



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, **you must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov, within 15 days after travel is completed.** Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Medha Surampudy
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: 2/18/2023 Return: 2/23/2023
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, D.C. Destination: Chisinau, Moldova Return City: Washington, D.C.
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Democratic Institute
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:
 Had three full days of meetings and presentations with Members of Parliament and staff. Meeting topics included: energy security, defense, Congressional institutions like CRS/GAO/CBO, Congressional best practices, and Committee processes.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box:*
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all** attachments **and** the *Additional Sponsor Form(s)*;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.
Signify statement is true by checking the box.
 b. If not, explain:

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: Medha Surampudy Date: 03/06/2023

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr. Date: 3/8/23

Signature of Supervising Member: Frank Pallone Jr.



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. **A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return.** You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: _____
2. Travel Destination(s): _____
3. Date of Departure: _____ Date of Return: _____
4. Name(s) of Traveler(s): _____

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if *all* information is *identical* for each person listed.

5. Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

| | Total Transportation Expenses | Total Lodging Expenses | Total Meal Expenses | Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description) |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Traveler | | | | |
| Accompanying Family Member | | | | |

6. All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a *per diem* or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Janice Schultz* Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Medha Surampudy
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
National Democratic Institute
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel : Chisinau, Moldova
4. a. Date of Departure: February 18, 2023 Date of Return: February 23, 2023
b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____
5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? **If yes:**
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____
(2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
(3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:
6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?
b. **If yes**, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:
7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.
8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties.
Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties.
I am a Professional Staff Member for the Energy and Commerce Committee, and work for the Energy subcommittee. I will be attending this trip to provide insights into U.S. energy policy and the legislative process.
9. **Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?**
10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member

Frank Pallone /

Date

11/30/23



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* **at least 30 days before the start date of the trip**. The trip sponsor should *NOT* submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box.*
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
 - a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
 - b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
 - c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
4. Provide names and titles of **ALL** House Members *and* employees you are inviting. **For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited** (include additional pages if necessary):
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: _____ Date of return: _____
7. a. City of departure: _____
b. Destination(s): _____
c. City of return: _____
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
 - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event *and* lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
 - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*
11. **Check only one of the following:**
- a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.
12. For **each** sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip **and** its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:
13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**
- a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)
- b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: _____)
- c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:
14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*
15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:
- a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**
- b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.
- If "b" is checked:
- 1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):
- 2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:
16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:
- Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
- Reason(s) for Selecting: _____
- Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
- Reason(s) for Selecting: _____
- Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____
- Reason(s) for Selecting: _____
17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

| | | | |
|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts | Total Transportation Expenses per Participant | Total Lodging Expenses per Participant | Total Meal Expenses per Participant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates | | | |
| For each Member, Officer, or Employee | | | |
| For each Accompanying Family Member | | | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| | Other Expenses (dollar amount per item) | Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.) |
| For each Member, Officer, or Employee | | |
| For each Accompanying Family Member | | |

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. Check only one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable*. Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Anna Schultz* Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

Dave Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Kelle A. Strickland
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

February 8, 2023

Ms. Medha Surampudy
Committee on Energy & Commerce
2322 A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. Surampudy:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Moldova,¹ scheduled for February 18 to 23, 2023, sponsored by National Democratic Institute.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than the reporting threshold from a single source on the “Travel” schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. That reporting threshold is currently \$415 but is set to adjust in 2023. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

Because the trip may involve meetings with foreign government representatives, we note that House employees may accept, under the Foreign Gifts and Decorations Act (FGDA), gifts “of minimal value [currently \$415] tendered as a souvenir or mark of courtesy” by a foreign government. Any tangible gifts valued in excess of minimal value received from a foreign government must, within 60 days of acceptance, be disclosed on a Form for Disclosing Gifts from Foreign Governments and either turned over to the Clerk of the House, or, with the written approval of the Committee, retained for official use.

¹ Please be aware that the Committee’s review of the proposed trip does not extend to either the security situation in the destination country or security related to foreign travel in general. We recommend you contact the Office of House Security (OHS) for a safety and security briefing prior to your departure. OHS may be reached at (202) 226-2044 or ohsstaff@mail.house.gov. House travelers should also register for the U.S. State Department’s Smart Traveler Enrollment Program at <https://step.state.gov>.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Guest". The first letter "M" is large and loops around the first few letters of the name.

Michael Guest
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Wild". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "S" and "W" being particularly prominent.

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:tn

4. Derek Luyten, Executive Director of the House Democracy Partnership (HDP), has been invited to travel to Chisinau, Moldova to support a Technical Assistance Consultancy (TAC) on *Energy and Defense: Strengthening Parliamentary Initiatives and Legislative Oversight* in the Moldovan parliament from February 19-23, 2022, inclusive of travel. This exchange will bring together the members of key committees in the Moldovan parliament related to defense and energy issues with current and former U.S. congressional staff and CRS experts to key challenges and frameworks for progress in these fields. The program will also include meetings with parliamentary leadership and staff. As the Executive Director for HDP, and with a strong background in global democracy and governance, Mr. Luyten will be able to provide insights from the institutional perspective of HDP, as well from his perspective as a congressional and committee staffer, on the the important role of legislative staff in supporting the functionality and mandates of the legislature, in addition to the critical nature of committees in research and analysis, data collection, and institutional efficacy.

Medha Surampudy, Professional Staff Member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, has been invited to travel to Chisinau, Moldova to support a Technical Assistance Consultancy (TAC) on *Energy and Defense: Strengthening Parliamentary Initiatives and Legislative Oversight* in the Moldovan parliament from February 19-23, 2022, inclusive of travel. This exchange will bring together the members of key committees in the Moldovan parliament related to defense and energy issues with current and former U.S. congressional staff and CRS experts to key challenges and frameworks for progress in these fields. The program will also include meetings with parliamentary leadership and staff. As a Professional Staff Member with the House Energy & Commerce Committee, Ms. Surampudy will be able to provide context from the point of view of a committee staffer working through the processes in place for energy management, and share important procedural insights to inform our Moldovan colleagues.

12. The House Democracy Partnership (HDP) is a bipartisan, twenty-member commission of the U.S. House of Representatives that works directly with more than 20 countries from around the world to support the development of effective, independent, and responsive legislative institutions. The National Democratic Institute (NDI), in collaboration with the International Republican Institute (IRI) facilitates programming on behalf of HDP, which complements both institutions' respective legislative strengthening work with parliaments worldwide, including the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.. NDI will be responsible for funding and coordinating logistics related to the program, including scheduling meetings, providing travel and accommodation arrangements, and defining the program methodology. USAID has provided grant funds to NDI for this purpose.

16. NDI selected the Jolly Alon Hotel in Chisinau, Moldova for the nights of February 19-23, 2023 based on the quality of accommodation and services provided by the hotel staff; reputation in upholding security measures, as ensuring security and safety of travelers if a primary concern of NDI; and close accommodations to meeting venues.

18.

Breakdown of transportation costs:

Airfare: \$4,244 including \$1,310 (good faith estimate of round trip economy class flight cost for Medha Surampudy) and \$2,934 (good faith estimate of round trip economy class flight cost for Derek Luyten)
Reimbursement for taxis to and from the airport in Washington, DC: \$150 (estimate)
Airport transfers in Moldova: \$60 (estimate)

Other expenses:

- **Interpretation:** Translation equipment and interpreters each day will cost around \$400 for the entire group. The estimated cost for translation for Derek Luyten and Medha Surampudy would be \$40 a day. For 3 days of programming the estimated cost for interpretation for Derek Luyten and Medha Surampudy would be \$240.
- **Coffee breaks:** The estimated cost of providing coffee breaks in Moldova is \$10 per person per day (good faith estimates). This is estimated to be \$60 total for Derek Luyten and Medha Surampudy for 3 full days of programming in Chisinau, Moldova.
- **Costs associated with COVID-19:** NDI has budgeted \$150 for self-testing kits, consisting of two COVID-19 rapid tests for each member of the HDP delegation and traveling staff (\$25 per person). In addition NDI has budgeted \$50 to purchase COVID-19 PPE such as masks and hand sanitizer for use throughout the trip (\$8/person).



HDP Technical Assistance Consultancy
Energy and Defence: Strengthening parliamentary initiative and legislative oversight
Chisinau, Moldova
February 20-23, 2023

About the programme:

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP) is a bipartisan commission of the U.S. House of Representatives that works with more than 20 partner legislatures globally to support legislative development and independence. The mission of HDP is to work with countries around the world to share best practices that promote responsive, effective government, and strengthen democratic institutions. Central to HDP's work is peer-to-peer cooperation and dialogue to build technical expertise in legislatures that will enhance accountability, transparency, legislative independence, access to information, and legislative oversight.

In October 2022, HDP sponsored a Congressional Delegation (CODEL) visit to Moldova as part of a larger regional visit. During the trip, the HDP Commission announced Moldova as its newest partner country. Following the adoption of Moldova as a new partner country, this will be the first official HDP program, specifically a “technical assistance consultancy” or TAC. An HDP TAC is a program that is held in-person between U.S. and HDP partner country peers in that specific partner country, which focuses on a specific issue or set of topics of interest to that partner directly.

This TAC will engage the Moldovan Assembly on building good practices for oversight in defense and energy sectors. In Moldova's rapidly changing regional landscape affecting energy and defense, decisions are made quickly and popular control through the legislature needs to be both competent and agile. The parliament fulfills an important mandate of exercising oversight and advancing legislation that will safeguard Moldova's independence, for which energy and defense are two basic conditions.

The HDP delegation will include experts from the US Congress and Congressional Research Service, who have relevant contextual knowledge and experience supporting defense and energy sector oversight in the US. The program will include introductory meetings with legislative actors in the Moldovan Assembly, in addition to presentations provided both by the Moldovan Assembly and HDP delegates, to exchange knowledge and experience in shaping one another's understanding of the topic.

Saturday, February 18, 2023

10:25 PM **HDP delegates depart from Washington, DC**

Depart on Turkish Airlines flight from Washington DC to Istanbul.
Flight Number: TK88

Sunday, February 19, 2023

8:20 PM **Transfer at Istanbul International Airport**

Depart on Turkish Airlines flight from Istanbul to Chisinau.
Flight Number: TK271

8:45 PM **HDP delegates arrive in Chisinau, Moldova**

9:45 PM **Transfer to hotel and check-in**

Location: Jolly Alon Hotel, 37, Maria Cibotari Str, Chisinau, Moldova

Monday, February 20, 2023

8:00 AM **Gather in hotel lobby**

8:15 AM **Depart hotel for parliament**

8:30 AM **Enter through security**

9:00 -10:00 AM **Country briefing with NDI staff**

The delegation will arrive in Moldova with reading under their belts. This briefing will provide an opportunity for HDP delegates to meet with NDI staff to gain further understanding of the current political context. Specifically, NDI staff will cover details related to Moldova's induction into HDP, and the Assembly's overall strategic plan and priorities for the coming years, following the 2021 parliamentary elections. This time will also provide an opportunity for the team to review the program agenda, and discuss specific goals and objectives related to the program.

Participants:

- *NDI Moldova staff*
- *HDP Delegation*

Location: 8a Maria Cebotari str, Chisinau, Moldova

10:30 - 11:30 AM **Meeting with President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova**

In this meeting, HDP delegates will meet with the House Speaker as a political courtesy, and to provide an overview on the objectives for the TAC. This meeting will also provide an opportunity for the Speaker to offer any specific goals for the HDP visit, in addition to assessed challenges and needs for HDP support.

Participants:

- *Hon. Igor Grosu, President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*

- *NDI Moldova Staff*
- *HDP Delegation*

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

11:30 – 12:30 PM Tour of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

Participants:

- *NDI Moldova Staff*
- *HDP Delegation*

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

12:45 PM Depart Assembly for lunch

1:00 - 2:30 PM Lunch

Participants:

- *NDI Moldova Staff*
- *HDP Delegation*

Location: Penthouse Cafe (Stefan cel Mare Boulevard 103/2)

2:30 PM Depart lunch to return to Assembly

2:45 PM Enter back through security

3:00 PM

Presentation on the Moldovan past, current and planned parliamentary bills and processes relating to defense and energy policy

In this session, Moldovan legislators will present on mechanisms and tools that exist within their power to support the security and energy sectors. Legislators will also discuss challenges in executing this mandate and areas for potential reform, in addition to current bills or initiatives they are addressing or will soon address related to the defense and energy sectors

Presenters/Participants:

Members of Parliament on relevant committees

Expert legislative staff

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

4:00 PM

Key Security and Energy Sector Processes and Methods Utilized from the US Context

In this session, HDP delegates will provide an overview of the roles legislatures may play in the security sector and how members operate in the US context. The session will lay out key topics in the security sector including procurement, contracting, operations, research and development, cross-party collaboration, and defense budget oversight. Though policy preference may differ across parties, recognizing the importance of swift, transparent execution of a defense budget and relevant authorizations by a legislature will ensure that the national defense maintains stability and can adapt to a changing threat landscape.

Participants:

- *Party Leadership in Parliament, Party of Action and Solidarity*
- *Party Leadership in Parliament, Bloc of Communists and Socialists*
- *Party Leadership in Parliament, Sor Party*

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

8:00 AM ***Gather in hotel lobby***

8:15 AM ***Depart hotel for parliament***

8:30 AM ***Enter through security***

9:00 - 10:15 AM **The Defense Budget Process as a Critical Tool of Oversight**

In this session, HDP delegates will present on the role of US defense committees and collaboration with other budgetary committees on how the budget and appropriations processes are a critical tool for effective legislative oversight. Legislative oversight of the national defense budget is one of the most important roles of the institution. Not only is legislative involvement in the national defense budget process critical to ensuring citizen interests and priorities are represented in the national defense spending, but it also provides the legislature with an important tool for executive oversight.

Participants:

- *Members of the Committee for Economy, Budget and Finance*
- *Members of the Committee for National Security, Defense and Public Order*

Location: Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

10:15 - 12:00 PM **Utilizing Independent Institutions of Parliament in the Defense and Energy Sectors**

Independent institutions of parliament, such as those that support expert research and analysis and budget projections, and that are mandated to carry out oversight activities as directed by the legislature, are foundational to legislative oversight of the executive. In this session, HDP participants will present on the importance of such mechanisms in the US system, and discuss the benefits of the US Congressional Research Service, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Government Accountability Office in supporting the capacity of members and staff to carry out their legislative responsibilities in the defense and energy sectors.

Participants:

Relevant staff from independent institutions involved in supporting parliament (ie research services, legislative staff experts, supreme audit institutions, budget office, etc.)

*Location: Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova*

12:00 PM **Depart Parliament for lunch location**

12:30 – 2:00 PM **Lunch**
Location: Penthouse Cafe (Stefan cel Mare Boulevard 103/2)

2:00 PM **Depart Assembly for lunch**

2:15 PM **Arrive at Parliament and move through security**

2:30 PM **The Role of Committees in Supporting Security and Energy Sector Management**

In this session, HDP participants will present on how best to use committee structures to support security and energy sector management. Through both developing a defense budget and national energy strategy, conducting oversight, and through technical expertise, committees and their staff play an important role

in supporting these sectors. This session will help participants understand committee processes, how to best leverage committee staff expertise, and the importance of committees in the development of a defense budget and energy sector legislation.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegate Staff from Relevant Committees*
- *Hon. Mihail Popsoi, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *Committee for National Security, Defence and Public Order*
- *Committee for Human Rights and Interethnic relations*

Location: Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

3:30 PM

Coffee Break

3:45 PM

Legislative-Executive Relations in the Security and Energy Sectors

This session will cover the importance of cooperation between executive leadership and members of parliament on matters pertaining to the security and energy sectors. Strong relationships and cooperation between the Ministry of Defense, energy-focused institutions, and the legislature is necessary in order to ensure a strong national defense and resilient energy sector capable of withstanding disruptions and a changing threat landscape.

Participants:

- *Select Parliamentary Staff*

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

4:45 PM

Virtual panel with US House Legislative Counsel on legal drafting effective defense and energy sector legislation

Legislative drafting often requires a multitude of actors, including MPs, staff, and legal advisors. In the US context, the Legislative Counsel is comprised of legal advisors, counsels, and legislative drafting experts, who ensure that bill text is compliant with US legal code, and encapsulates the intended objectives of the legislative introducers and sponsors. In this session, MPs and staff will engage virtually with the US House Legislative Counsel to discuss good practices for the development of bill text on defense and energy sector initiatives.

Participants:

Relevant MPs who are involved in legislative drafting

Relevant staff who are involved in legislative drafting

Relevant legal drafting experts

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,

Chisinau 2073, Moldova

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

8:00 AM ***Gather in hotel lobby***

8:15 AM ***Depart hotel for parliament***

8:30 AM ***Enter through security***

9:00 - 10:15 AM **Legislative Management of Crises in the Security and Energy Sectors**

Regional and global crises like the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the economic and human toll of the war in Ukraine, have shown us that legislatures must stand ready to react to a changing environment in all sectors. In this session, HDP delegates will present on best practices for Members of Parliament to adapt and react to crises in the security and energy sectors, based on the US experience, particularly focusing on the need for emergency spending or authorizing packages.

Participants:
Relevant committees (finance, defense, energy)

Location:
Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

10:15 - 11:30 AM Legal Frameworks Surrounding the Handling of Classified Information in the Security and Energy Sector

Working in the security and energy sectors requires regular interaction with classified information that is critical to national security. In this session, HDP delegates will cover best practices for lawmakers that need to engage with classified information, including the processes for protection of information, challenges around disclosure, security of physical equipment containing classified information, and disposal of classified materials.

Participants:
Relevant committees/actors

Location:
Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

11:30 AM Depart Assembly for lunch location

12:00 PM LUNCH

Location: Jolly Alon Hotel, 37, Maria Cibotari Str, Chisinau, Moldova

1:15 PM Depart lunch to return to Assembly

1:30 PM Return back through security

1:30 - 2:45 PM

Engaging the Citizenry and CSOs on Security Sector and Energy Oversight

Legislative oversight of the security and energy sectors is one of the most important and challenging aspects of legislative oversight. Assemblies have the challenging responsibility of legislating to protect citizen security, monitor external threats and uphold individual freedoms. This session will provide a discussion on security and energy sector oversight, institutionalizing robust reforms to the security and energy sectors and building trust between the security sector and citizenry.

Participants:

Citizen watchdog groups

General MPs

Location:

Conference Area, Jolly Alon Hotel, 37, Maria Cibotari Str, Chisinau, Moldova

2:45 - 4:00 PM

Action Planning with MPs and staff of Parliament

In this session, the HDP delegates will meet with actors who attended sessions throughout the program, and gather feedback on the program. The delegates will also walk parliamentary actors through a constructive brainstorm on action items they would like to implement as a result of lessons learned from the exchange. NDI in-country staff will also discuss how legislative development initiatives in-country will contribute to follow-on support for parliament in implementing any said action items.

Participants:

Multiparty group of MPs (anyone interested who attended sessions during the week)

Location:

*Stefan cel Mare si Sfanta Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova*

4:00 PM

Coffee Break

4:30 - 5:30 PM

Virtual panel with US members

In this virtual session, US members of Congress will join virtually to meet with Moldovan MPs and staff in an open dialogue on the topics of the exchange. The conversation will be moderated by NDI and the HDP delegates, and provide an opportunity for MPs from Moldova to ask questions about current policies and challenges facing the US Congress in the energy and defense sectors, and guidance from members on how they are working to address such challenges.

Participants:

Multi party group of MPs (anyone interested)

Location:

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105,
Chisinau 2073, Moldova

5:30 - 6:00 PM

Debrief with NDI Country Staff

In this closing session with NDI's country staff, HDP delegates will provide reflections and recommendations for avenues of legislative support to parliament as they continue to develop strategic plans for strengthening legislative oversight. This session will also provide an opportunity to discuss future HDP support to the Assembly in line with these goals and recommendations.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegates*
- *NDI Staff*

Location: Decanter restaurant, Alexei Sciusev str 101, Chisinau, Moldova

END OF PROGRAMMING

Thursday, February 23, 2203

9:20 AM

HDP Delegates depart to Istanbul



HDP Technical Assistance Consultancy

Energy and Defence: Strengthening parliamentary initiative and legislative oversight

Chisinau, Moldova

February 20-23, 2023

About the programme:

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP) is a bipartisan commission of the U.S. House of Representatives that works with more than 20 partner legislatures globally to support legislative development and independence. The mission of HDP is to work with countries around the world to share best practices that promote responsive, effective government, and strengthen democratic institutions. Central to HDP's work is peer-to-peer cooperation and dialogue to build technical expertise in legislatures that will enhance accountability, transparency, legislative independence, access to information, and legislative oversight.

In October 2022, HDP sponsored a Congressional Delegation (CODEL) visit to Moldova as part of a larger regional visit. During the trip, the HDP Commission announced Moldova as its newest partner country. Following the adoption of Moldova as a new partner country, this will be the first official HDP program, specifically a “technical assistance consultancy” or TAC. An HDP TAC is a program that is held in-person between U.S. and HDP partner country peers in that specific partner country, which focuses on a specific issue or set of topics of interest to that partner directly.

This TAC will engage the Moldovan Assembly on building good practices for oversight in defense and energy sectors. In Moldova's rapidly changing regional landscape affecting energy and defense, decisions are made quickly and popular control through the legislature needs to be both competent and agile. The parliament fulfills an important mandate of exercising oversight and advancing legislation that will safeguard Moldova's independence, for which energy and defense are two basic conditions.

The HDP delegation will include experts from the US Congress and Congressional Research Service, who have relevant contextual knowledge and experience supporting defense and energy sector oversight in the US. The program will include introductory meetings with legislative actors in the Moldovan Assembly, in addition to presentations provided both by the Moldovan Assembly and HDP delegates, to exchange knowledge and experience in shaping one another's understanding of the topic.

Saturday, February 18, 2023

6:00 PM Austrian Airlines 94 Departs Washington Dulles International (IAD)

8 hours 40 minutes flight duration

8:40 AM Austrian Airlines 94 Arrives Vienna, Austria

4 hours layover

Sunday, February 19, 2023

12:40 PM Austrian Airlines Flight 566 Departs Vienna, Austria

1 hours 35 minutes flight duration

3:15 PM Austrian Airlines 655 Arrives Chisinau, Moldova

3:50 PM Depart to *Thomas Albert Hotel* (Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)

4:30 PM Check in at *Thomas Albert Hotel*

Location:

(Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)

6:30 PM Dinner with U.S. Embassy Defense Attache Renee Michel

Location:

Divus Restaurant - Thomas Albert Hotel Restaurant, Banulescu-Bodoni 17A St Chisinau

Reservation made for:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*

- *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
 - *Renee Michel, US Defence Attache*
 - *Erin Doss, USAID Moldova*
 - *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi).*
-

Monday, February 20, 2023

08:15 AM - 08:30 AM Gather in Hotel Lobby, Thomas Albert Hotel (Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)

08:30 AM - 08:45 AM Depart for Parliament (walk)

08:45 AM - 09:00 AM Enter through Parliament security

09:00 AM - 09:45 AM Meeting with Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

In this meeting, HDP delegates will meet with the Deputy House Speaker as a political courtesy, and to provide an overview on the objectives for the TAC. This meeting will also provide an opportunity for the Deputy Speaker to offer any specific goals for the HDP visit, in addition to assessed challenges and needs for HDP support.

Participants:

- *Hon. Mihai Popsoi, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga, Carolina Stoian)*
- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*

- *Erin Doss, USAID Moldova*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM Tour of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

Participants:

- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga, Carolina Stoian)*
- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*

Location:

Parliament,

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM *Coffee Break*

11:15 AM - 12:15 PM Presentation on the Moldovan past, current and planned parliamentary bills and processes relating to defense and energy policy

In this session, Moldovan legislators will present on mechanisms and tools that exist within their power to support the security and energy sectors. Legislators will also discuss challenges in executing this mandate and areas for potential reform, in addition to current bills or initiatives they are addressing or will soon address related to the defense and energy sectors

Presenters/Participants:

Members of Parliament on relevant committees expert legislative staff

- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Lilian Carp- Chairman of the National Security Defence and Public order Committee*

- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga - Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

12:15 PM - 12: 30 PM ***Depart for Lunch (walking)***

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ***Working Lunch***

Working lunch with NDI country staff to discuss plans for the exchange and the upcoming meeting agenda.

Location:

Purcari (Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 103)

2:15 PM - 2:30 PM ***Enter through Parliament security***

2:30 PM -3:00 PM **Welcome to HDP**

In this meeting HDP delegates will present to Moldovan MPs about the structure, intention, and programming related to membership as a partner legislature with

HDP. This is intended to be an introduction for Moldovans to HDP, as this is the first HDP engagement in the country since they have joined as a partner.

Presenters/Participants:

Alana Marsili, USAID

Nathan Riggins, Program Manager for Democratic Governance, NDI

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Hon. Mihai Popsoi, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Lilian Carp- Chairman of the National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Tamara Gheorghîță, Secretary General of the Parliament*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
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- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM Key Security and Energy Sector Processes and Methods Utilized from the US Context

In this session, HDP delegates will provide an overview of the roles legislatures may play in the security and energy sectors and how members operate in the US context. First, the session will lay out key topics in the security sector including procurement, contracting, operations, research and development, cross-party collaboration, and defense budget oversight. Next, delegates will present on key topics of energy policy including grid management, energy source diversification, and strategic energy reserves. Though policy preference may differ across parties, recognizing the importance of swift, transparent execution of a defense and energy budgeting and relevant authorizations by a legislature will ensure that nations can remain stable in times of crisis.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Hon. Mihai Popsoi, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Lilian Carp- Chairman of the National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
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- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Dinner

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*

Location:

Gastrobar, Strada Alexandru Bernardazzi 66, Chișinău, Moldova

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

08:15 AM - 8:30 AM Gather in Hotel Lobby, Thomas Albert Hotel (Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)

08:30 AM - 8:45 AM Depart for Parliament (walking)

8:45 AM - 9:00 AM Enter through Parliament security

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM The Defense Budget Process as a Critical Tool of Oversight

In this session, HDP delegates will present on the role of US defense committees and collaboration with other budgetary committees on how the budget and appropriations processes are a critical tool for effective legislative oversight. Legislative oversight of the national defense budget is one of the most important roles of the institution. Not only is legislative involvement in the national defense budget process critical to ensuring citizen interests and priorities are represented in the national defense spending, but it also provides the legislature with an important tool for executive oversight.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Lilian Carp- Chairman of the National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
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- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoidal- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*

- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

*Location: Parliament - Europa Conference Room
(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)*

10:15 AM - 10:30 AM Coffee Break

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Utilizing Independent Institutions of Parliament in the Defense and Energy Sectors

Independent institutions of parliament, such as those that support expert research and analysis and budget projections, and that are mandated to carry out oversight activities as directed by the legislature, are foundational to legislative oversight of the executive. In this session, HDP participants will present on the importance of such mechanisms in the US system, and discuss the benefits of the US Congressional Research Service, the Congressional Budget Office, and the Government Accountability Office in supporting the capacity of members and staff to carry out their legislative responsibilities in the defense and energy sectors.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
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- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

12:00 PM - 12:15 PM ***Depart for Lunch (walking)***

12:15 PM - 1:45 PM ***Lunch***

Location:

Pizzeria Caruso, (Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 149, Chisinau, Moldova)

2:15 PM - 2:30 PM ***Arrive at Parliament and move through security***

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM **The Role of Committees in Supporting Security and Energy Sector Management**

In this session, HDP participants will present on how best to use committee structures to support security and energy sector management. Through both developing a defense budget and national energy strategy, conducting oversight, and through technical expertise, committees and their staff play an important role in supporting these sectors. This session will help participants understand committee processes, how to best leverage committee staff expertise, and the importance of committees in the development of a defense budget and energy sector legislation.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Hon. Mihai Popsoi, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *Lilian Carp- Chairman of the National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
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- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

3:30 PM - 3:45 PM Coffee Break

3:45 PM - 4:40 PM Legislative-Executive Relations in the Security and Energy Sectors

This session will cover the importance of cooperation between executive leadership and members of parliament on matters pertaining to the security and energy sectors. Strong relationships and cooperation between the Ministry of Defense, energy-focused institutions, and the legislature is necessary in order to ensure a strong national defense and resilient energy sector capable of withstanding disruptions and a changing threat landscape.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
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- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova

4:45 PM - 5:45 PM Virtual panel with US House Legislative Counsel on legal drafting effective defense and energy sector legislation

Legislative drafting often requires a multitude of actors, including MPs, staff, and legal advisors. In the US context, the Legislative Counsel is comprised of legal advisors, counsels, and legislative drafting experts, who ensure that bill text is compliant with US legal code, and encapsulates the intended objectives of the legislative introducers and sponsors. In this session, MPs and staff will engage virtually with the US House Legislative Counsel to discuss good practices for the development of bill text on defense and energy sector initiatives.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Kakuti Lin, U.S. Office of Legislative Counsel (Virtual attendance)*
- *Brandon Senger, U.S. Office of Legislative Counsel (Virtual attendance)*
- *Brendon Gallagher, U.S. Office of Legislative Counsel (Virtual attendance)*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
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- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
Stefan cel Mare si Sfant Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova

Zoom Connection Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81343642850?pwd=dDgzUXBGRINCWUs2eWdCbW1VSENaZz09>

Meeting ID: 813 4364 2850

Passcode: 191137

5:45 PM - 6:00 PM *Walk back to NDI Moldova office*

6:15 PM *Bus pick up and depart for the reception at US Embassy Reception*

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM **US Embassy reception, hosted by Chargé d'Affaires, Laura Hruby**

Location:

Chargé d'Affaires house (Ciresilor 54 St, Chisinau 2009, Moldova)

8.00 PM **Bus pick up and depart to *Thomas Albert Hotel (Banulescu-Bodoni 17 St)***

8:30 - 9:30PM **Dinner**

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*

Location:

*Divus Restaurant - Thomas Albert Hotel Restaurant, Banulescu-Bodoni 17A St
Chisinau*

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

- 3:30 AM** **Depart from the Hotel Thomas Albert Hotel to Airport**
A taxi will be provided for Kristen Sample at (Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)
- 6:30 AM** **Air Moldova 863 Departs Chisinau, Moldova**
- 8:15 AM - 8:30 AM** **Gather in Hotel Lobby, Thomas Albert Hotel (Banulescu-Bodoni str 17)**
- 8:30 AM - 8:45 AM** **Depart for Parliament (walking)**
- 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM** **Enter through Parliament security**

9:00 AM - 10:15 AM **Legislative Management of Crises in the Security and Energy Sectors**

Regional and global crises like the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the economic and human toll of the war in Ukraine, have shown us that legislatures must stand ready to react to a changing environment in all sectors. In this session, HDP delegates will present on best practices for Members of Parliament to adapt and react to crises in the security and energy sectors, based on the US experience, particularly focusing on the need for emergency spending or authorizing packages.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ion Şpac - member of National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*

- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Șarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Plenary Hall

Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM Legal Frameworks Surrounding the Handling of Classified Information in the Security and Energy Sectors

Working in the security and sometimes energy sectors requires regular interaction with classified information that is critical to national security. In this session, HDP delegates will cover best practices for lawmakers that need to engage with classified information, including the processes for protection of information, challenges around disclosure, security of physical equipment containing classified information, and disposal of classified materials.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*

- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ion Şpac - member of National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Şarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Plenary Hall

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

11:30 AM - 11:45 AM Depart Assembly for lunch location

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM Lunch

Location:

Jolly Alon Hotel Restaurant, 37, Maria Cebotari St, Chisinau, Moldova

1:00 PM - 1:15 PM Welcome Coffee for participants

Location: Conference Area ground floor Jolly Alon Hotel 37, Maria Cibotari Str, Chisinau, Moldova

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM Engaging the Citizenry and CSOs on Security Sector and Energy Oversight

Legislative oversight of the security and energy sectors is one of the most important and challenging aspects of legislative oversight. Assemblies have the challenging responsibility of legislating to protect citizen security, monitor external threats and uphold individual freedoms. This session will provide a discussion on security and energy sector oversight, institutionalizing robust reforms to the security and energy sectors and building trust between the security sector and citizenry.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Ion Manole, Promo-LEX*
- *Ion Tăbârță, IDC on NATO Moldova*
- *Natalia Albu, Platform for Security and Defense Initiatives*
- *Tinevschi Ion, Platform for Security and Defense Initiatives*
- *Sergiu Tofilat, WatchDog.MD*
- *Veaceslav Berbeca, Center for Analyzes and Effective Policies*
- *Vadim Pistrinciuc, Institute for Strategic Initiatives*
- *Iulian Groza, The Institute for European Policies and Reform*
- *Irina Plis, Alliance for Energy Efficiency and Renewables*

Location:

Conference Area ground floor , *Jolly Alon Hotel, 37, Maria Cibotari Str, Chisinau, Moldova*

2:30 PM - 2:45 PM Return to parliament building

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM Action Planning with MPs and staff of Parliament

In this session, the HDP delegates will meet with actors who attended sessions throughout the program, and gather feedback on the program. The delegates will also walk parliamentary actors through a constructive brainstorm on action items

they would like to implement as a result of lessons learned from the exchange. NDI in-country staff will also discuss how legislative development initiatives in-country will contribute to follow-on support for parliament in implementing any said action items.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Multiparty group of MPs*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ion Şpac - member of National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Mihaela Topală - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *Maria Şarpe - Principal consultant, Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sport and Mass-Media Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Plenary Hall

(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM **Coffee Break**

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM **Virtual panel with US members**

In this virtual session, US members of Congress will join virtually to meet with Moldovan MPs and staff in an open dialogue on the topics of the exchange. The conversation will be moderated by NDI and the HDP delegates, and provide an opportunity for MPs from Moldova to ask questions about current policies and challenges facing the US Congress in the energy and defense sectors, and guidance from members on how they are working to address such challenges.

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *Former Congresswoman Donna Edwards (D-MD) (Virtual attendance)*
- *Former Congressman Charles Boustany (R-LA) (Virtual attendance)*
- *Hon. Mihai Popsoi, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova*
- *Radu Marian - Chairman of the Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Ion Şpac - member of National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Angela Munteanu-Pojoga- Secretary of the Human Rights and Interethnic Committee*
- *Ana Brasovan- Superior consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Vitalie Lungu - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Dorin Barcari- Main consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *Oxana Andries - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*
- *Igor Fondos - Main consultant, National Security Defence and Public order Committee*

- *Mariana Spoialo- Principal consultant, Economy Budget and Finance Committee*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Martin Angeby, Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Parliament - Europa Conference Room
(Stefan cel Mare si Sfânt Boulevard 105, Chisinau 2073, Moldova)

Zoom connection Link

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81781852777?pwd=SUw3RkNFMVNIVXNaeHNWRXMvTjRFdz09>

Meeting ID: 817 8185 2777

Passcode: 143625

Programme with parliament ends.

5:30 PM- 5:45 PM Walk back to Thomas Albert Hotel

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM Debriefing over dinner

Participants:

- *HDP Delegation*
 - *Sherman Patrick*
 - *Medha Surampudy*
 - *Emily McCabe*
 - *Alana Marsili*
 - *Kristen Sample,*
 - *Nathan Riggins,*
 - *Aidan Mitchell*
- *NDI Moldova Staff (Andrei Rusanovschi, Corneliu Cirimpei, Cristina Papanaga)*

Location:

Decanter restaurant (Alexei Sciusev 101 St)

Thursday, February 23, 2023

6:00 AM Depart from the Hotel Thomas Albert Hotel to Airport

A taxi will be provided to pick up 6 participants from Banulescu-Bodoni 17 St

9:20 AM Turkish Airlines Flight 270 Departs Chisinau, Moldova

1 hours 35 minutes flight duration

11:55 AM Turkish Airlines Flight 270 Arrives Istanbul, Turkey

4 hours 5 minutes layover

4:00 PM Turkish Airlines Flight 7 Departs Istanbul, Turkey

11 hours 30 minutes flight duration

7:30 PM Turkish Airlines Flight 7 Arrives Washington Dulles International (IAD)
