# Members of the Joint Control Commission met in Bender



The members of the Joint Control Commission met in Bender on 14 January, after a period of remote activity.

The draft agenda was proposed by the Head of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova (who chaired the working meeting) and it covered the full range of issues concerning the Security Zone, which require urgent resolution. These are related, first of all, to the illegal checkpoints that obstruct free movement and to cases of citizens' abductions by the armed representatives of the force structures from the left bank of Nistru. The draft agenda also included the proposal of conducting a complex assessment of the current situation in the Security Zone, starting with 1 May, 2019, and following the emergence of "border guard" posts. The hearing of the Military Commander was also requested, specifically on participation of the military structures, subordinate to Tiraspol, at mass gatherings with exposed firearms, which were organized by violating the regime established in Bender – a district with increased security regime.

According to the Activity Regulation of the Commission, the agenda of the meeting has to be agreed by all parties, while the representatives of Tiraspol again refused to examine the current topical issues. The position of the Moldovan side was supported only by the representatives of Ukraine and the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

The proposal of the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova to convene an emergency meeting, with only one topic on the agenda – confirmation of the new representative of Ukraine to the Joint Control Commission, the Defense Attaché of Ukraine, Colonel Alexei Braghinet, was also rejected.

Regarding the 4 weekly reports for the period from 16 December, 2020 to 12 January, 2021, signed by the Joint Military Command, the Delegation of the Republic of Moldova

mentioned that these cannot be submitted for approval, as they do not meet the requirements imposed by the Commission’s Decision of 24 September, 2020. Ignorance of this Decision blocks the mechanism of documenting and, respectively, eliminating the illegal checkpoints, that were installed under the pretext of fighting the Covid-19 pandemic.

The only decision agreed upon during the debates was that the parties will delegate one military representative from each Delegation to participate in the meetings of the Joint Military Command, in order to identify solutions that would contribute to eliminating violations of the Security Zone regime, committed during the pandemic.

The Delegation of the Republic of Moldova considers that through its destructive actions, the Transnistrian party seeks to remove the issues of the Security Zone from under the control of the Joint Control Commission and to completely discredit the peacekeeping operation.

**Delegation of the Republic of Moldova to the Joint Control Commission**

