



THE EU AND MOLDOVA

June 2026

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** and is expected to mobilise, in addition, around **€2.5 billion** of new investments from international financial institutions and the private sector.

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

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.

To this date, Moldova has unlocked **€504 million** under the Growth Plan, while implementing key reforms.



The EU is Moldova's

largest trade partner

largest investor

largest provider of financial assistance

EU SUPPORT TO MOLDOVA

The EU is the largest provider of financial and technical assistance to Moldova.

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

This support 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 strategy** 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**.

In addition to the support in grants, in 2021-2025, the EU has mobilised **€1.7 billion** for investment projects in Moldova.

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 8,000 Moldovan SMEs enjoyed **better access to finance** and nearly 7,000 SMEs benefitted from **business advisory services**.

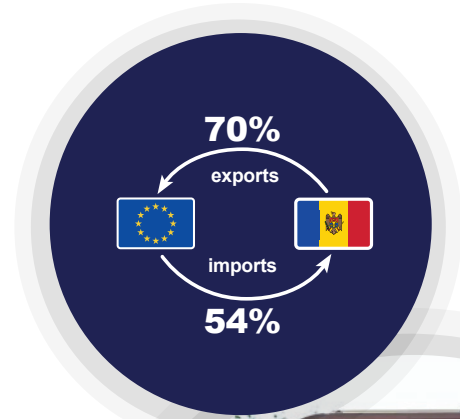


TRADE

The EU is Moldova's main trading partner. In 2025, the EU accounted for over half of Moldova's total trade in goods and almost 70% of Moldova's goods exports.

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

Moldova participates in the **Single Euro Payments Area (SEPA)** from 6 October 2025, which, via participating banks, lowers transaction costs for businesses and citizens. It also deepens Moldova's integration into the European financial system and stimulates cross-border trade and investments.



SECURITY & DEFENCE

- Moldova maintains a high alignment rate with the EU's **Common Foreign and Security Policy**.
- Moldova continues to participate in EU crisis management missions and operations under the EU's **Common Security and Defence Policy**.
- Moldova is 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, the EU is supporting the **strengthening 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 individuals and entities involved in actions destabilising the country**.



¹ Source: DG Trade

² As per 2025 Enlargement Report

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.
- 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 of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on Moldova, the EU has mobilised **€84 million of humanitarian assistance** as special measures to support vulnerable Ukrainian refugees and families in Moldova.

PEOPLE TO PEOPLE CONTACTS

- Since 2014, Moldovans benefit from **visa-free travel to the EU**.
- The EU has funded over **2,000 exchanges** between EU and Moldovan citizens in the areas of education, training, youth, and sport under **ERASMUS+** since 2021.
- From 1 January 2024, telecom operators in the EU and the Republic of Moldova agreed on **lowering roaming tariffs**. Moldova will join **Roam Like at Home** as of 1 January 2026.

