

## Coronavirus Disease - COVID 19

Situation Report No. 33 (18 September 2020)

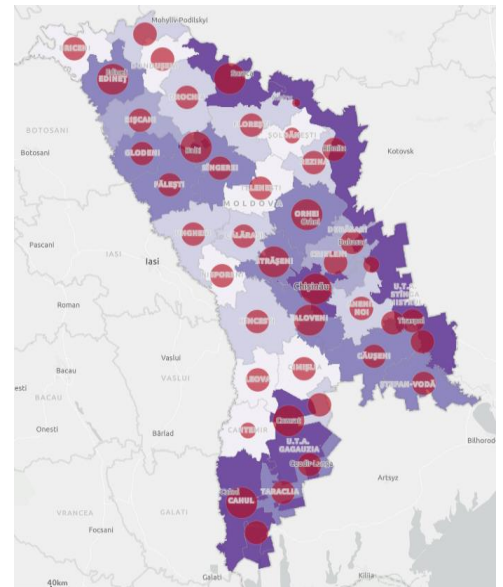


*This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners. From 18 September 2020 programme updates will be produced at the end of the month. All past sitreps can be accessed [here](#)*

## Highlights – data as reported by national authorities

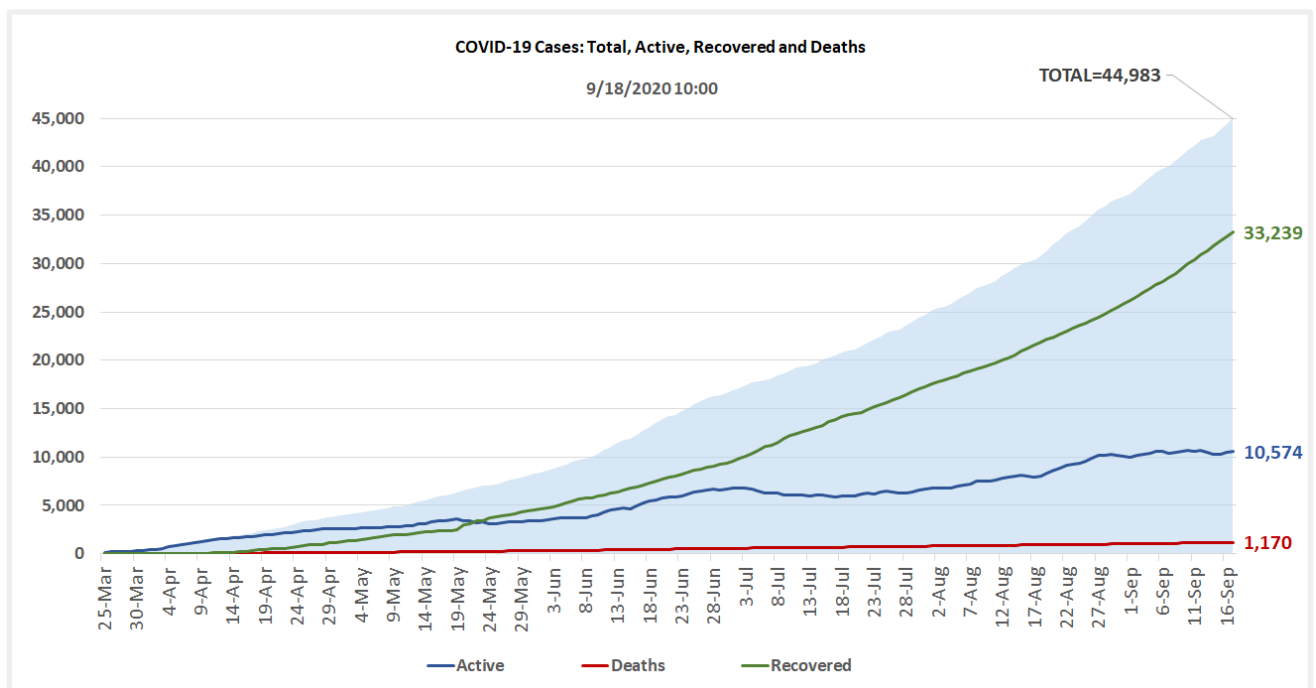
Data as at 18/09/2020, 10:00 a.m.

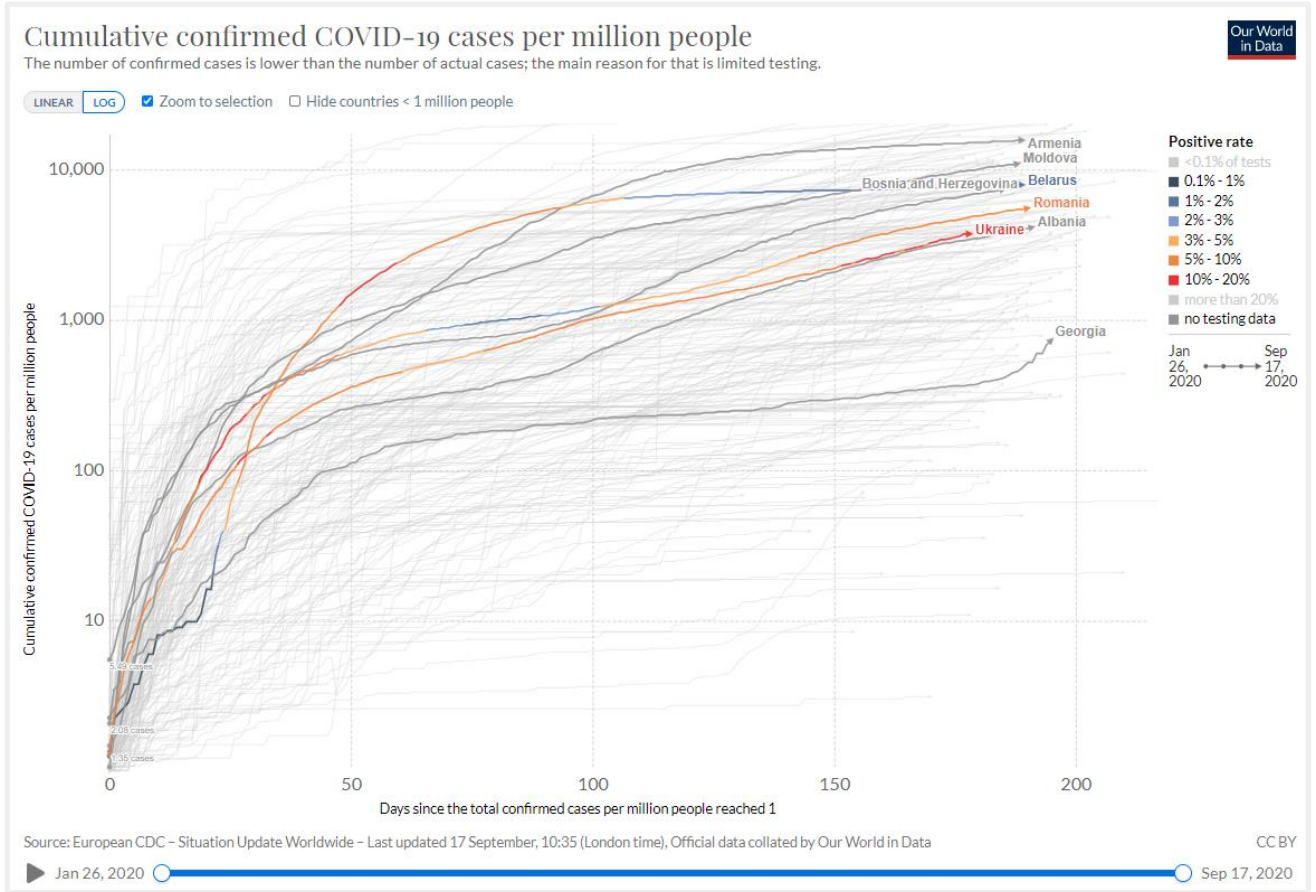
- The average number of daily cases over a seven-day period registered a slight decline at the beginning of this week, but increased back to 468 yesterday, which is only 8 cases less compared to the same figure last week. The increase captures the nearly record-high number of daily cases reported on Wednesday and Thursday of this week, with both of these days seeing over 600 cases reported. The total number of reported cases now stands at 44,983. The total number of active cases decreased slightly over the past week to 10,574. This represents 23.5% of all registered cases;
- The overall crude cumulative incidence of cases per 100,000 stands at 1,295, placing Moldova near the top of countries with the highest incidence of cases in Europe and in the region. The crude cumulative incidence of cases over the last seven days is 94 and over the last 14 days is 190, with the former remaining similar to the figure reported last week and the latter registering an increase;
- The number of deaths continued to grow, with a total of 64 deaths being reported over the last seven days. The average number of daily deaths over the same period is 9.14, which is somewhat lower than the 9.86 figure reported last week. The total number of deaths reached 1,170. The case fatality rate, at the same time, decreased slightly to 2.6%. The average age of patients who have died from the disease is 66.4, with over 90% of all deaths having been reported in patients 50 years of age and older;
- The number of patients who have recovered from the disease now stands at 33,239. This represents 73.9% of all cases;
- The weekly number of new cases continued to remain concerning. After declining gradually for two weeks, the number of new cases registered a slight increase last week. With 3,181 new cases reported, last week saw a 2.7% increase in the number of new cases compared to the previous week. The contagion rate (R0)



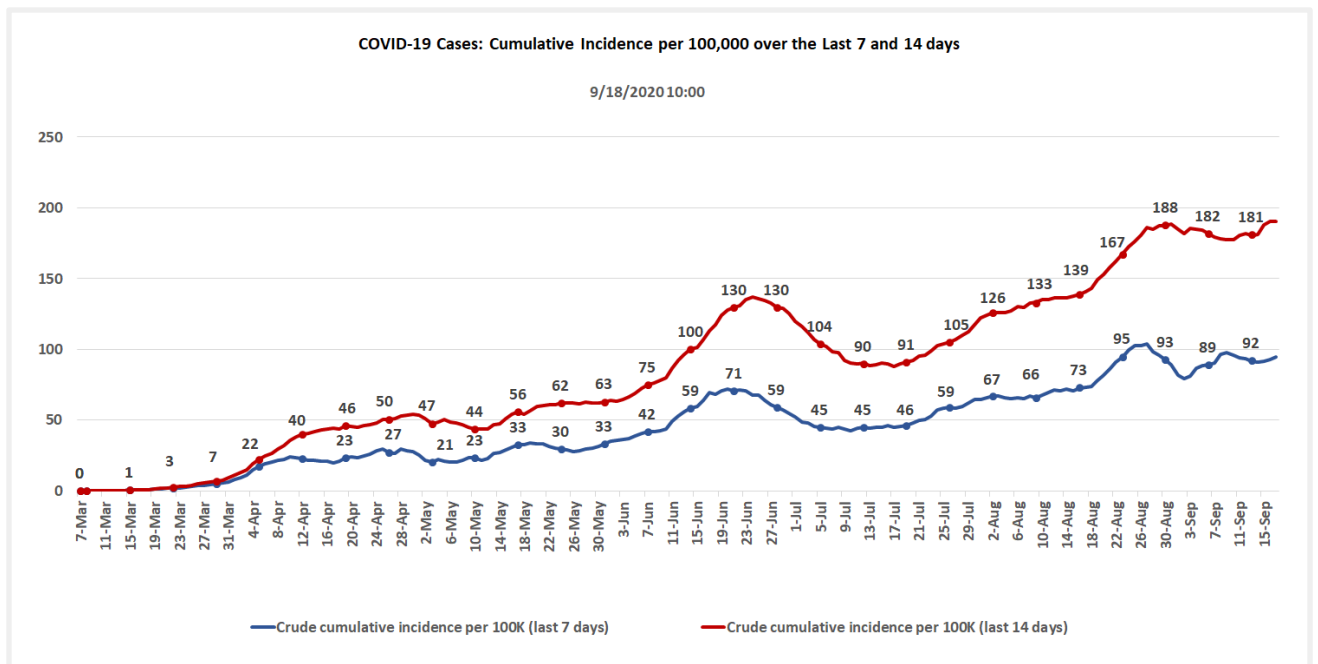
remained at the 1.03 level throughout last week but then registered a slight increase to 1.04 at the beginning of this week. In addition, the number of serious cases increased to 562 last week, which is the highest figure for this indicator since the beginning of the outbreak. The average number of serious cases continued to increase further this week, reaching 566 in the last seven days;

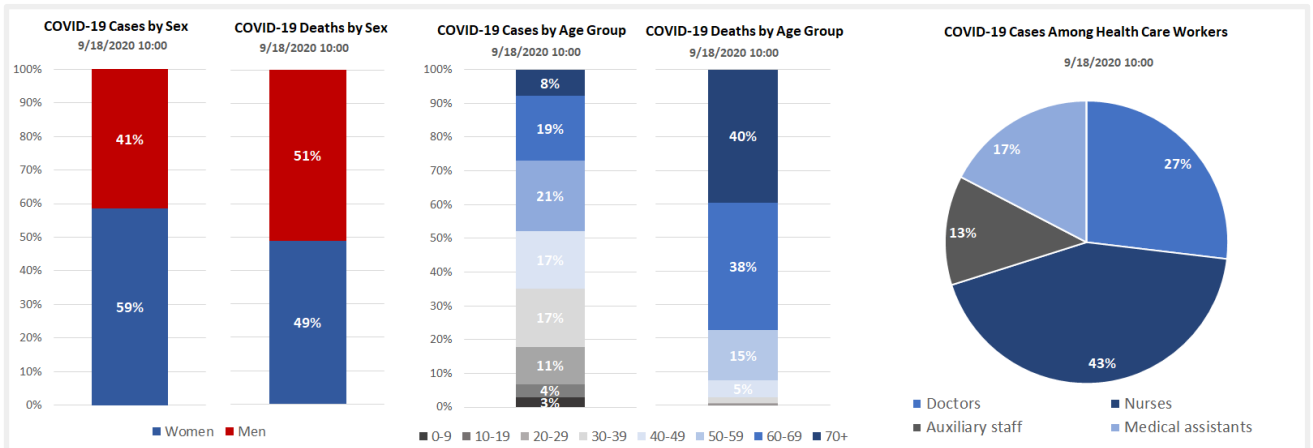
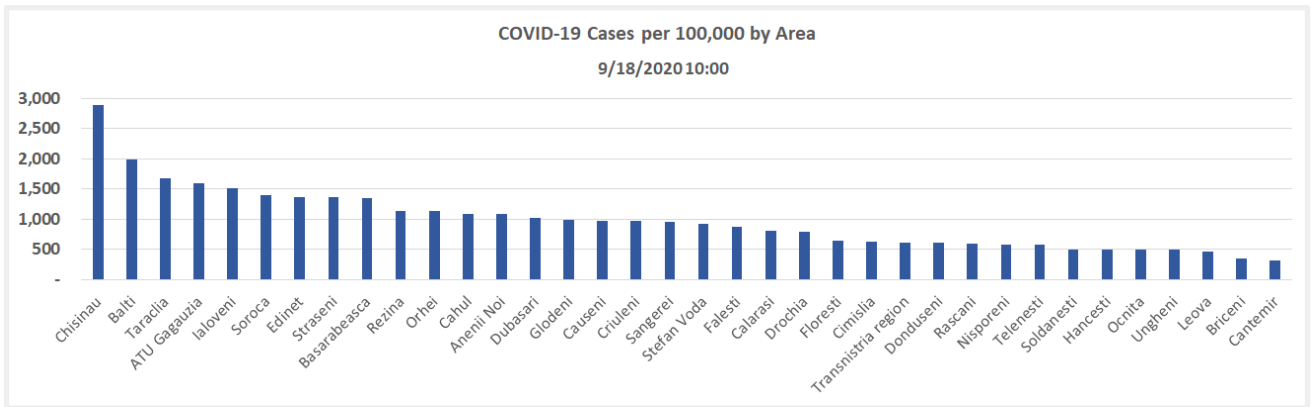
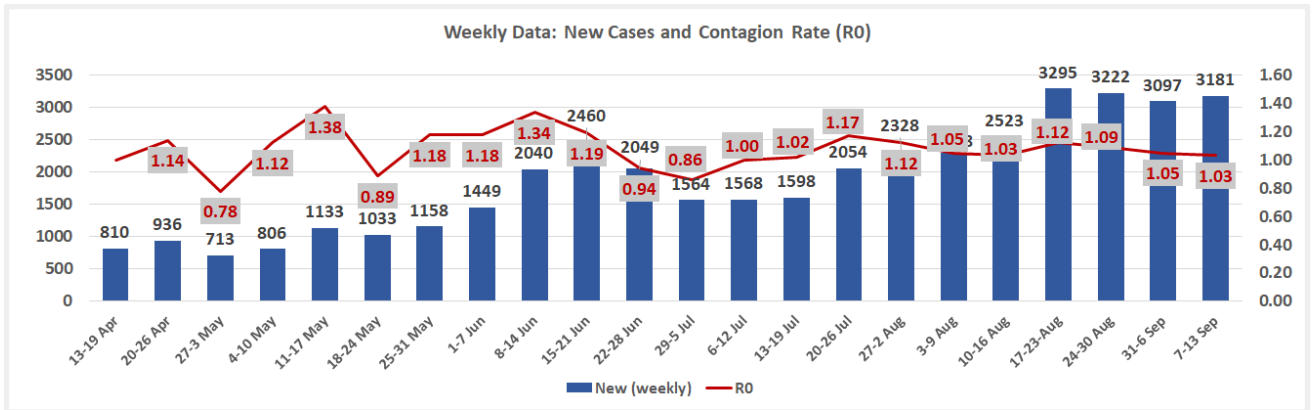
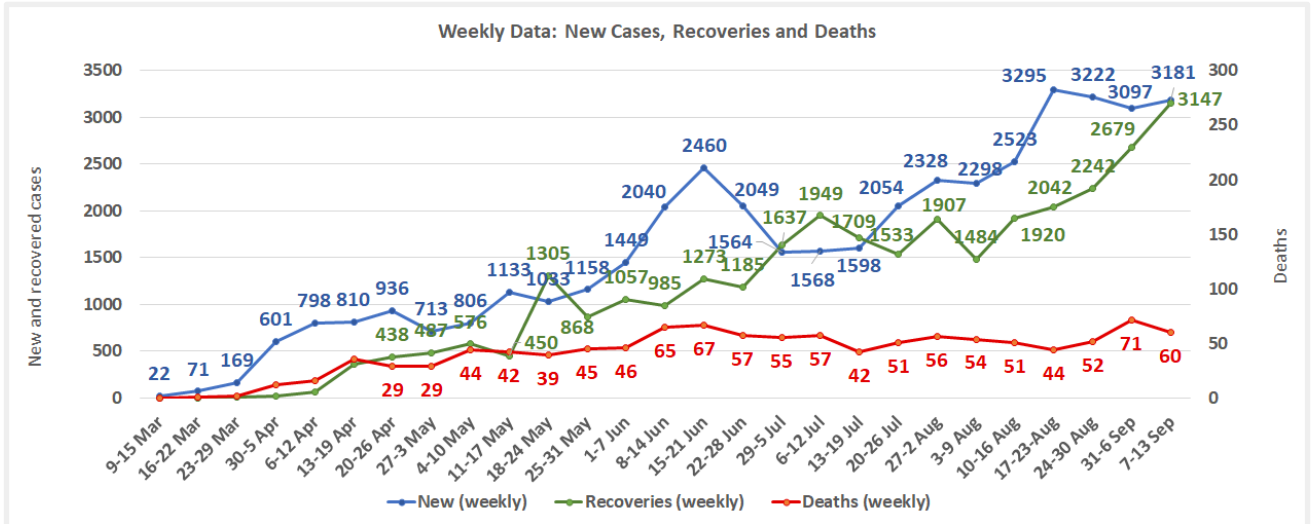
- On the other hand, the weekly number of recoveries registered another significant improvement. With 3,147 recoveries reported, last week saw a 17.5% increase in the number of recoveries compared to the previous week. This is the fifth week in a row that saw an increase in recoveries. Furthermore, the weekly number of recoveries nearly matched the weekly number of new cases last week;
- A positive development was also registered in the weekly number of deaths, which decreased to 60 last week. This represents a 15.5% decrease in these figures compared to the prior week;
- The share of health care workers in the total number of cases remained stable at 11.4%. Nearly 5,150 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak;
- In terms of geographical distribution, Chisinau, with 43% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area if the number of cases is considered. Transnistria region, ATU Gagauzia and Balti follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 5-7% of all cases each. Ialoveni, Orhei, Cahul and Straseni, account for another 3% of all cases each. Overall, over two in three cases are from the areas mentioned above. If the size of the population is considered, with nearly 2,900 cases per 100,000, Chisinau remains the most affected area in the country. The capital city is followed by Balti, Taraclia, ATU Gagauzia and Ialoveni. All of these areas have surpassed the 1,500-case mark per 100,000;
- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 59% vs. 41%. However, the percentage of men who have died from the disease is slightly higher than that of women, 51% vs. 49%. Furthermore, the case fatality rate among men continues to be higher than among women, 3.2% vs. 2.2%;
- Real time figures and graphs can be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#). This site has more than 2 million views to date.





Source: Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org> \*Some differences may exist between the data included in the charts above and the data mentioned in the rest of this section because of the difference in the population number used in the calculations.





---

## Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

---

- According to [data](#) reported to the WHO, it took only three days for the total of global cases to increase from 28 million to 29 million. The WHO Regional Office for Europe [warned](#) of a very serious resurgence of cases in Europe, highlighting that weekly cases now exceed those reported when the pandemic first peaked in Europe in March. Over the past two weeks, the number of cases increased by more than 10% in over half of the countries in Europe. In Moldova, the number of cases increased by approximately 17% during this period;
- An anti COVID-19 stigma campaign has been launched by OHCHR, the WHO, the Ministry of Health Labor and Social Protection, and the European Union. The campaign can be followed on all partners social media sites: [European Union](#), [WHO Moldova](#), [UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights Moldova](#) and the [Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection](#). We would encourage the amplification of this campaign across all partners social media accounts;
- According to an [information note](#) from the Ministry of Education, as of September 15<sup>th</sup> there were 187 cases of COVID-19 infections among students/pupils and 4958 were placed in self-isolation. The note also shows there are 173 infections among teaching staff, with 288 people being placed in self-isolation. Also, 40 school non-teaching staff are reported being positively tested, with another 118 being placed in self-isolation. From a total of 1240 general education public and private institutions, 10 are organizing the education process on-line only due to quarantine measures;
- The Minister of Economy and Infrastructure, Sergiu Railean held a video conference with the President of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council, Salvatore Sciacchitano on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The parties discussed the impact of COVID-19 on civil aviation, the measures taken by the government to support this sector, as well as the support that the ICAO, which is a UN specialized agency, can provide in harmonizing policies;
- UNDP published a [press-release about a grants competition](#) for partnerships across Nistru river to implement innovative business ideas that would approach at least one of the challenges exacerbated by the pandemic, such as limited access to raw materials, undermined distribution networks, absence of a competitive market for logistics operators, etc;
- The Deputy premier for reintegration Cristina Lesnic [met](#) with WHO Moldova Representative, Igor Pokanevich, to discuss access to medical services and COVID-19 developments. WHO and UNICEF visited the Transnistria Region on May 6<sup>th</sup> and provided a number of recommendations related to COVID-19 response. As of today, 2863 people infected with COVID-19 were registered in Transnistria (7% of the total cases in the country).

---

## Update on Restrictions\*

---

\*these are subject to changes and amendment and should be viewed as an overview and not as a definitive source for decision making

- The state of emergency in public health instituted by the Decision no. 10 from May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 is being extended through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020;
- All restrictions on movement and presence in public spaces, operation of economic entities are extended through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The full list of provisions agreed by the Extraordinary National Commission on Public Health can be found [here](#);
- According to a [decree](#) of the Minister of Education from September 17<sup>th</sup>, only the students, teaching staff and authorized personnel from some specialized institutions have access to schools' buildings. The decree forbids access to other persons in schools, including for organization of any type of actions and visits, e.g. cultural, political etc. The restricted access regime is valid during the period of the state of emergency in public health;
- New measures to prevent and control COVID-19 infection at the entry to the Republic of Moldova are instituted from September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020. A list of countries with additional restrictions can be accessed [here](#);
- It is likely that Transnistria Region will extend the entry and exit regime from September 30<sup>th</sup> until December 1<sup>st</sup>.