

The mechanism of documenting the means of transport from the Transnistrian region with neutral registration numbers remains functional



Chisinau provides the residents of the Transnistrian region, which is temporarily not under the control of the constitutional authorities, with the right to register their means of transport (except for those engaged in commercial activity) with neutral registration numbers and to access international traffic in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of November 8, 1968.

The procedure is regulated by Law no. 170/2018 regarding the registration of means of transport and the amendment of several legislative acts adopted as a result of the implementation of a commitment agreed in the negotiation process for the Transnistrian regulation in the "5+2" format, included in such the so-called Berlin plus package.

The mentioned legislative act entered into force on September 1, 2018 and does not limit in time the applicability of the neutral number mechanism for means of transport introduced on the left bank of the Nistru river and the municipality of Bender **after this date**.

For the means of transport that were in the region **before the entry into force** of the stated law, the term of action of the mechanism was initially established for an interval of 2 years (until September 1, 2020), and by Law no. 180/2020 has been extended until September 1, 2022.

Therefore, the inhabitants of the Transnistrian region can continue to benefit from the services provided by the Public Services Agency at the two vehicle registration points located in the cities of Tiraspol and Râbnița, and the persons who own or will acquire means of transport introduced in the region after September 1, 2018 will be able to document them with neutral plates in accordance with the existing legal norms.

Since participation in car traffic outside the country is only allowed with national or international permits, the authorities continue to offer the residents of the Transnistrian region a simplified exchange mechanism without sustaining additional trials, which results in obtaining the driving license of the Republic of Moldova.

Although the statistics show the increased interest of the residents of the Transnistrian region for these public services offered by the authorities of the Republic of Moldova, which ensure their right to access international road traffic, Tiraspol defies the arrangements agreed upon and blocks the provision of primary car registration services in accordance with Law no. 170/2018 under a false pretext, starting from December 29, 2021 and until now.

