A commentary on the declaration of Tiraspol regarding the intention to temporarily halt the activity of the vehicle registration offices from the left bank of river Nistru



28.12.2021, Chisinau – Following messages disseminated to the public by Tiraspol, communicating the intention to halt, beginning on December 29, the activity of vehicle registration offices from the left bank of river Nistru, we present the following clarifications.

On December 22, following a searching conducted in the customs office Căușeni, the customs authorities of the Republic of Moldova have withheld a batch of neutral license plates and, additionally, another batch of license plates with unrecognized Transnistrian symbols, imported on the territory of the country by a company from the Transnistrian region and transported with the same vehicle.

The competent authorities of the Republic of Moldova are directly interacting with the representatives of the mentioned company. It was informed that there are no impediments to authorize the introduction of the license plates with a neutral number model on the territory of the country, according to the requirements of current working legislation.

At the same time, we find that the problem has been generated by the decision of Tiraspol to condition the takeover of neutral number license plates only together with plates containing unauthorized symbols. We emphasize that the import of this category of license plates does not fall within the provisions of national legislation and international commitments to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Chisinau reaffirms its commitment to ensure the implementation of the Protocol Decision of April 24, 2018 and the normative acts implementing this document agreed in the negotiations (Law no. 170/2018 and Government Decision no. 847/2018), in compliance with the requirements reflected in Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of 08 November 1968 and providing the necessary assistance to citizens in the process of documenting both neutral and national model plates in the territorial subdivisions on both banks of the river Nistru.

In this context, we call upon Tiraspol to return within the frames of constructive dialogue, to avoid unilateral measures which will affect the rights of the inhabitants of the region and to abandon the idea of suspending the activity of vehicle registration offices on the left bank of the river Nistru.

