



Document inspection by a Moldovan border police officer

# Moldova equipped with modern tools to combat irregular border crossings

Moldova faces challenges related to irregular migration, human trafficking, and transnational crime, particularly through the use of forged travel and identity documents. The Moldovan Border Police require modern technical equipment and specialised expertise to effectively detect such fraudulent activities.

Additionally, **aligning Moldova's border management systems with EU and Schengen standards requires significant improvements in infrastructure and capacity building.** To address this challenge, through the MPF, the EU funded the 'Enhancing capacities of Border Police forces to detect forged identity and travel documents for preventing and combating irregular migration and trafficking in human beings' project.

# Modern equipment for document examination

Mobile forensic lab

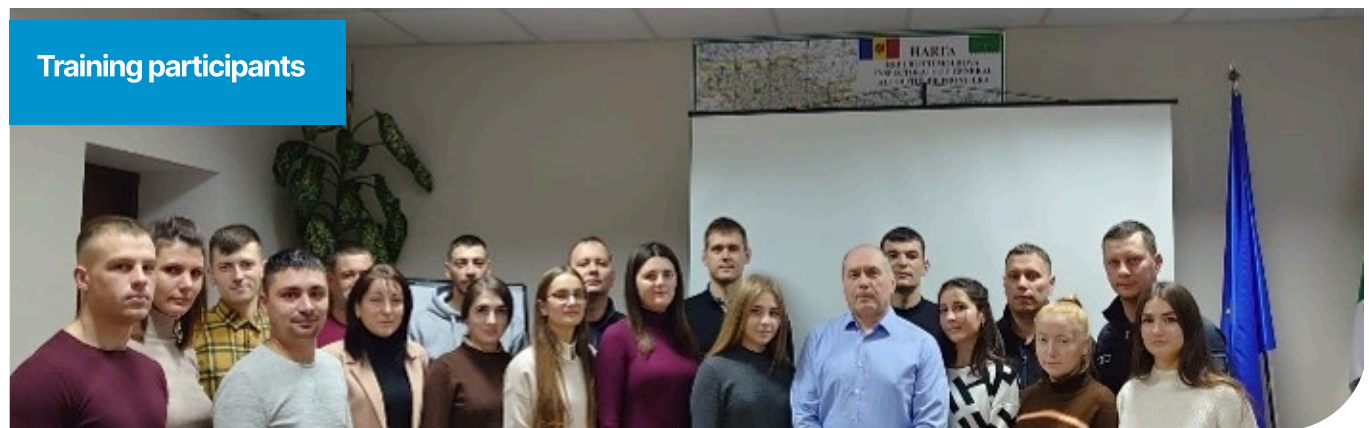


The project upgraded the forensic lab of the Moldovan Border Police and provided officers with modern tools for document examination and car scanning. The acquisition of a mobile forensic lab, informally known as the Schengen Bus, marks a notable upgrade to Moldova Border Police's capacity to scrutinise the validity of travel documents. This mobile lab enables officers to travel to various locations and conduct examinations on the spot, **significantly reducing investigation time and improving case resolution.** Additionally, it serves as a valuable training tool.

*"The project significantly modernised our capabilities. The advanced equipment supports both operational needs and evidentiary requirements in legal proceedings. It also aligns with national priorities to combat document falsification and criminal activity" - Representative from the Moldovan Border Police.*

# Effective balance of equipment and skills

The project successfully balanced supplying equipment with training and demonstrations on how to use it. To improve document expertise, trainers delivered sessions on how to examine travel documents and conduct vehicle identification. Project participants visited forensic labs in Lithuania and Poland, and a group of experts jointly developed guidelines on document examination. The activities were designed to **transfer the latest knowledge and practices used by EU Member States and FRONTEX**.



# Increased efficiency and accuracy

With the new tools, guidance and training, officers of the Moldovan Border Police feel better placed to recognise advanced document security features and new forgery techniques. They have also become more confident and faster in identifying fraudulent documents. The project **participants emphasise the practical relevance of activities for their job tasks**.

*"The course was well-prepared, with detailed descriptions of the equipment's capabilities and practical demonstrations. This was crucial for integrating the tools into our daily work."* - one training participant mentioned.





Snapshot from the project final conference

# MPF boosted operational readiness

By acquiring the necessary equipment and skills, the project strengthened the human, technological and methodological resources of the Moldovan Border Police. Additionally, it fostered closer cooperation and mutual learning between Moldovan, Lithuanian, and Polish border officers. This project contributed to **improved operational readiness and response to irregular migration and transnational crime in Moldova.**

## About the MPF

This project is part of the EU-funded Migration Partnership Facility (MPF), managed by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD) to support the external dimension of the EU's migration policy. MPF funds projects that promote dialogue and cooperation on migration and mobility between EU Member States and partner countries outside the EU.

## About the project

The project started in June 2021 and was completed in March 2024. It was implemented by the State Border Guard Service at the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Lithuania, in collaboration with the General Inspectorate of Border Police of the Republic of Moldova. One of the project activities (study visit) was implemented in cooperation with State Border Guard Service experts of the Republic of Poland.

## About the evaluation

Testimonies used in this document were gathered as part of the final evaluation of the project, completed in 2025. The evaluation was led by Policy Impact Lab who makes part of a consortium of six consultancies and NGOs, namely Blomeyer & Sanz, Diversity Development Group, Migration Policy Group, Policy Impact Lab, Samuel Hall and Tandans.



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