

FORM FOR TABLING PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

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To the: COUNCIL
COMMISSION

ORAL QUESTIONS	WRITTEN QUESTIONS
Oral Question with debate (Rule 108) <input type="checkbox"/> Question Time (Rule 109) <input type="checkbox"/>	Written Question (Rule 110) <input type="checkbox"/> Priority Written Question (Rule 110 (4)) <input type="checkbox"/>
AUTHOR(S): Marco Cappato, Sophie In't Veld	
SUBJECT: Ban of the Gay Pride in Moldova, lack of police protection, violation of human rights (please specify)	
TEXT: <p>The 7th Gay Pride of Moldova took place in Chisnau on the 11th of May. The Mayor of Chisnau, Dorin Chirtoaca, decided on the eve of the march to ban it, although the event was peaceful and organised to support of anti-discrimination legislation and tolerance. During the march, participants were precluded from peacefully marching as the police did not guarantee the right to freedom of assembly and the security of participants, who were deliberately left in the hands of counter-demonstrators. Large aggressive coordinated groups, including extremist religious groups, members of the neo-fascist movement "New Right", and legionnaires - according to observers from 200 to 400 people - surrounded a bus with about 60 demonstrators for over 45 minutes, forced the door, violently hit the windows, and attempted to remove the engine, while shouting "lets get them out and beat them up". Some 6 traffic police cars stood approximately 100 meters away without taking any action. Several hundred people surrounded the office of the LGBT organisation GenderDoc-M , threatening pride participants and shouting to them to exit the office. Two police and one ambulance cars observed from distance the events. The office remained blocked for several hours, without any public authority intervention of protection. GenderDoc-M is the only NGO whose public manifestations have been repeatedly been banned since the new Mayor took office. Human rights organisations have denounced the grave events of violence tolerated by the Moldovan authorities. Furthermore, information received from independent observers also says that all action of protest was prepared and coordinated by special security service of Moldova. Participants of protest action were brought to Chisinau with minibuses from different parts of Moldova.</p> <p>Is the Commission aware of these facts? Doesn't the Commission agree that banning a gay pride is contrary to the jurisprudence of the ECHR in reference to the "Baczkowski and Others v. Poland" and that consequently Moldova is in breach of the Council of Europe human rights instruments? will the Commission raise these human rights violations at the highest level with Moldovan authorities, put pressure on Moldovan government to implement its own laws without discrimination and its international human rights commitments?</p> <p>The EU-Moldova Action Plan provides good framework for progress. It includes obligations for Moldova to implement the National Human Rights Action Plan (which contains a chapter on sexual minority rights) in 2.1 (4) and to put in place and implement legislation on anti-discrimination and legislation guaranteeing the rights of minorities, in line with European standards. The European standard, of course, includes protection on the grounds of sexual orientation. Is the Commission aware that Moldovan government has not implemented these provisions of the Action Plan, despite passed deadlines? What does the Commission plan to do to ensure that these provisions of the Action Plan are implemented?</p>	
Signature(s): 15.05.2008	Date: