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TITLE II

POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND REFORM, COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY

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Article 3

Aims of political dialogue

1. Political dialogue on all areas of mutual interest, including foreign and security matters as well as domestic reform, shall be further developed and strengthened between the Parties. This will increase the effectiveness of political cooperation and promote convergence on foreign and security matters.
2. The aims of political dialogue shall be:
 - (a) to deepen political association and increase political and security policy convergence and effectiveness;
 - (b) to promote international stability and security based on effective multilateralism;
 - (c) to strengthen cooperation and dialogue between the Parties on international security and crisis management, notably in order to address global and regional challenges and key threats;
 - (d) to foster result-oriented and practical cooperation between the Parties for achieving peace, security and stability on the European continent;
 - (e) to strengthen respect for democratic principles, the rule of law and good governance, human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities, and to contribute to consolidating domestic political reforms;
 - (f) to develop dialogue and to deepen cooperation of the Parties in the field of security and defence; and
 - (g) to respect and promote the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and independence.

Article 4

Domestic reform

The Parties shall cooperate on developing, consolidating and increasing the stability and effectiveness of democratic institutions and the rule of law; on ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms; on making further progress on judicial and legal reform, so as to secure the independence of the judiciary, strengthen its administrative capacity and guarantee impartiality and effectiveness of law enforcement bodies; on further pursuing the public administration reform and on building an accountable, efficient, transparent and professional civil service; and on ensuring effectiveness in the fight against corruption, particularly in view of enhancing international cooperation on combating corruption, and ensuring effective

implementation of relevant international legal instruments, such as the United Nations Convention Against Corruption of 2003.

Article 5

Foreign and security policy

1. The Parties shall intensify their dialogue and cooperation and promote gradual convergence in the area of foreign and security policy, including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), and shall address in particular issues of conflict prevention and crisis management, regional stability, disarmament, non-proliferation, arms control and export control. Cooperation shall be based on common values and mutual interests, and shall aim at increasing policy convergence and effectiveness, making use of bilateral, international and regional fora.
2. The Parties reaffirm their commitment to the principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and independence, as established in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, and their commitment to promote these principles in their bilateral and multilateral relations.

Article 6

International Criminal Court

1. The Parties reaffirm that the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole must not go unpunished and that their effective prosecution must be ensured by taking measures at the national and international level, including the International Criminal Court (ICC).
2. The Parties consider that the establishment and effective functioning of the ICC constitutes an important development for international peace and justice. The Parties agree to support the ICC by implementing the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and its related instruments, giving due regard to preserving its integrity.

Article 7

Conflict prevention and crisis management

The Parties shall enhance practical cooperation in conflict prevention and crisis management, in particular with a view to the possible participation of the Republic of Moldova in EU-led civilian and military crisis management operations as well as relevant exercises and training, on a case-by-case basis and following possible invitation by the EU.

Article 8

Regional stability

1. The Parties shall intensify their joint efforts to promote stability, security and democratic development in the region, and in particular shall work together for the peaceful settlement of regional conflicts.
2. The Parties reiterate their commitment to a sustainable solution to the Transnistrian issue, in full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova as well as to facilitating jointly post-conflict rehabilitation. Pending its resolution and without prejudice to the established negotiating format, the Transnistrian issue will constitute one of the central subjects on the agenda of political dialogue and cooperation between the Parties, as well as in the dialogue and cooperation with other interested international actors.
3. These efforts shall follow commonly shared principles of maintaining international peace and security as established by the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and other relevant multilateral documents.

Article 9

Weapons of mass destruction

1. The Parties consider that the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and their means of delivery, both to state and non-state actors, represents one of the most serious threats to international peace and stability. The Parties therefore agree to cooperate and to contribute to countering the proliferation of WMD and their means of delivery through full compliance with, and national implementation of, their existing obligations under international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements, and other relevant international obligations. The Parties agree that this provision constitutes an essential element of this Agreement.
2. The Parties furthermore agree to cooperate and to contribute to countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery by:
 - (a) taking steps to ratify, or accede to, as appropriate, and fully implement, all other relevant international instruments; and
 - (b) establishing an effective system of national export controls, controlling the export as well as transit of WMD-related goods, including a WMD end-use control on dual-use technologies, and containing effective sanctions for breaches of export controls.
3. The Parties agree to establish a regular political dialogue that will accompany and consolidate these elements.

Article 10

Small arms and light weapons and conventional arms exports control

1. The Parties recognise that the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons (SALW), including their ammunition, and their excessive accumulation, poor management, inadequately secured stockpiles and uncontrolled spread continue to pose a serious threat to peace and international security.
2. The Parties agree to observe and fully implement their respective obligations to deal with the illicit trade in SALW, including their ammunition, under existing international agreements and UN Security Council resolutions, as well as their commitments within the framework of other international instruments applicable in this area, such as the UN Programme of Action to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects.
3. The Parties shall undertake to cooperate and to ensure coordination, complementarity and synergy in their efforts to deal with the illicit trade in SALW, including their ammunition and the destruction of excessive stockpiles, at global, regional, sub-regional and national levels.
4. Furthermore, the Parties agree to continue to cooperate in the area of conventional arms export control, in the light of the EU Common Position on control of exports of military technology and equipment.
5. The Parties agree to establish a regular political dialogue that will accompany and consolidate these undertakings.

Article 11

International cooperation in the fight against terrorism

1. The Parties agree to work together at bilateral, regional and international level to prevent and combat terrorism in accordance with international law, relevant UN decisions, international human rights standards, and refugee and humanitarian law.
2. To this effect they shall in particular cooperate so as to deepen international consensus on the fight against terrorism, including on the legal definition of terrorist acts and by working towards an agreement on the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.
3. In the framework of the full implementation of Resolution no. 1373 of the UN Security Council and other relevant UN instruments, and applicable international conventions and instruments exchange information on terrorist organisations, groups, their activities and their support networks in accordance with international law and the legislation of the Parties.