



OLUNTEERING IN POST-SOVIET COUNTRIES: THE EXPERIENCE OF MOLDOVA AND TRANSNISTRIA

25 May 2017



MOLDOVAN STATE



Moldova officially is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe located between Romania to the west and Ukraine to the north, east, and south. The capital city is Chisinău.

Moldova declared itself an independent state in 1991 as part of the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Official languages: Moldovan (Romanian)

Recognised regional languages: Russian, Ukrainian, Gagauz.

Area Total 33,846 km2 (138th)

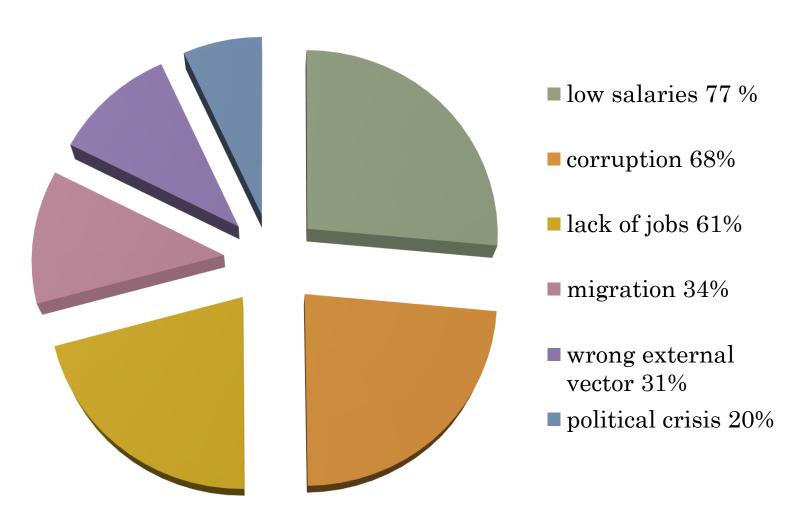
Population: 3,559,500 (132nd)



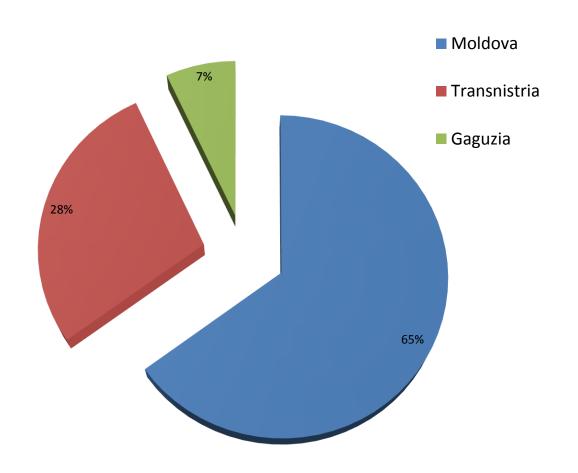
MOLDOVA'S CHOICE?



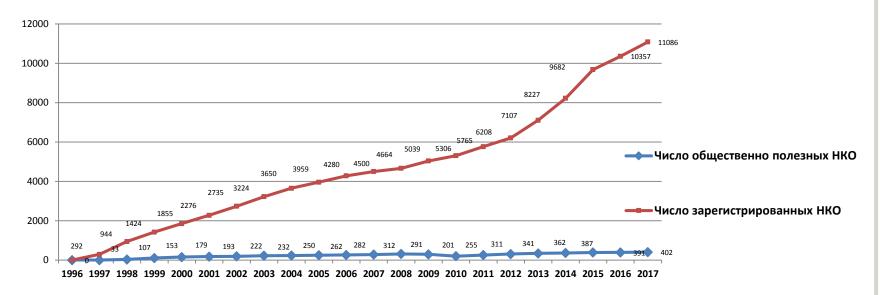
THE MAIN PROBLEMS OF MOLDOVA.



NGO SECTOR OF MOLDOVA, TRANSNISTRIA, GAGAUZIA



STATISTICS OF NGOs in Moldova (2017)



In Moldova — 11,086 NGOs, and 402 in status "public benefit NGOs"
In Transnistria — 2.364 NGOs
In Gagauzia — 470 NGOs

9 TYPES OF MD NGO'S ORGANIZATIONAL AND LEGAL FORMS

- 1. Public associations (Law "On public associations" 1996).
- 2. Unions (associations) of public associations (Law "On Public Associations", 1996).
- 3. Funds (Law on Foundations, 1999).
- 4. Private institutions (Civil Code, 2002).
- 5. Public institutions (Civil Code, 2002).
- 6. Patronage (Law "On Patronage", 2000).
- 7. Trade unions (Law on Trade Unions, 2000).
- 8. Political parties (Law on Political Parties, 2007).
- 9. Religious organizations (Law " Freedom of Conscience, Thought and Belief", 2007).

LEGAL REGULATION OF PUBLIC ASSOCIATIONS IN MOLDOVA AND TRANSNISTRIA

Laws of Moldova:

- Constitution, art.41, 1993
- o Law «On public associations», 1996
- Law «About Foundations», 1999
- Law «On Charity and Sponsorship», 2002
- Law On the transparency of the decision-making process
- The Voluntary Act, 2010
- The Civil Code, 2002

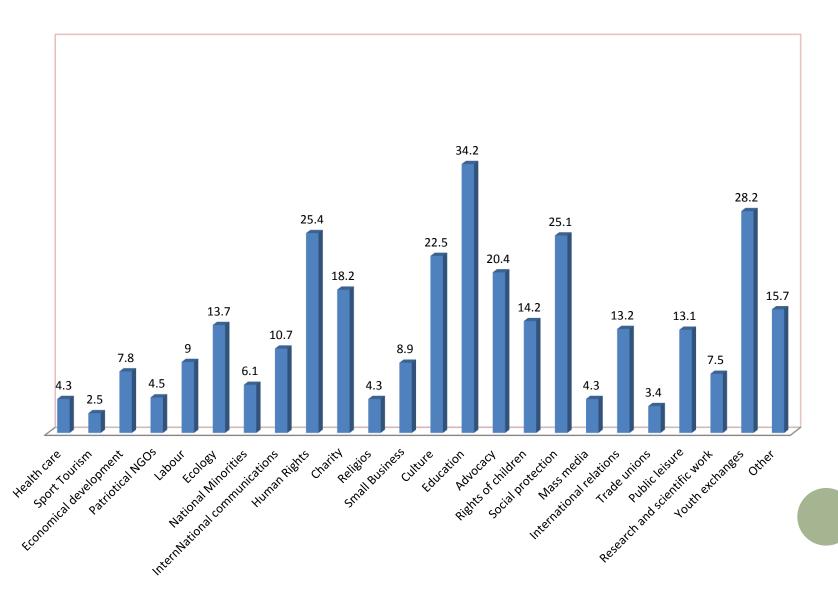
Laws of Transnistria:

- o Constitution, art. 33, 1995
- Law «On public associations», 2000
- Law «On Non-Profit Organizations», 2005
- Law «On trade unions, the rights and guarantees of their activity»,1993
- Law «On freedom of conscience and religious organizations», 1995
- The Civil Code articles 125-134

NGO "PUBLIC BENEFIT STATUS" IN MD (LAW "ON PUBLIC ASSOCIATIONS" 1996, CHANGES IN 2010).

- The status of "public benefit" is for a period of 3 years.
- The certificate of public benefit NGO serves as the basis for partial or complete exemption of taxes, fees and other payment obligations.
- Organizations that have the status of public benefit can use the mechanisms of deduction and redirection of income taxes; hiring on favorable terms premises for the implementation of activities; financing and subsidizing programs.

FIELDS OF ACTIVITIES OF MD NGOS



SPECIALIZED NGO NETWORKS:

- National Council of NGOs of the Republic of Moldova,
- Coalition for Promotion of the Law and Volunteerism
- Activities
- Alliance of Active NGOs in the field of social protection of the child and the family,
- Alliance of Organizations for People with Disabilities,
- the NGO Network on HIV / AIDS and Drug Addiction,
- Alliance for Combating Corruption,
- Forum of Women's Organizations of the Republic of Moldova,
- Women's Political Club 50/50,
- etc http://www.consiliulong.md

PROTECTION OF THE ETHNIC MINORITIES

Currently in the Republic of Moldova there are 592 organizations representing the culture of national minorities, among them:

- Ukrainian associations 259;
- o Russian 119;
- o Gagauz 39;
- Bulgarian 43;
- Roma 7;
- Mixed 125.

NGOS AND STATE

- "Civil Society Development Strategy for 2012-2015". One evaluation found that only 27 percent of commitments in the 2012–15 Civil Society Development Strategy (CSDS) were achieved
- Strategy 2015-2018 focus on three-main objectives: strengthening the basis for civil society participation in the development and monitoring of public policy; Promotion and strengthening of financial sustainability of civil society; Development of active citizenship and volunteerism.

COOPERATION BETWEEN PARLIAMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY

- "Concept of Cooperation between Parliament and Civil Society" (December 2005)
- This document provides: participation in meetings of working groups, expert councils, consultations and public hearings.
- Annually, representatives of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and representatives of the NGO sector meet in the framework of the **Forum**, which serves as a kind of platform for discussions and exchange of views.

COOPERATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY

- On the initiative of the Government of the Republic of Moldova, in 2010, the National Council for Participation was created.
- Is it advisory body, without the status of a legal entity, as an expression of will to recognize the importance of competencies and to ensure the participation of civil society and the private sector in the process of developing, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and reviewing policies.

www.particip.gov.md

MD NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. WILL IMPLEMENT THE COMMITMENTS OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA - 2030.







































LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR VOLUNTEERING IN MOLDOVA:

- Law on Volunteering. 121 of 06/18/2010;
- Government Decision no. 158 on the implementation of the Voluntary Act. 121, June 18, 2010;
- Order No. 525 of 15.07.2014 on the approval of the Regulations on the organization and functioning of the Certification Commission.

MD POLICIES TO ENCOURAGE VOLUNTEERISM

- Improvement of legislative proposals for the social protection of volunteers;
- Involvement of higher education institutions in the process of motivating the participation of young people in volunteer activities, contributing to the development of professional skills;
- Development and promotion of a code of best practices in the field of volunteering, containing useful information and ideas;
- Holding an annual National Volunteer Week to encourage volunteerism and expand the number of volunteers;
- Holding an annual Festival of Volunteers to recognize their achievements;
- Holding an annual National Conference on Volunteering, which exchanges experience at the international and national level, discusses policies and reviews the implementation of the strategy, law, regulations, etc.

CONDITIONS OF THE CONTRACTING OF VOLUNTEERING

- The attracting organization is obliged to conclude a volunteer agreement with the volunteer if he is engaged in volunteer activity for more than 20 hours per month.
- A volunteer agreement can be sign with persons who have reached the age of 16 years.
- Volunteer certificates should be issued for each volunteer who carries out volunteer activity on the basis of a volunteer agreement within 5 working days from the date of signing the contract.

TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF VOLUNTEERS, THE LAW PROVIDES GUARANTEES AND BENEFITS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND LABOR LEGAL RELATIONS.

- Recognition of volunteerism as experience and work experience
- Volunteering can be recognized for students of higher educational institutions as a practical internship



COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS

- The Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family published on May 5, 2017 the order to introduce changes in the Classifier of occupations and positions resulting the creation of a new type of job "coordinator of volunteers" (in the group 2423 "Human Resources and Personnel Specialists")
- The Institute of Pedagogical Sciences of Moldova trains teachers specializing in the management of volunteers.

IN OCTOBER 2016, THE MD NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK WAS ORGANIZED

- 680 events were organized
- 560 organizations participated.
- 351 authorities and public institutions took part,
- 8 central authorities,
- 81 local authorities,
- 59 educational institutions (orphanages, colleges, kindergardens, gymnasiums, lyceums, primary schools, universities, etc.)
- 110 other state structures (shelters, libraries, cultural centers, centers, inspections, museums, etc.).
- 31 commercial organizations
- 17 media organizations.
- 1462 partnership relations were signed



DECEMBER 5 - INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OR INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY.





- Civil Society Organization Sustainability Index <u>https://www.usaid.gov/europe-eurasia-civil-society</u>
- Nations in Transit 2017
 <u>https://freedomhouse.org/report/nations-transit/2017/moldova</u>
- http://voluntar.md/
- https://www.facebook.com/tdv.coalitiavoluntariat/
- http://voluntar.md/2017/05/instituirea-ocupatiei-de-coordonator-de-voluntari-in-republica-moldova/
- http://lex.justice.md/viewdoc.php?action=view&view=doc&id=353018&lang=2

RESEARCHES:

- The Sustainability Index of NGOs "(USAID 2015),
- Non-governmental organizations of Moldova "(Contact 2015), Development Research
- Non-governmental organizations of Moldova (UNDP, 2015)
- Transparency in decision-making (ADEPT, 2012)
- Financial Strengthening of Civil Society through the Implementation of the Mechanism of sending one part of taxes to non-profit organizations of public benefit (CREDO, 2011),
- Infrastructure of corporate volunteering in the Republic of Moldova: potential and route (TDV, 2012)
- NGO regulation in Transnistria (IILCS, 2016)



Thank you for attention!

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