



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
TO THE OSCE**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

On behalf of the Moldovan delegation I would like to join others in warmly welcoming His Excellency Kanat Saudabayev, Chairman-in Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.

Indeed, it is a timely visit since all of us are actively involved in preparations to the Astana Summit. Since the very beginning, Moldova has been supporting the Kazakh Chairmanship and its ambitious goals reflected in the holistic motto: trust, traditions, transparency and tolerance. My country have been actively and constructively engaged in relevant activities pursued by the Kazakh Chairmanship including the Corfu Process and conflicts' settlement processes. We share the vision expressed by many of the participating states that in Astana we must reaffirm our common aquis in all three dimensions and give a strong incentive for implementation of all existing commitments to each other, in particular those undertaken 11 years ago at the Istanbul Summit. At the same time, we have to set parameters and benchmarks for the objectives of realizing tangible progress in resolving the protracted conflicts as an important step on the path of establishing a "security community" in the OSCE area.

On the Transnistrian settlement. My authorities highly value the efforts undertaken by the Kazakhstan Chairmanship in maintaining a permanent political dialogue in the 5+2 format. In supporting theses efforts, over the last year, the Moldovan Government promoted a number of important confidence building measures that, from our point of view, created a solid basis for negotiations. Recently the Government had adopted a decision that offers to the relevant Moldovan authorities a necessary framework to start working on re-establishing landline phone connection between two banks of Nistru. Unfortunately, we have to note – despite all efforts, we have not managed to achieve our main goal fixed for this year, namely – resumption of the official negotiation in the 5+2 format. The genuine political will of the all parties involved is required in this regard. We would like to use this opportunity to express our hope, the OSCE Summit in Astana will give a serious impetus to the settlement process on the basis of sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova. We count on the Kazakh Chairmanship in supporting ongoing negotiations to find an appropriate language for the Summit document on the Transnistrian conflict settlement that would allow for early and unconditional resumption of the official negotiations aimed at achieving the final resolution of the conflict. This part of the document would need also to stress importance for energized efforts in promoting the reintegration process and encourage concrete actions aimed at decreasing the military factor in the region, including by completion of the withdrawal of foreign forces and transformation of the current peacekeeping arrangement into a multinational civilian mission under a relevant international mandate.

Finally, once again, I would like to thank H.E. Minister Saudabayev for his statement and personal efforts in promoting OSCE agenda and wish him all the best and success in the future endeavours.

Thank you.