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2025/0389 (NLE)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

on the position to be taken on behalf of the European Union in the EU-Republic of Moldova Association Council as regards the establishment of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee under the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova of the other part, and on the endorsement of the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218(9) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part[1] ('the Agreement') entered into force on 1 July 2016.

(2) The Preamble to the Agreement acknowledges the Parties' commitment to advancing reforms and approximation processes forward in the Republic of Moldova, based on common values, namely including respect for good governance.

(3) Article 3 of the Agreement refers to the goal of political dialogue, which is to strengthen respect for good governance, central to enhancing the relationship between the Parties.

(4) Article 4 of the Agreement on cooperation on domestic reform, requests the Parties of the Agreement to cooperate in order to ensure that their internal policies are based on common principles, in particular stability and effectiveness of democratic institutions.

(5) Article 47 of the Agreement focuses on enhancing cooperation in the field of management of public finances ensuring the development of budget policy and sound systems of public internal control and external audit, aligned with the fundamental principles of accountability, transparency, economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

(6) Article 107 of the Agreement outlines the goal to promote mutual understanding and bilateral cooperation in the field of regional policy, on methods of formulation and implementation of regional policies, including multi-level governance and partnership, with special emphasis on the development of disadvantaged areas and territorial cooperation, hereby establishing channels of communication and enhancing exchange of information between national, regional and local authorities, socio-economic actors and civil society.

[1] OJ L 260, 30.8.2014, pp. 4–738

(7) Article 140 of the Agreement allows the Republic of Moldova to participate in EU agencies relevant to the implementation of the Agreement, whereby the European Committee of the Regions is an EU advisory body.

(8) Article 436 (1) of the Agreement empowers the Association Council to take decisions for the purpose of attaining the objectives of the Agreement.

(9) Article 439 (2) of the Agreement provides for the Association Council to establish any special committee or body in specific areas necessary for the implementation of the Agreement.

(10) The Association Council will decide on establishing the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee and endorsing the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The position to be taken on the Union's behalf in the Association Council established by the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, will support the creation of the Public Administration Reform Sub-Committee and endorse the establishment of the Joint Consultative Committee between the European Committee of the Regions and the Republic of Moldova, and shall be based on the draft act of the EU Association Council with the Republic of Moldova attached to this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Commission.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President