



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1508

19 June 2025

Original: ENGLISH

1525th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1525, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1508
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until
31 December 2025.

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Moldova:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the Republic of Moldova would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The Republic of Moldova values the work carried out by the OSCE Mission to Moldova, which is a key partner for the Republic of Moldova in the Transnistrian settlement process, as well as in providing the necessary assistance and expertise to the Moldovan authorities on matters related to human rights, the rule of law and civil society. Although the formal settlement process is on hold, the Mission continues to play a primary role in facilitating dialogue between Chisinau and Tiraspol and monitoring the situation in the Security Zone.

Moldova, as the host country, strongly supports the mandate of the Mission and does not see any reason to hinder its functioning by reducing the duration of its legitimate mandate.

In this regard, we deeply regret that it was again not possible to extend the Mission’s mandate for one year due to the disagreement of one participating State.

OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 states that the mandate for field operations should be of a one-year duration when the participating State hosting the field operation concurs. And it should not be for any other OSCE participating State to impose an alternative period.

We would like to underline yet again the burden that six-month mandates place on the Mission and its ability to conduct its work efficiently. At the same time, Moldova underscores the importance of further fortifying the operational capacity of the Mission. It is imperative that the team can keep up its work without additional budgetary or administrative difficulties.

We call on the Russian Federation to reconsider its position with regards to the renewal of the Mission’s mandate in the future, to bring the Mission’s mandate in line with the yearly OSCE cycle, in accordance with the relevant Ministerial Council decision.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be attached to the decision as adopted and to the journal of the day.”

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
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The delegation of Poland, in its capacity as EU Presidency, passed the floor to the representative of the European Union, who delivered the following statement:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the European Union would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure:

The EU deeply deplores once again the isolated and unsubstantiated position of the Russian Federation to arbitrarily limit the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova to six months instead of one year, which is the rule we collectively subscribed to and reconfirmed in 2006 at the ministerial level. Indeed, the Brussels OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 reaffirmed unequivocally that the mandate for field operations should be of a one-year duration when the participating State hosting the field operation concurs. We continue to believe that a six-month extension represents a very heavy administrative burden for the Mission and we do not see any reason to render the functioning of the Mission even more challenging in the current very difficult circumstances, when the Republic of Moldova continues to face the consequences of Russia’s ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine.

We commend the Head of Mission and her dedicated team for the outstanding work they carry out to implement the mandate of the Mission, which has continued in spite of the present challenging circumstances. We recall our strong support for the Mission’s work in facilitating engagement and regular dialogue between the sides in the context of achieving a lasting comprehensive political settlement of the Transnistrian conflict, based on respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova within its internationally recognized borders with a special status for Transnistria.

It is essential that the Mission continues to monitor the situation in the Security Zone and on the border with Ukraine, reporting promptly on any incidents occurring there. We reiterate our appeal for strict adherence to the rules established by the Joint Control Commission in the Security Zone and emphasize the importance of respecting the Mission’s mandate and ensuring the free movement of its members.

Having in mind the importance of allowing the OSCE Mission to Moldova to continue its invaluable work, and taking into account the position of the host country, the EU has decided to join the consensus to extend the mandate by six months.

We call on Russia to reconsider its position in order to allow for a resumption of a one-year extension of the Mission's mandate, as per the established rule it agreed upon at ministerial level during the Ministerial Council meeting in Brussels in 2006.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of today's meeting.

Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, San Marino, Serbia and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
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By the delegation of Canada:

“Madam Chairperson,

Regarding the decision of the Permanent Council on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Canada would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

Canada regrets that one participating State has blocked consensus on extending the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova for the regular one-year term. We have joined consensus on this irregular six-month extension but are disappointed the Russian Federation has once again groundlessly and recklessly prioritized its narrow national interest to undermine the efficiency and effectiveness of our Organization, and broader European security.

Canada continues to strongly support the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova. We sincerely hope the Russian Federation does not plan to continue this disruptive path with regards to the renewal of the Mission’s mandate and that the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova will be renewed for the regular one-year term in December 2025. This would not only be in line with Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06 but also with the wishes of the host country.

Canada greatly values the role the OSCE field mission plays to support Moldova in addressing the challenges and security risks it faces.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you.”

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
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CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Switzerland:

“Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, Switzerland would like to make the following interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the Rules of Procedure.

Switzerland regrets that one participating State does not allow the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova for the regular one-year term.

We would like to recall our strong support for the Mission’s work and express our gratitude for its valuable efforts on the ground. It is imperative that the team can keep up its work without additional budgetary or administrative difficulties.

Taking into account the position of the host country, Switzerland decided to join consensus to extend the mandate by six months.

However, we call on Russia to reconsider its decision and to abide by OSCE Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06, which clearly states that the mandate of field operations should be of a one-year duration when the host country of the field operation agrees.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of today’s meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

PC.DEC/1508
19 June 2025
Attachment 5

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the United Kingdom would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We are deeply disappointed that the Russian Federation today continues not to allow the full 12-month extension that Moldova has called for and that the Mission, its staff and the people of Moldova deserve. This disruptive tactic is part of a pattern of behaviour in which Russia continues to make it difficult for the OSCE to carry out the work it is mandated to do. We call again on the Russian Federation to cease playing games with the Mission’s mandate, reconsider its position and return to full 12-month mandate renewals.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be attached to the decision as adopted and to the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1508

19 June 2025

Attachment 6

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
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By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova until 31 December 2025, the Russian Federation assumes that this field operation will make exhaustive efforts to facilitate the Transdnistrian settlement process within the existing formats, and that it will intensify its work with the Moldovan authorities with a view to remedying their massive violations of OSCE commitments.

We are obliged to note the limited benefit of the activities of the field operation in Chişinău with regard to facilitating the resumption of the work of the Permanent Conference on Political Issues in the Framework of the Negotiation Process for the Transdnistrian Settlement in the “5+2” format. The attempts to focus, instead, on supporting engagement on the basis of the “1+1” formula have not led to any substantive results either. In any case, direct dialogue between the two banks of the Dniester in the “1+1” format cannot be considered as an alternative to the Permanent Conference’s work, which was wound up by Moldova in 2019 under spurious pretexts.

The “5+2” mechanism had proved to be very much in demand and effective over many years of productive work. The documents adopted under its framework continue to be a durable legal basis for engagement between the authorities in Tiraspol and Chişinău. Our position is that only this negotiating mechanism has the requisite potential and legitimacy to work out a viable formula for a political settlement, and we consider allusions to its somehow having forfeited its relevance in view of the “geopolitical situation” to be utterly unconvincing.

In addition, we recall that the Mission’s mandate includes monitoring of the situation regarding respect for human rights and the rights of national minorities in the host country. We are obliged once again to note lack of a proper response on the part of the field operation to the lawlessness being perpetrated by the current Moldovan authorities. The Mission is ignoring the pressure exerted by these on the Orthodox Church and on politicians and media outlets not to their liking, and also their persecution of the opposition and even ordinary citizens who express their disagreement with the policies of Maia Sandu, including by casting protest votes in elections. The Moldovan authorities’ consistent moves towards curtailing the

autonomy of Gagauzia have thus been overlooked, as has their unprecedented pressure on the leadership of that region.

All this attests to the need for significant improvements to the field operation's work. The Russian Federation agrees to a further extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova for the next six months solely in order to give the Mission leadership one more chance to bring the Mission's activities in line with its mandate. Whether the continued existence of this structure is appropriate will depend on progress being made in addressing the aforementioned problems.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of today's meeting of the Permanent Council."

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
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By the delegation of the United States of America:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, the United States makes the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The United States joins consensus on the Mission to Moldova’s mandate extension until 31 December 2025, although our strong preference was for a one-calendar year extension. We are disappointed that one delegation yet again was unable to join consensus on extending the mandate of the Mission for a full year in line with Ministerial Council Decision No. 18/06, which states that ‘when the participating State hosting a field operation concurs, the mandate for field operations should be of a one-year duration.’ The United States rejects any notion that this six-month extension will set a precedent for future mandates.

We support Moldova’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and a comprehensive settlement of the Transnistria conflict with a special status for Transnistria. Our support for Moldova on its chosen path towards rule of law reform and further European integration is unwavering.

Madam Chairperson, I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.”