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PC.DEL/492/26  
22 May 2026

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

**STATEMENT BY  
THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE 1565th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

21 May 2026

**In response to the Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration of the  
Republic of Moldova, Mr. Valeriu Chiveri**

Deputy Prime Minister, the European Union would like to thank you for your address to the Permanent Council.

On 7 and 8 May, you welcomed the High Representative/Vice-President of the European Commission, Kaja Kallas, to Chişinău for a series of meetings with your Government.

Like Ms. Kallas, I should like to reiterate here that: “The Republic of Moldova is not alone. The Republic of Moldova is part of Europe.” The European Union recognizes the progress you have made in implementing difficult reforms and is committed to continuing its support and guidance for the Republic of Moldova on its path towards EU membership. This membership is conditional on maintaining the pace of reforms, notably through the EU Growth Plan for the Republic of Moldova, which amounts to 1.9 billion euros, and on compliance with the principle of own merits, in line with the Copenhagen criteria.

The European Union backs constructive policies and initiatives, and likewise the Republic of Moldova’s efforts, under your leadership, towards economic and social reintegration, in a process that remains complex and sensitive. We are also monitoring developments in the Transnistrian region very closely. The recent remarks by the Secretary of the Security Council of Russia, as well as President Putin’s signing of a decree facilitating the issuance of Russian passports, show that Russia has not given up its attempts to exploit uncertainties and fuel instability.

The European Union reiterates its support for a peaceful, comprehensive and sustainable settlement of the Transnistrian conflict based on respect for the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders.

We therefore wish to reaffirm the European Union’s unwavering support in the face of Russia’s hybrid attacks and the challenges associated with the Russian aggression against Ukraine. The European Union has already demonstrated its technical support on several occasions, both during the energy crisis and the pollution of the Dniester/Nistru River, as well as through the EU Partnership Mission, which strengthens the Republic of Moldova’s resilience against Russian interference.

We attach great importance to our co-operation with the Republic of Moldova under the European Peace Facility. To date, the Facility has already allocated 200 million euros to the Republic of Moldova.

We continue to regret the lack of any progress on the complete and unconditional withdrawal of Russian military forces and equipment from the territory of the Republic of Moldova and likewise the lack of transparency regarding Russian troop movements. We recall that the commitments agreed upon at the OSCE Istanbul Summit in 1999 provide for the withdrawal of Russian military forces and equipment stationed on the territory of the Republic of Moldova without the host country's consent. We also reiterate the urgent need to destroy the ammunition stockpiles at the depot in Cobasna, which pose a serious risk to the civilian population and the environment. In this regard, the OSCE has a mandate and the means to contribute to these efforts and ensure the transparency of the operations.

Deputy Prime Minister, I should like to conclude by reiterating the European Union's full support for the Republic of Moldova and noting that this commitment will be solemnly reaffirmed at the second EU-Moldova Summit, scheduled to take place in Brussels on 22 June, which will once again confirm the deepening of our relations and the continuation of the EU membership process.

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.