



#EUConnects: Stronger transport and trade links for Moldova

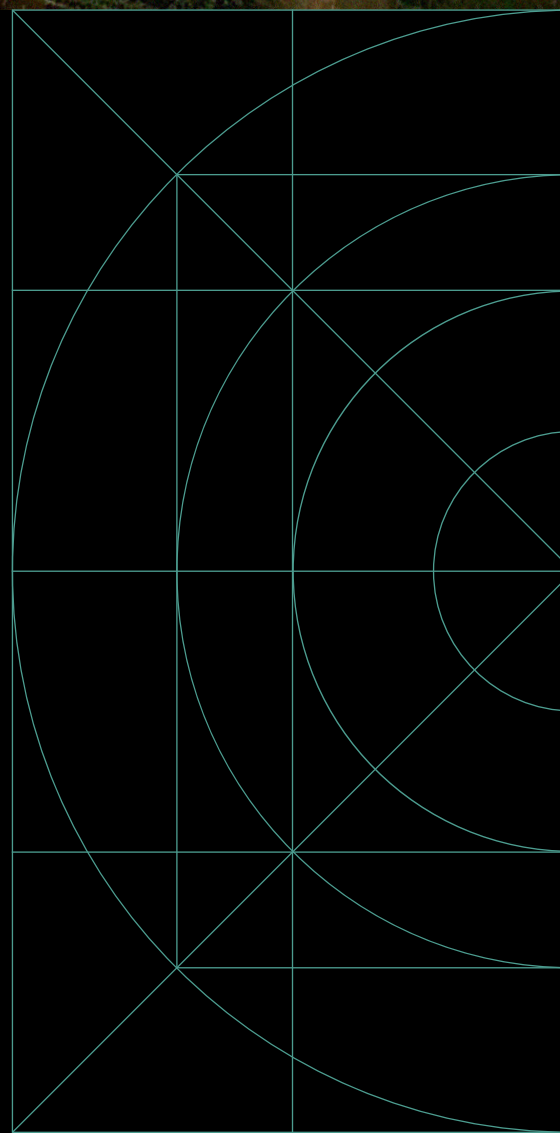
Factsheet
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Connecting Moldova to Europe

Moldova is building stronger connections for its future. New roads, modern railways, and efficient logistics hubs are opening opportunities for people and businesses alike. The European Union and its partners are driving this change by upgrading infrastructure and aligning the country with European transport standards. This objective is also reflected in the Moldova Growth Plan, the EU's €1.9 billion package to boost the economy and integration.

A key step is Moldova's inclusion in the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T), Europe's backbone of roads and railways. This vision is being turned into reality through EPIC – the Eastern Partnership Investment in Connectivity. EPIC brings the expertise and technical support needed to shape complex infrastructure plans, ensure they meet EU standards, and make them ready for financing. In this way, Moldova's transport priorities become concrete projects that bring the country closer to the EU. In short, EPIC bridges the gap between ideas on paper and construction on the ground.

Launched in early 2022 as a joint initiative of the European Commission, the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and the World Bank, EPIC enhances connectivity both among Eastern Partnership countries and between them and the EU. From the very start, Moldova engaged actively with EPIC and has since become the leading beneficiary in the region.



Strategic projects meeting EU standards

EPIC in Moldova means strategic assignments planned according to EU standards and designed to deliver real benefits.

Laying the foundations for modern connectivity

- **NATIONAL MOBILITY STRATEGY (2023–2030):**

Developed with EPIC's support and adopted in 2024, the strategy sets Moldova's transport priorities – from safer roads to sustainable mobility – and provides an EU-aligned roadmap for investment.

- **STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS (ITS):**

Moldova, with EPIC's guidance, is developing a national framework for smart traffic management and digital solutions, laying the basis for EU-aligned legislation and future projects to make transport safer, more efficient, and sustainable.

- **TRANSPORT INVESTMENT PROGRAMME & ACTION PLAN:**

EPIC works with Moldova on a multiannual programme to prioritise transport projects and an action plan to implement them. Building on the National Mobility Strategy and using improved data and modelling, this ensures that priorities become concrete projects able to attract EU and international funding and maximise connectivity.

Better roads, stronger links

- **CHIȘINĂU RING ROAD:**

Pre-feasibility and feasibility studies for sections 4–6 of the Chișinău Ring Road, part of the TEN-T network, will prepare 59 km of road to divert heavy traffic from the capital, reduce congestion and pollution, and improve national transport flows.

- **UNGHENI-CHIȘINĂU-ODESA ROAD CORRIDOR:**

For this major route in the extended TEN-T network, studies set out how to upgrade the road in stages, analyse traffic, and compare solutions. The goal: stronger links with Romania and Ukraine, safer and faster travel, and less transit pressure on local communities.

- **TEN-T ROAD NETWORK REHABILITATION (M3 AND R7):**

Feasibility studies are preparing both roads for investment. The M3 links the capital with Moldova's only Danube port, opening access to international waterways and boosting trade with Romania and Ukraine. The R7 connects Ukraine and Romania, supporting cross-border trade and agricultural exports. Led by the EBRD together with national authorities, the work also covers economic, environmental, and social aspects to deliver safer and more resilient roads.

- **WEIGH-IN-MOTION SYSTEM:**

To keep trucks within weight limits, Moldova is preparing a national weigh-in-motion system. The updated feasibility study sets out station locations, technical solutions, and investment options, ensuring roads are protected, traffic data improved, and management made more sustainable.



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Safer, greener railways for Moldova

▪ ELECTRIFIED EU-GAUGE RAILWAY (UNGHENI-CHIȘINĂU):

A preliminary feasibility study is under way for an electrified EU-gauge line between Chișinău and Ungheni. The corridor is part of the Core TEN-T network and will connect directly to Romania's modernised railways and further into the EU. The project promises faster, more reliable travel for passengers and freight, and stronger cross-border trade.

Smarter logistics, faster growth

▪ CHIȘINĂU INLAND FREIGHT TERMINAL:

A "quick-win" in the TEN-T Investment Action Plan and a flagship for the Eastern Partnership, this terminal will expand Moldova's logistics capacity and boost trade with the EU. EPIC is preparing the feasibility study and coordinating with authorities, stakeholders, and the private sector. The project will deliver modern infrastructure to handle growing trade, support exports, and strengthen Moldova's place in regional supply chains.

Towards a modern, safe and quality transport infrastructure in Moldova

EU support is already reshaping Moldova's roads, with major works underway on key TEN-T routes such as the M3 Cimișlia bypass (€38 million), M5 Criva-Bălți (€120 million), and a newly signed contract for 42 km of the R34 Hîncești-Leova-Cahul-Giurgiulești (€57 million, completion by 2027). These investments complement EPIC's efforts, ensuring Moldova's transport network is modern, safe, and fully aligned with EU standards.

Closer ties with the Transport Community

Moldova is driving forward reforms and investments, opening the way to Europe's networks, markets, and opportunities. A key partner is the Transport Community, which connects the EU with the Western Balkans and with Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine to build a common transport area. With EU funding, Moldova is drafting action plans for road, rail, safety, and waterways, while modernising its laws to match EU standards. Priorities include a national Intelligent Transport Systems Strategy, a revamped road code, and new rules for waterborne transport.

Part of European future

The EU's Eastern Partnership puts stronger transport links at the top of its agenda – with the extension of the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) at the core. For Moldova, this means joining Europe's main transport arteries and connecting its roads, railways, and trade routes directly to the EU. To make this happen, the EU's Economic and Investment Plan is mobilising €2.3 billion from the EU budget and up to €17 billion in public and private investments to modernise infrastructure across the region. The TEN-T Investment Action Plan (2019) identifies 4,800 km of roads and railways, 6 ports, and 11 logistics centres as priority projects – with Moldova playing a key role.

The Facility for Eastern Partnership Investment in Connectivity helps Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine turn major transport plans into projects that meet the highest standards. It offers advisory support and technical expertise so investments bring lasting benefits for people and economies. Funded by the European Union, it is managed by the European Investment Bank in cooperation with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the World Bank.



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