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# **ECONOMIC SECURITY – A PILLAR OF THE NATIONAL RESILIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**



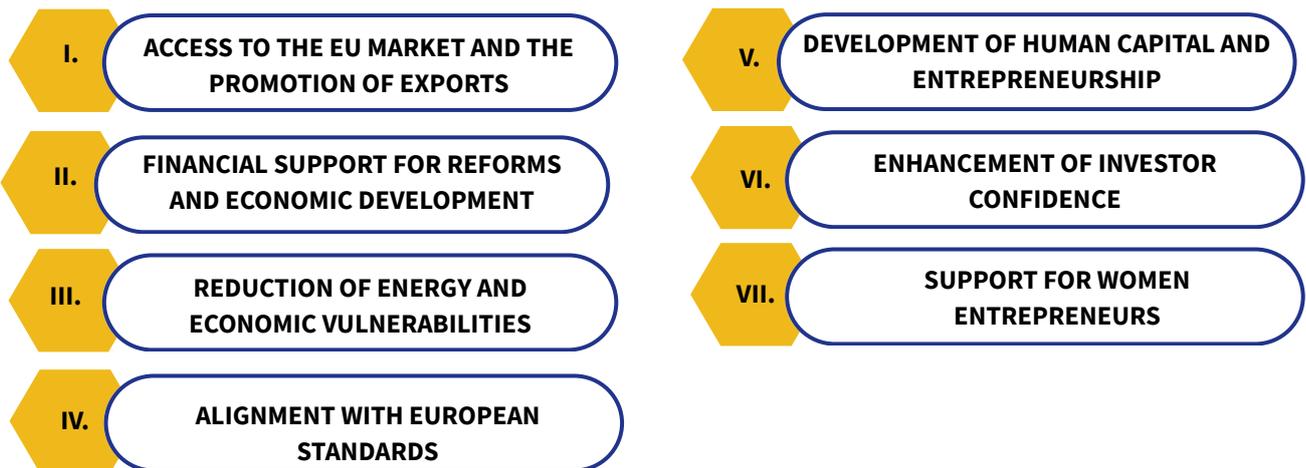
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**ECONOMIC SECURITY – A  
PILLAR OF THE NATIONAL  
RESILIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
MOLDOVA**



*In a regional context profoundly shaped by instability, war, and hybrid threats, the national security of the Republic of Moldova can no longer be viewed exclusively through a military or institutional lens. Economic security, the state's capacity to ensure a decent standard of living, protect the economy from external shocks, and create sustainable prospects for citizens, emerges as a cornerstone of national resilience. Access to secure markets, the diversification of trade partnerships, support for entrepreneurship, and investments in human capital are vital elements for building a society capable of withstanding external pressures, whether economic, informational, or geopolitical in nature.*

Cooperation with the European Union plays a key role in strengthening the economic security of the Republic of Moldova. Through access to funding, support for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), gradual integration into the European single market, and assistance for strategic transitions (energy, digital, and social), the EU provides more than financial assistance: it offers a framework for long-term stability and development. By fostering local economic development and ensuring equitable access to European opportunities, the Republic of Moldova not only strengthens its economy but also lays the foundations for a sustainable, democratic, and resilient national security. The Republic of Moldova benefits from a wide range of European funds and programmes designed to support development, economic security, and entrepreneurship. These instruments directly contribute to strengthening national resilience through financial support, reforms, and strategic investments in the following **key areas**:



## I. ACCESS TO THE EU MARKET AND THE PROMOTION OF EXPORTS

**The EU market – the main trading partner:** The European Union is the most important market for the Republic of Moldova, accounting for more than half of the country's total trade. In 2023, approximately 53.7% of Moldova's total trade was conducted with the EU (around 65% of exports and nearly 48% of imports) [1]. The EU's share has increased steadily, while trade with other traditional markets (e.g., Russia) has declined to minimal levels (only about 2.5% of total trade), thereby reducing risky dependencies.

**Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA):** Since 2014, the Republic of Moldova has benefited from preferential access to the European market through the DCFTA, which is part of the Association Agreement. This agreement eliminates most customs duties on Moldovan goods, simplifies customs procedures, and provides broad reciprocal access to the services market [2]. As a result, Moldovan products enter the EU market free of duties and quotas in almost all categories, thereby stimulating local exports.

[1] EU trade relations with Moldova. Facts, figures and latest developments. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova\\_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries)



Approximately 65.5% of Moldova’s exports were destined for the EU market in 2024, including wines, agricultural products, and industrial goods.

**Temporary full trade liberalization:** In the context of the war in Ukraine, the EU demonstrated solidarity with the Republic of Moldova by adopting temporary measures for the full liberalization of imports from Moldova. Initially introduced in July 2022 and extended until 24 July 2025, these measures eliminate all remaining duties and quotas on Moldovan agricultural products previously subject to restrictions [3].



This increased openness has enabled Moldovan producers of fruit, vegetables, wine, and other goods to export freely to the EU, offsetting the loss of certain eastern markets and stimulating export growth.

## II. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR REFORMS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The European Union is the largest provider of financial assistance to the Republic of Moldova. Since 2021, EU support has increased significantly to help the country navigate periods of crisis and accelerate reforms. Between October 2021 and early 2023, the EU mobilized more than EUR 1.09 billion in grants and loans for Moldova. This package focused on macroeconomic stabilization, the management of the refugee crisis, and energy resilience, and was reaffirmed at the EU–Moldova Association Council in February 2023.

Macro- Financial Assistance (MFA):

Budget support and Development Projects

Economic Growth Plan 2024

Pentru a susține economia Moldovei în fața șocurilor recente, UE a oferit pachete semnificative de finanțare. În 2022 a fost aprobat un program MFA de 150 milioane EUR, iar în 2023 Consiliul UE a decis aproape dublarea acestuia, adăugând încă 145 milioane EUR. Astfel, totalul asistenței macro-financiare UE a ajuns la 295 milioane EUR (dintre care 220 milioane credite pe termen mediu și 75 milioane granturi).



The objective is to cover external financing needs and to support structural reforms (justice, financial governance, and the business environment), thereby complementing the IMF programme [4].

Macro- Financial Assistance (MFA)

Budget support and Development Projects:

Economic Growth Plan 2024

Through the Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), the EU has allocated substantial grant funding to the Republic of Moldova. Over the period 2021–2024, more than EUR 430 million in non-reimbursable grants were made available to support socio-economic development and alignment with EU standards, including EUR 240 million in direct budget support (for local communities, energy price compensation, and the protection of vulnerable groups), as well as funding for justice sector reform and the green transition [5].

[2] Economic relations, trade and investments. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova\\_en?s=223#:~:text=The%20DCFTA%20allows%20for%3A](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova_en?s=223#:~:text=The%20DCFTA%20allows%20for%3A)

[3] EU trade relations with Moldova. Facts, figures and latest developments. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova\\_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries)



Macro- Financial Assistance (MFA)

Budget support and Development Projects

Economic Growth Plan 2024:

Recognizing the European aspirations of the Republic of Moldova, the EU adopted in October 2024 an Economic Growth Plan for the Republic of Moldova amounting to EUR 1.8 billion. This represents the largest financial support package ever provided by the EU to Moldova. The funds, available for the period 2025–2027 through a dedicated reform and investment mechanism, will finance major projects, including road and rail infrastructure (e.g. the Chişinău ring road and the Iaşi–Chişinău–Odesa motorway), energy security (the construction of new power lines to ensure full connection to the European electricity grid), the modernization of regional hospitals (Cahul, Bălţi), the expansion of broadband internet, and Moldova’s integration into the European roaming and payments area (SEPA). At the same time, the plan provides for support to more than 25,000 Moldovan enterprises through access to financing and advisory services, thereby boosting economic competitiveness [6].

### III. REDUCING ENERGY AND ECONOMIC VULNERABILITIES

In order to reduce strategic vulnerabilities, the Republic of Moldova must continue to pursue essential measures such as diversifying energy sources, synchronizing its networks with European systems, and strengthening critical infrastructure. These directions not only enhance energy and economic security but also contribute to sustainable integration into the European space, representing a vital step in addressing hybrid threats and external pressures.

#### Diversification of energy sources:

To reduce critical dependence on a single external supplier, the Republic of Moldova, with European support, has connected its energy infrastructure to EU networks. A strategic EU-funded project was the Iaşi–Ungheni–Chişinău gas pipeline, completed in 2021 (works on Moldovan territory finalized in 2020, and the extension in Romania completed in October 2021) [7]. The approximately 120 km pipeline connects Moldova to the EU gas market, enabling imports from multiple sources (the Caspian region, the North Sea, etc.) and providing a capacity of around 1.5 billion m<sup>3</sup> per year. The 2024 expansion of the pipeline’s capacity and functionality (to approximately 1.85 billion m<sup>3</sup> per year), already operational since 2022, remains vital. It ensures gas supplies from Romania and access to EU markets such as those of the North Sea and the Caspian region, an essential resilience factor in the face of Russian energy blackmail.



**This gas pipeline strengthens the country’s energy security and contributes to a more competitive and transparent energy market. Moreover, the interconnection of gas networks with Romania provides Chişinău with a vital alternative to Russian gas, significantly reducing vulnerability to energy coercion.**

[4] Moldova. <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/moldova/>

[5] Moldova este țară candidată la UE din 2022. <https://eu4moldova.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Pachetul-de-extindere-2024.-UE-%E2%80%93-Moldova-Factsheet.pdf>

[6] Comisia adoptă un pachet de sprijin în valoare de 1,8 miliarde EUR pentru a susține Planul de creștere economică pentru Republica Moldova pe calea acesteia către UE. [https://romania.representation.ec.europa.eu/news/comisia-adopta-un-pachet-de-sprijin-valoare-de-18-miliarde-eur-pentru-sustine-planul-de-crestere-2024-10-10\\_ro#:~:text=Ast%C4%83zi%2C%2010%20octombrie%2C%20Comisia%20European%C4%83,2027](https://romania.representation.ec.europa.eu/news/comisia-adopta-un-pachet-de-sprijin-valoare-de-18-miliarde-eur-pentru-sustine-planul-de-crestere-2024-10-10_ro#:~:text=Ast%C4%83zi%2C%2010%20octombrie%2C%20Comisia%20European%C4%83,2027)



### Synchronization of the electricity grid with Europe:

A historic milestone was achieved on 16 March 2022, when Moldova's electricity system was urgently synchronized with the Continental European Network (ENTSO-E). This technical connection was accelerated with EU support in response to the regional crisis and stabilized Moldova's electricity supply amid disruptions caused by the war in Ukraine. Synchronization not only ensured uninterrupted electricity supply across the country, but also marked Moldova's sustainable integration into the European energy market [8]. The EU and financial institutions (EIB, EBRD) are investing in new power lines, including the 400 kV Bălți–Suceava line, scheduled for completion by 2025, further enhancing integration into the European market.

### Financial support during the energy crisis:

In response to the sharp rise in energy prices in autumn 2021 and the impact of the war, the EU provided prompt assistance. At the end of 2021, the EU granted EUR 15 million in emergency support for vulnerable households and the energy transition, and in November 2022, announced an additional EUR 250 million package for Moldova's energy security. Of this amount, EUR 200 million (including EUR 100 million in grants) was allocated for the purchase of natural gas for the winter of 2022–2023, enabling the country to diversify supply sources and avoid shortages. A further EUR 50 million in grants was allocated to the state budget to mitigate the economic effects of the war in Ukraine, bringing total EU budgetary assistance to EUR 185 million for the period from December 2021 to the end of 2022.



**These funds enabled the Government to subsidize energy bills for the most affected citizens, protect schools, hospitals, and businesses from price shocks, and maintain economic stability during challenging times [9].**



**In February 2025, the EU extended its strategic support with an EUR 250 million two-year package for energy independence, of which EUR 100 million was allocated by April and EUR 60 million was designated for the Transnistrian region. The package covers increased household energy costs (up to 110 kWh/month until the end of 2025), emergency funds for enterprises, social institutions, and energy efficiency measures (including EUR 50 million for local authorities and SMEs) [10].**

[7] Un gazoduct va conecta Republica Moldova cu România. [https://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/ro/newsroom/news/2020/07/17-07-2020-gas-pipeline-to-connect-moldova-with-romania#:~:text=Potrivit%20guvernului%20Republicii%20Moldova%2C%20proiectul,economice%20dintre%20cele%20dou%C4%83%20%C8%9B%C4%83ri](https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/ro/newsroom/news/2020/07/17-07-2020-gas-pipeline-to-connect-moldova-with-romania#:~:text=Potrivit%20guvernului%20Republicii%20Moldova%2C%20proiectul,economice%20dintre%20cele%20dou%C4%83%20%C8%9B%C4%83ri)

[8] Commission welcomes report of electricity transmission system operators confirming EU preparedness for summer. [https://energy.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-welcomes-report-electricity-transmission-system-operators-confirming-eu-preparedness-2025-05-28\\_en?utm](https://energy.ec.europa.eu/news/commission-welcomes-report-electricity-transmission-system-operators-confirming-eu-preparedness-2025-05-28_en?utm)

[9] The European Union and the Republic of Moldova. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova\\_en?s=223#:~:text=In%20November%202022%2C%20the%20EU,groups%20and%20its%20energy%20transition](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova_en?s=223#:~:text=In%20November%202022%2C%20the%20EU,groups%20and%20its%20energy%20transition)



### Enhanced economic resilience

Through these EU-supported measures and reforms, Moldova has become less vulnerable to external crises. For example, although the energy price increases of 2022 impacted the whole of Europe, EU assistance mitigated their impact on the Moldovan population, preventing a major social crisis. Additionally, the redirection of trade towards the EU and access to new markets have reduced the economy's exposure to embargoes or regional disruptions, thereby strengthening long-term resilience.

## IV. ALIGNMENT WITH EUROPEAN STANDARDS

**Reforms guided by the Association Agreement:** Since 2014, the EU–Moldova relationship has been based on the Association Agreement, which includes the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA), catalyzing domestic reforms. Moldova has committed to gradually adopting a significant portion of the EU acquis, that is, European laws, standards, and practices, across multiple sectors, including food safety, industrial standards, financial services, and consumer protection. This legislative alignment with EU standards aims to improve governance and the rule of law, as well as to create economic opportunities by expanding the market for Moldovan products and services. Specifically, harmonizing Moldovan regulations with European norms has led to higher quality local products and their compatibility with EU requirements [11].

**Benefits for exporters and consumers:** The adoption of European quality standards (for example, in the agricultural, food, sanitary-veterinary, or technical sectors) has widely opened the doors for Moldovan exports. Food and wine producers have implemented phytosanitary norms aligned with EU standards, enabling them to access the European market without sanitary barriers. Moldovan consumers also benefit from this alignment - safer products, more strictly regulated financial services, and fair competition. As Moldova continues to harmonize its legislation with the EU acquis (including in areas such as energy, environment, and digitalization), the business environment becomes more predictable and closer to the EU framework, increasing the confidence of external partners.

**Candidate country status – a catalyst for reforms:** In June 2022, the Republic of Moldova officially obtained candidate status for EU accession. This historic step was accompanied by a roadmap of nine essential reforms recommended by the European Commission—from strengthening the judiciary and combating corruption to reforming public administration and eliminating oligarchic influence [12]. Approaching European democratic standards not only reinforces state institutions but also generates positive economic effects: a stricter rule of law and greater transparency contribute to a more attractive business environment. The EU monitors progress through periodic reports and provides expertise and funding to align Moldova's legislation with the EU acquis across all 33-negotiation chapters, thereby preparing the ground for full integration into the single market.

[9] The European Union and the Republic of Moldova. [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova\\_en?s=223#:~:text=In%20November%202022%2C%20the%20EU,groups%20and%20its%20energy%20transition](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/moldova/european-union-and-republic-moldova_en?s=223#:~:text=In%20November%202022%2C%20the%20EU,groups%20and%20its%20energy%20transition)

[10] European Commission and Moldova agree on a 2-year Comprehensive Strategy for Energy Independence and Resilience and immediate support with the energy bills. [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-and-moldova-agree-2-year-comprehensive-strategy-energy-independence-and-2025-02-04\\_en?utm\\_source](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/news/european-commission-and-moldova-agree-2-year-comprehensive-strategy-energy-independence-and-2025-02-04_en?utm_source)

[11] EU trade relations with Moldova. Facts, figures and latest developments. [https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova\\_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries](https://policy.trade.ec.europa.eu/eu-trade-relationships-country-and-region/countries-and-regions/moldova_en#:~:text=,the%20chemical%20or%20related%20industries)



## V. DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN CAPITAL AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

### People connected to Europe – scholarships and mobility programs:

Investment in human capital is a central component of EU support. Through educational programmes such as Erasmus+, thousands of young Moldovans gain access to studies abroad and opportunities for experience exchange. Additionally, the EU supports the modernization of education in Moldova through projects in vocational training, higher education (alignment of curricula with EU standards), and research and innovation [13]. An increasing number of students and academic staff benefit from international mobility, contributing to the internationalization of Moldovan education. These opportunities enhance not only employment prospects but also civic engagement and critical thinking among the new generation. European programmes open doors to academic and professional networks, creating durable bridges between Moldova and the European space. In the long term, these investments contribute to a more educated, innovative society integrated with European values.

### Human mobility and interpersonal connections:

The visa liberalization of 2014 facilitated visa-free travel to the EU for Moldovan citizens, boosting tourism, business, and people-to-people contacts. This openness enhances language skills and professional prospects for Moldovans who travel or work seasonally in the EU, indirectly contributing to human capital development upon their return. Furthermore, initiatives such as the European Solidarity Corps and exchange programmes for young entrepreneurs provide youth with opportunities to gain international experience. Even in the cultural sphere, EU-funded projects (e.g., Creative Europe) have involved Moldovan artists and organizations, broadening their horizons. All these measures strengthen interpersonal and intercultural ties with Europe, cementing the country's pro-European trajectory.

### Entrepreneurship and SMEs:

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) form the backbone of the Moldovan economy (approximately 98% of all companies). The EU directly supports SME development through initiatives such as EU4Business and other dedicated programmes. In 2023 alone, under the EU4Business framework, 37 projects were implemented in Moldova with a total budget exceeding EUR 157 million, providing support to 2,870 local SMEs. This assistance, through grants, advisory services, and favourable loans via partner banks, has had a major impact: over 10,000 new jobs created in beneficiary enterprises and an average 17% increase in revenue for these SMEs. Funded projects include business incubators, credit lines for farmers and startups, export consultancy, and business digitalization. The EU also provided approximately EUR 13 million in emergency funding in 2022 to help SMEs affected by the war and the energy crisis resume operations. Additionally, the European Investment Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, with EU-backed guarantees and grants, finance the expansion of lending to Moldovan firms, including in energy efficiency and the green economy. Collectively, these efforts contribute to the development of a competent and resilient entrepreneurial class capable of generating long-term value and employment [14].

[12] Available: [https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=99875&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=99875&lang=ro)

[13] Explainer: CUM UNIUNEA EUROPEANĂ ÎȘI CONSOLIDEAZĂ SECURITATEA INVESTIND ÎN PROGRAMELE DE FORMARE ȘI BURSELE ÎN DOMENIUL TEHNOLOGIEI, SĂNĂTĂȚII ȘI AL AFACERILOR?

[14] Raportul de țară EU4Business 2024: Moldova. <https://eu4business.md/reports/eu4business-country-report-2024-moldova/>



## VI. INCREASING INVESTOR CONFIDENCE

**Business environment under improvement:** Thanks to European support in modernizing legislation and institutions, the business environment in the Republic of Moldova has gradually become more attractive to investors. Moldova has made progress in global indices, for example, the 2024 Index of Economic Freedom notes improvements in government integrity and investment freedom [15]. Although there is still a long way to go, the authorities' pro-European commitment and the country's EU candidate status have increased confidence that the reform trajectory is irreversible, thereby encouraging medium-term investment plans.

**EU countries have become the main investors in Moldova's economy,** reflecting their confidence in the country's prospects. By the end of 2024, investors from the European Union accounted for approximately 85.7% of the total stock of foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Republic of Moldova. Countries such as Romania, the Netherlands, Cyprus, France, Bulgaria, and Austria are among the major sources of foreign capital. These investments are concentrated in the banking and insurance sector (around 34% of FDI), trade (24%), and industry (20%), key areas for development. The predominance of European capital reflects both geographical and cultural proximity, as well as the trust EU investors place in Moldova's European trajectory. As the legal framework aligns with EU standards, perceived risks decrease, and European companies feel more confident in opening subsidiaries, acquiring local companies, or launching Greenfield projects [16].

**Prospects:** With the opening of EU accession negotiations (December 2023), further investment opportunities are emerging. Gradual integration into the EU Single Market (under the Growth Plan, Moldova can gain extended access in areas such as the free movement of goods, digital market integration, and energy sector alignment once standards are met) will make the country a safer and more profitable destination for investors. Additional EU funds for infrastructure and development will reduce logistical costs and create new business opportunities (e.g., improved transport links with the EU, more affordable renewable energy, and a more skilled workforce). Collectively, these factors increase the confidence of existing investors and attract new investments, contributing to the sustainable development of the Republic of Moldova.

## VII. WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

Women entrepreneurs in the Republic of Moldova receive substantial support from the European Union through dedicated programmes that address systemic barriers such as limited access to finance, restricted professional networks, and family responsibilities. Initiatives such as Women in Business (EBRD) provide tailored loans, advisory services, and mentoring, helping businesses expand and integrate into the European market. In parallel, the Government, with EU support, has launched national grant and training initiatives specifically targeting women entrepreneurs, particularly in rural areas. The results are evident: thousands of women-led businesses supported, new jobs

[15] Economy of Moldova. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy\\_of\\_Moldova#:~:text=globally%20with%20the%20overall%20score,33](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Economy_of_Moldova#:~:text=globally%20with%20the%20overall%20score,33)

[16] Proiectele de tip greenfield sunt investiții realizate de la zero, pe un teren neamenajat anterior, implicând construcția completă a infrastructurii și operațiunilor.



created, and success stories demonstrating the significant potential of women to contribute to economic development. Through support networks, mentoring tools, and accessible financing, the EU is turning female entrepreneurship into an active driver of economic resilience and social inclusion in Moldova.

**OVERVIEW OF EUROPEAN FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

<b>Programme</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Relevance for the Republic of Moldova</b>
<b>NDICI – „Global Europe”</b> [17]	Neighbourhood, Development, and International Cooperation Instrument The EU’s main financial instrument for supporting countries in the Eastern Neighbourhood.	It finances socio-economic development projects, reforms, and strategic investments in the Republic of Moldova.
<b>IPA – Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance</b> [18]	Supports candidate countries in strengthening institutions, the economy, and alignment with the EU acquis.	Moldova can draw lessons from IPA models applied in neighbouring candidate countries (e.g., Ukraine and the Western Balkans).
<b>EU4Business</b>	A programme dedicated to Eastern Partnership countries, aimed at SME development and the stimulation of economic growth.	It provides direct support to Moldovan SMEs by improving access to finance, training, and external markets.
<b>Horizon Europe</b> [19]	The EU’s research and innovation programme, with a budget of EUR 95.5 billion for 2021–2027	Moldova participates in research, innovation, and international academic cooperation projects.
<b>Single Market Programme</b> [20]	The successor to COSME, supporting SME competitiveness and integration into the Single Market.	Moldova has signed participation agreements, enabling SMEs to access European business networks and dedicated funding opportunities.
<b>EU sectoral programmes</b> [21]	Including Erasmus+, EU4Health, LIFE, Digital Europe, Fiscalis, Customs, the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM), EaSI, among others	Moldova actively participates in key sectors such as education (Erasmus+), health (EU4Health), digitalization, and environmental protection.

[17] Moldova. [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova\\_en#:~:text=Thematic%20programmes](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova_en#:~:text=Thematic%20programmes)

[18] EU is empowering SMEs — read their success stories. <https://eu4business.md/en/success-stories/#:~:text=EU4Business%20is%20an%20EU%20initiative,potential%20and%20boost%20economic%20growth>

[19] Moldova. Policy background. [https://www.google.com/search?q=Moldova+-+Consilium&rlz=1C1JJTC\\_enMD1128MD1128&oq=Moldova+-+Consilium&gs\\_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIGCAEQRRg80gEJMTI5M2owajE1qAIMsAIB8QWpKkpdg0EbqA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8](https://www.google.com/search?q=Moldova+-+Consilium&rlz=1C1JJTC_enMD1128MD1128&oq=Moldova+-+Consilium&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTIGCAEQRRg80gEJMTI5M2owajE1qAIMsAIB8QWpKkpdg0EbqA&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

[20] Moldova. Membership status: candidate country. [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova\\_en#:~:text=%E2%80%A2C2%A0Supporting%20Moldova%27s%C2%A0reforms%C2%A0through%20strengthening%20administrative%20capacity%2C,EaSI](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova_en#:~:text=%E2%80%A2C2%A0Supporting%20Moldova%27s%C2%A0reforms%C2%A0through%20strengthening%20administrative%20capacity%2C,EaSI)

[21] Ibidem



The EU remains the main external funder of the Republic of Moldova, providing grants, macro-financial assistance, and guarantees for loans from international financial institutions. Since 2021, the EU has made available over EUR 2.2 billion to Moldova in the form of grants and preferential loans through various support instruments [22]. This unprecedented financial commitment highlights the EU's focus on Moldova's economic security and sustainable development.

*The European Union's contribution to the economic security of the Republic of Moldova is vast and multidimensional. From privileged access to a market of over 450 million consumers, to massive financial injections for stabilization and reforms, and to concrete projects reducing dependencies and vulnerabilities, the EU acts as a reliable partner in the country's development. Moldova's adoption of European standards and values improves citizens' daily lives through safer products, better services, enhanced educational opportunities, and well-paid jobs at home. At the same time, closer ties with the EU have brought Moldova international respect and credibility, boosting investor confidence and financial market trust in the country's economic prospects.*

#### Useful links and information resources:

- Delegation of the EU to Moldova: [https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova\\_ro](https://www.eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova_ro)
- EU4Business: <https://www.eu4business.eu>
- Funding & Tenders Portal: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders>
- EU4Cahul: <https://eu4cahul.md>
- EBRD Moldova: <https://www.ebrd.com/moldova>
- EuroQuests.md: <https://euroquests.md>
- SheLeads Cahul: <https://eu4cahul.md/she-leads>
- Startup Moldova: <https://www.startupmoldova.digital>
- ODIMM: <https://www.odimm.md>
- Enterprise Europe Network Moldova: <https://een.md/en/>

[22] Moldova. Membership status: candidate country. [https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova\\_en#:~:text=%E2%80%A2%C2%A0Supporting%20Moldova%27s%C2%A0reforms%C2%A0through%20strengthening%20administrative%20capacity%2C,EaSI](https://enlargement.ec.europa.eu/european-neighbourhood-policy/countries-region/moldova_en#:~:text=%E2%80%A2%C2%A0Supporting%20Moldova%27s%C2%A0reforms%C2%A0through%20strengthening%20administrative%20capacity%2C,EaSI)



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