



RDCT BULLETIN

No. 10, SEPTEMBER 2007

FOREWORD

Dear friends,

In the current issue of the bulletin of the Resource and Development Center for Transnistria please find information about the recently launched book "Quo vadis, Moldova?", to find more about community foundations, to see what do young people from the Republic of Moldova want, and to read a summary of the UNICEF regional report, which notes that the current education system from Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS leaves millions of children without education yearly.

we also included an interview with former ambassador of Poland to the Republic of Moldova, Piotr Marciniak, who continues to be interested in what is happening in Moldova, implementing different projects in our country. In the "Actual" section you will find a news of "Novy Region" news agency, from which you will read about cancellation of the migration fee, and in the "Financing" section, as usual, we draw your attention to a range of opportunities of financing for NGOs, as well as announcements for some competitions.

We remind you that your suggestions and comments regarding the presented materials, as well as to the bulletin in general, are welcomed.

With respect,

RDCT Team

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RESOURCE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER FOR TRANSNISTRIA

BOOK LAUNCH: „QUO VADIS, MOLDOVA?”

The book “Quo Vadis, Moldova?”, written and edited with the support of European Integration Studies Center of Vilnius (Lithuania) University International Relations and Politics Institute and of IDIS “Viitorul” from the Republic of Moldova was recently launched at IDIS “Viitorul” Institute for Development and Social Initiatives. “A state, as well as a person, has always to consider some options in its route. Half of the decisions made in the middle of this route do not result in serious outcomes; however, some of these decisions may have great significance for the future and become decisive. Apparently, the time for making such – essential – decisions has come to Moldova and its nation”, state the authors of “Quo Vadis, Moldova?”.

The current events in Moldova, the dynamism thereof and constantly increasing interest of various states and international players in Europe’s East stimulate a better cognition of the situation in this region. Moldova’s aspiration to integrate into the European Union, “frozen” conflict in Transnistria, mounting pressure from Moscow, changes in Ukraine and other factors determine a need for a deeper and wider analysis, which would help to guarantee a more objective evaluation of the situation in Moldova, as well as to make more effective decisions within the State and beyond its borders.

The articles presented in this book fully reflect all the above-mentioned and other processes. On one hand, these articles analyze the main changes within the state

after choosing the course towards the EU, examine the present situation, and later proceed to the dilemmas that Moldova was forced to consider for a rather long period of time in the context of trying to consolidate its territorial integrity and identity, solving the conflict in Transnistria, finding its place in the region and international relations. On the other hand, the articles more intensively attempt to reveal the most effective ways for Moldova in reforming itself and making integration into the EU as smooth as possible by looking through a prism of different attitudes.

The articles' authors state that to unfreeze the Transnistrian conflict, thus eliminate the danger of the secessionist territory of Moldova becoming a Kaliningrad-2 type region there is a need to remove the blocking elements and to create an appropriate environment for change there. According to them, one of the obstacles is the regime from Tiraspol which is interested in keeping the status quo, and besides the geo-strategic interest of the regime's masters in the Kremlin and elsewhere in Russia, the old and emerging political elite in Tiraspol is driven by self-business interest, since Transnistria became a money-making machine for them, after all. Another blocking element is the current peacekeeping format. According to authors, the transformation of the current Russia-dominated peacekeeping format into a multinational format will play a significant role in resolving the conflict. Besides internationalization of peacekeeping forces, democratization of the Eastern region of Moldova is also necessary. The democratization of the society in the east bank of Nistru would weaken the power of the totalitarian Tiraspol regime and ultimately dismantle it through democratic means, as had occurred all over the Communist-dominated Europe in late 1980s and earlier 1990s.

The publication "Quo vadis, Moldova?" is an attempt to disclose the complexity and multiplicity of the situation in Moldova. It is an endeavor to know it better, decrease the level of uncertainty of what is the likely future of Moldova and attract more attention to the processes taking place within this state, which are or may be significant for other states as well.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS

Lately there is great competition for funds destined to the nongovernmental sector, and grants are less accessible to new initiative groups or organizations without too much experience in gaining funds. Till present, the majority of nongovernmental organization were mainly supported by activity grants, now, organizations have to search for new sources of funding. And first addressed by organizations is the community they serve. That is why now community foundations come as a long term solution for community needs.

Community Foundations are independent, philanthropic, charity organizations which collect funds from companies, institutions and individuals for settlement of local social, economic, environmental and other problems. A community foundation is created by a group of founders that come from business, civil society,

governmental sector, motivated to build and develop a mechanism for the community's long term financing and is headed by a board of directors elected from among community leaders, representatives of donors and of relevant community institutions.

Besides the role of donor, the community foundation may play a range of other roles on local level, depending on the existing needs: serve as information center of for funds gathering, facilitate relations and partnerships among nongovernmental organizations and firms, intermediate trainings and technical assistance for not-for-profit organizations implementing projects.

A community foundation may finance projects in different areas or for different target groups, depending on community needs and donors' interests. The financed projects must bring visible change that is appreciated by citizens and donors in the community. Community foundations' fields of activity may be diverse: education – scholarships for youth, donations of books, civic initiatives for youth; health – education campaigns, medical equipment for rural areas; environment – afforestation of urban areas, cleaning of rivers/ponds; culture – awards for local artists, handicraft support actions; infrastructure – districts decoration competitions, reparation of roads, street lighting etc.

Gaining resources is one of the main tasks of a community foundation. In this regard, methods that would facilitate the access of community organization or groups to donors are used. Usually, a community foundation functions with a minimal number of personnel: a director and a bookkeeper. The community foundation must make sure that the gained financial resources are used for purposes the foundation was created. The funds collected by community foundation are oriented towards a diversity of needs and organizations, avoiding concentration in a single area or distribution to a limited number of organizations. Community foundation distributes these funds transparently as grants or scholarships for associations, schools, clubs or citizens.

In present, there are over 1100 community foundations in the world in 46 countries which administer from several thousands to millions of dollars for communities which they serve. The first community foundation was established in 1914 in USA. The value of assets of this foundation comes up to 31.4 billion dollars, and in 2001 the grants it offered reached 2.6 billion dollars. In Europe, models of community foundations are quite recent (with several exceptions, after 1990) in Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Great Britain. Great Britain was the first country in Europe which introduced this concept among philanthropic organizations and which had a period of development of almost 25 years.

In present, there are five community foundations in the Republic of Moldova: Balti, Cahul, Orhei, Soroca and Ungheni. They started their activity this year, 2007, with the support of United Nations Program for Development (UNDP), which offered grants in value of 2500 dollars each for beginning of their activity. Prior to this every newly created community foundation elaborated funds gathering strategies

for needs of their communities.

The community foundation from Balti, for example, agreed on direct involvement of local public administration with co-financing of organizations participating to grants program, and the community foundation from Soroca will collect funds for arrangement and lightning of a portion of Independentei street, for arrangement of leisure zone from Soroca Noua district and of a playground for children and installment of some garbage containers and trees planting in one of town's districts. One of foundation's long term objectives is to collect means to build a sewerage station, considering that the old one doesn't function for twenty years now.

The initiative to create and develop community foundations in Moldova is supported by a consortium of donors: Soros Foundation Moldova, UNDP Moldova and the Social Investment Fund from the Republic of Moldova, in partnership with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova. The funds for establishment of these foundations were allocated by UNDP through "Contact" National Assistance and Information Center for NGOs. Within the "Development of Community Foundations" project, "Contact" Center offers community foundations assistance in training, elaboration of documents regarding grant administration, legal consulting, etc. The project is financed by Soros Foundation Moldova, with an amount of approximately 54 thousand US dollars.

Based on information of "Civil Society Development in Republic of Moldova" UNDP Project

NGO IN DETAILS

PIOTR MARCINIAK: "CIVIL SOCIETY FROM MOLDOVA DID NOT YET PERFORM A QUALITATIVE JUMP"

(Interview offered to DECA-press Agency by Piotr Marciniak, former Polish ambassador to the Republic of Moldova, programme coordinator for the Polish East-European Democracy Center)

Question: *Although you are no longer Poland's ambassador to Chisinau, you continue to be interested in what is happening in Moldova. How do you explain your interest for implementation of different projects in our country?*

Answer: It is natural for any ambassador who seriously works in a country to leave with some feelings towards the country where he worked. It is hard to stay indifferent to the problems of the respective country. It is a coincidence that I became ambassador after I activated in the field of home policy and associative

sector in Poland. After I finished my diplomatic mission, I returned to the associative sector in my country.

Question: *The projects you implement in Moldova could have been easier carried out in the Ukraine or Belarus, countries that have common border with Poland.*

Answer: Being an ambassador in Chisinau I noticed that the Polish programmes and NGOs from Poland concentrate their resources especially towards Ukraine and Belarus, and too few were interested in cooperation with Moldova. Modern diplomacy envisages, first of all, establishment of relations between the civil society, business sector and is not limited to political relations between governments. Because of this I tried to share my knowledge about the associative sector from Moldova with the Polish organizations interested in partnerships.

Question: *How do you explain that none of the projects you implemented here benefited the Polish diaspora from the Republic of Moldova?*

Answer: One of the reasons would be that the Polish governmental policy for the support of the Polish diaspora functions very well, efficient instruments existing in this sense. Another reason is the level of development of the Polish communities from the Republic of Moldova. The Polish diaspora reached the level that allows it to actively contribute to development of the civil society in Moldova. For example, the Polish House from Balti – a structure with consolidated management capacity – is already prepared to implement projects not just for the needs of the Polish diaspora, but also for those of other ethnicities from Balti.

Question: *Are you content with the results of the projects implemented in the Republic of Moldova?*

Answer: The projects for the local press showed good results. I had the possibility to see concrete results in a short period of time: modification of graphical aspects of some newspapers, new strategies, new topics, new approaches, growth in sales. It is important for the results of a project to contribute to transformation of the training activity into one of cooperation and partnership. Otherwise, the aid and support period for the Republic of Moldova can last for a very long time. The result of the support has to be an equal and viable partnership between Poland and Moldova. Such a result can now be seen in the Ukraine. I am against “informative” and “educational” projects. Some organizations made a mistake in their activity of cooperation with Moldova. That is the fact that they end their projects after transmitting information and ideas. These ideas though have to be assisted till the implementation phase.

Question: *How do you appreciate the capacity of the associative sector from the Republic of Moldova to administer the aid and support offered by foreign organizations?*

Answer: There are no fields in Moldova for which foreign donors did not give resources. But there is still lack of efficiency in use of this money. The results of the agri-tourism development programs are not very big, especially in regard to creation of networks of household interested in agri-tourism. The situation in

Chisinau is better, public life being concentrated in the capital. Although there are people in the Republic of Moldova who advise about the needs and problems, the civil society from this space did not yet perform a qualitative jump. We have to agree that not all problems can be solved by the rule. There are many problems in Moldova that have to be addressed by the civil society especially.

Question: *What factors could have a negative influence on the development of the civil society from the Republic of Moldova?*

Answer: The most objective problem, and the one hardest to overcome is the fact that the active potential of Moldova is tempted to leave abroad, looking for a better income. It is difficult to overcome these problems in a short period of time. People stay in the country only if they understand that they are useful for their country. People don't want just money, they also want success and achievement. Poland was in a similar situation: many were leaving because they could not see the possibility to affirm themselves in their country. It is very important for the rule to support people's initiatives, to contribute to their implementation and not to perceive the civil society as a competitor.

ACTUAL

TRANSNISTRIAN SUPREME COUNCIL CANCELED THE MIGRATION FEE FOR FOREIGN NATIONALS

During the plenary meeting of the Transnistrian Supreme Council deputies approved an amendment to the concept of the budgetary and tax policy of Transnistria for year 2008, according to which starting with 1 January 2008 the migration fee for foreign nationals entering or transiting the Transnistrian territory is canceled.

According to the "Novy Region" correspondent, 28 of 43 deputies voted against this change. The main argument for this position was that Transnistrian migration service was 100% financed from collection of the migration fee.

"This comes in contrast with the Constitution, according to which state services have to be financed from the state budget exclusively", – chairman of the Supreme Council Committee for interior bodies and fight of corruption, Andrei Sipchenko noted.

According to deputy Liubomir Rybyak, such a fee "harms Transnistria's international image".

According to data of the Transnistrian ministry of interior, without the money collected through the migration fee, about 10 million rubles (1.2 million US dollars)

will be necessary from the state budget.

Transnistrian minister of interior Vadim Krasnoselskii, speaking in front of the deputies noted that the migration service works effectively, finding over 160 violations lately.

The migration fee for Transnistria started to be collected on 15 April 2003 over the whole border, shortly after creation of the migration division within the Transnistrian ministry of interior.

Initially everyone without residence on the territory of Transnistria was supposed to pay the fee, regardless of citizenship. The amount was set at one accounting level of the minimum salary (currently 5.3 Transnistrian rubles, that is 0.63 US dollars, or approximately 8 Moldovan lei).

Starting with 1 January 2006, according to a decision of the Transnistrian Supreme Council citizens of Russia and Ukraine were exempted from payment of the fee, as well as representatives of diplomatic missions, foreign citizens coming on the Transnistrian territory at the invitation of state bodies and administration, as well as inhabitants of Moldovan villages within 500 meters distance from the border between Transnistria and Moldova.

Alexandr Komarov
TIRASPOL, "NOVY REGION"

WHAT DO YOUNG PEOPLE WANT?

Despite the fact that the number of NGOs increase in the past years in the Republic of Moldova, that the target groups of these organizations have widened, that civic participation was promoted, that many different projects were written and implemented, the thought that the Republic of Moldova is a country not ensuring any future for the young people and that a future can be obtained only by leaving to work abroad is still around.

Is this really a solution?

Yes, it would be a solution for those that let themselves influenced by the Moldovan stereotype to do as the neighbor does, so that they be better than the neighbor in the end. Unfortunately even since high school years young people let themselves influenced by the idea that going to work abroad they will manage to obtain a lot of money and that is where they will find what happiness is. They think this way because they have the example of neighbor "Vasile" who graduated only secondary school and going to work in Russia has returned, in a year, with a car and lots of money. "What do we need studies for, since you can't do anything in Moldova, and than, he did it, I can also do it". It is regretful, but this phrase is more and more often said by the youth. They are ready to take the hardest work knowing that, in exchange, will obtain lots of money that will allow them to live and not just survive, what could be the case if they stay in Moldova.

Practically every second young person wants to leave for abroad and not return

home unless like a guest. What kind of a country's future can one talk about if its' creators give up to it. A cause for this problem would be the indifference of each individual of our society. The population continues to be selfish and intolerant towards those close to them. The nepotism relationships, characteristic for our nation, and presence of corruption in all activity sectors are factors that determine the young people more and more often to refuse to fight for changes here, at home.

We all wish for an active civil society, smart and participative young people, but no one does something certain to obtain this. What kind of participation can we ask for from the young people if they have no idea about what an NGO means, how many of them exist, and what are their fields of activity. Young people, especially those from outside the capital, still remain uninformed in this regard. Today NGOs appear quite fast, but few know about them. Young people, lacking this information, cannot analyze the reality, cannot create a link between the priorities offered by NGOs and what is around them so that they be able to acknowledge that it is actually possible to change something even in a society like ours, since everything is up to us. A solution for this problem would be organization of an information campaign about NGOs from the country so that the young people have what to choose from (to stay home or to leave and work abroad). This way the principles of democracy and pluralism would be respected. Considering that we live in Moldova, a democratic country. Due to this, young people will also get to know another side of the reality, will know that there exists a civil society and that money is not all that important when you do what you like and especially that you can also earn it at home. It is not necessary to go abroad like "Vasile". And other reasons for this problem can be depicted, considering that they depend on each person. But they can be liquidated, all depends on...

It is up to each of us to decide on whom or on what settlement of this issue depends. One thing is clear, that lack of information about the NGOs in the country, that is about their activity and different programmes for young people is more and more felt among them.

Victoria Apostol

YOUNG PEOPLE LOOKING FOR A PROFESSION

*Seed value is determined by its productivity
a person's value consists in the benefit it can bring to those around.
Even an insect can be born, live, drink and, in the end to die...
People have to live a life that is useful to those around,
a truly spiritual life.
(Garibaldi)*

Choosing a profession is quite a difficult task for young people, they not having yet the professional maturity, not having experience in decision making, and not

having the necessary information.

Youth's selection of a profession has to be the prime concern for state leaders. The given fact is imposed due to the flexible and considerably unpredictable labor market, which is undergoing continuous change. Orientation activities aim at personal development and transfer of knowledge and abilities necessary for an efficient choice for future career.

Families, schools, social institutions try to help the children, giving them knowledge, skills and abilities, but unfortunately there are gaps in methodology.

Non-Governmental Organizations come to help, they organizing summer schools, seminars, trainings and making available adequate and well structured materials. In the given field civil society organizations offer us their help by organizing Professional Orientation trainings with experienced specialists. During the sessions they approach key components of professional orientation: self-evaluation, autonomy, information, significant cooperation relations, decision making abilities skills and abilities, professional life planning abilities, vocation, interests, emotional attitude in professional choice, responsibility, initiative, flexibility and motivation. Students are offered a load of tests to determine their professional interests, skills and decision making style. Students, together with coordinators, elaborate job search algorithms, identify main obstacles, stereotypes in selection of a profession. The groups debate over the personality and skills of the employer, employee, and unemployed, and make the tops of the most demanded professions.

Administration of Dorotcaia Theoretical Lyceum welcomes initiatives oriented towards support and development of youth on personal or professional level and express their willingness to cooperate towards their efficient implementation.

*Psychologist of Dorotcaia Theoretical Lyceum
Constantinov Natalia*

NOTE

MILLIONS OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE EDUCATION SYSTEM IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE AND CIS

A regional UNICEF report refers to "Education for some, more than others".

GENEVA, 20 September – UNICEF notes that the current education system from Central and Eastern Europe and CIS leaves millions of children without education yearly.

The study "Education for some, more than for others", launched by UNICEF Regional Office for Central and Eastern Europe and CIS shows that despite

economic growth and increase of expenditures for education, national education systems of countries in the region have substantial gaps.

A key indicator of these systemic failures was that there are an estimated 2.4 million “missing children” of primary-school age and almost 12 million missing secondary-school children who should be in school but are not. This data shows the inability of the education system to offer all children the chance to study.

UNICEF regional director, Maria Calivis, declared that approximately 14 million children being their life without education today, and that is in countries will known for previous high levels of equality, access and quality of education.

“This situation will lead to intergenerational cycles of poverty, and undermine the capacity of governments to develop globally competitive economies based on skilled labor rather than cheap labor,” Calivis said

The report found that public expenditure on education reinforced rather than counteracted social, ethnic and economic inequalities in access to and in the completion of basic education. Family background, mainly parents’ income but also education, had increasingly become a determinant in enrollment and attendance, particularly at pre-school level.

Armenia, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova and Tajikistan – countries with low economic indicators – had the lowest attendance rates

The report identified two further issues for UNICEF: the situation of the Roma children and gender equality. In three of the countries with the largest Roma communities – Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania – only a tiny proportion of Roma have any schooling beyond primary, compared to the non Roma people. Roma children’s educational attainment ranges from 10 per cent to 35 per cent in secondary school. Across the region only 1 per cent of Roma had attended higher education.

The report also showed that no country was achieving equal representation of girls in basic education but the numbers were close, 95 girls to 100 boys on average.

The most striking aspect of the figures was the feminization of higher education throughout the region. Girls outnumbered boys, in most cases significantly, in all countries except Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Turkey and Azerbaijan. Only Turkey and Tajikistan were in trouble to meet Millennium Development Goal 3, elimination of gender disparity at all levels of education by 2015.

The study found that, while reforms of education systems had been initiated, they had not penetrated into the classroom, thus affecting the overall quality of education, especially in poor and rural areas.

“This in turn affected demand for education which now was falling among disadvantaged families due to the poor quality of services provided, lack of relevance of curricula to the labor market, low transition to the upper-secondary education and insufficient perceived benefits from education,” Calivis said.

The report warned that it would not be possible to achieve Education for All goals

and thus achieve the Millennium Development Goals in the region if this situation of “Education for some, more than others” continued to prevail.

The report advocated that Governments should substantially increase spending on education to at least six per cent of their GDP, as against a regional average of three per cent to four per cent, and move from a distribution of public expenditure that reinforces inequality to one that counteracts inequality. It also urged central governments to intervene to create the policy conditions that will ensure “Education for All” children.

* * *

The report regards the Republic of Moldova especially in the context of migration, and reads that the children the parents of which work abroad have the tendency to miss school and abandon it prematurely. Regarding school drop out, the Report reads that “In Moldova, out of 71,000 children enrolled in 1st grade in 1994, less than 61,000 have graduated 9th grade in 2002. The school drop out rate is especially high in 8th and 9th grade, but it is also considerable in 2nd and 7th grades”.

Referring to inequities in education, the Report reads that in Moldova the enrollment rate for children aged 3-7 was of 67 percent among the population with the highest well-being level, and only 30 percent among the poorest. In the 7-14 age range the difference is of 29 percent. Only 5 percent of the young people aged 19-25 from among the poorer population were enrolled in education institutions in 2003, compared to 30 percent from among the group of families with higher incomes.

Moldova is also mentioned in the context of children’s institutionalization, with more than 0.5 percent of the children in residential institutions, compared to 0.29-0.26 in most countries in the region.

At the same time, Moldova is the country where girls exceed boys’ capacities in the performance tests (PIRLS - Progress in International Reading Literacy Study).

<http://www.admiterea.md/news/21.09.07sub.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS/FINANCING

UNDP PROJECT “SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATION ACTION PLAN IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS” IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ANNOUNCES THE COMPETITION FOR **THE BEST ACTION FOR PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

This competition is addressed to non-governmental organizations, initiative groups, natural entities who promoted and protected human rights in the Republic of

Moldova during 2007.

Eligible are actions that had quantifiable and proven results and regard:

- promotion of some values, rights;
- identification and prevention of violation of some rights;
- presentation of some social problems;
- performance of services and improving the situation of a certain group of beneficiaries;
- approval or amendment of some normative acts;
- other actions that aimed at ensuring, protecting, or promoting human rights.

Prizes of the competition:

- Prizes between 100 and 750 US dollars;
- Great prize: 1,000 US dollars.
- Special awards and prizes.

The prizes will be offered by the United National Development Programme (UNDP), UN HIV/AIDS Joint Programme (UNAIDS), International Migration Organization (IMO Moldova) and other organizations interested in human rights promotion in the Republic of Moldova.

Deadline for application is Monday, 15 October 2007, 6.00 PM. For additional information (regulation of the competition, application content, etc.): (022) 232523 or e-mail violeta.frunze@un.md.

Applications will be submitted in a sealed envelop (marked "NGO Competition") by mail or in person, at: UNDP Moldova, "Support for Implementation of the Nation Action Plan in the Field of Human Rights in the Republic of Moldova" Project. 16 Sfatul Tarii str., office 3, MD 2012 Chisinau, Moldova.

**EUROPEAN INITIATIVES PROGRAMME OF SOROS FOUNDATION MOLDOVA ANNOUNCES
CALL FOR PROJECTS ORIENTED TOWARDS CONSOLIDATION OF
THE EUROPEAN ASPIRATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

The mission of the European Initiatives Programme regards consolidation of the Moldova civil society, so that it actively influences the process of European integration, as well as support of authorities' efforts by aggregating and using the expertise existing in the academic sector and that of civil society groups, to make the European integration of the Republic of Moldova more efficient.

In the frames of the competition will be supported projects presented by NGOs, think-tanks, academic and not-for-profit institutions, directed towards consolidation of the European option of the Republic of Moldova under multi-dimensional aspects, and more specifically:

- Consolidation of NGOs directed towards development and implementation of European integration policies;
- Support of civil society in monitoring implementation of Moldova's commitments included in the political documents signed with the EU;
- Establish mechanisms for NGOs' involvement in the process of European integration, by supporting coalitions, forums, etc.;
- Consolidation of knowledge about EU matters for different target groups;
- Development of debates about advantages and provocations of European integration;
- Development of training courses in EU terminology, support of development of curricula for European Studies in the higher education system;
- Development of training courses for improvement of access to EU funding, available through the New Instruments;
- Support of policy development, analytical and research studies in implementation of the Action Plan;
- Elaboration of public plea campaigns in favor of European integration for the general public and target groups;

Project evaluation criteria:

- Compliance with the objectives and strategy of the European Initiatives Programme, as presented on the web site of Soros Foundation Moldova;
- Quality of the project and action plan;
- Motivation of partners and participants of the project;
- Expected outcomes, immediate and long-term impact;
- Experience of organizers in implementation of projects in the respective field;
- Existence of additional funding sources or own contribution of the organization.

Project proposals will be examined and approved by the European Initiatives Programme Jury. Deadline for presentation of project proposals is 30 October 2007.

Project proposals will be submitted at the headquarters of Soros Foundation Moldova, address Chisinau, Bulgara 32 str., or will be sent in electronic format to Programme Assistant Valeriu Negru at vnegru@soros.md.

Project proposals will be presented at least 8-10 weeks before expected start date, that is why it is recommended that activities begin starting with January 2008. The value of the budget is open, although the amounts have to correspond to the needs found and without exceeding the limits existing on the Moldovan markets of services and products.

Please pay special attention to the stipulations of the Solicitors' Guide posted on the web page of Soros Foundation Moldova: www.soros.md.

“MAZOWIA” FEDERATION, POLAND, AND THE CENTER FOR MINORITY PROBLEMS, MOLDOVA ANNOUNCE

RECRUITMENT OF PARTICIPANTS

for a study visit to Poland in the frames of the project “NGO Advocacy and monitoring of public administration – practice of Mazowsze province, Poland. Study visit for Moldova NGO representatives”.

The goal of the project:

1. to inform representatives of Moldovan NGOs with the experience of NGOs from Mazowsze region in the field of advocacy and monitoring public administration;
2. to familiarize Moldovan NGO representatives with methods of creation of partnership and cooperation relationships with the public administration, approved by “Mazowia” Federation;
3. to set the grounds of cooperation between NGOs from Moldova and NGOs from “Mazowia” Federation, Poland.

Project beneficiaries: 20 activists, NGO employees and volunteers from Moldova. Beneficiaries of this project are both NGOs from Moldova and representatives of 46 organizations that are members of “Mazowia” Federation.

Conditions of the competition:

- activity in the NGO sector for at least 3 years
- experience in cooperation with different NGOs and public administration
- knowledge of Romanian and Russian languages.

For additional details and information: Center for Minority Problems, address: 2 Negruzzi ave., office 415, MD-2001, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, tel/fax: +373 22 547727, e-mail: cmi@cmi-md.org

Deadline: 08 October 2007. Only selected candidates will be contacted before 20 October 2007.

RECOMMENDATIONS

WWW.NATO.MD

The web site of the NATO Information and Documentation Center from the Republic of Moldova, which is an autonomous non-governmental not-for-profit organization. The Center supports achievement of objectives of the Moldova-NATO Individual Partnership Action Plan (IPAP). The organization aims at promoting Euro-Atlantic values and principles for the public benefit, to support cooperation between Moldova and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to implement objectives and activities set in the frames of the Moldova-NATO cooperation, as well as to inform

the public opinion about these aspects. The web site presents information about NATO, Moldova-NATO relations, links to political-military and security institutions (NATO Parliamentary Assembly, EU, UN, OSCE, ATA etc.), analysis, comments, press releases, home and foreign news, statistics and analytical reports in the field of international relations.

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