Moldova Diaspora Declaration for free and fair Parliamentary Elections on September 28, 2025

Why this matters

'On 28th of September 2025, Moldova will hold the most consequential election in its history. Its outcome will decide whether we consolidate as a stable democracy on the path to EU membership, a safe neighbor to Ukraine and a security provider to the Union, or whether Russia destabilizes us, pulls us away from Europe, and turns us into a threat on Ukraine's southwestern border and Europe's eastern frontier.' (Maia Sandu, President of the Republic of Moldova, in her speech to the European Parliament, September 9, 2025)

In line with the above, we, members of the Moldova diaspora and allied communities worldwide, reaffirm our unwavering commitment to democratic values, integrity, responsible partnership, and good governance in the Republic of Moldova and across Europe.

Our shared understanding

- We recognize that hybrid threats posed by the Russian Federation, including coordinated online
 influence operations, disinformation, and covert foreign financing, aim to erode trust, polarize
 societies, and compromise the Parliamentary Elections of September 28, 2025 and the country's
 future and its European path.
- We note with deep alarm the September 16 report from the National Anticorruption Center, which revealed that over 20 million lei (about 1.04 million euros) were seized in Chisinau in one day, in a criminal case of suspected illegal political party financing, allegedly funneled through a well-coordinated mechanism in the critical weeks before these elections.
- We acknowledge credible public reporting such as that of Ziarul de Gardă, and other investigations
 documenting tactics such as false identities, coordinated messaging via closed channels, algorithm
 manipulation, monetized propaganda, and targeted fear-based narratives.
- We affirm that safeguarding Moldova's democracy in these elections is inseparable from the security and stability of the broader European community.

Our commitments

As a global Moldova diaspora, we commit to:

- 1. Standards & Ethics: Promote fact-based discourse, reject hate, and to advocate for models of responsible civic engagement online and offline.
- 2. Civic vigilance: Monitor, document, and report suspected coordinated inauthentic behavior (CIB) and foreign interference, using lawful and privacy-respecting methods.
- 3. Partnerships: Cooperate with civil society, media, researchers, platform integrity teams, and election observers to strengthen resilience.
- 4. Public education: Support media literacy and pre-bunking/de-bunking initiatives for Moldovan communities at home and abroad.
- 5. Transparency: advocate for disclosure of online campaign spending, and clear provenance of digital content.

Our Calls to Action

We respectfully call on EU institutions and the governments of the 27 EU Member States to:

- 1. **Back robust election observation** support an expanded international and national monitoring effort with a strong digital component, ensuring observers have the mandate and resources to address Moldova's specific information environment for the September 28 elections.
- 2. Coordinate with platforms engage Meta, TikTok, YouTube and others to apply elevated election-integrity protocols for Moldova (CIB takedowns, political ads transparency, friction on coordinated hashtag floods, cross-platform intel sharing).
- 3. **Provide technical assistance** offer rapid support to Moldovan institutions and civil society on threat intelligence, digital forensics, and incident response.
- 4. **Deter interference** signal zero tolerance for foreign meddling in Moldova's elections, including through EU statements, sanctions tools where appropriate, and public diplomacy.
- 5. **Invest in resilience** fund media literacy, independent journalism, fact-checking, and diaspora-led community training before, during, and after the elections.

We call on online platforms to:

- Strictly enforce rules against coordinated inauthentic behavior and covert state-linked operations;
- Clearly label content originating from state-affiliated media;
- Create fast-track channels for civil society and observers to flag harmful coordinated content.

Together, we will uphold democratic integrity, resist interference, and champion Moldova's European path.

Let us safeguard Moldova's democracy and ensure free and fair elections together!

We, the undersigned, endorse the *Moldova Diaspora Declaration for Free and Fair Parliamentary Elections on September 28, 2025.*

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