



PRESS-RELEASE

The Price of Polarisation: Nation Building and Eurointegration in Moldova and its impact on Ukrainian-Moldovan Relations

18th of November 2010, Kyiv - Leading Ukrainian scholars call to address the current polarization in Moldovan society and provide recommendations how to elevate interstate relations between Chisinau and Kyiv deepening European values in a freshly released report. The “*The Price of Polarisation: Nation Building and Euro-integration in Moldova and its impact on Ukrainian-Moldovan Relations*” is a second report in a series produced by the Ukraine-Moldova Civil Society Task Force.

The [Ukraine-Moldova Civil Society Task Force](#) is a policy platform aimed to facilitate expertise of Ukraine civil society in cooperation with Moldovan NGOs in the current transition processes of both states towards European integration. The Task Force prerogatives lay in economic transition, nation building, reforms and democratic governance sectors. The members of the Task Force are three prominent Ukrainian think tanks: the [International Centre for Policy Studies](#), [Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy](#) and [Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation](#). Starting from March 2010, the Task Force experts visited Moldova and conducted a series of in-depth interviews with staff of current and past administrations, and policy experts in charge of or directly involved in Moldova’s European aspirations. The results of the visit are three policy reports and sets of recommendations to the governments of Moldova, Ukraine and international society.

The second report [“*The Price of Polarisation: Nation Building and Eurointegration in Moldova and its impact on Ukrainian-Moldovan Relations*”](#) prepared by a team facilitated by the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy focuses on the state of Moldovan civil society, particularly its ethnic dimension, and its potential as an instrument in improving bilateral relations between Moldova and Ukraine within the context of both countries’ aspirations for EU integration. The report acknowledges, that just as in Ukraine, civil society in Moldova remains an underutilized resource of which the general public is relatively ignorant and to which the authorities are often indifferent. Clearly, these factors hinder the growth and consolidation of civil society as a legitimate player in policy making and oversight across a wide spectrum of legitimate activities.

Nevertheless, the report contains a series of realistic and pragmatic recommendations to civil society and governments on both sides of the border on the potential for cooperation between Ukrainian and Moldovan non-governmental organizations (NGOs), how they can benefit from each others’ experience in nation building, and how - with the goodwill and assistance of their respective governments - might be transformed into a systematic and positive resource in relations between the two countries.

The current report is available in [Ukrainian](#), [English](#) and [Romanian](#) languages at [UNITER websites](#). The next report on democratic governance and reforms will be published soon. The first report of the series *“Economic Reforms in Moldova: Avoiding Ukrainian Trap”* is available on [ICPS](#) and [UNITER](#) website as well. The release of all three reports will be concluded with a [policy briefing in Kyiv on 23th of November](#) that will gather senior representatives of Ukrainian government and international institutions.

The report was prepared by the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy ([POID](#)) and supported by the Ukraine National Initiatives to Enhance Reforms ([UNITER](#)) project, funded by the United States Agency for International Development ([USAID](#)) and implemented by [Pact](#). For more information please contact Olena Korotyanska, UNITER Communication officer, at okorotyanska@pactworld.org or call (+380 44) 495-5383.

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