

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

# Discover the building of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova





# **Contents**

6	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor	18
	Europe Hall	19
8	Library of the Parliament	20
9	Meeting rooms	22
	Rooms for meetings of the	23
10	standing committees	
12	Permanent exhibitions	24
14	Solidarity actions	26
15	Accessibility of the building	28
16	Children's room	29
	Parliament's openness	30
	8 9 10 12 14 15	Europe Hall Library of the Parliament Meeting rooms Rooms for meetings of the standing committees Permanent exhibitions Solidarity actions Accessibility of the building Children's room





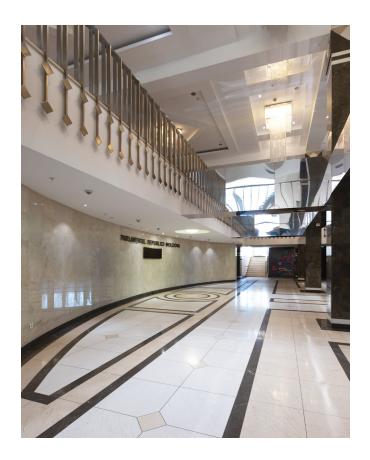
## **Brief history**

The Parliament building was erected between 1973 and 1976, following the design of architects Alexandru Cerdanţev and Grigore Bosenco. It was designed as the headquarters of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Moldovan Soviet Socialist Republic. The building has been the seat of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova since 1991. Over the years, some renovation works have been carried out. The most essential modernisation works were carried out after the building was devastated following the protests of 7 April 2009.

The first Parliament was democratically elected in 1990. On 23 May 1991, according to the decision of the Supreme Soviet of the Moldovan Soviet Socialist Republic, the former USSR republic, MSSR, was renamed the Republic of Moldova and the Supreme Soviet became the first Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

The Parliament building is located on a 2.0656 hectares area. The total area of the building is about 15.000 m2. It has nine floors. The complex consists of the main body and a five-floor auxiliary building, built in 2014. At the same time, the plenary sitting hall was enlarged, the offices of MPs' assistants, offices of parliamentary factions, a canteen, new lifts and a press conference room were designed.

Being viewed from the outside, the Parliament's building has the shape of an open book.





# **Ground floor lobby**

Here the Parliament welcomes the official delegations and the groups of visitors as well. The lobby provides a platform for events with the participation of the general public and for the free hosting of several exhibitions signed by Moldovan artists but also by talented students and children.

# Maquette of the Parliament building

It was designed and made by the students of the Technical University of Moldova in 2017, at a scale of 1:50, with a size of 2.60 x 0.78 m and a total weight of 35-40 kg. Plastic, organic glass, brass and other materials were used to make it bring the exterior of the building as close as possible to the original.









#### Museum of the Parliament

It was inaugurated on 23 May 2017. The Museum tells the story of parliamentarism in the Republic of Moldova and brings to the public attention a collection of exhibits consisting of historical documents, photographs and protocol gifts.

Among the most relevant exhibits are the gallery of the pictures of former Speakers, the protocol edition of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, copies of the Declaration of Independence, Declaration of Sovereignty, the Act of the Reunification of Bessarabia with Romania in 1918, a representation of the State Coat of Arms with the original signature of the author – the visual artist Gheorghe Vrabie.

The collection of protocol gifts reflects the diversity of the diplomatic and friendship relations the parliamentary institution has with the institutions in other countries. The Museum is open for visitors and is included in the route of the free guided tours provided by the Parliament.



# **Second-floor lobby**

It is the *antechamber* of the most important room in the Parliament building – the Plenary Sitting Hall.

# Registration of MPs for the plenary sitting

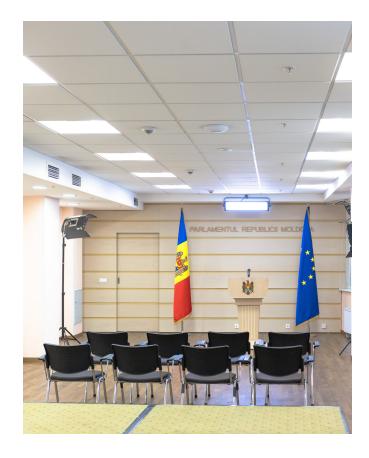
Before the plenary sittings begin, MPs pass through this area for registration. Each MP confirms their attendance at the sitting by personal signature in the attendance list, at one of the four tables in the lobby. The purpose of drawing up lists is to determine whether the quorum is met, and the sitting is deliberative (at least 51 MPs).



#### MPs' mailboxes

More than 100 mailboxes are installed in the lobby. Each MP has a box where the correspondence received in their name is delivered, as well as documents, drafts, information in printed format.





## I AM YOUR VOICE banner

The banner contains over 300 photos of the citizens of the Republic of Moldova who either visited the Parliament building or met with MPs around the country. It was installed in 2018, on the occasion of the Parliament's Day, marked annually on 23 May.

The message comes to confirm the representative function of the Parliament. As elected representatives of the people, MPs have the role to defend citizen's interests, to protect the fundamental freedoms of all citizens of the country, without discrimination.

## Press conference room

It is located on the second level of the building and is basically used for press conferences. Equipped with the necessary technical equipment, the room also provides working conditions for journalists accredited to Parliament, who can watch live broadcasts from the plenary sitting hall.



#### **Press corner**

The press corner was arranged in 2019. It is a special place, where MPs give short interviews and comments on the current topics.



## **Plenary Sitting Hall**

It is the main legislative arena for political debates and the place where Parliament fulfils its basic function – the adoption of laws. It is the largest hall in the building, with a capacity of up to 190 seats. In addition to the MPs' 101 seats, the hall provides special places for several categories of participants attending the sittings, such as the President of the Republic of Moldova, Members of Government, Secretariat, institutions under Parliament subordination, diplomatic corps, consultants and guests.

It is designed and equipped according to modern requirements and standards. Since 2021 the electronic voting system has been functional.



## Visitors' lodge

It provides 15 seats for members of the general public who request to attend a plenary sitting. The request shall be addressed to the Secretary General of Parliament and sent to vizite@parlament.md.





# The 3<sup>rd</sup> floor

The most spacious offices are on the third level, which differs from the other levels in terms of the height of the rooms. This is where the office of the party leader, the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, as well as the offices of the junior secretaries were. For this reason, the floor was called the 'Secretaries' floor'. Since 1991, it has hosted the offices of the President and Vice Presidents of the Parliament, the office of the Secretary General of the Parliament, as well as the Europe Hall.

## **Europe Hall**

It was inaugurated in 2016 and is the second largest hall in the Parliament building, with a capacity of up to 70 seats. It is a symbolic name meant to highlight the European aspirations and the integration policies of the Republic of Moldova. Various official meetings take place here: meetings with foreign delegations, conferences, parliamentary hearings, public consultations, workshops and many other national and international events.



# **Library of the Parliament**

The Library is an integral part of the Parliament's information system and plays an important role in providing, processing and preserving information, aimed at providing information support to Parliament's work.

The collection of the Library includes various categories of documents and is expanded annually with new titles. Most of the publications in the Library's collection reflect the fields of legal sciences, economics, politics, international relations, etc.

The Library stocks include:

- more than 6 000 books (monographs);
- more than 40 periodicals;
- Legislation of the Republic of Moldova from 1990 to 2022 in printed format;
- Legislation of the Republic of Moldova in the electronic format since 2021;
- electronic resources (e-resources INTRANET).







## **Meeting rooms**

The Parliament building has a number of rooms where meetings of standing committees, public hearings and consultations, meetings and discussions with various national and international delegations, experts and representatives of civil society take place.

# Rooms for meetings of the standing committees

For ordinary meetings, the committees meet in the offices of their chairs, which have a capacity of 20 seats. Hearings and public consultations organised by the committees are held in one of the six meeting rooms in the building.

## MP's offices

Each MP has their own office providing space for them and their assistant. The MPs' offices are located at the  $5^{\rm th}$  to  $9^{\rm th}$  floor.







## **Permanent exhibitions**

## Former Speakers' Portrait Exhibition

The exhibition presents the portraits of all Parliament Speakers from 1990 to the present day. The authors of the works are brothers Valeriu and Ion Jabinschi, Moldovan visual artists. The painters have cleverly captured the character traits and naturalness of these personalities in pastel on cardboard.

# Exhibition "Parliament seen by young people"

The exhibition brings together works by students from the Faculty of Urbanism and Architecture of the Technical University of Moldova. It reflects, in an original way, the architecture of the legislative building, the architectural and cultural value of the building being rendered by young people in a harmonious symbiosis between present and future, with inspirations from the past. The works were created during the creative classes, using various visual art techniques: watercolour, oil colours, plain pencil, pastel, sandpaper, charcoal, mixed media, etc.

# Photo gallery

## "Architectural monuments of the Republic of Moldova"

It presents a series of architectural monuments of national interest in the Republic of Moldova. The collection includes 20 black and white photographs and has been exhibited since 2017.







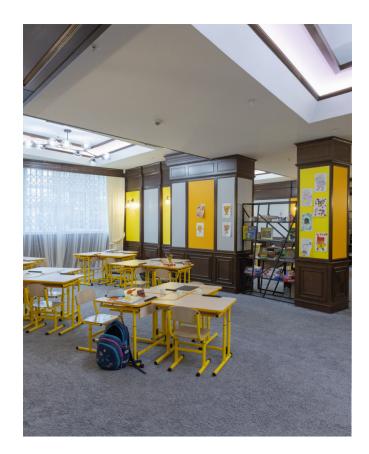


# **Solidarity actions**

Every year, the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova expresses its solidarity with various national and international events. In doing so, it joins institutions around the world in marking important moments that need to be highlighted, be

it national holidays, or messages of support for values such as peace and solidarity between peoples, understanding and acceptance of people in need of community support.





## Accessibility of the building

The Parliament building is accessible for all the visitors. The access ways into the building are adapted to the special needs of the people with reduced mobility and visually impaired people. The mobile ramp in the plenary sitting hall was installed in 2017.

## Children's room

It was inaugurated in May 2022 with the support of the development partners UN Women and the Embassy of Sweden to the Republic of Moldova. The beneficiaries of the project are children aged 6-11 of the MPs and of the parliamentary staff. This is a pilot project designed to ensure the emotional balance of the Parliament's Secretariat staff, increase job satisfaction and productivity, and encourage gender equality policies in public life.

## Parliament's openness

#### Guided tours

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova is providing guided tours for all those interested in visiting the Parliament's building, seeing from the inside the working place of MPs, and finding out more information on the legislative work. Visits to the Parliament are provided based on a prior online registration, upon selecting one of the following options:

- guided tours:
- attendance at plenary sessions;
- participation in the Open Doors Day;
- study visits:
- individual meetings with MPs.

Guided information visits take place on the basis of a prior appointment on the platform vizite.parlament.md



Schedule a visit to the Parliament



Read information

#### Public events

The Parliament offers the general public a promotion platform by regularly organizing various public events:

- Open Doors Day;
- Parliamentary Openness Week;
- The Youth Parliament:
- information sessions for children andyoung people;
- book launches:
- public debates;
- charity events;
- creative and reading workshops;
- thematic exhibitions and fairs;
- thematic contests:
- festive programs.

#### Parliament's official website

source of official information regarding parliamentary agenda, draft normative acts, public consultations, public competitions, budget, reports, official visits, etc.

#### Newsletters

monthly and annual summaries reflecting the legislative process, meetings and current events.



□ ₩₩ □ Visit our PHOTO gallery on Flicker



Visit our **VIDEO** gallery on YouTube

## Parliament's transparency

#### e-Parliament

a digital solution developed in accordance with the Parliament's specific needs to ensure compliance with the Parliament's Rules of Procedure. It provides access to comprehensive contextual information to all those involved in parliamentary processes.

#### e-Voting

a system component that automates the conduct of plenary sessions. The system displays attendance at the meeting and voting results. All the information is reflected in real time on the official website of the Parliament.

#### e-Petitions

the website of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova offers the opportunity to submit petitions online. Depending on the specifics of the problems addressed, the central/local public authorities will be involved, as well as other state authorities empowered to solve the reported problems.

#### Follow us:







The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

## **Contacts**

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