

# **EU's assistance and key aspects of the reintegration process were discussed by the Deputy Prime Minister, Olga Cebotari, and the representatives of the European External Assistance Service and the European Commission**



*04 February 2021, Chisinau* – The Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration, Olga Cebotari, had an online interactive discussion with the representatives of the European External Assistance Service, the European Commission and the European Union Delegation to the Republic of Moldova.

The Deputy Prime Minister spoke about the activities aimed at contributing to the reintegration of the country and about the assistance provided to the population on both banks of the Nistru river, in the context of implementing the priorities of the Moldova - European Union Association Agenda.

The Deputy Prime Minister for Reintegration highlighted the evolutions in the country's reintegration domain and on the dialogue with stakeholders in the Transnistrian settlement process. She set out Chisinau's priorities for the current year, including protection of the fundamental rights of citizens living in the Eastern districts of the country, restoration of free movement to/from the localities on the left bank of Nistru, provision of the necessary support to fight the Covid-19 pandemic in the administrative-territorial units from the left bank and from Bender municipality, implementation of the so-called Berlin Plus Package and solving the current problems of the population on both banks of the river.

A continuous interest in maintaining and deepening the dialogue with the European partners on issues of common interest was expressed, in addition to completing the 5th stage of the Program "Supporting Confidence-Building Measures" (2019-2021) and

to identifying priorities for the 6th stage of the same program. The official stated the need of projects that would contribute to increasing the capacity of river ferries, facilitate the elimination of barriers to free movement, finance the repair and modernization of bridges over the Nistru river (i.e., the bridge between Gura Bicului and Bicioc villages), etc.

The Deputy Prime Minister mentioned that projects and programs aimed at strengthening trust and sustainable development, as well as at increasing contacts between professionals on both banks of Nistru, must actively contribute to supporting the regulatory process, achieving the government's goal to reintegrate the country and improving human rights situation in the Transnistrian region.

At the end of the discussion, Olga Cebotari thanked for the constructive dialogue and for the continuous support offered to the Republic of Moldova on various issues related to the Transnistrian settlement process.

