



Moldova Economic Growth Analysis (MEGA)

“The economy and public finances in 2022: setting the stage for the local governance reform”

*Venue: online Zoom Platform
Date: 31st of January 2022*

ABOUT THE EVENT

The event is organized as part of the third objective/pillar of the project “Inform, Empower, Act. Civil Society for good budgetary governance in Moldova”, focussed on advocating for policy change at the central level, in order to ensure an enabling environment across the entire country for budgetary transparency, participation and inclusiveness. The is funded by the European Union and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung and implemented by the Independent Analytical Center “Expert-Grup” as lead applicant, the Institute for European Policies and Reforms (IPRE) and the Eastern European Studies Centre (EESC) from Vilnius, Lithuania.

During the event, the team of project experts will present the main findings of the publication “Moldova Economic Growth Assessment (MEGA)”, which provides comprehensive assessment about the dynamic of governance and reforms in Moldova related to the budgetary framework. Taking into account that the budgetary framework is dependent on economic and social sectors, the paper will also include the analysis of recent trends and forecasts of key economic and social indicators of Moldova.

The event will be structured in two panel. The first panel will include the presentations of main findings of the publication by the project team, followed by questions and answers session with the audience. The main objective of this panel will be to update the audience about the key economic and budgetary trends from 2021 and forecasts for 2022. It will set the background for the second panel, which will focus on discussing the need of the local governance reform, taking into account the economic and budgetary realities, as well as the electoral cycle: the 2022 year provides a unique window of opportunity for launching this reform, as in 2023 there will be local elections and during 2024-2025 Presidential and Parliamentary elections are planned, which are not considered appropriate for this reform. The panel will gather the most relevant professional in order to discuss the roadmap for the local governance reform for 2022.

The event will take place on 31 January 2022, with online live broadcasting via Privesc.eu and Zoom (the agenda is presented below).

II TARGET AUDIENCE

STATE INSTITUTIONS

- Parliament of the Republic of Moldova and, in particular, the Parliamentary committees „Economy, Budget and Finances” and „Control Commission of Public Finances”
- State Chancellery of the Government
- Ministry of Finances
- Ministry of Economy
- National Bank of Moldova
- Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development
- LPA
- CALM (Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova (CALM))

CIVIL SOCIETY

- CSOs that are active in the area of participatory
- Members of the National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

DONORS' COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

- EU Delegation
- KAS
- World Bank
- International Monetary Fund
- UN Country Team
- UNDP
- USAID
- Embassy of Netherlands
- GIZ
- Embassy of Germany
- US Embassy
- Embassy of Romania
- Embassy of Sweden
- Swiss Cooperation Office in Moldova

OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

- Academia representatives (e.g. Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Institute of Economic Research of Moldova).
- Representatives of EU and other development partners funded projects implemented the regional and local levels
- Mass media (e.g. Logos Press, Moldstreet, ProTV, Agora, TVR Moldova, Moldova 1, Canal Regional, etc.).

III. PROGRAMME

Working Language:	RO translation is provided in ENG
Venue:	online Zoom platform
8:30 – 9.00	Launching the event on ZOOM
9.00 – 09:20	Opening remarks <i>Adrian Lupusor, Executive Director, "Expert-Grup" Independent Think-Tank; Josip JURIĆ, Programme Manager Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Moldova (online).</i>
9.20 – 10.00	Presentations of MEGA publication 23rd edition "The economy in 2022: from recovery to stagflation?"
	Key messages of the publication <i>Valeriu Prohnitchi, Expert-Grup</i> Public finances <i>Ecaterina Rusu, Expert-Grup</i> Firms <i>Stas Madan, Expert-Grup</i> Households <i>Alexandru Fala, Expert-Grup</i>

	Monetary Policy <i>Marina Soloviova, Expert-Grup</i> Financial Institutions <i>Ecaterina Rusu, Expert-Grup</i> External sector and foreign trade <i>Marina Soloviova, Expert-Grup</i>
10.00 – 10.30	Questions and answers
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
11.00 – 12.30	Special topic: Local governance reform - to be or not to be in 2022? <i>Viorel Furdui, Executive director, Congress of Local Public Authorities (CALM)</i> <i>Valeriu Prohnițchi, Program director, Expert-Grup</i> <i>Adrian Ermurachi, Program director, IPRE</i> Moderator: <i>Adrian Lupusor, Executive Director, "Expert-Grup" Independent Think-Tank</i> Key issues to be discussed: - Understanding the state of play and the need for the reform. - How favourable is the current economic, social and political context for the local governance reform? - Discussing the optimal policy mix of the reform: fiscal decentralization, reengineering of local services and administrative-territorial reform - How to strike the balance between efficiency of LPAs and access to local services? - Discussing the roadmap for a potential reform: understanding the sequence of policy steps.