

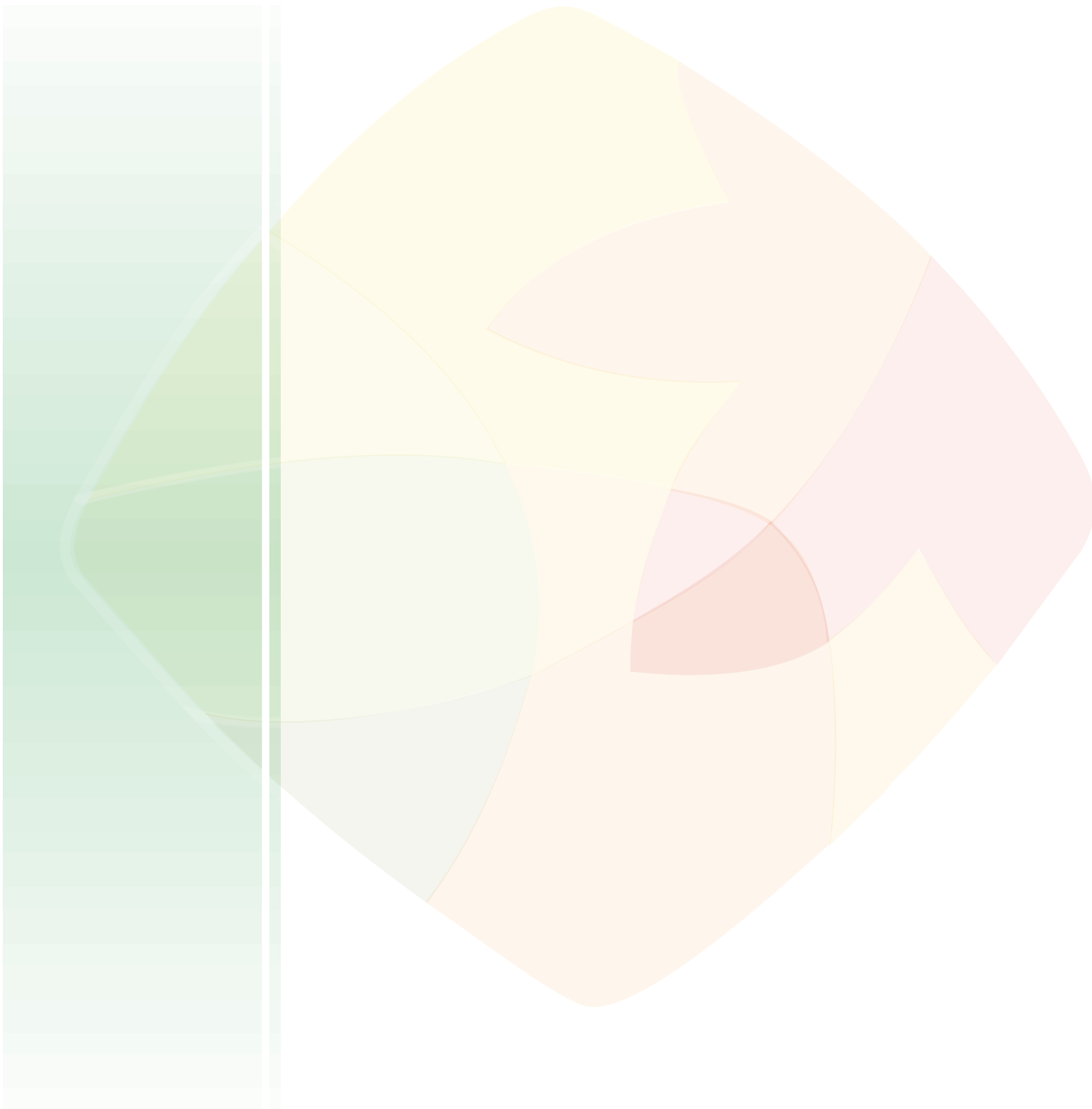


Moldova

Doing business in Moldova



Moldova





Moldova



On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Moldova I would like to introduce our country as an exceptional location for investments and to invite you to acquaint yourself with the plenty of opportunities it can offer to foreign business community.

Moldova is a developing country close to functional market economy, situated at the crossroads of West and Eastern Europe. Nowadays the country's combination of highly skilled labour force, along with availability of a low-cost manufacturing environment, makes Moldova very attractive for the development and expansion of entrepreneurial activities.

We are offering a range of investment facilities to foreign investors; Moldova is already a member of the WTO, of the Central European Initiative, of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation. It has concluded Free Trade Agreements with all countries – members of the Stability Pact for SEE, the CIS countries and it beneficiaries from the ATP granted by the European Union. Starting with 1st of January 2007, the Republic of Moldova is a close neighbor to European Union, having a direct access to a huge market.

I will have the greatest pleasure if you accept our invitation to visit Moldova and find out more about business and investment opportunities offered by the country as with its unique culture, which I am sure you will enjoy.

**Yours sincerely,
Igor DODON
First Deputy Prime Minister
Minister of Economy and Trade
of the Republic of Moldova**

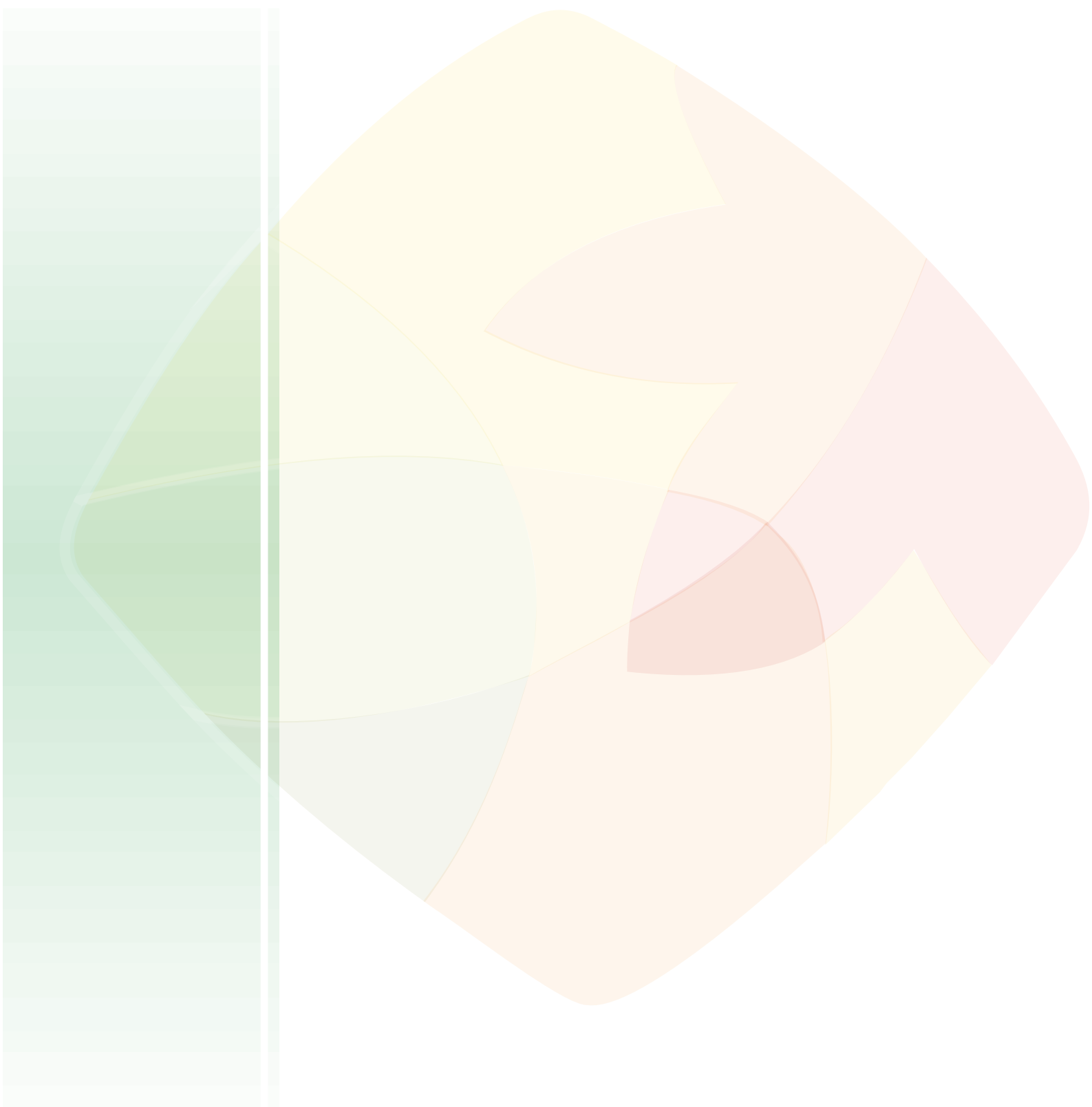


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Moldova





Republic of Moldova General outline



The Republic of Moldova is a small country, favorably located in south-eastern Europe, which covers the area of 34.000 square kilometers. Being situated at a distance of 300 km from Black Sea, Moldova extends over 350 km from North to the South and 150 km from West to the East. The country has an access to the Black Sea through the Danube River and Giurgiulesti Port, which is the southerly point of the Republic of Moldova. Moldova borders two countries: Ukraine on the East and Romania on the West. Due to Romania's and Bulgarian's adherence to European Union in 2007, Moldova became a close neighbor to EU.

Country's favorable geopolitical location at the cross-roads of economic and commercial links, which connect European Union with the CIS countries, offers unique possibilities for developing any kind of business activity. Benefiting from developed network of transportation and communication links, Moldova has important opportunities for co-operation with the countries of the region.





Population of Moldova accounts about 4.2 million inhabitants that represent several ethnic groups. Among them there are about 64% Moldovans, 14% Ukrainians, 13% Russians and other ethnic groups. Due to presence of several ethnic groups, Moldova is a country with several spoken languages. Official language of the country is called Moldovan and another widely spoken language in Moldova is Russian. Almost half of population lives in urban area.



Because of close location to the sea, Moldova has a temperate continental climate. Summers are warm and winters are mild. Big temperature fluctuations are rare and precipitations occur all the year long.

Chisinau, the capital of the Republic of Moldova, located in the central part of the country, with more than 700.000 inhabitants, is a significant administrative, political, economic, scientific, cultural and tourist centre. Situated in a pictorial environment, on seven hills, Chisinau impresses local citizens and its visitors. The capital of Moldova is considered to be one of the greenest cities in Europe. There are many parks in the city, as well as special green zones. The city is divided into 5 sectors: Centru that is the oldest part of the city, Riscani, Botanica, Ciocana and Buiucani. For the first time Chisinau city was mentioned in historical documents on 17 July 1436, so it can be considered an old one. There are many places for tourists to see in Chisinau (monuments, museums, parks). Other large cities in the Republic of Moldova are Balti, Cahul, Tiraspol, Tighina.



Visa requirements for foreign citizens



Foreign citizens can enter the territory of the Republic of Moldova on the basis of a valid visa. The visas are issued exclusively by the Diplomatic and Consular Missions of the Republic of Moldova abroad. You don't need a visa, if you are citizen of the following states and you plan to stay for a period until 90 days:

- EU member states: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden;
- Canada, Japan, Iceland, Norway, Swiss Confederation, USA;
- CIS member states: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

The Moldovan consular authorities issue the following types of visas, depending on the purposes thereof: **a) diplomatic, b) service, c) simple, d) tourist and e) transit.**

a) The diplomatic visas are issued to foreign citizens who enjoy diplomatic privileges and other privileges or special immunities, who visit the Republic of Moldova for official purposes.

b) The service visas are issued to the state officials, business people or students who travel for business or study purposes, being invited by the companies, institutions or organizations from the Republic of Moldova.





c) The simple visas are issued to the foreign citizens who are visiting the Republic of Moldova with private purposes, on the basis of their invitation, prepared in the established manner.

d) The tourist visas are issued to the foreign citizens who travel for tourist purposes, who own the tourist voucher issued by a licensed tourist agency from the Republic of Moldova. The tourist visa can be issued only for a month, with one or two entries.

e) The transit visas are issued to the foreign citizens who pass the territory of the Republic of Moldova on their way to another state. Transit visas are issued for foreign citizens and non-residents upon presentation of an entry visa to a third country.

The necessary documents:



- the travel document (valid for at least six months after the date of expiry of the requested visa) – a, b, c, d, e
- the latest photograph (35x45mm, 1.5"x2.0") – a, b, c, d, e
- the filled in and signed visa application form – a, b, c, d, e
- the official invitation or the notice concerning the appointment or delegation issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, the diplomatic or consular mission of the respective state or of an international organization, President's office, Parliament and Government of the Republic of Moldova. – a
- the invitation, prepared in the established manner, presented in original and issued by the Bureau of Migration and Asylum or the letter of the Consular

Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration in case of request of the foreign diplomatic and consular missions accredited to the Republic of Moldova, of the international organization's offices, President's office, Parliament and Government of the Republic of Moldova. – b



- the invitation, presented in original and prepared in the established manner, issued by the Department of Migration. – c
- the invitation, presented in original and prepared in the established manner, issued by the Department of Migration / the tourist voucher issued by a tourist agency from the Republic of Moldova. – d
- the entry visa for a certain state, or any other document that offers the right to enter the territory of a neighboring state. – e
- the train, airplane or vehicle ticket that confirms the transit of the territory of the Republic of Moldova. – e

Type of visa	Visa validation period	Maximum staying period (for each entrance)	Number of entrances	Visa fee for citizens of Turkey	Visa fee for citizens of other countries (normal)	Visa fee for citizens of other countries (urgent)
Simple, service, tourist, diplomatic	1 month	30 days	One	30 USD	40 USD	60 USD
Simple, service, tourist, diplomatic	1 month	30 days	Two	40 USD	50 USD	75 USD
Simple, service, diplomatic	1 month	30 days	Multiple	50 USD	70 USD	105 USD
Simple, service, diplomatic	2 months	60 days	Multiple	60 USD	100 USD	150 USD

Type of visa	Visa validation period	Maximum staying period (for each entrance)	Number of entrances	Visa fee for citizens of Turkey	Visa fee for citizens of other countries (normal)	Visa fee for citizens of other countries (urgent)
Simple, service, diplomatic	3 months	90 days	Multiple	80 USD	120 USD	180 USD
Simple, service, diplomatic	6 months	90 days	Multiple	120 USD	160 USD	240 USD
Simple, service, diplomatic	12 months	90 days	Multiple	180 USD	200 USD	300 USD
Transit simple	-	48 hours	One	15 USD	20 USD	30 USD
Transit double	-	48 hours	Two	30 USD	40 USD	60 USD

For more details, please check <http://www.mfa.md/consular-information> and contact the nearest diplomatic or consular mission of the Republic of Moldova.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova

Address: 80, 31 August str., Chişinău MD2012, Republic of Moldova
 Phone: (+373 22) 57-82-07, 57-82-06, 57-82-05
 Fax: (+373 22) 23 23 02
 E-mail: secdep@mfa.md

Consular Department

Adress: 80, str. Alexei Mateevici, Chişinău MD2012, Republic of Moldova
 Telefon: (+373 22) 20-10-47
 Telefon: (+373 22) 20-10-52
 Fax: (+373 22) 23-22-25
 E-mail: consdep@mfa.md





Entering Republic of Moldova



Foreign citizens can enter the country using several ways:

BY AIR

Chisinau International Airport is a main international airport in Moldova, located near the capital city of Chisinau, at the mainway to the south. The airport is open 24 hours per day and it's annual capacity is 5.4 million passengers. There are 6 check-in desks, 4 gates and 1 baggage claim belt. Available facilities: short term parking spaces, 1 Airport Hotel, Cafeterias, Bars, Duty Free Shops, Gift Shop, Travel Agent, Tourist Help Desk, Car Rental, Taxi Service, etc.

VIP and CIP guests are offered special services at the VIP terminal.

There are bus lines and mini busses to and from the airport. Taxis drive in 15-25 minutes to the airport. Arriving passengers can find authorized taxi at the last exit door.

More information can be found on <http://www.airport.md/eng/>

BY LAND

The total length of Moldovan state border is 1907 km. The extent of the Republic Moldova's state border makes with Romania in total 685 km and with Ukraine - 1222 kilometers.



There are 39 transit points along the state border of the Republic of Moldova. These include 31 border customs points and 8 customs offices. The customs offices represent larger customs units with a significant local, regional and international importance. In addition, the international customs offices have in their subordination several border customs points.

Six out of 8 customs offices are placed at the border with Romania. The traffic of goods and people is assured in the following points for international transit:

- Costesti customs office – international transit point designed for automobiles;
- Sculeni customs office – international transit point designed for automobiles;
- Ungheni customs office – international transit point designed for trains;
- Leuseni customs office – international transit point designed for automobiles;
- Cahul customs office – international transit point designed for automobiles;
- Giurgiulesti customs office – international transit post designed for auto, rail and maritime transportation means.

Customs offices and cross border points at the Moldovan-Ukrainian border are: Giurgiulesti (transit), Basarabeasca, Bender, Briceni, Soroca, Ocnita.

The most important railways are:

1. Razdelinaia (Ukraine) – Tighina (Moldova) – Chişinău (Moldova) – Ungheni (Moldova), that cross the central part of the Republic and pass the border of Ukraine and Romania;
2. Ungheni (Moldova) – Bălţi (Moldova)- Ocnita (Moldova) – Lipcani (Moldova) – Cernăuţi (Moldova) connect the Central and the North part of the country.

The main railway junctions are: Chişinău, Ungheni, Tighina, Bălţi, Basarabeasca, and Ocnita.



MIEPO – Your reliable partner

MIEPO

Moldovan Investment and Export Promotion Organisation

In order to identify and establish reliable cooperation relationships between your company and Moldovan entrepreneurs, foreign investors are welcome to address to Moldovan Investment and Export Promotion Organization (MIEPO) – your gateway to our country. MIEPO is a government institution with the primary aim to promote investments and exports in the Republic of Moldova and with the objectives and structures based on the most successful models in the world. The organization is permanently focusing on assisting prospective investors to locate and expand in Moldova, by providing a range of free-of-charge information and services.

MIEPO is assisting foreign companies by presenting the Moldovan investment opportunities and helping them to develop and expand business in Moldova. The organization is offering post-investment services, in order to enable optimal business outcomes and to make new cooperation and partnerships possible.

MIEPO is conducting promotional activities and campaigns aimed to promote Moldova as an attractive location for foreign investments: inward and outward investment missions, investment forums, etc.

In cooperation with ministries we are actively involved in creation of more favourable business and investment environments, including improvement of legal framework for foreign investments and removal of administrative impediments.

MIEPO provides help and assistance to local compa-



panies in establishing of goals, preparing product promotion programs and export strategies that will help enterprises to expand sales abroad. At the same time our experts are working closely to identify barriers that prevent companies' achievements and prepare proposals how to overcome them, submitting them to Government.

Outward business missions are organized to facilitate the easier access of Moldovan products on foreign markets; inward buyer missions and site visits – to establish a closer contact between local and foreign companies. This offers to local producers the possibility to show the full range of products, their production and technological capacities, etc. MIEPO facilitates also sector and product promotion programs.

Trade fairs and exhibitions are reviewed in a database, which helps local companies to be well informed about the possibilities to promote their products both on local and foreign markets. Our team advice local companies attending International fairs and trade exhibitions, Investment Forums, specific Investment and Export promotion seminars, round tables and workshops that are organized in Moldova as well as abroad.

Other MIEPO activities:

- works directly with enterprises, local authorities, Government agencies and international organizations to identify issues which impede trade and investment development.
- cooperates with Investment Promotion Agencies, Trade Promotion Organisations, Chambers of Commerce and other international trade organizations, for the benefit of Moldovan economy.
- Performs analysis and assessment of local and foreign trade procedures and investment policies and regulations. Submit to the Government practical proposals for improving business and investment climate of Moldova.

Moldovan Investment and Export Promotion Organisation

65, Alexe Mateevici str.
MD-2009, Chisnau, Moldova
Tel: (+373 22) 24-21-11, 21-40-66
Fax: (+373 22) 24-36-19
office@miepo.md
www.miepo.md





Registering a company in Moldova

The registration of incorporation documents of the foreign company is made by the Chamber of Registration of the Republic of Moldova



1. NECESSARY DOCUMENTS:

For legal person

1. the notary authenticated copy of registration certificate
2. the notary authenticated excerpt (extract) from the national commercial register of investor's (foreign company) country;
3. notary authenticated copies of incorporation documents of the foreign company (the company's statute and constitutional agreement);
4. the certificate of foreign company's solvency, issued by the serving bank;
5. the decision of founder to establish a company with foreign investment in Moldova (this may be the protocol of stockholders meeting, decision of board of directors, etc.);
6. if necessary - letter of attorney for the person authorized to establish a new company in Moldova.

For physical person

1. Copy of passport
2. The card accompanying the passport, confirming the registration with the police bodies at the place of staying in the Republic of Moldova;
3. If necessary - letter of attorney for the authorized person

Important note:

- All the submitted documents should be translated into Moldovan and (therefore authenticated by a Moldovan notary);
- Taking into consideration that the Republic of Moldova has not ratified the Hague Convention of 1961 on the simplified legalization of documents, for



all the countries except CIS and former Warsaw agreement countries all the documents described above (for juridical persons) must be legalized. The legalization procedure begins with notary authentication in the origin country, than the documents should pass the legalization in Ministry of Foreign Affairs of that country and only then the documents are to be legalized in the respective Embassy (Consulate) of the Republic of Moldova. Usually the persons from EU countries address to the Consulate of the Republic of Moldova in Frankfurt am Main (Germany).



2. LEGAL ADDRESS

Each registered company need a legal address:

- It could be a home address of one of the founders (in case one of founders are Moldovan residents (citizens).
- It could be the home address or office spaces of a resident (non-citizen), in case the resident has bought real estate in Moldova.
- It could be the address of the office, where the company will rent space. In this

case the landlord gives a paper permitting to register the company in his/her space.

3. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE COSTS:

Costs implied:	Registration period
779 MDL = 45.5 EUR	10 working days
1200 MD = 70.5 EUR	3 working days

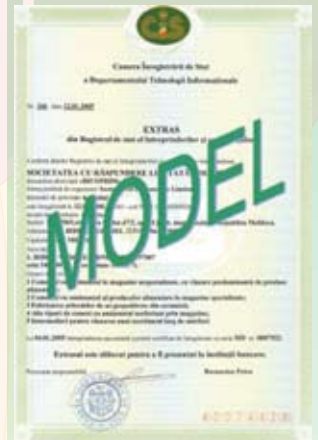
Other related costs

- State tax: 0.5% of the Statutory capital
- Mandatory minimal Statutory capital:
 - for SRL (Ltd.) 5400 MDL = 320 EUR;
 - for SA (Joint-stock company) 20000 MDL =1170 EUR.



4. FOREIGN INVESTMENTS CAN BE OF DIFFERENT TYPES:

- Hard currency or other accepted foreign currency purchased by the banks of the Republic of Moldova and that make the object of bank operations;
- Machinery, equipment, including office equipment;
- Property and non-property rights, including the right on intellectual (industrial) property (property right, origin right, copyrights, samples, industrial samples, commercial labels, company names, production and commercial secrets, technologies, know-how etc.). List of contribution in nature to the social capital evaluated in hard currency, authenticated by the foreign partner is presented together with the incorporation documents in 2 copies.
- In case a person has already registered in his property an enterprise that doesn't function and hadn't been liquidated in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Moldova or has debts to national public budget, this person will be refused in registration of a new enterprise before the removing the above mentioned circumstances.

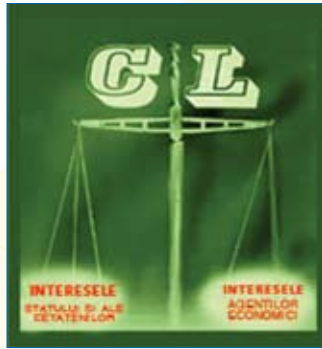


Chamber of Registration of the Republic of Moldova

73 Stefan cel Mare blvd., Chisinau
 tel.277-318
 fax.277-344
 hot line: 274406
 e-mail: cis_rm@mtc.md



Licensing Procedure



The law No 451-XV dated July 30, 2007 on licensing some types of activities determines juridical, organisational and economical framework of licensing some types of activities, as well as establishes the types of activities which are subject to the licensing.

The Public body which elaborates and implements the state policy in the sphere of licensing is The Chamber of Licensing.

To obtain a license, the Manager of the company or a person authorised by the company presents an application of approved model at the Licensing authority. The application shall contain:

1. name, legal form of organisation (LLC, JSC, etc.), legal address, address, fiscal code of the company;
2. type of activity for which a license is requested;
3. location of its representations or separate branches of the company, where the activity will take place on the base of license.

The copy of the Registration Certificate of the company or identification card of a person shall be attached at the application. The documents shall be presented in original or in copies with presentation of the originals for checking. Also the documents can be offered for considering on an electronic device.

The license is concluded within 3 working days, starting with the day when the document that proves the payment of the tax for obtaining the license. For the most types of activities licenses are offered for a period of 5 years. An exception is the licenses offered for one, 3 or 25 years.

Licensing Chamber

Address: bld. Ștefan cel Mare 124, Chișinău MD2012,
Telefon: (022) 27-23-36
Fax: (022) 54-21-14
www.licentiere.gov.md

Activities that need a license are exposed in the table.

	Type of activity	Tax per license, MDL
1.	Auditing	2500
2.	Evaluation of goods	2500
3.	Stock Exchange activity	2500
4.	Insurance activity; administration of non-state Pension fund	2500
5.	Activity of associations for saving money and loading money to citizens	2500
6.	Activity dealing with precious metals and stones; functioning of Lombards	2500
7.	Activity dealing with gambling:	
	a) Exploitation of slot machines with money winning with the exception of those indicated at lett. b)	7200 per each slot machine
	b) exploitation of slot machines with money winning such as American Roulette	40000 per each slot machine
	c) betting at sport competitions and other types	14% from the total amount of received bets
	d) the organizations and conducting of lotteries	
	- instantaneous	14% from the total amount of announced lottery tickets
	- numeral	14% from the total amount of sold lottery tickets
	e) running casino	180000 per each playing table
8.	Import of ethyl alcohol; import or en gross commercialization of alcohol beverage and beer	
	a) Import of ethyl alcohol	40000
	b) Import or en gross selling of alcohol beverage	40000
	c) Import or en gross selling of imported beer	40000





9.	Production of ethyl alcohol, alcoholic production, beer and/or storage, en gross commercialization of ethyl alcohol, alcoholic production and beer production by local producers:	
	a) production and (or) storage, en gross commercialization of ethyl alcohol	40000
	b) production and (or) storage, en gross commercialization of ethyl alcohol and alcoholic production	20000
	c) production and (or) storage, en gross commercialization of beer	20000
10.	Import of tobacco articles; import and (or) industrial processing of tobacco, production of tobacco articles and (or) en gross commercialization of fermented tobacco and tobacco production	
	a) Import of tobacco articles	20000
	b) import and (or) industrial processing of tobacco, production of tobacco articles and (or) en gross commercialization of fermented tobacco	20000
	c) production and commercialization of tobacco production	20000
	d) en gross commercialization of tobacco production	20000
11.	Projecting of fruit-growing, bacciferous (berry-bearing) and wine-growing; production and (or) commercialization of seeds, planting material	2500
12.	Production, storage and commercialization of biologic material for breeding (animals, seminal material, embryos, ovules, roes, bird eggs, silkworms) for reproduction	2500
13.	Pharmaceutical veterinary activity and (or) veterinary assistance with the except of activity kept by the state veterinary service	2500
14.	Import and (or) commercialization of phyto sanitary usage and fertilization	2500
15.	Public transportation of the passengers, international auto transportation of goods	2500
16.	Projection activity for all categories of construction, urbanism and (or) engineering, reconstructions, consolidations, restoration	2500



17.	Building construction and (or) engineer installations and technical systems, reconstructions, consolidations, restoration	2500
18.	Extraction of minerals; production and bottling of mineral and natural water	2500
19.	Drilling works (with the except of technical prospecting in constructions)	2500
20.	Topographer and Cartography activity	2500
21.	Collection, storage, processing, commercialization, as well as the export of rubbish and waste iron and non-iron metals, batteries of used accumulators and in recycled state	2500
22.	Activity dealing with import, export, usage, transportation, service and storage of ionized sources of radiation and radioactive materials (inclusive radioactive rubbish) and measuring lands of ionized radiation	2500
23.	Import and (or) production, storage, en gross commercialization of substances and toxic chemical materials, chemical articles and materials of house-keeping, re-export of the substances that destroy ozone layer, as well as of the equipment that contain such substances	2500
24.	Production and destruction of stamps	2500
25.	Private activity of detectives or guard	2500
26.	Assembling and (or) regulation, technical assistance of automatic systems of signalizations and fire extinguishing as well as projecting the buildings against smoke and announcing in case of a fire	2500
27.	Import and (or) export, commercialization of weapons and ammunition, repairs of organic, sport and (or) hunting, shooting, decoration, collection and self defense arms	2500
28.	Import, storage and (or) using explosive materials (including pyrotechnical materials), executing dynamite works	2500
29.	Import, export, elaboration, production and commercialization of cryptographic and technical means of information protection, specific technical devices for information protection, offering services in the sphere of protecting of cryptographic and technical information (with the exception of activity carried on by public authorities invested with this by law)	2500





30.	Pharmaceutical activity, inclusive with the usage of drug and (or) psychotropic items carried on by the companies and (or) pharmaceutical institutions; import and (or) producing perfume production and make up	2500
31.	Production, commercialization, technical assistance, repair and checking of technical items and medical optics	2500
32.	Offering medical assistance by private medical institutions	2500
33.	Activity in the sphere of genetics, microbiology and activities included in class III and IV of risk, carried on with modified genetic organisms	2500
34.	Activity dealing with employment citizens in the country and (or) abroad	2500
35.	Tourism activity	2500
36.	The activity of educational institutions of all levels, grades and forms of education	2500
37.	The activity of storage grains issuing Storage Certificate for grains	0
38.	magazinelor duty-free, inclusiv pentru deservirea corpului diplomatic	2500
39.	Activitatea de broker vamal	2500

Note: The taxes for issuing licenses are established by art. 18 of Law No. 451-XV dated July 30, 2001 on licensing some types of activities (Annex introduced by the Law No. 430 dated October 31, 2003, are taxes for licenses for types (7) - (10)).





Work Permit and Staying Permit in Moldova

Documents necessary for receiving or prolongation of Work Permit

I. To invite a foreign citizen for working on the basis of a labour agreement, the Employer has to apply for obtaining a positive notification at the National Agency for Employment and to present the following documents:

1. A reason solicitation regarding the necessity of inviting a foreign citizen for working;
2. Registration of the offer regarding vacancies at the Territorial Agency of Employment;
3. Copies of the constituent documents of the company, organization or institution (Registration certificate, a recent extract);
4. The draft of the labour agreement;
5. The copy of diploma or another document that proves the immigrant's qualification.



The National Agency of Employment considers the labour market and within 30 days takes a decision to offer or to refuse in offering a positive notification.

To invite employees on the basis of contracts of executing works or offering services, the legal entity (company) from the Republic of Moldova has to apply for obtaining a positive notification at the National Agency for Employment and to present the following documents:

1. A reason solicitation regarding the necessity of inviting an employee for working;
2. Registration of the offer regarding vacancies at the Territorial Agency of Employment;

3. Copies of the constituent documents of the company, organization or institution (Registration certificate, a recent extract);
4. The copy of the contract of executing works or offering services;
5. The copy of diploma or another document that prove his qualification.

II. To receive the Work Permit the Employer has to apply at The National Agency of Employment and to present the following documents:

1. The solicitation of the company, organization or institution regarding the issue of the Work Permit;
2. Application of approved model;
3. Copies of the constituent documents of the company, organization or institution (Articles of Incorporation, a recent extract issued by the State Chamber of Registration of the MID);
4. The labour agreement (in case of employment on the basis of an agreement);
5. The copy of the foreign citizen passport for traveling abroad with a visa valid not less than a month;
6. The copy of diploma or another document that prove the immigrant' qualification;
7. Medical certificate of the approved that proves the absence of HIV/AIDS;
8. The proof of having a place to live (housing);
9. Documents that prove the economic activity of the company (the copy of the economic report);
10. A certificate issued by the Tax Inspection that regarding the absence of debts towards state budget;
11. 2 recent color pictures on a clear background (50×60 mm).





III. To prolong the work permit, the Employer has to apply at the National Agency of Employment and to present the following documents:

1. A solicitation of the company, organization or institution that argues the necessity of Work Permit prolongation;
2. Copies of the constituent documents of the company, organization or institution (Articles of Incorporation, a recent extract issued by the State Chamber of Registration of the MID);
3. The labour agreement (in the case of employment of the basis of a labour agreement);
4. The certificate that proves the absence of HIV/AIDS;
5. Copies of the foreign citizens' documents (Immigrant Certificate, Work Permit, Staying Permit, passport)
6. The proof of having a place to live (housing);
7. Documents that prove the economic activity of the company (the copy of the economic report);
8. A certificate issued by the Tax Inspection that regarding the absence of debts towards state budget;
9. 2 recent color pictures on a clear background (50×60 mm).



The National Agency of Employment considers the labour market and within 30 days takes a decision to offer or to refuse in offering a Work Permit.

For the share holders of the companies with foreign investments not less that 100 thousand USA dollars and persons appointed for top positions within the company (Managers and deputy-managers) the decision of offering or to refuse in offering the Work Permit is taken within 10 days.

For issuing or prolongation of the Work Permit a tax shall be paid according to the Law on state tax No. 1216 adopted on 03.12.92:

- for issuing the Work Permit – 720 lei (art. 3, p.3, o);
- for prolongation of the Work Permit– 360 lei (art. 3, p.3, p).

**The National Agency of Employment
The Division of Migration of Labour Force:**

Time-table for citizens:

- For receiving documents – 9:00 –12:00;
 - For issuing documents – 14:00 –16:00;
- Contact phones: 28-75-23, 28-15-84.



Receiving of Staying Permit (temporary)

The Staying Permit is the document issued by the General Department of Population Documentation within the Center of State Registers of State Institution „Registru” under Ministry of Information Development.

According to the Law of the Republic of Moldova on identity cards from National System of Passports No. 273- XIII dated 09.11.1994, the Ministry of Information Development issues staying Permits (temporary) for foreign citizen (IR) and persons without a citizenship (IC) that are on the territory of the Republic of Moldova on the basis of Immigrant Certificate and Work Permit issued by a competent body.

I. For receiving a Staying Permit the following documents are needed:

1. The solicitation of the company, organization or institution (the Registration Certificate of the company) or a personal application;
2. National passport with the enclosure of registration;
3. The Immigrant Certificate;
4. The Work Permit (if it is needed);
5. The Medical Certificate regarding (HIV) AIDS and group of blood;
6. The contract of leaseholding of a housing or other documents proving that the applicant has a place to live.





2. The term of issuing of the Staying Permit

The Staying Permit (temporary) is issued within one month, and it costs 320 lei and 9 lei state tax. For foreign citizen who came to the Republic of Moldova for studying at the state educational institutions according to the international treaties which were ratified by the Republic of Moldova the cost is 290 lei. The Ministry of Population Documentation offers services for receiving a Staying Permit (temporary) in urgent regime:

- within 8 hours the cost is 920 lei;
- within 1 day the cost is 750 lei;
- within 5 days the cost is 500 lei
- within 15 days the cost is 400 lei;



3. The period for which a Staying Permit is issued (temporary)

A Staying Permit is issued for foreign citizen and persons without citizenship who temporary domicile in the Republic of Moldova for a period of 1 year with the exception of foreign citizen who came to Moldova for studying at the state educational institutions according to the international treaties which were ratified by the Republic of Moldova. For the last category of persons the Permit is issued for the entire period of studying with the condition of annual registration at the authorised bodies. Staying Permits are issued on the basis of the Work Permit to the share holders of companies with foreign investments not less 500 thousand USA dollars and persons appointed for top positions within the company (Managers and deputy-managers) who came for a certain period of time to the Republic of Moldova for a period requested by the applicant but no longer than 5 years.



Important legal acts:

- Law of the Republic of Moldova on coming out and into the Republic of Moldova No.269-XIII dated 09.11.94
- Law of the Republic of Moldova on legal status of foreign citizens and persons without citizenship No. 275-XIII dated 10.11.1994.
- Law of the Republic of Moldova on migration No. 1518-XV dated 06.12.2002.

Contact information:

General Department of Population Documentation 42, str. A.Puşkin, Chişinău

The Division of documentation of foreign citizens and persons without citizenship who domicile temporary the Republic of Moldova.
Tel.: (+373 22) 504 310 / 504 549

The Division of registration and documentation of foreign citizens and persons without citizenship in Chisinau
Tel.: (+373 22) 226 163 / 225 787



Regional opportunities for business development

Free Economic Zones (FEZ) are parts of the customs territory of Moldova, separated economically, and strictly bounded on the entire area, where certain types of entrepreneurial activities are allowed on preferential conditions to local and foreign investors. There are six Free Economic Zones (FEZs) in Moldova at present: Expo-Business-Chisinau (located in the capital Chisinau), Ungheni-Business (107 km northwest of Chisinau), Tvardita (115 km south of Chisinau), Otaci-Business (220 km north of Chisinau), Valkanes (in Vulcanesti, 200 km southwest of Chisinau) and Taraclia (153 km south of Chisinau).

In 2008 total investments in afore-mentioned FEZs amounted up to 118 mil. USD. The largest share of it has been invested in Expo-Business-Chisinau Zone (40 %). The investment in Ungheni-Business FEZ over the last six years of operation amounted to 34.2 mil. USD. The total number of companies registered in the FEZs till the end of 2008 was 147, of which 38.7% were located in "Expo-Business-Chisinau".

Two industrial zones for business development were created within the Giurgiulesti International Free Port (GIFP) and the Free International Airport „Marculesti” (FIAM). GIFP operates according to the provisions of the Law nr. 8-XV from 17 February, 2005. It consists of a petroleum terminal, a cargo port and a passenger terminal. Due to its location on the Lower Danube with available water depths of up to 7m, GIFP is capable of receiving both inland and sea-going vessels. FIAM was created on 10 July, 2008 (under the Law nr. 178-XVI) and aims at accelerating the development of air transportation, air services, industrial production (export and foreign trade-related activities).

All Moldovan Free Economic Zones provide preferential conditions to local and foreign investors that can invest in different types of entrepreneurial activities. The range of industrial goods produced in the FEZs has diversified significantly during the last few years.

Investors in Moldovan FEZs are guaranteed against, and protected from changes in legislation for a period of up to 10 years, and the legislation provides further incentives, guarantees and privileges for Free Economic Zone investors. FEZ residents enjoy a special customs and tax regime. In particular, they benefit from the



following advantages:

- Exemption from customs duties on goods imported into the FEZ and subsequently exported;
- Exemption from excise duties for goods imported into the FEZ and subsequently exported;
- Exemption on taxable income obtained from agricultural production within the FEZ.

The Industrial Parks were established in the Republic of Moldova according to the Law on Industrial Parks N. 164-XVI from July 13, 2007. It is expected that these parks will attract significant investments in the near future and will host various industrial projects.

By law Industrial Parks may be created either on the territory of state enterprises or through Greenfield investments. The industrial parks are developed for a period of no less than 15 years and no more than 50 years:

- the infrastructure is ensured by government;
- Investors pay only 30% of the normative rent cost;
- Investors can buy areas after park's operational period

At present, only placements for industrial parks have been identified. The following industrial parks will be opened: the industrial park in Floresti (60 ha, situated close to the border with Ukraine), the industrial park in Ungheni (50 ha, situated on the border with Romania) and the industrial park in Cainari (23 ha).

Free Economic Zone "Expo-Business-Chisinau"



Contact Person: Calin N.

Tel.: (373 22) 414130, 414123;

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E-mail: admin@moldova-freezone.md

freezone1@list.ru

Web: moldova-freezone.md

The Free Economic Zone "Expo-Business-Chisinau" was created in 1995. "Expo-Business-Chisinau" is located in Chisinau, only two kilometers from the International Airport of Chisinau, in the immediate vicinity of the international road Chisinau-Odessa and has access to the railway system.

Within the FEZ are registered 57 residents, working in diverse fields of activity.



Free Economic Zone „Ungheni-Business”

Contact Person: Iepuras Natalia

Tel.: (373 236) 20184, 88000;

Fax: (373 236) 20184

E-mail: office@freezone-ungheni.md

Web: www.freezone-ungheni.md

The Free Economic Zone (FEZ) “Ungheni Business” is located on the western border with Romania in the central region of Moldova. From an organisational point of view, the FEZ consists of a basic area (25.24ha) and three sub-areas (17.1ha). In February, 2009 a new sub-area (351.7ha) was added to the FEZ “Ungheni Business”.

The District Center of Ungheni represents one of the main cultural and economic centers in the west of Moldova and boasts some of the most impressive prospects for development.

Free Economic Zone "Tvardita"

Contact Person: Maslinkov K.

Mobile: 0 693 71840

Tel: (373 291) 63454

The Free Economic Zone (FEZ) “Tvardita” is located in the south region of Moldova, near the Ukrainian border, in the district of Taraklia. The FEZ “Tvardita” was created in 1995 for a period of 30 years. Its territory is connected to gas, water, electrical networks and sewage system. The network of roads ensures permanent access to all commercial centers in Moldova. The area of the FEZ “Tvardita” can be extended for new investment projects.

Free Economic Zone „Otaci-Business”

Contact person: Ghincu V. G.

Tel: (373 271) 94626

E-mail: otaci-business@rambler.ru

The Free Economic Zone (FEZ) “Otaci-Business”(34.19 ha) is located in the north region of Moldova, on the banks of Dnestr river, in close proximity with the Ukrainian border. It was created in 1999 for a period of 25 years. “Otaci-Business” FEZ offers its residents a developed infrastructure, including gas, water, electricity and sewage facilities. There are 10 registered residents that carry out various types of business activities.





Free Economic Zone “Taraclia”



Contact Person: Constantinov V.
Tel.: (373 294) 24483, 25051;
Fax: (373 294) 24483;
E-mail: zal_pp_taraclia@mail.md

The Free Economic Zone (FEZ) “Taraclia”(36 ha) is located in the south region of Moldova in Taraclia district.

The District Center of Taraclia represents one of the main cultural and economic centers in the south of Moldova and boasts some of the most impressive prospects for development. The road network ensures permanent access to all communities within the district of Taraclia, as well as other commercial centers in Moldova.

At present, 12 registered residents carry out various business activities, 5 of which produce industrial goods for export.

Free Economic Zone “Valkanes”

Contact Person: Cherven G. P.
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Fax: (373 293) 22568
E-mail: levlor@rambler.ru

The Free Economic Zone (FEZ) “Valkanes” is located in the south region of Moldova, in close proximity with the Giurgiulesti Free International Port. The FEZ was created for 25 years and its area consists of 122.3 ha

The FEZ “Valkanes” administers a territory where local and foreign investors can engage in entrepreneurial activities using the zone’s fiscal and customs services.

Free International Airport Marculesti



Contact Person: Muntean Boris
Tel. /Fax: (373 22) 234299
E-mail: aim.mail@airportmarculesti.com
Web: http://airportmarculesti.com

The Free International Airport Marculesti (FIAM) offers national and international investors an excellent investment environment. The state owned enterprise „International Airport Marculesti” is the Airport Operator, General Investor and resident of Free Airport. FIAM was founded for a term of 25 years and has as a goal the acceleration of aerial transportation, aerial servic-

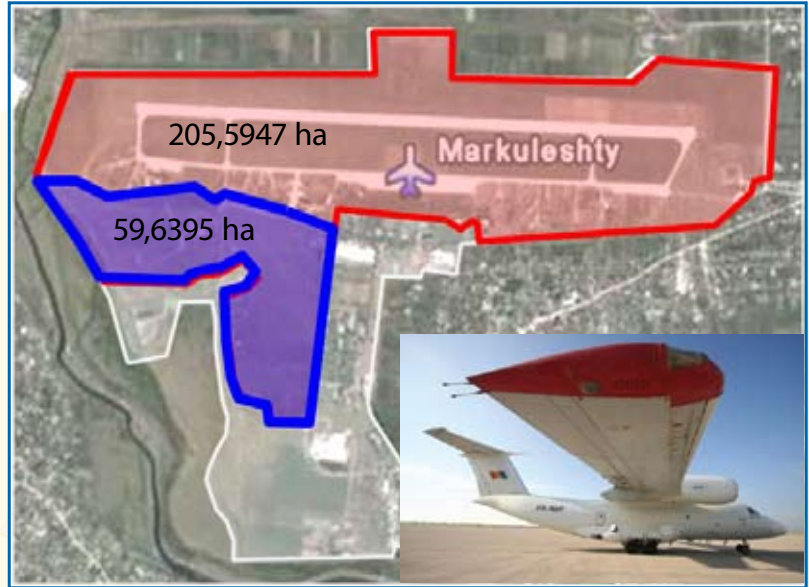


es, industrial production (export and foreign trade-related activities). The territory of FIAM consists of an aerodrome area (205.6 ha) and the Business Development area (59.6 ha).

FIAM operates on the territory of the ex-military aerodrome Marculesti; its staff represents more than 90% of ex-pilots, engineers and technicians of air force base,- highly qualified specialists, internationally licensed. FIAM owns Certificates of aerial Operator and Airport Operator.

FIAM provides the following services:

- Airplanes and helicopters;
- Run way (2 500m X 40m), that can ensure landing and take-off of different aircrafts, including the biggest ones. (An-124, Ruslan, Globmaster).
- 4 exits to run way with latitude of 14 m;
- Parking platform for aircrafts with surface of 24000 m² ;
- Hangars with total surface of 7680 m²;
- Developed infrastructure;
- Possibility to employ qualified personnel;
- Ground services and air transport service;
- Technical maintenance depot for aircrafts, laboratories and workshops for adjustment work, autopark for cars, technical and special equipment.



Giurgiulesti International Free Port

Danube Logistic JV

Director: Thomas Moser

Address: 2/2, Mihai Viteazul street, Chisinau, MD-2004, Republic of Moldova

Tel: (+373 22) 293491/882732

Fax: (+373 22) 292855

E-mail: info@danlog.md

Web site: www.gifp.md

Giurgiulesti International Free Port (GIFP), Moldova's only port accessible to sea-going vessels, is situated at km 133.8 (nautical mile 72.2) of the River Danube in the South of Moldova, sandwiched between Romania (and therefore the European Union) and Ukraine.

GIFP benefits from its location on international trade and transportation routes such as the Rhine-





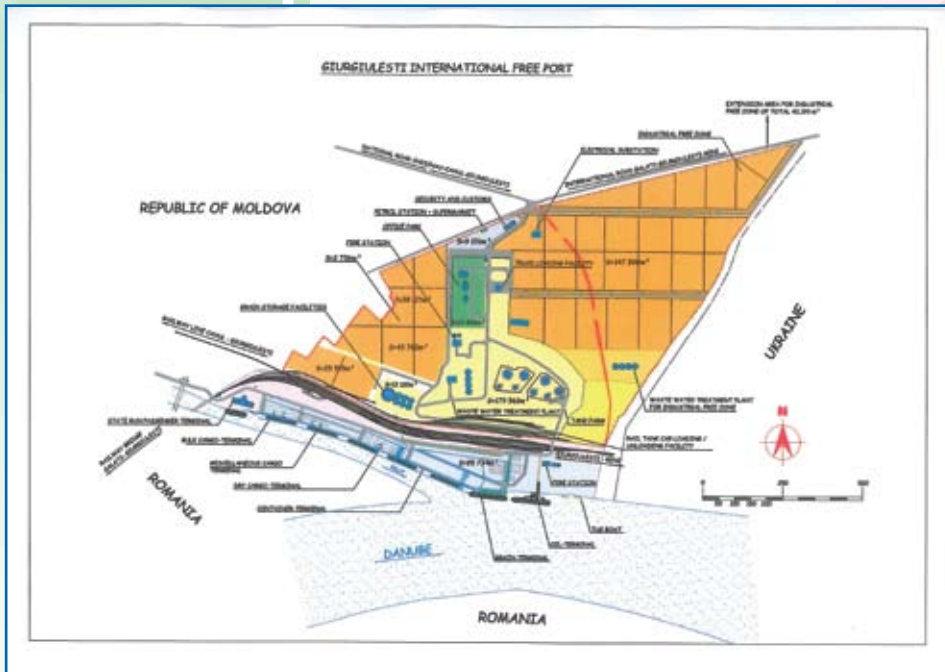
Port Facilities

Main-Danube waterway corridor which connects the Black Sea, 14 European countries and the North Sea; the European standard and Russian railway systems as well as the international road network. Against this background, GIFP serves its clients as a regional logistics hub in the midst of the rapidly growing economies of South Eastern Europe.

Danube Logistics SRL, a Moldovan limited liability company, is the general investor, owner and operator of Giurgiulesti International Free Port. In December 2004 Danube Logistics signed with the Government of Moldova an investment agreement for the

construction of Giurgiulesti International Free Port. Danube Logistics' shareholders are the Dutch EASEUR Holding BV and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, holding 80% and 20% of Danube Logistics shares respectively. The company, which is managed by an international team of professionals, has offices in Giurgiulesti and in Chisinau, the capital of the Republic of Moldova.

Due to its location on the Maritime Danube with available water depths of 7m, GIFP is capable of receiving both inland and sea going vessels. Against this background GIFP serves its client as:



- The only direct sea/river-borne transshipment and distribution point to and from the Republic of Moldova,
- A regional logistics hub on the border of the EU with access to road, rail, river, sea, and
- An excellent location for business development, because of its strategic location, tri-modal transport infrastructure, low cost environment and a unique customs and tax regime.



New incentives for business development

INCOME TAX AT "0" %

Establishing the income tax at 0% means the exemption from tax if the income remains at the disposal of the undertaking and its application only in case when the income is distributed between the shareholders (associates).

Scope

The implementation of the reform will determine the investors to reinvest the profit for the extension and development of the businesses, to invest the incomes of undertakings, including the amount of the income taxes that were not paid to the budget, in purchasing goods and services for which VAT is applicable, as well as give up on different schemes of evasion from income tax payment when importing goods or services.

Legal base

The income tax at 0% is implemented by the art.1 of the law No.111, which foresees the amendment of the Tax Code and of the law on the application of the 1st and 2nd titles of the Tax Code.

Subjects

Subjects of taxation are the physical and legal persons that during the fiscal period obtain income from any sources whatsoever in the Republic of Moldova, as well as the legal persons that obtain income from any sources outside the Republic of Moldova and the physical persons that obtain investment or financial income from sources outside the Republic of Moldova.

Area of application

The taxable income represents the gross income, including the facilities provided by the employer, obtained by the taxpayer from all the sources in a specific fiscal period, with the exemption of the deductions and exemptions, related to this income, to which the taxpayer has rights according to the fiscal legislation.

The gross income includes:

- The income obtained from practicing the activity of entrepreneurship, from the professional activity or other similar activities,



- The income from the activity of the companies obtained by the associates and the income obtained by the shareholders of the investment funds,
- The payments for the jobs and services done (including salaries), facilities provided by the employer, honoraria, commissions, bonuses and other similar payments,
- Income from rent
- Capital increase,
- Capital increase over the loss of capital, not taken into account in other types of income,
- Income obtained as a form of profit,
- Royalty,
- Annuities, including those received as base for international treaties to which R. Moldova is a party, the amounts and compensations received from insurance and co-insurance contracts,
- Income resulted from non payment of debts by the undertaking, with the exception of cases when the debt is a result of the bankruptcy of the taxpayer,
- State subsidies, bonuses and awards that are not mentioned as non-taxable in the laws that regulate these payments,
- Amounts obtained as a result of the agreements (conventions) of non participation in competition,
- Dividends
- Income obtained, according to the legislation, as a result of application of the penalty clause, in the form of reparation for the income loss and as a result of retaining of advance payments or restitution of advanced money,
- Other income not specified above.



Implications

As a result of establishing the income tax at 0%, the undertakings will be exempted from paying the income tax. Only the payments that have the form of dividends paid to physical persons will be taxed with 15% standard corporate tax. The advantage consists in the fact that the undertaking can direct the obtained income to the development of the company without minimising this specific amount with the tax rate.



Useful contacts

The Administration of the President of the Republic of Moldova

154, Stefan cel Mare Ave., Chisinau MD-2073
Tel: + 373 22 234 793, 504 260; Fax: + 373 22 251 040
Web site: www.presidente.md

Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

105, Stefan cel Mare Ave., Chisinau MD-2073
Tel: + 373 22 233 229, Fax: + 373 233 210
E-mail: info@parlament.md
Web site: www.parlament.md

Government of the Republic of Moldova

1, Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau MD-2033
Tel: + 373 22 250 104, 250 105, 250 427
Fax: + 373 22 250 101; 242 696
Web site: www.gov.md

Ministry of Economy and Trade

1, Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau MD-2033
Tel: + 373 22 237 448 / 250 107; Fax: + 373 22 234 064
E-mail: mineconcom@moldova.md
Web site: www.mec.gov.md

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration

80, 31 August 1989 str., Chisinau MD-2012
Tel: + 373 22 233 940; Fax: + 373 232 302
E-mail: secdep@mfa.md
Web site: www.mfa.gov.md

Ministry of Finance

7, Cosmonauților str., Chisinau MD-2005
Tel: + 373 22 226 629; Fax: + 373 22 240 055
E-mail: cancelaria@minfin.moldova.md
Web site: www.mf.gov.md

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry

162, Stefan cel Mare Ave., Chisinau MD-2004
Tel: + 373 22 233 427; Fax: + 373 22 210 204
E-mail: ministru.agricultura@moldova.md
Web site: www.maia.gov.md

Ministry of Culture and Tourism

1, Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau MD-2033
Tel: + 373 22 227 620; Fax: + 373 22 232 388
E-mail: promo@turism.md
Web site: www.turism.gov.md

Ministry of Education and Youth

1, Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau MD-2033
Tel: + 373 22 233 348; Fax: + 373 22 233 515
E-mail: consilier@edu.md
Web site: www.edu.md

Ministry of Constructions and Territorial Development

9, Cosmonauților str., Chisinau MD-2005
Tel: + 373 22 204 569; Fax: + 373 22 220 748
Web site: www.mcdt.gov.md

Ministry of Local Public Administration

1, Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau MD-2033
Tel: + 373 22 200 170;
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E-mail: info@mapl.gov.md
Web site: www.mapl.gov.md

Government Institutions

Customs Department

30, Columna str., Chisinau MD-2001
Tel./Fax: + 373 22 273 061
E-mail: vama@customs.gov.md
Web site: www.customs.gov.md

National Bureau of Statistics

106, Grenoble str., Chisinau MD-2019
Tel: + 373 22 403 000; Fax: +373 22 226 146
E-mail: moldstat@statistica.md
Web site: www.statistica.md

Moldovan Investment and Export Promotion Organisation

65, Alexe Mateevici str., Chisinau MD-2009
Tel: + 373 22 273 654,
Fax: + 373 22 224 310
E-mail: office@miepo.md
Web site: www.miepo.md

Agency for Restructuring and Enterprise Assistance

75, Alba Iulia str., of. 903, Chisinau MD-2071
Tel: + 373 22 589 291, 589 286, 589 284;
Fax: + 373 22 589 285
E-mail: aria@aria.md;
Web site: www.aria.md

State Agency of Industrial Property Protection

24/1, Andrei Doga str., Chisinau MD-2024
Tel: + 373 22 443 253; Fax: + 373 22 440 119
E-mail: office@agepi.md
Web site: www.agepi.md

Chamber of Commerce and Industry

151, Stefan cel Mare Ave., Chisinau MD-2004
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E-mail: camera@chamber.md
Web site: www.chamber.md



Moldova

Foreign Embassies in Moldova

Embassy of Azerbaijan

127, Stefan cel Mare Ave., Chisinau, MD-2004
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Embassy of Belarus

35, Mateevici str., Chisinau, MD-2009
Tel: +373 22 238 273; Fax: + 373 22 238 302
Web site: www.belembassy.org/moldova

Embassy of Bulgaria

92, Bucuresti str., Chisinau, MD-2012
Tel: +373 22 238 910; Fax: +373 22 237 978
E-mail: ambasada-bulgara@meganet.net

Embassy of China

124, Mitropolit Dosoftei str., Chisinau, MD-2004
Tel: +373 22 210 712; Fax: +372 22 295 960
E-mail: chnembassy@126.com

Embassy of the Czech Republic

23, Moara Rosie str., Chisinau, MD-2005
Tel: +373 22 296 419; Fax: +373 22 296 437

European Commission Delegation to Moldova

12, Kogalniceanu str., Chisinau, MD-2001
Tel: +373 22 505 210, Fax: +373 22 272 622
Web site: www.ec.europa.eu

Embassy of France

6, Vlaicu Parcalab str., Chisinau, MD-2009
Tel: +373 22 200 400; Fax: +373 22 200 401
E-mail: amb-fr@cni.md
Web site: www.ambafrance.md

Embassy of Germany

35, Maria Cebotari str., Chisinau, MD-2012
Tel: +373 22 200 600; Fax: +373 22 234 680
E-mail: chisinau@deutsche.botschaft.riscom.md
Web site: www.chisinau.diplo.de

Embassy of Hungary

131, Stefan cel Mare Ave, Chisinau, MD-2004
Tel: +373 22 223 404; Fax: +373 22 224 513
E-mail: mission.kiv@kum.hu
Web site: www.mfa.gov.hu/emb/chisinau

Embassy of Poland

3, Plamadeala str., Chisinau, MD-2009
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Web site: www.kiszyniow.polemb.net

Embassy of Romania

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Web site: www.chisinau.mae.ro

Embassy of Russia

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E-mail: domino@mtc.md
Web site: www.moldova.mid.ru

Embassy of Turkey

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Tel: +373 22 509 100; Fax: +373 22 225 528
E-mail: turkembassy@arax.md

Embassy of Ukraine

17, Vasile Lupu str., Chisinau, MD-2008
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E-mail: ambasua@starnet.md

Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

18/1, Nicolae Iorga str., Chisinau, MD-2012
Tel: +373 22 225 902; Fax: +373 22 251 859
E-mail: enquiries.chisinau@fco.gov.uk,
Web site: www.britishembassy.md

Embassy of the United States of America

103, Alexei Mateevici str., Chisinau MD-2009
Tel: +373 22 408 300; Fax: +373 22 233 044
<http://moldova.usembassy.gov>

International Organisations

World Bank Country Office in Moldova

20/1 Puskin str., Chisinau MD-2012
Tel: + 373 22 200 706; Fax: +373 22 237 053
E-mail: missions@worldbank.org
Web site: www.worldbank.org/md

International Monetary Fund

1 Piata Marii Adunari Nationale, Chisinau, MD-2033
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Web site: www.imf.md

The Information Office of the Council of Europe in Moldova

78 A, 31 August 1989 str., Chisinau, MD-2012
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Web site: www.bice.md

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

98, 31 August 1989 str., Office
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Tel: +373 22 210 000; Fax: +373 22 210 011
Web site: www.ebrd.com