

[Out of scope]

s6(a)

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**MFAT Formal Message: Ukraine Update 11 May 2014 (9 May 2014)**

A Russian delegation, led by Deputy Prime Minister and Russia's special envoy on Transnistrian affairs Dmitry Rogozin and Minister of Culture Vladimir Medinsky, visited Moldova's break-away region of Transnistria on 8-9 May for Victory Day celebrations despite warnings by the Moldovan Foreign Ministry that such a visit would be undesirable. While the delegation managed to arrive in Tiraspol, the capital of Transnistria, on their way home both Ukraine and Romania closed their airspace to the delegation's charter flight due to travel sanctions imposed on Rogozin by the US and the EU. As a result Russian officials had to use regular flights to come home to Moscow.

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**Briefing: Visit to Belarus, Moldova, Czech Republic and Albania, Rt Hon Jim Bolger (13 April 2014); Accreditation Visit - Moldova (9 April 2014)**

The government of Moldova has expressed concern that a similar scenario could unfold in Transnistria. It has been reported that 1,500 Russian troops are stationed in the area. This has prompted Ukrainian border guards to strengthen their control of the border. On 30 March the United States announced that it would provide Moldova with \$US10 million for border control and security issues.

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**MFAT Formal Message: 2014), para 9** s6(b) on Russia and Ukraine (19 June 2014)

[Out of scope]

s6(b)

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**MFAT Formal Message: DPMC CEO Kibblewhite Visit to Berlin 27 June 2014 (3 July 2014), para 19**

[Out of scope]

s6(b)

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**Briefing: Ukraine – Leading figures in the Separatist Movement (12 August 2014), para 7**

[Out of scope]

s6(a)

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**Briefing: Briefing for SE Bolger visit to NYK (Moldova) – September 2014**  
**Paragraph 5 also appears in MFAT Formal Message: Moldova Special Envoy Visit 29-30 April 2014: Bilateral Issues (3 May 2014)**

*Moldova Country Paper: Bilateral Relationship*

1-4 [Out of scope]

5

[Out of scope]

s6(a)

6-14 [Out of scope]

*Foreign Policy*

15-16 [Out of scope]

17 Transnistria is a breakaway region on the western side of the river Dniester bordering Ukraine, which has claimed independence from Moldova since 1992. The region fought a brief war with Moldova in 1992 that killed approximately 860 people from Transnistria and 460 Moldovans, before Russian troops intervened. Approximately 2000 Russian 'peacekeepers' remain stationed there, with some 20,000 tonnes of Soviet-era weaponry and ammunition. A '5+2' process with Moldova, the territory of Transnistria, Ukraine, Russia and the OSCE (with the EU and US as observers) has intermittently addressed re-unification and practical administrative and governance issues, but progress has been limited.

18

s6(a)

19 [Out of scope]

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s6(a) According to unconfirmed reports, since the outbreak of the crisis in Ukraine Russia has sent additional weapons to Transnistria, and has also boosted its troop presence there. During an interview with a leading Polish newspaper, Moldovan Prime Minister Iurie Leanca noted that Russia was trying to implement the Monroe Doctrine. The problem, according to Leanca, was that "we are living in the 21st century and not the 19th century".

21 Moldova's border with Ukraine is 1,200 km long, and there is also a sizable Ukrainian minority population living in Moldova.

s6(b)

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**MFAT Formal Message: Moldova: Results of the Parliamentary Elections (3 December 2014), para 3**

Voter turnout for the election was 55.86 percent (of a total of 2.7 million eligible voters), 10 percent lower than the last election in 2010. No notable incidents or irregularities were reported at polling stations in Moldova. Both CIS and OSCE election monitors concluded that the elections were held "in compliance with national legislation and international election standards". There were however reports of alleged poor organisation of the voting process in Russia. While an estimated 500,000 Moldovans live in Russia, only five voting stations were apparently opened on Sunday (in comparison to 25 stations in Italy). Russian media also emphasised that there were no polling stations located in the Russia-supported breakaway region of Transnistria, where some 200,000 Moldovan citizens live (although special mobile stations for voters were opened in the demilitarized zone around Transnistria).

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**Briefing: Visit to Wellington by Ambassador of Georgia to New Zealand His Excellency Vladimer Konstantinidi (5 February 2015)**

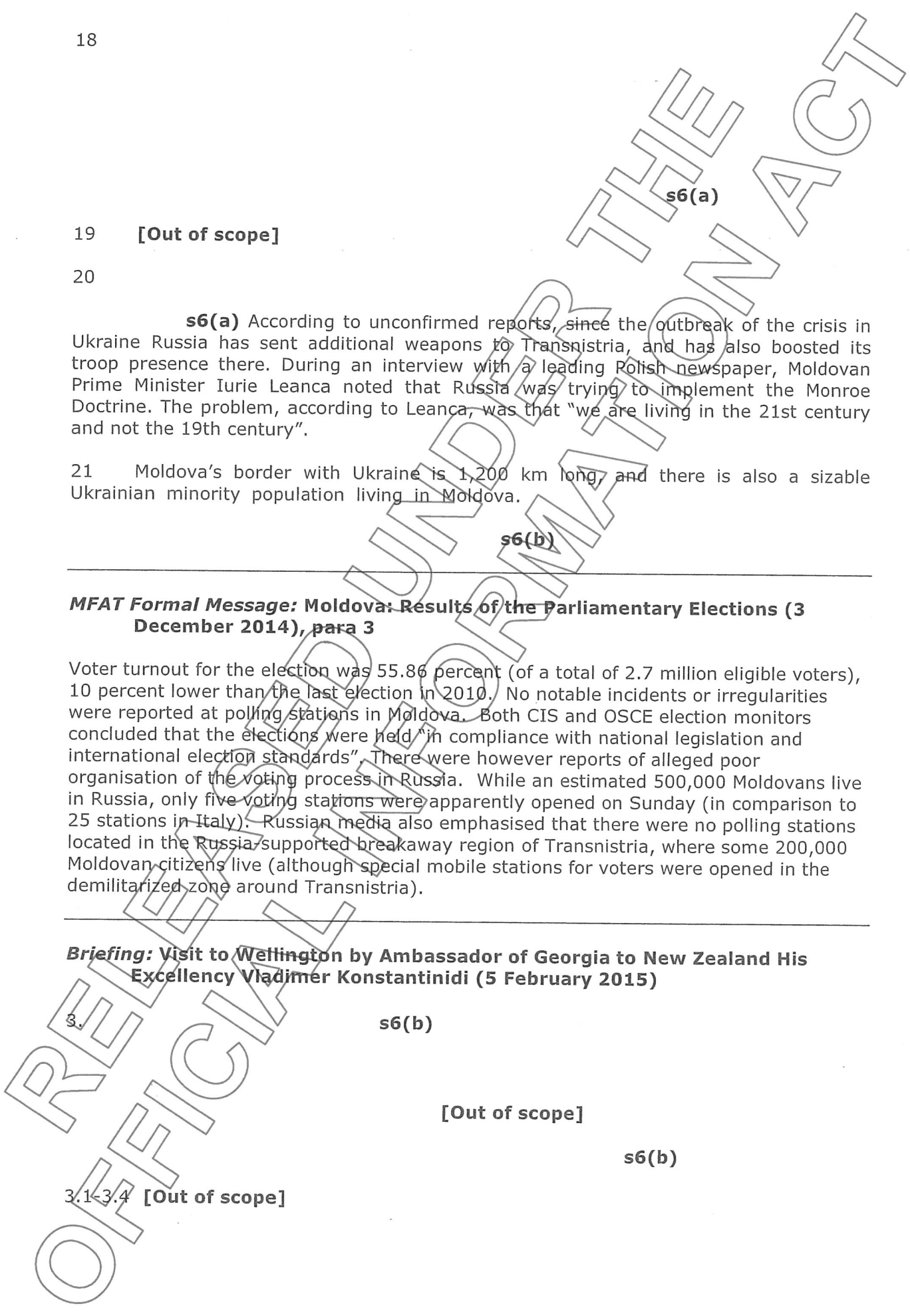
3.

s6(b)

[Out of scope]

s6(b)

3.1-3.4 [Out of scope]



3.4

s6(b)

s6(b)

s6(b)

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**Briefing: A Stock-take of current conflict (18 March 2015)**

*Transnistria (Moldova) – Protracted - de facto separation - comfortable stalemate*

Post-Soviet Union conflict. Began 1989 following the majority ethnic Russian region's preference for ongoing union with the Soviet Union and fear of Moldovan union with Romania (Romania ethnic majority).

Violent clashes begun late 1990 between Transnistrians and Moldovan police for control of municipal bodies. Increasingly independent from the rest of Moldova. Fighting intensifies between Moldovan and Transnistrian forces in 1991 resulting in the intervention of (locally based) Russian forces in 1992. Moldovan forces withdraw. July 1992 ceasefire and deployment of peacekeepers. No major violence since.

Mediation conducted by various actors primarily under the rubric of the OSCE. Periodic meetings between the leaders of Moldova and Transnistria. 1000 peacekeepers (and 1000 additional Russian troops - as of 2005).

Effective separate administration retains much of Moldova's heavy industry. Possible a plurality of Transnistrians are Russian citizens. OSCE agreement outlining "common state" solution involving federation (2002).

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**Email: Chicago Summit Declaration Issued by the Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Chicago on 20 May 2012 (2 March 2015)**

With our vision of a Euro-Atlantic area at peace, the persistence of protracted regional conflicts in South Caucasus and the Republic of Moldova continues to be a matter of great concern for the Alliance. We welcome the constructive approach in the renewed dialogue on Transnistria in the 5+2 format, and encourage further efforts by all actors involved. With respect to all these conflicts, we urge all parties to engage constructively and with reinforced political will in peaceful conflict resolution, and to respect the current negotiation formats. We call on them all to avoid steps that undermine regional security and stability. We remain committed in our support of the territorial integrity, independence, and sovereignty of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, and the Republic of Moldova, and will also continue to support efforts towards a peaceful settlement of these regional conflicts, based upon these principles and the norms of international law, the United Nations Charter, and the Helsinki Final Act.

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**MFAT Formal Message: Ukraine/Russia Update (29 May 2015), para 8**

of scope]

[Out

s6(a)

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**MFAT Formal Message: Joint Declaration of the Eastern Partnership (EaP) Summit, Riga 21-22 May 2015 (30 May 2015)**

*Key Outcomes – Regional stability and security:* Summit participants reiterated their commitment to facilitate negotiations to achieve peaceful resolution of the conflicts in Ukraine, Georgia, Transnistria and Nagorno-Karabakh. They also expressed their full support for the OSCE to continue its efforts towards conflict resolution in the region.

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**MFAT Formal Message:**

**s6(b) (18 July 2015), para 4**

s6(b) Remainder of paragraph out of scope.

## **Results for “Transdnistria”**

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**External Media Release: Moldova No Quick Fix, 12 August 2003**

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/publication-type/media-releases/2003/europe/Moldova%20No%20Quick%20Fix.aspx>

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**External Reports:**

- Moldova No Quick Fix, 12 August 2003  
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/europe/moldova/Moldova%20No%20Quick%20Fix.aspx>
- Moldova's Uncertain Future, Europe Report N°175 – 17 August 2006  
<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/regions/europe/moldova.aspx>
- Resolution on Case N° MOL/01 - Ilie Ilascu - Republic Of Moldova, Adopted By the 169th Session of the Inter-Parliamentary Council (Ouagadougou, 14 September 2001)  
<http://www.ipu.org/hr-e/169/Mol01.htm>

**MFAT Formal Message: Ukraine: Divisional Manager Europe visit to Madrid (12 May 2014), para 7**

of scope]

[Out

s6(b)

**File Note: Meeting with s9(2)(ba) (8 April, 2014)**

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s9(2)(ba)

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s9(2)(ba)

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**MFAT Formal Message: Ukraine Economic and Political Update (24 January 2013), para 14**

Ukraine is chairing the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) this year,

[Out of scope]

s6(a)

[Out of scope]

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**External Media Release: Presentation by foreign ambassadors of their letters of credence**

<http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/17364>

Results for "Transnistria", "Trans-Dniestr"  
and "Transdnester" - email messages and attachments.

**HARVEY, Martin (EUR)**

**From:** Igor Dubenco s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 June 2011 11:36 p.m.  
**To:** HARVEY, Martin (EUR)  
**Subject:** RE: New Zealand Information

Dear Mr. Harvey,

Thank you for your message. I'm thus removing the NZ embassy item from my electorate campaign list. I truly regret that New Zealand government is uninterested in the idea, considering that other countries seem to be...

Sincerely,

Igor Dubenco, PhD  
Tiraspol  
Transnistrian Moldavian Republic

--- On Tue, 6/14/11, HARVEY, Martin (EUR)

wrote: s9(2)(a)

**From:** HARVEY, Martin (EUR) s9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** RE: New Zealand Information  
**To:** s9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** (TND) s9(2)(a)  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 14, 2011, 11:51 PM

[UNCLASSIFIED]  
Dear Mr Dubenco

As the Director of the Europe Division, let me reply to your email. I apologise for the delay in doing so.

We have noted your request for information. However, we regret that the idea you have raised is not one that the NZ Government wishes to consider at this time.

yours sincerely

**Martin Harvey**  
Director, Europe Division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

**From:** Igor Dubenco s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Saturday, 4 June 2011 11:43 p.m.  
**To:** (TND) s9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Re: New Zealand Information

Dear s9(2)(a)

} Out of scope

I have a question, if I may. I am about to participate in Presidential elections in Transnistrian Moldavian Republic (TMR) in Eastern Europe, as described at <http://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/national/5025891/Former-NZ-students-Eastern-Europe-power-grab>

I have a question in connection to this:

1. I'd like to open a New Zealand embassy, or see a smaller NZ government outpost here in TMR. Before I put that on my Presidential Goal List I'd like to know how to actually accomplish that. Could you advise on how this process works please?

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Igor Dubenco, PhD  
Tiraspol,  
Transnistrian Moldavian Republic

OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT  
RELEASED UNDER THE ACT

Out of scope

"The information contained in this email message is intended only for the addressee and is not necessarily the official view or communication of the Ministry. If you are not the intended recipient you must not use, disclose, copy or distribute this message or the information in it. If you have received this message in error, please email or telephone the sender immediately."



(EUR/CEO) s9(2)(a)

**From:** (EUR) s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 August 2009 3:09 p.m.  
**To:** EUR FILING  
**Subject:** MOL/1  
**Attachments:** 2203615-v1-TA\_Moldova\_11\_August.doc

[UNCLASSIFIED]

s9(2)(a)

Policy Officer | Europe Division *Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade - Manatu Aorere*  
195 Lambton Quay, Private Bag 18 901, Wellington, New Zealand  
| [www.mfat.govt.nz](http://www.mfat.govt.nz) | [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz)

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

**From:** (CON) s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 11 August 2009 3:08 p.m.  
**To:** (CON) s9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** MOLDOVA : TRAVEL ADVISORY & KEY POINTS

[UNCLASSIFIED]

**Moldova Travel Advisory Key Points**

- There some risk to your security in Transnistria (northeast Moldova) due to the unstable and unpredictable security situation and we advise caution .
- New Zealanders should keep informed of the security situation and adhere to any restrictions and instructions issued by the local authorities.
- You should avoid demonstrations and protests as they have the potential to turn violent with little warning.
- New Zealanders travelling or resident in Moldova should have comprehensive travel or medical insurance policies in place that include provision for medical evacuation by air and are encouraged to register their details with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz).

s9(2)(a)

Consular Officer for Europe, the Americas and Australia  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Wellington

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Moldova Travel Advisory  
Consular Division  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade  
WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND

[www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz)

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## MOLDOVA

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Reviewed 11 August 2009.

There **some risk** to your security in Transnistria (northeast Moldova) due to the unstable and unpredictable security situation and we advise caution. The region is not under Moldovan government control and is seeking independence. We recommend you monitor local events closely to keep informed of the security situation and adhere to any restrictions and instructions issued by the Transnistrian authorities.

Protests and demonstrations occur occasionally in Moldova and have the potential to turn violent. We recommend you avoid such situations.

New Zealanders travelling or resident in Moldova should have comprehensive travel or medical insurance policies in place that include provision for medical evacuation by air.

New Zealanders travelling or resident in Moldova are encouraged to register their details with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz).

Please note: While every care has been taken in preparing these travel advisories, neither the New Zealand Government nor its agents and employees can accept liability for any loss or damage arising in respect of any statement contained therein.

(EUR/CEO) s9(2)(a)

**From:** (EUR) s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Monday, 17 March 2008 8:36 a.m.  
**To:** EUR FILING  
**Subject:** FW: Georgian and Moldovan break-away states  
**Categories:** [UNCLASSIFIED]

**Classification:** [UNCLASSIFIED]

RUS/6  
GEO/1  
MOL/1

**From:** (MOS) s9(2)(a)  
**Sent:** Saturday, 15 March 2008 4:23 a.m.  
**To:** (NYK); (EUR) s9(2)(a)  
**Cc:** (EUR); (MOS) s9(2)(a)  
**Subject:** Georgian and Moldovan break-away states

**Classification:** [UNCLASSIFIED]

Yesterday the Russian State Duma Council (the lower house of parliament in Russia) debated away state of Transdnister in Moldova. The issue is expected to be discussed by the full Duma next week. They also discussed the break-

*Out of scope*

*Out of scope*

It is a bit unclear what the outcome of the session was as it took place behind closed doors.

Apparently the Duma Council debated three alternatives:

- 1 - to call upon the Russian government to recognize the 3 republics;
- 2 - to start consultations on recognition of only
- 3 - to propose that the government works on changing the format of relations with and Trans-Dniester "with account of unilaterally proclaimed independence of Kosovo and its recognition by a number of states".

*Out of scope*  
and

*Out of scope*

*Out of scope*

Most reports say that the Council decided on the third alternative, but one report said it didn't make a decision at all. Most reports also say that it decided to recommend that the Russia government examine the issue of opening Russian missions in the territory of the three break-away republics.

Will keep you posted.

cheers

s9(2)(a)

17/03/2008

## SOUTH OSSETIA APPEALED FOR RECOGNITION YESTERDAY, ABKHAZIA WILL DO SO TODAY

President of Abkhazia Sergei Bagapsh said the parliament of this self-proclaimed republic is already drawing a special appeal to the Federation Council and Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation. The appeal will be formally made later today or tomorrow. According to Bagapsh, the Abkhazians and Ossetians deliberately appeal for recognition on the eve of Duma hearings on self-proclaimed republics scheduled for March 13-14.

Irina Gagloyeva of the South Ossetian Committee for Information and Press confirms that the republican parliament appealed to the UN general secretary, president of Russia, and the heads of CIS states for recognition. The appeal is based on the right to self-determination for nations.

The document drawn by the parliament of South Ossetia recognizes "the exceptional part Russia has been playing in the Ossetian fate" and "the impossibility of existence of Georgia and South Ossetia within one and the same state." Neither does it forget to mention the fact that a prevailing majority of the South Ossetian population are citizens of the Russian Federation who insist on rapprochement with Russia. "The Kosovo precedent serves as proof that territorial integrity is not the only solution to regional conflicts," the document hopefully concluded.

As a matter of fact, Bagapsh and his South Ossetian counterpart Eduard Kokoity warned that this was what things might and probably would come down to on their visits to Moscow in mid-February. Received at the Russian Foreign Ministry, both leaders said that Tskhinvali and Sukhumi would appeal to international structures (UN, EU) and foreign states (Russia, countries of the Commonwealth) for recognition.

What will happen once the appeals reach the Duma in Moscow is anybody's guess. At the very least, Tskhinvali and Sukhumi seem to be laboring under no illusions concerning immediate recognition by the Kremlin (following recognition by the Duma, that is). "We do not expect Russia to recognize us right away," Bagapsh admitted. "As for at some later date, we'll just have to wait and see." Kokoity echoed his Abkhazian opposite number and said that both republics counted on support from Russia and other friends. (Neither president would elaborate on the list of these friends at this point.)

As for Moscow, both republics count on its reluctance to abandon the regions with predominantly Russian population. It is common knowledge after all that most residents of Abkhazia and South Ossetia applied for and obtained Russian citizenship years ago. "Russia is a guarantor of settlement of conflicts. As a matter of fact, it is the only involved party that keeps its promises - including promises of economic assistance to conflict areas. Unlike Georgia, if I might add," Kokoity said.

Kokoity added that Sukhumi and Tskhinvali were also working on some other steps that would enable both republics to elicit recognition from the international community. He wouldn't say what kind of steps they might be, just that they would "be in line with the international norms and practices."

According to Bagapsh, Abkhazia has already charted a program titled "Key to Peace" that includes a list of the terms necessary for restoration of the dialogue with Tbilisi. For starters, Georgia is expected to apologize for the war and recognize Abkhazia as a sovereign state. That Georgia is going to turn it down is clear. Tbilisi is likely to perceive the latest suggestions concerning Georgian-Abkhazian conflict settlement from Sukhumi as an affront. Bagapsh actually believes that normalization of relations is possible as long as both parties recognize international nature of the relations. The reasoning is quite simple: if Kosovo pulled it off and the international community accepted, others may try it too. As a matter of fact, these parallels with the Balkans are what the non-recognized CIS republics count on. According to Bagapsh, the

Kosovo precedent also applies to the Trans-Dniester Moldovan Republic. What information is available to this newspaper indicates that leaders of the three self-proclaimed states intend to meet soon and discuss a common strategy.

\*\*\*\*\*

#40

RFE/RL

March 5, 2008

### Georgia: South Ossetia Cites Kosovo 'Precedent' In Call For International Recognition

Georgia's breakaway region of South Ossetia has called upon the international community to recognize its independence.

In the opinion of the parliament the self-proclaimed republic of South Ossetia, "the Kosovo precedent presents a convincing argument" for recognition of its own independence.

Later this week, Abkhazia, another pro-Russian territory attempting to break ties with Tbilisi, is expected to follow suit.

RFE/RL's North Caucasus Service spoke with Eduard Kokoity, the de facto president of South Ossetia, to explain the reasoning behind the parliament's measure.

"Considering the precedent created by the arguments that served as basis for the declaration of Kosovo's independence -- which was virtually created by the European Union -- it says that Kosovo should be recognized due to the impossibility of coexistence between Kosovo and Serbia within the same state," Kokoity said. "So we also want to announce that future coexistence between South Ossetia and Georgia within the same state is impossible."

The declaration argues that separatist South Ossetia has "all the necessary requirements and attributes" of a democratic and law-based sovereign state.

Georgia has dismissed the declaration, with State Minister for Reintegration Temur Iakobashvili saying that "the so-called South Ossetian parliament is not a legitimate body, and its declarations cannot have any consequences."

This is not the first time that Kosovo's recent declaration of independence from Serbia has been cited as a precedent for the independence of breakaway republics in the former Soviet Union. Both South Ossetia and Abkhazia have drawn the parallel numerous times, arguing that the approach should be employed in relation to their status as well.

And in the months ahead of Kosovo's declaration, Russia -- which along with South Ossetia and Abkhazia also backs Moldova's separatist Transdniester region -- was particularly vocal in arguing the "precedent" point.

Critics, however, argue that all separatist movements have their own unique circumstances, and thus the outcome of one cannot automatically apply to any other.

#### Russian Support

Abkhazia and South Ossetia broke away from Georgia in the early 1990s, following bloody conflicts in which thousands of people were killed, and hundreds of thousands of Georgians had to flee from their homes. With Russia's political and economic support, the two regions have existed as de facto republics, and have sought integration into Russia itself.

When asked if he would like to see South Ossetia join the Russian Federation, Kokoity replied: "It is necessary first to achieve -- in strict accordance to the norms of international law and today's realities -- our independence. We will aspire to this, and we will fight for this. Afterward, it will be up to the people of South Ossetia. No one should forget that we represent a small group of people, split into two. In order to protect our language and culture, we are obliged to consolidate all our forces."

The majority of the populations of Abkhazia and South Ossetia now hold Russian passports, together with documents issued by their respective unrecognized republics.

Both regions participated in Russia's recent presidential election, each giving Dmitry Medvedev about 90 percent of their vote. Georgia protested against the regions' participation in the election, saying it violated international law.

South Ossetia's Kokoity expressed a high opinion of the Russian presidential election, saying it was "in line with the Russian Constitution" and "norms of international law."

He also said he believes Russian democracy is a "specific" one that "the kind of democracy that exists in the United States or in the European Union, is not suitable, for instance, for Russia, Ukraine, Georgia, and so on. But in Russia there is a significant democratic foundation, and I think this is enough."

Meanwhile, the Russian parliament is preparing for a hearing on the separatist provinces of Abkhazia, South Ossetia, and Moldova's Transdnister on March 13. According to Interfax, the session will be attended by the parliamentary leaders of all three regions.

RUS / T / I /  
GEO / I /  
MOS / I /

~~MI~~  
~~RU~~

Your file:

Our file: WTO/RUS

19:34 (60224)

700/MOS/...../.....

FROM: Moscow C09768/MOS

13-Nov-2006

TO: Wellington

Routine

CC: Beijing Canberra  
European Posts Geneva  
Ha Noi Moscow  
Ottawa Tokyo

Routine  
Routine  
Routine  
Routine

MFAT (EUR, AMER, TND, ECO, CEO, DSP2, DSP4, PAEC)

P/S MTN

P/S MFA

PMC (FPA)

- ✓ MAF Policy ( ) s9(2)(a) ( ) s9(2)(a)
- ✓ MED ( ) s9(2)(a)
- ✓ Treasury ( ) s9(2)(a)
- ✓ Customs Service ( ) s9(2)(a)

ACTION

Subject

WTO: RUSSIAN ACCESSION:

Out of scope

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Out of scope

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RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

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Out of scope

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Out of scope

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Out of scope While Moldova has substantial bilateral issues with Russia (most prominently Russia's ban on Moldovan wine and its support for the separatist region of Transdnestria) it is actively negotiating.

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Out of scope

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Out of scope

End Message

RELEASED UNDER THE  
OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT

MOE/1

(EUR) s9(2)(a)

From: (WSH) s9(2)(a)  
 Sent: Wednesday, 16 August 2006 12:21 a.m.  
 To: (MOS) s9(2)(a)  
 Cc: (CON); (CON); (EUR) s9(2)(a)  
 Subject: US: Moldova WM - fyi  
 Categories: [UNCLASSIFIED]  
 Titus Classification: [UNCLASSIFIED]

Classification: [UNCLASSIFIED]

Dear Citizens,

This is a Warden Message on the Transnistria Travel Policy.

**WARDEN MESSAGE - TRAVEL IN TRANSNISTRIA**

Due to the recent trolley bus explosion in Tiraspol, the U.S. Embassy urges all U.S. Citizens to exercise additional caution for their travel to or through Transnistria.

Americans are reminded that taking photographs in and around the vicinity of the security zone, peacekeeping posts, bridges, military installations and "official government buildings" is often considered to be prohibited by local and peacekeeping authorities, and in many of these locations, clear signs prohibiting photography are posted. Throughout Transnistria, drivers should observe caution and avoid confrontations with local authorities. Vehicles should adhere to STOP signs posted at/around all peacekeeping posts. Finally, all travel within Transnistria should be concluded before dark.

If you have any questions regarding travel to Transnistria please contact the U.S. Embassy in Chisinau.

Regards,

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

U.S. Embassy Chisinau

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

NATIONS UNIES  
BUREAU DE LA  
COORDINATION  
DES AFFAIRES HUMANITAIRES



UNITED NATIONS  
OFFICE FOR THE  
COORDINATION  
OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

Date: 8 December 2000

Ref: OCHA/GVA - 2000/0224

**OCHA Situation Report No. 1  
Moldova – Storm, rain and frost  
8 December 2000**

General Situation

1. From 26 to 28 November 2000, the northern parts of Moldova were severely hit by a storm with heavy rains and frost. In the worst affected areas, a layer of ice of about 1.5 cm has covered tree branches, telephone and electricity cables.
2. According to a preliminary report issued by the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Department, the storm damaged hundreds of kilometers of power lines and thousands of pylons. The electricity supply was cut off in the northern counties of Edinets and Soroca, and 60 per cent of the settlements in the counties of Orhei and Balti. In the eastern region of Transnistria, the power supply was interrupted in the districts of Camenca and Rabnita, including the Rabnita metallurgical plant.
3. According to the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Department, 546 villages were affected. The area includes the counties of Orhei, Soroca, Edinets, Chisinau, Ungheni, and Balti, as well as some of the adjacent parts of Transnistria.
4. The population of the affected areas has no electricity and water supply (since electric water pumps are in use). On 7 December 2000, 356 communities were entirely deprived of electricity out of which 225 lack any means of telephone communication.
5. At this stage (6 December 2000) the total damage is estimated at MDL 255,000,000 (approximately USD 20.8 million).

National Response

6. The Deputy Prime Minister is coordinating the national response through the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Department. As from Monday 11 December, governmental teams will assess the situation in the four worst-hit regions.
7. In some parts, the authorities have provided the essential water supply, one telephone line in each community, and electric generators. It is estimated that repair work will continue for at least a month, but it is more likely that it will take several months due to the lack of funds.

Requirements for international response

8. The Government of Moldova identified the following priority requirements for international assistance:

- Medicines
  - Electric generators, kitchen equipment, lanterns and heaters
  - Diesel or kerosene to fuel the latter
  - Tools to cut metal (cables)
  - Financial support for purchase of relief items
9. According to UNDP Office in Moldova, humanitarian assistance is urgently needed before January 2001.

Bilateral Response

10. UNDP has been informed that the Russian Federation and Belarus have promised to contribute to the repair work. A mission from the Russian Federation is currently in Moldova to assess the situation.
11. The Republic of Moldova is in negotiation with the Russian Federation and Belarus for the supply of food, blankets, cables, poles, cement and armatures.
12. According to the press (Interlic agency), the Romanian Government has pledged three MT of fuel for each of the four most affected counties (Ungheni, Chisinau, Edinet and Belti). 3.7 MT of fuel has already been delivered. Medical supplies which reportedly be granted by Romania.

UN System Response

13. The UNDP field office has issued a Situation Report, and is ready to facilitate custom clearance for humanitarian aid in order to avoid any delay.  
For further information, please contact:  
Ms. Malin Lunden, Program officer, UNDP Moldova.  
Tel.: (+373) 2 22 00 45  
Fax. (+373) 2 22 00 41  
E-mail: malin.lunden@undp.org
14. For coordination purposes, donors are requested to inform OCHA Geneva, as indicated below, of bilateral relief missions/pledges/contributions and their corresponding values by item.
15. This situation report, together with further information on ongoing emergencies, is also available on the OCHA Internet Website at <http://www.reliefweb.int>.

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