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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
(VENICE COMMISSION)

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

**LAW FOR THE AMENDMENT
OF CERTAIN NORMATIVE ACTS
(EFFICIENT COMBATting OF THE PHENOMENON
OF ELECTORAL CORRUPTION AND RELATED ASPECTS)**

L A W**for the amendment of certain normative acts
(efficient combatting of the phenomenon of electoral corruption and related aspects)**

Parliament adopts this organic law.

Art. I. – In article 9 of Law no. 273/1994 on identity documents in the national passport system (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 1995, no. 9, art. 89), with subsequent amendments, para. (1) shall be supplemented with letters n) and o) in the following wording:

“n) collection of copies of identity documents, except in cases expressly provided for by legislation and in some scattered instances, in specific situations, not involving frequent and/or massive collections of copies of identity documents;

o) publishing on the internet of copies of identity documents or data reflecting the state identification number of the individual, the series and number of the respective document.”

Art. II. – The Criminal Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 985/2002 (republished in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2009, no. 72-74, art.195), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. In article 55 para. (1), the text “181¹,” is excluded, while the text “314,” shall be followed by the text “art. 324 para. (1),”.

2. In article 134¹⁸ para. (1), the words “and the extremism” shall be excluded.

3. Chapter XIII of the General Part shall be supplemented with article 134²⁶ in the following wording:

“Article 134²⁶. Extremist organisation and extremist materials

Extremist organisation or extremist materials shall mean the respective organisation or materials as defined in Law no. 54/2003 on countering extremist activity.”

4. Article 181¹:

para. (1):

in the disposition, the word “The offering” shall be replaced with the text “The promise, offering”;

the sanction shall have the following wording:

“shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 2 to 6 years and a fine in an amount of 750 to 1150 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of up to 5 years, while the legal entity shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 6000 to 8000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.”

the sanction in para. (1¹) shall have the following wording:

“shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 3 to 7 years and a fine in an amount of 850 to 1350 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or

exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 5 years, while the legal entity shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 9000 to 13000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (1²) and (1³) in the following wording:

“(1²) Actions provided for under para. (1) or (1¹) committed:

- a) by two or more individuals;
- b) against two or more individuals;
- c) using financial resources from public funds

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 4 to 8 years and a fine in an amount of 1350 to 1850 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 5 years, while the legal entity shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 12000 to 16000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.

(1³) Actions provided for under paras. (1)-(1²), committed:

a) in the interest of an organised criminal group or a criminal organisation;
b) by an individual who knew or might have known that the money, goods, services or other benefits, promised, offered or given, derive from an organised criminal group, a criminal organisation;

c) by an individual who knew or might have known that the money, goods, services or other benefits, promised, offered or given, derive from a foreign state, a foreign organisation, an anti-constitutional entity or the representatives thereof

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 7 to 15 years and a fine in an amount of 1850 to 2350 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 5 to 10 years, while the legal entity shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 16000 to 20000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.”

5. In article 181³:

the single para. becomes para. (1);

the sanction under para. (1) shall have the following wording:

“shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 3 to 6 years and a fine in an amount of 850 to 1350 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 7 years, while the legal entity shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 9000 to 13000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.”

The article shall be supplemented with para. (2) in the following wording:

“(2) Actions provided for under para. (1) committed:

a) in the interest of an organised criminal group or a criminal organisation;
b) by an individual who knew or might have known that the money, goods, services or other benefits, promised, offered or given, derive from an organised criminal group, a criminal organisation;

c) by an individual who knew or might have known that the money, goods, services or other benefits, promised, offered or given, derive from a foreign state, a foreign organisation, an anti-constitutional entity or the representatives thereof

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 7 to 15 years and a fine in an amount of 1850 to 2350 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 5 to 10 years, while the legal entity shall be punished

with a fine in an amount of 16000 to 20000 conventional units with the loss of the right to exercise a certain activity or with the liquidation of the legal entity.”

6. In article 182:

the sanction under para. (2) shall have the following wording:

“shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 3 to 7 years and a fine in an amount of 850 to 1150 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 5 years.”

The article shall be supplemented with para. (3) in the following wording:

“(3) Actions provided for under para. (1) or (2) committed in the interest of an organised criminal group or a criminal organisation

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 5 to 10 years and a fine in an amount of 1850 to 2350 conventional units and with deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 7 years.”

7. In article 264, the sanction under para. (4) shall be supplemented with the words “with the cancellation of the right to drive means of transport”.

8. The Code shall be supplemented with articles 346¹ and 346² in the following wording:

“Article 346¹. Leading or organising the activity of an extremist organisation or participating in the activity thereof

(1) Leading or organising, in any form, of the activity of an organisation declared as extremist through court decision

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 4 to 8 years and a fine in an amount of 2000 to 3000 conventional units with (or without) deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 5 years.

(2) The participation in the activity of an organisation provided for under para. (1) or financing, in any form, of the activity of such an organisation

shall be punished with imprisonment for a term of 3 to 7 years and a fine in an amount of 1500 to 2000 conventional units with (or without) deprivation of the right to hold certain positions or exercise certain activities for a term of 2 to 5 years.”

(3) Provisions of para. (1) and (2) of this article do not apply if the acts contain the elements of the crime provided for in articles 135, 137–137⁴, 139, 141, 176¹, art. 181¹ para. (3¹), art. 181³ para. (2), art. 278–279¹, 283–285, 289¹–289⁴, art. 290 para. (4), art. 292 para. (2), art. 324 para. (5) b), art. 324¹ para. (3) c), art. 337–340¹, 342 and 343.

Article 346². Dissemination of extremist materials

(1) Dissemination, distribution, display, disposal or spreading through mass-media, including the Internet or any other means, of extremist materials, as well as making, creating or possessing them for the purpose of disseminating, distributing or spreading such materials, if the act does not meet the elements of the crime provided for in art. 176¹ para. (3),

shall be punished with a fine in an amount of 500 to 700 conventional units or with unpaid community labour of 140 to 200 hours, or with imprisonment for a term of up to 3 years.

(2) The act provided for in para. (1) shall not constitute a crime if it is committed for the sake of art or science, research or education.”

Art. III. – Article 24 of Law no. 1420/2002 on philanthropy and sponsorship (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2002, no. 185–189, art. 1394), with subsequent amendments, shall be supplemented with paras. (1¹) and (2¹) in the following wording:

“(1¹) The beneficiaries of philanthropic activities and sponsorships shall not have the right to inform the public about the philanthropic and sponsorship activities of their philanthropists and sponsors who fall under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵) of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests or who have the status of an electoral contender. Philanthropists and sponsors who fall under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵) of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests or who have the status of an electoral contender shall not be entitled to inform the public about the carried out philanthropic and sponsorship activities.”

“(2¹) The philanthropists and sponsors who fall under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵) of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests shall, until the 31st of March, publish a report on their philanthropic and sponsorship activities for the previous calendar year on the webpages of the political parties they are members of.”

Art. IV. – Law no. 54/2003 on counteracting the extremist activity (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2003, no. 56–58, art. 245), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. Article 1:

the notion of “extremist activity”:

under letter a):

the introductory part shall be worded as follows:

“activity of a non-commercial organisation, a religious association or a component thereof, a mass media outlet, a legal entity or an unregistered organisation, including foreign ones, (hereinafter, each of these being referred to as *organisation*) or a natural person having the purpose of planning, organising, preparing or carrying out actions aimed at:”;

the letter shall be supplemented with three new indents, as follows:

– desecration of state symbols (flag, coat of arms, anthem) of the Republic of Moldova or of another state, that are displayed, used or sung publicly, for extremist purposes;
– propagation of fascist (including legionary), national-socialist (Nazi), racist, chauvinist and/or xenophobic ideologies;
– carrying out separatist actions and other actions that may affect the unitary and indivisible character of the Republic of Moldova;”

letter b):

in the introductory part, the word “dissemination,” shall be followed by the word “selling,”;

in the fifth indent, the text “national-socialist (Nazi), of an extremist organisation” shall be followed by the text “, of other attributes or symbols with racist, chauvinist and /or xenophobic meaning”;

the notion “extremist organisation” shall have the following wording:

“*extremist organisation* – organisation, including a foreign one, entered in the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials pursuant to a final court decision on:

- a) liquidation or suspension of the activity of the respective organisation in connection with the conduct of extremist activity;
- b) finding of the conduct of extremist activity by the organisation directed against the Republic of Moldova and/or its citizens – in the case of foreign organisations;
- c) finding of the conduct of extremist activity by the organisation – in the case of unregistered organisations;”

under the notion “extremist material”, in the introductory part, the text “materials intended for public dissemination, with the purpose” shall be replaced with the text “materials intended for public dissemination, distribution or spreading, issued by or on behalf of an extremist organisation, as well as the materials that have the purpose”.

2. In article 2, letter f) shall have the following wording:

“f) the collaboration of the state with the organisations and natural persons to counteract the extremist activity;”.

3. In article 3, letter b) shall have the following wording:

“b) prevention, detection and suppression of the extremist activity of organisations and natural persons.”

4. Articles 4 and 6 shall have the following wording:

“Article 4. Entities responsible for counteracting the extremist activity

(1) The Security and Intelligence Service of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter – the *Service*) is the state specialised body which, through counter-informative and external informative activity, prevents, detects and suppresses extremist activity.

(2) The General Prosecutor’s Office carries out the activity of counteracting the extremist activity by conducting or exercising criminal prosecution.

(3) The Ministry of Internal Affairs and its subordinated institutions carry out the activity of counteracting the extremist activity by deploying special investigative activities, finding of contraventions, carrying out criminal prosecution, carrying out control at the state border crossing and ensuring public order.

(4) The Customs Service carries out the activity of counteracting the extremist activity by preventing and detecting the actions of passing through the customs border of extremist materials and other goods that can be used to carry out extremist activity.

(5) Other authorities of central and local public administration participate in counteracting extremist activity within the limits of their competence.

(6) The legal entities, regardless of the type of ownership and legal form of organisation, provide support to entities responsible for countering extremist activity.”

“Article 6. Liability of the organisation for the carrying out of extremist activity

(1) The following shall be prohibited in the Republic of Moldova:

a) the founding and operation of non-commercial organisation, religious association or a component thereof, mass-media outlet, of a legal entity or an unregistered organisation, the purposes or actions of which are directed towards the carrying out of extremist activity;

b) the founding of certain representations of foreign organisations in respect of which it has been established, by court decision, that they are carrying out extremist activity directed against the Republic of Moldova and/or its citizens;

c) participation, in any form, in the activities of an extremist organisation;

d) providing any form of support to an extremist organisation;

e) carrying out of the extremist activity;

f) publicising, propagation or justification of extremist activity or an extremist organisation.

(2) If in the activity of an organisation located on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, including in the activity of at least one of its subdivisions, acts denoting extremist activity are detected, the Service shall request the respective organisation to take measures, within a period of up to 30 days, to stop the respective acts and inform the Service about the measures taken and the results thereof.

(3) If the organisation under para. (2) failed to comply with the request of the Service within the established term or committed, within the mentioned term, other acts denoting extremist activity, the organisation's activity can be suspended for a term of 6 to 12 months through court decision, upon the request of the Service.

(4) The Service may directly address the court, without following the procedures indicated in para. (2), if in the activity of an organisation, acts denoting extremist activity are detected, being expressed by at least one of the following:

a) threats to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, security of the state;

b) the acts are likely to undermine democratic electoral processes;

c) the acts are carried out through disinformation campaigns or propaganda of military aggression, extremist or terrorist activity.

(5) The examination of the applications referred to in paras. (3) and (4) falls within the competence of the Centre Court of Appeal and is carried out within a period not exceeding two months. The court decision issued in this regard shall be final and enforceable but may be appealed within 10 days. The appeal application shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days.

(6) Considering the seriousness of the violations admitted by the organisation, the existence of a real and imminent danger of irremediable consequences by continuing to carry out the activity, the Service may request the court to order, as a precautionary measure, the suspension of the organisation's activity during the examination of the case, until the ruling on the merits, presenting, in this regard, the arguments and evidence to attest to the respective situations.

(7) When examining the request for the suspension of the organisation's activity as a precautionary measure, the court shall summon the participants in the proceedings and shall, within 3 days of the submission of the request for the application of the precautionary measure on the suspension of the organisation's activity, decide, by an enforceable and appealable decision, on the suspension of the organisation's activity as a precautionary measure, taking into account the existence of a real and imminent danger of irremediable consequences if the organisation continues to carry out its activity. The parties to the proceedings shall be obliged to appear before the court.

(8) The decision on the application or rejection of the request for the application of precautionary measures may be appealed separately from the merits of the case. The appeal request shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within a 5-day term.

(9) During the period of suspension of the activity of an organisation pursuant to this article, it shall be prohibited to carry out any form of activity, as well as establish mass media outlets, organise meetings, rallies, demonstrations, pickets and other public actions, using any types of bank accounts, except in cases that need settlements with contractors, settlements related to the fulfilment of individual employment contracts, settlements for repairing damages caused by the actions of the organisation, settlements for the payment of taxes, fees and fines.

(10) Pursuant to final court decision on the suspension of the organisation's activity, it shall be included in the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials. Upon expiry of the term for which the activity of the organisation was suspended, provided no request for its liquidation has been filed, the respective organisation is excluded from the Register. The Register shall also contain a mention of whether the court decision is irrevocable or not."

5. The law shall be supplemented with articles 6¹–6³, as follows:

"Article 6¹. Determining the extremist nature of the organisation

(1) If in the activity of a foreign organisation, including in the activity of at least one of its subdivisions, acts denoting extremist activity directed against the Republic of Moldova and/or its citizens are detected, the respective organisation may be declared an extremist organisation, by court decision, upon the request of the Service.

(2) If in the activity of an unregistered organisation, acts denoting extremist activity are detected, the respective organisation may be declared an extremist organisation by court decision, at the request of the Service.

(3) The examination of the requests referred to in paras. (1) and (2) falls within the competence of the Centre Court of Appeal and shall be carried out within a period not exceeding two months. The court decision issued in this regard shall be final and enforceable but may be appealed within 10 days. The request for the appeal shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days.

(4) Considering the seriousness of the violations admitted by the foreign organisation, the existence of a real and imminent danger of irremediable consequences by continuing to carry out the activity, the Service may request the court to order, as a precautionary measure, the suspension of the activity of the respective organisation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova or the prohibition of the participation of citizens of the Republic of Moldova in its activities, during the examination of the case, until the ruling on the merits, submitting, in this regard, the arguments and evidence to attest to the respective situations.

(5) At the request of the Service, the court shall, within 3 days from the submission of the request for the application of the precautionary measure, decide, by an enforceable and appealable ruling, on the admission or rejection of the respective application, considering the existence of a real and imminent danger of irremediable consequences if the organisation continues to carry out its activity.

(6) The ruling on the admission or rejection of the request for the application of precautionary measures can be appealed, within 10 days, separately from the merits of the case. The appeal shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 5 days.

(7) Pursuant to the final court decision on the finding of the extremist activity conduct, the respective organisation shall be declared as an extremist organisation and shall be included in the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials. The Register shall also include the mention whether the respective court decision is irrevocable or not.

Article 6². Liquidation of the organisation

(1) If, during the suspension of the activity of an organisation according to art. 6¹, it continues its activity or if, during one year from the expiration of the suspension term of an organisation's activity, it commits acts denoting extremist activity, the Service shall request the court to liquidate the respective organisation.

(2) The examination of the request referred to in para. (1) falls within the competence of the Centre Court of Appeal and is carried out within a period not exceeding two months. The court decision issued in this regard shall be final and enforceable but may be appealed within 10 days. The request for appeal shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days.

(3) Pursuant to the final court decision on the liquidation of the organisation, it shall be included in the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials. The Register shall also include the mention whether the respective court decision is irrevocable or not.

Article 6³. Liquidation procedure of the organisation carrying out extremist activity

(1) The liquidation of an organisation registered in the Republic of Moldova that carries out extremist activity in accordance with art. 6² shall be carried out by a liquidator appointed through the decision on liquidation issued by the respective court. The information on the persons appointed as liquidators shall be notified to the Public Services Agency, which shall record the official capacity of the respective persons in the State Register of Legal Entities.

(2) After the liquidator is appointed, they shall draw up an inventory of the organisation's assets, with an exact indication of the assets and liabilities. The inventory shall be signed by the liquidator and the heads of the organisation's management body.

(3) If the inventory shows a surplus of liabilities over assets, the liquidator shall continue the liquidation procedure without initiating insolvency proceedings.

(4) The liquidator shall be obliged to continue the ongoing operations, to execute the creditors' claims, and if the available funds are insufficient to pay all debts, they shall have the right to sell the organisation's assets. For damages caused by fault, the liquidator shall be liable both to the organisation in liquidation and to third parties.

(5) After the completion of the organisation's liquidation procedure, the liquidator shall draw up the liquidation balance sheet and submit it to the court for approval or rejection.

(6) In order to remove the organisation from the State Register of Legal Entities, the liquidator shall submit to the Public Services Agency the following documents:

- a) the request for removal of the organisation from the State Register of Legal Entities;
- b) the constituent documents;
- c) the act of handing over the stamps for destruction, issued by the authorised body of the Police;
- d) a copy of the notice on the organisation's liquidation published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova.

(7) The organisation's assets shall cover, first of all, the liquidator's remuneration. In the event that the organisation does not have assets, or the assets cannot cover the liquidator's remuneration, the members of the organisation's management body who bear subsidiary liability shall be obliged, by court order, to pay the remuneration."

6. Articles 7–10 shall have the following wording:

"Article 7. Liability of the mass media outlet for the dissemination of extremist materials and the carrying out of extremist activities

(1) In the Republic of Moldova, the dissemination of extremist materials through the mass media, as well as the carrying out of extremist activity by them, is prohibited. The provisions of this article do not prevent the legal activity of the mass media and journalists.

(2) If a mass media outlet disseminates extremist materials or acts denoting extremist activity are detected in its work, the provisions of art. 6 paras. (2)-(10) shall apply accordingly.

(3) In order to prevent the continued dissemination of extremist materials, the court may suspend the sale of the respective issue of the periodical or the edition of the audio or video recordings of the respective program or may suspend the broadcast of the respective audiovisual program, as it is provided for in art. 6 para. (7).

(4) The court decision on the suspension or termination of the activity of the respective mass media outlet shall constitute grounds for the confiscation, from the storage places, wholesale and retail trade units, of the unsold part of the edition of the mass media outlet production containing extremist materials.

(5) Pursuant to the final court decision on the suspension or termination of the activity in connection with the carrying out of extremist activity, the mass media outlet shall be included in the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials.

Article 8. Inadmissibility of the use of electronic communications networks and information systems for carrying out extremist activity

(1) It shall be forbidden to use electronic communications networks and information systems for the carrying out of extremist activity.

(2) In the event a material denoting extremism is placed in an information system, the Director of the Service shall order the provider of the information system and/or the provider of the material, if known, to remove the concerned material. If the indicated material is not removed within the established period or it is not possible to establish contact with the provider of the information system and/or the provider of the material for its removal, the Director of the Service shall instruct, by order, the providers of internet access services to temporarily block, using the available technical methods and means, the access of the users of the respective services to the web pages containing the respective material, indicating the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) addresses of the web pages to which access must be temporarily blocked.

(3) The temporary blocking of access to the material provided for in para. (2) shall be ordered until the court decision issued in this regard becomes final. The Service shall, within 5 working days from the issuance of the order on the temporary blocking of access to the web pages containing the material denoting extremism, be obliged to address the court requesting to establish the extremist nature of the respective material. The court shall admit Service's request if it establishes the extremist nature of the concerned material or may declare the order on the temporary blocking of access to the respective material as illegal. In the event of declaring the order in question to be illegal, the Service shall promptly notify the information

system provider and/or the material provider, and/or the internet access service providers, as appropriate, of the cancellation of the respective order.

(4) The order of the Service on the removal of the material denoting extremism and/or temporary blocking of the access to the webpages containing the respective material shall be immediately published on the official website of the Service, and, at the same time, a written notification regarding the execution of the respective order shall be addressed to the respective information system provider and/or the provider of the respective material, as necessary. The order shall be notified to the providers on paper or in electronic form via the Service's official e-mail. The URL addresses of the web pages to which access must be blocked shall be communicated in written.

(5) The order of the Service on the removal of the material denoting extremism and/or temporary blocking of the access to the webpages containing the respective material can be challenged in court by the stakeholders. Challenging in court the respective order shall not suspend the execution thereof by the respective information system provider and/or the provider of the respective material, and/or the Internet services provider, as the case may be.

(6) If extremist materials, which have been declared as such by court and are included in the Register of Extremist Organisations and Extremist Materials, are published in an information system, as well as materials that are spread, distributed, issued or broadcast by or on behalf of an extremist organisation, the director of the Service shall instruct, by order, on the blocking, using the available methods and technical means, of the access of users from the Republic of Moldova to the webpages containing the respective materials, indicating the URL addresses of the webpages to which access must be blocked. The respective order shall be published without delay on the official website of the Service, and a written notification shall be sent to the providers of internet access services regarding its execution.

(7) The information system provider and/or material provider, and/or the Internet services provider, as appropriate, shall be obliged, within a maximum of two working days from the receipt of the notification pursuant to paras. (4) or (6), to remove the material indicated in the order or block access to the webpages indicated in the order containing the respective material, as the case may be.

Article 9. Counteracting the dissemination of extremist materials

(1) It shall be prohibited, on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, to make, create, possess, disseminate, distribute, display, offer for sale, sell, spread by any means, including through the mass media or the Internet, extremist materials.

(2) The materials spread, distributed, issued or broadcast by or on behalf of an extremist organisation shall be considered as extremist materials.

(3) The extremist nature of the material, other than those mentioned in para. (2), shall be determined by the court upon the request of the Service.

(4) The examination of the requests referred to in para. (3) shall fall within the competence of the Centre Court of Appeal and shall be carried out within a period not exceeding two months. The court decision issued in this regard shall be final and enforceable but may be appealed within 10 days. The appeal application shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days.

Article 10. Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials

(1) The Service shall keep the Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials.

(2) The copy of the final court decision on the liquidation or suspension of the activity of an organisation or on the finding of the conduct of extremist activity against the Republic of Moldova and/or its citizens, or on the finding of the extremist nature of a material shall be sent to the Service that includes the respective organisation or the material indicated in the respective decision in the Register of Extremist Organisations and Extremist Materials.

(3) The Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials shall be kept in the electronic format and shall be published on the Service's official website.

(4) The Register of extremist organisations and extremist materials shall mention whether the court decision is irrevocable or not."

7. Article 12:

in para. (1), the text "criminal, administrative or civil," shall be excluded;

para. (3):

in the first sentence, the words "of the public or religious association or of another organisation" shall be replaced by the words "of the organisation", and the words "the respective public or religious association or another organisation" – by the words "the respective organisation";

in the second sentence, the words "the respective public or religious association or another organisation" shall be replaced by the words "the respective organisation".

8. The Law shall be supplemented with Article 12¹ in the following wording:

"Article 12¹. Persons associated with an extremist organisation

(1) The persons associated with an extremist organisation shall be considered those who:

- a) have supported an organisation in conducting certain activities that subsequently constituted grounds for declaring the respective organisation as an extremist organisation;
- b) disseminate extremist materials;
- c) participate, in any form, in the activities of an extremist organisation;
- d) provide any type of support to an extremist organisation;
- e) justify the activity of an extremist organisation;
- f) benefits from the activities of an extremist organisation.

(2) The list of persons associated with extremist organisations shall be compiled and updated by the Service.

(3) The list referred to in para. (2), as well as the amendments thereto shall be approved by order of the director of the Service. The order, by which a person is included/excluded in/from the respective list, shall be published in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, brought to the attention of the person concerned and may be challenged pursuant to the administrative litigation procedure only after completing the preliminary procedure.

(4) The Service shall exclude a person included on the list referred to in para. (2) if the grounds and conditions that justified the inclusion of the respective person on the list have ceased to exist or the person has renounced interaction with the extremist organisation or if other objective circumstances related to the interests of the state have arisen. A person may be included in the list provided for in para. (2) for a period of 12 months, upon the expiry of which, they are excluded from the respective list. If during this period, the person continues to carry out the activities provided for in para. (1), the indicated period may be extended, once, by 12 months.

(5) Persons associated with an extremist organisation:

1) shall not be entitled to work within the state security, national defense and public order bodies;

2) shall not be entitled to work in the areas important for the state security related to:

a) the management of radioactive waste;

b) the exploitation of energy, transport, aerospace, defense infrastructure;

c) the exploitation of artificial intelligence and robotics technologies, semiconductors, cybersecurity, aerospace technologies, defense technologies, quantum and nuclear technologies, nanotechnologies and biotechnologies;

d) production of means of cryptographic protection of information;

e) production and acquisition, for the purpose of marketing, of means of protecting information classified as state secret;

f) production of explosive materials for industrial use and activities for distribution thereof;

g) activities aimed at ensuring aeronautical security;

h) design, production, maintenance and operation of aircrafts, including unmanned aircrafts, as well as components therefor;

i) design, production, maintenance and operation of systems and components used in air traffic management and the provision of air navigation services;

j) design, maintenance and operation of aerodromes and heliports, including equipment with impact on the safety thereof;

k) management of airports, bus stations, railway traffic, inland waterways, ports and quays for navigable traffic;

l) television services/audiovisual media services of public providers;

m) provision of mobile or fixed electronic communications networks and/or services;

n) provision of services in the national ports and airports;

o) production, export, re-export, import of weapons, ammunition and military equipment; products, technologies and services that can be used in the manufacture and use of nuclear, chemical, biological and missile weapons;

p) administration of public state registers and security of public information networks and systems;

3) shall not be admitted to security areas with restricted access provided for by law;

4) shall be subject to control in the manner established by the customs authority when crossing the customs border or when sending/receiving postal items.

(6) Banks, payment companies, electronic money issuing companies and postal service providers as payment service providers and/or electronic money issuers, as well as financial service providers, shall inform the Service, within 5 working days, about the performance of any types of financial transactions by persons associated with an extremist organisation:

– in an amount of over MDL 2000 – if the transaction is carried out within a single operation, through payment service providers, using electronic means inclusively;

– in an amount of over MDL 20000 – if the transaction is carried out through one or more operations that are related to each other.

(7) Banks, payment companies, electronic money issuing companies and postal service providers as payment service providers and/or electronic money issuers, as well as financial service providers, shall apply precautionary measures in respect of the persons associated with an extremist organisation, which include:

- a) identifying the beneficial owner and taking steps to verify their identity, to ensure that the beneficial owner is known;
- b) assessing and understanding the purpose and intended nature of the business relationship and, if necessary, obtaining additional information thereon;
- c) continuously monitoring the business relationship, including examining transactions concluded throughout the duration of that relationship, to ensure that the transactions carried out are compliant and that the documents, data or information held are updated.

8) If it is not possible to apply the precautionary measures, the persons indicated in para. (7) shall be obliged not to carry out any activity or transaction, including through a payment account, not to establish any business relationship or terminate an existing business relationship and report suspicious activities or transactions to the Service.”

9. In Article 13 para. (1), the text “of Law no. 560-XIII of 21 July 1995 on the organisation and conduct of meetings” shall be replaced by the text “of Law no. 26/2008 on meetings”.

10. In Article 14 para. (1), the text “public, religious associations” shall be replaced with the text “organisations, of”.

Art. V. – The Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Moldova no. 122/2003 (republished in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2013, no. 248–251, Art. 699), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. Article 20:

in para. (3), the text “regarding corruption offenses, those related to corruption acts,” shall be replaced by the text “regarding corruption offenses and those related to corruption acts, in particular regarding the offenses provided for in arts. 181–182 of the Criminal Code no.985/2002,”

the article shall be supplemented with para. (4¹) in the following wording:

“(4¹) In criminal cases provided for in arts. 181–182 of the Criminal Code no.985/2002, the criminal investigation shall be completed within a maximum period of 6 months. The criminal investigation period may be extended by the prosecutor, on a motivated basis, with the due notification of the Prosecutor General about each extension. The respective cases shall be examined by the court of first instance within a maximum period of 4 months, and by the appellate court – within a maximum period of two months. These terms may be extended by the respective court’s decision.”

2. In Article 138¹ para. (2) and Article 138³ para. (2), figures “346” shall be replaced with figures “346¹”.

3. In Article 270² para. (1) 2), figures “346” shall be replaced with figures “346¹”.

4. Article 322:

shall be supplemented with para. (3¹) in the following wording:

“(3¹) If the defendant has several defense attorneys, and at least one of them is present at the trial of the case, the postponement of the trial cannot be ordered.”

in para. (5), the text “exceeding 5 days” shall be replaced with the text “exceeding 3 days”.

5. In Article 342 para. (2), the text “order of judicial expertise,” shall be followed by the text “extension of the deadlines for examining the cases provided for in Art. 20 para. (4¹).”.

6. Article 351 shall be supplemented with para. (3³) reading as follows:

“(3³) In the criminal cases which object is the commission of the offences stipulated in art. 181–182 of the Criminal Code no. 985/2002, the first court hearing shall take place within 20 days at the most from the date of the distribution of the case. The court hearings on these cases shall be set as a matter of priority, on consecutive or close days. If the court has established for these days, hearings on other categories of cases, the court may decide to postpone the trial of the other cases in order to ensure that the criminal cases regarding offences specified in art. 181–182 of the Criminal Code no. 985/2002 are tried as a priority.”

Art. VI. – Law no. 294/2007 on political parties (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2008, no. 42–44, art. 119), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. Article 3 shall be supplemented with paras. (1¹)–(1³) reading as follows:

“(1¹) The creation and registering of a new political party and the use of a registered political party to continue or resume, as a successor political party, the activity of a political party declared unconstitutional shall be prohibited, being considered a fraudulent exercise of the right to political association.

(1²) The acknowledgement of the quality of political party succeeding a political party declared unconstitutional shall be performed by a lawcourt, taking into account the connections, substantial similarities between the respective political parties if it is proven, through evidence, that the political party that has been created and is to be registered or the registered political party pursues the continuation or resuming of the activity of a political party declared unconstitutional. In this respect, the following circumstances shall be taken into consideration:

1) the Chair, the Deputy Chair of the political party, the members of the central executive bodies of the political party, the person who administrates or represents the party at central level, regardless of the designation they have according to the party statutes:

a) have had an active role or participation in the actions or in the making of decisions which led to the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the respective political party;

b) at the moment of the carrying out of the acts for which the political party was declared unconstitutional, they held the title of Chair, Deputy Chair, member of the central executive bodies and, without supporting or participating in the making of the decisions or the carrying out of the acts which led to the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the political party, did not publicly dissociate from the respective decisions or acts;

c) have strong ties, collaborate actively and repeatedly with the political party declared unconstitutional, offering an image of support as a political party;

2) the central executive body of the political party, in accordance with its statutes, or the de facto leadership of the political party established objectives or approved the carrying out of activities together with the political party declared unconstitutional;

3) the political party was founded, is led or is represented at the central level by persons who promote the objectives, programmes or ideology of the political party declared unconstitutional;

4) the acts and speeches imputable to the political party form an aggregate providing a clear image of joint activity with the political party declared unconstitutional;

5) there are similarities between the structures of the political party, their organisation or functioning and those of the political party declared unconstitutional;

6) the origin of financial means, material goods, logistic support or media;

7) any other relevant circumstances, like the availability to support the buying of votes, the illegal financing of parties or the use of other undemocratic methods, circumstances enabling the lawcourt to acknowledge the continuity or succession of the political party declared unconstitutional, comparing the respective actions or information with those which have led to the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the political party.

(1³) The provisions of paras. (1¹) and (1²) shall apply:

a) with respect to the relations between a political party and the persons specified in para. (1²) point 1) a) – for a period of 5 years from the date of the pronouncing of the ruling of the Constitutional Court through which the political party was declared unconstitutional;

b) with respect to the relations between a political party and the persons specified in para. (1²) point 1) letter b) – for a period of 4 years from the date of the pronouncing of the ruling of the Constitutional Court by which the political party was declared unconstitutional;

c) with respect to the relations between a political party and the persons, the acts or the circumstances specified in para. (1²) point 1) letter c) and points 2)–7) – at the moment of the occurrence of the grounds to apply the respective provisions, but no later than 3 years from the committing of the act or from the occurrence of the respective circumstances.”

2. In article 4 para. (3), the text “art. 3 paras. (1) and (2)” is substituted with the text “art. 3 paras. (1)–(2)”.

3. In article 6:

para. (5) will read as follows:

“(5) The political parties shall keep registers of the party members, which will be updated in accordance with the provisions of art. 7¹. The registers of the party members shall be submitted to the Central Electoral Commission and to the Public Service Agency within the deadlines and in the form established by these.”

the article shall be supplemented with para. (6) reading as follows:

“(6) The person shall obtain the rights and obligations of a member of the political party on the date of their inscription in the register of the party members. These rights and obligations shall cease on the date of the inscription in this register of the mention regarding the ceasing of their membership in the respective political party.”

4. In article 7:

para. (4) shall be supplemented with the words “with the respective political party or with the Public Service Agency”;

para. (5) shall be supplemented with the following phrase: “The members of the political party falling under art. 3 para. (1) letter e⁵) of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests shall lose the quality of member of the executive body and/or member of the political party only after the registration of the respective changes by the Public Service Agency within the deadline established in art. 10 of this law.”

5. Chapter II shall be supplemented with article 7¹ reading as follows:

“Article 7¹. Register of the party members

(1) Political parties shall keep registers of their party members, which will be structured pursuant to the territorial organisations and updated permanently.

(2) The register mentioned in para. (1) shall contain the name and surname, the date of birth, the number of state identification (IDNP), the declared domicile, the date of the register inscription, as well as the date of the suspension or ceasing of the party membership. The initial inscriptions in the party member register shall be made within 7 days from the date of the registration of the political party. The inscriptions regarding subsequent changes shall be made within 3 working days from the date of the obtaining, suspension or ceasing of the party membership.

(3) The central executive bodies of the political party shall keep the register of the party members and shall be responsible for the correctness of the inscribed data and information, as well as for their submission. Failure to submit data and information from the register of the party members shall bring about inclusively the application of provisions of art. 21 para. (1¹) with respect to this political party.”

6. Article 8:

para. (1) d) shall be supplemented with the following phrase: “The list of party members shall be accompanied by a statutory declaration of the person who has drawn up the respective list and who attests the veracity of the information and signatures.”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (3¹) and (3²) reading as follows:

“(3¹) By way of derogation from the provisions of para. (3), in the case where, upon registration of the political party, the Public Service Agency attests the existence of a situation specified in art. 3 paras. (1¹) and (1²), it shall suspend the administrative procedure and notify the Centre Court of Appeal by filing a summons requesting the court to issue a ruling on the quality of successor party of the political party which registration is requested in relation to a political party declared unconstitutional. Based on the final court ruling, the Public Service Agency shall issue the corresponding decision provided for in para. (3).

(3²) In order to draw up and lodge the summons specified in para. (3¹), the Public Service Agency shall have the right to request relevant information from the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Prosecutor General’s Office, and the Central Electoral Commission.”

in para. (4), the word “tribunal” is substituted by the phrase “Centre Court of Appeal”.

7. In article 10:

the title of the article, paras. (1) and (2) shall read as follows:

“Article 10. Registration of the changes and completions to the statutes and programme of the political party, to the numerical and nominal list of the Chairs, Deputy Chairs, members of the central executive bodies of the political party

(1) The statutes and the programme of the political party, as well as the numerical and nominal list of the party members who fall under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵ of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests may be modified and supplemented in accordance with the procedure stipulated by the statutes of the respective party.

(2) All the amendments and additions to the statutes and the programme of the political party, as well as to the numerical and nominal list of the political party falling under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵ of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests shall be notified to the Public Service Agency within 15 days from the date of the adoption of the respective decision.”

in para. (3), the phrase “operated to the statutes or the programme of the political party” shall be replaced with the phrase “provided for in para. (1)”.

8. Article 11:

in para. (5), letters b) and d) shall read as follows:

“b) the numerical and nominal list of the members of the political party that fall under art. 3 para. (1) e⁵ of Law no. 133/2016 on the declaration of assets and personal interests;”

“d) the amendments and completions carried out in accordance with the provisions of art. 10.”

para. (6) shall be completed with the text: “ , and the one stipulated in para. (5) b) – to the National Integrity Authority”;

para. (7) shall be supplemented with the following phrase: “The political parties which, until the beginning of the electoral period, have not submitted to the Public Service Agency all the information specified in para. (5) b) shall not have the right to participate in the election.”

9. Article 21:

in para. (1¹), the text “ , within the deadline and in the form established by the Central Electoral Commission” shall be substituted with the text “or if they have not submitted the data from the register of the party members, within the deadlines and in the form established by the Central Electoral Commission or the Public Service Agency”;

paras. (2) and (3) shall read as follows:

“(2) In case of finding the actions or inactions mentioned in paras. (1) and (1¹), the Ministry of Justice shall, *ex officio* or upon notification, shall request the executive body of the political party to undertake, within an established deadline of up to 30 days, measures to cease these acts and to inform the ministry about the measures taken and about the removal of the respective breaches.

(3) If the executive body of the political party has not fulfilled the request of the Ministry of Justice within the established deadline, the activity of the political party may be limited for a period of up to 12 months by judicial ruling, upon request of the Ministry of Justice, which shall be filed within 5 days after the expiry of the deadline established according to the provisions of para. (2). The examination of the request to limit the activity of the political party falls under the competence of the Centre Court of Appeal and shall be carried out within a term not exceeding two months.”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (3¹)–(3⁵) reading as follows:

“(3¹) The Ministry of Justice may address directly the lawcourt, without going through the preliminary procedure indicated in para. (2), requesting the limitation of the activity of the political party for a term of up to 12 months, in the case of actions or inactions mentioned in paras. (1) and (1¹) that threaten the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, national security, public order and safety, accompanied by:

- a) actions undermining the electoral processes;
- b) disinformation campaigns, instigation to hatred, propaganda of military aggression, messages with extremist content, terroristic content, or which, in another way, pose a threat to the national security;
- c) acts of large-scale voters' corruption;
- d) illegal financing or illegal supply of services or material values to the political party or to its electoral contenders;
- e) actions of money laundering or systematic smuggling of financial means into the country for the current or electoral activities of a political party;
- f) activities of planning, coordinating, supporting violent actions.

(3²) Taking into consideration the seriousness of the infringements committed by the political party, the existence of a real and imminent danger of certain consequences irremediable for the democratic values and for the legal order of the Republic of Moldova through the continued conduct of illegal activities of the political party, the Ministry of Justice may request the lawcourt to order, as a precautionary measure, the limitation of the activity of the political party for the period of the examination of the case, until ruling on the merits of the case, presenting, in this regard, arguments and evidence that attest to the respective situations.

(3³) Upon examination of the request to order, as a precautionary measure, the limitation of the activity of the political party, the court shall summon the parties to the lawsuit and, within 3 days from the submission of the request to apply the precautionary measure regarding the limitation of the activity of the political party, shall decide, through an executory conclusion, on the limitation of the activity of the political party as a precautionary measure. The parties to the lawsuit shall be obliged to come before the court.

(3⁴) The conclusion regarding the application or the rejection of the precautionary measure regarding the limitation of the activity of the political party may be appealed separately with respect to the merits of the case. The appeal request shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 5 days.

(3⁵) The removal of the infringements committed by the political party after the submission of the request to limit its activity shall not exempt the respective party of legal liability, but it may be taken into consideration when establishing the term of limitation of the activity.”

para. (4) will read as follows:

“(4) The judicial decision regarding the limitation of the activity of the political party shall be final and executory, but it may be appealed within 10 days. The appeal request shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days. In case of limitation of the activity of the political party by judicial decision, the Ministry of Justice shall request the Public Service Agency to note the respective fact in the State Register of legal entities.”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (5¹) and (5²) reading as follows:

“(5¹) Upon application of the precautionary measure regarding the limitation of the activity of a political party, the interdictions provided for in para. (5) shall be applied.

(5²) The decision and the conclusion ordering the limitation of the activity of the political party shall be sent by the court, within 24 hours at most from the pronouncement thereof, to the lawsuit parties and competent authorities for enforcement, who, in their turn, shall notify the court and the Ministry of Justice about the results of the enforcement.”

in para. (7), the words “shall request the tribunal” shall be substituted with the words “shall request the court”;

para. (8) shall be supplemented with the text: “ , except the cases in which the limitation of the activity of the political party is requested for the commission of serious infringements of law, as specified in art. 3 and in para. (3¹) therein. The activity of the political party may not be limited for minor infringements.”

10. Article 22:

in para. (1) c), the word “tribunal” shall be substituted by the phrase “Centre Court of Appeal”;

para. (2):

the introductory part and letter b) shall read as follows:

“The Ministry of Justice shall, *ex officio* or upon notification from the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Prosecutor General’s Office, the Central Electoral Commission or the Public Service Agency, lodge with the Centre Court of Appeal an action requesting the dissolution of the political party provided that at least one of the following grounds exists:”;

“b) in the course of one year from the date when the decision of the Centre Court of Appeal on the limitation of the activity of the political party became executory, the party committed actions similar to those, which entailed the limitation of the activity of the party;”

the paragraph shall be supplemented with letter f) reading as follows:

“f) the activity of the political party falls under art. 3 paras. (1¹) and (1²).”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (2¹)–(2³) reading as follows:

“(2¹) In the case when the dissolution of the political party is requested for the grounds specified in para. (2) b), d) and f) of this article, the Ministry of Justice may ask the court to order, as a precautionary measure, the limitation of the activity of the political party throughout the period of the examination of the case, until the pronouncement on the merits, pursuant to the provisions of art. 21, which shall be applied correspondingly.

(2²) The request of the Ministry of Justice to dissolve the political party shall be examined by the Centre Court of Appeal within two months. The court decision on the limitation of the activity of the political party shall be final and executory, but it may be appealed within 10 days. The appeal request shall be examined by the Supreme Court of Justice within 15 days.

(2³) Under the examination of the action of the Ministry of Justice on the dissolution of the political party, the lawcourt may, provided that it finds that the infringements alleged in the action are not sufficiently serious to justify the dissolution of the political party, order, as an alternative measure, the limitation of the activity of the respective political party.”

11. Article 23 shall be supplemented with para. (10) reading as follows:

“(10) The political party assets shall be used first of all to cover the remuneration of the liquidator. In case of finding that the political party has no assets or that its assets cannot cover the remuneration of the liquidator, the payment of the remuneration shall be transferred, by judicial conclusion, under the obligation of the members of the executive body of the political party.”

12. In article 26 para. (6), letter e) shall be worded as follows:

“e) the legal entities which, on the date of the donation, have debts to the state budget, the budget of state social insurances or the funds of mandatory health insurance;”.

Art. VII. – Article 18 of Law no. 26/2008 on gatherings (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2008, no. 80, art. 261), with subsequent amendments, shall be supplemented with paras. (3) and (4) reading as follows:

“(3) In case signatures are collected from citizens, in a gathering, in support of some initiatives or for consultation on issues of special local, regional or national interest, the respective filled in lists must contain at the most the following data about the persons who express their opinions with respect to such issues: name, surname, year of birth, domicile locality, telephone number, signature.

(4) The organiser shall ensure the processing of the data indicated in para. (3) only for the purpose for which they have been collected, as well as under the conditions specified in the legislation regarding the protection of personal data.”

Art. VIII. – The Contravention Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 218/2008 (republished in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2017, nos. 78–84, art. 100), with subsequent amendments shall be amended as follows:

1. In article 47¹ para. (1), after the text “for themselves or for another person,” the text “or accepting the promise or offer thereof,” shall be added.

2. The Code shall be supplemented with article 47² reading as follows:

“Article 47². Corruption regarding organised gatherings

(1) Requesting, accepting or receiving, personally or through an intermediary, financial means which are undue to a person, for themselves or for another person, for the purpose of participating in organised gatherings, if the act does not constitute passive electoral corruption or a criminal offence, pursuing:

- a) violation of public order or jeopardising of the activity of public institutions;
- b) violation of public morality, of the fundamental rights or freedoms of other persons;
- c) political advertising,

shall be sanctioned with a fine from 100 to 150 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 300 to 500 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position with loss of the right to hold a certain position or of the right to carry out a certain activity for a term from 3 to 6 months.

(2) The promise, offer or giving of financial means which are undue to a person with a view to determine the person to participate in organised gatherings, if the act does not constitute a criminal offence, pursuing:

- a) violation of public order or jeopardising the activity of public institutions;
- b) violation of public morality, of fundamental rights or freedoms of other persons;
- c) political advertising,

shall be sanctioned with a fine from 500 to 1000 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 1000 to 1500 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position with loss of the right to hold a certain position or of the right to carry out a certain activity for a term from 3 to 6 months.

(3) The person who has committed the act specified in para. (1) shall be exempted from contravention liability if they have self-denounced and/or actively contributed to uncovering or counteracting the committing of the act specified in para. (2)."

3. In article 49:

para. (1) shall be worded as follows:

"(1) The failure to submit or the late submission of information and documents requested by the electoral body, as well as the failure to execute its decision

shall be sanctioned with a fine from 15 to 40 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 20 to 70 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position, with a fine from 50 to 100 conventional units imposed to a legal entity."

the article shall be supplemented with para. (1¹) reading as follows:

"(1¹) The repeated failure to execute the decision of the Central Electoral Commission shall be sanctioned with a fine from 100 to 200 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 150 to 400 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position, with a fine from 240 to 400 conventional units imposed to a legal entity and/or with the loss of the right to carry out certain activities for a term of three months up to one year."

in para. (4), after the word "Photographing" the text " , video recording" shall be added.

4. The Code shall be supplemented with article 51¹ reading as follows:

"Article 51¹. Collection of signatures by non-authorised persons

The collection of signatures in support of a candidate to an elective office or with a view to initiating a referendum by persons who are not registered therefor in accordance with the legislation in force

shall be sanctioned with a fine from 60 to 90 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 90 to 180 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position."

5. Article 52:

in para. (1), the disposition shall be worded as follows:

"The carrying out of electioneering activities on the voting day or on the day preceding the voting day, as well as in the electoral period, until the beginning of the electoral campaign,";

para. (2) will read as follows:

“(2) The carrying out of electioneering activities in the electoral period by non-commercial organisations, trade unions, employers’ unions, subjects non-registered as electoral contenders, representatives of religious denominations or of their components, including in places of worship, shall be sanctioned with a fine from 100 to 140 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 200 to 400 conventional units imposed to a person holding an accountable position, with a fine from 500 to 800 conventional units imposed to a legal entity.”

6. Article 67 shall be supplemented with paras. (1¹) and (1²) reading as follows:

“(1¹) The carrying out of gatherings and other public events contrary to the provisions of the preliminary declaration shall be sanctioned with a fine from 30 to 60 conventional units.

(1²) The organising of transportation, as well as the transportation of persons to public gatherings and events organised by the political parties and/or the electoral contenders without acts notifying the carrying out of the respective public gathering or event shall be sanctioned with a fine from 120 to 300 conventional units imposed to a natural person, with a fine from 350 to 500 conventional units imposed to a legal entity with or without loss, in all cases, of the right to carry out a certain type of activity for a period of 6 months to one year.”

7. In article 364 para. (10), the disposition shall be worded as follows:

“Production, distribution, provision and/or dissemination of political advertising which do not meet the conditions of Law no. 62/2022 on advertising and of the Electoral Code no. 325/2022, as well as production, distribution, provision and/or dissemination of information about philanthropic and sponsorship activities contrary to the provisions of art. 24 of Law no. 1420/2002 on philanthropy and sponsorship”.

8. In article 365³ para. (3), in the disposition, the words “fascist or extremist” shall be removed.

9. In article 365⁵, the disposition shall be supplemented with the text “, if the respective attributes or symbols do not constitute extremist materials”.

10. In article 400 para. (1), the text “art. 47, 47¹,” shall be replaced with the text “art. 47–47²,”.

11. In article 402 para. (1), after the text “265,” the text “265¹,” shall be added.

12. Article 423⁷:

in para. (1), after the number “51” the text “ , 51¹” shall be added;

para. (2) shall be supplemented with the words “of level two”.

13. In article 440, para. (3) shall read as follows:

“(3) Within 15 days at the most from the date of the notification, the official examiner shall be obliged to check the notification and undertake the measures provided for in this chapter. If there are reasonable grounds, the official examiner, through a justified decision, shall extend the term for the examination of the contravention case, which may not exceed the general prescription term, or shall issue a decision on the case.”

Art. IX. – Article 26 of Law no. 133/2011 on the protection of personal data (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2011, no. 170–175, art. 492), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

in para. (4), the second phrase shall be removed;

the article shall be supplemented with para. (4¹) reading as follows:

“(4¹) Within the control, the Centre may decide to suspend the operations of personal data processing, until the final decision is made, in case the personal data processing could generate risks to the fundamental rights and freedoms of a considerable number of subjects of personal data, considering the nature, the scope, the context and purpose of data processing as well as the extent and frequency of the processing. The decisions issued under the conditions of this paragraph may be challenged in court within 5 days. The term for the examination of these challenges by the court shall be 5 days.”

Art. X. – Law no. 59/2012 on the special investigation activity (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2012, nos. 113–118, art. 373), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. Article 20:

in para. (3), the words “following the justified request of the prosecutor” shall be substituted with the words “following the justified request of the prosecutor appointed in this respect by the chief prosecutor or by the deputy of the chief prosecutor”;

the article shall be supplemented with para. (3¹) reading as follows:

“(3¹) The prosecutor appointed therefor by the chief prosecutor or by the deputy of the chief prosecutor shall participate in the examination of the request to authorise the special investigation measures provided for in art. 27 para. (1) point 1).”

2. In article 27, para. (3) shall be supplemented with letters c) and d) reading as follows:

“c) revealing and preventing electoral frauds or illegal interferences in the electoral process;

d) revealing and preventing organised criminality, corruption acts and corruption-related acts, money laundering and terrorism financing.”

Art. XI. – Electoral Code no. 325/2022 (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2022, nos. 426–427, art. 770), with subsequent amendments, shall be amended as follows:

1. In article 16 para. (2), letter d) shall read as follows:

“d) the persons deprived of the right to hold public offices or offices of public dignity by final judicial decision or through a final statement of findings. The Ministry of Justice, the National Integrity Authority and/or the Ministry of Internal Affairs shall notify the electoral bodies on the existence of restrictions;”.

2. Article 35:

in para. (4), letter b) shall read as follows:

“b) two members shall be appointed by the local council of level two in which territorial range the respective constituency electoral council is located, except the constituency electoral council for the polling stations abroad and the constituency electoral council for the polling stations for the localities on the left bank of the Nistru river;”

para. (8) shall read as follows:

“(8) ”In the event that political parties do not submit their candidatures for the membership of the constituency electoral council within 5 days at the latest before the expiration of the deadline for the establishment of the respective electoral council, the required number of candidatures shall be completed by the local councils. If these do not submit candidatures, as well as in case that, after the submitting of the candidatures by all the subjects of this right, their number is not sufficient or the membership of the constituency electoral council constitutes an even number, the remaining seats shall be completed by the Central Electoral Commission out of the number of the persons included in the Register of electoral officers. In case the entities specified in paras. (12¹) and (13¹) do not submit their candidatures for the membership of the respective electoral councils or if, after the submission of the candidatures by all the subjects holding this right, their number is not sufficient or the membership of the constituency electoral council constitutes an even number, the remaining seats shall be completed by the Central Electoral Commission out of the number of persons included in the Register of electoral officers.”

the article shall be supplemented with paras. (12¹) and (13¹) reading as follows:

“(12¹) The members of the constituency electoral council for the polling stations abroad shall be appointed at least 65 days before election day, as follows:

- a) two members shall be appointed by the court in which territorial range the respective electoral council is located;
- b) two members shall be appointed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- c) one member shall be appointed by each political party represented in the Parliament.”

“(13¹) The members of the constituency electoral council for the polling stations for the localities on the left bank of Nistru shall be appointed at least 65 days before election day, as follows:

- a) two members shall be appointed by the court in which territorial range the respective electoral council is located;
- b) two members shall be appointed by the State Chancellery;
- c) one member shall be appointed by each political party represented in the Parliament.”

3. In article 42 para. (1), letter a) shall be supplemented with the text “and to exert/allow for undue influence over the electoral processes”.

4. Article 53 shall be supplemented with para. (1¹) reading as follows:

“(1¹) Donations in the form of properties, goods, merchandise, objects as well as works or services granted for free or under conditions more advantageous than the commercial or market value, shall be included within the ceiling established in para. (1).”

5. Article 54:

in para. (5), letter d) shall be supplemented with the text “ , as well as by legal entities that, on the date of the donation, have arrears to the state budget, the state social insurance budget or compulsory health insurance funds”;

para. (6) shall be supplemented with letter g) in the following wording:

“g) use and benefit from properties, goods, merchandise objects, works and services in any form, provided for a fee, without advance payment.”

6. Article 56 shall be supplemented with para. (3¹) in the following wording:

“(3¹) The expenses related to the implementation of judicial acts and/or acts of other authorities and public institutions to be executed by initiative groups or by electoral contestants, after the account with the mention “Electoral Fund”/ “Intended for the initiative group” is closed, shall be borne as follows:

- a) in the case of initiative groups – by the leader of the initiative group;
- b) in the case of candidates/lists of candidates designated by political parties – by the political parties;
- c) in the case of candidates/lists of candidates designated by electoral blocs – by the constituent political parties of the electoral bloc, pursuant to the procedure assumed according to art. 64 para. (5) f);
- d) in the case of independent candidates – by the respective candidate.”

7. Article 57 para. (4):

in para. 1), letter c) shall be supplemented with the text “and cannot exceed 30% of the annual quantum of scholarships or other social benefits received in the previous calendar year”;

in para. 2), letter a) shall be supplemented with the text “ , but not more than 30% of the annual revenue of the respective legal entity earned in the previous calendar year”.

8. In article 102:

para. (2) shall be supplemented with letter c¹) in the following wording:

“c¹) deprivation of allocations from the state budget for the performances obtained in the election in which they are registered as electoral contender;”

para. (4) shall be worded as follows:

(4) As a complementary sanction for political parties, including constituents of electoral blocs, registered as electoral contenders, the Central Electoral Commission shall apply the sanction provided for in para. (2) c¹) for a period of 6 months to 4 years only in the case of repeated application of any sanction provided for in para. (2) during an electoral period for violations regarding the financing of initiative groups and/or the electoral campaign. As a complementary sanction for political parties, including constituents of electoral blocs, registered as electoral contenders, the Central Electoral Commission shall apply the sanction provided for in para. (2) c) for a period of two months to one year only after the application of the sanction provided for in para. (2) c¹).”

Art. XII. – Article 3 of Law no. 136/2023 on the Security and Intelligence Service of the Republic of Moldova (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2023, nos. 204–207, art. 358) shall be supplemented with para. 13¹) in the following wording:

“13¹) carries out activities pursuant to the provisions of Law no. 54/2003 on counteracting the extremist activity;”.

Art. XIII. – Law no. 179/2023 on the counterintelligence activity and external intelligence activity (Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, 2023, nos. 267–270, art. 455) shall be amended as follows:

1. In article 9 para. (1):

para. 1) shall be worded as follows:

“1) with the authorisation of the director of the Service or the empowered deputy director:

- a) identification of the subscriber or user of an electronic communications network or an information society service;
- b) visual tracking;”

in para. 2) k), the text “the visual tracking and/or documentation using technical methods and means, as well as” shall be excluded.

2. In article 14 para. (1), the text “provided for in art. 9 para. (1) item 2)” shall be excluded.

3. Article 33:

In the title of the Article, the text “and/or documentation using technical methods and means, such as” shall be excluded;

in para. (1), the text “and/or documentation using technical methods and means” shall be excluded.

Art. XIV. – (1) This law shall enter into force on the date of its publication in the Official Journal of the Republic of Moldova, except for the provisions of Art. XI item 2) on the amendment of art. 35 of the Electoral Code no. 325/2022, which shall enter into force on 1 January 2026.

(2) In order to enforce this law, the Public Services Agency shall, within two months of the publication thereof, revise and bring its normative acts in line with this law.

(3) Until the creation of the necessary technical conditions, the political parties shall submit to the Public Services Agency the updated registers of party members, in electronic format and on paper, signed by the responsible persons of the respective party.

(4) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 43 of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003, cases initiated before the entry into force of this law based on requests for summons formulated under the provisions of Law no. 54/2003 on countering extremist activity or Law no. 294/2007 on political parties, and retained for examination by judges in compliance with the rules of competence, shall be transferred to the Centre Court of Appeal within 5 working days from the date of entry into force of this law, regardless of the phase of the respective cases.

(5) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 385 d) of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003, in the case of appeals declared until the entry into force of this law for cases provided for para. (4) of this article, if the appellate court finds the violation of the grounds provided for in art. 388 para.(1) b), d) and i) of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003, it shall issue a new decision instead of the first instance court.

(6) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 445 c¹) of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003, in the case of recourses declared until the entry into force of this law for cases provided for under para. (4) of this article, if the Supreme Justice Court has found that the first instance court did not involve in the trial the persons whose rights were infringed upon by the decision, it shall send the case for retrial to the appellate court that ruled in the respective case.

(7) By way of derogation from the provisions of art. 453 para. (6¹) of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003, if a decision issued in the cases provided for in para. (4) of this article and previously examined by appeal and recourse has been subject to review, the case shall, after the request for review has been admitted, be sent for retrial on appeal if the judicial error concerns the provisions of art. 449 c) of the Code of Civil Procedure no. 225/2003.

PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENT

IGOR GROSU

**Chişinău, 22 May 2025.
No. 100.**