

Submission of the Republic of Moldova under General Assembly resolution 79/57

## **“Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control”**

### Policy and normative framework

The Republic of Moldova has undertaken sustained efforts to integrate gender perspectives into national security and arms control policies through the adoption of comprehensive policy frameworks, including:

- National Programme on the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (2023–2027)  
[https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=140367&lang=ro#](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=140367&lang=ro#)
- Second National Programme for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 “Women, Peace and Security” (2023–2027) – promotes the meaningful participation of women in security processes, strengthening the link between conflict prevention, protection, and arms control. (Government Decision No. 152/2023)
- National Programme on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Control (2026–2030) – is the first strategic document that explicitly integrates a gender impact analysis into SALW-related issues, including the correlation between firearms and domestic violence.  
[https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc\\_id=150518&lang=ro](https://www.legis.md/cautare/getResults?doc_id=150518&lang=ro)

Its implementation is guided by the principles of social inclusion and gender equality, ensuring the active and balanced participation of women and men, as well as representatives of vulnerable groups, across all stages of the Programme — from development and implementation to monitoring and impact evaluation. Furthermore, the SALW Action Plan includes a dedicated measure on ensuring the meaningful participation of women in small arms control processes, with specific indicators such as the number of women working in the field of SALW control and the number of women participating in SALW-related training activities, thereby supporting the inclusion of women in the development of public policies regulating the circulation of firearms and ammunition.

- On 26 August 2025, the Concept of the Information System “State Register VioData” and the Regulation on the procedure for maintaining the State Register VioData were approved (Government Decision No. 530/2025). The VioData Information System aims to unify and centralize relevant data on domestic violence cases.
- By Law No. 252/2025, Article 134<sup>27</sup> “Femicide” was introduced into the Criminal Code.
- Law No. 283/2011 on the Border Police, which regulates the performance of duties by border police officers in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination;

These frameworks collectively contribute to strengthening the role of women and integrating gender-sensitive approaches in disarmament and arms control policies.

## Institutional mechanisms and participation of women

The Ministry of Internal Affairs has taken concrete steps to enhance women's participation in decision-making and operational structures relevant to arms control:

- The establishment in 2024 (09.07.2024) of the National Focal Point on firearms, ammunition and explosives, with 50% of positions held by women;
- In 2025, the Roadmap and the measures for operationalizing the activity of the National Focal Point Section on firearms, ammunition, explosives, and explosive materials were approved for the period 2025–2027;
- In 2025, a woman was promoted to the position of Head of the Forensic and Judicial Expertise Center;
- The MIA has taken a series of practical measures to promote the role of women and integrate a gender perspective into institutional activities through training programs that include modules dedicated to:
  - 1) identifying victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence at the border;
  - 2) applying non-discriminatory procedures during border control;
  - 3) gender equality in the performance of official duties.

## Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Measures

- On 20 March 2025, the ninth firearms destruction exercise was conducted by the General Police Inspectorate, with the support of the European Union (EU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), through the regional SEESAC project. A total of 2,177 firearms removed from civilian circulation were destroyed by melting as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen public safety and security.

The activity also contributes to the promotion of gender-responsive approaches in small arms and light weapons control, in line with efforts to integrate a gender perspective into national implementation measures, including through the participation and professional development of female staff within the responsible institutions.

## Data and evidence-based approach

In the context of ensuring gender equality and increasing the role of women among firearm holders, according to Police records, out of a total of 64,821 firearm holders, 2,395 are women. Of these,

13 women are members of the Hunters and Fishermen Society of the Republic of Moldova, and 88 women are members of sports clubs within shooting federations

Additionally, in 2025, a total of 57 offences involving the use or application of firearms were recorded. Among the victims of these offences, 29 were men and 8 were women. Of these victims, 2 were aged 18–30, 5 were aged 31–50, and 1 was aged 51–70.

Domestic violence remains one of the most serious and widespread criminal phenomena affecting society. In this regard, during the reporting period of 2025, 2 offenses under Article 201<sup>1</sup> (Domestic Violence) were recorded, committed with illegally possessed firearms.

### Conclusion

The Republic of Moldova remains committed to the effective implementation of General Assembly resolution 79/57 by:

- Strengthening gender-responsive policy frameworks;
- Promoting the meaningful participation of women in disarmament and arms control processes;
- Enhancing institutional capacities and training opportunities;
- Advancing legislative and operational measures to prevent armed violence.

The Republic of Moldova will continue its efforts to ensure that gender equality remains an integral component of disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control policies.