

Programme

Moldova's EU integration: an analysis through the lens of the Eastern Partnership Index

Thursday, 26th February 2026 from 10:30h to 13h
Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Europe Office
11, Avenue de l'Yser, B-1040 Brussels

Over the past five years, Moldova has emerged as one of the frontrunners of European integration within the Eastern Partnership. Despite Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, acute energy and security pressure and persistent disinformation campaigns, Chişinău has not only reaffirmed its European choice but translated it into tangible steps towards EU membership.

The last three editions of the Eastern Partnership Index (2021, 2023, 2025) document this trajectory from a civil society perspective. The 2021 edition provides a pre-full-scale war baseline of Moldova's approximation to the EU acquis and standards. The 2023 Index captures the acceleration of reforms and legislative alignment following the granting of EU candidate status in 2022. The 2025 edition demonstrates the extent of Moldova's progress in political association, economic integration, rule of law and sectoral alignment. It highlights in particular significant advances with regard to the justice sector reform, anti-corruption efforts and regulatory approximation to EU norms.

Undoubtedly, this progress has been driven by several actors committed to bringing Moldova closer to the EU. Moldovan civil society, independent media and a reform-oriented public administration have been at the forefront of the country's EU integration process. Civil society organisations have monitored reforms, advocated for higher standards and kept EU commitments high on the political agenda. Independent media have exposed abuses, countered disinformation and helped build public understanding of what EU integration means in practice. At the same time, efforts to professionalise and modernise the public administration have been essential for turning political will into sustained, day-to-day implementation of the EU acquis.

Hosted by the Europe Office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, this event will use the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Index 2025, together with the 2021 and 2023 editions, to unpack Moldova's EU integration trajectory and its implications for the EU's enlargement and neighbourhood policies. How does Moldova's performance in the EaP Index reflect its progress in political association, economic integration and rule-of-law reforms? What role do civil society, independent media and public administration reform play in monitoring, advancing and sustaining the country's EU integration agenda? And what lessons can be drawn from Moldova's experience for the EU's engagement with other Eastern Partnership countries?

These and other timely questions will be addressed during our index presentation and roundtable discussion "Moldova's EU integration: an analysis through the lens of the Eastern Partnership Index". For the presentation of the index findings, we are pleased to welcome **Alexandra Sabou**, Advocacy and EaP Index Manager at the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum. For the subsequent panel reflection, we will furthermore be joined by **H.E. Daniela Morari**, Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the EU, and **Allan Jones**, Head of Unit C.2 ("Moldova") at DG ENEST. The discussion will be moderated by **Alexandra Sabou** and will be held under Chatham House Rules.

Agenda

- 10:15 - 10:30** **Arrivals and registration**
- 10:30 - 10:35** **Welcoming remarks**
Jonas Althoff, Policy advisor for enlargement and neighbourhood policy
Europe Office of the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
- 10:35 - 11:00** **Presentation of the index findings**
Alexandra Sabou, Advocacy and EaP Index Manager
Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum
- 11:00 - 12:00** **Panel Discussion: Moldova's EU integration: an analysis through the lens of the Eastern Partnership Index**
H.E. Daniela Morari, Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova to the EU
Allan Jones, Head of Unit C.2 ("Moldova") at DG ENEST

Moderator: **Alexandra Sabou**, Advocacy and EaP Index Manager
Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum
- 12:00 - 13:00** **Networking lunch**