



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Council conclusions on establishing the EU - the Republic of Moldova Human Rights Dialogue

*2993rd EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE Council meeting
Brussels, 15 February 2010*

The Council adopted the following conclusions:

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1. The Council recalls its conclusions on the Republic of Moldova from 15 June 2009, in which the Council reiterated its commitment to further deepening the relations between the EU and the Republic of Moldova, on the basis of shared values and principles. The Council also recalls the EU-Republic of Moldova Cooperation Council meeting on 21 December 2009, in which both sides welcomed recent positive steps in the field of human rights, democratisation and the rule of law in Moldova and the commitment of the Moldovan authorities to address outstanding human rights issues. Moreover, the EU welcomed Moldova's readiness to set up a regular dialogue on Human Rights.
2. The Council notes that the objectives of the Human Rights dialogue with the Republic of Moldova are on the one hand to raise human rights issues, including individual cases, in the Republic of Moldova and in the European Union in a more in-depth manner with the view toward achieving concrete results and, on the other hand, to enhance dialogue on human rights topics in multilateral fora. The respect for human rights and democratic principles remains an integral part of a broader political dialogue between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova.
3. The Council therefore decides to launch a Human Rights Dialogue with the Republic of Moldova. The dialogue should be held at least once per year, with meetings held, in principle, alternately in the Republic of Moldova and in the European Union. The dialogue will integrate a civil society component and, on an ad hoc basis, include exchanges with relevant international and regional organisations such as the United Nations, the OSCE and the Council of Europe."

P R E S S
