



Head Office
10 Rue de Commerce
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Tel: +32 456 71 91 16
Email: yepp@epp.eu

Resolution on the Cross-Border Contamination of the Nistru/Dniester River and Moldova's Water Security

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Presented by PAS Youth, Republic of Moldova

Supported by Mlada Slovenija (Slovenia); MUF - Moderata (Sweden); Slovenska Demokratska Mladina - SDM (Slovenia); TOP Tým (Czech Republic); Youth Forces Union of VMRO-DPMNE (North Macedonia), Youth of Democratic Rally - NEDISY (Cyprus); Mladež Hrvatske demokratske zajednice Bosne i Hercegovine (MHDZ BiH, Bosnia and Herzegovina); Forza Italia Giovani (FIG, Italy); JONGCD&V (Belgium);

Recognizing:

- Russia's 7 March 2026 strike on the Novodnistrovsk Hydropower Complex in Ukraine, which caused petroleum products to spill into the Nistru/Dniester River and generated a major cross-border environmental risk for the Republic of Moldova; the Moldovan Parliament stated that the discharged volume exceeded 1.5 tons, while later assessments suggested that the real scale may be significantly higher.¹
- that the Government of the Republic of Moldova established a 15-day environmental alert for the Dniester River basin starting on 16 March 2026, in order to prevent risks to public health and enable urgent intervention measures.²
- that the Nistru/Dniester River is the main source of drinking water for the Republic of Moldova and supplies water to around 80% of the country's population, making any attack with cross-border consequences a direct threat to public health, water security, and national resilience

¹ <https://www.moldpres.md/eng/politics/doc-paliament-s-statement-condemning-russia-for-polluting-dniester-river-published-in-official-journal>

² <https://gov.md/en/press-releases/moldovan-government-establishes-environmental-alert-status-dniester-river-basin-pm>

- that the contamination affected water supply security in northern Moldova, including Bălți and other localities, and required emergency intervention, including absorbent barriers, mobile monitoring, and reinforced protection of water intake stations
- that Moldova's Environment Minister stated that the damage amounts to 100 million euro and that the authorities intend to document the environmental losses and seek responsibility from the Russian Federation.

Acknowledging:

- that the contamination of the Nistru/Dniester River following Russia's attack on civilian infrastructure in Ukraine constitutes a grave case of transboundary environmental harm, with long-term consequences for biodiversity, public health, and water security.
- that the Republic of Moldova requested support through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, and that the European Union rapidly mobilised assistance, including Romanian experts, specialised anti-pollution equipment, and EMSA satellite imagery services.³
- that the Moldovan Parliament formally condemned the Russian Federation for the cross-border contamination of the Dniester River and described Russia as directly responsible for the resulting ecological and humanitarian crisis in the Republic of Moldova.
- that Moldovan authorities are continuing water-quality monitoring, building reserves of intervention equipment, and preparing stronger emergency-response capacity for similar future incidents.

YEPP calls on:

- the international community to hold the Russian Federation accountable for the cross-border contamination of the Nistru/Dniester River and to support the Republic of Moldova in seeking compensation for the damage caused.
- the European Union and its Member States to support the documentation of the Nistru/Dniester pollution crisis as a relevant case of severe environmental harm caused during armed conflict, contributing to ongoing international discussions on ecocide and environmental accountability.
- the European Union and its Member States to continue and expand emergency and technical support for the Republic of Moldova in responding to pollution crises affecting

³ <https://euneighbourseast.eu/news/latest-news/moldova-eu-activates-eu-civil-protection-mechanism-due-to-oil-spills-in-dniester-river-caused-by-russia/>

the Nistru/Dniester River, including through the EU Civil Protection Mechanism and related resilience instruments.

- the European Union, its Member States, and the Republic of Moldova to strengthen backup water-supply connections and emergency water-sharing mechanisms, especially in border regions, in order to improve resilience during future contamination crises.
- the European Commission and relevant European agencies to support Moldova with expertise for water-quality monitoring, environmental damage assessment, medium- and long-term ecological impact analysis, and emergency preparedness for future cross-border pollution incidents.
- the Government of the Republic of Moldova to continue documenting the full scale of the environmental and public-service damage caused by this crisis and to pursue all appropriate legal and diplomatic steps, in accordance with international law, in order to defend the rights and interests of the Republic of Moldova.
- Moldova's international partners to support long-term restoration and resilience efforts in the Dniester basin, including improved intervention capacity, strategic equipment reserves, and preventive measures against future spillover effects of Russia's war against Ukraine.