

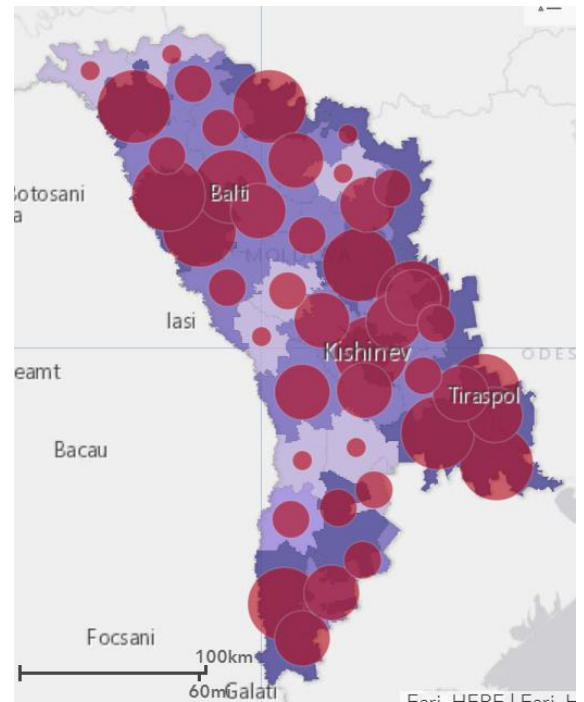
**Coronavirus Disease – Covid 19**  
Situation Report No. 14 (7 May 2020)



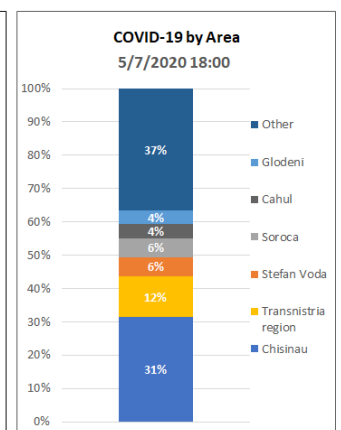
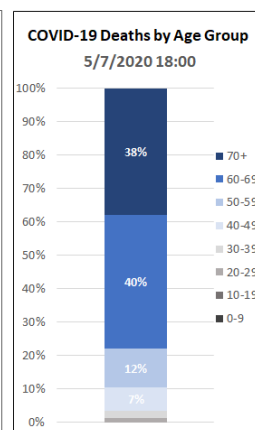
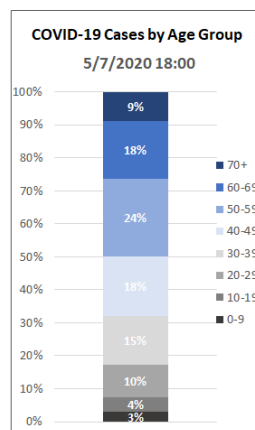
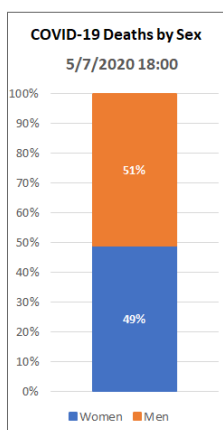
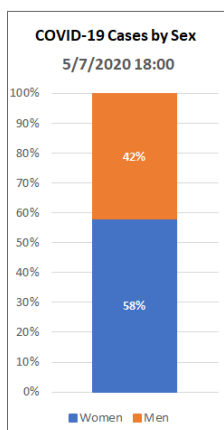
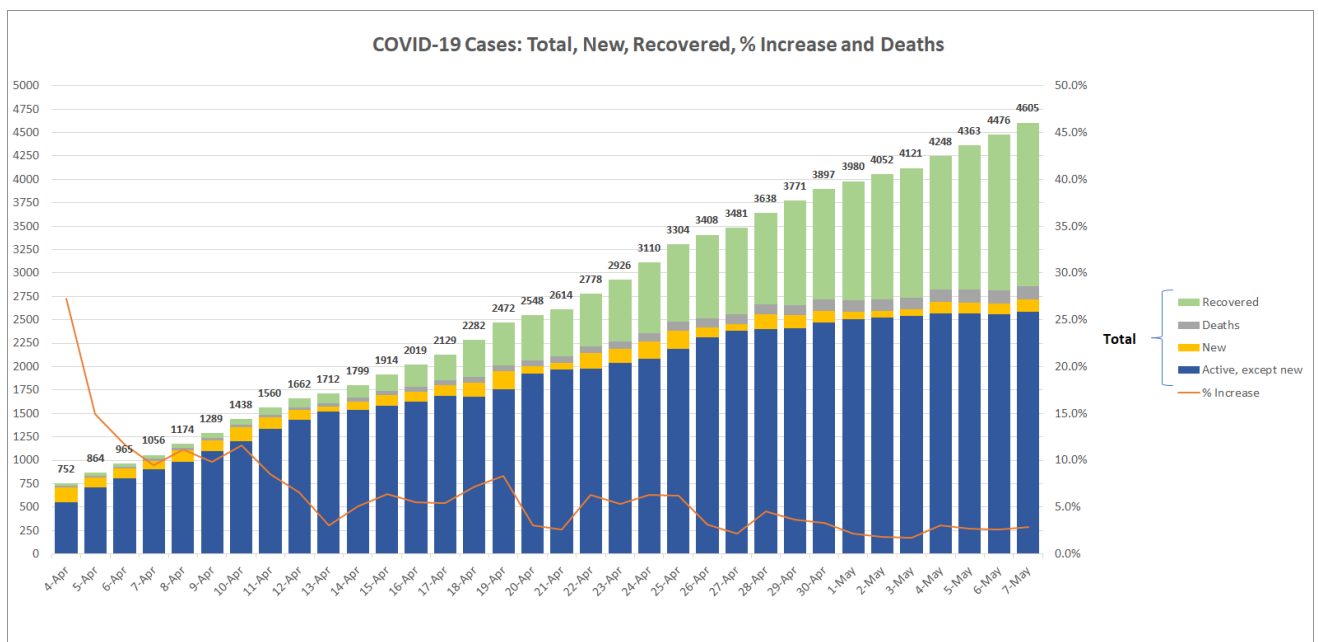
This report is produced by UN Moldova in collaboration with Government and development/humanitarian partners.

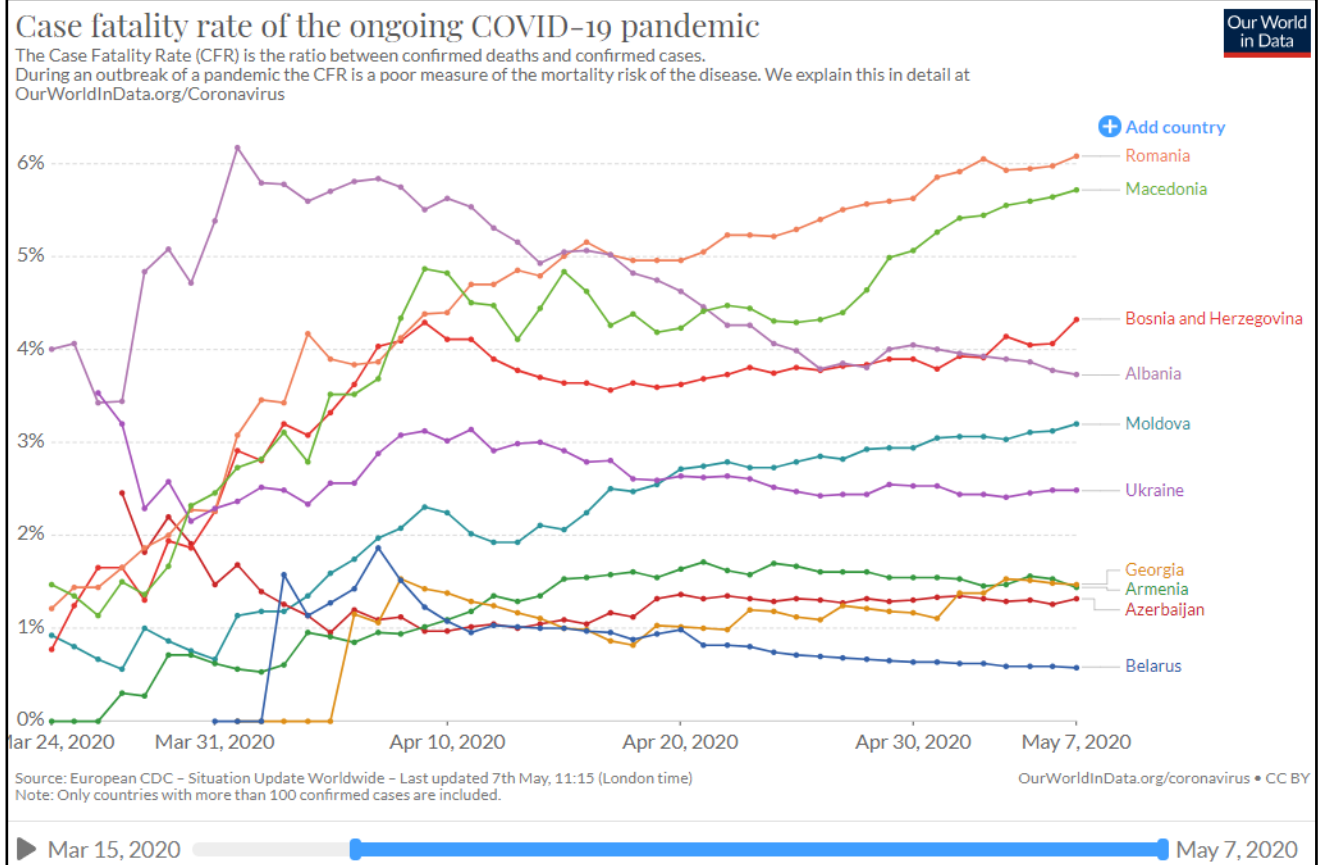
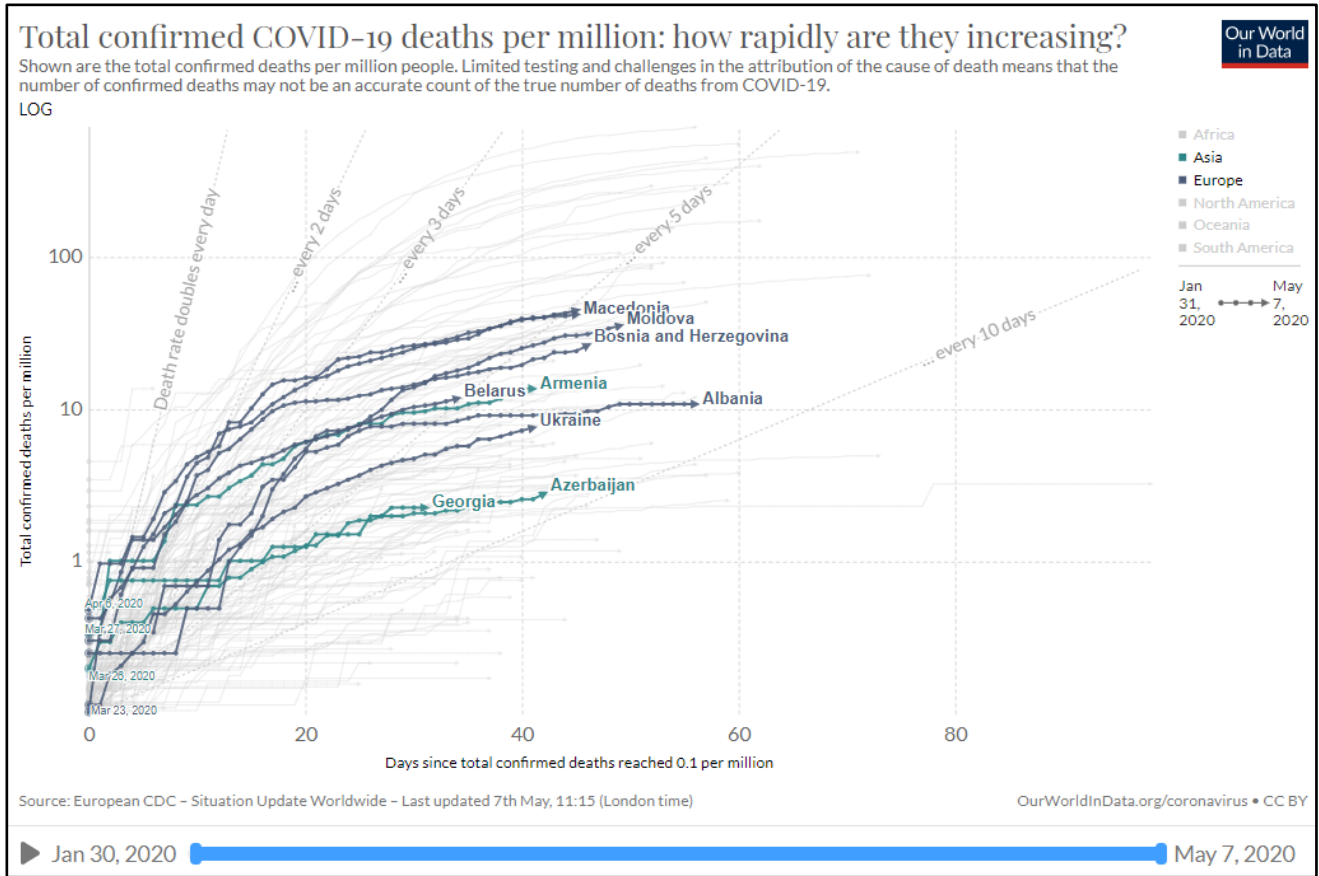
## Highlights – data as reported by national authorities\*

- The number of deaths continued to grow over the past few days, reaching 145 today. The case fatality rate currently stands at 3.1%. As shown in the graphs below, this figure is somewhere in the middle of the spectrum compared to neighboring countries as well as a few other selected countries in the broader region. The pace at which the number of COVID-19-related deaths are increasing in the country is also similar to a few of the comparison countries. However, Azerbaijan and Albania appear to be performing significantly better in this regard.
- Another 129 cases were confirmed today after the processing of 739 tests, bringing the total number of confirmed cases to 4,605, which represents a 2.9% increase compared to yesterday. The average daily growth rate over the past 7 days stands at 2.4%.
- Approximately a quarter of all cases continue to be health care workers. Over 1,100 doctors, nurses, medical assistants and other staff from the health care sector have been infected with the virus since the beginning of the outbreak.
- Out of the total number of confirmed cases, 1,747 patients have recovered, which represents nearly ⅓ of all cases. At the same time, 249 patients are in serious condition. The number of active cases currently stands at 2,713.
- In terms of geographical distribution, Chisinau, with more than 30% of all confirmed cases, remains the most affected area in the country if the number of cases is considered. The Transnistria region accounts for another 12% of all cases. Stefan Voda, Soroca, Cahul and Glodeni follow in the list of most affected areas, accounting for 4-6% of all cases each. Overall, more than three in five cases are from the areas mentioned above. All other areas account for the remainder of cases. If the size of the population is considered, Stefan Voda, Dubasari, Glodeni, Soroca and Chisinau have been most affected by the disease.



- The distribution of cases by age has remained largely unchanged. Individuals in the 50-59 age group continue to be most affected by the disease, accounting for approximately a quarter of all confirmed cases. Those in the 40-49, 60-69 and 30-39 age groups follow, accounting for 15%-18% of all cases each. If the number of deaths is considered, older adults remain at a much higher risk of being seriously affected by the disease. While only 9% of all confirmed cases are people older than 70, about 38% of deaths from the disease have occurred in this age group. Also, nearly 4 in 5 deaths have occurred in people over 60, and approximately 90% of all deaths have been reported in patients 50 years of age and older.
- More women continue to be infected with the virus than men, 58% vs. 42%. However, the percentage of men who have died from the disease is slightly higher than that of women, 51% vs. 49%. The case fatality rate among men is also higher than among women, 3.8% vs. 2.7%.
- The number of suspected cases stands at 159, and about 37,000 people are quarantined at home.
- Real time figures and graphs can always be accessed [here](#) in Romanian and in Russian [here](#).





Source: Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org/>

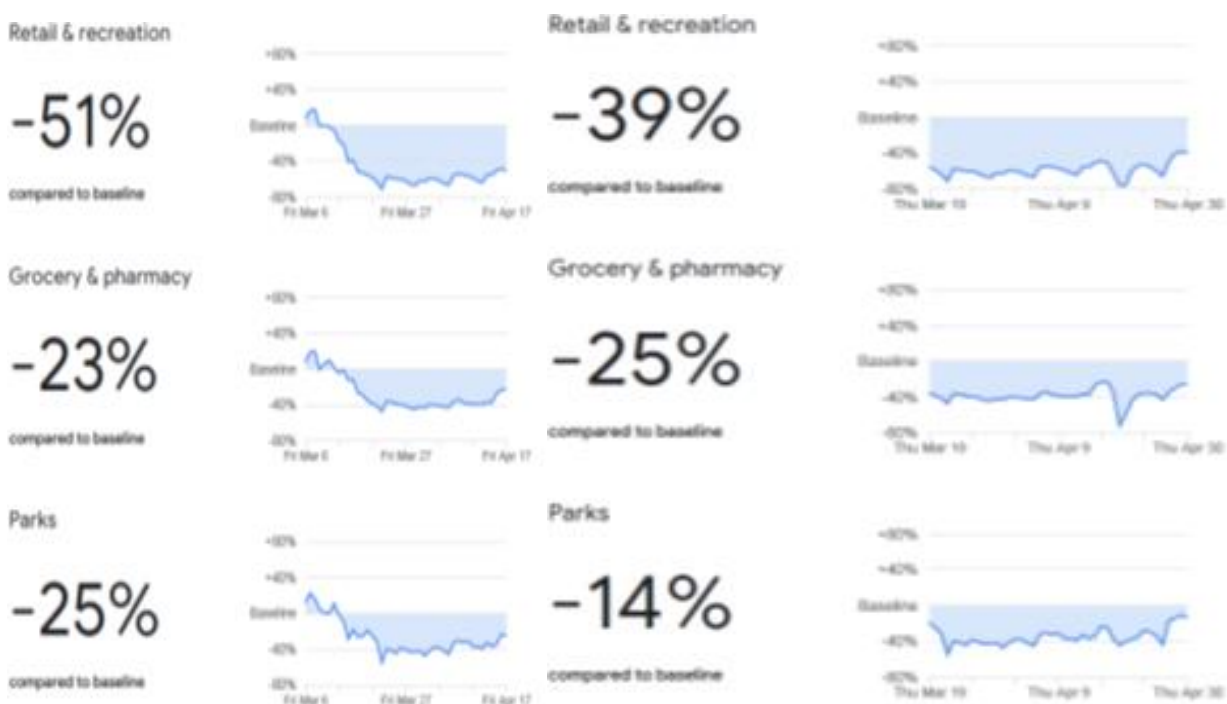
## Overview of Key Decisions & Announcements

- WHO and UNICEF accompanied by the OSCE undertook a technical visit to Transnistria Region, a press release on this visit can be accessed [here](#)
- An invitation has been sent for the next Moldova Development Partners Meeting which will take place on 12 April at 13:00 – 14:30. The link to join the video conference can be found [here](#). As always, we will be joined by senior officials from the MoHLSP, Ministry of Finance, MFAEI, and the State Chancellery / Aid Coordination Centre. The agenda for the meeting will be:
  - An update on the Epidemiological situation and Q&A – Dr Igor Pokanevychi
  - Return to physical presence scenarios and Q&A – Simon Springett, UN RC
  - Spring 2020 edition of WB Economic Update for Moldova and Q&A - Anna Akhalkatsi, World Bank
  - UN Socio-Economic Response Framework and Q&A – Dima Al-Khatib, UNDP
- The World Bank released today its [Moldova Economic Update - Spring 2020](#). The World Bank will present the main findings at the Development Partners meeting on 12 May.

## 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 Emergency Commission of Chisinau Municipality has made a decision that face masks must be worn in all confined places, stating “5. Beginning with 7 May wearing protection over mouth and nose will be mandatory in all closed public spaces (shops, pharmacies etc.) Managers of these spaces will not allow citizens to enter without such protection. 6. failure to obey the provisions of the CES poses a danger for public health and will be taken as reason for applying penalties under the contravention and/or penal code.”. The full decision can be found [here](#).
- Comparison on mobility data from week of 17 April and week of 30 April shows a significant change and an increased mobility, though still well below the baseline. We will require 10-14 days after easing of the restrictions to see the effects on the epidemiological situation.



Source: [Google Mobility Data](#)

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## Security

- NTR

## Transnistria Region

- The representatives of the United Nations, led by the World Health Organization, and including UNICEF, and accompanied by the OSCE Mission to the Republic of Moldova, completed a technical mission to the Transnistria Region on 6 May. The visit sought to understand the measures taken on the left bank of the Nistru River in response to the current COVID-19 pandemic and to make a spot assessment of the immediate needs for support. During the mission, the representatives of the international organizations paid a visit to the COVID-19 Crisis Center in Tiraspol, the Virology Laboratory at the AIDS Center, Tiraspol Clinical Hospital and spoke to health workers from the psycho-neurological long-care facility from Tiraspol. Based on discussions and the results of the mission, further directions for next activities will be identified, in line with ongoing work of the United Nations around the globe in fighting the COVID-19 virus.

## Political Situation

- The President recently stated that there is no reason to extend the state of emergency beyond 15 May. He promised that after this date, the government would reestablish normal activity, but stressed that protective measures must continue to be respected because the Covid-19 pandemic is not over. Premier Chicu reinforced the President's statement by saying, "when we lift the state of emergency, that does not mean we will cancel all restrictions. Some rights, like the right to hold mass meetings, will continue to be restricted. A potential return of the pandemic or an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases will force the government to reimpose very strict restrictions."
- President Dodon highlighted the current stable governing coalition and its ability to handle the pandemic and the economic crisis, but at the same time issued a warning to the Democratic Party. He said that if the Democratic Party decides that it is better for it to have early elections, the Socialist Party is ready for early elections and in a better position to win those elections. However, the President went on to reiterate that everything will be done to ensure parliament is not dissolved and that any political crisis is averted.
- The OSCE Mission to Moldova head Claus Neukirch said during a speech at the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna that Chisinau and Tiraspol should focus on dialogue centered on reaching objectives, with regular interactions between the two political representatives, which is essential for resolving the humanitarian problems generated by the Covid-19 crisis on both banks of the Nistru. The Head of Mission added that the mission has repeatedly encouraged Chisinau and Tiraspol to attend working group meetings on urgent matters, like banking, but especially on Covid-19.
- The Russian Foreign Ministry has expressed its "confusion" about opposition expressed by some political groups in Moldova to the 200-million-Euro Russian loan agreement. The ministry notes that "discussions about this agreement started in the end of 2019, with information published in both the Russian and the Moldovan press about the sincere intention of the Russian Federation to help Moldova during a difficult period of fighting the coronavirus pandemic and to overcome socio-economic difficulties. President Dodon, for his part, said that he hopes the same situation from last year in which the Constitutional Court was captured does not reoccur. He further stated that Parliament adopts laws and a few people at the Constitutional Court are blocking laws one after another.
- Premier Ion Chicu said in a Press Freedom Day statement that "we are living through a time when access to information is broader than ever, more than we could have imagined a decade ago. I appreciate the work of journalists who sincerely and unconditionally bring the truth to the homes of people." The Speaker of Parliament echoed the same sentiment in her own statements, saying that "informing citizens has a central role in the formation of public opinion and the creation of a pluralistic and open society. The role of the press is very important in the context of a worrying increase in disinformation campaigns, especially via social media. Journalists have the professional obligation to fight this process, which is dangerous for democracy." The Reporters Sans Frontieres press freedom ranking for 2020 placed Moldova 91 out of 180 countries (partially free), with some slippage registered in some areas. The issue of the concentration of the mass media in the hands of politicians is important to note, as is the issue of involvement in the editorial

policies of politically affiliated press rooms. This involvement usually leads to poor quality media products, which often promote the agendas of parties, disinform, and engage in political propaganda.

- “The EU will provide Moldova with macro-financial assistance of 70 million euros and additional assistance of 100 million euros after the government fulfills all the conditions related to the implementation of reforms important for the country,” said the head of the European Parliament delegation to the EU-Moldova Association Committee and the head of the European Parliament delegation to the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly. They pointed out that despite the fact that the EU is Moldova’s largest donor, continuous propaganda and disinformation campaigns paint a distorted and unrealistic picture of the EU’s actual support. On a related note, the European Commission reported that Foreign Minister met with the deputy European Commission head to discuss EU help for Chisinau during the Covid-19 crisis. The official said that Moldova will receive 87 million Euros from redirected bilateral financing and might receive an additional 100 million Euros to deal with the negative economic impact of the pandemic. Like the other EU officials he also stressed that the EU expects clear delivery from the Moldovan authorities of its reform commitments based on the Association Agreement, in particular as regards reforming the justice sector, fighting corruption and vested interests and ensuring the depoliticization of State institutions.
- The former Head of the Constitutional Court has asked the Court to examine the constitutionality of his dismissal. The request will be examined in 15 days. He was dismissed on 23 April in a vote of no-confidence from the other judges. He previously admitted speaking with the President about internal court procedures, which is prohibited.
- iData’s recent poll shows PSRM with support from 45.5 percent of the vote, followed by PAS (21.5 percent), PD (7.8 percent), PPDA (6.4 percent), and Our Party (6.4 percent). The phone poll was conducted with 931 respondents in 325 localities from April 26-May 4. A total of 1.3 percent of respondents were from the Transnistria region. The most trusted politicians are Igor Dodon (24.2 percent), PAS head Maia Sandu (11.4 percent), Our Party head and Balti mayor Renato Usatii (2.4 percent), PPDA head Andrei Nastase (2.3 percent), and premier Ion Chicu (1.6 percent). More than half of Moldovans said they entered the state of emergency without enough savings for even a month. A total of 19.4 percent said they had some savings for a month. Only 5.9 percent said they have enough money to survive for half a year without additional income. About 45.5 percent of respondents said their monthly revenues stayed the same, with 29.2 percent who lost a lot of income and 15.4 percent who lost some income.
- The Constitutional Court issued a ruling that if the parliamentary elections are held before 17 August, 2020, they will be held using the mixed electoral system, and if they are held after that date then the proportional system would be used.

### Economic Update

- A UN Moldova briefing note, [Bracing for Domestic and External Covid-19 Shocks](#) was released on 30 April.

## Aid Coordination

- The joint USD 1 million Proposal for the Secretary-General's COVID-19 Response and Recovery MPTF from Moldova has been approved for three participating agencies UNICEF (750k), IOM (120k) and UN Women (130k) without comment.
- WHO, RCO and MoHLSP are working to update the list of donations and required equipment in the health system to understand current gaps and needs for support.
- The UN Moldova has developed a **list of actions and opportunities for support** that includes projects concept notes. The list will facilitate the allocation of resources under the MLD 2030 Trust Fund (COVID-19 window). DPs interested in receiving the list of actions can send an email to [laura.fiorotto@un.org](mailto:laura.fiorotto@un.org)

*Development Partners who are supporting the Covid-19 response are invited to share information about their bilateral support with the Center [asistenta.covid19@gov.md](mailto:asistenta.covid19@gov.md). The UN will continue to work in close cooperation with the Center in order to avoid duplication of efforts. Focal person in RCO: [laura.fiorotto@un.org](mailto:laura.fiorotto@un.org) and [christine.petre@un.org](mailto:christine.petre@un.org)*

**WHO Partnership Platform** <https://covid-19-response.org/>All partners are invited to participate so that contributions can be mapped and the requirements kept up to date.

## Response of UN System in Moldova

### Procurement support and equipment

- The second batch of PPE, procured by UNICEF through its supply division, is ready to be shipped to Moldova. The first batch of PPE arrived on 19 April.
- UNICEF secured 30 Oxygen concentrators for Moldova. At UNICEF Moldova initiative a request on procurement of medical equipment for assisted breathing was compiled in cooperation with MHLSP, WHO and WB and submitted to UNICEF Supply Division for further procurement.
- UNDP signed the Exchange of Letters for the contribution from the private sector (Endava) for support to procurement of medical supplies and PPEs in the amount of 647,465.72 MDL.
- The order for Mobile ICU Ventilators for critical care is pending for the report from SGS on the inspection conducted over the weekend and information on shipment is being compiled
- UNDP: Personal protective goods purchased for the Medical Center from Chirsova village:
  - Disinfectant 5L
  - Personal protective suits with masks
  - Disposable shoes
  - Visors
  - Masks (N95), surgical, reusable
  - Gloves

### Assessment and Data

- Support to the office of the PM is in progress; UNDP Moldova leads the Task Force on big data for COVID-19 Response and continues the production of Work Reports with six key services to inform the Government on the option to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- UNDP, in collaboration with the National Bureau of Statistics, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub and World Bank launched an ad-hoc COVID-19 complementary module to HBS to collect additional data for the socio-economic impact assessment on the economic and social conditions of the population and most vulnerable and 'new' vulnerable groups.

### Socio-Economic Support

- The World Bank has released its six-month Economic Update focusing on firms to boost the recovery.
- The Socio-Economic Task Force took place on 6 April bringing together development partners to provide updates about their emergency response actions. The IMF gave an overview of their emergency support to Moldova, the RCO/Oxford Economics shared the findings of a paper on social and economic vulnerabilities. The meeting was also attended by representatives of business associations who shared their perspective and information on the impact of COVID-19 on the business sector.
- Entrepreneurs, LPA and representatives of business associations from Cahul and Ungheni districts participated in focus group sessions in order to better understand the situation and specific needs, activity organised by EU4Moldova Focal Regions Programme. Furthermore, the programme will adjust its activities in order to provide support in managing the COVID-19 impacts and ensure a fast recovery in the post-COVID-19 times.

### Health

- Two additional on-line training sessions were conducted for the healthcare personnel from three-level Network of Perinatal Centers in the context of COVID-19 pandemic response, under the leadership of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection, with UNFPA, WHO, UNAIDS and UNICEF support. Within the event, attended by 70 maternity care providers, the modality of ensuring at the national level in the context of COVID-19 epidemic, the continuity of maternity care, as one of the essential core health

services, was discussed. Detailed practical recommendations on how to ensure the ongoing quality care for women and their newborns were provided, whilst discussing within the on-line discussion forum - the provisions of the MoHLSPP Order №414 as of 17 April 2020 on organizing the obstetrics and gynecology medical care in the context of COVID-19. Also, the healthcare personnel of the perinatal centers discussed within the held event, the provisions of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection Ordinance No 109 as of 26 March 2020 on ensuring continuity of healthcare to HIV positive pregnant women, in the context of COVID-19, with aim to prevent Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) during pregnancy, labour, delivery and breastfeeding, in the context of better health for mothers and their children.

### Education and youth

- UNFPA, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection (MHLSP), is fostering social cohesion and inter-generational dialogue in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. During 3 weeks about 200 older persons are phoned by 15 young volunteers of Youth Centers and National Network of Local Youth Councils of Moldova. The young volunteers were trained by an epidemiologist and psychologist on how to talk to the older persons by phone in order to inform them about measures of protection against COVID-19 and how to provide emotional support during the social isolation period. This initiative was started in order to offer emotional support to solitary persons above 65 years of age from 16 communities with a high risk of vulnerability.
- UNFPA, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, launched an online programme for young people called [“Youth Talks”](#) - a virtual space for the personal and professional development of young people in Moldova. In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, when off-line interaction has become limited, the Youth Centres Network in Moldova initiated online #YouthTalks, which gives young people a virtual space for communication, personal and professional development. The #YouthTalks will bring successful young leaders, young entrepreneurs, journalists and activists to share their experience with young people on subjects about personal development and motivation, social media and branding, civic journalism and youth participation online, as alternative platforms of non-formal education, interaction and quality socialization. The #YouthTalks will run every Friday for the next 5 weeks.
- UNICEF trained 650 educators from 8 rayons on positive parenting during COVID-19 pandemics. The educators were empowered with skills to provide support and counselling to parents/caregivers on various issues related to children’s personal hygiene, non-violent methods of discipline, engagement in learning activities through play and fun at home, creation of a safe environment for children at home, and mental health issues.
- First webinar on teacher training to support in teaching during COVID-19 provided by the Zurich Pedagogical University under the UNICEF Regional “LearnIn Initiative” attended by 20 representatives of the national Task Force for LearnIn and teachers’ trainers.
- UNICEF completed a U-report poll on Social Distancing during COVID-19, which engaged 3,693 respondents. Prior to the poll launch, U-Report social media encouraged young people to post their stories from quarantine under the hashtag #MoldovaStaAcasa as well as useful tips on hygiene and prevention (#cyber hygiene).
- UNICEF completed a U-Report poll on adolescents' mental health. The poll engaged 3,861 U-Reporters.
- UNICEF organized on the U-Partners platform a webinar led by experts from the National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse (CNPAC), and 12plus.md to build upon the U-Report results. They addressed questions from U-Reporters collected through the poll and interacted directly with the audience.
- Thirty-five Hometown Associations and Mayoralties were assisted to organize online meetings in order to discuss local problems as well as the prevention and control of the spread of novel coronavirus at local level.

### Communications

- UNFPA and Youth Centres Network released a [new video](#), featuring Nicolay Keles, the President of National Youth Council and co-founder of Youth Platform for Interethnic Solidarity, inviting young people to act



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responsibly and continue to stay engaged in the Covid-19 prevention campaign. In the spirit of inclusion and diversity, Nicolay is addressing his message in Gagauz language (with subtitles in Romanian /Russian).

- UNFPA and Youth Centres Network launched online [#YouthTalks](#), a virtual space for communication, personal and professional development of young people in the context of Covid-19.
- UNFPA released a [new video](#) under the “[My Choice is to be Ok](#)” program. This time psychologist Daniela Terzi-Barbarosie presents to young people 3 learning techniques for a better learning experience at home.
- UNFPA updated and published the new [Technical Brief for Maternity Services](#) in the context of Covid19.
- UNICEF continued to amplify the #Voicesofyouth, in a series of [one minute videos](#) featuring [children](#) and young people and their learning and social activities under lockdown.
- UNICEF issued a [press release](#) on the new guidelines for the safe opening of schools.
- UNICEF along with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State with the support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Government of Sweden, supports the online [ROCKIT conference 2020](#), which includes a section on Solutions for education, health and smart living.
- NDP published on 1 May a press-release in support of Switzerland, WHO and UNDP for prevention and control of the spread of novel coronavirus on both banks of Nistru river. 10 mobile ventilators for intensive care units along shall be delivered to the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection. The equipment was purchased by UNDP from the funds provided by Switzerland. At the same time, WHO helps the Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection and the National Agency for Public Health to coordinate and monitor the actions to respond to and contain COVID-19.
- A joint [press-release](#) on support for the process of measuring the social impact of the COVID-19 pandemic was published by the National Bureau of Statistics, UNDP and World Bank on 6 May. The Household Budget Survey includes now an additional module dedicated to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis.
- UNDP, in partnership with People’s Advocate Office and National Anticorruption Centre, launched a [campaign](#) to promote whistleblower mechanism among health professionals.
- UNDP, as part of its EU funded Confidence Building Programme, organizes webinars on inclusive education and business experiences during pandemic.
- On 4 May, UNDP published a [press-release](#) on the support of Switzerland and UNDP for prevention and control of the novel coronavirus spread for 35 partner communities and 35 Territorial Employment Agencies. The equipment was purchased by UNDP with funds provided by the Government of Switzerland.
- The latest weekly bulletin from the MoHLSP can be found [here](#)