

Strengthening Security Sector Governance in Moldova (2023-2029)

Newsletter No 7 January - June 2026

Since its launch in January 2023, DCAF's project **"Strengthening Security Sector Governance in Moldova" (2023-2029)** has engaged with the Moldovan security sector and its oversight institutions to promote good security sector governance in Moldova.

Supported by **Sweden** through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), DCAF collaborates with institutions across Moldova's political system, reflecting a whole of society approach to governance. These partners include the Parliament and its standing committees, the National Security Council and its secretariat, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and its subordinate institutions – including the General Police Inspectorate, the Internal Protection and Anti-Corruption Service, the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations, the National Institute of Justice, the Superior Council of Magistrature, the Superior Council of Prosecutors, the National Crisis Management Centre, the National Cybersecurity Agency, as well as civil society organisations with expertise on defence and security, governance, and human rights.

What does this project seek to achieve?

Outcome 1: National legislative and executive actors identify feasible reform solutions, adopt laws, and take policy decisions in line with EU guiding norms and good practices.

Outcome 2: The Ministry of Internal Affairs and its subordinate institutions utilise their enhanced strategic and operational capacities to effectively implement locally owned modernisation processes and build integrity in line with EU practices and norms.

Outcome 3: The public is better informed of the objectives and results of reforms that align Moldova with EU norms and good practice in the area of security and rule of law.

The project is built around three outcomes, aiming to enhance professionalism and performance in the public sector, foster partnerships between legislative, executive, and judicial institutions, civil society, and citizens, promote trust, and increase democratic resilience.

Partner Steering Mechanism

The project is governed through steering committees consisting of representatives of the project's main beneficiary institutions. The steering committees provide strategic guidance on the project's implementation and ensure its relevance and responsiveness to local developments and priorities.

Outcome 2 – Steering committee meeting

On 20 January, 2026, DCAF held its fifth steering committee meeting for partners engaged in SSGM activities related to strategic management in the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) and its subordinate institutions. This steering committee meeting was hosted by the MIA and offered a space to discuss achievements and challenges from activities and processes implemented under SSGM Outcome 2 in 2025 and the proposed workplan for 2026. The fifth steering committee was attended by the Minister of Internal Affairs, the heads of relevant directorates within the MIA, representatives of the Embassy of Sweden in Chisinau, and SSGM's programme manager and other DCAF staff from the Chisinau office.

Steering Committee Meeting, Outcome 2, 20 January 2026, Chisinau





Workshop on crisis management, in cooperation with the National Crisis Management Centre of Moldova, 24 February 2026, Chisinau

By mid-2026, “Strengthening Security Sector Governance in Moldova” is over halfway through implementation. Since the beginning of 2023, the project has built strong and trusted relationships with the donor, implementing partners, and beneficiaries, leading to significant achievements across its area of intervention. Thanks to the partners’ sustained commitment and active engagement, this last semester was once again particularly dynamic, marked by the implementation of many activities and the consolidation of processes started in the preceding periods. One main highlight of this period is the **signature of an extension package between DCAF and Sweden**, in March 2026. The project extension prolongs the project’s implementation frame until mid-2029, and includes **new project workstreams on crisis management and cybersecurity governance, with institutionalised support to the National Crisis Management Centre and the National Cybersecurity Agency**.

Outcome I

Enhancing National Security Governance

During 2026’s first semester, DCAF continued to engage with parliamentary standing committees, notably on the development of an updated Parliament Code of Activity, with the National Security Council Secretariat, and the Moldovan judiciary, while strengthening cooperation with the National Crisis Management Centre and the National Cybersecurity Agency.

SUPPORT TO LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND PARLIAMENT CODE OF ACTIVITY

A key area of engagement was the ongoing support to the Parliament’s legislative agenda. DCAF continued to provide technical expertise on the **draft Law on State Secrets**, currently under review by the Ministry of Justice. Once the draft law advances to the parliamentary stage, DCAF stands ready to support the Parliament throughout the legislative process to help ensure the law aligns with international standards and good practices.

DCAF is also supporting the **development of an updated Parliament Code of Activity**, providing technical expertise to strengthen parliamentary procedures and institutional effectiveness. As part of this work, DCAF facilitated discussions on enhancing parliamentary oversight of the intelligence sector, including the possible establishment of a dedicated parliamentary sub-committee to reinforce democratic accountability and oversight mechanisms. To complement DCAF’s technical assistance, the project commissioned two external experts to review the draft Code of Activity and provide detailed comments and recommendations. Their expert assessments were also accompanied by comparative perspectives and lessons learned from parliamentary practices across Europe, with a particular emphasis on Austria, ensuring that the drafting process benefited from diverse expertise and international good practices.

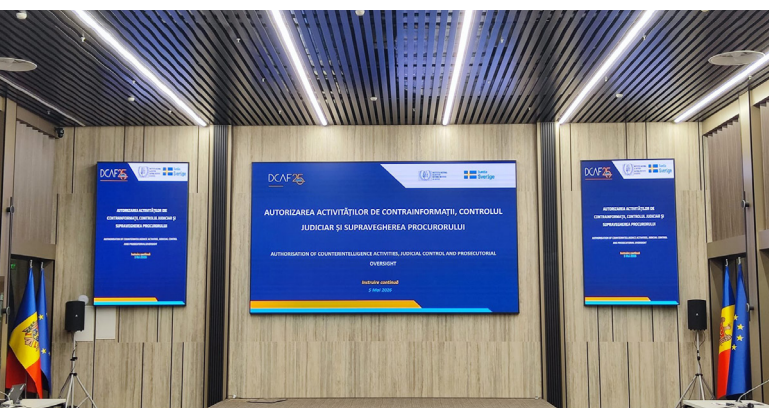
PARLIAMENTARY GUIDELINE ON INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT

Building on more than a year of collaborative work, the project continued to support the **development of a practical guideline on parliamentary oversight of the security sector, with a particular focus on intelligence oversight**. To lead this process, DCAF established in 2024 a dedicated working group bringing together parliamentary advisors from standing committees and relevant administrative departments. Through the participatory drafting process, the group worked collaboratively throughout the months to develop and refine the publication. At the beginning of 2026, the guideline has reached the final stages of preparation. Its publication has been temporarily postponed to ensure alignment with the ongoing development of the updated Parliament Code of Activity, which addresses several areas covered by the guideline. Once published, the guideline will serve as a practical resource for members of parliament and parliamentary staff, strengthening their capacity to exercise effective oversight of the security and intelligence sector.

STRENGTHENING JUDICIAL CONTROL OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE MEASURES

In parallel with the development of the parliamentary guideline on intelligence oversight, DCAF continued to coordinate, in partnership with the National Institute of Justice, the **development of a judicial benchbook on the authorisation and control of special investigative and counterintelligence measures**. Since 2024, the project has worked closely with a group of experts and practitioners from Moldovan courts and prosecution offices, to develop in a participative manner a benchbook aiming at providing practical guidance on the exercise of judicial control in criminal proceedings and intelligence activities. The benchbook is now entering its final stages of development, with its completion and publication planned for the end of 2026. Once launched, it will serve as both a reference resource and a training tool within the National Institute of Justice's curriculum, supporting the consistent application of legal standards and strengthening judicial oversight capacities.

In addition to the development of the judicial benchbook, the project also continued to **support the National Institute of Justice in delivering continuous professional development trainings for judges and prosecutors in Moldova**.



Training on the authorisation of counterintelligence activities, judicial control, and prosecutorial oversight, 5 May 2026, Chisinau

On 5 May, DCAF and the National Institute of Justice jointly organised a **training session on “Authorisation of Counterintelligence Activities, Judicial Control, and Prosecutorial Oversight.”** The one-day training combined legal analysis, comparative European perspectives – including contributions from Austrian expertise engaged by DCAF – and practical insights from Moldovan practitioners representing the judiciary, the Prosecutor General's Office, and the Security and Intelligence Service. Discussions focused on key issues such as the distinction between counterintelligence activities and special investigative measures, the admissibility of evidence, judicial safeguards, and interinstitutional cooperation.



Training on the investigation and prosecution of crimes against public authorities and state security, 19 May 2026, Chisinau

On 19 May, DCAF and the National Institute of Justice organised a second continuous **training on “Investigation and Prosecution of Crimes against Public Authorities and State Security.”** Bringing together Moldovan practitioners and international judges and prosecutors from Slovenia, North Macedonia, and Sweden, the training explored prosecutorial coordination, the judicial examination of security-related criminal cases, the admissibility of evidence, the proportionality of special investigative measures, and European approaches to balancing national security objectives with human rights obligations.

OPERATIONALISATION OF THE NATIONAL CRISIS MANAGEMENT CENTRE OF MOLDOVA

In March 2026, DCAF signed a project extension with Sweden, expanding the project portfolio to include **institutional support to Moldova's National Crisis Management Centre (NCMC)**. This cooperation was formalized through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between DCAF and the NCMC in June 2026. The project extension builds on DCAF's ongoing engagement in the area of crisis management and civil preparedness in Moldova since 2023. During the first semester of 2026, support in this area was further strengthened, with a focus on **enhancing inter-institutional coordination, clarifying mandates and regulatory frameworks, and supporting the operationalization of the NCMC following the adoption of the Crisis Management Law in 2025**. The project also initiated discussions and activities aimed at strengthening crisis communication capacities.



Signature of Memorandum of Understanding between DCAF and the National Crisis Management Centre of Moldova, June 2026, Chisinau.

In February, in close cooperation with the NCMC, the project launched **a series of workshops on crisis management aimed at clarifying the roles and responsibilities of institutions involved in crisis preparedness and response**. The workshops, **at operational, strategic, and tactical levels**, seek to foster a shared operational understanding of institutional mandates, procedures, information flows, and coordination mechanisms within the newly restructured national crisis management system.



Workshop on crisis management, operation level, 24 February 2026, Chisinau

The first workshop, held on 24 February, brought together operational coordinators from central public authorities involved in crisis preparedness, risk assessment, and sectoral monitoring. Discussions focused on the updated information flows and the clarification of new standardized reporting procedures to the NCMC. A second workshop took place on 21 April, convening strategic-level coordinators responsible for high-level preparedness, risk assessment, and cross-government crisis planning. The discussions focused on clarifying institutional roles, procedures, and coordination mechanisms under the NCMC-led crisis management system, as well as on how strategic guidance can strengthen day-to-day preparedness across the national system. A third workshop, targeting tactical-level participants, is planned for autumn 2026 and will further contribute to strengthening a common understanding of roles and coordination arrangements across all levels of the crisis management system.



Workshop on crisis management, strategic level, 21 April 2026, Chisinau

Beyond the facilitation of the workshops, the project also brought support to the NCMC in its operationalization and networking efforts.

ENHANCING CYBERSECURITY GOVERNANCE AND STRENGTHENING MOLDOVA'S CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

The March project extension also marked an important step in **strengthening cooperation with Moldova's National Cybersecurity Agency (ASC)**, formally bringing the Agency into the project's network of partners. DCAF has been working with the ASC since 2025, supporting its infrastructure protection efforts and organising a risk assessment seminar at the end of last year. The formalisation of the partnership further expands joint activities aimed at **strengthening Moldova's cybersecurity governance, building the capacities of relevant authorities, enhancing resilience, and promoting national, regional, and international cooperation**.

A key milestone in this cooperation was the third annual **Moldova Cybersecurity Forum, held in Chisinau on 12–13 May** and supported by the project. Bringing together national and international cybersecurity stakeholders, the 2026 Forum focused on **critical infrastructure protection and regional cooperation**, with discussions covering emerging threats, lessons from the recent elections, regulatory developments, and practical ways to strengthen Moldova's cyber resilience. The Forum also provided an opportunity to share regional and international experience, with external experts from FIRST and France's ANSSI contributing to the programme through the project. Particular attention was given to the cybersecurity of critical sectors, including banking and financial services, healthcare, energy, and telecommunications. Beyond policy discussions, participants took part in hands-on training, interactive workshops, and a dedicated cyber-range exercise, allowing them to test their skills through realistic, scenario-based challenges. The event provided a valuable platform for professional exchange and for identifying practical, context-specific solutions to Moldova's evolving cybersecurity needs.

In June, DCAF supported the participation of representatives from the National Cybersecurity Agency and the Ministry of Economic Development and Digitalisation of Moldova in a **regional seminar on cybersecurity legislation, held in Athens, Greece, on 16–17 June**. The seminar provided participants with an opportunity to learn about upcoming **developments in the EU's cybersecurity regulatory framework** and exchange experiences with colleagues from across the Western Balkans. Discussions focused in particular on the EU Digital Omnibus Package, published in November 2025, and

the revised EU Cybersecurity Act, published in January 2026. Both initiatives are expected to have important implications for the development and implementation of cybersecurity legislation and policy. Participants also explored the **roles of key European cybersecurity institutions and mechanisms**, including ENISA and the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre and Network (ECCC). The seminar further provided an opportunity to learn from recent developments and practical experiences in Albania, Montenegro, and Serbia, including approaches to cybersecurity risk assessment and the work of their national cybersecurity agencies. By bringing together practitioners from Moldova and the wider region, the seminar supported the exchange of knowledge and good practices and contributed to strengthening Moldova's capacity to follow and respond to evolving European cybersecurity legislation.

Since June, the project has also expanded its legal support to the ASC, supporting two important initiatives aimed at strengthening the country's cybersecurity framework.

The first is the **preparation of a National Cyber Incident and Cyber Crisis Response Plan, which will establish a state-level framework for responding to major cyber incidents and crises**. The plan will clarify the roles of public authorities, critical infrastructure operators, and other relevant stakeholders, while establishing mechanisms for national coordination, incident reporting, information-sharing, escalation, and recovery. It will help ensure that Moldova can respond to serious cyber threats in a coordinated and effective manner. In parallel, DCAF is supporting the ASC in developing a **new bylaw on cybersecurity inspections, supervision, compliance checks, and control activities**. The bylaw will provide the practical procedures for overseeing compliance with Moldova's cybersecurity requirements by essential and important entities. It will cover inspections and supervisory audits, compliance assessments, cybersecurity risk-management and incident-reporting obligations, as well as corrective and enforcement measures. It will also clarify the responsibilities of both supervisory authorities and inspected entities, contributing to a more transparent and consistent approach to cybersecurity oversight. Together, these initiatives will strengthen Moldova's capacity to prevent, manage, and respond to cybersecurity risks, while supporting the implementation of the country's Cybersecurity Law and the alignment of national practices with EU NIS2 standards.

Both areas of legal expert support will continue through the autumn.

OUTCOME 2

Supporting Strategic Management Capacity in the Law Enforcement System

In the first half of 2026, the project continued to focus on building strategic management capacities within the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) with a view towards EU accession, implementing anti-corruption recommendations, and enhancing approaches to the implementation and coordination of gender action plans. During this period, highlights include supporting the participation of MIA representatives in high-level meetings, including the 102nd GRECO plenary session, developing thorough reports on SDDAI sectoral programmes to inform future policy planning in the MIA, continuing to foster and grow the network of integrity facilitators, supporting the MIA Secretariat on Women, peace, and security (WPS) to finalise the mid-term evaluation of the National action programme for WPS, and accompanying the Women's Police Association through their development of a three-year Strategy.

SUPPORT TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS TO ENGAGE IN EU INTEGRATION PROCESSES

DCAF supports the MIA to participate in exchanges that facilitate institutional reform processes linked to EU integration. In the first half of 2026, DCAF sponsored key MIA officials to take part in two high-level dialogues.



Participation of Moldovan delegation in 62nd edition of the Munich Security Conference, 13-15 February 2026, Munich.

From 13 to 15 February, three senior MIA officials, including the Minister of Internal Affairs, participated in the **62nd edition of the Munich Security Conference**. The Munich Security Conference offers an opportunity for states and international organisations to coordinate on emerging security risks and regional security issues, and the Moldovan

delegation, sponsored by DCAF, focused on addressing strategic topics during their participation in the conference including **resilience against hybrid threats, migration, asylum, and refugee management, and regional cooperation against transnational crime**. The Moldovan delegation used the opportunity to attend several bilateral and multilateral meetings which enhanced their strategic dialogue with key European and global partners. During this visit, the Minister of Internal Affairs also took part in **Foreign Policy's Emerging Threats Forum** and contributed to discussions on Moldova's strategy for countering hybrid threats. Moldova's presence at this forum enables the MIA to have an active role in the international dialogue on peace and security and to coordinate security policy with other European states.



Participation of Moldovan delegation in 62nd edition of the Munich Security Conference, 13-15 February 2026, Munich.

From 24 to 26 March, DCAF sponsored a Moldovan delegation of two officials to participate in the **102nd GRECO plenary session in Strasbourg, France**. This session included an examination of follow-up reports on **compliance with recommendations from the fifth-round GRECO evaluation of Moldova on promoting integrity in central governments and law enforcement agencies**. The Moldovan delegation shared their progress and engaged with GRECO experts during the plenary session, providing information for the Fifth Round Compliance Report on the Republic of Moldova that was adopted during the meeting and published on 8 April. This activity aligns with DCAF's previous support to the MIA and its Service for Internal Protection and Anti-Corruption (SPIA) on the practical application of GRECO recommendations and integrity building.

SUPPORT TO THE MIA ON EVALUATING AND REPORTING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REFORM PROGRAMMES

DCAF engages with the MIA on its **strategic planning**

and management processes linked to its **Strategy for the Development of Home Affairs and related sectoral programmes**. To complement the policy planning cycle for 2026 – 2029 that the MIA completed throughout 2025 with DCAF's support, DCAF worked with a local consultant and the MIA throughout April and May to draft **the evaluation of the Public Order and Security Programme (2022 – 2025) and the Programme for preventing and combatting organised crime (2022 – 2025)**. The evaluation of these programmes is important for ensuring continuity across the policy cycle, transparency on the progress of the implementation of reform, and the development of a robust source of data for strategic decision making in the MIA. Using an evaluation methodology previously developed under SSGM, the local consultant worked with the MIA on data collection, data analysis, and the development of two evaluation reports. The reports were completed at the end of May and can be found on the website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

MCF COMPONENT OF SSGM: SUPPORT TO STRENGTHENING OPERATIONAL CAPACITIES OF THE GENERAL INSPECTORATE FOR EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

In 2026, DCAF continued its partnership with the Swedish Civil Defence and Resilience Agency (MCF). MCF's focus in the SSGM project is to contribute towards strengthening the operational capacities of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (GIES) of Moldova.

During this period, MCF worked closely with GIES to strengthen its capacities in key areas, including the **Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) interoperability, inter-agency coordination, crisis communication and public risk awareness, and the effective delivery of its mandate**. The partnership also expanded to **support Moldova's ongoing National Disaster Risk Assessment**.



Workshop on developing standard operating procedures for information exchange with the Emergency Response Coordination Centre, 14-15 January 2026, Chisinau

On 14–15 January, a two-day workshop was held in Chişinău for GIES duty officers and other relevant staff involved in requesting support through UCPM. The workshop focused on **developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for information exchange with the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) before and during emergencies**, including real-time reporting and alignment with UCPM standards. Through a combination of practical exercises and focused discussions, participants strengthened their understanding of UCPM procedures, activation processes and response arrangements.

In order to strengthen GIES' technical capacities in the field of risk and crisis communication, a three-day **Adobe Photoshop training for GIES staff members working in public awareness and communication** was held on 12–15 February. Bringing together 15 participants from across Moldova, the training strengthened their practical skills in designing, editing and enhancing visual content for press releases, social media, public awareness campaigns, reports and other communication materials, including more interactive formats. The activity contributed to strengthening the digital design capacities of GIES communication staff and supporting more effective, creative and professional public communication.



Adobe Photoshop training for GIES staff members, 12-15 February 2026, Chisinau

On 4–5 March, a workshop was held to **strengthen a common understanding of National Disaster Risk Assessment (NDRA) concepts and processes**, with a particular focus on reporting requirements under the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM). The workshop introduced the Swedish approach to reporting NDRA to the UCPM and explored how Sweden fulfils these requirements in practice. Bringing together participants from GIES and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, as well as observers from key national and international partners, the activity provided

practical insights to support Moldova's ongoing efforts to strengthen its national disaster risk assessment and reporting capacities.



Workshop on National Disaster Risk Assessment concepts, processes, and reporting mechanisms, 4-5 March 2026, Chisinau

From January to May, work was carried out to develop **a practical guide and toolkit to support GIES in its work with risk communication towards young people, with a focus on reaching 16-year-olds in remote rural areas through digital lectures and training**. The work began with an assessment of existing extracurricular information materials and consultations across Moldova, including more than 20 interviews in the North, South and Centre regions, which identified key gaps such as fragmented training, a disconnect between theory and practice, limited youth engagement, and weak links between institutions and communities. Building on these findings, a workshop held on 27 May focused on developing a modern, youth-friendly toolkit for GIES staff, incorporating interactive approaches that promote young people as active participants and agents of change in disaster preparedness.



Workshop for the development of a toolkit on risk communication towards young people in Moldova, 27 May 2026, Chisinau

INTEGRITY BUILDING IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

In this period, DCAF worked on integrity building with the Ministry of Internal affairs by continuing to support SSGM's **'Integrity Facilitators'**, **encouraging the development of corruption risk registers for MIA's central apparatus, and organising trainings on managerial control and anti-corruption standards for MIA officials.**

In January and in June, DCAF held two meetings with the integrity facilitators from the MIA and its subordinate institutions who were trained in previous years under the SSGM project. Through these meetings, DCAF continued to foster the network built during the integrity training-of-trainers in previous years of SSGM's implementation and offered a space for the facilitators to discuss achievements and challenges in their training engagements. The project also **supported the integrity facilitators to organise and deliver several training sessions on professional integrity** between January and June, including sessions **for border police in different parts of Moldova, including Edineț, Cahul, Ungheni, and Ștefan Vodă.**



Training-of-trainers of MIA integrity facilitators, for the organisation of training sessions on professional integrity, January-June 2026, Chisinau



Training session on professional integrity, by MIA integrity facilitators, January-June 2026, Moldova. © Internal Protection and Anti-Corruption Service



Discussions on the development, monitoring, and reporting on corruption risk registers with the MIA, March 2026, Chisinau

In March, DCAF began working with the MIA and its subordinate institutions on **developing, monitoring, and reporting on corruption risk registers**. This work is part of the implementation of Action 274 in Moldova's National Anti-corruption Plan and relates to recommendations for law enforcement agencies in GRECO's Fifth Round Evaluation Report on Moldova. The MIA is focused on standardising processes related to corruption risk registers across the internal affairs system and DCAF is supporting efforts for this by working with policy development divisions in the central apparatus, SPIA, and other anti-corruption and internal control units in MIA's subordinate institutions to update registers across the institution. In March, DCAF began discussions with the MIA to identify challenges and needs for standardising the corruption risk register process. Collaboration on standardising and updating the corruption risk registers will continue with the MIA under SSGM through the end of the year.

From 7 – 9 April, DCAF supported the MIA to receive a **training course on internal managerial control**. The course was delivered to 15 MIA representatives by the Centre for Information Technology in Finance and covered **risk management, assessing and controlling fraud and corruption risks, and managing sensitive functions in line with Moldovan legislation for public institutions**. Training courses such as this one are another element of the implementation of GRECO recommendations and complement DCAF's work with the MIA on updating corruption risk registers, detailed above.



Training course on internal managerial control, 7-9 April 2026, Chisinau

On 25 May, the Service for Internal Protection and Anti-Corruption (SPIA) of the MIA organised an **integrity discussion club for university and high school aged students in Chisinau** with DCAF's support. The discussion club included a thematic session on defining corruption, a panel discussion with a representative from the National Youth Agency, a quiz on ethical dilemmas, and a question-and-answer session. The discussion club was attended by over 30 university and high school students and offered a space for exchange around ethical values and mechanisms for preventing and reporting on corruption.

Between April and May 2026, employees of the Central Apparatus of the General Police Inspectorate completed **specialised training courses on anti-bribery management systems**, provided by the Institute for Standardisation of Moldova (ISM). The courses focused on developing the capacities of specialists in anti-bribery management systems and internal auditors, in accordance with the MS ISO 37001:2025 and SM EN ISO 19011:2018 standards. The training was funded by SSGM and is part of the ongoing efforts of the GPI to implement the ISO 37001 Anti-Bribery Management System, aimed at strengthening institutional integrity, increasing transparency and improving the prevention of corruption.

ENHANCING CAPACITIES TO IMPLEMENT GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGIES/ACTION PLANS IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Between January and June, DCAF worked with the Ministry of Internal Affairs on reporting on gender equality action plans and continued to provide project and capacity building support to the Women's Police Association.

From January to May, **DCAF supported the MIA to finalise their mid-term evaluation report on the National action programme for the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, peace, and security**. The development of this evaluation report was initiated by the MIA last year, in June 2025, and the draft report was completed at the end of 2025 based on data collected in the second half of 2025. In the beginning of 2026, DCAF continued to work with a local consultant and the MIA to collect comments on the draft from all relevant public institutions and incorporate that feedback to compile a final version. DCAF, the local consultant, and the MIA NAP Secretariat presented the final mid-term evaluation report, which contains a detailed section on the progress of specific NAP action points in each institution as well as a section on lessons learned and recommendations for the next years of implementation,

to public institutions and the State Chancellery on the 25 June. DCAF will continue to support the MIA to implement recommendations from the mid-term evaluation report until the end of NAP implementation in 2027.

Between January and June, DCAF continued its **strategic development work with the Women's Police Association**. DCAF organised a two-day workshop from January 30 – 31 for six board members of the Women's Police Association that focused on reviewing their draft three-year Strategy and included exercises on future thinking, defining support areas, and setting short and mid-term objectives. The Women's Police Association worked on finalising the strategy following this workshop, with guidance from DCAF and a regional expert, and formally signed the Strategy into effect in June. DCAF will support the publication of WPA's Strategy and its official translation into English in the coming months and will continue capacity building efforts linked to the WPA's strategic objectives through the end of the year.



Workshop on strategic review and planning for the Women's Police Association, 30-31 January 2026, Moldova



The Women's Police Association additionally continued to implement their project **'Fostering Women's Networks in the Moldovan Police'** between January and June of 2026. The implementation of this project is part of a **sub-grant agreement with DCAF under the SSGM project and aims to both build project management capacities within the WPA through practice as well as support the Women, peace, and security work of the MIA** through the WPA's activities and project objectives. During this period, key activities within the framework of the WPA's project included the organisation and delivery of two regional camps on leadership and professional development skills for women in the police and gaining membership in the European Network of Policewomen. The sub-grant and WPA's work will continue through to the end of 2026 as part of SSGM.

ENCOURAGING STANDARDISED APPROACHES TO PROJECT MANAGEMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Between January and June, DCAF continued to facilitate the **MIA's use of a portfolio management software for coordinating and managing projects and programmes**. Since 2024, DCAF has covered the costs for 17 user licenses for a designated portfolio management software. These licensed users continued to input project data regularly into the software. The use of this software across the MIA and its subordinate institutions should encourage a more standardised approach to project management.

In June, DCAF supported the MIA to print and distribute several copies of their recently developed **'Operational Guide for Project Management'**. This Guide was developed by representatives of the MIA who became certified in the PM2 project management methodology under SSGM in 2024 and outlines internal standards on project management as well as workflows and reporting requirements for relevant units and staff within the MIA and its subordinate institutions.

OUTCOME 3

Building Public Trust

During this first half of the year, DCAF continued to support the Ministry of Internal Affairs to improve both internal and public communication on their work and mandate, with a focus on anti-corruption and integrity building efforts. In parallel, the project continued to contribute towards building the capacity and knowledge of civil society organisations and experts through trainings, discussions, support to knowledge product development, and attributions of annual sub-grants to selected partners.

INCREASING AWARENESS ON INTEGRITY AND PROMOTING REGIONAL EXCHANGES ON ANTI-CORRUPTION APPROACHES

In June, DCAF supported an integrity facilitator trained under SSGM to develop a **new version of the Integrity Pocketbook tailored to the context of Moldovan fiscal authorities**. The **Police Integrity Pocketbook** is a DCAF knowledge product that introduces key integrity concepts and international anti-corruption frameworks. This product was adapted to the context of Moldovan law enforcement agencies under SSGM in previous years and now has undergone another re-development to include information specific to the internal regulations and practices of state fiscal institutions. Copies of this new version of the Integrity Pocketbook for the fiscal authorities were printed and distributed throughout the institutions, with the goal of strengthening the institutional understanding of integrity principles and supporting consistent messaging around anti-corruption efforts.

CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY AND EXPERTISE BUILDING

During this semester, the project designed and launched a **practitioner development programme entitled "Navigating European Security: Moldova's Accession and Strategic Choices" for civil society members in Moldova**. Running over six months, the programme aims to strengthen the capacity of Moldovan civil society to engage effectively with EU security and accession policies, articulate national priorities, and contribute to EU decision-making processes. Led by a long-standing DCAF partner and security policy expert from the Western Balkans, the programme provides participants with a strategic understanding of EU security policies, practical tools to address Moldova's rule of law, democracy and security challenges, and hands-on experience and entry points for engaging with and influencing EU institutions throughout the accession process. It also seeks to further strengthen the watchdog role of civil society.



Training on EU security and EU accession for civil society experts in Moldova, Module 1, 4-5 June 2026, Chisinau

Following an open call for applications, DCAF selected a cohort of 15 representatives from diverse civil society organisations. The participants will work on these issues through the end of the year, including by developing a capstone project on a topic of their choice. The programme was launched with its first in-person module, held on 4–5 June 2026 in Chisinau. Over the two days, participants refreshed and expanded their knowledge of EU institutions, the security context and structures, and foundations and fundamentals of the Union. Further online modules are planned throughout the summer, with the programme concluding with a final in-person module in Chisinau in the autumn.

FOSTER CIVIL SOCIETY DEBATE AND KNOWLEDGE GENERATION

On 20 May 2026, the project organized a new edition of its **Discussion Club for civil society members**, which provides an informal platform for participants to meet, exchange views on recent developments in security sector governance and reform, and propose further initiatives to support informed dialogue.



Discussion Club meeting for civil society members, 20 May 2026, Chisinau

At this occasion, the discussions also addressed the **development of the second edition of the Independent Report on Security Sector Governance in Moldova**. The first edition, published in 2024, was the result of a joint editorial effort by DCAF, the Platform for Security and Defense Initiatives (PISA), and a group of 13 authors who developed the report through a participatory process over two years as part of the project. Building on this experience, the project launched the process this semester to select a new group of authors for the second edition and to further clarify the methodology and coordination mechanisms for its development. The new edition will take into account policy and legislative developments in Moldova's security sector over the past few years, while also assessing progress in the implementation of previous reform efforts.

CORE FUNDING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

In 2026, DCAF continued to support the Platform for Security and Defense Initiatives (PISA) through an **annual sub-grant aimed at contributing to PISA's organisational growth, financial stability, fundraising efforts, and effective functioning as an independent civil society organisation within Moldova's security sector**. Through this sub-grant, PISA developed and launched a new **digital magazine dedicated to strategic analysis and security policy, entitled Security Nexus**. Published quarterly in an editorial format, the magazine brings together news and analysis on current issues affecting the security sector, featuring opinion pieces, articles, expert analysis, and policy recommendations. More information on the activities implemented by PISA under the DCAF partnership agreement can be found on PISA's website and social media platforms.

Between January and June, **the Institute for Democracy and Development (I4DD) continued to implement its project 'Enabling peace, human rights and women's role in the implementation of WPS agenda and community resilience' through the sub-grant provided by SSGM**. Key activities implemented by I4DD in this period include the organisation of two meetings of the Women, Peace, and Security Initiative Group for civil society organisations, the donor community, and the NAP Secretariat from the MIA, the mapping of women local leaders in the Security Zone, two peer learning guided visits for the Police Academy students and the organisation of a roundtable discussion on conflict resolution for the Transnistrian settlement process for civil society and the donor community. I4DD will continue to implement this year's sub-grant under SSGM until the end of 2026. More information on the activities implemented by I4DD under the DCAF partnership agreement can be found on I4DD's website and social media platforms.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND PUBLICATIONS

July - December 2026

The following activities are planned for the next project period.

- Continued assistance in the development and review of the Moldovan regulatory framework
- Continued assistance in improving the institutional capacity of national governance bodies, with a focus on the development of the new

parliamentary Code of Activity

- Continued assistance to the National Security Council Secretariat on their mandate implementation
- Launch and presentation of the parliamentary guideline on intelligence oversight
- Finalisation and publication of the judicial benchbook on the authorisation and control of special investigative and counterintelligence measures
- Organisation of joint trainings with the National Institute of Justice
- Organisation of workshops and table-top exercises on crisis management with the National Crisis Management Centre
- Support to the participation of the People's Advocate Office of Moldova in the 18th International Conference of Ombuds Institutions for the Armed Forces
- Continued support to the implementation of activities led by the Swedish Civil Defense and Resilience Agency and the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations
- Expert advice and mentoring on alignment with EU standards
- Continued support for developing updated risk registers within the MIA and its subordinate institutions
- Continued support to integrity facilitators to enhance their training delivery skills and provide trainings on integrity and related topics across the MIA and its subordinate institutions
- Furthering the implementation and certification of the GPI Central Apparatus in accordance with ISO 37001, the international standard for Anti-Bribery Management Systems
- Continued support to the MIA for monitoring and reporting on Women, Peace, and Security
- Continuation of sub-grant for the Women's Police Association
- Support for the implementation of project management Standard Operating Procedures
- Support to the MIA for organising a Summer Camp that includes workshops on integrity values, EU accession, and security sector reform
- Support for enhancing the leadership and institutional capacities for public and strategic communication in the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Conclusion of training course on EU accession and EU security for civil society experts
- Facilitation of exchanges and workshops for civil society members on current topics of security sector governance
- Initial coordination and development of the second edition of the independent report on security sector governance in Moldova with civil society experts
- Continuation of sub-grant for the Platform for Security and Defense Initiatives
- Continuation of sub-grant for the Institute for Democracy and Development
- Support to the organisation of the third edition of the Moldova Security Forum
- Organisation of multi-stakeholder roundtables on current topics of security sector in Moldova

About DCAF

DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance is dedicated to improving the security of states and their people within a framework of democratic governance, the rule of law, respect for human rights, and gender equality. Since its founding in 2000, DCAF has contributed to making peace and development more sustainable by assisting partner states, and international actors supporting these states, to improve the governance of their security sector through inclusive and participatory reforms.

It creates innovative knowledge products, promotes norms and good practices, provides legal and policy advice and supports capacity-building of both state and non-state security sector stakeholders. cybersecurity threats is improved.

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