



IPRE

Institute for European
Policies and Reforms
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ANNUAL REPORT

January – December 2016

Institute for European Policies and Reforms

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This is the **2nd IPRE Annual Report** outlining key results of the 2016 calendar year. The report introduces an overview and achievements of IPRE activities, updated information about IPRE's key project partners and donors, IPRE Governance and Management Team and 2016 IPRE's project profile. The 2016 financial report is also included in the current report.

I. OVERVIEW, MISSION, ACHIEVEMENTS

The Institute for European Policies and Reforms (hereinafter IPRE) was established in March 2015 as an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit action center for research and analysis, founded by a team of national and international experts, former governmental officials, civil servants and career diplomats.

In 2016 IPRE joined as a full-member of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (www.eap-csf.eu) and started to contribute with expertise to the EU-Moldova Civil Society Platform. In 2016 IPRE started the process of accession as Associated member of the Southeast European Leadership for Development and Integrity (www.seldi.net).

IPRE's mission is to accelerate the European integration of the Republic of Moldova by promoting the implementation of systemic reforms, increasing participatory democracy and strengthening the role of citizens in decision-making processes on the national and local levels.

IPRE's philosophy is that European integration of the Republic of Moldova, shall not be the ultimate goal of internal agenda of reforms, but rather an instrument to ensure a sustainable transformation of the country. The full implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement is a cornerstone in this regard.

IPRE activities and expertise in 2016 have covered the following **thematic areas of intervention**:

- European Integration and Eastern Partnership;
- Foreign and Security Policies;
- Justice Sector and Anti-Corruption;
- Public Administration Reform;
- Trade, Economic development and sustainable energy;
- Social inclusion and minorities integration;
- Youth development.

To implement its Mission, IPRE has the following **core activity objectives**:

- (1) Conduct research, public policy development and monitoring of the key areas of transformation as provided by the EU-Moldova Association Agreement;
- (2) Promote research and public policy products on the local, national and European levels, including through advocacy actions, building and participating in thematic non-governmental coalitions;
- (3) Empower youth and local media aiming to promote civic engagement and participatory democracy.

Achievements 2016

IPRE has become one of the leading Moldovan non-governmental organization specialized on issues of European integration, foreign policy and good governance, affirming itself as a credible reference center for research, policy development and empowerment. At the same time, IPRE managed to go beyond traditional research-based think-tank, contributing to citizens' participation in assessment and promoting public policies.

Since its foundation, IPRE has implemented **21 projects**¹ that further developed and improved Institute's expertise in contributing to the Europeanisation process of the Republic of Moldova.

During 2016 IPRE has started or/and implemented **11 projects** (with a total spent budget in 2016 of over 260.000 EUR). The main source of IPRE's funding are the grants and funds offered by a wide range of development partners. Since 2016, IPRE managed to secure annually over 95% of the required organisational budget from diversified sources of funding. The shares of funds from individual donors do not exceed 30%. IPRE also has established an Institutional Reserve Fund that is created from member's donations, overheads and administrative fees agreed with development partners that vary from 2% to 10% from the projects' budgets. The Institutional Reserve Fund is covering basic organizational costs such as office rent and maintenance, retreats for IPRE's staff and other institutional costs of the organisation.

¹ Updated data until June 2017.

More detailed information about the state of play of implemented projects and the financial reporting can be found below in the current report under the section IPRE's Project Profile 2016 and IPRE Financial Report accordingly.

During 2016, IPRE projects have been developed and implemented in line with IPRE's Mission and key objectives. The following outputs of implemented projects during 2016 can be outlined:

- Independent monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement;
- Research, policy development and advocacy in the field of European integration;
- Enhanced national non-governmental advocacy initiatives;
- Citizens' participation and engagement in policy development and decision making-process at the local and national level;
- Youth empowerment;
- Empowered regional and local media.

In 2016 IPRE managed to:

- Organise over 30 seminars, conferences and thematic workshops at the national and European levels (Brussels, Berlin);
- Develop and publish 33 publications, studies, reports, policy papers (thematic analysis), policy briefs and memos (analytical notes)²;
- Promote our activities through 383 media appearances and interviews by IPRE experts in national and regional media;
- Become one of the most followed Think Tank from Moldova on Facebook with over 4000 followers.

In April 2016, the Board adopted (1) IPRE's **Operational Policies Manual** that provides in addition to the Statute more detailed rules and in-house policies of organizational operation (Annex 1) and (2) IPRE's **Communication and Visibility Strategy** (Annex 2).

During 2016 IPRE has developed IPRE's **Institutional Development Strategy (2017-2019)** (Annex 3).

IPRE Visibility and Outreach

<u>www.ipre.md</u>	39.000 user hits
Mass-media and IPRE Online, TV, printed	IPRE has: issued 48 Press Releases made 109 web posts on ipre.md had 383 media appearance by IPRE experts
<u>IPRE Facebook page @IPREMoldova</u>	Over 466000 views Over 65000 clicks on posts Over 660 shares 4350 likes and followers 9700 weekly outreach 271 posts on IPRE's Facebook page
<u>IPRE Twitter account @IPREMD</u>	17 Followers 511 tweets
<u>IPRE YouTube Channel</u>	879 viewers

A detailed Media and Visibility Monitoring Report (2016) is enclosed (Annex 4).

² The List of IPRE Publications for 2016 is enclosed (Annex 5).

II. PARTNERS AND DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

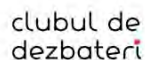
Development partners:

As a result of its activities in 2016, IPRE has managed to implement its Mission and activity objectives through projects implemented in partnership and support of the following development partners and donors: European Endowment for Democracy (EED), Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS), Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSS), East Europe Foundation, Foundation of the Open Society Institute, German Federal Foreign Office, the Government of Netherlands (MATRA Programme), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia, the UK Good Governance Fund Programme and SlovakAID.



Project Partners:

IPRE succeeded to establish strong cooperation and partnership links with other Moldovan, regional and European civil society organizations, think-tanks and media organizations, including with IDIS-Viitorul, Promo-Lex, ADEPT, IPP, APE, CRJM, Expert-Group, Center "Partnership for Development", Debates Club, Anticorruption Alliance, PrimariaMea.md, Privesc.eu, Canal Regional, Institute for European Politics (Berlin), European Integration Society Association (Berlin), National Center for Strategic Studies (Warsaw), European Policy Center (Brussels), Transparency International – Estonia and Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum.



III. IPRE GOVERNANCE

The general governance of the IPRE is ensured by **the General Assembly** formed by 23 members that elects the President of the Board and appoints the Executive Director upon the proposal of the Board.







The Board is the body which approves and ensures the general oversight of IPRE's main strategic directions and objectives that must be followed by IPRE's Executive and Management Team, which operations in an environment of full autonomy in implementation. The Board currently comprises 4 full members, including 3 founding members³, and IPRE's Executive Director (Iulian Groza). In April 2016 IPRE's General Assembly invited 6 new designate-members of the Board⁴ and 3 honorary members⁵ of the Board with observatory status. The Board is chaired by a Chairman (Vladislav Kulminski) elected by IPRE's General Assembly for a term of three years (2015-2018). The new extended Board shall be formally operational after the next Board meeting scheduled to take place in 2017.




Current IPRE Board Members	
	<p>Vladislav KULMINSKI, Chairman of the Board, Executive Director of the Institute for Strategic Initiatives (founder)</p> <p><i>Currently Executive Director of the Institute for Strategic Studies. He is a Syracuse Humpfrey Fellow, Syracuse University. He was most recently the Political Adviser to the Prime Minister of Moldova, where he advised the Prime Minister on domestic politics and reforms. He was heavily involved in efforts to push reform in a number of areas, including public administration. He coordinated conflict resolution programs in Ukraine for Marti Ahtisaari's centre and the Crisis Management Initiative. Prior to this, he led a Confidence Building Measure program for Moldova and its Transnistrian region, and worked as a Political Advisor to the UK Embassy. He has an M.A. in International Relations and EU studies from Central European University.</i></p>
	<p>Victor LUTENCO, Member of the Board (founder)</p> <p><i>Is the expert on social issues and diaspora affairs. He is currently a Policy Moderator at IPRE. Before he was the Head of the Diaspora Relations Bureau (DRB) from the Moldovan Government. He gained solid experience in the field of social development and migration, working in an anti-trafficking NGO (2003-2005), and acting as the national coordinator in the International Organisation for Migration (2005-2008). He subsequently joined the United Nations system, working in 2008-2010 with the United Nations Population Fund on demographic policies in Moldova. Mr. Lutenco holds a master's degree in Political Science from the State University of Moldova. He is fluent in Romanian, English, Russian and Italian.</i></p>
	<p>Eugen STURZA, Member of the Board, Associate expert (founder)</p> <p><i>Is an IPRE associate expert. He is an expert in public administration and political affairs. He hold different positions in the Government Secretariat. He was the Head of the Cabinet of the Prime-minister of the Republic of Moldova (2013-2015).</i></p>
	<p>Iulian GROZA, Member of the Board, Executive Director</p> <p><i>Is an expert on foreign policy, European affairs and good governance. He is a former Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova responsible for European Integration (June 2013 to February 2015). Before that he served in different capacities including as Director General at the Directorate for European integration at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. He was posted as well to Brussels at the Moldovan Mission to the EU. Mr. Groza was a member of the Moldovan negotiation team of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement and led the Moldovan Task Force in the EU-Moldova Visa Liberalization Dialogue. Mr. Groza is a PhD candidate at the Moldovan State University and holds a degree in law. He also did postgraduate European Studies at Birmingham University and NATO Security Studies at SNSPA in Bucharest.</i></p>

³ **IPRE's founding members:** Vladislav Kulminski, Executive Director of the Institute for Strategic Studies (IPIS), Victor Lutenco, former head of Bureau for Relations of Diaspora and Eugen Sturza, Former head of the cabinet of the Prime-Minister

⁴ **New designate-members of IPRE's Board:** Igor Boțan, Executive Director of ADEPT; Eugen Carpov, Former Deputy Prime-Minister for Reintegration; Valentina Ursu, journalist Radio Europalibera.org; Iurie Leancă, Former Prime-minister of Moldova; Victor Chirilă, President of APE; Marin Ciobanu, President of the Manufacturing Industry Employers' Association (APIP)

⁵ **Honorary Members of the Board:** Carl Bildt, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden; Radosław Sikorski, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland and Mirslaov Lajcak, Deputy Prime-Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia

New Designated Members of the Board	
	<p>Iurie LEANCĂ, Member of Parliament, Former Prime minister <i>Is a Moldovan politician, currently being a Member of the Moldovan Parliament, and charring the European People's Party of Moldova. He held the position of Prime-minister of the Republic of Moldova from May 2013 to March 2015. He is a career diplomat and served in different positions in the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and diplomatic Missions abroad from 1989 until 2002. Between 2009 and 2013 he was the Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. He holds a diplomatic rank of Ambassador. Mr. Leanca is one of the key experts on European integration of the Republic of Moldova.</i></p>
	<p>Eugen CARPOV, Member of Parliament, Former Deputy Prime-Minister for Reintegration <i>Is currently a Member of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. Previously he held the position of Deputy Prime-Minister for Reintegration (2011-2015). Before that he worked between for few year in the business sector. He is a career diplomat and served in different positions in the Moldovan Ministry of Foreign including as Ambassador of the Republic of Moldova in Poland (2005-2007) and Head of the Moldovan Mission to the EU (2007-2008).</i></p>
	<p>Valentina URSU, Journalist <i>Is a renowned Moldovan journalist, currently working for the Radio Free Europe Moldova Office – www.europalibera.org</i></p>
	<p>Victor CHIRILA, President of the Association for Foreign Policy <i>Is an experienced expert on Moldovan politics, European integration and foreign policy issues. He holds a degree in history of the A. I. Cuza University in Iasi, Romania. Between 1994 and 1996, Mr. Chirila pursued master studies in international relations at the National School for Political Studies and Public Administration in Bucharest, Romania. In 2007, he has been awarded Master of Science in European Public Policy by the Edinburgh University, United Kingdom. Between 1996 and 2006, Mr. Chirila worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova. During this period, he held different positions including Deputy Director of the European Integration Department, Chief of Staff of the Foreign Minister, Political Counselor at the Moldovan Embassy in the U.S, Deputy Director of the Europe and North America Department and the International Economic Relations Department.</i></p>
	<p>Igor BOȚAN, Executive Director, Association for Participatory Democracy <i>He holds a Ph.D. in physics and mathematics. He studied also at the Georgetown University[1] Between 1992 and 1994, he worked for the President of Moldova. Since 1995, he has been a correspondent for the Moldova Azi online magazine and for the Vocea Civica newspaper. Between 2000-2008, Boțan worked as political commentator for Radio Free Europe, BBC, and The Economist Intelligence Unit.</i></p>
	<p>Marin CIOBANU, Chairman Employers Association of the Manufacturing Industry from the Republic of Moldova <i>Is an expert in economic development. He was the Head of the Free Economic Zone Balti in Moldova. He graduated from the Friedrich Alexander University, Germany.</i></p>

Honorary Members of the Board	
	<p>Miroslav LAJČÁK, First Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Slovak Republic <i>Miroslav Lajčák has held during his career numerous significant positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as other governmental institutions. Mr. Lajčák studied law at the Comenius University and continued his studies at the State Institute of International Relations in Moscow. In 2005 - 2006 he was chosen to be the Personal Representative of the EU High Representative for CFSP Javier Solana to facilitate the Montenegrin dialogue. Since 2007, Mr. Lajčák worked as High Representative of International Community and EU Special Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina and in January 2009 he was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic. He held this position until June 2010. By the end of 2010, he was assigned Managing Director Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans in the European External Action Service. In 2012, he was appointed the Deputy Prime Minister and re-appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic.</i></p>
	<p>Radoslaw SIKORSKI, Senior Fellow, Center of European Studies, Harvard University <i>Radoslaw Sikorski, currently a Senior Fellow, Center of European Studies, Harvard University. Mr. Sikorski graduated from the University of Oxford with a B.A. and an M.A. in Politics, Philosophy and Economics (PPE). He was a war correspondent in Afghanistan and Angola in 1986-89. In 1987, Sikorski won the World Press Photo award for a photograph taken in Afghanistan. As Deputy Minister of National Defense in 1992, Radosław Sikorski initiated Poland's NATO accession campaign. In 1998-2001 he served as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland and Honorary Chairman of the Foundation for Assistance to Poles in the East. From 2002 to 2005, he was resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute in Washington, D.C. and executive director of the New Atlantic Initiative. He was editor of the analytical publication European Outlook and organized international conferences on topics such as UN reform and the 25th anniversary of the Solidarity movement. He appeared before the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Foreign Affairs as an expert on Atlantic issues. Radosław Sikorski was elected senator for Bydgoszcz in 2005. He served as Minister of National Defense of Poland from 2005 to 2007, Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2007 to 2014, and Marshal of the Sejm (Speaker of Poland's Parliament) from September 2014 to June 2015. Sikorski is the author of several books, including Dust of the Saints and The Polish House: An Intimate History of Poland. In 2012 he was named one of the Top 100 Global Thinkers by Foreign Policy magazine "for telling the truth, even when it's not diplomatic."</i></p>
	<p>Carl BILDT, Chair of the Global Commission for Internet Governance <i>Carl Bildt has served as both Prime Minister (1991-1994) and Foreign Minister (2006-2014) of Sweden. During the first period his government initiated major liberal economic reforms, as well as negotiated and signed membership agreement with the European Union. He served in international functions with the EU and UN, primarily related to the conflicts in the Balkans. Carl Bildt was an early advocate of the new ICT technologies. After stepping down as leader of the Moderate Party of Sweden in 1999 and leaving Parliament in 2000 he was also engaged in corporate boards in Sweden and the US as well as different international think- tanks. Returning as Foreign Minister of Sweden in 2006, he came to be seen as one of the most prominent and vocal of European foreign ministers during those years. He was one of the initiators of EU's Eastern Partnership, and pushed the EU forward also on issues of the Middle East. Carl Bildt has continued to push the use of social media also in international diplomacy.</i></p>





IV. IPRE EXECUTIVE AND MANAGEMENT TEAM

IPRE is represented by the **Executive Director** that leads the **Executive and Management Team**, which is comprising **11 staff members**: including **8 Full-time** (the Executive Director, the Communication Officer, 4 Project managers, a Project Assistant, the Chief Accountant and **3 part-time** Team Leaders/Policy Moderators (Justice Sector and Anticorruption, Social inclusion and minorities integration, Public Administration Reform). IPRE as well has a pool of **8 Associate researchers/experts**.

All members of the Executive and Management Team, as well as the Associate Experts are paid from IPRE's organisational budget formed by projects' budgets developed and managed by IPRE, membership fees, donations and overheads from implemented projects. The administrative and financial decisions related to the implementation of IPRE's budget and projects are taken by the Executive Director in coordination with IPRE's Chief-Accountant, Team Leaders and Project Managers.

IPRE Management and Executive Team	
	<p>Iulian GROZA, Member of the Board, Executive Director, European Integration Policy Moderator (FTE)</p> <p>Studies: <i>PhD Candidate, Faculty of Law, Moldova State University</i> <i>Post-Graduate Degree European Research Institute, Birmingham University, Birmingham</i> <i>Post-Graduate Degree NATO Studies Center, SNSPA, Bucharest, Romania</i> <i>Bachelor of Law Faculty, Moldova State University</i></p> <p>Professional experience: 2013-2015 - <i>Deputy Foreign and European Integration of Moldova (MFA)</i> 2004-2013 - <i>Several functions. Director in the Directorate General for European Integration, MFA and Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union</i> 2003-2004 - <i>Project Coordinator, Institute for Penal Reform.</i> +373 22 788 989 iulian.groza@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>
	<p>Iulian RUSU, Justice and Anticorruption Policy Moderator (PTE)</p> <p>Studies: <i>PhD Candidate in Law, Moldovan State University</i> <i>MJur (OXON) - University of Oxford, UK</i></p> <p>Professional experience: 2015 – <i>present Justice and Anticorruption Policy Moderator, expert in European integration policies at the IPRE</i> <i>15 years of experience as lawyer in areas of competition, financial and banking sector, justice reform and fight against corruption.</i> +373 22 788 989 iulian.rusu@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>
	<p>Ruslan CODREANU, Public Sector Reform Policy Moderator (PTE)</p> <p>Studies: <i>Master in Public Administration Management, Hertie School of Governance, Berlin</i> <i>Bachelor of European Studies, Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj – Napoca</i></p> <p>Professional experience: 2015-present <i>Counsellor, Chisinau Municipal Council</i> 2008-2015 <i>Director, Foreign Aid and Central PA Directorate_Government of the Republic of Moldova, State Chancellery</i> 2004-2008 - <i>Head of the European Integration, Ministry of Economy</i> +373 22 788 989 ruslan.codreanu@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>

	<p>Victor LUTENCO, Policy Moderator for Social Policy Social Affairs, Health and Diaspora (PTE), Studies: <i>MA and BA in Political Sciences, State University of Moldova</i> Professional experience: <i>2015-2016 Executive Director, IPRE</i> <i>2012-2015 Head of Office for Relations with Diaspora (BRD)</i> <i>2010-2012 State Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Moldova Social Policy and Development</i> <i>2008-2010 United Nations Fund for Population (UNFPA)</i> <i>2005-2008 International Organization for Migration (IOM)</i> +373 22 788 989 victor.lutenco@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>
	<p>Adrian ERMURACHI, Project Coordinator, Good Governance Expert (FTE) Studies: <i>PhD Candidate, International Public Law, Moldova State University</i> <i>MA, International Law and Foreign Economic Relations Law, Moldova State University</i> <i>BA, Law, Romanian American University, Bucharest, Romania</i> Professional experience: <i>2015 – present Project Coordinator, Good Governance Expert, IPRE</i> <i>2011-2015 Senior consultant, General Directorate for Policy Coordination, External Assistance and Central Public Administration Reform, State Chancellery</i> <i>2014-2015 Trainer, Academy of Public Administration</i> <i>2010-2016 Lecturer, Free International University of Moldova</i> +373 22 788 989 adrian.ermurachi@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>
	<p>Stanislav GHILEȚCHI, Project Coordinator, Good Governance Expert (FTE) Studies: <i>MSc, Public Policy and Administration, London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK</i> <i>BA, Business Administration, Belmont University, Nashville, Tennessee, USA</i> Professional experience <i>2016 – present Project Coordinator, Good Governance Expert</i> <i>2011-2013 – Senior consultant, General Directorate for Policy Coordination, External Assistance and Central Public Administration Reform, State Chancellery</i> <i>2013-2015 – Head of Public Policies Analyses Unit</i> <i>2014-2015 – Trainer, Academy of Public Administration</i> +373 227 88986 stas.ghiletchi@ipre.md http://www.ipre.md</p>
	<p>Simion CIOCHINĂ, Project Coordinator, Communication Officer (FTE) Studies: <i>MA and BA; Faculty of Journalism and Communication Science, State University of Moldova</i> Professional Experience: <i>2015 – Present Project Coordinator, Communication Officer</i> <i>2011 – present Radio Reporter in Moldova „International Correspondents – Media Network”, Berlin</i> <i>2015 – present Special correspondent for Republic Moldova, Romanian Service, Deutsche Welle</i> <i>2006 – present Lecturer. Faculty of Journalism and Communication Science, State University of Moldova</i> <i>2009 – 2014 Projects Manager, Journalist Magazine „VIP Magazin”</i> <i>2002 – 2004 PR-specialist; Department of Public Relation Private Farmers Assistance Program</i> <i>2002 – 2002 Reporter; Economics and Business Department, Journalist</i> +373 22 788 989 simion.ciochina@ipre.md http://ipre.md</p>

	<p>Dorina CIOBANU, Project Coordinator, Expert on SMEs (FTE) Studies: <i>BA in Marketing, West University of Timisoara, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration</i> Professional experience: <i>2015 – present Project Coordinator, Expert on SMEs</i> <i>2011 – 2015 Program on Attraction of Remittances in Economy “PARE 1+1” Coordinator</i> <i>2010 – 2015 Access to Finance Department, Organization for Small and Medium Enterprises Sector Development</i> <i>+373 22 788 989</i> <i>dorina.ciobanu@ipre.md</i> <i>http://ipre.md</i></p>
	<p>Mariana PLATON, Project Coordinator, Expert on Youth Policies (FTE) Studies: <i>BA International Management Institute “IMI-NOVA”</i> <i>Graduate Financial Banking College</i> <i>Graduate School of Advanced Journalism</i> Professional experience: <i>2015 – present Project coordinator IPRE</i> <i>Over 5 years of experience in the field of projects development</i> <i>AISEC Chisinau Alumni with over 3 years of volunteer experience and social involvement</i> <i>Founder & Project Coordinator of “BETTERY” at JCI Chisinau</i> <i>+373 22 788 989</i> <i>mariana.platon@ipre.md</i> <i>http://ipre.md</i></p>
	<p>Daniel TRACI, Project Assistant (FTE) Studies: <i>MA Business Administration at Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova</i> <i>Management at Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iasi, Romania</i> <i>Diplomatic studies at Moldova State University</i> Professional experience: <i>2015-present Project assistant</i> <i>2015 – present – Co founder/Director at Intelligent Shield LTD, United Kingdom</i> <i>2014 – 2015 – Manager/Consultant at ManagEst Consulting SRL, Iasi, Romania</i> <i>+373 22 788 989</i> <i>daniel.traci@ipre.md</i> <i>http://ipre.md</i></p>
	<p>Ecaterina BALABAN, Chief Accountant (FTE) Studies: <i>BA of Finance, Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Finance and Accounting</i> Professional experience: <i>2015 – present Chief Accountant, Financial Manager</i> <i>+373 22 788 989</i> <i>ecaterina.balaban@ipre.md</i> <i>http://ipre.md</i></p>

V. IPRE PROJECT PROFILE 2016

1. Project: “Monitoring the implementation of the EU – Moldova Association Agreement”
Type of project: Policy analysis and monitoring and evaluation, empowerment and advocacy
Duration: July 1st, 2015 – July 1st, 2016
Contracting Entity: Slovak Aid - Official Development Assistance of the Slovak Republic
Total budget: 49.970 EUR

The project aimed at contributing to independent monitoring and evaluation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement and awareness raising about the importance of its implementation. The following results of the project were implemented:

14 IPRE publications (i.e. 4 Progress Reports and 10 Policy Briefs) were issued and distributed to over 2400 national stakeholders. IPRE Policy papers on the EU-Moldova Association Agreements are in the top of most cited independent sources in Moldovan Media and became a relevant source of information for policy makers and experts in Moldova. The IPRE Progress Report on the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement became as well a reference source for independent evaluation of the progress achieved by Moldovan authorities in implementation of the commitments from the Agreement. Findings from IPRE Reports were included in the Position Paper of the EU-Moldova Association Civil Society Platform on 14th March 2016.

The following documents were issued by IPRE as part of the Project:

1. 1st IPRE Progress report on the preliminary evaluation on the results of the first year of implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement published on 25th August 2015;
2. 2nd IPRE Progress Report on the evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (August-October 2015), published on 30th November 2015;
3. 3rd IPRE Progress Report on the evaluation of the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement (November 2015 – March 2016), published on 28th April 2016;
4. Policy brief on Moldova’s commitments in implementing EU-Moldova Association Agreement Competition provisions, published on 25th August 2015;
5. Policy brief on Financial Assistance provided by European Union for the Republic of Moldova, published on 26 September 2015;
6. Policy Brief on Financial and Banking Sector provisions of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on the 3rd November 2015;
7. Policy Brief on the preparation of the DCFTA implementation in Transnistrian region, published on 4th November 2015;
8. Policy Brief on the Energy provisions of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on 26th January 2016;
9. Policy Brief on the Justice and Anticorruption provisions of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on 27th January 2016;
10. Policy Brief on implementation of DCFTA provisions of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on the 16th February 2016;
11. Policy Brief on the recent development of the EU-Moldova Dialogue in the context of EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on 6th April 2016;
12. Policy Brief on the implementation of Agriculture and Rural Development provisions of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on 19th April 2016;
13. Policy Brief on the National Bank of Moldova activity in the context of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement, published on 4th May 2016;
14. The yearly Progress Report on the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement⁶

7 Public Events were organized (i.e. **4 Public Events/press conferences**, **2 Workshop one Youth Summer School**). All in all over **250 participants**, including public authorities, active civil society representatives and journalists, attended the events.

⁶ All publications can be accessed at www.ipre.md

IPRE continues the monitoring of the AA/DCFTA in 2017 in a cooperation project with KAS. Thus, in 2017 two Shadow Progress Reports on the AA/DCFTA implementation will be issued by IPRE experts. The most recent Shadow Report on the AA/DCFTA implementation was issued on April 23rd, 2017 in a public event and is available in ENG here: <https://goo.gl/BqYpTx>

2. Project: “Fostering citizens' engagement on the assessment and discussion of key policy areas”

Type of project: Policy analysis, empowerment, civic engagement and advocacy

Duration: March 2015 – March 2016

Contracting Entity: The European Endowment for Democracy

Total budget: 298.700 EUR

The project aimed at conducting an inclusive policy development process and advocacy on the national and local levels with a strong civic engagement and participation component focusing the following policy areas:

1. Economic development, finance and banking sector reforms;
2. Public sector reform (both local and central-level reform of public management);
3. Justice reform and anti-corruption strategies;
4. EU Integration policies;
5. Foreign and Security Policy,
6. Re-integration and integration of Transnistrian region and Gagauzia;
7. Social policies, health, education, minorities and diaspora policies.

Key project results:

1. Created and strengthened a network of over 100 volunteers;
2. Facilitated the creation of 14 Local Participatory Councils in 14 localities of Moldova;
3. Supported 13 initiatives of local projects;
4. Organised over 13 seminars and 6 conferences and thematic workshops of the national and regional level;
5. Published 14 Public Policy proposals;
6. Published 12 animated and social media videos for explaining and promoting public policy proposals.

The project had as well an institutional start-up component that contributed to IPRE's set-up.

3. Project: “Promotion of public policies in the context of the European Integration of the Republic of Moldova”

Type of the project: Public policy development and advocacy

Duration: 1st January - December 31st, 2016

Contracting Entity: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

Total budget: 80.000 EUR

The Project aimed at contributing to the development and promotion key public policy proposals in the context of the European Integration of the Republic of Moldova. IPRE experts (Iulian Groza, Iulian Rusu, Eugen Ghilețchi) have monitored and reviewed four areas of intervention formulating corresponding public policy proposals, that were debated in an open setting with key stakeholders representing state institution, independent expert community and international development partners.

The following areas were addressed:

1. Strengthening the National Coordination Mechanism of European Integration (PAR and Good Governance)⁷

⁷ <http://ipre.md/societatea-civila-cere-consolidarea-mecanismului-de-coordonare-in-domeniul-integrarii-europene-a-republicii-moldova/>

2. Vulnerabilities of the Moldovan financial and fiscal legislation in the context of off-shore jurisdictions (Financial sector and public finance management)⁸
3. State of Small and Medium Size Enterprises in context of European Integration of Moldova (SMEs)⁹
4. Review and formulating recommendations to strengthen the International Support to Rule of Law in Moldova (Good Governance)¹⁰.

All policy proposals have been discussed in internal validation meeting with experts representing other Moldovan CSOs and think-tanks, relevant public authorities, international development partners and EU high level advisors. After the validation discussions, the policy proposals have been presented and debated in an open setting. All Public Debates were broadcasted on-line by www.privesc.eu. After the debates IPRE experts have distributed and promoted the respective policy proposals with relevant Moldovan authorities and international development partners.

4. Project: "Review of internal and external factors' impact to the process of the Transnistrian conflict settlement"

Type of the project: Research and policy development

Duration: April - June 2016

Contracting entity: Hanns Seidel Stiftung (HSS)

Total budget: 4.500 EUR

Project aimed at publishing a set of Policy Briefs reviewing the current situation from the Transnistrian region from the political, economic and social aspects. Three Policy Briefs have been prepared by IPRE experts namely:

1. The role of Ukraine on the conflict settlement process;
2. Transnistrian conflict settlement and activity of the business community on the left bank of Nistru river;
3. The professional situation, perspectives, contacts and mutual perceptions between journalists on both banks of the Nistru river.

All Policy Briefs will be presented to the public in a set of up to 3 workshops with key stakeholders interested in the Transnistrian process settlement.

5. Project: "Improving perceptions and reflections of each other for young journalists from Chisinau, Tiraspol and Comrat"

Type of the project: Youth and journalist's empowerment

Duration: June – December 2016

Contracting entity: Hanns Seidel Stiftung (HSS)

Total budget: 19.000 EUR

The project aimed to raise awareness among young journalists from Chisinau, Tiraspol and Comrat about the process of settlement of the Transnistrian conflict and European integration of the Republic of Moldova.

Project activities were aimed to implement the following specific objectives:

1. To improve understanding and cooperation between young journalists from right-bank Moldova, the Transnistrian region and the Gagauz autonomy;
2. To strengthen connections and cooperation between youth organizations on the left and right bank Moldova;
3. To support more objective coverage and media reporting of the other sides' motives and intentions, as well as their geopolitical outlook;
4. To enhance the understanding of Moldova's EU integration goals in the Transnistrian region and in the Gagauz autonomy;

⁸ <http://ipre.md/analiza-tematica-este-necesara-deoffshor-izarea-urgenta-a-republicii-moldova/>

⁹ <http://ipre.md/2016/06/22/autoritatile-statului-trebuie-sa-vina-in-spriinul-intreprinderilor-mici-si-mijlocii-si-nu-sa-supra-reglementeze-activitatea-acestora/>

¹⁰ <http://ipre.md/new/index.php/2016/10/24/ipre-organizeaza-masa-rotunda-misiunea-ue-internationala-pentru-consolidarea-statului-de-drept-in-republica-moldova-pro-si-contra/?lang=en>

5. To contribute to reducing the hostility towards this fundamental policy aim of Moldova;
6. To prevent further polarization of the Moldovan society on European integration.

Key project activities:

- 3 thematic workshops in Comrat, Chisinau and Tiraspol;
- 1 general workshop in Chisinau;
- 2 visits and meetings for a selected group of young journalists from Chisinau, Comrat and Tiraspol with the leadership and decision-making circles on Chisinau and Gagauz-Yeri;
- Competition of best written articles.

6. Project: „Building a Democratic Regional media”

Type of project: Raising awareness and empowerment of local media

Duration: August 2016 – March 2017

Partner: Canal Regional

Contracting entity: British Embassy in Chişinău from sourced of the Good Governance Fund

Total budget: £35.760

The main goal of the Project was to contribute to the strengthening of regional and local media of Moldova in the spirit of the democratic principles and values, through training of local journalists, encouraging them to convey fair and reliable information and facilitating the organisation of informed TV debates on issues of local and national importance. Key project Objectives were to:

1. Increase the level of professionalism of journalists from regional media of Moldova;
2. Support regional mass media agencies through creating TV debates based the respect of democracy and freedom of expression;
3. Encourage civic engagement of citizens from rural areas by providing them diversified sources of information in the most fair, impartial and equidistant information way;
4. Create a better perception for rural citizens on the association agreement between Moldova and the European Union, as well as the other national issues.

13 Regional and local TV Channels participated and contributed to the Project: NTS from Taraclia; BAS TV from Basarabasca; TV Drochia from Drochia; TV Prim from Glodeni; Albasat TV from Nisporeni; Euronova TV from Ungheni; ATV from Comrat; Media TV from Cimişlia; BTV from Bălţi; Lik TV from Râbnîţa; FlorTV from Floreşti; Impuls TV from Şoldăneşti; Canal Regional from Chişinău.

Key Project Results:

- 5 Workshops for journalists and technical staff of regional TV channels organised
- 27 technicians and 33 journalists trained
- 13 TV debates "Regional Focus" were produced
- 39 TV broadcasts have been released
- 29 special news reports prepared and issued by local journalists
- 21 press releases issued
- 22 Postings on IPRE's page www.ipre.md
- 30 Postings on IPRE's Facebook Page
- Youtube.com Channel „Focus Regional” has been created (currently over 500 viewers)

7. Project “Debates for Development”

Type of project: Youth empowerment

Partner: Clubul de Dezbateri

Duration: August 2016 – February 2017

Contracting entity: Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Romania from the funds of MATRA Program

Total Budget: 24.954 EUR

The project aimed at supporting the development of sustainable democratic processes by empowering young people from small towns of Moldova to be proactive in the life of their communities through strategic debates and civic engagement. The project was designed for young people aged 14-18, that are attending high school (lyceum). IPRE aimed to contribute to a community of active young people from small towns of Moldova, which would help them to make the most of every opportunity, to talk on subjects they are concerned and care about and to take responsibility on solving the issues they face. Key objectives of the project:

- Increase the number of youth initiatives by creating a community of proactive young leaders from small towns of Moldova, actively participating in social life and decision making processes.
- Reduce the communication gap between youth and their authorities by connecting them in the common communities' problems through strategic debates;
- Improve the mechanism of independent functioning of debate clubs by creating an NGO of young debaters, based on the 4 Debate Clubs facilitated by IPRE and partner organization „Cublul de Dezbateri”.

Key Project results:

- Project Team contributed to the creation of 4 Youth Debate Clubs in four towns of Moldova (Cimislia, Orhei, Stefan Voda and Causeni);
- In total 26 events have been organized during August-December 2016;
- Over 120 pupils have been trained and mentored, who have been organized in the respective Youth Debate Clubs from Cimislia, Stefan Voda, Causeni and Orhei;
- 64 participants have participated in 4 Local Debate Contests. Each team had presented a strategy on the topic "The young people from this locality need in their spare time activities to develop themselves and their community";
- 16 finalists participated in the final National Contest, who have as well been appointed by voting procedure by Club members as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of each of the 4 Debate Clubs.
- Key findings of the feedback evaluation are the following:
 - 97% of the members said they liked the project;
 - 92% said that they can apply further the knowledge and skills obtained during the project;
 - 87% said that would they like to continue to practice debates and take part as a member in the debate club created.

In 2017 the second phase of the Project Debates for Development is being implemented aiming at enlarging the network of Youth Debate Clubs and making them more sustainable. The second edition of the Project shall also aim at:

- Creating a big community of proactive young leaders all around the country, which will actively participate in social life;
- Improvement of the young people's involvement in the decision-making processes in their community;
- Enhancement of the local and regional socio-economic development;
- Consolidation of the partnership ties between the young people and local authorities.

8. Project: Strengthening Civil Society in Fighting Corruption in the Republic of Moldova

Type of the project: Policy development and advocacy

Partners: Institute for European Politics (Berlin), Anticorruption Alliance from Moldova

Duration: June – December 2016

Contracting entity: German Federal Foreign Office

Total budget: 72.122,40 EUR

The project aimed at developing a set of civil society strategic anticorruption priorities as a result of a participative consultative process involving CSOs, business associations and youth from and outside Chişinău. The ultimate objective of the project was to contribute to a greater accountability of the state authorities and a genuine political will from the government in fighting corruption, which is the key to strengthening rule of law in Moldova. Key project activities:

- Two Civil Society Anticorruption Workshops in order to identify and review key priority areas of intervention, and elaborate draft policy proposals;
- Six Anticorruption Workshops focused on the private sector and education organized outside Chisinau;
- Final validation Conference on the Strategic CSO Anticorruption priorities;
- Prepare, publish and promote the Public Appeal „Strategic Civil Society Anticorruption Priorities”;

As a result of project implemented activities IPRE experts in cooperation with 14 CSOs have drafted and approved during the Validation Conference held on December 14th 2016 the Public Appeal „Strategic Civil Society Anticorruption Priorities”¹¹.

The Public Appeal included took stake of key issues and backlogs in the area of anticorruption, outlining over 80 policy proposals (recommended legislative and implementation actions) covering six priority areas of intervention namely:

- Fighting against high-level corruption
- Anticorruption actions in the judicial sector
- Fighting against political control (corruption at the political level)
- Ensuring transparency
- Fighting against corruption in the private sector
- Fighting against corruption in the education area

The proposals have been than advocated by 14 CSO that endorsed the Public Appeal with relevant public authorities (Parliament, President, Government, National Anticorruption Center, MFAEI, Ministry of Justice) and international development partners (EU MS Embassies in Chisinau, EU Delegation, USAID) in order to be included in the new National Anticorruption and integrity and new EU-Moldova Association Agenda (2017-2019).

9. Project: “Promotion of CSOs views on EU-Moldova Association Agreement in Brussels”

Type of the project: Policy development and advocacy

Partners: EPC(Brussels), Expert-Grup (Chisinau), CRJM(Chişinău), EU-Moldova CSP

Contracting entity: East Europe Foundation from the sources granted by the Swedish Government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Total budget: 2.130 EUR

IPRE in partnership with European Policy Center (Brussels), Expert-Grup (Chisinau), Legal Resource Center from Moldova (Chişinău), EU-Moldova Civil Society Association Platform has organised in Brussels on May 11th 2017 a one-day a Workshop entitled „EU-Moldova Association Agreement: Views from Civil Society”. Over 30 experts representing EU institutions, EU think-tank, journalists and diplomats from the Moldovan Mission to the EU have participated at the event. During the event experts from Expert-Grup, CRJM, IPRE and Centre “Partnership for Development have presented an overview about the state of play in the implementation of the EU-Moldova Association Agreement. CSO experts from Moldova have as well met separately with EEAS and European Commission officials.

¹¹ <http://ipre.md/2016/12/13/a-fost-prezentat-apelul-public-al-societatii-civile-privind-prioritatile-strategice-in-domeniul-anticoruptiei/?lang=en>

10. Project: Public Hearings for Chişinău

Type of the project: Public policy development, civic engagement and advocacy

Partners: Primariamea.md, Privesc.EU, Chisinau City Hall

Duration: November 2016 – October 2017

Contracting entity: Foundation of Open Society Institute

Total Budget: 56.257 USD

The Project aims at increasing the transparency and improving the quality of the decision-making process on local public policies and programming by the Mayor's Office and Local Municipal Council of Chisinau City (capital of the Republic of Moldova), through a constructive dialogue between local authorities, expert community and citizens. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to higher standard of living by improving the quality of municipal decisions, through a constructive dialogue between authorities and citizens. Specific Project objectives:

- To create an efficient platform in Chisinau Municipality, in order to empower citizens and civil society organizations to participate in the local decision making process, increasing civic engagement;
- To improve the quality of municipal decisions by offering top-level, independent expertise;
- To promote and reinforce a proactive and sustainable dialogue between citizens of Chisinau and Municipal hall, stimulating the creation of efficient partnership.

Key project outputs:

- Monitoring and evaluation of local public policies in 3 areas: (a) Business Environment & Local Taxes; (b) Infrastructure & Transportation; (c) Administrative Reform & Public Service Delivery;
- Analysis and identification of 9 priority public policy interventions;
- Drafting 9 policy proposals public, 3 per each addressed area.
- Organising 9 Public Hearings in partnership with the Chisinau City Hall with the participation of key stakeholders, expert community and wider public.
- Advocacy and promotion of 9 public policy proposals to be approved by the Municipal Council.

The Project provides the opportunity for IPRE's experts (Ruslan Codreanu, Dorina Ciobanu, Stanislav Ghiletchi, Adrian Ermurachi) to contribute to local public policy development, apply M&E tools, improve transparency on the local public administration level, promote evidence based public policy proposals.

During 2016 the project has been initiated. Key project results are expected by the end of October 2017.

11. Project: „Improving Capacity of CSOs to Fight Corruption in the Republic of Moldova”

Type of the project: Policy development, empowerment of CSOs and advocacy

Partner: Transparency international – Estonia

Duration: November 2016 – July 2017

Contracting entity: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia

Total budget: 14.520 EUR

The Project „Improving Capacity of Civil Society in fighting Corruption in Moldova” was implemented by IPRE in partnership with Transparency International – Estonia (Contract no. 107-2016-A), with the financial support offered by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Estonia. The project **aims** at improving transparency, accountability and social participation in prevention and fighting corruption in Moldova.

The Project aims for two key outputs, namely prepare and publish two Policy Papers:

1. Policy Paper: General recommendations on improving transparency and the increase the role of Civil Society in Prevention and Fighting Corruption;
2. Policy Paper: Specific recommendations on the best practices to improve transparency in public procurement, including in the implementation of E-Procurement taking into account the Estonian best practices.

In addition, two project activities have been planned:

1. One Study Visit to Estonia during 24-25 January 2017 for a group of 10 experts representing Moldovan NGOs and public authorities who were to visit the Political Party Funding Supervision Committee, the National Audit Office, the Ministry of Finance, e-Governance Academy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Embassy of Moldova in Tallinn. The visit aims at learning the Estonian experience in prevention and fighting corruption, in particular learning from the best practices of e-solutions.
2. Organised on June 28th, 2017 a one-day Follow-up Workshop with the participation of key experts from Estonia (TI-Estonia and Estonian Ministry of Finance). During the Workshop IPRE experts were to present and discuss the respective 2 Policy Papers prepared during the project.

During 2016 the project has been initiated. All outputs are planned to be delivered during January – June 2017.

VI. IPRE FINANCIAL REPORT 2016

#	IPRE BUDGET LINES	Approved BUDGET	Executed BUDGET
1	Income		
1.1.	Grant Contracts	€ 258,092	€ 258,092
1.2.	Membership fees	€ 11	€ 11
1.3.	Institutional Reserve Fund from 2015	€ 5,969	€ 5,969
1.4.	Other	€ -	€ -
	Total Income	€ 264,072	€ 264,072
2	Operational Expenses		
2.1.	Salaries	€ 123,013	€ 123,013
2.2.	Consultancy Services fees	€ 63,985	€ 63,985
2.3.	Translation & Interpretation	€ 2,141	€ 2,141
2.4.	Office Rent	€ 26,202	€ 26,202
2.5.	Office Maintenance costs	€ 8,172	€ 8,172
2.6.	Events - Catering, rent, interpretation equipment (Conference, Workshops, Seminars)	€ 32,137	€ 30,767
2.7.	Staff development and meetings (Retreats)		
2.8.	Local Transport	€ 1,009	€ 1,009
2.9.	Equipment	€ 870	€ 870
2.10.	Office Consumables	€ 1,399	€ 1,399
2.11.	Visibility	€ 3,226	€ 3,226
2.12.	Banking Costs	€ 1,438	€ 1,226
2.13.	Other	€ 53	€ 53
2.14.	Allocations for the IPRE Institutional Reserve Fund (2017)	€ 415	€ 415
	Total Operational Expenses	€ 264,061	€ 262,479
3.	Income over Expenses	€ -	€ 1,593
4.	IPRE Institutional Reserve Fund	€ 415	€ 415
Average Exchange Rate 2017 National Bank 1 EUR=22,057 MDL 1 EUR=0,9033 USD			

ANNEXES

1. IPRE's Institutional Development Strategy (2017 – 2019)
2. IPRE's Operational Policies Manual
3. IPRE's Communication and Visibility Strategy
4. 2016 Media and Visibility Monitoring Report
5. List of IPRE's Publications 2016