

Developing Practical Cooperation through Science

Moldova has been actively engaged within the framework of the NATO Science for Peace and Security (SPS) Programme since 2012.

The NATO SPS Programme enables close collaboration on issues of common interest to enhance the security of NATO and partner nations by facilitating international efforts to meet emerging security challenges, supporting NATO-led operations and missions, and advancing early warning and forecast for the prevention of disasters and crises.

The current SPS Key Priorities include:

- Counter-Terrorism;
- Energy Security;
- Cyber Defence;
- Defence against CBRN Agents;
- Environmental Security;
- Security-related Advanced Technology;
- Border and Port Security;
- Human and Social Aspects of Security.

Additionally, the SPS Programme helps to promote *regional security* through scientific cooperation among partners. The programme also helps to *prepare* interested eligible nations for NATO membership. SPS activities often have a high *public diplomacy* value.

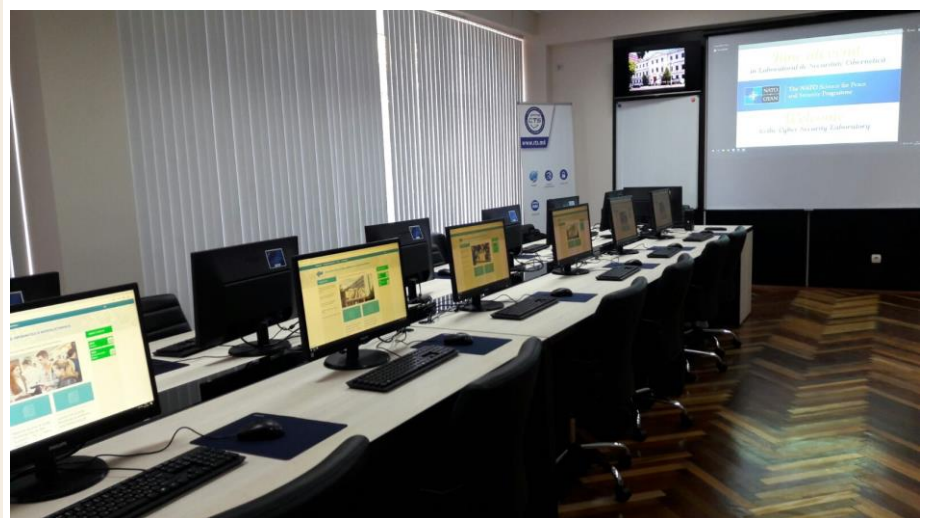
THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Moldova has several ongoing activities with the SPS Programme. At present, the leading areas for cooperation include **cyber defence, the role of Women in Peace and Security, defence against CBRN, and counter-terrorism**. Below are some examples of ongoing and completed projects under the framework of the NATO SPS Programme, including initiatives under the **Defence and Related Security Capacity Building (DCB) Package** for Moldova. Three SPS projects have contributed to the implementation of the DCB for Moldova, two of them in the field of cyber defence and one in the field of role of women in peace and security.

Cooperative Activities

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOLDOVAN ARMED FORCES CYBER DEFENCE CAPABILITIES

The risk of cyber security incidents, including in Moldova, is on the rise. To address these challenges, a SPS multi-year project develops cyber defence capabilities in the Moldovan Armed Forces which will increase the human, technical and procedural cyber capabilities, to face very sophisticated and emerging cyber threats that may affect the military Computer Information Systems' functionality, security of services and critical infrastructure. The project was officially launched by the experts team from Moldova and NATO in February 2018 [ref. G5340]. *This project is led by Moldova and cyber defence experts from the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA).*



CYBER DEFENCE LABORATORY AND TRAINING AT THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOLDOVA

The increasing reliance on information and communication infrastructure presents a growing vulnerability to cyber disruptions. Cyber-attacks are currently regarded as one of the core risks to our socio-economic well-being. As part of the Defence Capacity Building (DCB) package for the Republic of Moldova, in October 2016, the SPS Programme inaugurated a cyber defence laboratory at the Technical University of Moldova which will serve as a research and training center for civil servants of Moldovan government institutions as well as for young scientists and students of the university. It will enhance cyber defence capabilities and technical know-how of cyber defence experts, in particular network administrators of the Moldovan national security agencies and institutions [ref. G5083]. *This project was led by scientists and experts from Moldova, Estonia and Romania.*

MOLDOVA'S NATIONAL PLAN TO IMPLEMENT UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325

This project under the Defence Capacity Building (DCB) package for the Republic of Moldova supports the country in the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security through the development of a National Action Plan. Launched in October 2016, the project will support the Moldovan government and civil society actors in creating a multi-agency national strategy to implement UNSCR 1325. In order to facilitate these efforts several workshops will be organized throughout the project. The NATO Information and Documentation Centre will coordinate project activities in Moldova. The project will also draw

on regional exchange of best practices for implementing UNSCR 1325 [ref. G5221]. *This project is led by experts from the United States and Moldova.*

BORDER SECURITY CHALLENGES IN EASTERN EUROPE: LESSONS FOR ALLIES AND PARTNERS

This Advanced Research Workshop assessed lessons learned and developed concrete recommendations for NATO member states and partner nations on border security issues. While the conflict in Transnistria is currently “frozen”, border security challenges could ignite instantly. This ARW brought together a group of security experts, strategic thinkers and senior policy makers to explore border security priorities for regional cooperation and serve as a forum to stimulate a much-needed security dialogue on looming threats and possibilities for cooperation [ref. G5015]. *This event, led by experts from Poland, Moldova and Ukraine, took place in October 2016.*

DEVELOPING CAPABILITY TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS IN MOLDOVA

The potential use of biological agents by terrorists poses a significant risk to local populations in Moldova. This project aims to build capacity in Moldova to better counter threats posed by infectious biological agents. The project comprises setting up a mobile laboratory and training of experts, including young scientists. This capability will allow statistical sampling and mapping activities in contaminated areas. [ref. G4898]. *This project was led by scientists and experts from Moldova and Luxembourg.*



The NATO Science for Peace
and Security Programme

www.nato.int/science