



THE EU AND MOLDOVA

July 2025

Moldova is an **EU candidate country** since 2022.



EU GROWTH PLAN FOR MOLDOVA

In October 2024, the Commission proposed a Growth Plan for the Republic of Moldova, worth **€1.9 billion** and underpinned by a Reform and Growth Facility for the period 2025-2027. It is **the largest ever stand-alone EU financial support package for the country**.

The Plan will boost Moldova's economy, accelerate reforms and will benefit Moldovans directly.

The Growth Plan has the potential to double the country's economy over the next decade. It will enable **better roads, energy security infrastructures, modernised schools, new hospitals, tangible support for small businesses, and the protection of Moldova's cultural heritage**, among others.

Supporting the country's socio-economic convergence is essential for Moldova's EU accession.



**The EU is
Moldova's**

**largest trade
partner**

**largest
investor**

**largest provider of
financial assistance**

ONGOING EU SUPPORT TO MOLDOVA

The EU is the largest provider of financial and technical assistance to Moldova. EU programmes and financing instruments support Moldova's economic development and accession process.

In 2021-2025, the EU has allocated over **€1.2 billion** in grants to Moldova.

This includes:

- **Direct budget support** towards Moldova's energy security and clean energy transition and to help Moldova's consumers – **1.2 million households** – cope with rising electricity bills. Over **700,000 households** also received subsidies to help pay their heating bills following a surge in energy prices triggered by Russia.
- Support for **reforms in the justice sector to protect judicial independence and to improve efficiency**.
- Support for Moldova's **transition** to a low-emission and resource-efficient economy.

GLOBAL GATEWAY

The **EU's Global Gateway** supports investments and mobilises the private sector and international financing institutions, towards more resilient economies. It delivers concrete benefits for people in areas such as **transport, energy, environment and climate, water and sanitation and digital development**.

Since 2021, the EU has mobilised **€1.7 billion** for projects in Moldova, together with international financial institutions.

Already ongoing investments include:

- Providing **energy efficiency improvements to healthcare and education institutions** across the country, including improvements of heating systems and installation of photovoltaic systems.
- Rehabilitating the **Valcinet-Ungheni-Chisinau Cainari rail corridor**, boosting trade and economic development, as part of the EU-Ukraine Solidarity Lanes initiative.
- Improving **insulation of buildings**, installing more **energy efficient** lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation **systems**, integrating **renewable energy sources** and introducing efficient energy management practices.
- **Road transport infrastructure**, building connections within Moldova and bringing the country closer to the EU.
- Supporting **small and medium-sized enterprises**: between 2021 and 2023, over 8000 Moldovan SMEs enjoyed **better access to finance** and nearly 7000 SMEs benefitted from **business advisory services**.

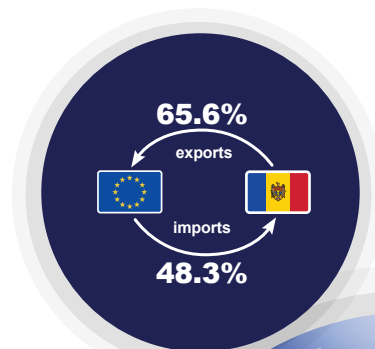


TRADE

The EU is Moldova's main trading partner. In 2024, the EU accounted for 54% of Moldova's total trade in goods (65.6% of total exports)*.

The **Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area (DCFTA)** is an integral part of the Association Agreement, in full effect since 2016.

The European Payment Council (EPC) gave Moldova the green light to join the **Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA)**. With most Moldovan banks already prepared, SEPA transactions for these banks will be possible as of 5 October 2025, making cross-border transfers cheaper for families and deepening Moldova's integration into the European financial system. This will stimulate cross-border trade and investments.



SECURITY & DEFENCE COOPERATION

The EU remains deeply committed to deepen cooperation with Moldova under the Common Foreign and Security Policy.

- In 2024, Moldova became the first country to sign a **Security and Defence Partnership with the EU**.
- The **EU Partnership Mission in Moldova (EUPM)** provides **critical support to Moldovan institutions** in the field of security to build resilience against cyber and hybrid threats.
- Through the European Peace Facility (EPF), the EU is supporting the **modernisation of Moldova's armed forces** with close to €200 million for 2021-2025.
- Since 2023, the EU has put in place a **sanctions regime against those individuals and entities involved in actions destabilising the country**.



EU SOLIDARITY WITH MOLDOVA

- In response to the energy crisis and related price increases, the EU and Moldova have agreed on a two-year **Comprehensive Strategy for Energy Independence and Resilience**. It aims to end Moldova's dependence on Russian energy and fully integrate Moldova into the EU energy market, so to ensure greater energy security and independence. Under this strategy, EUR 250 million will be mobilised by the EU and its partners in 2025 alone.
- This support comes in addition to the extensive budget support, which the EU has provided for the energy sector in Moldova since 2021. This assistance has subsidised gas and electricity bills via grants and macro-financial assistance.
- In light of the impact on Moldova of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the EU has mobilised special measures to support vulnerable Ukrainian refugees and families hosting them in Moldova, through **humanitarian assistance**. **The EU is planning to provide €84 million.**

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CONTACTS

- Since 2014, Moldovans benefit from **visa-free travel to the EU**.
- Since 2021, the EU has funded over 3 948 **Erasmus+** exchanges between Moldova and other participating countries in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport.
- From 1 January 2024, telecom operators in the EU and the Republic of Moldova agreed on **lowering roaming tariffs**, meaning that citizens and businesses are already enjoying lower charges on their calls, data and texts between the EU and Moldova. Likewise, the EU has provided extensive technical assistance for the Moldovan roaming law and is committed to bringing **Roam Like at Home** to Moldova as of January 2026, subject to completion of necessary steps.

