

2026 MEDICRIME CONFERENCE

CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD

Chişinău, Republic of Moldova - 28 April 2026

Republic of Moldova's Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of
the Council of Europe



Committee of the Parties to the
MEDICRIME Convention



*Medicines and
Medical Devices Agency*



PRESIDENCY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
NOVEMBER 2025 - MAY 2026
PRÉSIDENCE DE LA
RÉPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
NOVEMBRE 2025 - MAI 2026



The Council of Europe, in co-operation with the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices of Moldova under the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova, brought together high-level representatives from health, law-enforcement, customs and judicial authorities, international organisations and the private sector.

Participants acknowledged the growing global threat posed by the falsification of medical products and related crimes and reaffirmed the unique role of the [MEDICRIME Convention](#) as the only criminal-law treaty established to specifically address and effectively counter this challenge.

KEY FINDINGS

A. Emerging threats and criminal trends

- ▶ Criminal networks are increasingly exploiting online sales, social media, encrypted apps and e-commerce platforms to distribute falsified medical products.
- ▶ Lifestyle medical products (e.g. GLP-1 agonists for diabetes and weight loss, peptides) have become a high-profit target for organised crime, with falsified oral formulations posing new risks.
- ▶ Artificial intelligence is being used to generate fake endorsements and testimonials, while standard security features such as QR codes are routinely copied.
- ▶ The falsification of veterinary medical products endangers animal welfare and public health, including through antimicrobial resistance and food-chain contamination.
- ▶ There is growing infiltration of illicitly diverted and falsified medical products into sport, threatening anti-doping integrity and public health at both professional and amateur levels.

B. The added value of the MEDICRIME Convention

- ▶ The Convention provides a comprehensive criminal-law framework to criminalise the falsification of medical products, the circulation of illicitly diverted medical products, the theft of medical products and similar offences.
- ▶ The Committee of the Parties plays a crucial role in reviewing national capacities, monitoring implementation, issuing Guidance Notes and resolving differences in the interpretation of key terms of the MEDICRIME Convention.
- ▶ The 24/7 Network of central authorities facilitates rapid international cooperation, mutual legal assistance and the dismantling of criminal networks.

C. Multi-agency and cross-border cooperation

- ▶ Effective action requires a multidisciplinary approach involving health product regulators, customs, police, prosecutors and the private sector.
- ▶ International cooperation, including through INTERPOL and other global actors, is essential to combat the transnational nature of falsified medical products and medical product related crime.
- ▶ Strategic partnerships with observer organisations to the MEDICRIME Committee and with other Council of Europe actors, such as the Pompidou Group and the Anti-Doping Convention, demonstrate the relevance of MEDICRIME Convention beyond the traditional

approach to health product-related crimes impacting public health in the health sector alone.

KEY DIRECTIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION

Based on the discussions, the following priority actions have been identified:

1. Strengthening the promotion of further accessions

- ▶ Intensify outreach to non-States Parties, particularly within the EU and in other regions facing high levels of falsified medical products, by offering tailored information sessions to countries considering accession.
- ▶ Support States Parties, signatory States and other countries considering acceding to the MEDICRIME Convention in aligning their implementation with the Convention.

2. Strengthen the 24/7 Network on cooperation and information exchange and international cooperation

- ▶ Enhance the operational effectiveness of the 24/7 Network through regular training and exercises.
- ▶ Encourage all States Parties and any other countries to nominate fully empowered central authorities and to actively use the Network for mutual legal assistance requests.

3. Address emerging threats through guidance and monitoring

- ▶ Develop Guidance Notes and other explanatory tools on emerging challenges, including:
 - ▶ an understanding of the meaning of the term “adulteration”
 - ▶ falsified veterinary medical products as a real threat to public health through compromising the integrity of food safety as well as to animal health
 - ▶ online sales and the use of AI in medical product-related crime
 - ▶ the infiltration of falsified and illicitly diverted medical products into sport and anti-doping systems.
- ▶ The Committee of the Parties has an opportunity to incorporate these themes into future monitoring rounds.

4. Foster multi-agency cooperation at national level and expand co-operation with other actors

- ▶ State Parties are encouraged to strengthen national multi-disciplinary coordination mechanisms bringing together health product technical and other experts, customs officers, police, prosecutors and private sector representatives.
- ▶ Deepen cooperation with WOAHP on the falsification of veterinary medical products, with the Pompidou Group on addiction-related medical product abuse and with

the Anti-Doping Convention on sport-related medical product falsification and illicit diversion.

- ▶ Explore information-sharing arrangements with AIDF, EMVO, Europol, INTERPOL, WHO, WCO, UNODC and other relevant observers to the Committee.

5. Raise public awareness

- ▶ Support the development of targeted awareness campaigns to help patients avoid falsified medical products, particularly those sold online and work with social media and e-commerce companies to remove illicit listings.

6. Strengthen victim protection and access to justice

- ▶ Guide State Parties on legal remedies for victims of falsified medical products and related crimes, including compensation issues and ensure that criminal proceedings under the MEDICRIME Convention respect victims' rights throughout the judicial process.

Adopted by the participants of the 2026 MEDICRIME Conference.

Chişinău, 28 April 2026