



# ICPMN

Inițiative Civice pentru  
Minoritățile Naționale

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2024



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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**MIHAI  
PEICOV**

ICPMN Executive Director

## **Dear Friends, Partners, and Supporters,**

As Executive Director of the Center for Civil Initiatives for National Minorities, I am honored to reflect on our shared journey and express my sincere gratitude for your continued trust, collaboration, and dedication to building a more inclusive and just society.

Over the past year, we have made significant progress in advancing the rights and integration of ethnic, linguistic, and national minorities in the Republic of Moldova. Through advocacy, education, policy reform, and community engagement, we have worked tirelessly to amplify minority voices and ensure they are heard at every level of decision-making.

In the face of complex challenges - from regional instability to misinformation - our mission has remained clear: to promote democratic values, human rights, and intercultural dialogue. Whether through youth internships in state institutions, our new media initiatives in Gagauzia, or the development of minority policy proposals aligned with European standards, our efforts have been guided by a strong belief in equity, dignity, and shared responsibility.

This work would not be possible without the commitment of our dedicated team, the courage of our community partners, and the generosity of our supporters. Together, we are not only creating opportunities but also shaping a future where diversity is seen not as a challenge, but as Moldova's greatest strength.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on deepening our impact, expanding strategic partnerships, and ensuring that minority communities play a central role in the country's democratic and European development.

Thank you for walking this path with us.

**WITH APPRECIATION AND SOLIDARITY,  
MIHAI PEICOV**



# ICPMN OVERVIEW

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO?

The Center for Civil Initiatives for National Minorities (ICPMN) is a public organization founded by civil activists, journalists, and cultural figures from minority communities, operating in the Republic of Moldova. We focus on protecting the rights of national minorities, integrating them into public life, and actively promoting civic participation in local communities. Our efforts are directed at addressing the challenges faced by ethnic minorities, such as discrimination, lack of access to information and education, limited opportunities for political and social participation, combating propaganda and disinformation, as well as preserving and developing minority cultures and languages. We also actively support the economic development of minority communities.

The Center for Civil Initiatives for National Minorities (ICPMN) has been operating in the Republic of Moldova since April 1, 2023, as a joint initiative of minority civil activists.

The establishment of ICPMN was supported by the [European Endowment for Democracy](#).

## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Center for Civil Initiatives for National Minorities is to support and protect the rights of national minorities, facilitate their social integration, and promote the values of civic participation, political engagement, and equality. We strive to create a society where every citizen, regardless of their ethnic or linguistic background, has equal opportunities for personal and professional growth.

# WHERE AND WITH WHOM DO WE WORK?

The Center for Civil Initiatives for National Minorities (ICPMN) operates in regions with a predominantly ethnic, national, and linguistic minority population in the Republic of Moldova, with a particular focus on Gagauzia, Taraclia, Basarabeasca, Cahul, Cantemir, Edineț districts, and the city of Bălți.

We actively collaborate with local authorities, educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, international partners, as well as local activists, entrepreneurs, and representatives of ethnic communities. Our main goal is to create conditions for improving the social, economic, and political life in these areas and to foster the active participation of minorities in processes that affect their future.

## THE BENEFICIARIES OF OUR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Representatives of national, ethnic, and linguistic minorities
- Leaders of ethnic communities
- Specific Roma communities
- Local and regional authorities
- State institutions working in the field of human rights and minority rights
- Educational institutions within ethnic communities
- Civil activists, journalists, and civil society organizations



**ICPMN  
OVERVIEW**

# ICPMN TEAM

OUR TEAM IS MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS NATIONAL GROUPS LIVING IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

WE REPRESENT THE BULGARIAN, GAGAUZ, MOLDOVAN, JEWISH, AND UKRAINIAN COMMUNITIES



**MIHAI PEICOV**

Executive Director



**DMITRII CALUGAREANU**

Finance Manager



**STANISLAV TIBARI**

Project Manager



**ARTIOM JELEZOGLO**

Project Assistant



**IONELA EFTODI**

Social Media Manager



**NICOLAI DISLI**

Regional Assistant



**MARIUS GHERAS**

Photographer/Videographer

# EXPERTS COLLABORATING WITH ICPMN IN 2024



**MARINA TABARNA**



**NATALIA STERCUL**



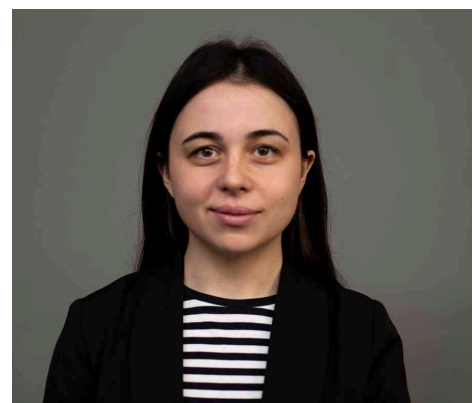
**INNA SUPAC**



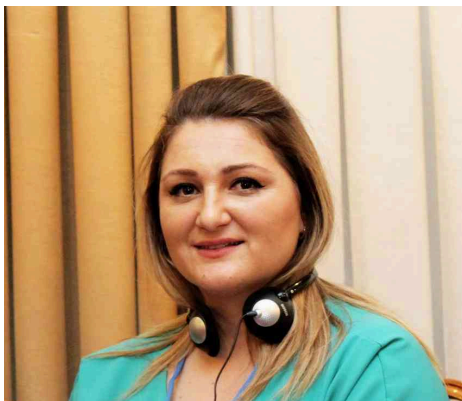
**ALEXANDR MACUHIN**



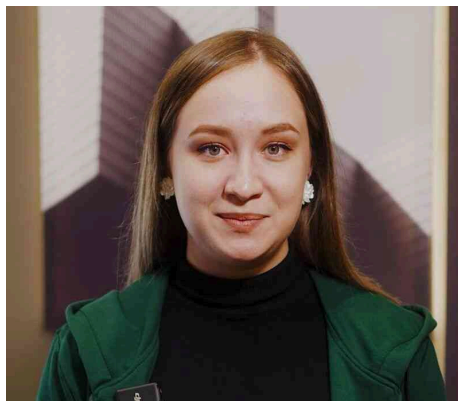
**AINA IDRISOVA**



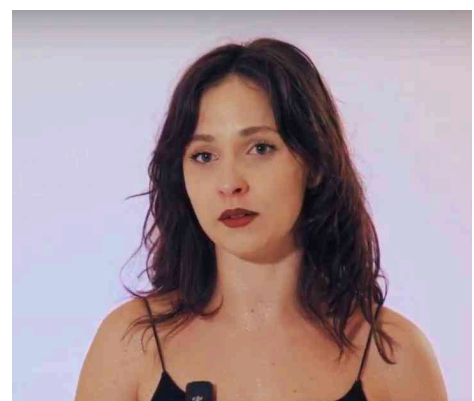
**LILIA ZDIBNEAC**



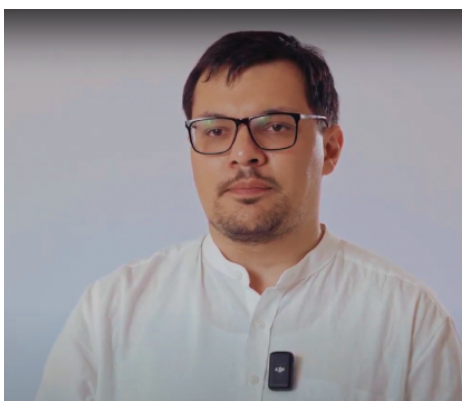
**ANGHELINA GAIDARJI**



**VALENTINA MALENCHI**



**ANGHELINA KULIK**



**ROMAN RUSSU**



**KAREN GASPAREAN**



**VEACESLAV REABCINSCHII**

# THE YEAR 2024 IN FIGURES

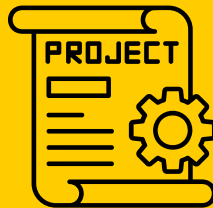
**4**

DONORS



**3**

BIG PROJECTS



**8**

PROJECT PROGRAMS



**7**

DISTRICTS



**32**

TOWNS AND VILLAGES



**1526**

DIRECT BENEFICIARIES



**39**

PUBLIC EVENTS FOR MINORITIES



**32**

EVENTS FOR MINORITY YOUTH



**1**

NATIONAL FORUM



**53**

MATERIALS IN MINORITY LANGUAGES



**1**

MEDIA CAMPAIGN IN MINORITY LANGUAGES



**1**

SOCIAL CAMPAIGN IN MINORITY LANGUAGES





# PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2024

**#CIVIC ACTIVISM  
HACKATHON**

**NATIONAL FORUM OF  
ETHNIC MINORITIES 2024**

**PROGRAMME  
"INTERETHNIC DIALOGUES"**

**SUMMER ACADEMY ON  
MINORITY RIGHTS 2024**

**PROGRAMME  
"EU4MINORITIES"**

**GRANT SUPPORT  
PROGRAM FOR  
INITIATIVES IN MINORITY  
COMMUNITIES 2024**

**PUBLIC DIALOGUES**



**ICPMN**  
Inițiative Civice pentru  
Minoritățile Naționale

# SUMMER ACADEMY ON MINORITY RIGHTS 2024



Summer Academy on Minority Rights - is an annual project of the Center for Civic Initiatives for National Minorities, which includes a week-long training platform for 20 young people from national, ethnic, and linguistic minorities in the Republic of Moldova. Typically, young people participate in training sessions, informative sessions, and workshops on topics such as:

- **Human rights**
- **Minority rights**
- **International and national mechanisms for rights protection**
- **Equality and combating discrimination**
- **Civic activism**
- **Media education**
- **Project management**

Additionally, participants meet with guest speakers - civic activists, politicians, public figures - to discuss in an informal setting. This is an important tool for integrating minorities into the community.

Participants are divided into teams and work with mentors to develop their own initiatives that positively impact ethnic communities in the Republic of Moldova. The initiatives of the teams are implemented with our financial support.

During the Academy 2024, participants formed 5 teams, and each team developed its own project, which was financed.

**Project 1: Promoting education among schoolchildren from the Roma community**

**Project 2: Improving the ecological condition of the town of Tvardita**

**Project 3: Installing a sports complex at the playground of the Vinogradovca commune to promote a healthy lifestyle**

**Project 4: Increasing civic activity among young people in the village of Corteni**

**Project 5: Conference "Youth and Civic Activism" in the city of Bălți**

# 20

PARTICIPANTS

# 5

PROJECTS

# 10

EXPERTS

# 20

TRAININGS

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

EUROPEAN  
ENDOWMENT FOR  
DEMOCRACY



# PROGRAMME

# "EU4MINORITIES"

MOLDOVA RESPUBLIKASINDA  
SOȚIAL SFERASI EVROPA BIRLIINÄ  
KATILDII ZAMAN

#SOȚIALSFERASI



ЕКАТЕРИНА ЖЕКОВА  
журналист

РЪСТ НА ПЕНСИТЕ И УВЕЛИЧЕНИЕ  
НА ЗАПЛАТИТЕ В РЕПУБЛИКА  
МОЛДОВА СЛЕД  
ПРИСЪЕДИНЯВАНЕТО КЪМ ЕС

#ЗАПЛАТИПЕНСИИ



АНГЕЛИНА ГАЙДАРЖИ  
директор tuk.md

МЛАДЕЖТА И ОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО  
В РЕПУБЛИКА МОЛДОВА СЛЕД  
ПРИСЪЕДИНЯВАНЕТО КЪМ ЕС

#МЛАДЕЖТАОБРАЗОВАНИЕТО



МИХАЙ ПЕЙКОВ  
Исполнительный директор ICPMN



"EU4Minorities" is a visibility and communication programme initiated by ICPMN in 2024 with the aim of raising awareness about minority issues and amplifying the voices of ethnic communities through modern media channels. The programme also aims to improve the information landscape in Moldova by producing original content in minority languages.

## Main Goals:

- **To promote minority languages and cultures through media.**
- **To counter disinformation and misinformation affecting minority communities.**
- **To strengthen regional media partnerships and communication strategies.**
- **To create inclusive narratives aligned with democratic values and EU standards.**

# 12

VIDEOS IN MINORITY  
LANGUAGES

# 4

NEWSLETTERS  
IN MINORITY LANGUAGES

# 7

REGIONAL  
MEDIA PORTALS



OVER 200K  
VIEWS ON  
YOUTUBE



OVER 150K  
VIEWS ON  
INSTAGRAM



OVER 500K  
VIEWS ON  
FACEBOOK



OVER 500K  
VIEWS ON  
TIKTOK

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT  
OF THE USAID - OTI - MRI



# NATIONAL FORUM OF ETHNIC MINORITIES 2024



**The National Forum of Ethnic Minorities** is the largest official event dedicated to the issues of national, ethnic, and linguistic minorities in the Republic of Moldova. Organized by the Center for Civic Initiatives for National Minorities, the forum serves as an essential platform for dialogue and collaboration across various sectors of society. The main priority is to consolidate efforts between national and regional authorities, civil society representatives, media, human rights defenders, ethnic organization leaders, and development partners.

In 2024, the forum brought together remarkable personalities from various fields to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing ethnic communities in the Republic of Moldova. The participation of high-ranking officials helps to create a favorable atmosphere for discussing the most important issues regarding the protection of ethnic minority rights and their participation in the country's public and political life.



Participants not only had the opportunity to exchange ideas and proposals but also contributed to drafting and signing the joint declaration **“Ethnic Minorities FOR the EU”**. The forum concluded with the presentation of the Center for Civic Initiatives' report on the issues within ethnic communities and the discussion of next steps for addressing them as part of Moldova's EU integration.



- 1. EU Legislation and Policies Regarding National Minorities**
- 2. Education, Cultural Diversity, and Minority Rights in a European Moldova Context**
- 3. The Role of Media, Civil Society, and Youth in Ethnic Communities**
- 4. Economic and Social Development of Ethnic Communities with EU Support**

**225**  
PARTICIPANTS

**6**  
PANELS

**26**  
SPEAKERS

**45**  
OFFICIALS

**130**  
YOUTH

**12**  
MAYORS

**22**  
NGOS

**77**  
HEADS OF ETHNIC COMMUNITIES SIGNED  
THE DECLARATION

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY AND SOROS FOUNDATION IN MOLDOVA

EUROPEAN  
ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

Fundația  
Soros  
Moldova

# GRANT SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR INITIATIVES IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES 2024



This program was created to stimulate grassroots civic activity by providing financial support to initiatives led by and for minority communities. The aim is to empower local actors to address community-specific needs through innovative and sustainable projects.

## Main Goals:

- *To support community-led development in minority regions.*
- *To strengthen local leadership and project implementation skills.*
- *To foster social cohesion through inclusive grassroots initiatives.*
- *To build local ownership and sustainability of minority-led projects.*



In 2024, the program received 25 applications from across Moldova. Following a transparent selection process, 7 initiatives were selected for funding. These projects covered areas such as education, social inclusion, youth participation, and cultural preservation. Implemented in 7 different communities, the initiatives demonstrated the potential of local civil society to create real impact with modest resources.

# 25

APPLICATIONS  
RECEIVED

# 7

SUPPORTED  
INITIATIVES

# 7

COMMUNITIES

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

EUROPEAN  
ENDOWMENT FOR  
DEMOCRACY

Supporting  
Democracy  
Since 2013

# PROGRAMME

# "INTERETHNIC DIALOGUES"



The **Interethnic Dialogues programme** is a platform for structured conversations between ethnic communities and public institutions. It fosters trust, mutual understanding, and collaborative approaches to shared challenges, especially in contexts of low participation or historical marginalization.

#### Main Goals:

- **To open communication channels between minority communities and authorities.**
- **To promote equal representation in policy discussions.**
- **To reduce prejudice and institutional bias through dialogue.**
- **To enhance public accountability and responsiveness to minority concerns.**

In 2024, the program held 27 dialogue sessions, including 7 regional meetings. These sessions brought together 613 participants, including representatives from 5 state institutions. The programme enabled open conversations on minority rights, education, language policies, and cultural recognition.

# 27

MEETINGS

# 613

PARTICIPANTS

# 5

STATE INSTITUTIONS

# 7

REGIONAL MEETINGS

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

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DEMOCRACY

Supporting  
Democracy  
Since 2013

# #CIVIC ACTIVISM HACKATHON



The **Civic Activism Hackathon** is a dynamic, youth-centered project designed to generate creative, rapid solutions to social challenges facing ethnic communities. It combines the energy of a hackathon format with structured mentorship and expert guidance.

## Main Goals:

- *To stimulate youth-led innovation in minority communities.*
- *To connect young people with mentors and institutional stakeholders.*
- *To strengthen civic skills and collaborative action.*
- *To accelerate grassroots solutions and visibility.*

In 2024, 310 participants from 15 communities took part in 15 thematic events, supported by 5 experienced experts. Ideas ranged from media projects and environmental actions to inclusive education tools. The Hackathon energized a new wave of civic engagement and gave young people the confidence to take initiative.

# 15

EVENTS

# 310

PARTICIPANTS

# 5

EXPERTS

# 15

COMMUNITIES

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT  
OF THE EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

EUROPEAN  
ENDOWMENT FOR  
DEMOCRACY

Supporting  
Democracy  
Since 2013

# PUBLIC DIALOGUES



Public Dialogues are town-hall-style meetings organized in rural and urban areas to encourage minority voices in local governance and policy-making. These forums are designed to be accessible, inclusive, and solutions-focused.

## Main Goals:

- **To create spaces for open discussion on pressing local issues.**
- **To build trust between communities and local authorities.**
- **To ensure policy-making reflects minority perspectives.**
- **To mobilize citizens for constructive civic engagement.**

In 2024, 12 Public Dialogues were held across 10 communities, involving 238 participants and 7 thematic experts. These events provided a rare opportunity for face-to-face exchange between citizens and policymakers, often resulting in follow-up actions or commitments.



# 12

EVENTS

# 238

PARTICIPANTS

# 7

EXPERTS

# 10

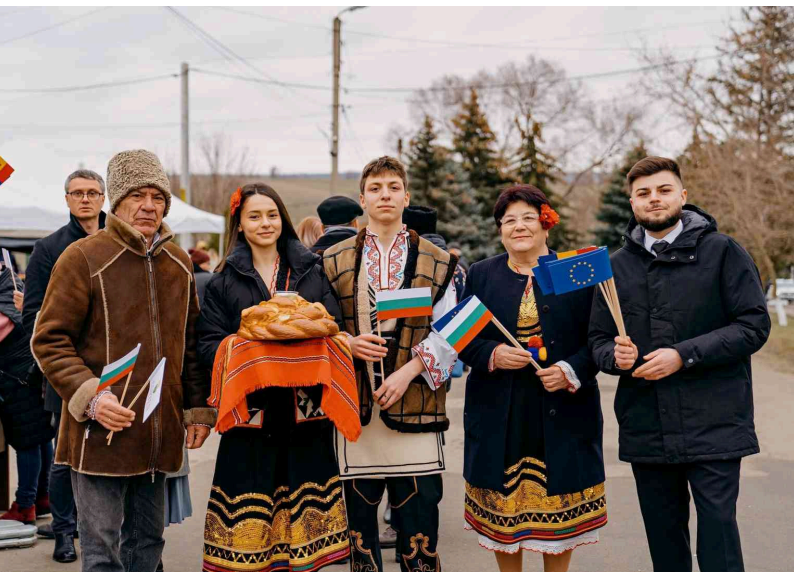
COMMUNITIES

THE PROJECT WAS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE  
USAID - OTI - MRI AND EUROPEAN ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

EUROPEAN  
ENDOWMENT FOR  
DEMOCRACY



# CULTURAL EVENTS 2024



Support in organizing the Bulgarian holiday "Trifon Zarezan" in the village Corten, Taraclia district

**FEBRUARY 2024**

Support for the participation of artists from ethnic communities in the national festival IA MANIA

**JUNE 2024**



Support for organizing a local artisans' fair in Gagauzia

**NOVEMBER 2024**



# PARTNERS IN 2024

## DONORS



150 000€



33 000\$



20 000\$



#EU4Youth

15 000€

## MEDIA



NewsMaker

#diez

nokta



JURNAL TV

## STATE INSTITUTIONS



Parlamentul Republicii Moldova



# FUTURE OUTLOOK

## FUTURE PLAN

In the period 2025–2026, ICPMN aims to become a leading organization in promoting and protecting the rights of national minorities in the Republic of Moldova. The following strategic directions will guide our future activities:

### 1. **Expanding impact in intercultural education:**

- Integrating the history and culture of minorities into the national school curriculum;
- Strengthening teacher training to combat stereotypes and propaganda.

### 2. **Increased access to European programs and scholarships for ethnic minority youth:**

- Launching ICPMN Scholarships for outstanding students from minority communities.

### 3. **Strengthening ICPMN's role in advocacy and public policy:**

- Organizing the Annual Forum of Ethnic Minorities;
- Direct cooperation with the Ministry of Education, the Agency for Interethnic Relations, and Parliament to promote inclusive policies.

### 4. **Sustainable community development and social cohesion:**

- Training local public authorities and minority entrepreneurs in accessing development funding;
- Expanding “Minority HUB” community centers in rural regions.

### 5. **Institutional development and financial sustainability:**

- Diversifying funding sources;

## INOVATION

### 1. **Minority HUB – a new model of community infrastructure:**

- These centers will function as hubs for information, non-formal education, and interethnic dialogue.

### 2. **“Minority Parliament” Model – legislative simulations for youth:**

- Emphasis on engaging young people in real decision-making processes.

### 3. **Digitalization and alternative media in minority languages:**

- Development of creative and interactive media content (reels, podcasts, educational videos);
- Countering disinformation and building trust in independent media in sensitive regions.

### 4. **Collaborative advocacy mechanism:**

- Launching a Collective Resolution of minority organizations through the Annual Forum, as a joint advocacy tool towards government and EU institutions.



# ICPMN

Inițiative Civice pentru  
Minoritățile Naționale

## CONTACT US

### **CENTER FOR CIVIC INITIATIVES FOR NATIONAL MINORITIES**

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