2. Moldovan reform efforts have been supported including through a diverse media landscape, strategic communication on EU support.

Given the unfolding and unforeseeable consequences of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the specific Objective (Outcomes) of this action are also

3. To address the immediate needs of population affected by Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine:
    - building resilience of Moldova to deal with crisis situations such as large influx of people fleeing the war, as a result of the war in Ukraine, by developing infrastructures for sanitation, food, shelter, and to allow for orderly transit for those people wishing to leave Moldova;

- addressing the needs of victims of the armed conflict in Ukraine who are temporarily settled in Moldova, to benefit from a minimum of socio-economic standards;
- tackling migration and forced displacement caused by the armed conflict.

4. To strengthen resilience and build capacities to respond to war-generated impacts:
   - enhancing capacities to respond to cyber-security and information security and hybrid threats by contributing to a resilient digital environment in line with human rights standards and principles;
   - strengthening economic resilience and supporting individuals, communities, institutions, and countries to quickly recover from the shocks of the armed conflict;
   - enhancing societal resilience including support to fight against disinformation and by promoting an enabling environment for media, civil society and the support to internally displaced people and people fleeing the war;
   - contributing to the enhancement of the country's energy resilience by restoring and strengthening its production capacity, including by enhancing energy security and diversification of energy sources;
   - enhancing the resilience of institutions at national and local level, and promoting international cooperation, including support to European integration.

The Outputs to be delivered by this action contributing to the corresponding Specific Objectives (Outcomes) are:

1.1 contributing to Specific Objective 1: The level of capacity by national authorities of the EU approximation process and the implementation of the Association Agreement and Agendas has been significantly increased.

1.2 contributing to Specific Objective 1: Strengthened oversight by the Parliament in the form of greater accountability for government decisions, as well as an open, transparent and participatory legislative process in the context of EU approximation is key to strengthen democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance in the Republic of Moldova.

1.3 contributing to Specific Objective 1: The independence integrity and accountability of the justice sector at various levels has been strengthened, reform capacity has been enhanced, the reorganisation and capacities of Moldovan courts has been facilitated, and human rights institutions and mechanisms have been empowered.

1.4 contributing to Specific Objective 1: The public order forces' capacity within the Ministry of Internal Affairs targeting specifically the Carabinieri for professional service delivery has been strengthened in line with EU Member States' best practices.

1.5 contributing to Specific Objective 1: The bilateral police cooperation between EU Member States and Moldova based on the exchange of DNA profiles has been strengthened

1.6 contributing to Specific Objective 1: The institutional capacity of the NBS for efficient and effective organisation and conducting the 2024 census has been strengthened.

2.1 contributing to Specific Objective 2: Citizens' access to strategic communication products on EU assistance in the development of the country is increased and access to diversified media content and the capacities and sustainability of media outlets have been improved.

2.2. Indicative Activities

Activities related to Output 1.1:

- capacity building,
- technical expertise,
- policy dialogue,
- performance monitoring and reporting and
- reinforcing country systems;

Activities related to Output 1.2:

- training,
- analysis and studies,
- legal and legislative review
- policy advice,
- institutional support,
- workshops, discussion round,
- visibility and awareness events,
- study tours,
- peer review exercises,
- peer evaluations;

Activities related to Output 1.3:

- increasing the overall level of technical assistance to the justice sector through a structural approach
- training and training for trainers,
- analysis and legislative review
- studies and designs,
- drafting support of legal and policy documents,
- study tours,
- legislative and policy support,
- support to the institutional functioning of justice stakeholders,
- awareness raising activities,
- workshops, discussion rounds,
- visibility and awareness events,
- human rights education,
- digitalized capacity building programmes,
- supporting the implementation of governmental action plans,
- support to the integrity check of candidates / members of the SCM, SCP and National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and support to the extraordinary evaluation of judges and prosecutors,
- support to the secondment of a Liaison Prosecutor to Eurojust
- establishment of a research database;

Activities related to Output 1.4:

- training,
- digitalisation of specific processes,
- study tours,
- analysis and studies,
- provision of expert advice,
- drafting support of legal and policy documents,
- workshops, discussion round,
- visibility and awareness events,
- revision of organisational charts;

Activities related to Output 1.5:

- establishment of a DNA database
- specific equipment,
- provision of expert advice,
- analysis,
- workshops, discussion round,
- visibility and awareness events,
- study tours,
- training;

Activities related to Output 1.6:

- capacity building of the staff involved in the census enumeration,
- methodological support for the planning, organisation and implementation of the census enumeration and evaluation of results,
- support in improving the ICT infrastructure of the NBS,
- organisation of a thorough communication campaign to ensure a complete coverage of the population and provision of reliable data from respondents,
- provide support to improve the dissemination of census results at different territorial levels,
- improve access to microdata and data confidentiality issues;

Activities related to Output 2.1:

Activities for strategic communication and media support:

- targeted and impactful communication campaigns on EU assistance and support, maintenance and management of Europe Café, events and communication activities organised at Europe Café premises and EU Info Centres and Euroclubs, involvement of Young European Ambassadors in relevant communication and visibility activities,
- development of communication activities/event/products,
- joint activities with EU Member States from the perspective of communication/visibility,
- support activities to media outlets and journalists (trainings, mentoring, study visits, etc.) as well as EU funded projects from the perspective of strategic communication on EU support and assistance;
- provide strategic communication support to Moldovan government and institutions.

2.3. Mainstreaming

Environmental Protection, Climate Change and Biodiversity

Outcomes of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project).

The EIA screening classified the action as Category C (no need for further assessment).

Outcome of the Climate Risk Assessment (CRA) screening (relevant for projects and/or specific interventions within a project).

The CRA screening concluded that this action is no or low risk (no need for further assessment).

Gender Equality and empowerment of women and girls

As per OECD Gender DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as G1. This implies that gender and diversity issues will be mainstreamed into the design of reforms undertaken under this programme. The inclusion of women in decision-making processes will be one of the principles in the capacity building aspect.

However, since it is designed as a demand-driven action, inclusion of gender equality related issues will be defined at a later stage, before contracting. Efforts will be made to ensure greater participation of

women in politics. Support in the area of statistics will aim to contribute towards making sex-disaggregated data available in Moldova. Target groups for support will have a distinct gender dimension: media users, energy consumers, court users, IT users.

Proposed action will address gender issues (though rather indirectly as regards the main barriers to poverty reduction for women and girls) in the Republic of Moldova: it furthers women's access to justice and their specific needs in the area of governance, especially in areas where women are largely under-represented. It will address gender imbalances and promote gender equality within the service of the Moldovan Carabinieri, and generally advocate for mainstreaming gender in the transposition of law in specific policy areas (justice, law enforcement, media and gender policy) by the Moldovan Parliament. The implementation of this action will be guided by the principles and objectives of the EU Gender Action Plan III[5]. The outputs and outcomes of the Action will be disaggregated along gender lines. Proposed actions will also support the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and further Resolutions on Women, Peace and Security in respective areas.

Human Rights
All efforts to advance public administration reform in Moldova will apply the human rights based approach and be based on the principles of good governance, equality, equity, and the inclusion of socially or economically deprived groups.

The proposed action is consistent with the Human Rights Country Strategy for the Republic of Moldova and addresses concerns raised by International Treaty Bodies as well as deficiencies identified by the European Court of Human Rights of the Council of Europe.

Disability
As per OECD Disability DAC codes identified in section 1.1, this action is labelled as D0. This implies that the inclusion of persons with disabilities is not a significant objective of this action.

Democracy
The capacity building aspect of this programme will focus on supporting and strengthening the commitment of the Moldovan Government to the principles of public administration developed by the European Commission in close cooperation with the OECD/SIGMA.

Conflict sensitivity, peace, and resilience
Conflict sensitivity of the action will be ensured by allocating part of the budget to activities allowing of the Transnistria region to benefit from the support of this action applying the EU confidence building measures approach.

Disaster Risk Reduction
Not targeted.

2.4. The Intervention Logic

This action aims to support the Republic of Moldova in the implementation of EU related commitments, notably the Association Agreement/Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), through reform efforts in the areas of justice, law enforcement, anti-corruption, parliamentary oversight and a population and housing census.

[5] The EU Gender Action Plan (GAP) III is a Joint Communication of the European Commission and the High Representative JOIN(2020) 17 final

The underlying intervention logic is that this action contributes towards this Impact as a result of the achievement of the following two Outcomes:

Outcome 1: Moldovan reform efforts in good governance have been advanced. It will be realised through a technical cooperation facility which will achieve the following six outputs:

- Output 1.1: The level of capacity of national authorities regarding the EU approximation process and the implementation of the Association Agreement and Agendas has been significantly increased. Capacity of national authorities to communicate the reforms to Moldovan citizens has been significantly improved.

- Output 1.2 Strengthened oversight by the Parliament in the form of greater accountability for government decisions, as well as an open, transparent and participatory legislative process in the context of EU approximation is key to strengthen democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance in the Republic of Moldova (Output 1.2). It shall further help developing, consolidating and increasing the stability and effectiveness of democratic institutions and the rule of law, as stipulated by the Association Agreement and the Association Agenda.
  The underlying assumption is that a strengthened Parliament oversight will facilitate the institutional and functional development of public authorities, in order to assist an efficient, transparent decision-making and a participatory strategic reform process.

- Output 1.3: The independence, integrity and accountability of the justice sector at various levels has been strengthened, reform capacity has been enhanced, the reorganisation,capacities of Moldovan courts has been facilitated, and human rights institutions and mechanisms have been empowered (Output 1.3). It will therefore facilitate the commitments of the Republic of Moldova made in the Association Agreement and the 2021-2027 Association Agenda.

  To this end, this action will provide support through overall increased and structural technical assistance to implement reforms in the justice sector and to strengthening the independence of the judiciary, including assistance in constitutional and legislative reforms, implementation of the Justice Strategy (once in force) and support to address key issues related to the functioning and the integrity of the Superior Council of Magistracy, the Superior Council of Prosecutors (in particular through the pre-vetting of candidates for judicial and prosecutorial self-governance bodies), the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), as well as the integrity and capacities of individual judges and prosecutors; conduct a comprehensive analysis of the political economy of all relevant justice institutions and stakeholders; enhance the capacities of staff of the Ministry of Justice; supports the strengthening of the capacity of the National Institute of Justice; assists the realisation of the Judicial Map including through support to the Court Administration Agency and design of new court premises; increase the capacities and digitalization of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova; assist reform efforts in line with the new Justice Reform Strategy; and empower other relevant human rights institutions and mechanisms (including in the area of minorities).

  The underlying assumption for sustainable results includes political will and commitment towards protection and promotion of minorities and genuine reform of the justice sector.

- Output 1.4: The public order forces' capacity within the Ministry of Internal Affairs targeting specifically the Carabinieri for professional service delivery has been strengthened in line with EU Member States' best practices (Output 1.4). This groundwork will facilitate the realization of Moldova's commitments enshrined in the Association Agreement/DCFTA. The development of a new Public Order and Security Development Programme for 2022-2025, based on the previous 2017-2020 Strategy, is fully in line with the 2021-2027 Association Agenda. To this end, sufficient institutional and absorption capacity to ensure longer-term sustainability will be crucial; it is

assumed that trained personnel would remain in place and expertise and institutional memory would be retained in the institution.

Output 1.5: The bilateral police cooperation between EU Member States and Moldova based on the exchange of DNA profiles has been strengthened (Output 1.5). It is assumed that the establishment of an operational, centralised DNA database in Moldova will facilitate operational and strategic cooperation with Europol and operational cooperation between police and other law enforcement units of EU Member States. The number of cross-border crime investigations is expected to increase which will be supported by a faster and more effective exchange of information on DNA profiles. Outputs will include a national DNA database available to EU Member States' law enforcement organisations.

- Output 1.6: The institutional capacity of the NBS for efficient and effective organisation and conducting the 2024 census has been strengthened
  The Population and Housing Census is the most comprehensive statistical data collection operation on number and characteristics of a country's population and dwellings (occupied and unoccupied), living conditions, housing stock and their territorial distribution; it serves as the basis for the production of all other people-related national statistics. Census data are used for better planning and implementation of a variety of programmes, including education and training, health and social services. It provides detailed statistics that are important for industries and communities and all line ministries in elaborating their policies for different sectors. Trade associations, chambers of commerce, and businesses rely on this information for economic development, business decisions, and strategic planning. Therefore, the intervention will contribute directly to the implementation of Moldovan reform on good governance. Additional support will be provided on the development and modernisation of the Information and Communication Technology System, especially considering the new operational (crisis) conditions, capacity building of the staff involved in the census enumeration, methodological support for the planning, organisation and implementation of the census enumeration and evaluation of census results, equipment for digitalisation of data collection and processing.

  Assumptions: The National Bureau of Statistics elaborated the draft law on census organisation and submitted it to the Government, and subsequently to the Parliament for approval. NBS is committed to implement the new law on census organisation.

Outcome 2: Moldovan reform efforts have been supported including through a diverse media landscape, strategic communication on EU support. It will be realised through the achievement of the following output:

- Output 2.1: Citizens' access to strategic communication products on EU assistance's role in the development of the country is increased and access to diversified media content and the capacities and sustainability of media outlets have been improved.

From the perspective of support to strategic communication and media, the outputs to be accomplished will contribute to advancing efforts related to reforms in good governance by giving the citizens of the country access to information and media resources which are accurate, impactful, objective and present the overall importance of the role of reforms and progress in the country, based on the context provided by EU support and assistance to various sectors. An underlying assumption from the logframe of this action is connected to the percentage of population that has access to such communication and information products currently and how this indicator can improve with the implementation of the action.

Regarding its horizontal logic, established indicators will serve to monitor / measure progress towards results (outputs) of the action. Factors that cannot be controlled but may influence the action in a positive or a negative way are mentioned under the identified risks reflected on in Section 3.4.

2.5. Indicative Logical Framework Matrix

PROJECT MODALITY (3 levels of results / indicators / Source of Data / Assumptions - no activities)

Results	Results chain ((): Main expected results (maximum 10)	Indicators (): (at least one indicator per expected result)	Baselines (values and years)	Targets (values and years)	Sources of data	Assumptions
Impact	To support Moldova in the implementation of EU related commitments, notably the Association Agreement/DCFTA	*1Rule of Law score in relation to countries benefiting from EU assistance (NDICI 1)*				*Not applicable*
Outcome 1	1. Moldovan reform efforts in good governance have been advanced	*1.1 Number of reform policies renewed or in place in good governance, law enforcement and security* *1.2 Number of gender-sensitive reform policies in good governance, justice, law enforcement, and security sectors* *1.3 Number of public policies developed and/or revised with internal and external consultations with national and local stakeholders with EU support*	Tbd	Tbd		No political crisis occurs or has no impact on the government's ability and commitment to implement provisions of the AA/, and to adopt needed development strategies and programmes for specific sectors.
Outcome 2	2. Moldovan reform efforts have been supported	*2.1 % of population who has increased awareness levels*	tbd	Tbd	2.1 Surveys	The political context in the Republic of

	including through a diverse media landscape, strategic communication on EU support	*of EU support and assistance, sex-disaggregated* *2.2 % of media outlets that increased their financial and technical capacities* *2.3 % of media outlets that produce products free from gender stereotypes* *2.4 Media outlets covering strategically the reform efforts supported by the EU*			2.2 In-house assessments 2.3 Reports of stakeholders, as relevant NGOs in the sector and associations	Moldova will have no impact on the communication efforts undertaken and on the cooperation and support for media outlets.
Output 1.1	1.1 The capacities of national authorities relating to the EU approximation process and the implementation of the Association Agreement and Agenda have significantly increased.	*1.1.1 % of reform goals of EUHLAs achieved* *1.1.2 % of EU regulation approximated and effectively implemented coming from AA requirements*	tbd 2020	1.1.1 50-80% increase 1.1.2 Tbd	1.1.1 National Mechanism for Reporting and Planning 1.1.2 Available data from the MFAEI, State Chancellery and Ministry of Finance	The Government remains committed and able to allocate sufficient resources to implementation of the AA reforms and strategies. The beneficiary institutions properly staffed and with necessary absorption capacity to receive and benefit from the proposed actions.
Output 1.2	1.2 Strengthened oversight by the Parliament in the form of greater accountability for government decisions, as well as an open, transparent and participatory legislative process in the context of EU	*1.2.1 Number of initiatives launched by the Parliament in exercising its oversight functions*	tbd	tbd	1.2.1 Government Reports 1.2.2 Reports by independent local and international	The political situation allows for the realization of objective oversight committees and oversight interventions are free

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	approximation is key to strengthen democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance in the Republic of Moldova	*1.2.2 Number of legal acts of governmental institutions/agencies under scrutiny by the parliament* *1.2.3 Number of requests for clarification and information from governmental agencies in exercising its oversight functions*			Civil Society Organisations 1.2.3 Statistics and Reports by International Organisations	from political influence. The work of the Government and Parliament is disrupted by political disputes
Output 1.3	1.3 The independence, integrity and accountability of the justice sector at various levels has been strengthened, reform capacity has been enhanced and the reorganisation and capacities of Moldovan courts has been facilitated.	*1.3.1 Reduced Nr. of cases decided against the Republic of Moldova by the ECtHR, including those related to violence against women* *1.3.2 Number of a) judges, b) prosecutors and c) lawyers and d) court staff trained with EU support on European standards and EU acquis* *1.3.3 Legislation aimed at strengthening the independence of the judiciary adopted* *1.3.4 Number of relevant GRECO recommendations addressed by the Government/Ministry of Justice* *1.3.5 Nr. of MoJ staff trained on management and*	tbd	tbd	1.3.1 Government Reports 1.3.2 Reports by independent local and international Civil Society Organisations 1.3.3 Statistics and Reports by International Organisations	There is political will and commitment towards genuine reform of the justice sector

		coordination skills, sex-disaggregated *1.3.6 Comprehensive political economy analysis of the Justice Sector conducted* *1.3.8 " Integrity standards applied as set out, in particular, in the relevant opinions of the Venice Commission. Number of judicial actors evaluated including for these integrity standards* *1.3.9 Number of court premises designed and level improvement of court case research database* *1.3.10 Level of Justice Strategy implemented* *1.3.11 Number of civil servants and members of human rights mechanisms trained and supported.*				
Output 1.4	1.4 The public order forces' capacity for professional service delivery in line with EU Member States' best practices has been strengthened	*1.4.1 Revised National Strategy for Public Order and Security and recommendation for the institutional road-map for the implementation of the new strategic document as well as the organisation*	1.4.1 *evaluation of the educational system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs from Moldova* 1.4.2 Organisational	tbd tbd	1.4.1 Training handbook/ catalogue 1.4.2 Government Decisions 1.4.3 Updated Functional Analysis	There is sufficient institutional and absorption capacity to ensure longer-term sustainability. Trained Carabinieri personnel and other relevant public order personnel remains in

		chart implemented in line with the Carabinieri's legal mandate and role in role in society *1.4.2 Number of trainings conducted to increase the professional conduct of staff of the Moldovan Carabinieri and other relevant security forces engaged in public order.* *1.4.3 Number of Carabinieri and other relevant security forces engaged in public order staff trained including on gender responsive policing/conduct, sex-disaggregated* *1.4.4 Increased capabilities to assume public order duties and responsibilities, in compliance with established standards and practices related to human rights, gender equality in policing*	chart as well as any other relevant MIA document for that purpose. 1.4.3 Functional Analysis of the General Inspectorate of Carabinieri, the police as well as the Ministry of Internal Affairs in coordinating and managing public order. tbd	tbd		place and expertise and institutional memory is retained in the institution -
Output 1.5	1.5 The bilateral police cooperation between EU Member States and Moldova based on the exchange of	*1.5.1 A national DNA database is established and managed in full compliance*	1.5.1 No operational centralized	tbd	1.5.1 Government's establishment report	A Government Decision on appoints responsible authority for the data base (e.g.

	DNA profiles has been strengthened	*with a national DNA law's provisions.* *1.5.2 Selected DNA profiles are made available to EU Member States' competent law enforcement organisations on a hit/no-hit basis.*	DNA database (2021) 1.5.2 Selected DNA profiles not systematically available (2021)	tbd	1.5.2 Statistical reporting from the Government and qualitative feedback from EU MS.	Ministry of Justice versus Ministry of Internal Affairs) Government aligns operations and procedures to the EU Prüm Council Decisions (2008) Moldova can be connected to the TESTA-network
Output 1.6	1.6 Strengthened institutional capacity of the National Bureau of Statistics for efficient and effective organisation and conducting the 2024 census	*1.6.1 Number of the NBS staff trained on different aspects related to conducting a census, including in gender equality related topics, sex-disaggregated;* *1.6.2 Number of new technologies (ICT infrastructure (hardware and software) applied for census enumeration with the EU support;* *1.6.3Number of new statistical data collection methods implemented at enumeration stage of the*	1.6.1 30% (2022) 1.6.2 (0)2022 1.6.3 2 (2022)	1.6.1 70 % (2023) 1.6.2 20(2023) 1.6.3 5 (2023)	1.6.1 NBS Annual Reports, 1.6.2 Project reports	The National Bureau of Statistics elaborated the draft law on census organisation and submitted it to the Government, and subsequently to the Parliament for approval. NBS is committed to implement the new law on census organisation.

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		census, including in gender equality related topics				
Output 2.1	Citizens' access to strategic communication products on EU assistance in the development of the country is increased and access to diversified media content and the capacities and sustainability of media outlets have been improved	*2.1.1 % of citizens having a good awareness level of EU and the assistance provided to the Republic of Moldova* *2.1.2 % of citizens having a basic understanding of the role of bilateral EU MS support towards the development of the country* *2.1.3 % of citizens having a good understanding of EU values and cooperation aspects with the Republic of Moldova* *2.1.4 % of citizens having access to diverse products of media outlets*	2.1.1 2020-2021 (for all indicators)	2.1.1 2024-2025 (for all indicators)	2.1.1 National surveys performed by EU Neighbours East Project and/or suveys/reports undertaken by the communication and visibility projects	The political situation and developments in the country that could have no impact on the effectiveness and outcomes of the activities undertaken

3. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

3.1. Implementation Modalities

The Commission will ensure that the EU appropriate rules and procedures for providing financing to third parties are respected, including review procedures, where appropriate, and compliance of the action with EU restrictive measures[6].

3.1.1. Direct Management (Grants)

3.1.1.1 Twinning Grant – Parliament

(a) Purpose of the grant

Under **Output 1.2**, the Parliament shall be supported to become more effective in its role as an oversights body. This action shall be implemented through a Twinning Grant.

(b) Type of applicants targeted

The Twinning Grant under Output 1.2 in support of the Moldovan Parliament shall be implemented by an EU Member State administration and/or mandated body.

3.1.2. Direct Management (Procurement)

Procurements will contribute to Outputs 1.1 and 2.1.

3.1.3. Indirect Management with pillar assessed entities[7]

3.1.3.1 – Indirect Management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- proven knowledge and expertise in justice sector,
- as well as a track record and the capacity to develop good working relations with local partners and
- demonstrated capacity to deliver work.

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails strengthening the independence and accountability of the justice sector at various levels, enhancing reform capacity and facilitating the reorganisation and capacities of Moldovan courts, and strengthening other relevant human rights institutions and mechanisms (**Output 1.3**).

3.1.3.2 – Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- proven knowledge and expertise in police sector,
- as well as a track record and the capacity to develop good working relations with local partners and
- demonstrated capacity to deliver work.

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[6] www.sanctionsmap.eu Please note that the sanctions map is an IT tool for identifying the sanctions regimes. The source of the sanctions stems from legal acts published in the Official Journal (OJ). In case of discrepancy between the published legal acts and the updates on the website it is the OJ version that prevails.

[7] The signature of a contribution agreement with the chosen entity/ies is subject to the completion of the necessary pillar assessments

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails entails strengthening the Carabinieri's and police force's capacity within the Ministry of Internal Affairs for professional service delivery in line with EU Member States' best practices (**Output 1.4**).

3.1.3.3 – Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- proven knowledge and expertise in the area DNA Database sector,
- as well as a track record and the capacity to develop good working relations with local partners and
- demonstrated capacity to deliver work.

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails creating a DNA Database to enable the exchange of DNA profiles with EU Member States (**Output 1.5**).

3.1.3.4 –Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- proven knowledge and expertise in the statistics office,
- as well as a track record and the capacity to develop good working relations with local partners and
- demonstrated capacity to deliver work.

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails strengthening the capacities of the National Bureau of Statistics for efficient and effective organisation and conducting the 2024 census (**Output 1.6**).

3.1.3.5 – Indirect management with an entrusted entity

A part of this action may be implemented in indirect management with an entity(ies), which will be selected by the Commission's services using the following criteria:

- proven knowledge and expertise in the area of public administration reform,
- as well as a track record and the capacity to develop good working relations with local partners and
- demonstrated capacity to deliver work.

The implementation by this(ese) entity(ies) entails transform the country and reforming its public administration (**Output 1.1**).

3.1.4 Changes from indirect to direct management (and vice versa) mode due to exceptional circumstances (one alternative second option)

The preferred implementation modality under section **3.1.3.1, 3.1.3.3 and 3.1.3.4 and 3.1.3.5** is indirect management with entrusted entities. In case that no agreement can be reached, direct management (**procurement**) will be used as per section 3.1.2 to implement these actions.

The preferred implementation modality under section **3.1.3.2** is indirect management with an entrusted entity. In case that no agreement can be reached, direct management (**twinning grant**) will be used as per section 3.1.1 to implement this action.

3.4. Scope of geographical eligibility for procurement and grants

The geographical eligibility in terms of place of establishment for participating in procurement and grant award procedures and in terms of origin of supplies purchased as established in the basic act and set out in the relevant contractual documents shall apply subject to the following provisions.

The Commission's authorising officer responsible may extend the geographical eligibility on the basis of urgency or of unavailability of services in the markets of the countries or territories concerned, or in other duly substantiated cases where application of the eligibility rules would make the realisation of this action impossible or exceedingly difficult (Article 28(10) NDICI-Global Europe Regulation).

4.5. Indicative Budget

Indicative Budget components	EU contribution (amount in EUR)
Output 1.1 – HLA mission and reform support, composed of	
Indirect management - section 3.1.3.5	3 000 000
Procurement (direct management) – section 3.1.2	N/A
Output 1.2 – Parliament oversight, composed of	
Grants (direct management) – section 3.1.1.1	N/A
Output 1.3 – Justice Support, composed of	
Indirect management - section 3.1.3.1	8 500 000
Output 1.4 – Carabinieri support, composed of	
Indirect management - section 3.1.3.2	2 000 000
Output 1.5 – DNA database exchange, composed of	
Indirect management – section 3.1.3.3	1 000 000
Output 1.6 – Population and housing census, composed of	
Indirect management – section 3.1.3.4	2 000 000
Output 2.1 – Media and strategic communication, composed of	
Procurement (direct management) – section 3.1.2	N/A
Total grants – section 3.1.2	1 400 000
Total procurement– section 3.1.3	11 000 000
Evaluation – section 4.2 **Audit** – section 4.3	**100 000**
Communication and visibility – section 5	N.A.
Totals	**29 000 000**

3.7. Organisational Set-up and Responsibilities

The Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova, represented by the relevant programme officers from the Delegation's Cooperation section, will be responsible for supervising the implementation of the projects.

The implementing entities will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the projects and mobilisation of all needed resources. The implementing entities will assist the Project beneficiaries in establishing the Project Steering Committees to guide the project implementation. The Project Steering Committees will oversee and validate the overall direction and policy of the project (or other responsibilities to be specified). The implementing entity will report regularly to the Project Steering Committee, which will review the project progress and give guidance on key issues. The Project Steering Committees shall meet on a regular basis,

indicatively once or twice a year. Ad-hoc meetings can be convened in case of need. The Project Steering Committee shall be made up of representatives of key stakeholders.

As part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union, the EU Delegation may participate in the above governance structures set up for governing the implementation of the action

4. PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

4.1. Monitoring and Reporting

The day-to-day technical and financial monitoring of the implementation of this action will be a continuous process, and part of the implementing partner's responsibilities. To this aim, the implementing partner shall establish a permanent internal, technical and financial monitoring system for the action and elaborate regular progress reports (not less than annual) and final reports. Every report shall provide an accurate account of implementation of the action, difficulties encountered, changes introduced, as well as the degree of achievement of its results (Outputs and direct Outcomes) as measured by corresponding indicators, using as reference the logframe matrix.

The Commission may undertake additional project monitoring visits both through its own staff and through independent consultants recruited directly by the Commission for independent monitoring reviews (or recruited by the responsible agent contracted by the Commission for implementing such reviews).

Roles and responsibilities for data collection, analysis and monitoring:

- Baselines setting: Baselines, targets and sources of data have been partially defined in the logframe. These will be reconfirmed or amended if necessary at the time of the contracting. If needed, additional studies will be commissioned.
- Data collection and reporting: Data collection and reporting will be under the responsibility of the implementing partners.
- Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Capacities: M&E capacities of the partner country are strengthened through a dedicated intervention. While this action doesn't foresee specific support on M&E, it will certainly require active involvement of the country M&E system.
- Active and meaningful participation of stakeholders: This action has been designed based on consultations with a large group of stakeholders, including the Government, the business sector and the civil society. It is in line with many of the priorities identified as a result of the consultation and with Government strategies and programmes. It is expected that a large number of stakeholders will benefit from it and will be actively supporting it. Due care will be taken to raise awareness about the action and its benefits to ensure active stakeholders' participation.

4.2. Evaluation

Having regard to the nature of the action, a final evaluation will be carried out for this action or its components via independent consultants contracted by the Commission.

It will be carried out for accountability and learning purposes at various levels (including for policy revision), taking into account in particular the fact that that follow up actions may be launched under some of the priorities.

The Commission shall inform the implementing partner at least 30 days in advance of the dates envisaged for the evaluation missions. The implementing partner shall collaborate efficiently and effectively with the evaluation experts, and inter alia provide them with all necessary information and documentation, as well as access to the project premises and activities.

The evaluation reports shall be shared with the partner country and other key stakeholders following the best practice of evaluation dissemination. The implementing partner and the Commission shall analyse the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluations and, where appropriate, in agreement with the partner

country, jointly decide on the follow-up actions to be taken and any adjustments necessary, including, if indicated, the reorientation of the project.
Evaluation services may be contracted under a framework contract.

4.3. Audit and Verifications

Without prejudice to the obligations applicable to contracts concluded for the implementation of this action, the Commission may, on the basis of a risk assessment, contract independent audit or verification assignments for one or several contracts or agreements.

5. COMMUNICATION AND VISIBILITY

Communication and visibility is a contractual obligation for all entities implementing EU-funded external actions to advertise the European Union's support for their work to the relevant audiences.

To that end they must comply with the instructions given in the *Communication and Visibility Requirements* of 2018 (as updated by the communication and visibility requirements in force under the current programming period 2021 - 2027), notably with regard to the use of the EU emblem and the elaboration of a dedicated communication and visibility plan, to be completed for every action at the start of implementation.

These obligations apply equally, regardless of whether the actions concerned are implemented by the Commission, the partner country (for instance, concerning the reforms supported through budget support), contractors, grant beneficiaries or entrusted entities. In each case, a reference to the relevant contractual obligations must be included in the respective financing agreement, procurement and grant contracts, and delegation agreements.

Communication and visibility measures may be funded from the amounts allocated to the action. For the purpose of enhancing the visibility of the EU and its contribution to this action, the Commission may sign or enter into joint declarations or statements, as part of its prerogative of budget implementation and to safeguard the financial interests of the Union. Visibility and communication measures should also promote transparency and accountability on the use of funds.

Effectiveness of communication activities on awareness about the action and its objectives as well as on EU funding of the action should be measured.

Implementing partners shall keep the Commission and concerned EU Delegation/Office fully informed of the planning and implementation of specific visibility and communication activities before work starts. Implementing partners will ensure adequate visibility of EU financing and will report on visibility and communication actions as well as the results of the overall action to the relevant monitoring committees.

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