



**SÜDOSTEUROPA-  
GESELLSCHAFT**

in cooperation with

**FRIEDRICH  
EBERT  
STIFTUNG**

**Deutsch  
Moldauisches  
Forum**

International Workshop

## Shaping the Future in Moldova

Civil society's questions and answers in the light of European integration and  
of a challenging neighborhood

Berlin, 3 July 2014

**Conference Venue:**

**Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung**

Hiroshimastr. 17, 10785 Berlin

<http://www.fes.de/international/moe/>

**Conference committee:**

Franz-Lothar **Altmann**, Member of the Board, Southeast Europe Association, Munich

Max **Brändle**, Division Central and Eastern Europe, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Berlin

Hansjörg **Brey**, Executive Director, Southeast Europe Association, Munich

Johanna **Deimel**, Deputy Director, Southeast Europe Association, Munich

Wim van **Meurs**, Member of the Board, Southeast Europe Association, Nijmegen

Martin **Sieg**, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Moldova Iurie Leanca; German-Moldovan Forum

**Conference language:**

English

The workshop will take place under **Chatham House Rules** in order to facilitate an unrestricted and open exchange of views and ideas.

The Republic of Moldova has profoundly intensified its partnership with the European Union since 2009. The Visa facilitation and the envisaged signing of the Association Agreement demonstrate the progress that the Moldovan Government made in fostering its European integration agenda. Yet, the challenges that the Republic of Moldova currently faces are manifold and the upcoming months could be decisive for the future pathway of the country.

The Ukraine-Crisis and the rising tensions between the EU and Russia significantly influence the political dynamic in the country ahead of the parliamentary elections in November. Russia is openly opposing the Association Agreement and has announced consequences if Chisinau signs and ratifies the document. The European Integration process is contested, among political actors, in parts of the population as well as in some of the regions. In Gagauzia, a majority rejected closer ties with the EU and voted for integration to the Russia-led Customs Union in a contested referendum. Political actors in Tiraspol advocate for a recognition of Transnistria as an independent republic. And against the background of widespread poverty and a tense social situation many people in the country ask what tangible benefits the EU integration process will bring to them.

What can the Chisinau and Brussels do for promoting stability and dialogue? What are the prospects for the 5+2 negotiations? How will the Association Agreement shape the economic relations between Brussels, Chisinau, Tiraspol and Moscow? What reforms are needed in the short-and medium term in the judiciary, in the economy and the social sector? How can democracy and the rule of law been strengthened?

The **Berlin workshop** is designed to discuss these and other questions under **Chatham House Rule**. The Chatham House Rule will not be applied at the **public panel discussion** in the evening of the same day which is open to a wider audience.

## PROGRAM WORKSHOP 3 JULY 2014

### CHATHAM HOUSE RULES

<b>09:00 hrs</b>	<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</b>
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Max **Brändle**, Division Central and Eastern Europe, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Berlin

Gernot **Erlor**, MP, President Southeast Europe Association (SOG), Coordinator for Intersocietal Cooperation with Russia, Central Asia and the Eastern Partnership Countries, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

Martin **Sieg**, Advisor to the Prime Minister of Moldova Iurie Leanca; German-Moldovan Forum

<b>09:30 hrs</b>	<b>Panel I: DOMESTIC STATE OF AFFAIRS AND REFORM NEEDS FOR MOLDOVA – JUDICIARY, ECONOMY, SOCIAL AFFAIRS</b>
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**Moderation:** Gernot **Erlor**, MP, President Southeast Europe Association (SOG), Coordinator for Intersocietal Cooperation with Russia, Central Asia and the Eastern Partnership Countries, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

**Rapporteur:** Tobias **Flessenkemper**, Member of the Board SOG, Senior Associate Researcher, Centre International de Formation Européenne, Berlin

#### **Proposed issues for discussion:**

- political state of affairs and forthcoming elections 2014
- political parties and their platforms
- options for democratization; improvement of governance
- judicial reforms, combating corruption and organized crime
- the economy: weaknesses, vulnerabilities and chances
- regional inequalities and regional policy, rural development
- arrears in social policy, in the health sector , in education
- role of the Orthodox Church

#### **Inputs (5 min)**

Sergiu **Ostaf**, Executive Director, Resource Center for Human Rights (CREDO), Chişinău

Alexei **Tulbure**, Director, Helsinki Citizens Assembly of the Republic of Moldova, Chişinău

Ina **Supac**, MP, Parliamentary Committee for culture, education, research, youth, sport and mass media, Chişinău

Corneliu **Ciurea**, Institute for Development and Social Initiatives (IDIS) “Viitorul”, Chişinău

**11:00 hrs**      *Coffee Break*

<b>11:30 hrs</b>	<b>Panel II: MOLDOVA - BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN INTEGRATION? OPTIONS, CONSTRAINTS AND CONCERNS</b>
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**Moderation:** Franz-Lothar **Altmann**, Member of the Board SOG

**Rapporteur:** Johanna **Deimel**, Deputy Director SOG

**Proposed issues for discussion:**

- How free and independent is Moldova's foreign policy?
- Customs Union and the Russian market
- DCFTA – options and concerns: Economy and Foreign Politics
- Is the Eurasian integration an alternative?
- business communities and foreign investors
- Labor migration and remittances: will the possibility of visa-free travelling increase the outflow of labor force, brain drain?
- Can Moldova stay on the road to Europe? Perceptions of Moldova-EU and Moldova-Russia relations

**Inputs (5 min)**

Victor **Chirila**, Executive Director, Foreign Policy Association (APE), Chişinău

Irina **Vlah**, MP, Communist Party, Gagauzia

Denis **Cenuşă**, Expert-Grup, Chişinău

**13:00 hrs**      *Lunch*

<b>14:00 hrs</b>	<b>Panel III: CIVIL SOCIETY, CITIZENS, POLITICS AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE STATE</b>
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**Moderation:** Wim van **Meurs**, Member of the Board SOG

**Rapporteur:** Ana **Mihailov**, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

**Proposed issues for discussion:**

- platforms for dialogue between governmental and non-governmental stakeholders
- effective involvement of CSO in the policy making process
- How to make use of the support of European values?
- bridging the communication gap; how to reach all communities: mass media, CSO, and the Russian speakers
- The role of national minorities in the process of democratization and Europeanization.
- Can national minorities in Moldova be involved efficiently and democratically in the political architecture in Moldova? How?
- What attracts Moldovans to support closer ties with Russia?

- channels of dialogue between local, regional and central structures
- the role of blogosphere and internet in general

**Inputs (5 min)**

Ruslan **Stanga**, Advisor to the Prime Minister / The Government of the Republic of Moldova; Chişinău

Petru **Macovei**, API

Iuliana **Abramova**, Center “Resonance”, Tiraspol

Dmitri **Kavruk**, Editor in Chief of “Puls”

**15:30 hrs**      *Coffee Break*

<b>16:00 hrs</b>	<b>Panel IV: WAYS AHEAD</b>
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**Moderation:** Martin **Sieg**, German-Moldovan Forum / Advisor to the Prime Minister

**Rapporteur:** Hansjörg **Brey**, Executive Director SOG

**Proposed issues for discussion:**

- making the EU Association Agreement work
- Why does the EU matter?
- geopolitical developments / context (Russia and Turkey)
- Russia – Ukraine-relations and their impact on Moldova (Transnistria)
- Moldova and the Ukraine scenario
- options for Transnistria and Gagauzia
- conflict settlement
- prospects for the 5 + 2 negotiations

**Inputs (5 min):**

Vladislav **Kulminski**, Senior State Advisor to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova, Chişinău

Vladlena **Lisenco**, National Legal Adviser, OSCE Mission to Moldova, Tiraspol

**17:30 hrs:**      **End of the Workshop – end of Chatham House Rules**

- **Break for modification of the conference room for the public panel discussion –**

**18:30 hrs PUBLIC PANEL DISCUSSION (WITH GERMAN / ENGLISH TRANSLATION)**

**ADRESS BY:** Igor **Corman**, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

**Shaping the Future in Moldova**  
**The Republic of Moldova after the Signing of the Association Agreement with  
the EU**

Gernot **Erl**er, MP, President SOG, Coordinator for Intersocietal Cooperation with Russia, Central Asia and the Eastern Partnership Countries, German Federal Foreign Office, Berlin

Iulian **Groza**, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova

Vladimir **Yastre**bchak, Lecturer at the Transdnestrrian State University, Tiraspol

**Moderation:** Matthias **Jobelius**, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

**20:00 hrs RECEPTION**

**End of the Workshop and departure of participants**

**Conference secretariat:** Victoria Somogyi / Gudrun Kuhlmann