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STATEMENT

By H.E. Mrs. Eugenia OSTAPCIUC,
Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic Moldova

We cannot but regret the Russian State Duma new meddling in the electoral process outside of the Russian Federation. We also regret that the best accomplishment of our peoples in the past years - the Moldovan-Russian firm friendship - was attacked for involvement in the electoral process in the Republic of Moldova.

It is surprising that a wrong information of certain lawmakers of the State Duma on the transnistrian settlement process served as a ground of harsh appreciations and decisions. Frankly speaking, we have been waiting for a sincere and responsible appreciation of the Russian parliamentarians for developments in transnistrian region. We expected that the legislators are truly concerned over the fate of the transnistrian residents, many of whom are Russian citizens.

The terror against multiethnic population of transnistrian region promoted by the Tiraspol authorities, self-isolation and militarisation of the region, assaults on Moldovan schools, huge smuggling - all these should be examined with responsibility by the Russian parliament. Instead, we became witnesses of an unprecedented and dangerous decision given its possible consequences.

We sincerely hope that the Russian Duma lawmakers will resume an open cooperation between our peoples and states, on the principles of the framework agreement between our countries, in the interest of the transnistrian conflict settlement. In spite of anti-Moldovan statements and decisions delivered in Moscow ahead of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova, our society and leadership remain devoted to the principles of the Moldovan-Russian friendship.

19 February 2005
Chisinau