

**Strategy
on the development of the field of internal affairs for the years 2022-2030**

I. INTRODUCTION

The society free from violence, in which people have no reason to worry about their physical and mental safety, for the tangible and intangible goods that belong to them, whose rights and freedoms are inviolable, is an ideal of humanity. In everyday life, we aim for a state of affairs in which citizens, whose life, health, property and rights are threatened, feel protected by the state, and the people who attack these inalienable values are punished strictly in accordance with the law.

According to [The Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#), every human being has the right to life, liberty and security of his/her person¹. The manner of application of the person's rights to life, liberty and security are specified in the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms². [The country's constitution](#) stipulates that citizens of the Republic of Moldova benefit from state protection both in the country and abroad, and foreign citizens and stateless persons, with the exceptions established by law, have the same rights and duties as citizens of the Republic of Moldova³. At the same time, the Constitution is a guarantor of the right to life, to the physical and mental integrity of every human being, as well as to the inviolability of individual freedom and the safety of the person⁴.

In this context, the safety of citizens and public order represent a fundamental public good, which the Government, through the Ministry of Internal Affairs, is committed to produce. In essence, it is the *sui generis* public good from which the notion of the state was derived and which has legitimized the collection of taxes since ancient times.

Home affairs, public order, civil protection, as well as migration and asylum are the Government's areas of activity⁵ which belong to the competence of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the following subfields: (i) public order and security; (ii) integrated management of the state border; (iii) combating organized crime; (iv) managing the flow of migration, asylum and integration of foreigners; (v) prevention and liquidation of the consequences of emergency and exceptional situations, civil protection, fire protection and provision of qualified first aid; (vi)

¹Article 3 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948 (the Republic of Moldova joined the United Nations on March 2, 1992).

²Articles 2 and 5 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (the Republic of Moldova joined the Council of Europe on July 13, 1995).

³Articles 18 and 19 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova.

⁴Articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova.

⁵Letters d) and o) of Article 4 of the Law no. 136/2017 regarding the Government.

ensuring observance of fundamental human rights and freedoms, as well as the defence of public and private property; (vii) register of population and citizenship, register of vehicles and vehicle drivers; (viii) state and mobilization reserves; and (ix) management of special status functions within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. In relation to these, the Ministry of Internal Affairs has the mission to analyse the situation and problems in the fields of managed activity, to develop effective public policies in the respective fields, to monitor the quality of policies and normative acts and to propose justified state interventions, which will provide effective solutions in the fields of competence, ensuring the best ratio between the expected results and the envisaged costs⁶.

Through its program of activity "[Moldova of the good times](#)" The government has undertaken, *inter alia*, as a development objective, "a 15% reduction in crimes against human life and health, rape and sexual harassment and gender-based violence, accidents, drownings, fires and intoxications". In support of this objective, the Government comes with a strategic vision and a set of priority actions, which will be presented widely in the respective section of this Strategy on the development of the field of internal affairs for the years 2022-2030 (hereinafter - SDDAI 2022-2030).

At the same time, SDDAI 2022-2030 will ensure the implementation of the Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030, through which the member states of the United Nations have undertaken to mobilize efforts to eradicate all forms of poverty, combat inequalities, address climate change issues and ensure compliance with the basic principle "no one is left behind".

To achieve these desired goals, SDDAI 2022-2030 will ensure the implementation of the following sustainable development goals of the Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030:

- goal no. 1: Eradication of poverty in all its forms and in every context (target 1.5);
- goal no. 3: Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages (target 3.5);
- goal no. 4: Ensuring quality, inclusive and equitable education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all (target 4.3);
- goal no. 5: Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls (target 5.1);
- goal no. 8: Promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (target 8.5; 8.8);
- goal no. 10: Reducing inequalities within countries and from one country to another (target 10.3);
- goal no. 11: Developing cities and human settlements making them inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (targets 11.2; 11.5; 11.7);

⁶Articles 5 and 6 of the Regulation on the organization and operation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, approved by Governmental Decision no. 693/2017.

- goal no. 13: Taking urgent measures to combat climate change and its impact (target 13.1);
- goal no. 16: Promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, access to justice for all and the creation of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (targets 16.1; 16.2; 16.3; 16.4.2; 16.5);
- goal no. 17: Strengthening the means for implementing and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development.

SDDAI 2022-2030 is guided by [The national development strategy "European Moldova 2030"](#), which provides a long-term vision centred on people, their needs and aspirations, thus contributing to the overall objective of "Promoting a peaceful and safe society". At the same time, the transposition of the following specific objectives will be ensured:

- reducing violence in society in all its manifestations and aspects;
- reducing vulnerability to threats and risks of all types;
- increasing security in the operation of critical infrastructures and systems.

According to the commitments undertaken by the Republic of Moldova through the Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030 and the National Development Strategy "European Moldova 2030", the following strategic targets are to be implemented by 2030:

- continuous and dynamic reduction of all forms of violence, especially domestic violence and sexual violence;
- stopping the abuse, neglect, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture of children;
- combating all forms of organized crime and arms trafficking.

SDDAI 2022-2030 will contribute to the implementation of the provisions of the Association Agreement between the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their member states, on the one hand, and the Republic of Moldova, on the other hand, signed on June 27, 2014 in Brussels, regarding the following: ensuring observance for human rights and fundamental freedoms; combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including related ammunition; preventing and combating organized crime, corruption and other illegal activities; fighting against illegal drugs; cooperation in the field of migration, asylum and border management; improving response to natural and man-made calamities, preparedness and response to them and creating a professional pool of civil servants, based on the principle of managerial responsibility and effective delegation of authority, as well as on fair and transparent recruitment, training, evaluation and remuneration.

It should be noted that, until the end of 2021, from a sectoral point of view, the activity of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was not comprehensively covered by public policy documents, among which the following have expired:

- The GPI development strategy for the years 2016-2020 and the action plan for its implementation, approved by Governmental Decision no. 587/2016;

- The strategy for reforming the carabineer troops for the years 2017-2020, approved by Governmental Decision no. 357/2017;
- The national strategy for public order and security for the years 2017-2020 and the action plan for its implementation, approved by Governmental Decision no. 354/2017;
- The action plan for the years 2016-2020 regarding the implementation of the National Strategy in the field of migration and asylum (2011-2020), approved by Governmental Decision no. 736/2016;
- The action plan for the years 2018-2019 regarding the implementation of the National Strategy to prevent and combat organized crime for the years 2011-2019, approved by Governmental Decision no. 98/2018.

In this context, together with the approval of SDDAI 2022-2030, the National Strategy for the integrated management of the state border for the period 2018-2023 and the Action Plan regarding its implementation, approved by Governmental Decision no. 1101/2018, as well as the National Anti-Drug Strategy for the years 2020-2027 and the National Anti-Drug Action Plan for the years 2020-2021, approved by Governmental Decision no. 233/2020, will be repealed, their continuity being ensured through the State Border Integrated Management Program for the years 2022-2025 and the Crime Prevention and Combating Program for the years 2022-2025.

At present moment, it is noted that the implementation of already expired public policy documents has been partially executed. However, at the same time, some of the planned actions were successfully carried out. In particular, the commitments made in the European integration process were successfully implemented: the situation within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, administrative authorities and subordinate institutions was balanced in terms of gender-related issues; innovative tools were piloted in the part related to the implementation of the community policing concept and the mechanism for exercising border control was tested at the Cuciurgan checkpoint, on the territory of Ukraine; the foundations were laid for the professionalization of the carabineer troops. Regrettably, these remarkable achievements were overshadowed by the inappropriate behaviour of some employees in the Ministry of Internal Affairs' system, who showed a lack of integrity.

At the same time, the expiration of public policy documents is also a window of opportunity, because it is proposed to change the development paradigm of the internal affairs system, following a holistic approach directed towards achieving tangible results for the citizens of the Republic of Moldova. The lesson learned from the past is that adopting separate strategies in each area of competence is detrimental to the synchronization and coordination of policy actions. At the same time, the desired development of the internal affairs system is a better performance of the mission to increase the safety of the person. Accordingly, SDDAI 2022-2030 is intended to guide the activity of the authorities in the internal affairs system in order to ensure a public good desired by society.

In support of this paradigm, the following actions will be undertaken:

- carrying out a rigorous analysis of the situation in the fields of competence, aimed at elucidating the aspects of the activity of the structural subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which reduce institutional performance;
- creating a comprehensive strategic vision that aligns the future areas of interventions with the need to ensure the safety of the person and increase confidence in the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- drawing up the main directions of public policies for the coming years, which are to be specified in the sectoral programs in each field of competence of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;
- the formation of a coherent reporting framework, which will boost progress in the full implementation of SDDAI 2022-2030.

At the same time, SDDAI 2022-2030 establishes public policy interventions of the Government in the field of internal affairs for a period of 9 years (2022-2030).

The SDDAI implementation horizon was chosen to be 2030, in order to synchronize the implementation process with the "European Moldova 2030" National Development Strategy and the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030, especially with the sustainable development goals and their national targets.

II. ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION

1. Public order and security

Public security is an area of intersection of the competences of the General Police Inspectorate (hereinafter – GPI, Police) and the General Inspectorate of Carabineers (hereinafter – GIC). The police exercise their duties by virtue of the mandate to maintain public order and reduce the crime rate, and the Carabineers have the function of maintaining, ensuring and restoring public order, in the context of public order events, in which a large number of citizens participate, and to ensure the state security of diplomatic missions, including during the visits of high-ranking persons from abroad.

During the last five years, in the Republic of Moldova, annually, about 16,000 public events were held, while the pre-pandemic maximum in 2019 was over 23,000 events. In 2021, more than 2.6 million people cumulatively participated in the events, and their smooth running was ensured by about 42,000 policemen and carabineers.

Data on public events (years 2016-2021)

Public events	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total public events	19059	13350	14380	23089	16555	13265
Total participants	7294810	4280808	5058438	8563095	3238367	2612896
Total employees of GPI	118728	82447	85854	77313	61580	37253

Total employees of the GPI					10155	5233
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Source: Statistical data of the General Police Inspectorate

One can note that, starting from 2021, police powers at public events are in the process of being taken over by the GIC. This process has no fixed term and no clear formula for interoperability between these structures. The integrated intervention at public events is not clearly defined either, while a concrete description of the roles and limits of competences of each actor involved in the process is needed.

It should be noted that both the criminal and contravention fields present significant risks for the life and health of the population, given the fact that often a misdemeanour is the basis of a felony.

In this context, the lack of urgent and direct interventions in the field of public order and security would generate risks that can increase the level of public insecurity in the community.

At the same time, it is noted that, out of the total number of contraventions, the largest share (68.8%) belongs to road traffic violations. With reference to road accidents, including those resulting with deaths, it is revealed that their number continues to increase, both in absolute and in relative terms. More precisely, in 2018 and 2019 there were over 2,500 road accidents or 97 cases per hundred thousand inhabitants. Of these, one tenth resulted with deaths, which means 10 deaths annually per hundred thousand inhabitants.

The analyses carried out show that the most important factors that determine the causes of road accidents are the person, the elements of the road and the vehicle.

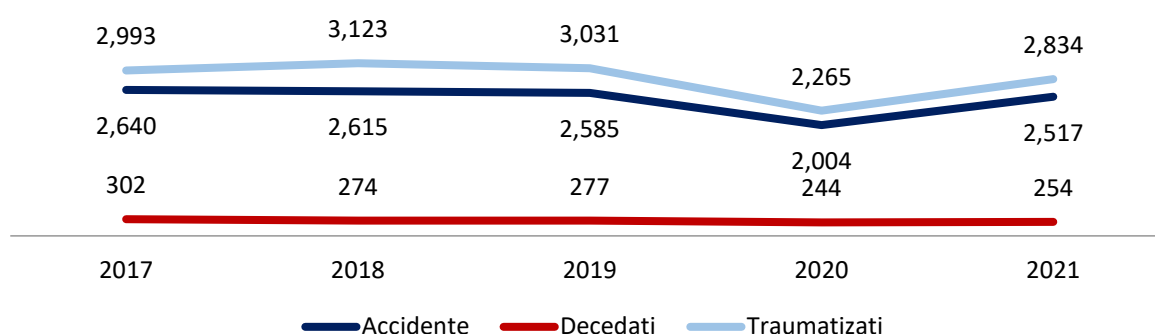
The issue of safe traffic is a complex one and requires a multi-sector approach from several public authorities with competences in the field, and the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs have a secondary/complementary role, in particular to detect and prevent traffic violations.

During the years 2000-2017, the Republic of Moldova had the most alarming road safety indicators in Europe, with an average of 103.2 deaths and 855 injured people per 100 thousand cars⁷. For comparison, Ukraine had an average of 101.5 deaths per 100 thousand cars, Romania – 55.6 deaths, and Italy 13.6 deaths.

Later, during the years 2017-2021, the Republic of Moldova registered a positive trend in the dynamics of road accidents, with a decrease of 4.7% - from 2,640 to 2,517. During this period, the number of injuries also decreased by 5.3% - from 2,993 to 2,834, and of deaths - by 15.9% - from 302 to 254.

⁷ Dynamics of road accidents resulting in injuries in the Republic of Moldova, General Police Inspectorate, 2021.

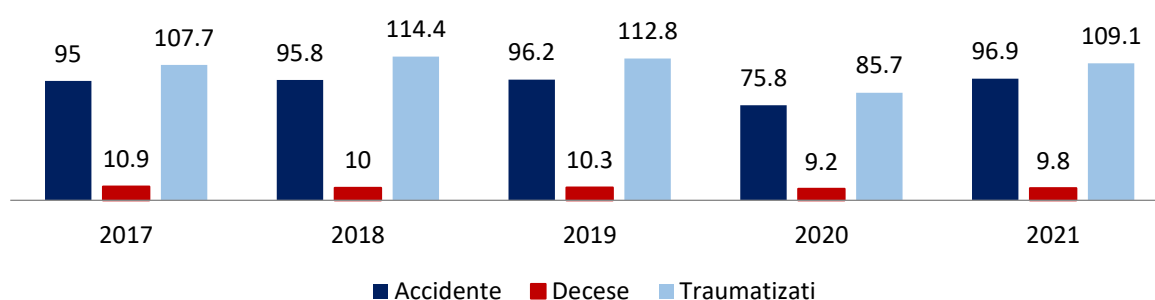
Principalii indicatori privind siguranța rutieră



Source: Statistical data of the General Police Inspectorate

If reported per hundred thousand inhabitants, a different situation is revealed for the period of 2017-2021, a positive dynamic being maintained regarding the number of deaths, the rate of which decreased by 10.1% - from 10.9 deaths per one hundred thousand inhabitants up to 9.8 deaths, including in relation to the number of motor vehicles – from 51.4 deaths per hundred thousand motor vehicles in 2017 to 36.2 deaths in 2020.

Principalii indicatori privind siguranța rutieră, raportați la 100 mii locuitori



Source: Statistical data of the General Police Inspectorate

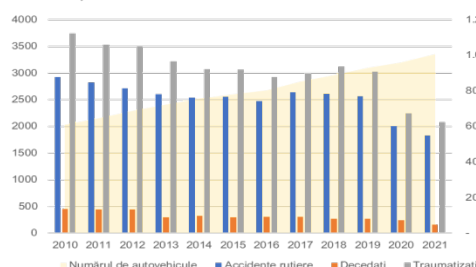
Excessive speed was the main cause of road accidents and deaths resulting from them, and their number was constantly increasing from 2017 to 2021 from almost 26 to 35.5% of all accidents and from 47 to almost 53% of all deaths cases, and the intervention priority for the next period remains the prevention of excessive speed in traffic and the reduction of the number of deaths due to road accidents.

In addition to these, an element that is worthwhile to highlight is the density of road traffic. In 2021, the number of motor vehicles registered in the Republic of Moldova was 1,128,697 transport units - the result of an accelerated increase from 677,900 thousand units, that were in circulation in 2010. Comparing the number of accidents to the number of motor vehicles, there is a positive trend found: there were 48 accidents per 10,000 vehicles in 2010, but in 2021 the number of accidents decreased to 22 (more than twice). It should be also mentioned that

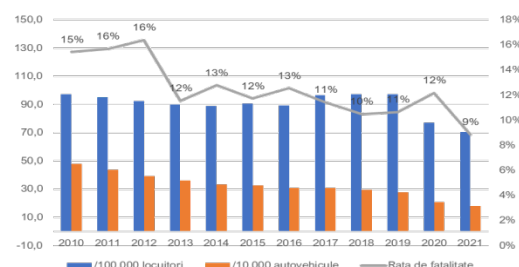
the uncontrolled increase in the number of registered vehicles is the result of an unsustainable state policy in that compartment.

The accident situation during the years 2010-2021

Numărul de accidente, inclusiv fatale, a scăzut în timp ce densitatea traficului rutier a crescut odată cu creșterea numărului de vehicule înregistrate pe teritoriul țării



În termeni relativi, raportat la populație și autovehicule, numărul de accidente a scăzut. Concomitent a scăzut ponderea accidentelor soldate cu deces



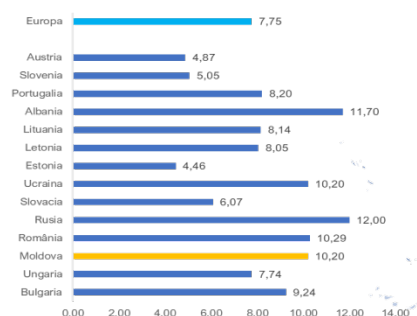
Source: Statistical data of the General Police Inspectorate and the Public Services Agency (number of registered vehicles)

At the same time, it is noted that the strict application of safe traffic rules, recommended by the World Health Organization (hereinafter - WHO)⁸, produced a noticeable impact.

Thus, if in 2012 about 16% of road accidents resulted in the death of persons, then in 2021 these constituted about 9%, which is the lowest rate in the last 10 years.

Although the number of road deaths is clearly above the European average, the situation in the Republic of Moldova is comparable to that of the countries in the region - better than in the Russian Federation (12 deaths per 100 thousand inhabitants) and identical to that of Ukraine and Romania (10.3 and 10.2 deaths per 100 thousand inhabitants, respectively). This indicates that the fatality level is also conditioned by a series of systemic problems, such as the ease in obtaining a driver's license, the reduced severity of penalties for violating traffic rules, etc.

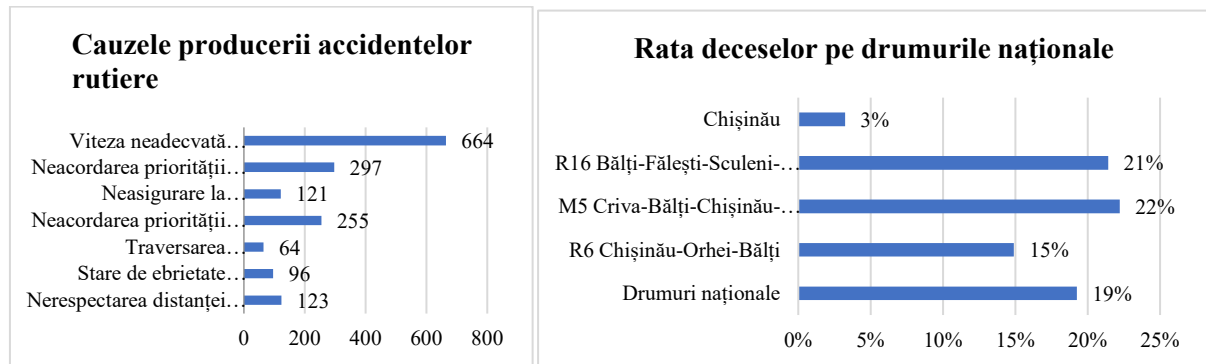
Numărul de decese provocate de accidente rutiere/100.000



Source: World Health Organization (2018)

The condition of the roads also affects the risk of fatality. Thus, on the Bălți-Fălești-Sculeni-Ungheni section, which has not been rehabilitated, 21% of the accidents in 2021 resulted in deaths.

⁸ The approach known as the Safe System estimates the risk of fatality according to speed reduction, seat belt use, banning the use of mobile phones while driving, etc.



Source: Annual reports of the General Police Inspectorate

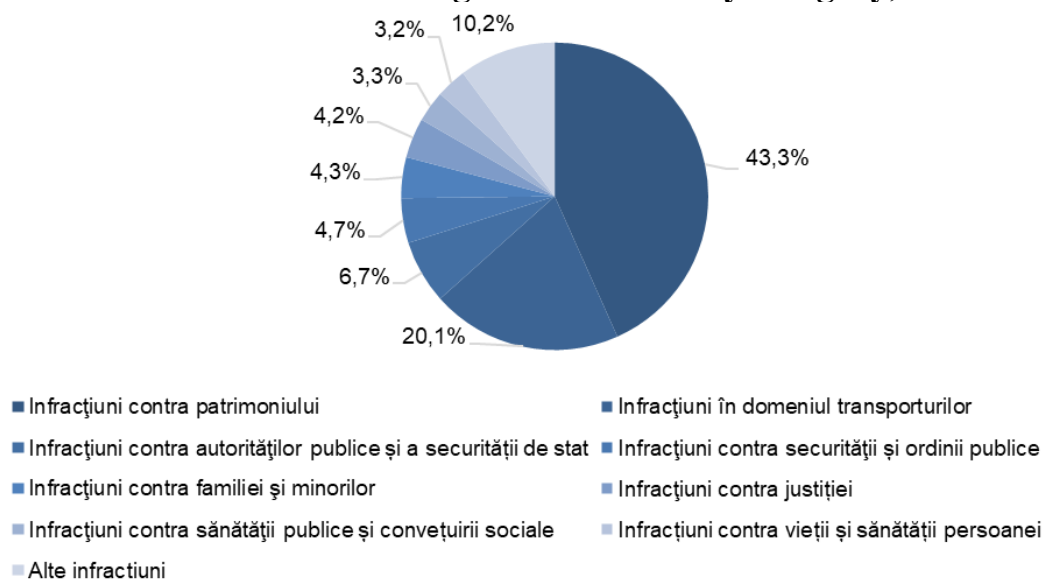
A conclusion for this section of the analysis: although, through their activity, the structural subdivisions subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs can undertake certain measures to make traffic control more efficient, a fundamental change, in terms of reducing the risk of fatality, also depends on public policy measures approved and implemented by other authorities at the central level (technical specifications and taxes imposed on the import of motor vehicles, road repair and recovery), as well as at the local level (streamlining of transportation, parking conditions, elimination of black spots).

2. Prevention and fighting the crime

During the last decade, the criminogenic situation in the Republic of Moldova did not have an univocal trend. But, in relative terms, the crime rate can be systematically tracked from the public information of the National Bureau of Statistics (hereinafter - NBS), starting from 2014, the period for which the revised demographic indicators are available. The peak of criminality was reached in 2016, when there were 1,508 crimes per hundred thousand inhabitants. Later, until 2021, criminality practically decreased by 50%, reaching a minimum of 764 crimes per hundred thousand inhabitants.

Crimes against property represent about 45% (11,753) of the total number of crimes, while crimes against the life and health of the person - about 3% (878).

The structure of registered crimes by category, in 2021



There is a 15% increase in the phenomenon of juvenile crime. During 2021, 695 criminal cases regarding crimes committed by minors were documented – by 89 more than in the same period of 2020, when 606 criminal cases were investigated.

The number of registered criminal cases is increasing in the districts of Drochia, Dondușeni, Edineț, Florești, Ocnița, Anenii Noi, Călărași, Criuleni, Dubăsari, Hîncești, Ialoveni, Nisporeni, Strășeni, Telenești, Cantemir, Căușeni and Cimișlia. In the same context, an increase in juvenile delinquency, compared to 2020, was recorded in the municipality of Chisinau, where 230 criminal cases were initiated (2020 – 151), and in the municipality of Bălți – 134 criminal cases (2020 – 129).

In conclusion, for the most part of minors, it is found that the state of intoxication remains a constant one, generated by the lack of occupation, the psychological state, the standard of living and the unimpeded access to alcoholic products, which, especially in the rural areas, is made with open defiance of the rules and policies adopted by the state in this field. Thus, during the reference period, 50 minors committed criminal acts while intoxicated, compared to 20 - during 2020.

In the last five years, about 153 murders are committed on average in the Republic of Moldova, which is double the average in European countries. Thus, if, in relative terms, 6-7 murders per hundred thousand inhabitants are committed annually in Moldova, in Europe this figure is below 3.

At the same time, it is necessary to mention the crimes committed against the vulnerable categories of the population: annually, per every one hundred thousand inhabitants, about 20 sexual-related crimes are committed, 40 - related to family violence and at least one case of trafficking of human beings.

The crises of 2020 caused by the coronavirus has significantly changed the formula for providing services by economic operators, who thus increasingly resort to electronic commerce. As a result of this phenomenon, the number of crimes committed by the use of information technologies increased. At the level of the European Union (hereinafter – EU), more than one in ten Internet users has already become a victim of online fraud.

The position and score assigned to a country in international rankings more or less defines the global visibility of that country, its image, prestige and trust at the international level. Placing a country in a certain position reflects not only the situation in that state at a certain time analysed, but also determines some processes in the future. The Republic of Moldova is periodically evaluated by various national and international entities, the results being reflected in various rankings and studies.

However, there is also a presumption that official crime statistics are limited only to crimes recorded by law enforcement agencies, and a number of crimes remain unreported. Last but not least, the decision to report a crime depends on

the confidence of the citizen that, following the report, a criminal case will be initiated, which will be completed in reasonable terms, the criminals will be held accountable, and the damage will be repaired.

In relation to this, the analysis of the criminal phenomenon requires an analysis, including through the lens of the completion of the criminal investigation, and an important role in this regard belongs to the interoperability between the bodies of the police, the prosecutor's office and the courts.

Thus, the resolution rate of the criminal prosecution (mostly by sending the case to court) is alarming. From the total number of crimes registered in 2021, only in relation to a little over half of the casefiles the criminal investigation was completed, so that 16,423 (64.66%) cases were solved (in 2020 – 55%).

Completed prosecution of criminal cases						
(by severity)	the number of registered crimes		criminal investigation is over (number)		Settlement rate (%)	
	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
Extremely severe	165	174	81	90	49.09%	51.72%
Particularly severe	540	567	226	233	41.85%	41.09%
Severe	4130	4452	1766	1972	42.76%	44.29%
Less severe	14001	14217	6511	6854	46.5%	48.21%
Light ones	7506	7749	5425	5699	72.28%	73.54%

Source: Statistical data of the Information Technologies Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The settlement of the criminal investigation does not exclusively belong to the competence of the Police. On average, about 65%⁹ of the crimes registered by the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Register of Crime Reporting (R1) are forwarded to the prosecutors who, in consequence, take charge of the criminal investigation. However, the correct management of criminal cases depends on the efficient cooperation of the criminal investigation bodies, so that when they are completed, the judges can rule unequivocally on the case. Thus, the success of the criminal prosecution depends not only on the identification of the culprits, but also on the observance of the procedural rules, the presentation of conclusive evidence, the reaction time, etc. Under these aspects, both the Police and other authorities with procedural powers can, and must, produce a decisive impact, so that the resolution rate of criminal cases becomes as close as possible to one hundred percent.

In conclusion, police performance is a multidimensional concept related to reducing the number of crimes (prevention), citizens' perception of personal safety (communication) and solving cases (fighting).

Police performance varies significantly in territorial profile. From the point of view of the number of crimes per 10,000 inhabitants, in 2021, the safest appear to be the districts of Bender, Sîngerei, Soroca, Telenești, Rîșcani, Călărași, and the

⁹Statistical data of the Information Technology Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for 12 months in the year 2021.

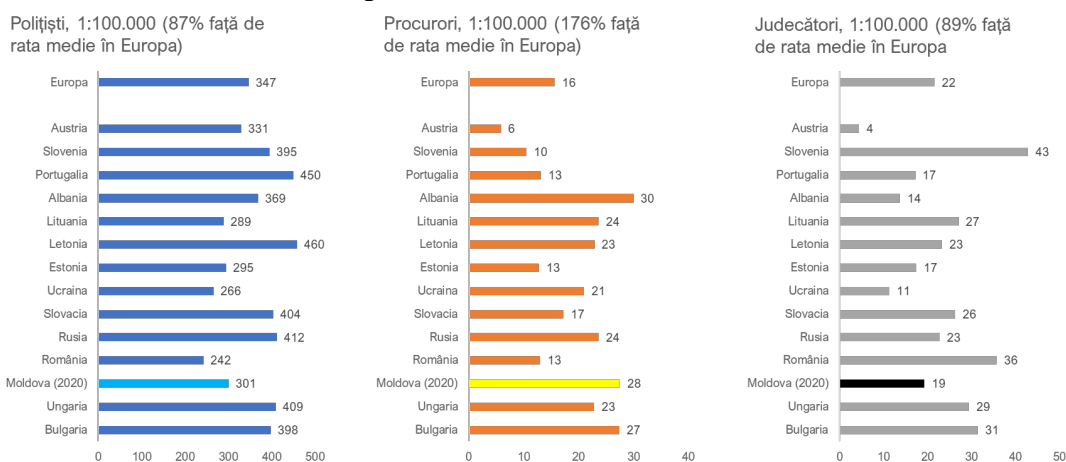
most criminogenic - the Centru, Buiucani and Ciocana sectors of the capital, but also the districts of Comrat, Vulcănești, Cantemir and Cahul.

On the other hand, the best performance from the point of view of solving criminal cases is in Glodeni, Soroca, Ungheni, Dubăsari and Căușeni, and the worst - in Leova, Criuleni, Buiucani and Ciocana sectors of the Chisinau municipality and the city of Bender .

Excluding individual cases, this picture suggests the following: there are factors favouring good Police performance in some territories (low crime and high investigation settlement rate) and these are absent in others (high crime and low investigation resolution rate). However, it is necessary to emphasize that the number of police officers per inhabitant and the motivation of the staff¹⁰ have a correlated with Police performance.

In relation to the aforementioned, it should be specified that according to the staffing levels, the number of police officers per hundred thousand inhabitants is close to the European average (343 positions in the Republic of Moldova compared to 347 in European countries), however, due to the moratorium on vacancies, the number of police officers is 301 per one hundred thousand inhabitants, which represents only 87% of the European average. For comparison, the Republic of Moldova has a surplus of prosecutors (176% compared to the European average) and a deficit of judges (89% compared to the European average).

The number of policemen, prosecutors, judges in European countries, per 100000 inhabitants



Source: UN-CTS (2017)

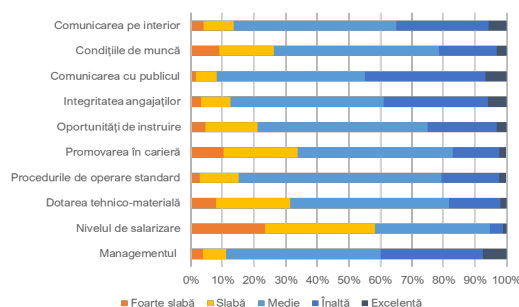
With reference to the motivation of staff in the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, following the internal survey¹¹ regarding the assessment of individual performance, carried out during the development of SDDAI 2022-2030, it was found that 18% of the employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs

¹⁰ As an approximation indicator of the policemen's motivation, the staffing completion rate was analysed, noting that whenever there are problems related to staffing completion, the staff's motivation is one of the basic factors.

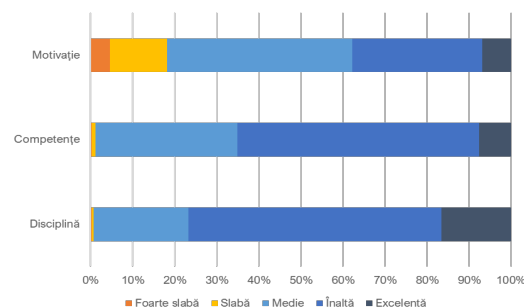
¹¹ The survey was conducted on a sample of 3,800 employees from the Ministry of Internal Affairs system, which represents 22% of the total number of employees.

considered their own motivation to be weak or very weak (for comparison, only 1% of employees assessed discipline and professional skills as weak or very weak). At the same time, when being asked to appreciate the institution's performance, 58% of the respondents provided a reduced score for the salary level, 34% - have negatively characterized the career promotion practices, and 28% - complained about the working conditions. Obviously, all three categories are demotivating factors for the employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Performanța instituției este apreciată la 7,89.
Cel mai slab sunt apreciate salariile și
promovarea în carieră



Performanța individuală este apreciată la 8,23. Angajații MAI se consideră competenți
și disciplinați dar nu și motivați



Source: Questionnaire among the employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (2021)

The field of crime prevention and combating generates the most diverse risks in the public safety environment. Thus, the crime directly affects citizens and communities in the most diverse and severe ways. The lack of innovative interventions and solutions generates risks for life, physical integrity, individual freedom, patrimony, peace and confidence in one's own safety, the economic and social life of citizens, and all of these are in danger as long as the phenomenon of crime persists and multiplies.

3. Civil protection and emergency situations

In the Republic of Moldova, about 300 events qualified as exceptional situations and about 2000 emergency situations occur annually, events that require the intervention of rescuers and firefighters of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (hereinafter - GIES).

Over the past 20 years, the number of rescue and firefighting missions has tripled, while staffing has been reduced by 12.6%, thus putting and increasing pressure on response capabilities. Estimated capacities of the GIES, those 400 rescuers and 150 technical units available 24/24, during the last 6 years are used annually in the interventions in an alarming proportion - between 50% to 70%.

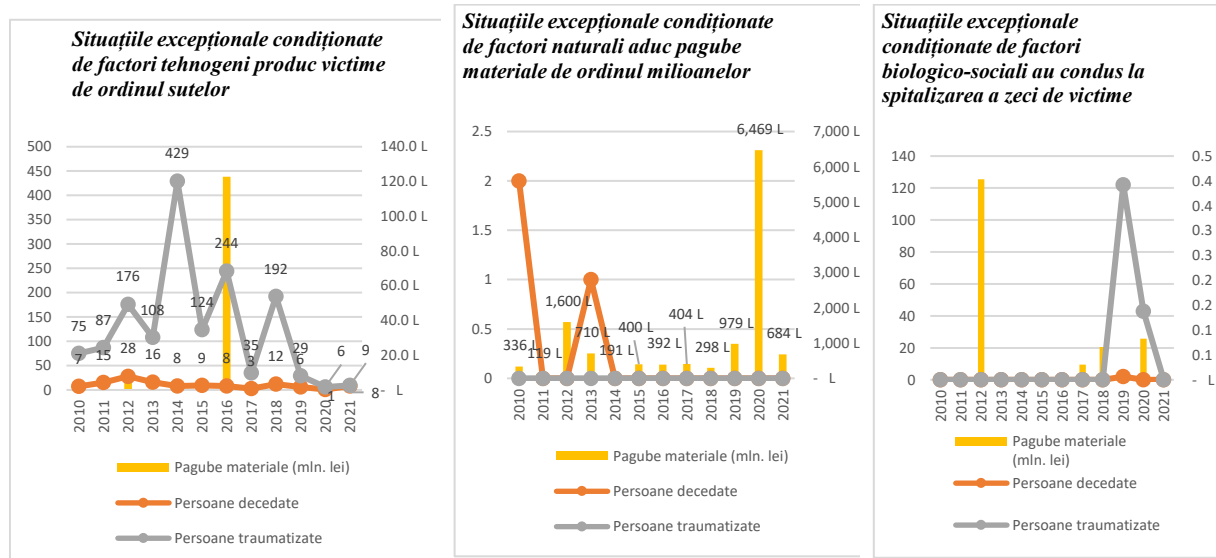
The diversity and complexity of interventions are increasing - from only 4 types of missions carried out in 2000, now the rescuers and firefighters developed their capabilities and increased their operational portfolio up to around 40 types of missions, thus being able to operate on/under water (diving activities), at heights/depths (industrial mountaineering, interventions in wells, etc.), to intervene in road accidents (extrications), in urban spaces after collapses

(searching and extrication in buildings), providing first aid. In this sense, the "labour productivity" achieved by GIES has increased considerably.

As mentioned, the portfolio was increasing against the background of phased staff reductions (from 3121 employees in 1996 to only 2467 employees in 2021). This reduction caused disruptions in the organizational chart of the GIES and in the way the intervention subdivisions were organized. At the current stage, there are 17 intervention subdivisions, in which only 2 people enter in a 24-hour duty shift, a fact that, on the one hand, represents a violation of work safety and employment regulations on personnel for the intervention vehicles, and on the other hand – a situation that does not allow a wide range of interventions to be carried out due to a lack of personnel (a team of firefighters and rescuers in the EU is made up of 5 people).

Although, from the perspective of rescue missions, the interventions implemented by the GIES come close to the EU civil protection concept, the shortage of personnel is a factor that constrains the compliance with European standards. For comparison, a rescuer or firefighter from the Republic of Moldova covers 2,573 inhabitants, which is three times more than in member countries or in countries that aspire to become EU members: Latvia (704), Georgia (724) , Romania (729), Estonia (893).

With reference to emergency situations, it's worth to mention that two thirds of them are conditioned by technogenic factors (explosions, accidents). From 2010 until now, 115 people lost their lives in incidents of this kind, and 1,513 were hospitalized, which corresponds to an annual average of 12 deaths and 139 injuries. The material damages, less important in such situations, amounted to 140 million lei, which corresponds to an average value of 12 million lei annually. The exceptional situations caused by natural factors (floods, hail, drought, landslides) rarely caused human casualties (3 deaths in the last decade), but the material damage caused by such situations is huge: only the droughts of 2012 and 2020 brought a damage of 1.6 and 6.5 billion lei, respectively. In total, the damage accumulated from 2010 to the present is 12.58 billion lei, which corresponds to annual average values of 1 billion lei. Emergency situations conditioned by biological-social factors (epidemics) are rare events, with the exception of the pandemic caused by the global spread of the coronavirus.



Source: Statistical data of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations

In emergency situations, the intervention of fire brigades is requested when fires break out. As mentioned, in the Republic of Moldova, annually, about 1,770 fire incidents occur, which lead to the death of 117 people and cause injuries to 45 others. On average, annually, the material damage caused by fires amounts to 68 million lei. At the same time, effective interventions by firefighters save lives and property. On average, the number of lives saved by firefighters annually is 679, although there is a downward trend in dynamics. Thus, if in 2010 1,107 people were saved, in 2021 their number was only 298.

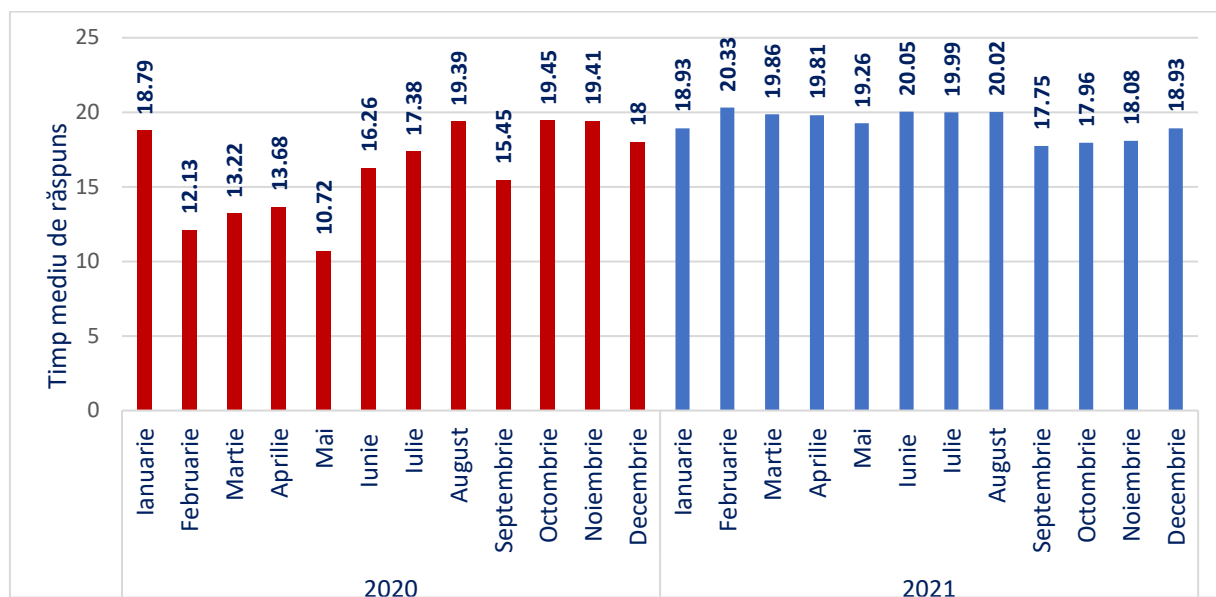
The reaction time of the fire brigades, conditioned by the geographical location of the intervention teams, is critical to make the difference between life and death of fire victims. The range of intervention is currently between 3 and 10-15 km in urban areas and up to 45-50 km – in the rural sector.

Thus, if the average reaction time is generally 19 minutes and 26 seconds¹², due to the long distance, the average response time of GIES subdivisions for localities more than 20 km away is 29 minutes and 43 seconds.

For comparison, the maximum reaction time allowed in European countries varies between 8 and 15 minutes (in the Republic of Moldova in 2021 the maximum reaction time was 1 hour and 26 of minutes).

Average response time of GIES subdivisions

¹²According to the data for the year 2021.



Source: Statistical data of the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations

Another factor, which limits the effectiveness of intervention to emergency calls, is related to the outdated technical-material basis. About 48% of the equipment used is "inherited" from the former USSR, with an average age of 35 years; 32% – comes from external donations and has an average age of 30 years and only 13% are their own purchases, with an average age of 6 years. Although there are endowment norms approved by the Government¹³, they were never achieved, due to the lack of allocation of financial means. Consequently, the frequency of breakdowns is increasing.

Thus, in 2021 there were 405 cases of technique's failure, including 87 during the intervention. Moreover, some subdivisions subordinate to the GIES do not have the operational capabilities to respond to all types of emergency situations. In this case, the necessary intervention resources are mobilized from other districts/subdivisions, which also contributes to increasing the response time.

Accordingly, in order to save more lives, it is necessary to act on the reaction time and to modernize the specialized technique, as well as to increase the endowments. In this regard, it is necessary to increase the staff of the GIES and develop the positions of rescuers and firefighters in rural areas.

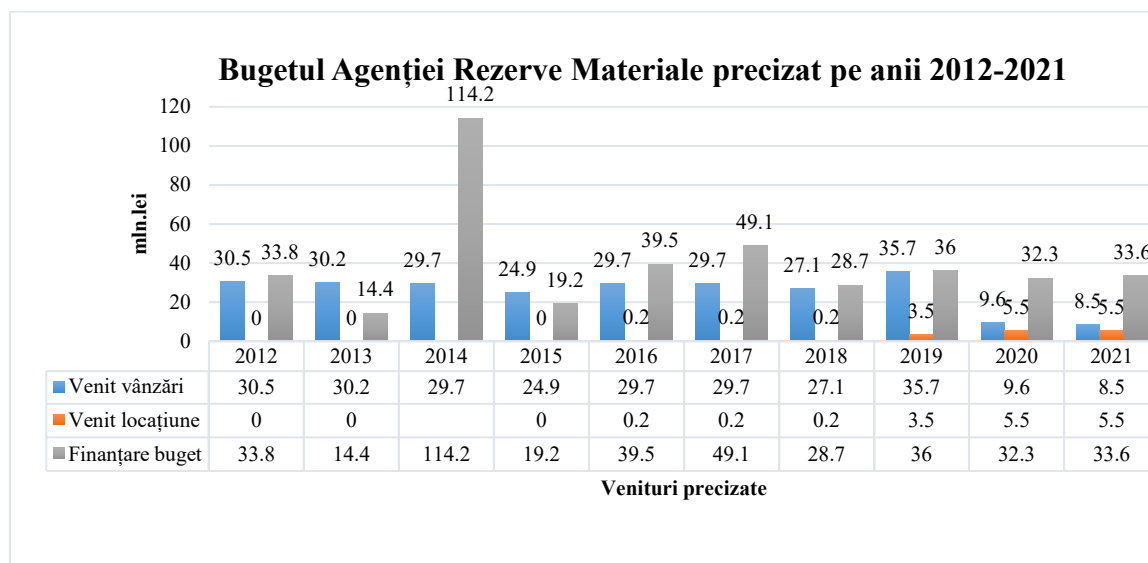
It should be mentioned that the Program for the consolidation of the rescuers and firefighters service in the rural localities of the Republic of Moldova, approved by Governmental Decision no.202/2013, has expired in 2020, and currently there is no other public policy document that would ensure the continuity of the proposed objectives. It is emphasized that out of 73 existing positions, only 45 were created within this program (out of the total number of 114 planned). The initiative must continue, including through the local development of disaster management strategies based on risk assessment.

¹³ Governmental Decision no. 908/2014 on the regulation of the organization of the forces and resources of the Civil Protection and Emergency Situations Service subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The development of the civil protection mechanism approximated to EU requirements is a priority. In this sense, the EU directives provide for 17 civil protection modules that are part of a solidarity framework that enable countries to help each other in emergency situations. To be part of this framework, the Republic of Moldova must ensure the compatibility of civil protection mechanisms and develop its own reaction modules. In other words, the activity of the GIES constitutes 80% interventions, and the preventions - only 20%. The prevention of emergency situations is done by carrying out targeted information campaigns. Without diminishing their importance, the GIES has to identify other prevention mechanisms (risk analysis, compliance control, etc.), which are mostly absent.

To fulfil the state's objective regarding operative interventions to protect the population and the territory, ensuring the stable operation of the national economy and the defence of the country in emergency/exceptional situations, in the event of social or economic phenomena, terrorist attacks, for the purpose of providing humanitarian aid and contributing to stability in the sectors of the national economy in the event of malfunctions, as well as for the organization of the country's defence and the provision of mobilization needs in times of siege and war, the main role rests with the Material Reserve Agency within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which, by Governmental Decision no. 219/2018, following the reorganization, from a central administrative authority subordinated to the Government became an administrative authority subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Although this field is very important, it is not given a proper financial support, the institution facing a series of problems and difficulties, such as: the under-filling of state reserves (the degree of completion of some positions is about 1.6%); advanced physical and moral wear of stocks of mobilization reserves; ensuring intangible stocks of state reserves with goods between 33.7% and 24.1%; lack of its own grain and fuel storage facilities; the deficient normative framework regarding the procurement mechanism in/from the state reserves and mobilization, but also problems related to the procedure for collecting debts towards the state reserves; insufficient funding, etc.



Source: Statistical data of the Material Reserve Agency

According to the normative framework, the Material Reserves Agency provides goods from state and mobilization reserves not only to the population, but also to specialized central public authorities, such as the Ministry of Defence, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry, the Security and Intelligence Service and the Ministry of Finance. During the last years, the replenishment of stocks with goods is quite deficient, being carried out only from the financial means additionally allocated by the Government for the goods released in order to remove the consequences of natural calamities, and from managing to make some savings of financial means during the year. It should be mentioned that, due to underfunding, this field is able to cover practically only the expenses for the preservation of assets from state reserves and mobilization.

A special problem is the assortment and volume of goods provided by the nomenclature of goods from the state and mobilization reserves, which, after the experiences accumulated in recent years, require a total revision.

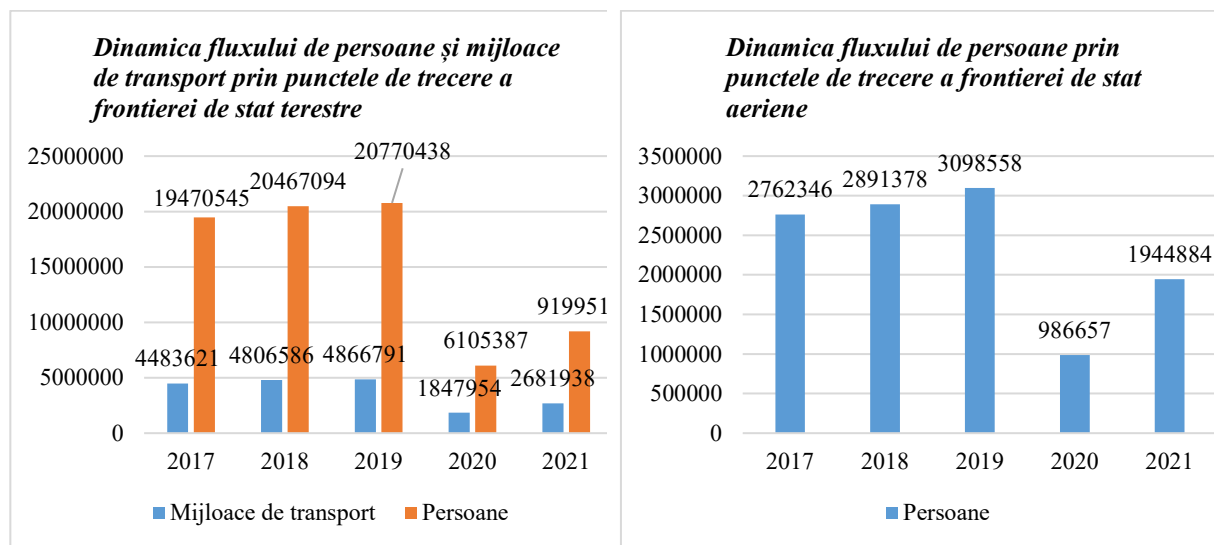
Moreover, the structure of the Material Reserve Agency, related to the volume and specifics of the work, constitutes an impediment to the successful completion of the assigned tasks, and this shall be revised through the prism of the functional and organizational aspect, based on several analyses and reports carried out by the Security and Intelligence Service (hereinafter - SIS) and the National Anticorruption Centre regarding the correctness of its subordination to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, considering the important particularities of the Material Reserve Agency in the strategic assurance of national security, the complexity and direct collaboration with other public entities, in case of unpredictable crisis situations, which can seriously affect the life and health of the population.

A conclusion in this compartment is that the risks in the field of emergency and exceptional situations, conditioned also by the effects of global climate

change, require systematic approaches and interventions to diminish and reduce their effects.

4. Border management

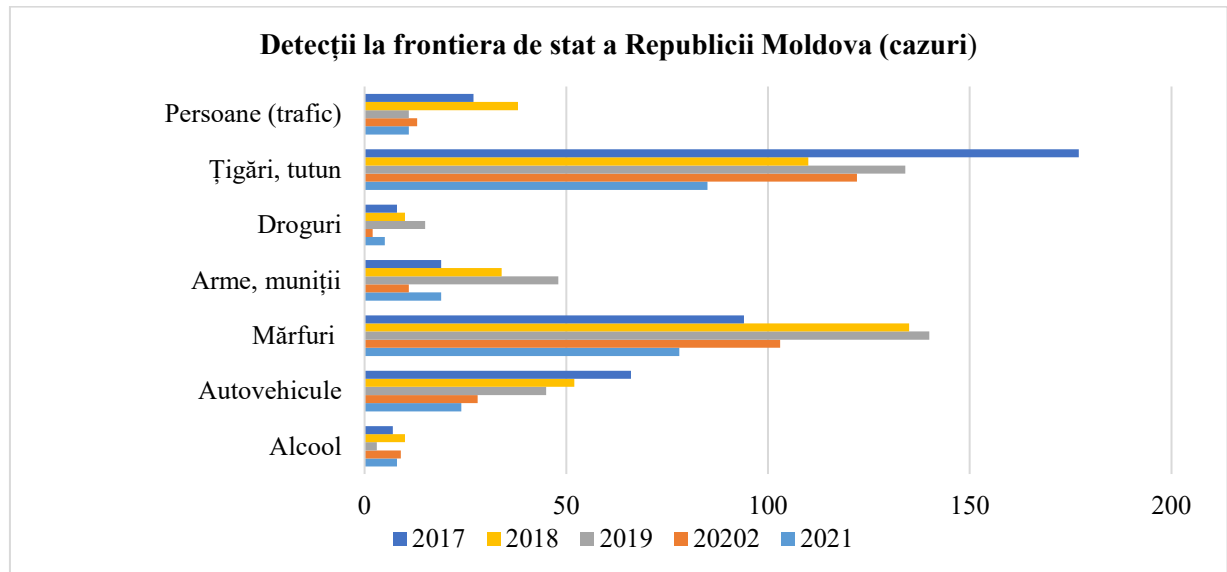
The state border of the Republic of Moldova, annually, is crossed in both directions by about 20 million people and about 5 million vehicles. The cases of refusal of entry into the country of persons and transportation units registered by the Border Police are insignificant in relation to the total number of state border crossings. It should be noted that, although the number of people and means of transport crossing the state border decreased significantly during the pandemic caused by the coronavirus, the number of contraventions increased exponentially due to non-compliance with the new restrictions imposed in the context of the sanitary-epidemiological situation.



Source: Statistical data of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police

The displayed figures show that one of the main tasks of the Border Police is to streamline cross-border traffic, so that people can continue their journey unhindered in the minimum time necessary for crossing control. In this sense, the General Inspectorate of the Border Police (hereinafter - GIBP) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs applies the following norms: 2 minutes for documenting a person; 6 minutes for documenting a car and under 30 minutes for documenting the travelling passengers.

In relation to bad-faith travellers, the role of the border policeman is to protect the rules of law, which, in the process of control, identifies illegalities and, as the case may be, applies sanctions, monitors and sanctions violations of the state border regime.



Source: Statistical data of the General Inspectorate of the Border Police

Another relevant aspect concerns the uninterrupted operation of information technology systems, which facilitate the control of travel documents. When these systems "fall", border traffic is blocked, and the unblocking depends on the speed of restarting the automated systems. Only by creating an adequate infrastructure at the crossing points and implementing modern border control methods (implementation of the one stop shop, prior appointment, etc.), but also by ensuring the functionality of the automated information technology systems, it can be impossible to ensure the traffic flow.

It should be noted that, in the conditions of an unregulated conflict in the perimeter of the Transnistrian region of the country, the real control of the border is carried out on the western segment (with Romania) and partially on the eastern segment (where the border with Ukraine is directly controlled by the constitutional authorities of the Republic of Moldova). Accordingly, the existence of an "open" border segment on the eastern border represents a security gap that minimizes the effects of combating the illegal transportation of goods, valuables and other goods, as well as illegal migration. The only viable solution to solving this problem is the implementation of the concepts of joint control and joint patrolling at the crossing points of the state border with Ukraine. The implementation of the concept of joint control on the central segment (Transnistrian region) of the border was successfully piloted, in a limited format, at the "Pervomaisc-Cuciurgan" state border crossing point. In the next stage, the parties, in full volume, are to ensure the implementation of joint control. A similar situation can be seen with regard to joint patrolling of the central segment on the territory of Ukraine (Transnistrian region) on the common border, this being implemented on fully only on the northern and southern segments, the central segment of the border remaining uncovered.

Due to the war in Ukraine, both control and joint patrolling were suspended, given the increased risk to the life and health of employees.

It is noted that, as of February 24, 2022, the Republic of Moldova is facing an unprecedented refugee crisis. Refugees from Ukraine arrive in the Republic of Moldova through both legal and illegal methods. A sudden increase in cases of illegal crossing of the state border is witnessed especially by Ukrainian citizens, who cannot emigrate under any legal form, being restricted from leaving the country under Martial Law.

Also, in the context of this war, there is an increased risk and vulnerability regarding cross-border crime from the criminal world. At the same time, there is an increase in criminal phenomena, such as the illicit trafficking of arms, ammunition and explosives, the organization of illegal migration, etc.

Risks and interventions in the field of border management are justified by the permanent changes in the international security environment. For this reason, the proposed solutions and planned interventions must create solid levers for adequate border management to counter illegal migration, cross-border crime, human trafficking, illicit trafficking of merchandise, goods, drugs and weapons.

5. Migration and asylum

With reference to foreigners visiting the Republic of Moldova, the role of the state consists in the efficient management of migration processes and in ensuring the realization of the possibilities of using migration for development purposes, but also in minimizing the negative effects of migration on demographic, economic processes, public order and national security.

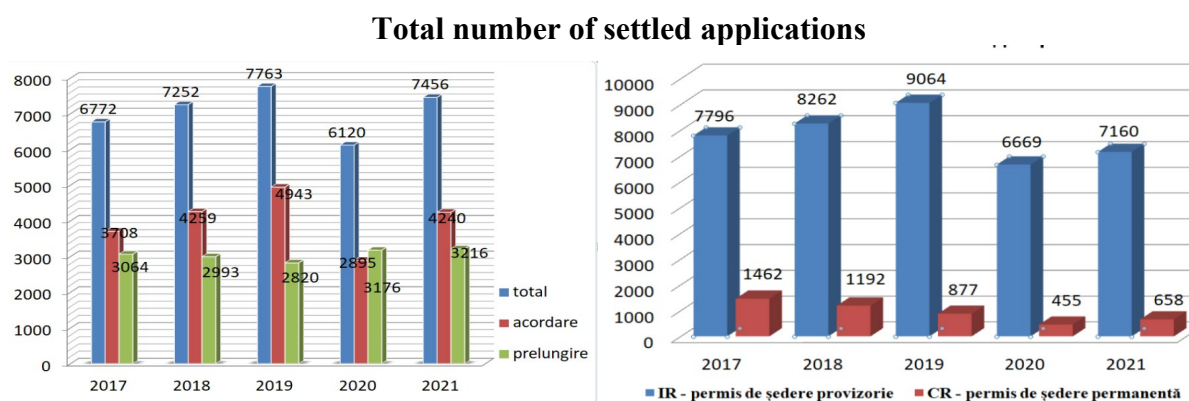
Moreover, taking into account the magnitude of migration flows, the effective management of migration processes was one of the main conditionality of the EU in granting the liberalized regime of visas for citizens of the Republic of Moldova in the EU states, as well as in the framework of the activities of the Association Agreement between the Republic of Moldova, on the one hand, and the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community and their member states, on the other.

The Migration and Asylum Office (hereinafter - MAO) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, individually or jointly with other authorities, ensures the implementation of the main stages of managing migration flows, especially those related to the immigration of foreigners: the admission and granting the right of residence to foreigners in the Republic of Moldova; combating the illegal stay of foreigners; ensuring coercive measures in relation to foreigners who violated the residence regime; removal from the territory of the country of foreigners who pose a danger to public order or state security; granting temporary protection to foreigners; coordination of activities related to the integration of foreigners; ensuring assessments of their needs until their final integration/naturalization; recording foreigners crossing the Transnistrian region; other activities influencing migration processes.

The essential changes of the normative framework during the years 2018-2019 have substantially influenced the overall management of migration

processes. At the same time, there is an upward trend in the number of foreigners, except for 2020 when, due to the global pandemic caused by the coronavirus, the number of travellers with non-essential purposes decreased.

Although the temporary stay (up to 90 days) on the territory of the Republic of Moldova is free for foreigners from about 151 states (states from Schengen zone, CIS and others¹⁴), the number of requests for obtaining the right of temporary residence increased from 6,772 in 2017 to 7,456 in 2021.



Source: Statistical data of the Migration and Asylum Office

At the same time, the MAO monitors foreigners temporarily residing in the Republic of Moldova during the validity period of the visa or for a period of up to 3 months, their total number varying up to 100 thousand people annually.

In the years 2017-2021, an ascending trend has also emerged regarding the number of immigrants arriving with the purpose of work, studies, family reunification, etc. from 3,708 in 2017 to 4,240 in 2021. This trend, also curved in 2020, occurred against the background of the liberalisation of labour force import. If, previously, the work of foreigners was allowed only in exceptional circumstances (lack of qualifications required on the domestic market), starting from 2018 the right to work for foreigners can also be obtained based on the request submitted by the employer.

It is worth mentioning that in the Republic of Moldova education becomes more attractive for foreigners. According to statistical data, in the academic year 2019/2020, the number of foreign students was 4.6 thousand people, with 0.5 thousand students more than in the academic year 2018/2019. Every second foreign student does his/her studies in the field of health. The largest share belongs to students from Romania (40.1%), Israel (35.6%), India (12.1%), Ukraine (2.6%), the USA (1.7%) and Turkey (1.4%)¹⁵.

Based on the information collected about students from other countries, at the beginning of the academic year 2021/2022, the number of foreign students was 5.2 thousand people, by 13.0% more compared to the previous academic year. The largest share belongs to students from Romania (51.6%, up by 5.4 pp compared to

¹⁴ According to data of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration accessible [here](#).

¹⁵ NBS, The activity of higher education institutions in the 2019/2020 academic year, <https://statistica.gov.md/newsview.php?l=ro&idc=168&id=6547>

the 2020/2021 academic year), Israel (19.1%, down by 9.5 pp), India (13.4%, up by 0.2 pp) and Ukraine (7.9%, up by 5.5 pp)¹⁶.

This compartment will continue the process of encouraging and strengthening the recognition of the qualifications and professional skills of legally residing migrants, promoting on different platforms (information sessions) the conditions of entry, stay and exit from the Republic of Moldova.

According to the data of the Agency of Public Services¹⁷, the number of documented foreigners with residence permits valid on December 31, 2021 constituted 18,874 persons, of which 6,476 held permanent residence permits and 12,398 – temporary residence permits. Documented foreigners enjoy the same rights and obligations as citizens of the Republic of Moldova, with the exceptions established in the legislation.

At the same time, the State Register of Population registered 1,909 persons with stateless status, 1,434 persons with undetermined citizenship and 6,939 persons with Soviet-type passports (1974 model).

The MAO, annually, undertakes about 5,500 actions to detect and combat delinquencies committed by foreigners in the country, and their number is impressive. Most of the contraventions (85%) refer to the violation of the term of stay in the Republic of Moldova, the rest (15%) represent the contraventions regarding the undeclared work of foreigners. Based on findings made by MAO officers, 40 criminal cases are initiated annually.

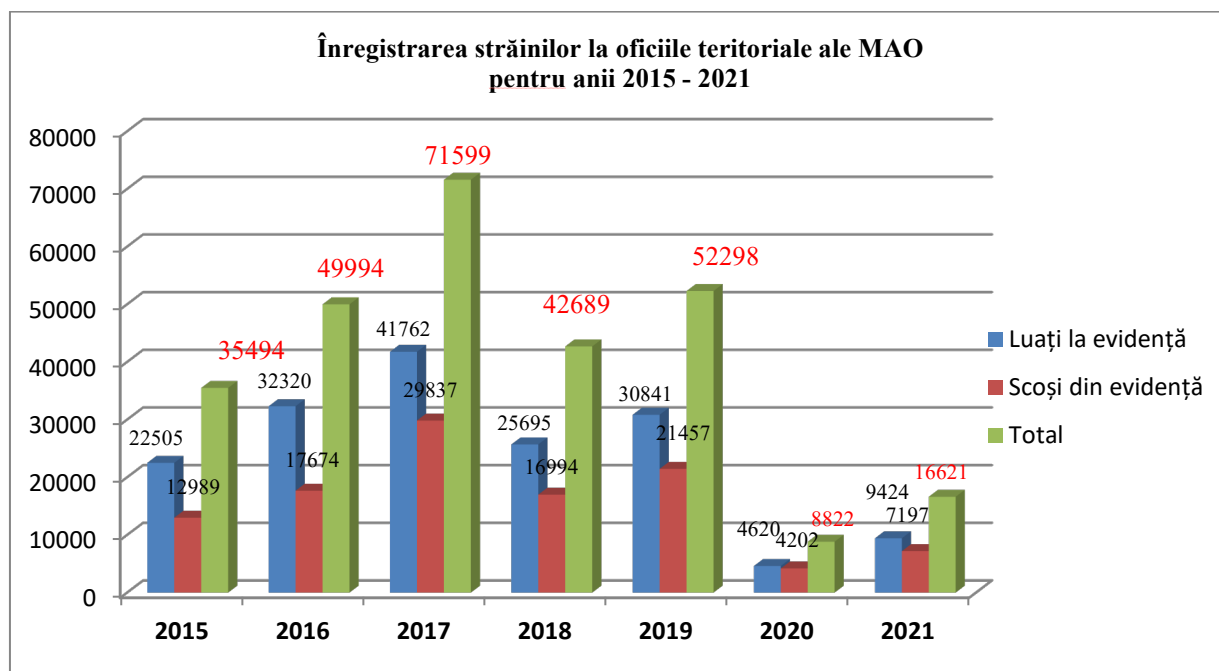
In order to prevent uncontrolled immigration, as a result of the liberalization of the admission and documentation of certain categories of foreigners, a specialized subdivision for monitoring migration flows was created within the MAO, which includes 6 territorial offices located in the perimeter of the internal customs control points, near the Transnistrian region. The respective subdivision ensures the registration of foreigners entering from/through Ukraine to the Republic of Moldova through the Transnistrian region (it does not refer to the population of this region).

However, the number of foreigners entering and in the country, in the absence of effective control by the law authorities, it remains a big one. In most cases, foreigners entering the territory of the Transnistrian region have the same reasons for being in the Republic of Moldova as visa-exempt foreigners or holders of residence rights.

It should be noted that the number of foreigners, starting from 2015, is continuously increasing, and the year 2017 was on the top (71,599 people), with the exception of the years of the coronavirus pandemic, 2020-2021.

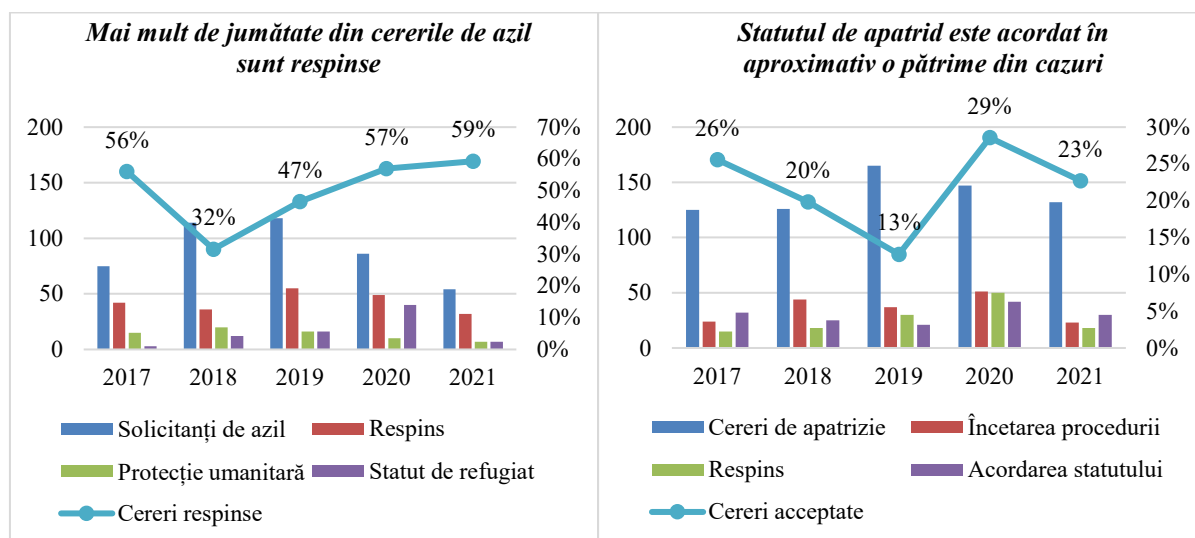
¹⁶NBS, Activity of higher education institutions in the academic year 2021/2022 <https://statistica.gov.md/newsview.php?l=ro&idc=168&id=7227>

¹⁷ http://bma.gov.md/sites/default/files/sites/default/files/atasamente/comunicate/anuarul_statistic_2021.pdf



Source: Statistical data of the Migration and Asylum Office

The Republic of Moldova, through the MAO, grants protection to foreigners who are persecuted in their country or who, due to circumstances, have been left without protection from a state. On average, about 100 asylum applications and about 140 statelessness requests are registered annually.



Source: Statistical data of the Migration and Asylum Office

Granting the status of refugee, beneficiary of humanitarian protection or stateless person, is the subject of a thorough procedure of verifying the factual circumstances, which is very difficult in the absence of bilateral readmission agreements¹⁸. As a result, more than half of asylum applications are rejected, and

¹⁸ Currently, the Republic of Moldova has signed 13 agreements on the readmission of persons in a situation of illegal stay (European Community, Swiss Confederation, Kingdom of Denmark, Kingdom of Norway, North Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Turkey, Albania, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine) and 23 additional protocols. At the same time, special emphasis is also placed on the negotiation of new agreements

statelessness status is granted in about a quarter of cases. Asylum and statelessness applicants are placed at the accommodation centre from the moment the application is submitted, benefiting, during their stay, from legal and psychological counselling services. Upon request, any of the immigrants in the Republic of Moldova can benefit from integration services: Romanian language courses, professional guidance, access to fulfilling the rights, etc. During 2020-2021, a number of changes were made to the legal framework regarding the integration of foreigners. The national framework was adjusted to the EU directives, the emphasis being placed on increasing the state's role in promoting the integration process through diversified information, creating self-maintenance opportunities, increasing the role of the employer in the integration process, promoting cultural diversity, ensuring the realization of rights, etc.

The MAO's workload has increased together with the commitments taken by the Republic of Moldova, based on the liberalized visa regime with the Schengen countries, in 2014, and continues to grow under the pressure of demographic trends. Currently, the MAO provides 37 services which, based on the number of beneficiaries, creates a workload for 38 frontline operators, including 25 operators at the documentation services (one stop shop), 1 operator at the call centre, 5 operators for advising immigrants and 7 operators for tracking the record of foreigners entering the territory of the Republic of Moldova through the central (Transnistrian) segment of the Moldovan-Ukrainian border not controlled by the constitutional authorities of the Republic of Moldova. However, the MAO's staffing upper limitation has remained unchanged since 2014, with 16 documentation service operators, and auxiliary functions (information technology service, legal service, court advice and representation, logistics, public relations, etc.) are missing.

Under these conditions, the functions of the MAO are exercised in an abnormal regime and to the detriment of the quality of the basic functions.

Obvious institutional gaps and insufficient human resources were highlighted by the migration crisis caused by the war between Ukraine and Russia, the entire MAO work force being involved in an intensive working regime (24 hours), for proper documentation of foreigners, establishing the legal status of migrants, receiving and registering asylum applications, issuing temporary identity documents, carrying out accommodation-related activities in temporary centres for a duration of up to 72 hours,¹⁹ ensuring the recording of accommodated persons, ensuring the resettlement procedure of refugees in countries that have expressed their intention to receive a certain number of refugees from Ukraine, as well as ensuring other activities specific to the field of competence.

recently initiated with 6 more states (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, the Russian Federation, Kyrgyzstan).

¹⁹ In the context of establishing the state of emergency in the Republic of Moldova in connection with the outbreak of the armed conflict in Ukraine, starting on February 24, 2022, by Order of the Ministry of Internal Affairs no. 78 of February 24, 2022, two temporary crisis management centres were established in the event of an increased influx of foreigners on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, located in Palanca, Ștefan Vodă district and Calarașovca village, Ocnîța district, and MAO employees were designated responsible for the centres.

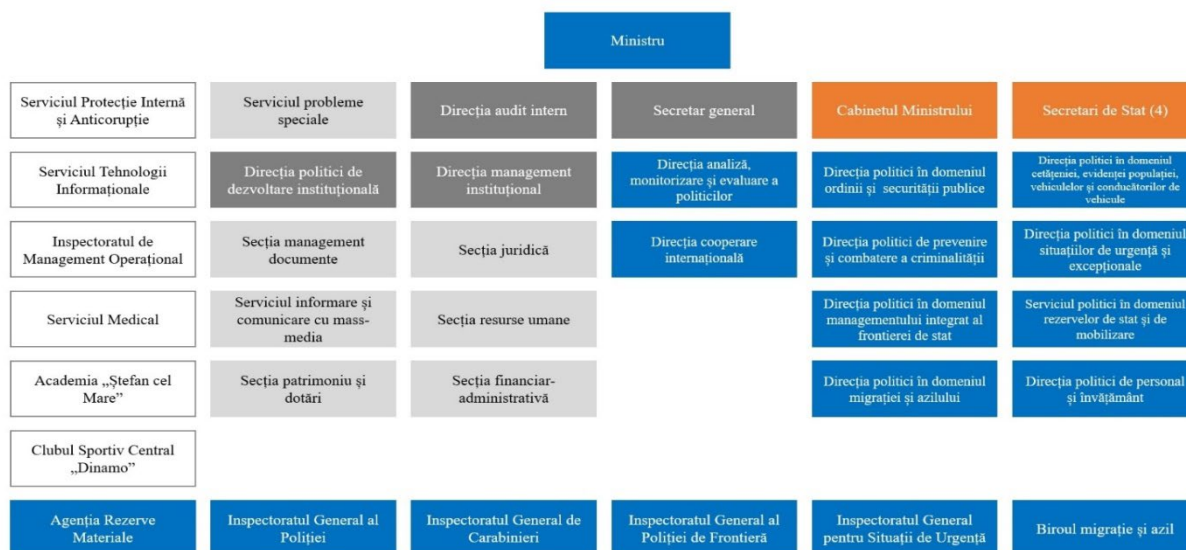
Thus, in the period from February 24 to July 31, 2022, in the temporary centres that were created (Palanca, Calarașovca, Giurgiulești) 9,629 foreigners were registered, 6,164 were accommodated, and 8,460 asylum applications were also received, of which 7,469 from Ukrainian citizens.

A conclusion in this compartment is that migration represents a multidimensional process, generating complex problems and risks. Changes in migration flows, especially in times of crisis, have major effects on the economic, social and political environment, both for countries of origin and destination countries of migrants. Thus, taking into account the effects and complexity of migration, sustained interventions and an integrated involvement of all relevant actors at the national level are needed to ensure the proper management of this phenomenon.

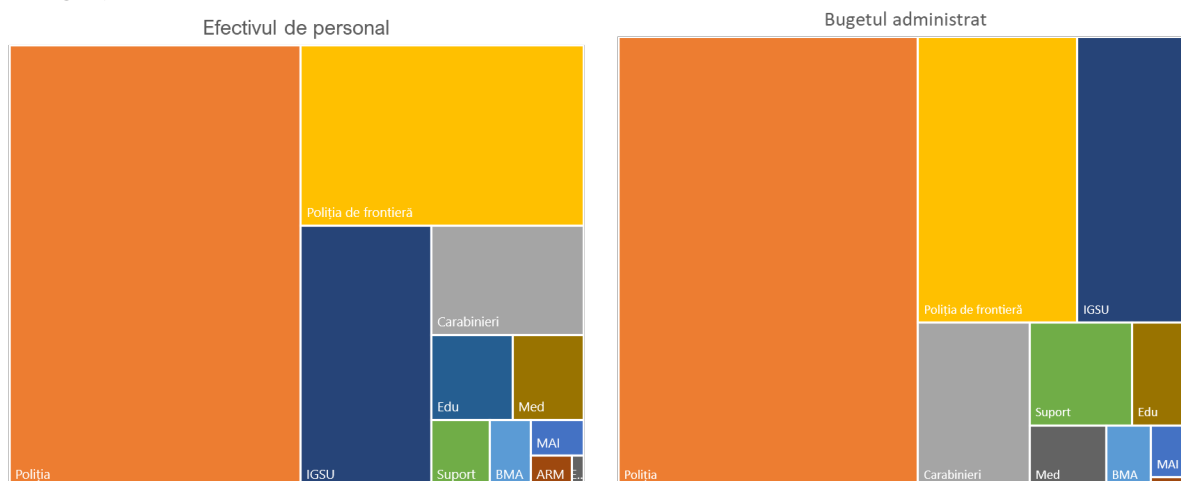
6. Professional training, integrity and digitization

From an institutional point of view, the field of internal affairs consists of 13 legal subjects, led by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and includes 6 administrative authorities in the sub-fields of competence (police, carabinieri, border police, emergency situations, migration and asylum, material reserves) and 6 specialized subdivisions (internal protection and anti-corruption, operational management, information technologies, medical service, professional training, sports club). The central apparatus of the Ministry of Internal Affairs deals with the development and monitoring of policies in the fields of competence. It should be noted that the current organizational structure is the result of a crystallisation of the areas of competence, which was produced over a long period of time. Initially, the Ministry of Internal Affairs was somewhat synonymous with police bodies, to which competencies congruent with the mission of protecting the person and ensuring public order were gradually added. In this line of ideas, the institutionally independent authorities - the Department of Emergency Situations (2005), the Department of Border Guard Troops, later the Border Guard Service (2012) and the Material Reserve Agency (2018), were reorganized and placed under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. At the same time, based on functional analyses, internally, multiple reorganizations of the central apparatus of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and subordinate institutions were carried out. Thus, the subdivisions of Internal Protection and Anticorruption, Information Technologies, Operational Management were detached from the central apparatus of the Ministry and constituted as separate entities.

Organizational chart of the Ministry of Internal Affairs



From the point of view of human and financial resources, the field of internal affairs has a staff-limit of 18,178 employees (including 400 employees of the Medical Service) and 413 employees of the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy and a budget of 3 095 800.1 thousand lei, of which 2 844 229.9 thousand lei belong to the Public Order and Security sector, the others being managed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs from the account of other budget programs (environmental protection - 5082.9 thousand lei, health protection – 105,032.3 thousand lei, education – 86,100.4 thousand lei and social protection – 158.0 thousand lei). Both in terms of human and financial resources, approximately half of the staff-limit and budget belong to the GPI (51%), followed by the GIBP (20% of the staff, 17% of the budget), GIES (13% of the staff and budget) and GIC (7% from staff and budget).



Source: The executed budget and the staff-limit, the situation as of the year 2021

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following shall be noted:

1) in terms of reorganization, the organizational structure of the institutions subordinate to the Ministry of Internal Affairs still presents a series of deficiencies (the powers in the field of maintaining public order between the Police and the

Carabineers are not delimited; the detachment of operational management from the central apparatus of the ministry is not justified; the powers of the ministry in relation to the state reserves are not elucidated);

2) from the perspective of the number of employees, maintaining the moratorium on filling of vacant positions of the staff-limit does not enable the full use of human resources (territorial police inspectorates perform the functions of maintaining public order at the expense of other service obligations; the support positions of the MAO activity are not provided with personnel, and the workload for documenting immigrants exceeds the operational capacity of the office); and

3) from the point of view of budget allocations for safety and public order, there is a chronic shortage of funds for the effective performance of basic functions (the salary level of employees in the field of internal affairs maintains the risk of corruption; the salary fund does not allow the stimulation of individual and collective performance; the level of equipment and specialized equipment; the development and interoperability of information systems and ensuring the contracting of specialists in police subdivisions, rescuers and firemen and other units is far below the level of requirements).

Considering the above mentioned, reference will be made to the transversal aspects, which aim at the activity of all institutions in the field administered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs, namely: i) human resources management in the field of internal affairs; ii) the ability of the system to maintain an intact and incorruptible body of employees; and iii) the degree of digitization of services provided in the field of internal affairs and management of information technologies and electronic communications.

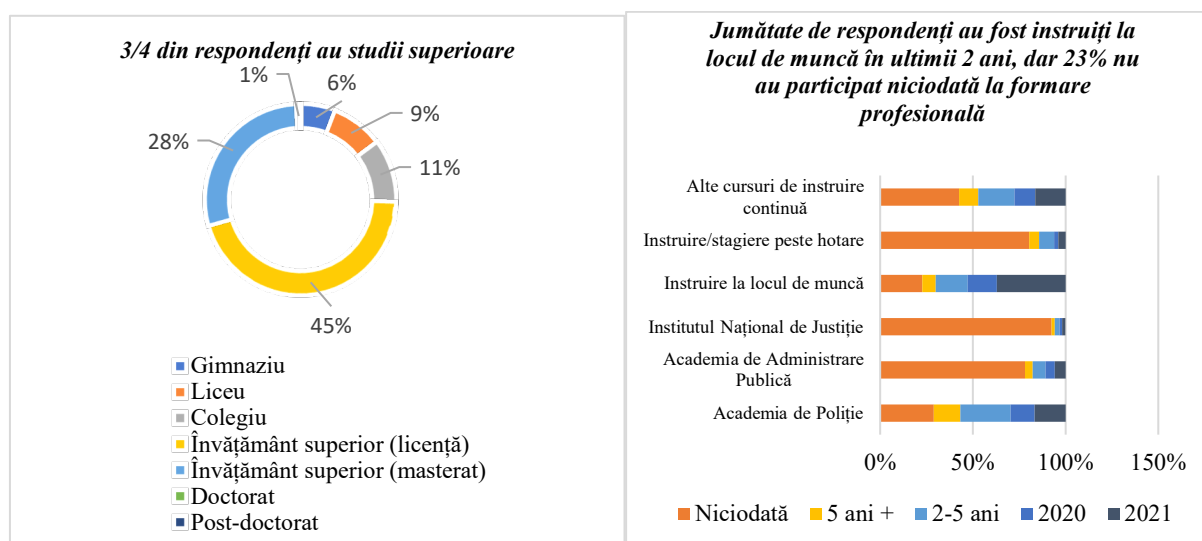
The staff-limit of the central apparatus of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, of the administrative authorities and institutions subordinate to it is made up of 8,628 (46%) officers; 7,928 (44%) non-commissioned officers, 1,487 (8.6%) civilian employees and 167 (1.2%) civil servants, and the number of vacant positions in the entire system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on December 31, 2021 was 2 146 units or 11.8% of the total (2 029 units are under moratorium).

The turnover rate, as a whole, constitutes 54% of employees, the reasons being: unsatisfactory salary; the lack of opportunities for career growth within the timeframe expected by the employee; working environment with increased risk to life and health; overload at work etc.

Taking into account the fact that staff turnover mostly concerns staff with up to 5 years of service, the need for employment, especially in positions with special status, persists continuously.

At the same time, the survey of employees in the field of internal affairs, carried out in 2021, shows that 74% of the number of employees interviewed have higher education - at least a bachelor's degree. The other 26% graduated from middle school, high school or college (vocational school). The educational institution that, traditionally, provides staff for the internal affairs system is the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy. The graduate subjects at the "Ștefan cel Mare"

Academy are law and public administration, which it covers in the same way as any other higher education institution. However, from an institutional point of view, the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy is an institution subordinate to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, which, unlike other higher education institutions, does not benefit of a financial self-management regime. The financial sustainability of the institution is ensured by the endowments for "budgetary" students (615 graduates in the last 5 years) who, in exchange for free education, are obliged to work for at least 5 years in the internal affairs system. On the other hand, to access the police profession, the initial training courses lasting four months are sufficient. A peculiarity of the professional training in the field of police is that the graduates of the course are employees of the internal affairs system from the moment of registration, and upon graduation they receive the rank of officer.



Source: Questionnaire among the employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (2021)

The situation described above leads to the following anomaly: although, for the purpose of exercising service functions for a certain contingent of employees (traffic agents, firefighters), the rank of officer is not a condition for entering the profession, the system mechanically produces a surplus of officers, strangling the demand for non-commissioned officer training courses. Moreover, the low demand for vocational training courses is also suppressed by the high admission requirements imposed by the medical board. Consequently, out of 430 prospective students, only 150 are considered fit to enrol, which has a negative impact on the academic average at admission. With reference to higher education, there is a vacuum in the professional training of investigative officers and forensic specialists.

Another peculiarity of the internal affairs system is that, in practice, almost every institution subordinate to the Ministry of Internal Affairs has its own training centre: in the police field there is the Integrated Training Centre for Law Enforcement (part of the "Ștefan cel Mare" Academy"); in the field of ensuring public order, there is the Training Centre subordinated to the GIC; in the field of

border police, there is the Centre of Excellence in Border Security; in the field of emergency situations there is the Republican Training Centre (with status of Directorate). Taking into account staff mobility within the internal affairs system, the question arises: whether this level of specialization of the training centres is congruent with the requirements of the system.

"Zero tolerance" towards the phenomenon of corruption among the personnel is a priority for the Ministry of Internal Affairs. However, the Public Opinion Barometer data²⁰ (national survey carried out biannually in the Republic of Moldova for about 20 years), from June of 2021, shows the negative trend of the respondents' degree of trust in the police, attesting a decrease of approximately 10%: from 41% in October 2020²¹ to 30.9% in June 2021.

The persistence of corruption in the system of internal affairs is also confirmed by the studies and evaluations carried out internally, in particular by the analysis of the criminal cases initiated against the personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs during the years 2019-2021.

Analysis of corruption cases, starting with 2019,²² investigated by the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office, the National Anticorruption Centre and the Internal Protection and Anticorruption Service of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (hereinafter - SPIA), demonstrates the following distribution of corruption offenses in the internal affairs system.

Category of crime	2019	2020	2021
Passive corruption (art. 324 CrimCode)	53	60	80
Abuse of power (art. 327 CrimCode)	30	12	9
Influence traffic (art. 326 CrimCode)	23	15	13

The analysis of the exposed data notes a worsening of the situation regarding the commission of passive corruption crimes from 30.63% in 2019 to 35.92% in 2020 and to a percentage of 38.83% reached in 2021.

Also, from the perspective of the subjects of the crimes and their departmental membership, it was noted that the institution with the highest level of risk is the National Public Security Inspectorate (hereinafter - INSP) of the GPI.

At the same time, the growing number of registered corruption cases is also due to the active involvement of the anti-corruption authorities in the documentation of such cases, including the specialized SPIA subdivision.

At the same time, the cases of the traffic of influence (art. 326 CrimCode) and abuse of power (art. 327 CrimCode) decreased, which represent 17.34% (6.93% for 2020 and 5.2% for year 2021) and 13.29%, respectively (8.38% for 2020 and 6.31% for 2021). Internal evaluations show that the function and position in which a civil servant works has the greatest influence on the degree of vulnerability to corruption.

²⁰ <https://ipp.md/2021-07/barometrul-opinii-publice-iunie-2021/>.

²¹ https://ipp.md/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/BOP_10.2020.pdf.

²² Statistical data on criminal cases brought against staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs presented by SPIA of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (2019-2021).

The analyses carried out identified the increasing tendency of INSP employees to use the power of office for personal and material interest, bringing damage to the public interest and the rights of citizens.

As a result of the implementation of the 2018-2020 sectoral plan of anti-corruption actions in the field of ensuring public order, approved by Governmental Decision no. 597/2018, the level of accomplishing and the impact of anti-corruption actions were estimated as satisfactory, but, despite the efforts made by the Ministry of Internal Affairs for strengthening the climate of institutional integrity, there are still many problems to be solved.

The performance of internal affairs institutions is highly dependent on instant access to electronic databases and secure electronic communications. Also, when exercising their duties, employees of the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs refer to external databases, including those managed by the General Prosecutor's Office, the National Anti-Corruption Centre, the National Probation Inspectorate, the National Penitentiary Administration, the Customs Service and, in a broader sense, to basic information resources (State Register of Population, State Register of Legal Entities, State Register of Vehicles) and other state information resources.

It is estimated that there are at least 16 registers, managed by external actors, which are accessed by employees of the internal affairs system. These are being supplemented by automated information systems, managed directly by the administrative authorities subordinate to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, including the Information Technologies Service, as a specialized support institution, which manages the key information systems both for the activity of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and for other legal bodies, such as: the Automated Information System "Forensic and criminological information Register"; the Automated Information System "Register of contraventions and persons who have committed contraventions"; the Automated Information System "State Register of Road Accidents"; the Automated Information System "State Register of Weapons; Automated Road Traffic Surveillance System "Traffic Control" and the Automated Information System "Dactyloscopic Register". Within the GIBP, the Integrated information system of the border police is used, and within the MAO - the automated information system "Migration and Asylum".

However, for the effective exercise of the powers by the authorities and institutions of the internal affairs system in the field of ICT, one of the priorities consists in the integration of their information systems with the interoperability platform (MConnect) which will ensure an operative exchange of data with other information resources of state, but also technical conditions necessary to achieve data exchange (according to the requirements of Law no.142/2018 on data exchange and interoperability and Governmental Decision no.211/2019 on the interoperability platform (MConnect)).

A systemic vulnerability depends on the fact that in the absolute majority of cases (about 90%) the technical solutions are developed by external designers,

who, contractually, undertake to ensure the maintenance and servicing of the implemented automated information systems. It would be preferable for the respective solutions to be delivered to the institutions of the internal affairs system together with the access keys, so that the Ministry of Internal Affairs would be able to ensure with its own forces the maintenance and development of the automated information systems. It is estimated that contracting directly a team of ICT specialists would save 2/3 of the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs for maintenance services, as well as better data protection.

Regarding the segment of providing public services and the management of information systems, currently the Integrated Nomenclature of Public Administrative Services²³ includes 688 services, of which 62 (9% of the total number of services) are provided by institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Of these, by the end of 2021, only 13 services were digitized.

At the same time, the one-stop shop for permissive documents issued by public institutions in the Republic of Moldova includes 130 licenses, certificates and authorizations, of which 9 are issued by the Ministry of Internal Affairs (guarding and security services, special vehicles and the regime for the use of weapons).

As a conclusion in this field, it has to be mentioned that the long-term implementation of the proposed ICT service system will bring benefits to the entire field of internal affairs, as well as to the citizens of the country, foreign persons located on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, the business environment, etc.

In this context, the future ICT service system will maximize the use of data and government services provided for the benefit of citizens, it will provide opportunities and possibilities for digitization at the national level, by adopting an institutional architecture adapted to IT and cyber security standards.

III. VISION

The vision of the strategic development of the internal affairs system until 2030 is aligned with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and provides for the provision of a democratic and functional legal system, based on universal human rights, human dignity, law enforcement, protection of legitimate interest of the citizen and providing quality services. These goals will ensure the reduction of the violence in family and in society, the vulnerabilities to threats and risks of all types, these will increase the security of the operation of critical infrastructures and systems, so that citizens, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion, feel protected and safe and able to realize their full human potential.

In order to achieve its proposed objectives by 2030, the Ministry of Internal Affairs will focus on providing quality services to citizens, becoming a provider of regional security, by introducing the concept of European security into its daily

²³ The integrated nomenclature of public administrative services and the List of life events associated with them, approved by Governmental Decision no. 670/2020.

activity, which will reduce the opportunities for development of the import-export corridors of crime, the emphasis being also put on the development of international cooperation relations in this regard.

Also, during this period, the basic element for the Ministry of Internal Affairs will be the transformation of the individual (employee), which will focus on the key performance indicator (KPI), to measure the integrity, ethics and professional conduct of the employees, as well as on the redesign of professional training and staff specialization throughout the activity, on ensuring decent working conditions for all, creation of various motivational packages and fair social protection, which will contribute to increasing the performance of employees, the development of target groups, whose purpose will be transversal management based on intelligent analysis by creating a safe, accessible and sustainable security environment.

IV. GENERAL OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITY DIRECTIONS

To achieve the purpose of SDDAI 2022-2030 – increasing the degree of safety of all people on the territory of the Republic of Moldova, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity or religion, the internal affairs development policy will focus on the following subfields of activity:

- public order and security;
- preventing and fighting crime;
- border management;
- migration and asylum;
- civil protection and emergency situations;
- professional training, integrity and digitization.

In this context, until 2030, the following general objectives will be achieved:

1. In the field of public order and security

General objective no. 1.1. Increasing the safety of the population at home, in the community and in public spaces.

Achieving this objective will contribute to the achievement of tangible results, oriented towards society, by increasing the perception of general safety in the country and increasing the level of society's trust in the Police. At the same time, achieving the objective will essentially contribute to reducing the number of people from vulnerable groups who do not feel safe in public places.

In essence, in the first stage of SDDAI 2022-2030 implementation, the increase in the number of patrols and operative reaction teams will be ensured, in order to guarantee a prompt response to all urgent calls. Another step will be the integration and development of data sources that will serve as support for decision-making, based on analytical products, confirmed by developments taking place at the territorial level.

At the same time, the implementation will continue, but the concept of community policing will also be expanded, in order to reduce the rate of crimes that threaten the person's life and health, including those committed in the sphere of family relations.

General objective no. 1.2. Aligning law enforcement and public security with the human rights-based approach.

Ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms is a key priority for the authorities within the internal affairs system. In this context, this objective will develop solutions and results aimed at reducing cases of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment, excess of power or exceeding the duties of office, intentional injury to bodily integrity or health, coercion to make statements and illegal deprivation of liberty.

At the same time, the normative framework will be evaluated and adjusted, as well as the processes for compliance of the conditions, procedures and practices in the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs with the international standards regarding the application of custodial and non-custodial measures. Conditions will be created and the guarantee will be ensured to observe people's rights within the procedures carried out by the Police.

General objective no. 1.3. Increasing traffic safety on public roads.

Road traffic in the Republic of Moldova presents great risks for the life and health of the population, and road accidents are the main cause of death and trauma among people involved in the traffic. In this sense, the achievement of this objective will contribute to the reduction of the number of people who die as a result of road traffic accidents, including the constant reduction of the number of road accidents.

In order to achieve the objective, the regulatory framework will be adjusted regarding the simplification of the mechanisms for detecting contraventions in the field of road traffic, as well as the development of procedures for the digitized recording of road accidents, with the broadening of the spectrum of data collected on the spot and their registration in the information system and the development IT solutions related to the field of road traffic.

Also, standard operating procedures will be reviewed and adjusted to new needs and trends, and road patrolling principles on national routes will be adjusted based on data analysis and risks identified in road traffic. Emphasis will also be placed on ensuring early road safety education, based on risk analysis, target groups and vulnerable age groups.

2. In the field of preventing and fighting crime

General objective no.2.1. Creating and facilitating access to appropriate tools and mechanisms in combating and preventing cybercrime.

Information technology has evolved very much in the last decade, including the methods of committing various crimes using information technologies. Accordingly, the achievement of this objective will allow the improvement of the

normative framework, the strengthening of capacities and the establishment of mechanisms and tools that will serve as levers for combating and preventing cyber crime and reducing the number of crimes committed in the online environment.

At the same time, the regulatory framework will be adjusted to implement the standards provided for by the Council of Europe' Convention for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, concluded in Lanzarote on October 25, 2007, provided by the Council of Europe' Convention on Cybercrime, adopted in Budapest on November 23 2001, including the Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, adopted in Budapest on 2 February 2001.

General objective no.2.2. The efficiency of the national mechanism of prevention, combating the production and marketing of drugs, ethnobotanicals and their analogues

The objective involves the implementation of a national mechanism to prevent and combat drug-related phenomena, as a solution in the fight against the production and sale of drugs on the territory of the country.

To achieve the objective, in the first phase, activities aimed at improving the relevant regulatory framework will be carried out, including the connection of the Republic of Moldova to the European Early Warning System (EWS), for the collection and exchange of information whenever new psychoactive substances appear. Connecting to the EWS will help increase the number of identifications of new narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their analogues.

General objective no.2.3. Revising the mechanism regarding the access to weapons from the perspective of restriction and establishing rigorous procedures for monitoring, marking and controlling weapons in the civilian circuit.

Illicit trafficking in arms and ammunition requires a prompt response from the authorities by harmonizing the legal framework, modernizing the administrative structure and facilitating capacity building, including streamlining law enforcement activities by facilitating operational cooperation, information sharing and cooperation in the field of ballistics analysis.

To this end, a unique centralized system for monitoring weapons in the civilian circuit will be created, which will help increase the response to criminal trends in the field of weapons and ammunition. Improvements will also be made to the related regulatory framework.

At the same time, access to the information resources of the "iARMS" (Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System) systems of ICPO (International Criminal Police Organization), Interpol and the Schengen Information System will be ensured. Functionalities of Automated Information System "State Register of Weapons" will be developed and expanded and the activities to raise awareness of society regarding the voluntary surrender of illegally owned weapons will be intensified.

Achieving the objective will essentially contribute to increasing control over civilian weapons and ammunition.

General objective no.2.4. Increasing the capacities to identify and neutralize high-risk criminal groups and organizations.

Organized crime has become a reality that cannot be ignored, with a significant evolution in recent years and a highly worrying development projection for law enforcement institutions. In this context, the implementation of the objective will ensure the development of the skills of employees working in the relevant institutions responsible for combating organized crime, the implementation of the functional framework for the protection and recovery of victims of criminal groups, the development of international cooperation regarding the prevention and combating the organized crime, etc. In essence, the planned activities will contribute to the enhancement of the annihilation capabilities of criminal groups and organizations.

General objective no.2.5. Reducing national vulnerabilities to trafficking in human beings and children.

The most specific problems identified by the authorities in the exercise of preventing and combating human trafficking are the reduced capacity to identify forms of online recruitment/exploitation, the lack of services and specialized assistance for victims in the long term, the weak level of cooperation between different actors involved in the prevention and combating human trafficking (HT), as well as the national system for referring victims to specialized services which is poorly developed.

In order to achieve this objective, the procedures for investigation, collection and evaluation of information will be adjusted, the focus shall be put on the collection of disaggregated data and their use in the process of analysing the phenomenon. The professional capacities of the criminal investigation bodies regarding the application of the instructions for completing the questionnaires regarding human/child trafficking will also be evaluated. At the same time, the capacities of the database will be expanded in order to ensure the processing of disaggregated data to support the processes of developing the profile of the trafficker/victim and their application in the prevention of human/child trafficking cases.

By achieving this objective, existing gaps will be eliminated and the number of victims of human trafficking will be reduced.

General objective no.2.6. Improving the capacities to prevent and combat crimes that threaten a person's life and property.

Crimes that threaten the life, health and property of the person remain at the top of the crimes committed year after year. In this context, activities will be carried out that will address the multidisciplinary phenomenon of criminality committed under the influence of alcohol, intelligent tools will be developed for reporting crimes and searching for criminals, as well as for missing persons. Achieving this objective will contribute to reducing the number of victims of intentional homicide and victims of sexual violence.

3. In the field of border management

General objective no. 3.1. Reduced state border vulnerability based on full situational awareness.

Early identification of risks and vulnerabilities will enable focusing on critical areas and to use efficiently the resources for the benefit of the state and the community. The expected result of this general objective is to strengthen the capacities to detect, recognize, track and combat illegal cross-border activities, thereby reducing vulnerability to crises by ensuring comprehensive risk assessment and adequate information sharing. In the medium term, ensuring coherence between the components of the border security coordination system will allow the coordinated and efficient use of resources.

General objective no. 3.2. Safe, secure and functional state border.

The expected result of the implementation of this general objective concerns the significant reduction of smuggling, illegal migration and other illegal phenomena at the state border. At the same time, it will contribute to reducing the waiting time at the state border crossing points, as well as to closing the security gap. Indirectly, that measure will also have a positive impact on the national economy and, implicitly, on the state budget. Ultimately, personal safety will increase as a result of implementing this objective.

General objective no. 3.3. Supported capabilities for effective implementation of integrated state border management.

Sufficient, motivated and trained multidisciplinary personnel, competent to provide quality services in the process of carrying out border control, in an operative and qualitative manner, will be able to identify criminogenic elements at the state border. At the same time, providing the necessary resources, using and developing modern state border control technologies, as well as supporting operational capabilities will contribute to the management of state border security challenges. The expected result of this general objective relates to the efficiency of the work of the authorities in the system of integrated management of the state border.

4. In the field of migration and asylum

General objective no. 4.1. Regulating the migration flow for the benefit of the country and the migrant.

Implementation of this objective will bring added value and benefits to both the country and the migrant. From the country's perspective, it aims to have a regulated and controlled migration flow, both from an institutional and operational point of view. From an institutional point of view, the aim is to strengthen the capacity of the competent authority for foreigners, as well as the necessary tools for good functionality. From an operational point of view, the rules for regulating migration processes and improving the infrastructure will be consolidated/implemented, in order to provide quality services to foreigners, through the lens of respect for human rights. At the same time, it aims to supervise

the legal stay of foreigners, by strengthening the mechanism for preventing and combating illegal stay, as well as their removal in order to ensure the order and security of the state.

General objective no. 4.2. Consolidation and adjustment to EU and international standards of the asylum and statelessness system.

The implementation of this objective will bring the asylum and statelessness system to regional and international standards by standardizing the procedures, creating adequate/decent reception conditions for the operation of the MAO Accommodation Centre, which, in the context of the regional conflict, is highly demanded. At the same time, the statelessness system will be strengthened by reducing this phenomenon, the normative framework will be modified, ensuring the right to naturalization.

General objective no. 4.3. Implementation and strengthening the mechanism for the integration of foreigners.

The objective in question will lead to the optimization of the foreigners' integration mechanism, including gender-sensitive ones, by including the field of integration of foreigners in the sectoral policy documents, to ensure the holistic approach, at the national level, of the integration process, ensuring the functionality of the integration centres (north, south, centre) with human resources and logistics. In the same way, the aim is to ensure access to basic services for migrants by developing the cultural mediator service, by ensuring an interaction between foreigners and the state authorities, as well as the inclusion of foreigners in state policies, namely: integration on the labour market, family reunification, education, non-discrimination and health, including by promoting partnerships.

General objective no. 4.4. Strengthening the state's response capacity to the increased influx of people at the state border.

This objective was developed as a result of the created regional situation. As a result of its implementation, the state's capacities regarding the correct management of the migration flow at the state border will be strengthened, so as to ensure the respect of all the rights of migrants in vulnerable situations, access to quality services of first necessity and immediate ones, as well as the response ability of the state authorities involved in this process.

5. In the field of civil protection and emergency situations

General objective no. 5.1. Consolidation of the role of authority in the field of emergency and exceptional situations.

This objective will enable the revision and improvement of the normative framework regulating the activity in the fields of prevention, preparation and response in emergency and exceptional situations. The expected result of the objective relates to the removal of regulatory gaps, leading to the improvement and efficiency of the management of emergency and exceptional situations. At the same time, it will strengthen the framework of cooperation both at the local and international level, it will define the powers and roles of the authorities involved

in the management of emergency and exceptional situations, their powers and activities will be diversified, in order to ensure the sustainable management of the management of emergency and exceptional situations.

General objective no. 5.2. Streamlining measures to prevent emergency and exceptional situations.

This objective will result in improving the population's awareness of disaster risks and increasing the resilience of communities. At the same time, it will lead to the reduction of the number of victims and material damages, to the reduction of the pressure on the state budget, to the avoidance of exorbitant economic and environmental losses, as well as to the increase of the citizen's quality of life.

General objective no. 5.3. Modernization of the national system of preparation for emergency and exceptional situations.

Achieving this objective will allow to direct the investments of the state and development partners towards building a preparedness system that integrates communities, citizens and responsible factors of all levels, in the effort to defend life, property and the environment against fires and other emergency and exceptional situations.

The construction and operationalization of the Training Centre for the initial and continuous training of GIES employees, as well as the training of the population for civil protection, will enable it to face contemporary challenges from the external environment, such as the exponential increase in the number and types of interventions, sanitary, regional crises, etc. At the same time, a training/program for training the specialists operationalized/adjusted to modern norms and standards will allow to increase the quality of institutional processes and an adequate management of interventions in case of emergency and exceptional situations, in order to limit the damage caused by the emergency situations, but also saving human lives.

In the same way, the training of the population and the intervention forces will be carried out according to the risks to which the Republic of Moldova is exposed and will make the local authorities to plan investments in the preparation of the areas of responsibility, in order to limit the damage caused by emergency situations.

This will also contribute to increasing the level of training of the population, the representatives of the public administration authorities, the private, associative and voluntary sectors in order to effectively manage emergency and exceptional situations, which will lead to the minimization of the effects of emergency and exceptional situations and of the damage caused by them, as well as strengthening the resilience of the population and the public and private sector in the face of situations of this kind.

General objective no. 5.4. Increasing operational and response capacity in emergency and exceptional situations.

The objective in question will allow ensuring a prompt response to citizens' emergency calls, as well as the development and modernization of the infrastructure and the resizing of the GIES's intervention capabilities. Also, the procurement of new intervention vehicles (tank trucks, ladder trucks, etc.) will lead to a reduction in the response time in case of emergency situations, ensuring an adequate degree of security and protection of the population in case of emergency and exceptional situations, reducing losses among the population and material damage. Finally, the quality of services provided to citizens and the number of lives saved will increase, the material damage will be reduced, and the level of trust of the population in emergency services will increase. At the same time, the Republic of Moldova will align with the minimum standards necessary for participation in international aid missions.

6. In the field of professional training, integrity and digitization

General objective no. 6.1. Modernization of the system of professional training and research in the field of internal affairs.

Well-trained staff is one of the important premises for the activity of law enforcement bodies, due to which the cases of human rights violations shall be reduced, the level of crime shall be kept low and citizens shall gain confidence and a sense of security in society and the state. This objective will change the paradigm of the professional training processes of employees in the internal affairs system, by increasing the quality of initial training and professional training focused on advanced European practices and oriented towards the development of skills and abilities derived from the employer's occupational standards. Achieving this objective will ensure professional training according to the training requirements of the employer in all areas of activity of the internal affairs system.

General objective no. 6.2. Ensuring the unitary, transparent, sustainable and fair nature of human resources management in the internal affairs system.

The fulfilment of this objective is oriented towards ensuring compliance with the guarantees and rights provided for in Law no. 288/2016 regarding the civil servant with special status within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, namely: the considerable reduction of the voluntary fluctuation rate in the system, the increase of the professional quality of the staff, the elimination of demotivating conditions for activity, the streamlining of personnel procedures and the increase of attractiveness for employment.

General objective no. 6.3. Reducing the areas and the number of people vulnerable to corruption.

Prevention and combating corruption among internal affairs staff is a key priority. Achieving this objective will allow the establishment and operation of a unitary and coherent system to ensure institutional and professional integrity within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. At the same time, achieving this objective will contribute to improving the image of the internal affairs system among society

through the provision of services, honestly, based on the principle of "zero corruption".

General objective no. 6.4. Strengthening the climate of integrity and unitary ordering of powers to prevent and fight corruption within the internal affairs system.

Leaders at all levels play an important role in ensuring the climate of integrity, but they sometimes promote faulty management, being limited in organizing and directing the work of subordinates. Thus, the investment in qualified, motivated, dedicated and properly trained human resources in parallel with the modernization of the institution, through the development of new intelligent tools, will create the comfort of safety and security of the citizens.

General objective no. 6.5. Automating the informational processes, the work processes and provision of digitized services in order to increase the trust and safety of citizens.

Achieving this objective requires the creation, implementation and provision of access to digital tools and information resources 24/7, necessary for the automation or support of activities, according to the competences of institutions in the field of internal affairs.

At the same time, this objective will ensure reliable communications for law enforcement authorities and special emergency services in order to reduce reaction time to incidents, optimize processes, eliminate risks and streamline prompt reactions in emergency situations and natural disasters.

At the same time, it will diversify the ways of access to public and administrative services provided by the authorities and institutions in the field of internal affairs in accordance with the provisions of Law no. 234/2021 regarding public services and related normative acts, by ensuring the possibility of requesting and, as the case may be, paying them remotely and online, as well as effective cooperation with civil society, to maximize the availability of public and administrative services provided.

General objective no. 6.6. Consolidation of the ICT service management systems and information security.

Information technologies and information are the main tools for achieving the objectives and achieving the targets of the sustainable development of the authorities and institutions in the field of internal affairs. Accordingly, strengthening the capacities based on digital tools will contribute to satisfying the demands of consumers and to the continuous improvement of the processes and the way of providing online public services.

At the same time, the achievement of this objective involves the elimination of cyber security risks regarding the informational attacks on institutional resources and confidential data for the non-admission of damage, modification or even unauthorized deletion and the protection of departmental and state informational resources. Additionally, this objective involves increasing resilience to security incidents and compliance with cyber security measures/policies.

V. IMPACT

The long-term impact aims at several benefits for the citizen, namely: to generate more safety for people in all environments and situations in which they carry out their activities - at home, on the street, in public places, in road traffic or online, in any time of day or night. In order for the impact to occur, interventions were designed in six sub-fields of activity, which will have the effect of modernizing and empowering services in the field of internal affairs, with an emphasis on increasing the quality of the services provided and getting closer to society.

Aligning all processes and procedures with the best international practices, respecting the human rights-based approach, will minimize the possibility of violations of fundamental human rights and freedoms and the possibility of situations in which the person's life and health will suffer as a result of the interventions of the forces of order. The increased professionalism of internal affairs employees will generate a high level of contentment and satisfaction among the society and, accordingly, cases of abuse of service will be reduced.

Response time to emergency calls will be reduced, which will increase the feeling of public security, including in rural areas further from district centres.

Also, starting from the complex approach of the crime prevention and combating segment, SDDAI 2022-2030 will have a direct impact on the economic and social environment, with the particular emphasis on combating organized and cyber crime, illicit traffic of drugs and human beings, as well as that of weapons and ammunition.

The final beneficiaries, as a result of the implementation of SDDAI 2022-2023, will be the inhabitants of the Republic of Moldova who will live in a modern society, where the crime phenomenon will not constitute a threat to their lives and well-being.

It is obvious that in order to achieve the impact, normative, functional and operational changes are needed at different levels of the state administration. An increased performance of the relevant authorities' activity in preventing and combating crime is one of the tools that can guarantee the expected impact.

Climate change directly contributes to increasing the frequency and intensity of extreme phenomena such as heat waves and extreme temperatures, which can cause widespread fires or heavy rainfall accompanied by large-scale flooding, which have a direct impact on the economy, social activities and the environment. Extreme weather phenomena also reduce the economic growth of an area or state, destroy agricultural areas, worsen the living conditions of the population, favour the occurrence of diseases, including those communicated through water and food.

Respectively, the SDDA 2022-2030 impact in the sub-field of emergency and exceptional situations will increase the country's resilience capacity to

emergency and exceptional situations, adapted to existing challenges and risks, as well as to the real needs of society, by strengthening the capacities of coordination, reaction, awareness, information and innovative technology transfer.

The SDDA 2022-2030 will also ensure effective, efficient and coordinated state border management to have an open, well-controlled and secure border, which will have the impact of expanding the European Union's safety belt.

The interventions planned in the border management sub-area of activity will have a direct impact on the social and economic environment. The activities to prevent and fight cross-border crime, illegal migration, countering the illicit traffic of merchandise and goods will increase the degree of public security and ensure the passage of money flows and means in the legal area of activity.

In the end, the state border of the Republic of Moldova will become the place where dedicated human resources, effective means of border control, including state-of-the-art technologies, as well as European techniques and procedures for surveillance of the green sector of the border and control at the state border crossing points are applied harmoniously and holistically.

In the migration and asylum sub-area of activity, the impact will reflect the reduction of pressure on public services given that a safe and regulated migration benefits both the country and the migrant.

In this sense, clear and optimal procedures for the provision of services for foreigners in online format will be implemented in order to increase the degree of satisfaction of the applicant beneficiary with the services provided. In the same way, in order to increase the degree of safety of the population, the response capacities at the national level will increase in case of a massive influx of people.

A positive impact as a result of the implementation of the SDDAI 2022-2030 will also be the creation of a body of professional and honest (integrity) employees, based on the principle of managerial responsibility and the effective delegation of duties, as well as the recruitment, training, evaluation and remuneration of employees, carried out in fair and transparent conditions.

Combined, these elements will constitute a key tool for the development of the field of internal affairs.

VI. MONITORING AND EVALUATION INDICATORS

The general progress regarding the achievement of SDDAI 2022-2030 objectives will be evaluated annually based on impact and outcome indicators.

The monitoring and evaluation indicators, within the limits of the planned activities, ensure the transposition and contribute to the implementation of the targets related to the sustainable development objectives of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda (assigned to the Ministry of Internal Affairs).

When calculating the intermediate and final targets, in the process of collecting information, both the implementing authority and the data providers/partners (included in the "Source of information" column) will contribute official statistics.

Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025
1. Public order and security									
General objective no. 1.1. Increasing the safety of the population at home, in the community and in public spaces (National SDG target no. 16.1.; SDG 16)	20 pp increase in the perception of general safety in the country according to sociological surveys <i>(SDG 16.1.4 monitoring indicator)</i>	Ministry of Interior Barometer of public opinion	30%	40%	50%	Specific objective no. 1.1.1. Ensuring a professional, efficient and rapid response to specific challenges until 2024	Increase by 49 pp in the number of patrolling and operative reaction teams until the year 2023	51%	100%
	25 pp increase in the level of trust of the population in the Police compared to the survey held in June 2021	Ministry of Interior Barometer of public opinion	31%	45%	56%	Specific objective no. 1.1.2. Integrating and developing data sources to create value-added information in decision-making by the year 2025	Increase by 50 pp in the weight of decisions adopted on the basis of analytical products at territorial level and confirmed by subsequent developments	50%	100%
	Decrease by 5 pp of the share of people from vulnerable groups who do not feel	Ministry of Interior Barometer of public opinion	13.6 (persons with disabilities)	11.6	8.6	Specific objective no. 1.1.3. Extending the concept of community policing to 80% of police sectors by 2025	The decrease by 10 pp in the rate of crimes that threaten the person's life and health and those committed in the	76.5 (2021)	66.5

	safe in public places (subject to survey availability)						sphere of family relations per 100 thousand population		
			11.9 (people of Roma ethnicity)	9.9	6.9	Specific objective no. 1.1.4. Improving the rapid reaction capacity of public order and security services by 2024	Average response time to 112 calls reduced by 13 minutes by the end of 2024	28 min.	15 minutes
			8.7 (women)	6.7	3.7	Specific objective no. 1.1.5. Modernization of the infrastructure and equipment of public order and security services in the security area until 2025	Equipping 91% of internal customs checkpoints with modern equipment	9%	100%
							The modernized infrastructure and equipping up to 94% of the offices of inspectorates and police sectors	6%	100%
General objective no. 1.2. Aligning law enforcement and public security with the human rights-based approach (National SDG target no. 5.1; SDG 5)	Reduction by 100% of cases of torture, inhuman and degrading treatment (art. 1661 of the CrCode), excess of power or exceeding of duties (art. 328 of the CrCode), intentional injury to bodily integrity or health (art. 151, 152 of the CrCode), the compulsion to make statements (art. 309 CrCode) the illegal deprivation of liberty (art. 166 CrCode)	Ministry of Interior	8	4	0	Specific objective no. 1.2.1. 100% alignment of the conditions for the provision of public order and security services to human rights standards by 2025	Increase by 61 pp in the number of spaces required to guarantee respect for human rights	28%	89%
						Specific objective no. 1.2.2. Development of the integrated capabilities of law enforcement to intervene in public events, with respect for human rights	100% of inter-institutional intervention processes at public events ensured with standard operating procedures (SOPs) aligned to human rights standards by 2023	0	100%
	50% decrease in the rate of people	Ministry of Interior	10.3 (2019)	7.3	5.1	Specific objective no. 1.3.1.	Reduction by 25 pp of the rate of road	34.4	25.8

General objective no. 1.3. Increasing traffic safety on public roads (National SDG target no. 11.2; SDG 11)	who died as a result of traffic accidents per 100 thousand population	<i>Data</i> <i>Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development				Strengthening the capacities to detect violations of road traffic regulations until 2024	accidents committed due to speed per 100 thousand population		
	A minimum 25% decrease in the rate of road accidents per 100,000 population (SDG monitoring indicator 11.2.1.1)	Ministry of Interior <i>Data</i> <i>Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development	98	80	70	Specific objective no. 1.3.2. Intensification of road accident prevention until 2024	15% decrease in the rate of road accidents involving children per 100,000 children	85.8	72.9
2. Preventing and fighting crime									
Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025
Overall objective no. 2.1. Creating and facilitating access to appropriate tools and mechanisms in combating and preventing cybercrime	Increasing by 50 pp the degree of suspension of access and preservation of criminal data	<i>Data</i> <i>Providers/Partners:</i> The Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Justice; The Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Security and Intelligence Service; General Prosecutor's Office; Electronic Government Agency	0%	25%	50%	Specific objective no. 2.1.1. Development of institutional capacities in the field of cybercrime in order to ensure an effective response of the responsible institutions until the year 2024	Increasing responsiveness by reducing the average examination period of cybercrimes and/or crimes in which information technology tools are used to 45 days	180 days	45 days
						Specific objective no. 2.1.2. Streamlining the data collection mechanism with reference to cyber security incidents until the year 2025	The ability to identify new criminal groups increased by 30 pp	5% (2021)	35%
						Specific objective no. 2.1.3. Increasing the degree of awareness among citizens (including children) by informing them of the dangers to which they may be exposed by accessing cyber/online space	Reduction of the number of crimes committed in the online environment (art. 175, art. 186, art. 190, art. 2081 of the Criminal Code)	1073 (2021)	751

							annually, by 10%, starting in 2023		
						The specific objective no. 2.1.4. Establishing regulatory tools to prevent and combat the phenomenon of cybercrime with the use of cryptocurrencies by 2024	Increasing the detection of money laundering crimes with the use of cryptocurrencies by 10 pp	10%	20%
						Specific objective no. 2.1.5. Streamlining the process of combating crimes committed with the use of information and electronic communication technologies until the year 2025	Increasing by 10% annually the examinations of crimes committed with the use of information and/or electronic communication technologies	35	49
						Specific objective no. 2.1.6. Reducing the phenomenon of using anonymous telecommunications services to commit crimes by 2025	Increasing the degree of identification of "anonymous" criminals by 50 pp	0%	50%
Overall objective no.2.2. The efficiency of the national mechanism of prevention, combating the production and marketing of drugs, ethno-botanicals, their analogues and precursors (National target SDG 3.5; SDG 3.)	Increasing the number of identifications of narcotic substances, psychotropic substances and their analogues by 30%	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Health; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Labour and Social Protection; General Prosecutor's Office; Medicines Agency and Medical Devices	39 new substances (2017)	58	117	Specific objective no. 2.2.1. Optimizations until 2023 of the procedure to include psychotropic substances and their analogues under state control	At least 2 EU Early Warning System access licenses procured and installed	0	2
						Specific objective no. 2.2.2. Increasing online investigation capacities of cases of illegal circulation of drugs, ethnobotanicals or their analogues until the year 2025	The number of cases revealed and investigated through the use of ICT for the sale of drugs in the online environment increased by 25%	34 cases (2021)	43 cases
						Specific objective no. 2.2.3. Strengthening the activity of combating drug trafficking based on information on their locations until the year 2024	Increasing the capacity to document criminal networks by 25%	4 cases	5 cases

						Specific objective no. 2.2.4. Elaboration of the concept of "therapeutic justice" by the year 2025	Referral mechanism created and implemented	0	1
Overall objective no.2.3. Revising the mechanism regarding access to weapons from the perspective of restriction and establishing rigorous procedures for monitoring, marking and controlling weapons in the civilian circuit (National target SDG 16.4.2; SDG 16.)	Control of weapons and ammunition for civilian use ensured	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> The Ministry of Economy; Customs Service of the Ministry of Finance; Security and Intelligence Service; General Prosecutor's Office; National Anticorruption Centre	0	50%	100%	Specific objective no. 2.3.1. Increasing record-keeping capabilities and ensuring the single centralized control over the movement of weapons until the year 2024	Increase by 20 pp the number of weapons for civilian use recorded in the Automated Information System "State Register of Weapons"	80%	100%
						Specific objective no. 2.3.2. Ensuring an effective response to criminal trends in arms and ammunition	Increasing by 10%, annually, the number of weapons and ammunition detected in the illegal circuit	545 weapons, 15922 ammunitions (2021)	763 weapons, 22290 ammunitions
						Specific objective no. 2.3.3. Increasing mediating actions based on the Problem Oriented Policy principle in order to raise civil society awareness regarding the voluntary surrender of weapons from illegal possession	5% increase in the number of voluntarily surrendered weapons and ammunition	147 weapons, 6850 ammunitions	155 weapons, 7192 ammunitions
Overall objective no.2.4. Increasing capacities to identify and neutralize high-risk criminal groups and organizations	Increase in the number of annihilations of criminal groups and organizations by 10 pp compared to those documented	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Justice; General Prosecutor's Office; Customs Service; National Anticorruption	50%	55%	60%	Specific objective no. 2.4.1. Consolidation of tools in the field of preventing and combating organized crime until the year 2024	At least 5 standard tools to respond to the organized crime matters	0	5
						Specific objective no. 2.4.2. Ensuring barrier-free data exchange and timely access to information by 2025	Increasing the degree of use of analytical products in the documentation process	10%	60%

		Centre; Security and Intelligence Service				Specific objective no. 2.4.3. Reducing the phenomenon of organized crime in prisons	Number of cases decreased by 10%	50	45
Overall objective no.2.5. Reducing national vulnerabilities regarding trafficking in human beings and children (National SDG target no. 16.2.; SDG 16)	Reducing the number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 population by 50% (SDG monitoring indicator no. 16.2.2)	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; Security and Intelligence Service; Customs Service; General Prosecutor's Office; National Anticorruption Centre	7.0 (2018)	4.5	3.5	Specific objective no. 2.5.1. Increasing the capacity to react to the latest trends in the phenomenon of trafficking in human beings and children based on the continuous monitoring and analysis of relevant indicators until the year 2024	Number of victims of human trafficking per 100 thousand population decreasing from 7.0 in 2018 to 4.5 in 2025	7.0	4.5
						Specific objective no. 2.5.2. Creation of the mechanism for storing disaggregated information on trafficking in human beings and children until the year 2024	Mechanism created and approved	0	1
Overall objective no.2.6. Improving the capacities to prevent and combat crimes that threaten a person's life and property (National targets SDG 11.7; 16.1; SDG 11; 16)	Reduction of the number of victims of intentional homicide per 100,000 population by 30% (SDG monitoring indicators no. 16.1.1; 16.1.2)	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Justice; General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Labour and Social Protection; The Ministry of Economy	6.7 (2016)	5.7	4.7	Specific objective no. 2.6.1. Establishing a multidisciplinary mechanism to address the phenomenon of criminality committed under the influence of alcohol by 2023	Common mechanism for approaching the agreed phenomenon	0	1
	Reduction of the number of victims of sexual violence per 100 thousand population by 33%	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Justice;	11.9 (2019)	9.0	8.0	Specific objective no. 2.6.2. Development of intelligent tools for reporting crimes, searching for criminals and missing persons until the year 2025	At least 2 tools developed and implemented	0	2

	(SDG monitoring indicators no. 11.7.2; no. 16.1.3.1.; no. 16.3.1)	General Prosecutor's Office; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Labor and Social Protection; The Ministry of Economy							
3. Border management									
Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025
General objective no. 3.1. Reduced state border vulnerability based on full situational awareness (National SDG targets 16.1; 16.4.1; 16.4.2; SDG monitoring indicator 16.1.4.; SDG 16)	8 pp increase in detected cases in relation to the total number of registered events	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Defence Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Customs Service	80% (2021)	84%	88%	Specific objective no. 3.1.1. The development, until 2025, of the institutional capacities for risk analysis and information for the assessment of vulnerabilities starting from the real situation created	At least 20% of the events, registered at the state border, detected based on the risk analysis	-	20%
						Specific objective no. 3.1.2. Ensuring the application of the inter-institutional quality control mechanism in the field of integrated management of the state border starting with 2023	Minimum 3 evaluation missions conducted	-	3
						Specific objective no. 3.1.3. Increasing information sources for full knowledge of the situation at the state border until 2024	10 pp increase in information sources compared to 2022	90%	100%
General objective no. 3.2. Safe, secure and functional state border	Increasing the level of trust in the Border Police by 4 pp	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Barometer of public opinion	31.9% (BPO 2021)	36%	40%	Specific objective no. 3.2.1. Increasing the quality of control at the state border crossing and reducing the waiting time at the state border crossing points, by optimizing the processes until 2025	At least 2 optimized processes	-	2
						Specific objective no. 3.2.2. Development and gradual application of state border surveillance tools	At least 3 tools developed and applied	-	3

						Specific objective no. 3.2.3. Strengthening the capabilities of the Border Police in the field of aviation security until 2024	Minimum 95% Aviation Security Operators (Border Officers) certified	42%	95%
General objective no. 3.3. Supported capabilities for effective implementation of integrated state border management	Reducing the time of processing cars at state border crossing points	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> The Ministry of Finance	5 minutes	4 min. 30 sec	4 min.	Specific objective no. 3.3.1. Increasing the degree of coverage of the state border with qualified personnel compared to European practices until 2025	Minimum 95% of Border Police staffing completed	85%	95%
						Specific objective no. 3.3.2. Gradual endowment with modern state border control technologies and ensuring the sustainability of integrated state border management until 2025	Minimum 20% of the length of the state border covered with monitoring systems based on the principle of thermal imaging	8%	20%
4. Migration and asylum									
Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025
General objective no. 4.1. Regulating the migration flow for the benefit of the country and the migrant (National SDG targets 10.7; 16.3; SDG monitoring indicator 16.3.2.1; SDG 10, 16)	Increasing the degree of satisfaction of the application beneficiaries by 15 pp until the year 2025	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration	35%	50%	65%	Specific objective no. 4.1.1. The consolidated normative framework until the end of 2025, in matters of admission and regulation of stay, removal of foreigners	At least 3 normative acts adopted	0	3
						Specific objective no. 4.1.2. Ensuring till 2023 of the process of institutional reorganization of the Migration and Asylum Office	Reorganization process completed and operational	0	1
						Specific objective no. 4.1.3. Reengineering and optimization of 8 public services out of a total of 16 provided by MAO to foreigners by 2025	At least 8 optimized/ digitized services	0	8
						Specific objective no. 4.1.4. Improving physical infrastructure by at least 50% to facilitate access for applicants, including those with disabilities,	Infrastructure accessibility improved by 34%	66%	100%

						the elderly and those with special needs			
						Specific objective no.4.1.5. Increasing the level of visibility within the cooperation platforms regarding the conditions of entry, stay and exit in/from the Republic of Moldova	At least 1 information campaign carried out annually	0	4
						Specific objective no. 4.1.6. Strengthening the mechanism to prevent and combat the illegal stay of foreigners, as well as their removal until 2025	At least 3 approved legal instruments	0	3
						Specific objective no. 4.1.7. Development of the mechanism for the exchange of inter-institutional information until the year 2025	At least 5 inter-institutional collaboration agreements signed	10	15
						Specific objective no. 4.1.8. Ensuring the implementation by 2025 of the mechanism for identification, referral, protection and assistance of victims of human trafficking	100% of identified cases referred	0	100%
						Specific objective no.4.1.9. Improving legal instruments on readmission and assisted voluntary return by 2025	At least 20 people assisted annually in voluntary return	0	80
						Specific objective no.4.1.10. Increasing the share of assisted beneficiaries - migrants in vulnerable situations from 30% in 2021 to 50% in 2025	Increasing the number of beneficiaries by 20 pp	30	50
Overall objective no.4.2. Consolidation and adjustment of the asylum and statelessness system to EU and international standards	Annual increase by 5p.p. of the services provided in the asylum and statelessness system	Ministry of Interior	15%	35%	55%	Specific objective no.4.2.1. The adjusted normative framework in the field of asylum and statelessness by the year 2024	At least 3 normative acts adjusted to EU standards	0	3
						Specific objective no.4.2.2. Implementation of a consolidated mechanism for pro-	100% consolidated mechanism	35%	100%

(National target SDG 10.7; SDG 10)						cessing asylum applications from 2026			
						Specific objective no. 4.2.3. Improving reception and assistance conditions for asylum seekers till the end of 2025	At least 5 newly created services	5	10
						Specific objective no. 4.2.4. Development of the facilitating mechanism to reduce statelessness until the year 2024	Reducing the number of stateless persons by at least 10%	0	10
Overall objective no. 4.3. Implementation and strengthening of the mechanism for the integration of foreigners	Ensuring access to the integration system of at least 15% of the number of applicants	Ministry of Interior	20%	35%	50%	Specific objective no. 4.3.1. Review of mechanisms for the integration of foreigners, including gender-sensitive ones by the end of 2025	Mechanism revised	0	1
						Specific objective no. 4.3.2. Increasing the share of beneficiaries accessing integration services for migrants by the end of 2025	Ensuring the accessibility of at least 15% of the beneficiaries	0	15
Overall objective no. 4.4. Strengthening the state's response capacity to the influx of people at the state border by 10/30 pp (National targets SDG 10.7; 16.3; Monitoring indicator SDG 16.3.2.1.; SDG 10, 16)	Increasing responsiveness to an influx of people	Ministry of Interior	35%	45%	65%	Specific objective no. 4.4.1. Strengthening the capacities of national authorities regarding the response to a massive and spontaneous influx of people	100% consolidated line capabilities	35	100
						Specific objective no. 4.4.2. Legalization and documentation of persons admitted into the territory of the Republic of Moldova, in the context of the refugee crisis in Ukraine	The number of people documented in proportion to 100% of the number of people admitted for humanitarian purposes	0%	100%
						Specific objective no. 4.4.3. Creation of the inter-institutional mechanism of socioeconomic inclusion, health and education, applicable and functional by the year 2023	At least 30% of the number of people benefiting from inclusion	0	30%
5. Civil protection and emergency situations									
Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025

General objective no. 5.1. Consolidation of the role of authority in the field of emergency and exceptional situations	Improving the regulatory framework (drafted and approved normative acts)	Ministry of Interior	-	16	21	Specific objective no. 5.1.1. Improving legislation in the field of emergency and exceptional situations	At least 4 new normative acts developed, as well as at least 12 normative interventions in the current normative framework	-	16
General objective no. 5.2. Streamlining measures to prevent emergency and exceptional situations (National target SDG 1.5; 11.5; 13.1; SDG 1, 11, 13)	Increasing the level of awareness of the population by 3 pp, regarding the dangers of emergency situations	Ministry of Interior <i>Data</i> <i>Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of the Environment; The Ministry of Economy; National Bureau of Statistics	64% (2021)	67%	75%	Specific objective no. 5.2.1. Operationalization of the national early warning system by 2025	Warning system created	-	2
						Specific objective no. 5.2.2. Strengthening the activity of communication and preventive information	3 operational mobile prevention modules	0	3
						Specific objective no. 5.2.3. Increasing the degree of integration and involvement of volunteering in community life until 2025	7 positions of volunteer rescuers and firefighters established and 500 volunteers trained	17/336	24/836
						Specific objective no. 5.2.4. Increasing the quality of the institutional process of expertise in the prevention of emergency and exceptional situations	At least 2 types of accredited expertise	0	2
General objective no. 5.3. Modernization of the national system of preparation for emergency and exceptional situations (National target SDG 1.5; 11.5; 13.1; SDG 1, 11, 13)	Increasing the degree of training of emergency services and the population by 10/2 pp	Ministry of Interior <i>Data</i> <i>Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of the Environment; The Ministry of Economy; National Bureau of Statistics	45/2%	55/4%	65/6%	Specific objective no. 5.3.1. Development of national capacities for preparation and training in emergency and exceptional situations	Gradual increase of training capabilities by 30 pp	50%	80%
						Specific objective no. 5.3.2. Capitalizing on opportunities to participate in international training/exercises	At least 80% of the number of offers corresponding to the participation needs capitalized	60	80
						Specific objective no. 5.3.3. Strengthening the capacities of target groups (population, public administration authorities, private, associative and voluntary sector) in the	At least 10 joint tactical applications conducted annually	0	30

						management of emergency and exceptional situations			
						Specific objective no. 5.3.4. Streamlining the activity of administration and strengthening the capacity of state reserves and mobilization until 2025	Increasing by at least 8 pp, annually, the level of completion of state reserves and mobilization starting from 2023	41%	65%
General objective no. 5.4. Increasing operational and response capacity in emergency and exceptional situations <i>(National targets SDG 1.5; 11.5, 13.1; SDG 1, 11, 13)</i>	Increasing the number of interventions performed up to 15 min., by 4 pp annually	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of the Environment; The Ministry of Economy; National Bureau of Statistics	24% (2021)	40%	55%	Specific objective no. 5.4.1. Creation by 2025 of high-quality working conditions to stimulate the increase in the efficiency of employees in the field of emergency and exceptional situations	12 offices ensured with appropriate working conditions	76	88
						Specific objective no. 5.4.2. Ensuring the conditions according to the rules for all types of interventions until the year 2025	The increase by 10 pp of the share of the technical means of intervention that correspond to the endowment norms	53.5%	63.5%
						Specific objective no. 5.4.3. Developing the capacity to provide international assistance in the field of civil protection	2 operationalized modules	-	2
						Specific objective no. 5.4.4. Enhancing resilience to situations that endanger people's health by 2024	Development of intervention missions assigned to SMURD	0	6000
6. Professional training, integrity and digitization									
Overall objective	Impact indicators	Source of information	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025	Target to be reached in 2030	Specific objective	Public policy outcome indicators	Reference value, year 2022	Target to be reached in 2025
General objective no. 6.1. Modernization of the system of professional training and research in the field of internal affairs <i>(National targets SDG 4.3; 8.5; 8.8; 10.3; SDG 4, 8, 10)</i>	Reducing staff turnover in the internal affairs system	Ministry of Interior <i>Data Providers/Partners:</i> Ministry of Education and Research	10.85%	8%	6%	Specific objective no. 6.1.1. Improving the educational process / professional training based on good practices until the year 2025	Initial, continuous and professional training of the staff in the internal affairs system provided in proportion to 90% of the training requirement	42%	90%

						Specific objective no. 6.1.2. Increasing the visibility and impact of research activity by obtaining demonstrable and useful results for the internal affairs system	At least 3 research projects supported annually	1	12
General objective no. 6.2. Ensuring the unitary, transparent, sustainable and fair nature of human resources management in the internal affairs system	Capabilities to train qualified personnel on the entire level of specialties in the field of internal affairs	Ministry of Interior	60%	80%	95%	Specific objective no. 6.2.1. Ensuring the efficiency and transparency of career development and personnel management processes	Reduction by 10 pp the turnover of the staff with up to 5 years of service	35%	25%
						Specific objective no. 6.2.2. Guaranteeing social, legal and welfare protection to employees	Ensuring the implementation of the social guarantees provided by the normative acts in the field	3	6
						Specific objective no. 6.2.3. Standardization of the equipment needs in the professional training activity until 2025	Equipment standard approved	0	1
							At least 10 logistically developed spaces	0	10
General objective no. 6.3. Reducing the areas and number of people vulnerable to corruption (National target SDG 16.5.; SDG 16)	The degree of intolerance to corruption among employees in the internal affairs system increasing by 10 pp	Ministry of Interior Data Providers/Partners: National Anticorruption Centre	50 (Number of complaints)	53	55	Specific objective no. 6.3.1. Reducing corruption risk factors in the general inspectorates within the Ministry of Internal Affairs until the end of 2025	Increasing the number of institutional integrity assessments to 100%	25%	100%
						Specific objective no. 6.3.2. Increasing the degree of education and accountability of internal affairs staff regarding the impact of corruption on society	Increase by 35 pp of the number of responsible employees until the year 2025	20%	55%
General objective no. 6.4. Consolidation of the climate of integrity and unitary ordering of powers to prevent and fight corruption within the internal affairs system	Increasing the degree of unitary application of competences in all units of the internal affairs system	Ministry of Interior Data Providers/Partners: National Anticorruption Centre	50%	75%	100%	Specific objective no. 6.4.1. Optimization and effective application of anti-corruption tools until 2025	Increasing staff perception regarding the degree of application of measures to ensure institutional integrity by at least 20 pp by 2025	80%	100%

						Specific objective no. 6.4.2. Regulation of competences to prevent and fight corruption within the internal affairs system until the end of 2025	Increasing the degree of implementation of institutional review recommendations to 100% by 2025	45%	100%
General objective no. 6.5. Automation of information processes, work and provision of digitized services in order to increase the trust and safety of citizens	Increasing the number of digitized public services from the total number of services provided	Ministry of Interior <i>Data providers/Partners:</i> Electronic Governance Agency; Information Technology and Cyber Security Service	13 out of 62 digitized services provided	33	53	Specific objective no. 6.5.1. Increasing the degree of accessibility to automated information systems and electronic communications in the internal affairs by 2025	Increasing up to 75% of coverage with communications infrastructure	60%	75%
						Specific objective no. 6.5.2. Creating high-quality working conditions to stimulate increased efficiency of employees in ICT field by 2025	Increase up to 75% of the number of guaranteed jobs with high working conditions	30%	75%
						Specific objective no. 6.5.3. Evaluation, reengineering (as appropriate) and digitization of information work processes and services in the field of internal affairs provided to citizens	Creating 7 and developing 14 information resources	0 25	7 32
General objective no. 6.6. Consolidation of ICT service management systems and information security	Increased institutional capacity to manage ICT services	Ministry of Interior <i>Data providers/Partners:</i> Electronic Governance Agency; Information Technology and Cyber Security Service	10%	55%	85%	Specific objective no. 6.6.1. Increasing its own institutional capacity in the field of information and communication technologies until 2025	Reduction by 40 pp of the degree of outsourcing of ICT services	90%	50%
						Specific objective no. 6.6.2. Creation of legal mechanisms for the implementation of state and departmental information resources in the field of internal affairs until 2025	The number of approved normative acts	0	10

VII. IMPLEMENTATION RISKS

Political, social and economic stability will allow the full implementation of SDDAI 2022-2030 provisions. At the same time, taking into account the fact that SDDAI 2022-2030 is a long-term strategic planning document, the risks of its implementation will be taken into account. In order to adequately react to potential risks, remediation measures are proposed to mitigate the anticipated risks.

Anticipated risks	Level of risk	Remediation measures
1. Volatility of political will to fully implement SDDAI 2022-2030 provisions	Low	The SDDAI 2022-2030 implementation horizon exceeds the mandate of the current Government, which expires in 2024. At the same time, the strategic objectives are harmonized with the Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030, whose objectives were nationalized by the authorities of the Republic of Moldova. In order to ensure the implementation of SDDAI 2022-2030 during the term of office, intermediate targets for the year 2025 were foreseen, ensuring the achievement of the strategy until the intermediate evaluation.
2. Staff turnover in the Ministry of Internal Affairs system	High	Through the efforts to clean up the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, employees who have other interests than the realization of the public good for the citizens of the Republic of Moldova will be excluded. By leaving the system, they will free up vacancies for a new generation of honest and professional NCOs and officers. However, the capacity of the education system to provide staff for the Ministry of Internal Affairs system is limited. To remedy this situation, emphasis will be put on strengthening professional capacity, reflected in one of the priority directions of this strategy.
3. Changing the agenda of priorities under the influence of external factors	Medium	The reality caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has demonstrated how fragile development plans can be when society faces a global public health crisis. However, the development of SDDAI 2022-2030 started from the fact that the need for personal safety is a timeless public good, so that, for the most part, the objectives outlined in it will remain on the priority agenda, one way or another. At the same time, the SDDAI 2022-2030 allows a degree of flexibility: although it represents the long-term strategic vision, its operationalization will be done through the sectoral

		programs corresponding to the priority directions. With a medium implementation horizon, the sectoral programs will be more closely correlated with the medium-term budgetary framework (hereinafter – MTBF).
4. Insufficiency of budget resources for the implementation of the strategy	Low	Even during the period when the national public budget was under the pressure of expenses related to the pandemic crisis caused by the coronavirus and the gas crisis, the budget allocated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and subordinate institutions did not suffer. Personal safety is one of the fundamental public goods, as is education or health care. Therefore, the scenario that the budget of the Ministry of Internal Affairs will be sacrificed for other emerging priorities is unlikely. At the same time, attention is drawn to the fact that the main stake of SDDAI 2022-2030 is to produce tangible results that will have a cascading effect, including on economic growth and budget revenues.
5. The cross-border nature of organized crime	Medium	The security breach conditioned by the fact that the Republic of Moldova does not have control over the state border along its entire perimeter is a risk factor. At the same time, through the planned actions to create common border crossing points on the territory of Ukraine, the stake is to reduce this risk to a minimum.
6. The global spread of terrorism	Low	The Republic of Moldova is one of the safest states from the point of view of security against terrorist threats, thus being, in this sense, a factor of regional stability. However, the risk of the global spread of terrorism cannot be completely discounted. The measures aimed at strengthening the capacities of the MAO will ensure that foreigners who visit the Republic of Moldova with false permits are not admitted to the territory of the country, threatening the safety of citizens.
7. Unfavourable geopolitical situation	Medium	The priority of the Republic of Moldova is to maintain good relations with its immediate neighbours – Romania and Ukraine. The experience of other states, including the war in Ukraine, the migrant crisis at the border between EU countries and Belarus, shows how vulnerable can be a country that does not have full control of the state border. Efforts to eliminate this risk by establishing common border crossing points on the territory of

		Ukraine have already been mentioned. At the same time, the definitive solution in this regard depends on the reintegration of the country through the peaceful and political settlement of the Transnistrian conflict, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country within the recognized international borders.
8. Poor cooperation with other central and local public authorities	Low	Although the principles of cooperation with other central and local public authorities are dictated by the legal framework, we realize that part of the provisions of SDDAI 2022-2030 relate to the synchronization of other state bodies with the agenda proposed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Thus, collaboration with the Prosecutor's Office reflects on the performance of police bodies, foreign policy having an impact on the ability to exercise border control, investments in road infrastructure have a direct impact on the number of road accidents. This risk will be mitigated by providing an example of honest and open collaboration based on the principle of maximizing the public good.
9. Resilience to changing practices rooted in the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs	High	Despite the long course of institutional development, certain patterns inherited from the past negatively affect the activity of the subdivisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. In this sense, the Ministry of Internal Affairs will remain open to international technical assistance offered through development partners, through which the best practices of communication, law enforcement, victim protection, etc. will be rooted in the system of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
10. Sabotaging the implementation of the strategy by certain interest groups within the Ministry of Internal Affairs	Low	The absolute majority of employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs want to clean up the system. However, one cannot underestimate its ability to resist the change, using the bad notorious practices of corruption and blackmail. To remedy this risk, one of the priority directions of SDDAI 2022-2030 concerns the ethical and professional integrity of employees in the internal affairs system.

VIII. RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES AND INSTITUTIONS

SDDAI 2022-2030 will be approved and assumed by the Government, which will monitor its implementation. The following will participate in the implementation of SDDAI 2022-2030, according to the institutional competences: Ministry of Internal Affairs; Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development; Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Economy; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of the Environment; Ministry of Labour and Social Protection; Security and Intelligence Service; Customs Service of the Ministry of Finance; Medicines and Medical Devices Agency; General Prosecutor's Office; National Anticorruption Centre; Electronic Governance Agency; Information Technology and Cyber Security Service.

To ensure a broad implementation process, the Ministry of Internal Affairs can also cooperate with other central and local public administration authorities, non-governmental organizations, as well as with development partners, depending on the need.

IX. REPORTING PROCEDURES

The implementation of SDDAI 2022-2030 will occur in stages, taking into account the Government's strategic and budgetary planning cycle.

SDDAI 2022-2030, as a public policy document that reflects the strategic vision on the development in the field of internal affairs, will be implemented through the sectoral programs developed in accordance with the sub-fields of activity, reflected in chapter IV, for two planning cycles: the years 2022-2025 and 2026-2030 respectively.

Sectoral programs for the second stage of planning will be developed during 2025 and will cover the period of 2026-2030.

In order to ensure the continuity of SDDAI 2022-2030 implementation, the table of monitoring and evaluation indicators, from chapter VI, will be updated in accordance with the specific objectives and outcome indicators for the 2026-2030 planning cycle.

The sectoral programs will correspond to the budget programs and, in addition to the priority actions, will reflect the relevant sub-actions and other activities arising from the implementation of government priorities. Sectoral programs will be supplemented by an estimate of the costs necessary to implement the action plans.

Considering the fact that the operationalization of SDDAI 2022-2030 will be reflected in the sectoral programs, the monitoring and evaluation framework aims to limit the reporting burden on the institutions involved in its implementation. Accordingly, the reporting procedures will be as follows:

1) the annual SDDAI 2022-2030 implementation progress monitoring report, which shall be drawn up by July 15, based on the annual progress reports

of the sectoral programs. When finalizing the SDDAI 2022-2030 annual progress monitoring reports, the Ministry of Internal Affairs may request additional information (official statistics) from the authorities and institutions included in the list of data providers/partners from the table of monitoring and evaluation indicators (chapter VI). The annual SDDAI implementation progress monitoring report 2022-2023 is published on the official website of the Ministry of Internal Affairs;

2) the intermediate evaluation report on the achievement under SDDAI 2022-2030, with the assessment of the degree of achievement of the activities specific to the stage, the intermediate targets for the year 2025, the ability to produce lasting effects. The report will also include experience and adjustment recommendations (if applicable) for the next stage of implementation;

3) the final evaluation report of the achievement under SDDAI 2022-2030, with the assessment of the degree of achievement of the activities specific to the implementation stage, the final targets for the year 2030, the implementation of the recommendations from the Intermediate Evaluation Report, the ability to produce lasting effects and the impact final. The report will include final conclusions and lessons for the future.

If in the evaluation process causes and conditions will be identified that can cause obstacles regarding the achievement of the expected impact, they can serve as a basis for initiating the process of adjusting the objectives of SDDAI 2022-2023.

During the implementation, the unit responsible for the analysis, monitoring and evaluation of the policies of the Ministry of Internal Affairs will ensure the monitoring of the SDDAI 2022-2030 implementation process and will present to the Government the intermediate and final evaluation reports on the degree of its implementation.