



Republic of Moldova's
Input for the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact
for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. Secretary General
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to represent the Republic of Moldova at this historic event when the global community assented to adopt a unique agreement on safe, orderly and regular migration.

I would like to thank the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for International Migration, Ms Louise Arbour for her leadership, as well as all participants ~~to negotiations~~ for their valuable input during the negotiations.

From the very outset of ~~the GCM~~ negotiations, the Republic of Moldova has proactively engaged in discussions, while supporting the core principles, ~~of shared responsibilities and unity of purpose in addressing all features of human mobility from security aspects, economic development to human rights protection.~~

In the context of today's Conference, I am particularly pleased to inform you that for the Moldovan Government migration governance and international partnerships are strategic issues of high importance.

As we witness constant movement of our citizens, Republic of Moldova is one of the country's most impacted by migration, with a quarter of population abroad.

It is important to be underlined that 20% of our country's GDP is made up of remittances, which support existing measures to reduce poverty, improving conditions at school, cover health expenditures and of course boost local business.

One third of the Moldovan students are educated abroad, in this sense benefitting from enhanced access to knowledge, networking, multicultural experiences and further professional opportunities.

However, the benefits of migration are nearly matched by its negative costs, including irregular migration and all types of exploitation, abandoned children, broken families and destroyed lives.

Such tendencies are not acceptable anymore, and we cannot afford to lose so many professionals and educated people, reason for what we should be focusing on adequate and comprehensive approaches for ensuring relevant synergies in this sense.

We are fully aware of the situation and its multiple strategic and sectorial policy implications, factoring this into the recently adopted Moldova 2030 Development Strategy, making it a strategic goal for us in order to change the current development paradigm in favor of a dynamic model based on investment and on development of goods and services-exporting industries.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova pays special attention to the economic growth and important achievements have been done so far, Moldova's economy grew up by 4.5% in the first half of 2018 and according to the World Bank it is expected an increase of 4.8% for 2018.¹

Our long-term goal is to address migration's demographic, social and macro-economic impact by tackling the underlying development challenges in multiple sectors, enhancing the trust in the Government and making our country a better place to live in.

~~We are fully committed to enhance our human capital through maximizing the positive impact of migration.~~

Under the migration mainstreaming exercise we have already improved the remittances matching model for directing their resources for small business development, established with the support of one of our strategic partner – the European Union.

This year Moldova celebrates the 10th anniversary of the EU-RM Mobility Partnership. Since 2008, as a first Eastern Partnership pilot country, Moldova continues to successfully implement projects related to border management and security, fostering cooperation in combating illegal migration and human trafficking as well as strengthening institutional capacity in the sphere of the migration management.

Undoubtedly, we could have even better results for reaching durable change, but we need concrete support from our EU partners and the new Capacity-Building Mechanism under the Compact.

Certainly, the UN is an important source of complementary expertise on the ground and we call for its joint and resolute action – under the guidance of the newly established Migration Network.

We got the data and analysis by drawing from important IOM-led instruments, such as the Migration Governance Indicators and the Extended Migration Profiles, however now we need to act in order to ensure sharing of responsibility and benefits of migration in a true spirit of partnership and mutual understanding.

Honorable audience,

The adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration comes at an opportune time for Moldova, and we are convinced that it will be a significant opportunity for my country to further strengthen migration governance, to address occurred challenges, to reap the benefits of migration as such, altogether guaranteeing the fundamental human rights and freedoms.

Finally, let me assure you, that the Republic of Moldova will continue to be a reliable partner and to support common efforts in finding best solutions to the global challenges of migration that we face today.

Thank you!