MEPs set to travel to Moldova to observe parliamentary elections

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The European Parliament will send a high-level delegation to observe early parliamentary elections in Moldova.

Early legislative elections will take place in Moldova on Sunday, 11 July. <u>The Conference of Presidents</u> (the president and political group chairs), at its meeting on 1 July, authorised an Election Observation Delegation, consisting of Members of the European Parliament, to observe the electoral process in the country.

The delegation will assess whether the 2021 parliamentary elections in Moldova are conducted in accordance with the country's international commitments and national laws. MEPs' work will be guided by international standards and criteria, as defined by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), and grounded in fundamental civil and political rights. It will be the Parliament's first election observation since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

On election day, MEPs will observe the electoral proceedings in the capital Chişinău and other cities located across the country. They will visit polling stations, watch the voting process and observe ballot boxes being opened and the vote count.

The delegation will hold a joint press conference in the afternoon on 12 July, where they, together with other international observers, will present their preliminary conclusions on the election process.

Composition of the delegation

The Parliament delegation will be composed of six MEPs and integrated in an International Election Observation Mission led by the long-term expert mission of the OSCE/ODIHR.

The delegation reflects the European Parliament's broad political spectrum as follows:

<u>David McAllister</u> (EPP, Germany) - Head of the delegation

Siegfried Muresan (EPP, Romania)

Andreas Schieder (S&D, Austria)

Juozas Olekas (S&D, Lithuania)

<u>Viola von Cramon-Taubadel</u> (The Greens/EFA, Germany)

<u>Cristian Terheş</u> (ECR, Romania)

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