



# RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW (UPR) 2016

## EASY-READING VERSION\*

\*This information material does not include any information about the recommendations under examination by the Republic of Moldova, as well as the recommendations that have not been accepted. This information is dated 11 November 2016.

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# 1 What is the Universal Periodic Review?

- A unique mechanism to review progress on human rights in all **193** member states of the **United Nations Organization** (UN);



- Was established in **2006** by the **UN Human Rights Council** (HRC);



- All **UN** member states have the opportunity to present what they did at the national level to improve the situation regarding human rights and what they still have to do;



- The review takes place based on the national report prepared by the Government, information submitted by mechanisms, special procedures and **UN** agencies and alternative reports of the civil society and national human rights institutions;



- The State has the primary responsibility to implement the **UPR** recommendations. During the next **UPR** session, the state is obliged to report on the degree of implementation of these recommendations.



## 2 Universal Periodic Review for the Republic of Moldova.

- **First UPR** cycle took place in **2011**;

- Out of **123** recommendations submitted by the **HRC**, **122** were accepted;



- For this session, two alternative reports were submitted by the national human rights institutions, about **30** civil society organizations and **UN** agencies in the Republic of Moldova;



- The **second UPR** cycle took place on **4 November 2016** in Geneva;

- Preliminary **UPR** recommendations were made public on **8 November 2016**;

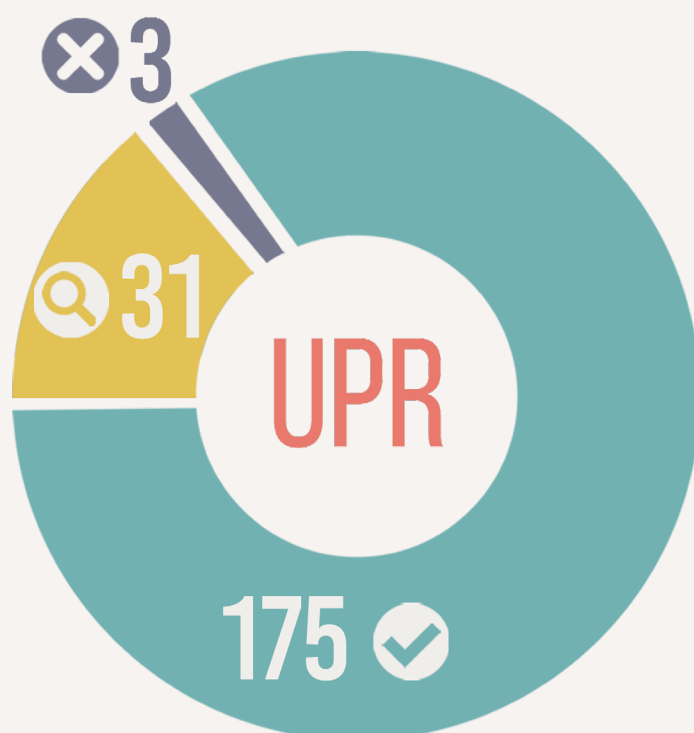
- The final report of the **2016 UPR** recommendations for the Republic of Moldova will be adopted by the **HRC** in **March 2017**.



# 3 General information about the 2016 Universal Periodic Review recommendations

209 UPR recommendations have been submitted to the Republic of Moldova by the UN Human Rights Council, out of which:

✓ 175 Have been accepted    ✕ 3 Not accepted    🔍 31 are under examination (until March 2017)



## Top UPR recommendations, as per the rights and areas agreed by the Republic of Moldova:

29 combating discrimination, including hate crimes and bias-motivated crimes



26 protection of women's rights



14 protection of minority rights



11 the fight against torture and ill-treatment



10 combating Trafficking in Human Beings



10 protection of the rights of people with disabilities



9 strengthening national institutions for human rights protection



9 protection of the child rights



# 4 Recommendations accepted by the Republic of Moldova

For the next **4-5 years**, the Republic of Moldova has agreed to undertake the following steps to **improve the human rights situation** in the country:

1

To become a **member state** of international and regional conventions on **human rights** and to implement them effectively at national level. These relate to the following:



- Accepting individual complaints by the **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child**;

- Implementation of **the Rome Statute** which refers to the most serious crimes against humanity;

- Preventing and **combating violence against women** and domestic violence under the Council of Europe Convention;

- Effective collaboration with international human rights mechanisms;

2

To develop and effectively implement a **national strategy / plan of action** to protect human rights, by:



- Considering international recommendations;

- Allocation of sufficient financial resources;

- Creating a national coordination and monitoring mechanism.

3

To strengthen the **independence, autonomy** and **functionality** of National Human Rights Institutions:



- Improving the institutional framework of the **Ombudsman's Office** and the **Equality Council**;

- Allocation of sufficient financial and material resources to implement the mandate.



4

To combat all forms of discrimination, both at the legislative and practical level, especially:



- Incitement to discrimination;

- Hate crimes and bias-motivated crimes;

- Discrimination against Roma and other ethnic minorities;

- Discrimination based on gender identity;

- Discrimination against women and girls and combating stereotypes;

- Discrimination in the education system;

- Discrimination based on religion and belief;

- Applying some privileged conditions to vulnerable groups.

5

To combat torture and ill-treatment by:



- Ensuring **effective functioning** of the National Mechanism for Prevention of Torture;

- **Improving the conditions** in places of detention and effective investigation of abuses;

- Fighting against impunity;

- **Training** of police, prosecutors and judges;

- **Improvement of access** to medical and psychosocial services to detainees, especially those from vulnerable groups.

6

To protect the rights of people with disabilities by:



- **Improving the regulatory and institutional framework** relating to mental health and psychiatric institutions according to the international standards;

- **Avoiding stigmatization**, especially in employment;

- **Adopting laws** that would guarantee autonomy in the process of social integration;

- **Providing opportunities** for educational inclusion and removing barriers of any kind;

- **Ensuring** independent living in the community;

- **Applying** positive measures for accessing public services and decent living conditions.

7

To protect the rights of national and ethnic minorities, by:



- **Adopting the strategy** for national minorities;

- Introducing **multilingual education** and ensuring harmony in the society;

- Guaranteeing the right to speak their **own language** and to practice their **own religion**;

- Adopting policies for **cultural identity development**;

- **Ensuring social inclusion** and participation of the Roma population in decision making;

- Implementing effectively the national plan for the Roma population.

8

To **combat** all forms of violence against women and domestic violence by:



- Promoting **women's rights** and **combating stereotypes**;

- **Elaborating a comprehensive strategy** on the prevention and combating domestic and gender-based violence;

- Promoting **public awareness** campaigns against domestic violence, especially in rural areas;

- Providing **specialized** and **effective support** to the victims of domestic violence, particularly in rural areas;

- **Train the specialists** in the field of justice, health care and social assistance;

- **Improving the provisions of the Criminal Code** related to gender-based violence;

- **Effective sanctioning of the offenders** in cases of domestic violence.



9

To ensure **gender equality** through:



- **Representativeness of women** in leadership positions in the Parliament and Government;

- **Advancing women's participation** in decision-making processes.

10

To protect **children's right** and to combat all forms of their abuse and exploitation by:



- Creating a **national mechanism to prevent and combat** all forms of exploitation, abuse and violence against children;

- Providing support to the victims of abuse;

- Eradicating forced labor for children.

11

To combat **human trafficking** by:



- Promoting the **national plan** to eradicate human trafficking, including trafficking with children, girls and women online;

- **Empowering state institutions** by allocating sufficient resources, cooperation with the civil society and consulting best practices;

- **Investigating effectively** the incidents and providing legal and social assistance to victims.

12

To strengthen the **justice sector** by:



- **Fighting corruption** and promoting transparency of the legal process;

- **Transparency** in the appointment and promotion of judges based on merits;

- Effective implementation of the **justice sector reform** strategy;

- **Ensuring impartiality** of the justice sector.

13

To ensure the **right to information and freedom of expression**, by:



- Creating a **favorable** working **environment** for journalists and media institutions;

- **Supporting** the work of civil **society**, especially those active in the field of human rights;

- Ensuring online and offline **freedom of expression**, as well as personal data;

- **Reducing** excessive **monopolization** of media outlets;

- **Ensuring** media **pluralism** and independence.

14

To ensure the **protection of human rights defenders** by:



- Securing the operating environment;

- Recognition of their work;

- **Prompt investigation** of attacks and acts of intimidation and effective rehabilitation of victims.

15

To promote the **human rights in the Transnistrian region** as part of the Republic of Moldova by:



- Offering **systemic assistance** to victims of human rights violations;

- Developing a **monitoring mechanism** involving the civil society on both sides of the river Nistru.

16

To reduce **poverty** in all its forms by:



- Ensuring stable **economic development**;

- Fighting against extreme poverty;

- **Providing** the population **with** quality **drinking water**;

- **Expanding the social programs** to provide people with quality health care and education services.

# 5

## What next?

- The state is responsible for **implementing the recommendations** at the national level, with the support and in collaboration with the development partners, civil society, national human rights institutions;



- **Implementation** of recommendations via various methods and tools, such as their **inclusion in national public policies, laws**, etc;

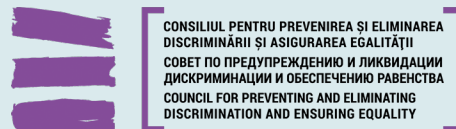


- Civil society and national human rights institutions contributes to the implementation of recommendations and their **monitoring** and **evaluation**;



- Until the next **UPR** cycle, which will take place in **4,5 years**, interim reports on progress achieved can be submitted to **HRC** for information.





Norwegian Ministry  
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