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## Combating racial discrimination and intolerance in the Republic of Moldova: Round Table of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in Chisinau

**Date:** 30 September 2014

**Venue:** Codru Hotel, Chisinau

**Organisers:** ECRI in co-operation with the Ministry of Justice and the Council on the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality of the Republic of Moldova

**Objectives:** provide the participants with the opportunity to discuss the follow-up to the recommendations contained in ECRI's monitoring report on the Republic of Moldova, published in 2013. The round table will be divided into four sessions:

- ECRI report's main findings
- Legislative and institutional framework for combating racism and racial discrimination
- Combating hate speech
- Fostering integration of Roma

Opening statements will be made by Vladimir Grosu, Deputy Minister of Justice, Barbara John, ECRI's Vice-Chair, and Andrei Brighidin, Member of the Council on the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality of the Republic of Moldova. ECRI's report on the Republic Moldova will be presented by François Sant'Angelo, ECRI member.

In addition to national authorities, the round table will bring together representatives of the media, international organisations and NGOs, as well as members of vulnerable groups. This event aims at contributing positively to the national debate on combating racial discrimination and intolerance in the country.

In its fourth report on the Republic of Moldova, ECRI expressed concern about issues such as: the need to improve aid and assistance to victims of discrimination; increase the effectiveness of investigations on cases of racism and intolerance; foster the integration of Roma, in particular in the areas of education, employment, housing and healthcare. ECRI also recommended ratifying Protocol n° 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights and the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime.

The round table is **open to the press**. It will start at 9 am and end at 5 pm **on Tuesday 30 September 2014**.

Link to the programme: English

Link to ECRI's report: English Official language

Link to the conclusions English

*ECRI is a human rights body of the Council of Europe, composed of independent experts, which monitors problems of racism, xenophobia, antisemitism, intolerance and discrimination on grounds such as "race", national/ethnic origin, colour, citizenship, religion and language (racial discrimination); it prepares reports and issues recommendations to member States.*

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