

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 26, 2023

Antony Blinken  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C St. NW  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken:

We write regarding the Republic of Moldova's request to join the European Union (EU) as a member state and encourage you to continue to express U.S. support for Moldova's bid in your conversations with representatives of the EU and our European allies.

Almost one year ago, Moldova, alongside Ukraine, was granted EU candidate status. On May 21, 2023, thousands of Moldovan citizens attended a rally in the capital city, Chişinău, supporting President Maia Sandu's ambitions to begin membership negotiations with the EU as soon as possible. In attendance was the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola, who has expressed support for these efforts.

For more than two decades, the EU and Moldova have worked together to strengthen their relationship. These growing ties were formally enshrined with the signing of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) in 1994, establishing a legal framework to govern relations between the Republic of Moldova and the EU. Later, in 2014, Moldova concluded an Association Agreement with the EU. More recently, in February of this year, the EU and Moldova reaffirmed their strong partnership and commitment to enhancing their political association and deepening Moldova's economic integration with the EU. It is worth noting that Romania, a current EU member state, has expressed steadfast support for Moldova's EU application – a reflection of the exceptional relationship between Moldova and Romania.

Since Moldova gained independence from the Soviet Union on August 27, 1991, the country has faced continued threats from Russia. These threats have only been exacerbated by Russia's unprovoked full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Today, Moldova is experiencing a substantial increase in intimidation by the Russian government, which is actively working to undermine Moldova's democratic system.

Again, at this tumultuous moment, we encourage you to continue to express U.S. support for Moldova's request for EU membership as the country continues its structural reforms to meet the requirements for EU membership. Accession to the European Union would advance U.S. interests in the region, safeguard Moldova's democratic institutions, and help to secure a more peaceful and prosperous future for the Moldovan people.

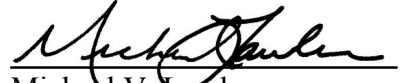
Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



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Michael V. Lawler  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



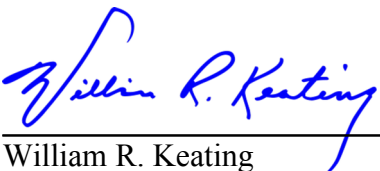
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Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Europe



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Pat Fallon  
Member of Congress



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Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



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August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress