



## Alternative Reports on youth rights to meaningful participation in the decision-making processes and non-discrimination in the Republic of Moldova

### What is the National Youth Council of Moldova?



National Youth Council of Moldova

•An associative structure of 38 youth organisations founded on the 18th of February 1999, the National Youth Council of Moldova's primary objective is to ensure the voice of the youth is heard in all levels of authority and youth rights and needs are taken into account.

•Through the aid of youth organisations, we empower, encourage, engage, represent, and aid young people all over the country.

•The National Youth Council of Moldova has six strategic priorities:

•Youth Education;

•Youth Rights and Social Inclusiveness;

•Development of Youth Organisations and Youth Initiatives;

•Youth Policies and Advocacy Campaigns;

•Economic development and empowerment of youth;

• Climate Protection and Green Initiatives.

### The Republic of Moldova

A country within the European Union with integration aspirations, which continues its efforts to ensure the fulfilment and protection of fundamental rights to all its citizens.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, inside the Republic of Moldova, the population with habitual residence on the 1st of January comprised 2, 681, 700 people (of which 743,200/27,7% are young people aged 14-34 years).

The Alternative Reports drafted by the youth lead coalition, led by the National Youth Council under the initiative "Youth of Moldova for meaningful participation in the UP" represent the following:

- Youth Perspective related to youth rights and non-discrimination, especially those with fewer opportunities;
- Youth Perspective in promoting and advocating for youth rights in Moldova;
- Level of Youth Participation in the decision-making process;
- Barriers met by youth in dialogue with decision-makers.

### Youth rights and non-discrimination

### Youth rights to meaningful participation

#### Youth Rights and Non-Discrimination in the field of education, work, and health:

Reducing inequalities and strengthening efforts to include

children with special educational needs in the education system, as well as equipping schools with buses adapted to the needs of children with disabilities.

Reducing poverty by creating opportunities for equitable and non-discriminatory employment among young people in rural and urban areas and combating the practice of informal work through applied collaboration agreements.

Information on sexual and reproductive education ensuring access

to free modern contraception; healthy lifestyle and sports; psycho-emotional disorders; the consequences of the use of narcotic and psychotropic substances; STI / HIV risks/prevention through lessons, information classes, individual discussions, media broadcasts, distribution of materials

#### Young People with Disabilities

Ensuring the accessibility of educational institutions to the needs of children and young people with disabilities, as well as equipping schools with buses adapted to the needs of children with disabilities.

#### Young NEETs

Establishing as a macroeconomic priority the reduction of unemployment, with a particular focus on young NEETs, by creating highly productive and skilled jobs. Young People from the LGBTQ+ Community Develop and implement regular awareness-raising campaigns on preventing and combating hate speech, in collaboration with law enforcement bodies, CPEDEE, Ombudsperson, Audiovisual Council, Press Council, Central Electoral Commission, and the civil society.

#### Youth from the National Minorities Community

Combating hate speech and incitement against Roma or any other ethnic group on the territory of the Republic of Moldova and also populism, xenophobia, and racism.

#### Youth participation in the decision-making process

Increase youth participation in the decision-making process, taking into account their needs and proposals for improving accessibility to the participatory activities.

#### Structured Dialogue between public authorities and youth organisations and perspectives for the implementation of co-management structures

Government and the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research have to support the creation of the local co-management commissions on youth participation in decision-making processes in order to coordinate sectoral interventions for young people, including youth from underrepresented groups at the local and regional level.

#### The Right to vote and to be elected

Develop educational and awareness-raising programs on the right of youth to vote for formal and non-formal youth engagement.

#### Inclusiveness of participation processes

Development of a program and logistic and methodologic support for the involvement of the youth with limited opportunities, people with disabilities, and ethnic minorities in the decision-making processes through the NGOs and the Local Youth Councils and provide funds for youth organisation for these needs.

#### Financing of Youth Activities at the Local Level

Developing and ensuring the access of the youth structures to the local grant programs for the youth initiatives with the potential of locating SDGs and stimulating the youth organisations, local youth councils, and the initiative groups to participate at the program competitions and/or youth projects.

#### Aiding the NGOs in Difficulty

Providing political and financial support for involving the youth organisations in the participation and representation mechanisms of the youth at all the stages of the decision-making process, as well as simultaneously respecting their autonomy and independence.