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**«Strengthening National Capacities to Protect the Most Vulnerable
from Torture in Moldova» Project**
announces an Expression of Interest for
GRANTS PROGRAMME (GP-2014: E-course) for Civil Society, April 2014

The Project «**Strengthening National Capacities to Protect the Most Vulnerable from Torture in Moldova**» is funded by the European Union and co-funded and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme in Moldova in consultations with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the East Europe Foundation and the Soros Foundation – Moldova. The goal of this Project is to contribute to the prevention of torture and fighting against impunity on the whole territory of the Republic of Moldova, including Transnistrian region, especially in respect of the most vulnerable women and men with psycho-social and intellectual disabilities in mental health facilities.

In order to meet this goal the «Strengthening National Capacities to Protect the Most Vulnerable from Torture in Moldova» Project announces an **Expression of Interest for Grant opened to the coalitions of NGOs** (two or more NGOs) registered in the Republic of Moldova, including Transnistrian region. A project approved for funding should be implemented **from June 2014 to November 2015** (implementation period should be minimum 12 months).

Project proposals should focus on the development, piloting and launching of the Internet-based distance learning courses on the prevention and combating of torture in the Republic of Moldova (e-courses). Applicants should develop, pilot and launch at least two e-courses. At least one e-course should target one of the following legal professional groups: judges, prosecutors or defence lawyers. At least one other e-course should target one of the following groups: medical and social assistance professionals, journalists, human rights activists etc. Courses should be drafted in both Romanian and Russian to be accessible for persons from the target groups, who are also belonging to linguistic minorities in Moldova, including those living in Gagauzia and Transnistrian region.

Successful proposal should also thematically **cover within the e-courses the issue of torture against women and men with psycho-social and intellectual disabilities in mental health facilities** within the e-courses. The applicants are advised to study the Report A/HRC/22/53¹ as of 1 February 2013 released by Mr. Juan Mendez, the UN Special Rapporteur of torture, which serves as a basis for the understanding of torture in mental and other health facilities, and are encouraged to take the issues covered in the Report into account while elaborating outline of the e-courses structure. Torture in psychiatric hospitals and neurological internats (care homes), is an emerging issue in Moldova and more information about the situation in this sphere can be found in the reports of the Parliamentary Advocates² and the Pilot Ombudsperson in Psychiatric Institutions.³

Applicants should demonstrate how **gender and minorities (national, ethnic, linguistic, religious etc.) mainstreaming is ensured throughout the e-courses and project proposal.** This could be done through, but not limited to, the involvement of both women and men, as well as persons belonging to minorities, into the management/implementation of the proposed project, ensuring that women, men and persons belonging to minorities will be planned beneficiaries of the project, raising gender and minority related aspects within the issues covered by the e-courses (for example, prosecutors inaction in cases of sexual abuse of women in psychiatric facilities amounting to torture, involuntary abortions/sterilisation of persons of specific ethnicity in psychiatric facilities, lack of informed consent for medical treatment and medication in preferred language etc.), cooperation with NGOs of persons belonging to minorities for the purposes of project implementation etc.

Applicants are advised to consult their proposals and cooperate with such relevant institutions as the National Institute of Justice, the General Prosecutor's Office, Bar Association and/or the National Legal Aid Council to ensure tailoring of the e-courses structure to the needs of the target groups and to ensure e-courses sustainability.

The coalition of NGOs should also ensure visibility for the donors – EU and UNDP – and for the «Strengthening National Capacities to Protect the Most Vulnerable from Torture in Moldova» Project.

¹ The Report in all UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) can be accessed following this link:
http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?m=103

² <http://ombudsman.md/ro/mnpt-vizite-monitorizare/conferinta-presa-violari-ale-drepturilor-omului-cadrul-institutiilor>

³ http://dis.md/wp-content/uploads/2012/02/RAPORTUL-FINAL_6luni-apr-sept-20121.pdf
http://dis.md/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/RAPORTUL-FINAL_9luni-oct-2012-iul-2013.pdf

Representatives of the coalition of NGOs will be invited to the training activities related to the issue of prevention and combating of torture in mental health facilities, organised within the «Strengthening National Capacities to Protect the Most Vulnerable from Torture in Moldova» Project.

Within this Expression of Interest one project will be selected and a grant up to **32,500 USD** will be provided for its implementation. Original and innovative project proposals will have priority.

The rules and procedures that will guide the submission, selection and implementation of projects can be found in the **Applicant's Guidelines***.

The application package should contain the following documents:

- Application Form* (which will include the budget and activities timeline), filled in Romanian, Russian or English. Handwritten Application Forms will not be accepted;
- Copy of the registration certificate to prove that the organization is a registered legal entity;
- Copy of the Statute of the organization;
- Declaration in free format on the establishment of the NGO coalition for the purposes of the project signed and stamped by parties;
- CVs of Project Manager, accountant and key staff, involved in project's implementation;
- CVs of experts and their written consent to be involved in the activities of the project;
- To the extent possible, a brief overview of the activities of the organization (including, if applicable, recommendation letters from other donors, developed materials: researches, strategies, training aids, newsletters, brochures; any other relevant materials/information: newspaper articles, audio/video clips, photo reports from events, etc.);
- Other relevant materials to increase credibility of the Applicant for the donor and to complement the project justification.

***Application Form** and **Applicant's Guidelines** are posted on the UNDP in Moldova website (<http://www.undp.md/tenders/archive2014-onepage.shtml>). These documents can also be received by sending a request to the following e-mail: lidia.marchitan@undp.org.

Deadline for submission of proposals: Friday, 30 May 2014, 10.00 o'clock. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

The documents can be sent either by mail at: tenders-Moldova@undp.org titled as «**GP-2014: E-course**», or by post, or delivered physically in a sealed envelope (marked «**GP-2014: E-course**») to the following address: **UNDP Moldova, 131, 31 August 1989 Str., MD-2012, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova. Attention: Registry Office/Procurement.**

Applications sent by fax will be rejected. Incomplete applications shall not be examined. Applications sent by e-mail should not exceed 5 MB in size. Applications larger than 5 MB should be split into several messages and each message subject should indicate "part x of y" besides the marking mentioned in the announcement and the solicitation documents. All electronic submissions are confirmed by an automatic reply from tenders-Moldova@undp.org. If you do not receive a confirmation by email, please, contact UNDP Moldova Registry Office by phone +373 (0) 22 220-045. Offers received after the deadline shall be rejected. For additional information on the application process, please, contact Mr. Evghenii Golosceapov either by phone at: +373 (0) 22 269-119 or by e-mail at: evghenii.golosceapov@undp.org