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ENGLISH only

Unofficial translation

**APPEAL**  
**of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova**  
**“On promoting the criteria of democratization in the Transnistrian region**  
**of the Republic of Moldova”**

Re-confirming its adherence to international conventions regarding fundamental human rights and freedoms;

Taking into view the principles of the Declaration of Republic of Moldova’s Parliament of 24 March 2005 regarding political partnership towards achieving the objectives of European integration;

Defining the peaceful and democratic restoration of the Republic of Moldova’s territorial integrity as the most important priority, that serves as a guarantee for its stable and lasting development;

Believing that the existence of a separatist, authoritarian regime in the Transnistrian region of Moldova, which has deprived the population of fundamental human rights and freedoms, and which openly ignores the standards and criteria of the UN, OSCE and CoE, is intolerable in a modern Europe;

Taking into consideration the fact that this “frozen conflict” constitutes a breeding ground for regional instability;

Being aware of the fact that the absence of control on the part of the Republic of Moldova’s central state authorities over part of its territory and over a segment of the state border is incompatible with the European option of the Republic of Moldova;

Welcoming the initiatives of Ukraine’s President Victor Yushchenko, aimed at the final and lasting settlement of the Transnistrian conflict;

Underlining the importance of the provisions, included in Ukraine’s initiatives, concerning the necessity of democratizing the Transnistrian region as an indispensable condition for the restoration of the supremacy of law in the zone, for the creation of conditions which would guarantee the rights and freedoms of all citizens, regardless of nationality, beliefs and religious denomination, and, as consequence, for the fair and lasting resolution of this conflict;

**The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova adopts the present Appeal:**

The organization of free and democratic elections in the Transnistrian region is impossible in conditions where the norms of Republic of Moldova's Constitution and international democratic standards are ignored, in absence of political pluralism and freedom of expression, suppression of any manifestation of attitude different from the one imposed by force;

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova proceeds from the fact, that in order to uproot the abovementioned abuses it is necessary to impose a large-scale and comprehensive process of democratization of the zone with control and monitoring on the part of the international community, which, among other aspects, should include the following measures:

- abolition of the political police (the so-called Ministry of State Security), that suppresses any manifestation of liberty and eliminates political opponents of the current separatist regime, which makes the preparation and organization of free and democratic elections, in accordance with OSCE and CoE standards, impossible;
- reforming the so-called judicial branch of the Transnistrian region;
- freeing political inmates who are illegally imprisoned in the jails of the Transnistrian region, in accordance with the CEDO decisions of 8 July 2004;
- removing the impediments for the free activity of political parties from Republic of Moldova on the territory of the Transnistrian region;
- removing the impediments for the unobstructed activity of national and local mass-media outlets on the territory of the Transnistrian region;
- removing the impediments for the unobstructed activity of nongovernmental organizations and development of civil society as an important element of the public realm in a democratic state;
- conducting elections in the Transnistrian region of Republic of Moldova under the exclusive aegis of an International Election Commission, mandated by OSCE, with the largest possible representation of its member-states within its composition;
- exercising the right to participate in the zone's electoral process only on basis of confirmation of citizenship of Republic of Moldova;
- monitoring of international standards must be carried out by the International Election Commission at least five months before the date of elections;
- the international monitoring of democratic standards in the Transnistrian region, as well as the organization of the electoral process by the International Election Commission, may not result in any consequences regarding the recognition of this entity on the basis of international law.

The Parliament of Republic of Moldova expresses its conviction that without the preliminary assurance of the abovementioned conditions it is impossible to guarantee the rights of citizens from this zone of Republic of Moldova to free expression of will as a key element for the free and democratic resolution of the Transnistrian conflict, as well as makes impossible the creation of representative bodies in the Transnistrian region.

In this context, the Parliament of Republic of Moldova requests the CoE, OSCE and EU to actively include themselves in the process of democratization of the Transnistrian region and hopes to find the support of these European institutions in the realization of the abovementioned criteria regarding the democratization of this zone as an essential element in the political settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.

10 June 2005