



Vito Grittani
Osservatorio Diplomatico Internazionale

**On the refusal of accreditation as an international election observer in
the Republic of Moldova**

Over the past months, the International Diplomatic Observatory has made consistent and conscientious attempts to obtain accreditation for independent monitoring of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova, which will be held on September 28, 2025.

The Observatory's interest in monitoring the Moldovan parliamentary elections is due to the following factors:

1. According to various sources, 250,000 Moldovans live in Italy. It is one of the largest Moldovan diasporas in Europe. In this regard, 73 extraterritorial polling stations will be opened in Italy. This factor makes the security, honesty and openness of elections an issue that directly affects our country.
2. Moldova is a candidate country for membership in the European Union. The compliance of electoral processes with European standards, including transparency for the international community, is an integral part of the values of our common integration space.

In an effort to contribute to the transparency of the parliamentary elections in Moldova, the Observatory has taken the following steps:

1. On July 5, we sent an official letter to the Central Electoral Commission (CEC) of Moldova with a detailed request for accreditation. The Observatory's statement was consistent with both Moldovan national electoral legislation and generally accepted international standards.
2. In the absence of a response, on August 1, we sent a second letter to the CEC of Moldova, stating that at the time of the second letter, more than 180 electoral experts from more than 50 countries had contacted the Observatory with a proposal to send a large-scale mission to observe the parliamentary elections in Moldova. The request contained a repeated request for accreditation and complied with Moldovan national and international standards.
3. In parallel, on August 1, we sent an appeal to the EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Kaja Kallas, asking for assistance in obtaining accreditation as an international observer at the parliamentary elections in Moldova, given the importance of independent international monitoring in the context of Moldova's aspirations to become part



of the European Union. At the time of 29/08/2025, no response to our request had been received.

4. On August 4, we received a response from the Central Electoral Commission of Moldova to the first request. The brief email contained a refusal to grant us the accreditation of international observers and stated that, according to Art. 88 (4) and point 7 of the Regulation on the status of observers and procedure of accreditation, it is possible to obtain accreditation for international election observation only **at the invitation of the CEC of Moldova**. After receiving the letter, we re-analyzed the legislation and made sure that the article provides information that organizations can actually request accreditation from the CEC of Moldova on their own: "Invitations to international organizations, representatives of foreign governments and foreign non-governmental organizations to participate as international experts and international observers are sent by the Central Electoral Commission based on their own initiative or **at the request** of the entities mentioned in this paragraph ...". On the same day, we sent a second letter to the CEC of Moldova with a request to clarify the discrepancy between the reasons for the refusal and the norms of the Moldovan electoral legislation. At the time of 29/08/2025, no response had been received to our request.

The International Diplomatic Observatory expresses deep concern about the disregard of requests and lack of transparency in the accreditation procedure for international observers of the Central Electoral Commission of Moldova. Such actions not only limit the possibility of independent monitoring but also create an unfavorable impression of Moldova's commitment to democratic standards, which is especially important for a country aspiring to join the European Union.

Despite the obstacles created and the lack of dialogue on the part of official Moldovan authorities, the International Diplomatic Observatory expresses the hope that the upcoming elections will be held fairly and transparently, in full compliance with European and international standards of democratic elections. We sincerely hope that every vote of a Moldovan citizen, including those who live in the European Union in general and Italy in particular, will be properly taken into account.

Our personal experience of not being allowed to observe, however, raises serious questions about Moldova's commitment to the principles of openness, which is a cornerstone for any state striving for European integration and rapprochement with the community of democratic countries.

Sincerely,
Founder of the International
Diplomatic Observatory

30/08/2025



Vito Grittani