

„Countering the threat posed by improvised explosive devices”

In the context of this resolution, it is important to highlight the promotion by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova of a draft law on the trade and use of explosive precursors, a legal act that will establish the legal framework for the regulation of explosive precursors, including provisions regarding their placement on the market, introduction to the market, possession, use, import, export, transport, and monitoring, with the aim of preventing their illicit use.

Practical cases:

Case 1 – Chişinău International Airport Cargo Terminal (7 January 2025) – During a security control using X-ray equipment at the Chişinău International Airport Cargo terminal, a consignment destined for loading onto aircraft was inspected. A handmade improvised explosive device (IED) with brisant action was detected. The device was designed for remote initiation via GSM/GPRS technology (e.g., by making a telephone call or sending an SMS). Depending on the microcontroller programming, other initiation methods are possible, such as timed detonation or authentication into a specific GSM network.

Case 2 – State Border Crossing Point (19 August 2025) – A passenger traveling on a transport vehicle, operating on the regular route, arrived at the State Border Crossing Point. During the border control, inside his hand luggage, the following constructive elements of an explosive object and the initiation device were detected, namely: two electro-detonators, intended for the instant initiation of explosive charges by means of electric current, of industrial manufacture, which fall under the category of engineer munitions; a mobile telephone; hexogen with an admixture of aluminum powder; and connecting elements. Taken together, these constitute a handmade improvised explosive device that is capable of producing an explosion.