REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
HONORARY CONSULATE IN BULGARIA

REPORT

of the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Moldova in
Republic of Bulgaria – Plovdiv
for 2023

In 2023 the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in the Republic of Bulgaria – Plovdiv, Mr. VESELIN CHIPEV, with a consular district covering the regions of Plovdiv, Haskovo and Stara Zagora, made a personal contribution to the strengthening of the relations between the Republic of Moldova and the Republic of Bulgaria on a political, economic and cultural level, promoting the development of the economic interests of the Republic of Moldova in the Plovdiv Region.

On the occasion of celebrating the spring and the centuries-old Moldovan tradition of "Mărtişor" in March 2023 the Honorary Consul contributed financial to the organization of creative workshop for making Mărtişor by children from Moldovan diaspora and their parents in the Embassy of Moldova in Sofia. Also, on this occasion Mr. Chipev contributed to the gifts for the winners of the "Mărţişor 2023" creative contest organized by the Embassy of Moldova to Bulgaria for children from diaspora.

In April 2023, Mr. Chipev sponsored the "Art4Diplomacy" project implemented by Mrs. Petya Ilieva and the Embassy of the Republic of Moldova to the Republic of Bulgaria. In the framework of this project one of the public transport stations in the city of Sofia was set up with the image of Mimi Castle – a Moldovan winery. The implementation of this project contributes positively to the promotion of the image of the Republic of Moldova.

In May 2023, the Honorary Consul contributed to the organization by the Embassy of Moldova the Reunion of the Moldovan diaspora on the occasion of "European Moldova National Assembly", organized in Chisinau on May 21, 2023.

On the occasion of Children's Day – 01 of June 2023, Mr. Chipev sponsored the concert and Festival of art and games which was organized by the Bessarabian Bulgarians Foundation for the children from Moldovan diaspora in Bulgaria.

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In July, the Honorary Consulate took part in the project "Increasing citizen participation to the formation of public policies to create a favorable business environment", financed by the Operational Program Good Governance, co-financed by the European Union through the European Social Fund. In this regard, on 25.07.2023 the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Moldova attended a meeting of the Public Council for Business Development with the Plovdiv Regional Administration. A package of goals and priorities for the Integrated Territorial Development Strategy for the South Central Region was presented at the meeting. The aim of the project was to create a favorable business environment in the large regional cities by including the civil potential in making public decisions and taking initiatives for the development and implementation of the municipal policy on economic issues.

In July, after Mr. Chipev's appeal, the case against the Moldovan citizen Valery Chira - wrongfully accused and detained in Bulgaria – was dismissed.

On the 10th of July, the Honorary Consul held a meeting with Mr. N. Todorov from the Ministry of Economy on the occasion of his upcoming visit to the Republic of Moldova – the aim was to support the economic relations between Bulgaria and Moldova.

In August, the Honorary Consul responded to the request of a Moldovan family that suffered a serious accident on the Bulgarian-Greek border, helping to establish contact with the Moldovan Ambassador to help them with treatment and transportation to their country.

In September 2023, Mr. Veselin Chipev, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Plovdiv, together with Mrs. Zhenya Atanasova, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Burgas and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Moldova contributed to the participation of the Republic of Moldova at the 77th edition of the International Fair in Plovdiv. The intend of the Honorary Consul Mr. Chipev and the Ambassador Mr. Anatol Cebuc was to present specific information about the investment and development opportunities that the business would find in Moldova. Together with 210 companies from 18 countries, the Republic of Moldova presents the tourist destinations of the country. Last but not least, to present Moldova as a tourist destination to as many people as possible, and to introduce the visitors to the character and culture, traditions and natural features of the country. The stand of the Republic of Moldova was visited by the Minister of Economy and Industry of the Republic of Bulgaria, Mr. Bogdan Bogdanov, who appreciated the Moldovan-Bulgarian dialogue, and particularly the intensity of the development of the bilateral relations.

In September, the Honorary Consulate of Moldova in Plovdiv, together with Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Moldova in Burgas took part in the international

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project the Gardens of the World and funded the planting of 235 sq. m. of plant species typical of the Republic of Moldova, as well as construction of a pedestal the "Tree of Life" – the symbol of the country. The project aims was to unite different cultures and to show that the differences could be overcome and there could be similarities between different communities and cultures in order to ensure peace and harmony between countries, immersing the visitor in an atmosphere of inspiration and enjoyment of the beauty of nature combined with art.

On the 10th of October, the Honorary Consul in Plovdiv and the Honorary Consulate in Burgas participated and contributed integral to the organization of the official reception on the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Moldova, held at the Marinela Hotel, Sofia. The reception was an opportunity to strengthen the cooperation between the members of the Diplomatic Corps in the country, including the good diplomatic relations between the Republic of Moldova and the Republic of Bulgaria.

On the 24 April 2023, Mr. Veselin Chipev and Mr. Anatol Cebuc participated to the act of charity on behalf of the Republic of Moldova for helping autistic children, organized under the auspices of the Vice President of Bulgaria, Iliana Yotova.

On the 7th of December, Mr. Chipev had the honor, together with the Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova – Mr. Anatol Cebuc to attend a specially organized event on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations. The event was also attended by H.E. Nikolas Margaropoulos, President of the World Federation of Consuls F.I.C.A.C. and H.E. Stelio Campanale, Member of the Board of F.I.C.A.C.

On the 14th of December, the Honorary Consul on behalf of the Republic of Moldova participated in a charity event organized by the Regional Governor of the Plovdiv Region, dipl. ing. Iliya Zyumbyulev - Violin for Talent with the aim of collecting funds for the purchase of a professional musical instrument for a talented child from the National Music School "Dobrin Petkov".

On the occasion of the celebrating the New Year, Mr. Veselin Chipev, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Plovdiv, together with Mrs. Zhenya Atanasova, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Burgas participated to the act of charity on behalf of the Republic of Moldova for helping children with disabilities.

During the 2023, Mr. Veselin Chipev, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova in Plovdiv contributed to the publication of several publications about the Republic of Moldova in Newspaper "24 chasa", "Banker", "MediaPlovdiv" with the

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purpose of promoting the image of the Republic of Moldova in the Republic of Bulgaria, especially in the business and economic circles.

In the past year, the Honorary Consul offered the assistance to the economic companies from Bulgaria which was interested in establishment the commercial cooperation with Moldovan companies (around 15 companies). At the same time, the Honorary Consulate constantly provided the informational support and assistance to the companies from Bulgaria which are addressed with such requests.

In the past year, the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Moldova was intensively involved in projects in the social, economic, cultural and political spheres at home and abroad, and honestly and honorably represented the interests of the Republic of Moldova.

Date: .....

Signature: .....

(Dipl. Eng. Veselin Chipev, PhD)

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