



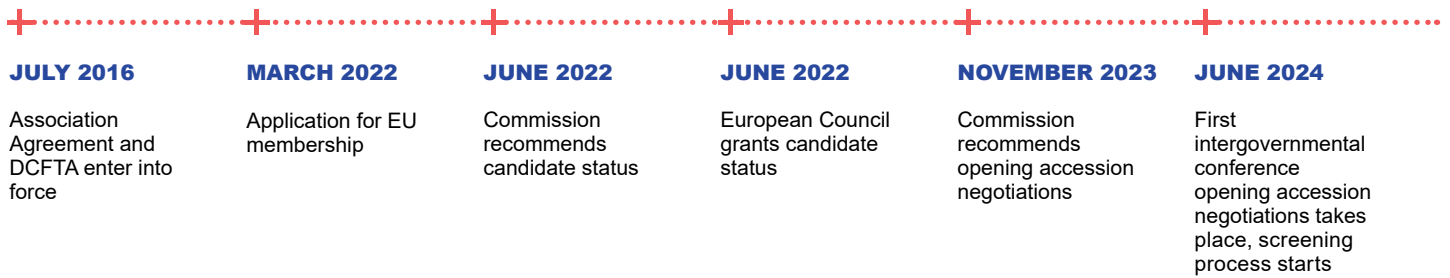
# THE EU AND MOLDOVA

#Strongertogether  
#EUEnlargement

October 2024



Moldova is an **EU candidate country** since 2022.



## Growth Plan for Moldova

In October 2024, the EU adopted a **Growth Plan for the Republic of Moldova** worth **€1.8 billion** and underpinned by a Reform and Growth Facility for the period **2025-2027**.

The Plan, which is the largest EU financial support package for Moldova, will **boost Moldova's economy, bring the country closer to EU membership by accelerating reforms**, and provide **significant financial assistance**.



**The EU is Moldova's**

✓ largest trade partner

✓ largest investor

✓ largest provider of financial assistance



## Ongoing EU support to Moldova

The EU is the **largest provider of financial assistance to Moldova**. It offers a variety of programmes and instruments to support Moldova's development and EU accession process.

### Neighbourhood Development and Cooperation Instrument-Global Europe (NDICI-GE)

Between **2021-2024** the EU has allocated **over €430 million** in non-repayable grants to Moldova under NDICI-GE. These funds provide financial and technical assistance for socio-economic development and meeting EU standards and norms. This includes:

- **€240 million** in direct budget support to help Moldova's most vulnerable consumers **cope with rising energy prices** and support Moldova's **energy security and transition**.
- Ongoing support to reforms in **the justice sector**, including for the vetting of top judges and prosecutors.
- Ongoing support for Moldova's green transition by building capacity and encouraging investments in **low-emission and resource-efficient economy**.



### Economic & Investment Plan (EIP)

The EU's **EIP for the Eastern Partnership** supports the investments needed to make the economies of the region more resilient and able to generate concrete benefits for people in areas such as transport, private sector, energy, environment and climate, water and sanitation, digital and human capital. It includes specific flagship projects in each country.

For projects in **Moldova**, since 2021 the EU has mobilised **€1.6 billion**. Funds are raised through tools such as the Neighbourhood Investment Platform.

This includes:

- Providing energy efficiency improvements to **healthcare and education institutions** across the country, including improvements of the heating systems and installation of photovoltaic systems.
- Rehabilitating the Valcinet-Ungheni-Chisinau Cainari **rail corridor**, boosting trade and economic development, as part of the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes initiative.
- **Energy Efficiency Programme**: Improving insulation of buildings, installing more energy-efficient lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation systems, integrating renewable energy sources and introducing efficient energy management practices.

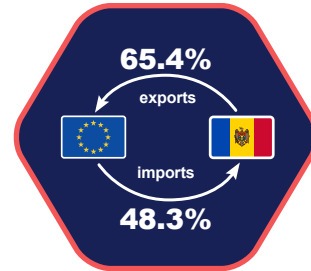


## Close trade & investment links

**The EU is Moldova's main trading partner.** In 2023, the EU accounted for 53.7% of Moldova's total trade in goods (65.4% of total exports and 48.3% of total imports)\*.

The Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA) is an integral part of the Association Agreement which has been in full effect since 2016.

As part of EU solidarity in the context of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has granted temporary full trade liberalisation for Moldovan agricultural products until 24 July 2025.



## Foreign & security policy cooperation

The EU remains deeply committed under the Common Foreign and Security Policy to deepen cooperation with Moldova.

- In 2024, Moldova became the first country to sign a **Security and Defence Partnership** with the EU.
- The **EU Partnership Mission in Moldova (EUPM)** continues to support Moldovan institutions in building resilience.
- The EU has provided **€137 million** support to the Moldovan Armed Forces through the **European Peace Facility (EPF)** since 2021.
- EU has a dedicated sanctions regime targeting individuals and entities who try to destabilise Moldova.



## Solidarity with Moldova

In light of the impact on Moldova of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has mobilised special support measures, which include:

- **€240 million in direct budget support** for Moldova's most vulnerable consumers amid the energy crisis, helping 895 000 households reduce their energy bills.
- Over **€66 million in humanitarian assistance** to support vulnerable Ukrainian refugees and families hosting them in Moldova.
- Over **€32 million in investments** in Moldova to support the Solidarity Lanes initiative that helps ensure secure supply chains and food security.
- Temporary **full trade liberalisation** for Moldovan agricultural products to the EU until 24 July 2025.



## People to people contacts

- Since 2014, Moldovans benefit from **visa-free travel** to the EU.
- The EU has funded over **1 300 exchanges** between EU and Moldovan citizens in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport under ERASMUS+ since 2021.

\* Source: DG Trade