



PRESS RELEASE

Moldova Signs a Memorandum of Understanding with UNOCT to Strengthen Co-operation in Preventing and Countering Terrorism

NEW YORK, 17 November 2022 – The United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Republic of Moldova signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) today formalizing their partnership to strengthen cooperation in preventing and countering terrorism and its nexus with organized crime. The MoU will accelerate the delivery of comprehensive technical assistance to Moldova under the [United Nations Countering Terrorist Travel \('CT Travel'\) Programme](#) aimed at building national capacities to support efforts to address threats associated with the travel of terrorists and other serious criminals.

Mr. Vladimir Voronkov, Under-Secretary-General of UNOCT, and His Excellency Ambassador Gheorghe Leucă, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations, signed the partnership agreement in an event attended by delegations from both sides. In line with the agreement, UNOCT will provide technical assistance to Moldova to fulfill its obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions [2178](#) (2014), [2396](#) (2017) and [2482](#) (2019), which calls upon all Member States to collect travel information, both Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) data, to detect and prevent the travel of terrorists and other serious criminals through their territories. The agreement lays out the foundation of a strategic partnership to assist the Government of Moldova to implement the programmatic roadmap for the use of the United Nations 'goTravel' technology in compliance with international law, in particular, international human rights, refugee and international humanitarian law.

"We started our technical assistance on Advance Passenger Information (API) and Passenger Name Record (PNR) in Moldova through the Countering Terrorist Travel Programme in March this year. And through an 'all-of-United Nations' effort, we are supporting Moldova across four key pillars of the programme", Mr. Voronkov said.

"The just signed Agreement opens new perspectives for cooperation between the Republic of Moldova and the United Nations in preventing and combating terrorist threats and related organized crime, especially by increased assistance in strengthening country's capabilities directed to achieving perceptible results in this field", Ambassador Leucă concluded.

Moldova is one of 54 beneficiary Member States that have joined the CT Travel Programme since its launch in May 2019. The newly signed agreement will allow the United Nations to continue supporting the country to enhance its capabilities to detect and intercept terrorists and serious criminals by using travel information, cross-checking against INTERPOL and other international and national databases of known and suspected terrorists and criminals.

The CT Travel Programme follows an “All-of-UN” approach to provide comprehensive, yet tailored assistance to beneficiary Member States, with the support of five implementing partners, including the [United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate \(CTED\)](#), the [United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(UNODC\)](#), the [United Nations Office of Information and Communications Technology \(OICT\)](#), the [International Civil Aviation Organization \(ICAO\)](#), and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and in close cooperation with the [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#).



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