



PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
TO THE OSCE

**STATEMENT**  
**by the Republic of Moldova**  
**in response to the address of H.E. Valery Chechelashvili,**  
**Secretary General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-**  
**GUAM**  
*(1049<sup>th</sup> Permanent Council, April 30, 2015)*

Mr. Chairman,

We warmly welcome H.E. Valery Chechelashvili, Secretary General of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM at the Permanent Council and thank him for very insightful presentation on GUAM's priorities and activities. The Republic of Moldova has aligned to the EU Statement, but we would like to make a couple of remarks in our national capacity.

Let me start by expressing our gratitude to the Secretary General for professionally steering the work of GUAM over the last eight years and for his personal contribution in strengthening the role of our Organization and diversifying its activities.

We commend the Serbian Chairmanship initiatives in enhancing cooperation between the OSCE and regional organizations and for placing the GUAM activities on the agenda of the Permanent Council.

Your presence today, Mr. Secretary General, is very timely and provides an excellent opportunity to reflect on ways to increase cooperation between our Organizations. The OSCE and GUAM share common norms and deal with many similar challenges. In time of serious security crisis in Europe, it is necessary to combine efforts in searching for common solutions.

The existing protracted conflicts and the crisis in and around Ukraine represent the most serious challenges to peace and stability in Europe. The resolution of these conflicts should be a top priority on the OSCE agenda. We have to step up efforts in restoring confidence and adherence to the OSCE norms and commitments by all participating states. Lack of progress in their settlement will further undermine trust between participating states.

We share your assessment, Mr. Secretary General, on the need to strengthen the engagement of international community in the resolution of existing conflicts. The status-quo is detrimental to security and stability in the region and must be changed. There is a need to foster political will to efficiently promote the settlement of the protracted conflicts and the

crisis in and around Ukraine based on norms and principles of international law, in particular respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of states within its internationally recognized borders. As a regional initiative, GUAM can bring an added value in addressing these major challenges to the European security.

The Republic of Moldova has been actively supporting efforts aimed at increasing cooperation among the GUAM member states, its partners and other regional organizations. During the Moldovan Chairmanship of the GUAM last year, we placed a high importance to promoting sectorial cooperation, in particular in areas of economy and trade, transport, energy security, tourism, combating transnational crime etc. We stand ready to further develop the interaction of GUAM with our traditional external in the “GUAM +” format. In this context, we particularly welcome the recent adoption of the UN General Assembly resolution on cooperation between the UN and GUAM, which is another appreciation of the important regional role played by GUAM.

In conclusion, I would like to thank once again Secretary General Chechelashvili for sharing with us his reflections on increasing the cooperation between the OSCE and GUAM and wish him every success in his future activities.

Thank you.