

### *Developing Practical Cooperation through Science*

**The Republic of 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 forecasting 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**

The Republic of Moldova is currently involved in a number of ongoing activities with the SPS Programme. At present, the leading areas for cooperation include **Cyber Defence, Advanced Technologies, Defence against CBRN Agents, 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 the Republic of Moldova. Three SPS activities have contributed to the implementation of the DCB for the Republic of Moldova, two in the field of cyber defence and one in support to the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

### *Cooperative Activities*

#### **DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOLDOVAN ARMED FORCES CYBER DEFENCE CAPABILITIES**

The risk of cyber security incidents in the Republic of Moldova is on the rise. To address these challenges, this ongoing Multi-Year Project (MYP) develops cyber defence capabilities in the Moldovan Armed Forces to increase human, technical and procedural cyber capabilities to face 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 a team of experts from the Republic of Moldova and NATO in February 2018. *This project is led by the Republic of Moldova and cyber defence experts from the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA).* [ref. G5340].



## **WITNESS – WIDE INTEGRATION OF SENSOR NETWORKS TO ENABLE SMART SURVEILLANCE**

The goal of this ongoing MYP is to implement an advanced framework for urban surveillance and security to enable the detection and characterization of, and an efficient response to terrorist threats and attacks. WITNESS will exploit state-of-the-art sensor fusion technology to develop innovative methodologies, algorithms and tools to improve situational awareness and threat detection in unpredictable urban scenarios. The successful completion of this project will provide scientific advancements in key areas, such a video analytics, sensor data fusion algorithms, Internet-of-Things and their integration in a single, deployable solution. *This project is led by experts from the Republic of Moldova and Italy.* [ref. G5437].



## **CHALLENGES IN STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND FIGHTING PROPAGANDA IN EASTERN EUROPE**

This Advanced Research Workshop (ARW) took place in April, 2018 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. The workshop served as a discussion forum to develop a more nuanced understanding of the communication aspect of countering hybrid threats in the region. It brought together experts from several Eastern European countries, with a view towards sharing insights on common mechanisms and methodologies to identify, analyse and dispel propaganda and misinformation during times of hybrid warfare. *This*

*activity was led by experts from the Republic of Moldova and Romania.* [ref. G5414].

## **THE REPUBLIC OF 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, supported the country in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security through the development of a National Action Plan. Launched in October 2016, the project supported 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 were organized throughout the project. The project also drew on regional exchange of best practices for implementing UNSCR 1325. *This project was led by experts from the Republic of Moldova and the United States.* [ref. G5221].

## **DEVELOPING CAPABILITY TO MITIGATE THE RISK OF BIOLOGICAL AGENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

The potential use of biological agents by terrorists poses a significant risk to local populations in the Republic of Moldova. This project aimed to build capacity in the Republic of Moldova to counter threats posed by infectious biological agents. The project set up a mobile laboratory and trained experts, including young scientists. This capability allows statistical sampling and mapping activities in contaminated areas. *This project was led by scientists and experts from the Republic of Moldova and Luxembourg.* [ref. G4898].



The NATO Science for Peace  
and Security Programme