



EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

EUROPE DAY IN MOLDOVA

Europe Day celebration in Moldova was organized in the capital Chisinau on May 7th and in Balti city on May 14th, 2011.

The celebration of Europe Days in Moldova is meant to bring the European Union closer to the Moldovan citizens by celebrating its common value. Europe Day is also an opportunity to bring the European and Moldovan cultures closer by way of educational and entertaining activities in order to celebrate our common identity as Europeans in its full diversity.

As in previous years the "European Village" was the centre of Europe Days celebrations. It was set up in both cities: on the Great National Assembly Square in Chisinau and on the Vasile Alecsandri Square in Balti.

The "European Village" included such activities as tourist and business presentations, cultural activities, handout materials, quizzes, interactive activities carried out by the Embassies of the EU Member States and EU-funded projects in Moldova, European traditional food and drinks offered by the Embassies of the EU Member States. The Official Opening Ceremony in the presence of the EU and Moldovan officials was held by the Chisinau acting mayor, the Prime Minister of Moldova and the Managing Director for Russia, Eastern Neighborhood and the Western Balkans in the EU's External Action Service. Also, Language Schools worked in both cities and offer lessons of European languages, where citizens had the opportunity to pick up key words and phrases in German, French, Lithuanian, Czech, Polish and other languages.

The European Village hosted Public Debates, where Moldovans were able to ask questions and speak face to face with Ambassadors and high-rank Moldovan officials on political and economical issues. Also, for the first time in Moldova in the framework of the Europe Days celebration the EU Delegation to Moldova organised the European Film Festival, held in Chisinau during 10-13 May, where the Embassies of the EU Member States will present 11 European films.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT PROMOTES DEFINITE RETURN OF MOLDOVAN OVERSEAS GRADUATES

During the period of October 2010 – March 2011, the Moldovan overseas graduates had the possibility to apply for the Programme of return to the Republic of Moldova which aims at addressing brain drain by promoting the circulation of innovative ideas and skill transfer in the process of youth migration.

Since April 2011 more than ten Moldovan overseas graduates returned to their home country and have been successfully integrated in the national labour market within the EU-funded project "Supporting the implementation of the migration and development component of the EU-Moldova Mobility Partnership" implemented by the International Organization for Migration, Mission to Moldova. The pilot Programme will provide 30 Moldovan overseas graduates of up to 35 years old who wish to come back home with professional placement in the public or private sectors of the Republic of Moldova. During the first phase, more than 65 applications were submitted by Moldovan graduates abroad, out of which 13 have been successfully returned and provided with professional placements for the period of six month with an additional allowance of 200 Euro to the salary.

"I always kept in my heart and mind the desire to come back to Moldova", says Vadim, the beneficiary of the programme for young graduates. "I am proud to be among the first young graduates who come back to Moldova to build our future here, at home, together with family and friends".

More information at: www.iom.md

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INTERNATIONAL 'MINI-FOOTBALL' TOURNAMENT REINFORCES PARTNERSHIPS

Teams comprised of law-enforcement and border-management personnel from more than half a dozen countries took to the field on 14-15 May 2011 for a unique international football tournament in Odessa. This was the third edition of the two-day annual tournament, which was co-hosted by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine, and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.



The tournament endeavors to strengthen cooperation and mutual trust between the services working on the border and to facilitate working relationships with partner organisations in the European Union.

Udo Burkholder, the head of EUBAM, remarked of the tournament's growth in popularity since the inaugural event in 2009: "Last year's tournament has helped to strengthen the partnerships between the border agencies of Moldova, Ukraine and the EU, and I am glad that this year teams from other CIS countries are also joining us".

Teams representing the border guard and customs services of Moldova and Ukraine, border guard services of Russia, Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan, Council of Border Guard Forces Commanders of CIS, the Romanian border police, National Customs Agency of the Republic of Bulgaria, FRONTEX (the EU agency that coordinates operational cooperation between Member States of the EU in the field of border security), Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Center, Odessa universities, Odessa regional authorities, and EUBAM, participated in the tournament.

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THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA WILL PRODUCE ENERGY FROM DOMESTIC SOURCES

On 17th May 2011, Moldova Energy and Biomass Project funded by the European Union was launched by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in cooperation with the Government of Moldova.

More than 130 kindergartens, schools, medical centers, and other public institutions in rural communities, and over 500 private households will be heated with energy from locally produced biomass, especially waste straw. The project constitutes currently the most ambitious initiative in the area of renewable energy promotion in Moldova, aiming to increase energy security, set up functional markets for biomass technologies and fuel, and create new jobs and income at the local and regional level.



„Moldova is highly dependent on energetic resources imported from abroad and finding alternative energy sources is a priority for the country. As Moldova is a relatively agrarian country, biomass is the most suitable energy source. The Moldova Energy Strategy envisages that by 2020, 20% of produced energy will come from renewable source”, stated Ilarion Popa, Deputy Minister of Economy.

“Renewable energy plays a crucial role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other forms of pollution, diversifying and improving the security of energy supply and maintaining clean-energy technology industry. This European framework should help everyone move to a more sustainable energy supply”, said Dirk Schuebel, Head of EU Delegation to Moldova. The Moldova Energy and Biomass Project will support authorities to diversify the energy sources which will contribute to a more secure and sustainable energy supply system. Many public buildings and private households in rural areas will have increased heat comfort while saving money on energy consumption. Agricultural producers and biomass technology providers will benefit from new business opportunities.

The 4-year Energy and Biomass Project is expected to be implemented over the period 2011-2014, with a total budget of €14.56 million, provided by the European Union (14 million Euro) and co-funded by UNDP Moldova (560,000 Euro).

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JOINT ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE 'YOUTH AGAINST CORRUPTION' OPENS IN YALTA

On 18th May 2011 the international Spring School 'Youth against Corruption', an initiative organised jointly by the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM), the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (UASBGS) and the Centre for Combating Economic Crimes and Corruption of the Republic of Moldova (CCECC), began its activities in Yalta.

The week-long training programme is the third such school to be organised for Ukrainian and Moldovan students, following successful editions in Moldova last summer, and in Odessa in February. The 26 students were welcomed by the Head of EUBAM, Udo Burkholder, the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, Ambassador Lubomir Kopaj, and the Vice-Director of CCECC, George Russu, at the opening ceremony.



The spring school programme includes practical and theoretical sessions for the students on anti-corruption-related issues such as tools for corruption prevention, investigation, principals of good governance, ethics, as well as actual case studies from EU Member States, Ukraine and Moldova.

The 'Youth against Corruption' series is among several anti-corruption initiatives supported by EUBAM. At central and regional levels in Moldova and Ukraine, the Mission supports the border-management services in the design and implementation of their anti-corruption action plans and preventative mechanisms.

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TRANS-BORDER COOPERATION RESULTS IN HUGE CIGARETTE-SMUGGLING BUST

A total of 61.9 million pieces of cigarettes have been seized in Greece, following the conclusion of a successful anti-smuggling operation coordinated by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM), and SECI Center, with the support of agencies in Moldova, Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey.

In one of the largest seizures of illegal cigarettes ever made in Europe, the various brands of cigarettes were discovered in a warehouse in Megara, in the Attika region of Greece, by the Drugs and Arms Enforcement Department, Financial and Economic Crime Office (S.D.O.E.) within the Greek Ministry of Finance.

"EUBAM is very proud to have played a role in this huge seizure of cigarettes," said Udo Burkholder, Head of EUBAM.



The operation was initiated after the Security and Intelligence Service of the Republic of Moldova (SIS) passed on to EUBAM information relating to the transport of a consignment of cigarettes on a small vessel legally departing the port of Giurgiulesti in the Republic of Moldova.

EUBAM subsequently contacted the SECI Center Operational Support Department to deploy its EU Member States communications network.

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EUBAM EURO 2012 TRAINING EVENT GETS UNDERWAY IN KHMELNITSKY

On 20th May 2011, twenty-four senior law-enforcement personnel from Ukraine and Moldova underwent the first day of specialised English-language training organised by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) at the Ukrainian Customs Training Centre in Khmelnytsky.

'Common Border, Common Language: On the Threshold of Euro 2012' is a pivotal week-long 'train-the-trainers' event of EUBAM, which has extended the capacity-building assistance it routinely provides to the border guard, customs and law-enforcement agencies in Moldova and Ukraine to the provision of support within the framework of preparations for next year's Euro 2012 football championship.

The Khmelnytsky sessions targeted English-language communication skills for official meetings in areas such as 'law enforcement and Euro 2012', 'corruption and organised crime', 'Schengen Borders Code', 'smuggling', 'crowd management and emergencies', 'profiling' and 'security of travel documents'.

This week's training is the latest in a series of initiatives EUBAM has developed in anticipation of Euro 2012. Further training of English language instructors from Ukrainian border guard, customs, and law-enforcement agencies will be carried out by EUBAM this year.

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EUBAM 'MY EUROPE' DRAWINGS EXHIBITED IN ODESSA

Seventy-five drawings received by the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) for its 'My Europe' drawing competition went on 20th May 2011, on display at the Greek Cultural Centre in Odessa.

At the launching ceremony, Jean Van Acker of EUBAM said that the organisation had been overwhelmed by the response to the competition, which attracted 330 entries in total from Odessa school children aged from 8-16. Twelve winners from three age categories in the 'My Europe' contest were also announced, and as a reward for their endeavors each received an e-book.

The EU Mission has also developed partnerships with several universities in Odessa, and runs a summer camp and summer school at which European Union values and concepts are shared.

"These days, EUBAM is intensifying its activities with the youth of both Moldova and Ukraine. The youth, of course, represent the future. So it is important to pay attention to their hopes, their imagination, and their dreams. I'm sure you'll agree that the ideas contained in these drawings are thought-provoking and inspiring", said Van Acker.

The 75 exhibited drawings will remain in place at the Greek Cultural Centre for one month, during which time members of the public are welcome to come and view them.

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EUBAM AND PARTNER UNIVERSITIES SIGN JOINT COURSE MEMORANDUM

On 23rd May 2011, in the framework of annual Europe Day celebrations, the European Union Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) signed a Memorandum with five of its partner universities in Odessa, signaling the implementation of a Joint Study Course, 'Borders of Europe', to begin in September this year.

The course is a unique initiative for EUBAM and its five partner universities that will offer an overview of key European Union developments in the area of border management, with a special focus on topics such as the EU Customs and Schengen Acquis, the fight against organised crime, and corruption. The lectures will be delivered by EUBAM experts and professors from partner universities.



"This joint course," said Udo Burkholder, Head of EUBAM, "is an opportunity to share EU values and present the positive border-management assistance EUBAM provides on the ground in Ukraine and Moldova. It is also evidence of our deepening cooperation with academic institutions, which we are delighted to say, is now a very important part of our outreach activities".

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FIVE EU INFO CENTRES LAUNCHED IN MOLDOVA

On 23rd May 2011, five European Union Info Centres (EUIs) were been launched by the Delegation of the EU to Moldova in the main Moldovan cities: in Chisinau, Balti, Cahul and Comrat. The centers are hosted by the Academy of Economic Studies and the State University of Moldova (both – in Chisinau), Alecu Russo State University (in Balti), Bogdan Petriceicu Hasdeu State University (in Cahul), and Comrat State University (in Comrat).

The EUIs will provide members of the public with information and material covering a wide range of areas, including EU programmes and instruments for Moldova, EU legislation, business rules, culture etc.

The EUIs offer free access to their resources and are open to all, including young people, students, experts in various fields and businessmen. The EUI network in Moldova will receive free materials and literature from the Publication Office of the European Union, based in Luxembourg.



A total of six EUIs are now opened in Moldova, including the 5 recently launched EUIs and an EUI which was opened in 2007 and is hosted by the Medical and Pharmaceutical University of Moldova in Chisinau.

More information at: <http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova>, e-mail: svetlana.japalau@bdr.md



AN EIDHR PROJECT ON FREEDOM OF MEDIA AND FREEDOM OF PRESS IS LAUNCHED

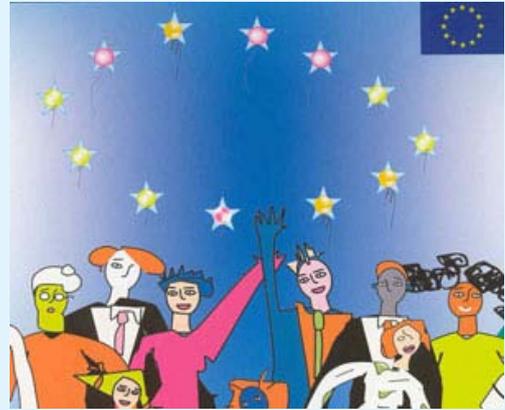
15-month programme, Freedom of New Ideas (FONI), aiming at the promotion of the freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and freedom of speech among the Moldovan younger generations, starts in Chisinau on 16 May 2011.

FONI is a project funded by the European Union under its European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and implemented by the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) with the cooperation of the Moldova State University (Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences), the Periodical Publication "Law" and the Department of Journalistic Studies, Institute of Languages and Literature of Taras Shevchenko State University, Transnistria State University (TSU).

From August to October 2011 a series of ten lectures will be delivered to Master's students by European experts. The students, after being trained on specific themes related to freedom of expression, freedom of the press and the legal obstacles that impede their implementation, will be informed about the importance and respect of the freedom of press.

Following lectures, a writing competition on a subject related to freedom of expression will take place. Three of the participants who will submit the most outstanding papers will be awarded an internship at a local NGO in Moldova. The lecture materials and selected papers will be published and distributed through project digests and information materials.

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EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

(June 2011)

1 – 30 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The Democracy Support Programme organizes the Media campaign in partnership with the Moldova Press Council for encouraging citizens to request from journalists balanced and high-quality information and to observe journalistic ethics.

Contact: office.democracy.moldova@coe.int

3RD JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The Support to Confidence Building Measures Project organizes the Policy Seminar N 2 – Product quality control systems.

**Contact person: Galina Selari, e-mail: selari@cisr-md.org,
Hubert Duhot, e-mail: Hubert.DUHOT@eeas.europa.eu**

6 – 7 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The Democracy Support Programme organizes the Thematic round tables on the rights of people with disabilities (in cooperation with Humanitas NGO).

Contact: office.democracy.moldova@coe.int

3RD JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The Democracy Support Programme organizes the Round table form the presentation of the research paper "Stimulation of critical thinking of journalists – ethical and editorial dilemmas"

Contact: office.democracy.moldova@coe.int



6 – 8 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

TAIEX Workshop on procedural guarantees in asylum procedure

Contact person: Christiane Kirschbaum, e-mail: christiane.kirschbaum@ec.europa.eu

6 – 10 JUNE 2011, DENMARK

In the framework of the Twinning Project "Support to implementation and enforcement of intellectual property rights in the Republic of Moldova" will be organized the Study Visit - Denmark - Customs Service.

Contact person: Victoria Muntean, e-mail: muntean.victoria@gmail.com

9 – 10 JUNE 2011, BARCELONA, SPAIN

TAIEX Multi-country workshop on regulation of number portability beyond EU borders

Contact person: Jean-Marie Gobeaux, e-mail: jean-marie.gobeaux@ec.europa.eu

14-15 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

A two-day seminar on the principles of the EU construction and with the role of NAPC in this framework.

Contact person: Alexandra Ghenea, e-mail: rtaast@yahoo.com

14 – 15 JUNE, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

SIGMA organizes a training seminar on Purchasing in the Health Sector.

Contact person: Marian Lemke, e-mail: Marian.LEMKE@oecd.org

16 – 17 JUNE 2011, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

Multi-country workshop on Institution Building Days 2011

Contact person: Lazar Todorov, e-mail: lazar.todorov@ec.europa.eu

16-21 JUNE, TULCEA, ROMANIA

A study visit for NAPC team

Contact person: Alexandra Ghenea, e-mail: rtaast@yahoo.com

20 – 21 JUNE 2011, CIMISLIA, MOLDOVA

Training of Trainers Organizing a communication campaign on waste management for NGOs from Southern Development Region.n in the framework of the Waste Governance Project

Contact person: Tatiana Tugui, e-mail: ttugui@eptisa.com

20 – 22 JUNE 2011, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

TAIEX study visit on adjustment of financial procedures after the association to 7th Framework Programme

Contact person: Lazar Todorov, e-mail: lazar.todorov@ec.europa.eu



24 – 30 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The Support to Confidence Building Measures Project organizes the Policy Seminar 4: Opportunities and challenges for sustainable development of small and middle businesses in Moldova and Transnistria.

Contact person:

Galina Selari, e-mail: selari@cisr-md.org, Hubert Duhot, e-mail: Hubert.DUHOT@eeas.europa.eu

27 JUNE 2011 CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

TAIEX Workshop on anti-discrimination

Contact person: Christiane Kirschbaum, e-mail: christiane.kirschbaum@ec.europa.eu

27 – 28 JUNE 2011, CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

TAIEX Multi country – Workshop on waste classification, inventory and national reporting.

Contact person: Jean-Marie Gobeaux, e-mail: jean-marie.gobeaux@ec.europa.eu

27 JUNE – 7 JULY 2011, FRANCE

In the framework of the Twinning Project "Support to the Public Procurement System in the Republic of Moldova" will be organized a study visit in France.

Contact person: Clara Calin, e-mail: calin.clara@gmail.com

DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

Two school presentations held by EUBAM Field Office Chisinau and EUBAM Liaison Office experts.

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