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COVER NOTE

From:	Secretary-General of the European Commission, signed by Ms Martine DEPREZ, Director
date of receipt:	8 July 2025
To:	Ms Thérèse BLANCHET, Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union
No. Cion doc.:	C(2025) 2573 annex
Subject:	ANNEX to the Commission Decision on a draft Agreement in the Form of an Exchange of Letters Amending Article 1(1) of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027).

Delegations will find attached document C(2025) 2573 annex.

Encl.: C(2025) 2573 annex



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Brussels, 5.5.2025
C(2025) 2573 final

ANNEX

ANNEX

to the

Commission Decision

on a draft Agreement in the Form of an Exchange of Letters Amending Article 1(1) of the Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Moldova on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027).

AGREEMENT IN THE FORM OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, amending Article 1(1) of the Agreement between the European Union of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027).

A. Letter from the European Union

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to refer to Article 6(8) of the Agreement between the European Union of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027) (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Association Agreement’), and to propose an amendment to Article 1(1) of the Agreement as requested by a letter from Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development and Digitalisation of the Republic of Moldova Dumitru Alaiba to the Director General Roberto Viola dated 3 June 2024. The aim of the proposed amendment is to grant the Republic of Moldova access to the EU Cybersecurity Reserve, subject to meeting the requirements set out in the Cyber Solidarity Act.

Article 1(1) of the Agreement is, therefore, amended as follows:

“Article 1

Scope of the association

1. The Republic of Moldova shall participate as an associated country in and contribute to Specific Objectives 1 (High Performance Computing (HPC)), 2 (Artificial Intelligence), 3 (Cybersecurity and Trust) *solely for the purpose of accessing EU’s Cybersecurity Reserve subject to fulfilling the conditions set out in Article 19 of the Cyber Solidarity Act¹, including providing to the Commission information about its cyber resilience and risk management capabilities within three months of the conclusion of the agreement and after that on a regular basis, and designating an authority to act as a single point of contact for the purposes of the Cyber Solidarity Act*, 4 (Advanced Digital Skills) and 5 (Deployment and Best Use of Digital Capacities and Interoperability) of the Digital Europe Programme referred to in Article 3 (2) of Regulation (EU) 2021/694, in its most up to date version.“

I would be grateful if you could confirm the agreement of your Government to the above. If you do agree, this Letter together with your confirmation reply shall constitute an agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters, amending the Association Agreement. This Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters shall enter into force once the European Union and the Republic of Moldova have notified each other of the completion of their respective internal approval procedures to conclude this Agreement.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2025/38 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 laying down measures to strengthen solidarity and capacities in the Union to detect, prepare for and respond to cyber threats and incidents and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/694 (Cyber Solidarity Act), OJ L, 2025/38, 15.1.2025.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurance of my highest consideration.

For the European Union

Done at Brussels on...

AGREEMENT IN THE FORM OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

between the European Union, of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part amending Article 1(1) of the Agreement between the European Union of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027).

B. Letter from the Republic of Moldova

Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to refer to your Letter of [date] which reads as follows:

‘Dear Sir/Madam,

I have the honour to refer to Article 6(8) of the Agreement between the European Union of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027) (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Association Agreement’), and to propose an amendment to Article 1(1) of the Agreement as requested by a letter from the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Development and Digitalisation of the Republic of Moldova Dumitru Alaiba to the Director General Roberto Viola dated 3 June 2024. The aim of the proposed amendment is to grant the Republic of Moldova access to the EU Cybersecurity Reserve, subject to meeting the requirements set out in the Cyber Solidarity Act.

Article 1(1) of the Agreement is, therefore, amended as follows:

“Article 1

Scope of the association

1. The Republic of Moldova shall participate as an associated country in and contribute to Specific Objectives 1 (High Performance Computing (HPC), 2 (Artificial Intelligence), 3 (Cybersecurity and Trust) *solely for the purpose of accessing EU’s Cybersecurity Reserve subject to fulfilling the conditions set out in Article 19 of the Cyber Solidarity Act², including providing to the Commission information about its cyber resilience and risk management capabilities within three months of the conclusion of the agreement and after that on a regular basis, and designating an authority to act as a single point of contact for the purposes of the Cyber Solidarity Act*, 4 (Advanced Digital Skills) and 5 (Deployment and Best Use of Digital Capacities and Interoperability) of the Digital Europe Programme referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EU) 2021/694, in its most up to date version. “

I would be grateful if you could confirm the agreement of your Government to the above. If you do agree, this Letter together with your confirmation reply shall constitute an agreement

² Regulation (EU) 2025/38 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2024 laying down measures to strengthen solidarity and capacities in the Union to detect, prepare for and respond to cyber threats and incidents and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/694 (Cyber Solidarity Act), OJ L, 2025/38, 15.1.2025.

to amend the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters, amending the Association Agreement. This Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters shall enter into force once the European Union and the Republic of Moldova have notified each other of the completion of their respective internal approval procedures to conclude this Agreement.

For the European Union

Done at Brussels on...'

I have the honour to confirm that the Government of the Republic of Moldova is in agreement with the content of your letter and that together with this letter they shall constitute an agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters to amend Article 1(1) of the Agreement between the European Union of the one part, and the Republic of Moldova, of the other part, on the participation of the Republic of Moldova in the Digital Europe Programme (2021-2027), in accordance with your proposal.

This Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters shall enter into force once the European Union and the Republic of Moldova have notified each other of the completion of their respective internal approval procedures to conclude this agreement.

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

For the Government of the Republic of Moldova

Done at Chişinău on...