Republic of Moldova (Moldova)

Moldova is a Member State of the Council of Europe (COE) and of the United Nations (UN), and has human rights obligations at the regional and universal levels.

Regional: European System

As a Member of the COE, Moldova has ratified the European Convention on Human Rights and is subject to the jurisdiction of the European Court of Human Rights. Moldova has ratified the Revised European Social Charter, but has not authorized the European Committee of Social Rights to decide collective complaints against it. Its human rights policies and practices are also monitored by the COE Commissioner for Human Rights, who identifies gaps in human rights protection, conducts country visits, engages in dialogue with States, and prepares thematic reports and advice on human rights obligations.

Individuals and groups have submitted complaints of human rights violations committed by Moldova to the European Court of Human Rights. For example, the Court found that Moldova violated its obligation to prevent inhuman or degrading punishment, as well as the right to liberty and personal security, in the case of an individual who was detained and deprived of necessary medical treatment while in prison. See ECtHR, Paladi v. Moldova, no. 39806/05, ECHR 2009 Judgment of 10 March 2009. Additionally, the Court may grant interim measures to protect people in urgent situations of risk in Moldova.

As a State party to the Revised European Social Charter, Moldova must submit yearly reports to the European Committee of Social Rights on its implementation of the Charter’s provisions.

Moldova is a party to the following regional human rights treaties:

- European Convention on Human Rights and several of its protocols
- Revised European Social Charter
- COE Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
- European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
- Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
United Nations System

As a UN Member State, Moldova is subject to the oversight of various UN human rights bodies, including the Human Rights Council and its Universal Periodic Review and thematic special procedures. As a party to specific universal human rights treaties, Moldova’s policies and practices are monitored by UN treaty bodies. It has accepted the complaints procedure of four treaty bodies.

Moldova has ratified the following UN human rights treaties:

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT)
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

Moldova has also ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the ICCPR aimed at abolishing the death penalty, and optional protocols to the CRC addressing children in armed conflict and the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography. Moldova has a duty to submit State reports to the UN treaty body associated with each UN human rights treaty Moldova has ratified. These reports must be submitted on a periodic basis and describe the steps taken to implement the treaty provisions.

Moldova has also ratified optional protocols and made appropriate declarations allowing individuals to submit complaints against the State alleging violations of the ICCPR, CEDAW, CAT, and CERD. Additionally, certain UN treaties contain inquiry procedures, which allow the UN treaty body to consider allegations of grave or systematic human rights violations. Moldova has accepted the inquiry procedures of the CAT and CEDAW.

On June 2, 2010, Moldova extended a standing invitation to UN special procedures, which means that any such mandate holders are welcome to conduct visits in Moldova. For example, the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights went on a mission to Moldova in September 2013 and published a report in June 2014 on poverty and human rights there.

For more information on Moldova’s engagement with UN human rights bodies, visit http://www.ohchr.org/EN/countries/ENACARegion/Pages/MDIndex.aspx.

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