



**CIVICUS Statement: UPR Outcome Report of the Republic of Moldova
19th Session of the UN Human Rights Council
14-16 March, 2012**

Thank you Mme President.

Human Rights Resource Group from Moldova¹ within its partnership with CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation will offer general comments on the Outcome Report of the UPR review of the Republic of Moldova.

Human Rights Resource Group from Moldova and CIVICUS commend the Government of the Republic of Moldova for embarking on efforts to further promote human rights in the country. We welcome the recognition that recommendations formulated during the interactive dialogue enjoy the support of the Moldovan Government.

We appreciate the fact that the human rights situation in Moldova has been given high priority on the agenda of international and European human rights initiatives. In this regard, we urge the Moldovan Government to adopt a comprehensive and inclusive anti-discrimination legislation, and to set up effective implementation mechanisms to prevent and combat human rights abuses in the country.

We are concerned about the activities carried out by those who oppose the actions of ethnic, religious and sexual minority groups which result in the violations of the basic rights of these groups. To avoid a rolling back of international human rights obligations undertaken by Moldova, we urge the Government to take further steps to ensure adequate protection for all minorities in the country. These steps should include an international commitment to protect the rights of the LGBT community by signing the Joint Statement on LGBT human rights from the March 2011 session of the Human Rights Council.

Human Rights Resource Group from Moldova and CIVICUS encourage the Government to continue its efforts in supporting the existence of a strong, free and independent civil society, as well as increasing its prominent role in driving human rights accountability in all areas. Non-governmental organizations, community foundations, coalitions and social movements

¹ The Human Rights Resource Group is an informal coalition of 11 human rights activists from Moldova who act both in their individual capacity and/or represent well-known human rights watchdog groups. The Group's aim is to monitor, document, and report human rights violations occurring in the country and undertake advocacy efforts for resolving them. The Group was established in 2010 and it is supported by the Soros Foundation – Moldova and the Open Society Foundations.

remain pivotal players in monitoring human rights and holding the authorities accountable. We would welcome the opportunity to contribute to this process, and hope that other opportunities might be explored to improve the role of civil society.

Implementing UPR recommendations is vital for improving human rights and to increase the visibility of the country in the international arena. We therefore urge that processes be initiated to review and revise the National Human Rights Action Plan and other human rights related documents, with a view to producing a policy document which would include UPR recommendations and, therefore meet international and European standards.

Human Rights Resource Group as an informal coalition representing well-known human rights watchdog groups from Moldova and CIVICUS as an international alliance of civil society with members and partners in over a hundred countries will continue to monitor the human rights situation in the Republic of Moldova, and, where appropriate, respond in a timely manner.

Thank you, Mme President