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MEDIA ADVISORY

Council of Europe and the European Union to present the Partnership for Good Governance Programme 2019-2021 in the Republic of Moldova

Chisinau, 25.09.2019 – On Wednesday, 25 September, the Council of Europe and the Delegation of the European Union will present to the media in Chisinau the Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) projects in the Republic of Moldova for the period 2019 - 2021 during the 1st PGG II Local Steering Committee meeting.

Two PGG country-specific projects will be implemented in the Republic of Moldova between 2019-2021, with a total budget of 1.2 million euros, funded by the EU (80%) and the Council of Europe (20%). These projects will assist the Moldovan authorities with further strengthening the efficiency and quality of the judicial system as well as strengthening the capacities of the justice sector actors to deliver justice in line with European standards.

In addition to these country-specific projects, the Republic of Moldova is also taking part in four regional projects aimed at fighting against economic crimes, strengthening the profession of lawyers, combatting discrimination and facilitating access of women to justice with a total budget of 2.4 million euros.

Ambassador Peter Michalko, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova, William Massolin, Head of the Council of Europe Office in the Republic of Moldova, Pilar Morales, Head of the Programming Department, ODGP, Council of Europe (Strasbourg), and Petru Alexei, Head of the Council of Europe and Human Rights Unit, Directorate for Multilateral Co-operation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, will participate at the opening session of the PGG II Local Steering Committee and will reply to questions from media representatives.

The presentation will take place at 9:30 am local time on Wednesday, 25 September 2019, at the Radisson Blu Leogrand Hotel, Raut Hall (77 Mitropolit Varlaam str., Chisinau). The meeting will be open to media between 9:30 and 10:00. English-Romanian interpretation will be provided.

Prior accreditation of media representatives is requested through the Council of Europe's Office in the Republic of Moldova. Contact person for accreditation: Inesa Dorogan Inesa.DOROGAN@coe.int

Background: Partnership for Good Governance

In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed that targeted cooperation activities with Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus – the EU's Eastern Partnership countries – would be implemented under the







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Partnership for Good Governance programme. The phase I of the programme (PGGI) started in 2015 and was completed in 2018; the second phase of the programme (PGGII) was launched in 2019 and will run until 2021.

These co-operation activities aim to strengthen the capacity of the Eastern Partnership countries, which are member States of the Council of Europe, with the exception of Belarus, to implement domestic reforms to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

For more information on the <u>Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance</u> For more information about <u>the Republic of Moldova country-specific projects</u>