



Press release

Launching of the "Euromonitor" report for the 4th quarter of 2007

Chisinau, February 22, 2008

The Association for Participatory Democracy ADEPT and the Analytical Centre EXPERT-GRUP launches on February 22, 2008 the 9th issue of the quarterly analytical report "Euromonitor". The report "European Union – Republic of Moldova Action Plan – an accessible document for the public (phase II)" is published with the financial assistance of the Soros-Moldova Foundation as part of a project jointly implemented by the two organisations.

"Euromonitor" aims at an independent and fair monitoring of the implementation of the European Union – Moldova Action Plan (EUMAP). It monitored Moldova's actions taken in the 4th quarter of 2007. The implementation of the EUMAP was monitored in the following key fields: Political dialogue and democratic institutions; Consolidation of administrative capacity; Transnistrian conflict; Justice; Development and economic reforms; Development and social reforms; International trade; Business climate; Border, migration and trafficking in human beings.

Euromonitor # 9 assessed a dynamic political dialogue between the E.U. and Moldova in the 4th quarter of 2007. Great progresses in implementing the EUMAP include among others the visa facilitation and readmission agreements; the adoption of the communication strategy on European integration of Moldova and awarding of the Autonomous Trade Preferences (ATP).

The following moderate progresses were observed: the ratification of international tools; consolidation of the legal-normative framework in fields such as combat of corruption, judicial system, social protection, business climate; development of the dialogue with the Council of Europe; measures to implement earlier adopted regulations; lower price rise pace thanks to the National Bank; and measures aimed to prevent and combat the trafficking in human beings.

On the other hand, developers signalled serious shortcomings such as intimidation of a PRO TV Chisinau team; severe effects of the drought and rise of the electricity tariff on population.

Other shortcomings signalled in the period concerned are: the politicising of public administration and corruption in this sector; low transparency of public administration and judiciary; growth of the trade deficit; difficulty to obtain licences and certificates. Another problem signalled by developers is linked to the delayed planned actions in areas such as democratic institutions, public administration, anti-corruption fight, international trade and border management.

The complete "Euromonitor" # 9 and the previous issues are available at <u>www.e-democracy.md</u> and <u>www.expert-grup.org</u>.