# **Summary Report**

Monitoring the activity of the Parliament

of the 11th legislature

August 2023 – July 2024







# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Chapter I. Compliance with the legislative procedure.** Throughout the compartment, the *degree of compliance with the legislation on decision-making transparency* during the initiation, consultation, debate and voting of legislative drafts is analyzed. The *organization and holding of plenary meetings*, as well as *activism of deputies* in the context of the legislative process, are also reflected.

The conclusions regarding the degree of *compliance with the legislation on decision-making transparency* result from the analysis of 726 draft normative acts that were introduced into the legislative procedure or were under examination during the monitored period. Out of more than 240 drafts that were under consideration at the beginning of August 2023, at least 103 became null and void after 2 years of their registration, most of them belonged to opposition deputies.

Thus, considering that the share of publicly consulted draft laws remained the same as in the previous period, decision-making transparency still remains lacking and even seriously affected in certain stages. This was affected, for example, by the omission of the development/publication of documents related to consultation of citizens, as well as by the low rate of public consultations, especially regarding initiatives of the deputies.

Also, although the number of normative acts adopted in the absence of opinions and expertise decreased, at least 9 draft normative acts adopted without the opinion of the DGJ, Government or anti-corruption expertise were identified. At the same time, the trend of not examining the recommendations and objections of the General Legal Directorate, Government and those formulated in the anti-corruption expertise or the omission of development and publication of their summary is maintained, thus, at least 62 cases of that kind are observed. During the monitored period, a considerable reduction of the opinions provided by the standing committees was observed and their formal nature was highlighted further.

For the first time since the beginning of the current legislature, the Parliament approved an annual legislative program - for 2024. The Promo-LEX appreciates that the program is the main source for ensuring the predictability of the decision-making process and must be continued in the following years. Until July 2024, according to the Promo-LEX's observations, the legislative program was carried out at a rate of 48% of the number of drafts planned to be adopted in the 2024 spring session or 16% of all drafts included in the program. And according to the Secretariat of the Parliament in the spring session, the program was carried out at a rate of 24% of all drafts included in the program.

Regarding the *activity of deputies as authors of legislative drafts*, we emphasize that the share of draft laws registered by deputies decreased as in the previous monitored period, their number was lower than the number of initiatives submitted by the Government. As to factions, we also see this year an enormous gap between the "passage rate" of drafts submitted by the majority and those submitted by the opposition. Thus, most draft laws were registered by deputies of the majority faction – PAS and only its drafts were adopted. On the other hand, no draft law authored only by deputies from the parliamentary opposition has been adopted.

Regarding the *organization and holding of plenary meetings*, the Promo-LEX found that the turnover of changes to the agenda decreased to 47%, 20% less than in the previous monitored period. However, changes to the agenda continue to affect the predictability and transparency of the legislative process. The causes of the changes and additions identified by the Promo-LEX are the continuation of holding meetings once every two weeks (40% of cases) and the acceptance of including drafts that do not have a priority or urgency of examination. In this context, we also draw attention to the high incidence of cases of refusal to include subjects proposed by the opposition in the agenda, as well as the omission of the organization and holding of meetings dedicated to drafts submitted by opposition deputies.

Another monitored aspect that deserves special attention in the context of the organization of plenary meetings relates to the presence of deputies at meetings. Thus, the average rate of their participation in the plenary meetings is around 87%, but 63-74 deputies participate on average in voting per draft. The

independent deputies recorded the most absences from the plenary meetings, thus they and three other unaffiliated deputies were punished with the deprivation of salaries and allowances in the 2023 autumn session.

Chapter II. Activity of standing parliamentary committees. Within the second compartment, the activity of three committees which intersect more with the objectives/activities of the Promo-LEX Association: Committee for Legal Matters, Appointments, and Immunities (CJNI); Human Rights and Interethnic Relations Committee (CDORI) and Public Administration and Regional Development Committee (CAPDR) is examined. During the monitored period, the numerical composition of the Committee for Legal Matters, Appointments, and Immunities decreased from 11 to 10 members, as several members from the parliamentary opposition were excluded, i.e. unaffiliated and independent deputies. As of November 2024, the CJNI is composed of only nine members out of ten, of which seven are part of the parliamentary majority and only two deputies represent the opposition (BCS).

As to the *convening and presence at the meetings*, it was found that, as a rule, the agenda is published in advance. Exceptions in this regard were recorded for the CJNI, in cases where 2 or 3 meetings of the committee were held on the same day, and the agenda was not published previously. As in the previous monitored periods, in two of the three analyzed committees, where the presidency is ensured by the parliamentary majority (CJNI and CAPDR), the presence of opposition deputies continues to be lacking.

Regarding planning of the activity of committees, only CAPDR and CDORI have action plans this year as well. We reiterate the opinion that all parliamentary committees must have institutional operational/strategic planning documents. The main field of activity of the committees remained the approval and preparation of reports on draft laws. We appreciate that the number of committee meetings broadcast live has increased considerably (64% of the total of 126 meetings), which indicates greater transparency towards those interested.

**Chapter III. Exercise of parliamentary control function by the Parliament.** The given chapter contains findings and conclusions of the monitors regarding the degree of using the parliamentary control function by the deputies. Also, the way of appointment and resignation by the Parliament of official persons is analyzed.

During the current legislature, a positive dynamic was observed in ensuring the *plenary hearing* of reports of the authorities, even if the annual report of the Government's activity was heard only once during three years - in the 2024 spring session. Following the monitored meetings, submission of 13 reports by 11 authorities (79%) from the list of those who have the mandatory task of presenting in plenary was observed.

A negative evolution is observed regarding the use *of questions*, even if the increased interest in them was recorded at the beginning of the mandate of the current legislature. As for interpellations, deputies did not use this tool during the legislature. If we analyze other political control mechanisms, we find that the interest in submitting *simple motions*, *motions of censure*, has decreased.

The *parliamentary inquiry* is ensured by hearing the representatives of the executive and the leaders of the institutions under parliamentary control and thematic reports, as well as by setting up and carrying out the work of inquiry and special committees. As in the case of questions, the legislature showed interest in the use of committees as control and intervention mechanisms in some areas only in the first year of the legislature's activity, as an inquiry committee and 3 special committees were formed, one of which is permanently working during the mandate of the current legislature.

A positive dynamic and an effective result is attested in carrying out the legal *ex-post assessment*, which has recorded a level of implementation of 100% in the last two years. But the ex-post impact assessment still has deficiencies in the implementation, as only 12 percent of the approved plan were executed in 2023.

And finally, regarding the monitoring of the appointments and resignations of official persons by the Parliament, we note that, during the reference period, 44 draft normative acts were approved on

appointments and resignations and 2 were rejected. This number is comparable to the number of resignations and appointments in the previous monitored period. Out of all those approved, 34 drafts (77%) are for appointment and other 10 (23%) refer to the resignation, as 16 authorities and public institutions were concerned. Most of the Parliament's decisions regarding the appointment or dismissal concerned the Committee for External Evaluation of the Ethical and Financial Integrity of Prosecutors, the Central Electoral Committee, the Court of Accounts and the Competition Council.

At the same time, in the Promo-LEX's opinion, the information of citizens and other stakeholders regarding the organization and holding of the contests was lacking, and a revision of the way of communicating information via the Parliament's web-page was necessary.

**Chapter IV. Parliament's communication with citizens and stakeholders.** The chapter reflects the results of the monitoring of the legislature's web-page and the way in which the subdivisions of the Parliament and deputies use *institutionalized mechanisms of communication – hearings and meetings with citizens, petitions and requests for access to information.* 

In the case of the *web-page* <u>www.parlament.md</u>, the Promo-LEX upholds, for the most part, its observations from the previous report. The site remains complicated, outdated and does not reflect sufficiently information of public interest. According to the Parliament's secretariat, the new page would be launched by the end of 2024.

Eight months after the entry into force of the new law on access to information of public interest, the Parliament has delays in its implementation as to the proactive transparency. Thus, out of the 13 categories of information of public interest that must be published, the information is fully published only for six categories, the information is partially published for six and the information is missing for one category. At the same time, we emphasize the lacunar nature of the mandatory open format of information of public interest. Between August 2023 and August 2024, at least 20 cases when the legislature page failed were found, and the duration of the technical deficiencies, cumulatively, was at least 16 hours.

As to the *hearings*, the monitors found that this tool still lacks transparency in relation to the hearing schedule of the Parliament leadership, chairmen of the parliamentary factions, and also those of the deputies. The official web-page of the Parliament does not contain information on the hearing schedule, field trips of deputies and hearings provided to citizens.

With regard to *petitions*, we note that they still show a decrease compared to the previous monitored periods, the main issue addressed in the petitions is still ensuring legislation. However, the monitors attested a low degree of resolved petitions and activities carried out to promote the online petition mechanism failed to generate the expected results.

Regarding *requests for access to information of public interest,* during the monitored period, the number of requests decreased twice compared to the previous monitored period, thus a lower degree of resolution than in previous periods (59% in compared to 87%) was attested. Based on the Promo-LEX's experience in addressing requests, we draw attention to the fact that out of 18 requests, 2 requests remained unanswered, and the answers were general or incomplete in at least five situations.

Regarding the *Parliament's cooperation with civil society*, we note a lack of progress. The Promo-LEX reiterates that collaboration with civil society is fundamental for the development of relevant policies for citizens. With regard to *expert councils*, we note that the standing committees have approved their own regulations regarding their organization and operation, but a low interest in expert councils is noted. As of August 2024, only seven specialized standing committees have created expert councils, but only one has carried out its work in the 2024 spring session.

**Chapter V. Monitoring of budgetary and administrative management.** In this compartment of the report, the monitors analyzed information of public interest concerning the *approval and execution of the Parliament's budget*, but also other important issues, such as *remuneration of deputies, costs for business trips, transparency of public procurement*.

As to the *approval and execution of the Parliament's budget*, we welcome the fact that, unlike in the previous monitored period, the related information (approved budget, rectifications, degree of execution, etc.) is published on the legislature's web-page in compliance with the principles of open data. Comparing the last five years, it was found that the budget for 2024 of the Parliament shows a decrease compared to the approved budget for 2023, but it is increasing compared to the previous years. Most of the financial resources were planned for personnel expenses and social benefits.

With regard to the *remuneration of deputies*, the Promo-LEX notes that during the period August 2024 - June 2024, dignitaries were provided with an average monthly salary of 19 thousand MDL, to which non-taxable compensatory payments were also added: transport allowances (increased from September 2023 - from 6500 to 10000 MDL/monthly); for the rental of the residential space (3,300 - 6,600 MDL/monthly) and compensation for expenses related to the fulfillment of duties, protocol and promotion expenses (max. 13,000 MDL/monthly). We reiterate the Promo-LEX's opinion according to which the public authority should establish effective tools for recording and controlling the supporting documents on the basis of which non-taxable compensatory payments are made.

Information on *work trips abroad* carried out by deputies and employees of the Parliament Secretariat is published periodically. As in the previous monitored period, deputies from two parliamentary factions (PAS and BCS) were involved, but the biggest expenses belong to the deputies from the parliamentary majority. We note that the number of trips, as well as expenses incurred for them have increased compared to the previous period. The most trips were made in Romania (19), followed by Belgium (18), France (12) and the USA (11). At the same time, regarding the *field trips*, no record is kept by the legislature.

The *public procurement* process is transparent and accessible to qualified economic agents. Similar to previous years, the most valuable procurement was for public utilities (water distribution, gas, energy, etc.). Although the level of procurement made on the basis of a single offer decreased by approximately 3% compared to the previous monitored period, the trend is maintained according to which, in the case of low-value contracts, the level of competitiveness is low. At the same time, regarding the composition of the working group, the Promo-LEX's monitors found that the situation did not undergo any changes during the monitored period. Thus, contrary to the legal provisions, the composition of the group included a deputy - representative of the PAS parliamentary faction.

#### INTRODUCTION

The Promo-LEX Association is a non-governmental, non-profit and apolitical organization, which pursues the public benefit and carries out its activity in accordance with the legislation in force of the Republic of Moldova. The mission of the Promo-LEX Association is to contribute to the development of democracy in the Republic of Moldova by promoting and defending human rights, monitoring democratic processes and strengthening civil society.

In order to implement the statutory provisions, between July 2016 and March 2025, the Promo-LEX Association implements the "Democracy, Transparency and Responsibility" Program, with the financial support of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In 2016–2019, the Promo-LEX monitored the Parliament's activity, in particular, in terms of the performance of the parliamentary control function, as well as of ensuring compliance with the legal framework regarding the holding/termination of public positions in the part related to the legislature's duties. Starting from the conclusions of that monitoring, but also from the need to strengthen the decision-making processes and to ensure a proactive transparency in the legislature's activity, the Promo-LEX decided to expand, as well as to deepen the efforts for monitoring the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

Monitoring of the Parliament's activity is useful and beneficial by virtue of the need to improve the quality of decision-making processes, their continuous transparency, as well as in order to hold the actors involved accountable. In this regard, the methodology developed by the Promo-LEX takes into account the previous experience of monitoring the Parliament's activity, including the monitoring efforts carried out by other public associations in the Republic of Moldova, but especially good international practices regarding monitoring of the legislature's activity and ensuring an effective communication with citizens.

The draft's activities are centered on four pillars of intervention:

- monitoring observation of the Parliament's activity carried out by the monitors by following directly the meetings of the legislature, carrying out visits and discussions/interviews with the representatives of the Parliament's committees, parliamentary factions and Parliament's employees, scanning and analyzing online sources of information, etc.;
- *analysis and research* development of analytical studies (opinions on draft laws; policy analyses, etc.) in certain issues that require a separate approach;
- *information* public communication of monitoring results through periodic posts in social networks, press releases, publication of thematic analyses, etc.;
- *promotion & advocacy* permanent promotion of conclusions and recommendations derived from monitoring.

The *annual report* is one of the main results/products of the monitoring effort, focused on areas such as: transparency of the legislative process, organization and holding of plenary meetings, activity of parliamentary committees, parliamentary control and budget management. With this report, we did not intend to evaluate the draft laws in their substance, but we refer exclusively to the respect for decision-making transparency and procedures in the legislative process.

The monitored period reflected in the third monitoring report covers the period 1 August 2023 – 31 July 2024. This period includes the activity of the Parliament of the 11th legislature from the 2023 autumn and 2024 spring sessions, as well as the extraordinary sessions from the mentioned period.

The Promo-LEX's findings are related to the legislation of the Republic of Moldova, international standards and good practices developed and consolidated by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)<sup>1</sup>, as well as other regional area-related reference organizations (ParlAmericas<sup>2</sup>, Transparency and Access to Information Network (RTA)<sup>3</sup>). At the same time, the European Commission also monitors, in the context

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Inter-Parliamentary Union</u> is an international organization of legislatures, founded in 1889, which currently includes 174 national parliaments. The Republic of Moldova is a member of the Interparliamentary Union from 1992.

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  ParlAmericas is a pan-American regional organization, made up of national legislatures of the 35 independent states of the American continent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>Transparency</u> and Access to Information Network (RTA).

of the accession of the Republic of Moldova to the European Union, the functioning of democratic institutions, including the Parliament, the last Report<sup>4</sup> dates back to October 2024.

At the end of this report, the authors have formulated a series of recommendations for the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, other relevant authorities and concerned stakeholders, with the aim of contributing to increase in the degree of transparency and efficiency of the legislature's activity.

The Parliament of the Republic of Moldova of the 11th legislature was founded after the anticipated parliamentary elections of 11 July 2021. Two political parties and one electoral block have access in the legislature. As a result, three parliamentary factions were established - the Action and Solidarity Party faction (63 deputies), the Communist and Socialist Bloc faction (32 deputies) and the "Shor" Political Party faction (6 deputies). PAS formed single-handedly the governing majority.

In 2023, events that determined the change in the number of parliamentary factions in the Parliament occurred. Following the declaration of the Shor Party<sup>5</sup> as unconstitutional, the respective faction in the Parliament ceased its activity, its deputies became independent, without the right to affiliate with other parliamentary factions.

Also, according to the Promo-LEX's observations, in the period 2022-2024, the numerical composition of the BCS faction was reduced from 32 to 26, the last deputy who left the faction was Veaceslav Nigai. The PAS faction was also reduced by one deputy, once Victoria Cazacu was excluded from the faction and party. We remind you that the Regulation of the Parliament provides, in art. 4, para. (7), both the deputy's right to leave the faction and the right of the faction to eject some members. In this report, the Promo-LEX will refer to deputies Nesterovschi, Lozovan and Nigai as unaffiliated, even though they are part of the BCS faction according to the Parliament's page.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> European Commission's Report of 30 October 2024

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Judgment</u> of the Constitutional Court no. 10 of 19 June 2023 on constitutionality review of the Shor Political Party.

#### METHODOLOGICAL MILESTONES

The methodology used to monitor the Parliament's activity and transparency was developed based on international area-related practice, as well as the experience of the Promo-LEX Association in observing democratic processes in the Republic of Moldova.

The *purpose* of monitoring the Parliament is to ensure increased transparency in the institution's activity, to make the legislative procedure more efficient, but also to hold the parties involved accountable.

To achieve the goal, the following *objectives* were developed:

- establishing the degree of compliance with the legislative procedure;
- evaluating the efficiency and transparency of the Parliament's activity, including some standing parliamentary committees;
- assessing the level of performance by the Parliament of the parliamentary control function;
- determining the quality of the legislature's communication with citizens and stakeholders;
- evaluating the transparency of the institution's budget management.

Several *tools* were used during the monitoring data collection:

- direct observation;
- analysis of the normative framework and documents related to parliamentary activity;
- requesting access to information;
- collecting information based on the standardized questionnaire;
- analysis/documentation of online sources (web-pages, social networks, etc.).

The methodology was presented and discussed at the beginning of the monitoring with the leadership of the Parliament and representatives of the institution's secretariat. In general, the Promo-LEX Association noted openness of the Parliament's leadership and the institution's employees. In this way, we thank the deputies and civil servants who ensured open communication and contributed to the monitoring.

During the observation process, the monitors collected information on the draft laws, Parliament sittings and other issues of the institution's work and stored them on the <a href="www.data.promolex.md">www.data.promolex.md</a> platform. Subsequently, the entered data was checked and analyzed in several stages. However, we admit that some of these could be affected by human error and late publication on the official web-page of the Parliament of the documents related to the draft laws, but without influencing the highlighted trends and drawn conclusions.

The Promo-LEX's monitors were trained on the content and objectives of the methodology. They also signed the Code of Conduct, committing themselves to demonstrate fairness and non-partisanship in the process of documentation and analysis.

The methodology used by the Promo-LEX Association, in addition to other developments of this kind, represents a structured set of objectives, tools and methods of knowing, characterized by a certain degree of generalization. In this regard, if necessary, the methodological tools could be adapted over time, but without affecting the objectivity of the monitoring process.

# **ABBREVIATIONS**

para. – paragraph

ANSC - National Agency for Settlement of Appeals

ANRE - National Agency for Energy Regulation

CPA – central public authorities

LPA – local public administration

ARBI - Agency for the Recovery of Criminal Assets

art. - article

BCS - Bloc of Communists and Socialists

BNM - National Bank of Moldova

CAPDR - Public Administration and Regional Development Committee

CDORI - Human Rights and Interethnic Relations Committee

CEEIEFP - Committee for External Evaluation of the Ethical and Financial Integrity of Prosecutors

**CEC - Central Electoral Commission** 

CJNI - Committee for Legal Matters, Appointments, and Immunities

CNA - National Anticorruption Center

CSM - Superior Council of Magistracy

ECHR- European Court of Human Rights

DGJ - General Legal Directorate

DPA – Petitions and Hearings Department

subpara. – subparagraph

no. - number

CSOs - civil society organizations

PAS - Action and Solidarity Party

it. - item

d. - district

SIS - Information and Security Service

USAID - United States Agency for International Development

TAU - territorial-administrative unit

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Analyzing the degree of implementation of the recommendations formulated in the previous report for monitoring the Parliament's activity, we note that most of the recommendations have not been implemented.

Thus, the unimplemented, partially implemented, as well as new recommendations are presented below:

# Chapter I: Compliance with the legislative procedure

# Recommendations to the Parliament:

- 1. The overall and systemic review of the Regulation of the Parliament or adoption of a new legislative act that would ensure the operation of the legislature in a transparent and predictable way for the public and stakeholders.
- 2. Adjustment of rules of the Regulation of the Parliament regarding the preparation and presentation of the draft law, approval, expertise and public consultation as to the rules of Law no. 100/2017 regarding the normative acts and rules of the Law on transparency in the decision-making process.
- 3. Approval and implementation of the Legislative Program, periodic publication of information on the degree of implementation.
- 4. Prioritization of acquis communautaire alignment legislation drafts that are to be adopted.
- 5. Standardization of procedures for announcing, organizing and holding public consultations by Parliamentary Committees.
- 6. Ensuring the publication of information on the public consultations held and their results (including the minutes on the citizens' consultation) or on the decision not to hold the consultations, including on the corresponding draft law.
- 7. Establishing a clear and transparent mechanism that would ensure the effective examination of the objections and recommendations of the General Legal Directorate of the Parliament Secretariat, Government, anti-corruption expertise, as well as other entities that provided opinions or expertise.
- 8. Examining the possibility of revising the procedures for declaring the state of emergency or examining them as a priority, by adjusting the rules to the provisions of the Law on transparency in the decision-making process.
- 9. Publication of the agenda of the Parliament sittings on the institution's official page at the beginning of the working week, according to legal provisions.

# Recommendations to the Standing Bureau:

- 10. Non-inclusion in the agenda of plenary meetings drafts for which the anti-corruption expertise, opinions of the authorities responsible for the implementation of draft normative acts, where appropriate, other opinions and expertises necessary for the respective draft are missing or not published.
- 11. Inclusion in the agenda of the plenary meeting only drafts on which the standing committees have issued and published the report in sufficient time before voting in the plenary meeting (for example, at least three days).
- 12. Organization and holding of meetings dedicated to opposition drafts for the first plenary meeting of every sixth week from the date of the start of the parliamentary session.

# Recommendations to the standing parliamentary committees notified on the subject matter:

- 13. Preparation and publication within a reasonable time of the summary of objections and recommendations, well in advance of voting of the draft normative act.
- 14. Reasoning each time for refusing to accept amendments, objections or recommendations.
- 15. Ensuring compliance with the deadlines for debating draft normative acts.
- 16. Diligent follow-up of cases of amendment of the draft normative act conceptually or in a proportion greater than 30%, in which case the approval and repeated public consultation will be organized.

# Chapter II: Activity of some standing parliamentary committees

#### Recommendations to the Parliament:

- 17. Supplementing the Regulation of the Parliaments with rules that would explicitly regulate the situations of convening meetings of standing committees during the plenary meeting.
- 18. Supplementing the Regulation of the Parliament with rules that would oblige standing committees to draw up, approve and publish sessional and/or annual work plans.
- 19. Examining the opportunity to publish proactively information on the presence and absences of deputies from committee meetings, detailing the excused or unexcused nature of the absences.

# Recommendations to the standing parliamentary committees:

- 20. Publication by the committees of the information related to the process of implementation of the approved action plans.
- 21. Ensuring online / live broadcasts of all public meetings of standing committees.
- 22. Development and publication within a reasonable time of the minutes of the meetings of the Committee for Legal Matters, Appointments, and Immunities.
- 23. Consolidation of the content of the minutes with the aim of reflecting all categories of activities carried out during the meeting, regarding the absent deputies; the subject that convened the meeting; details about the presence of other deputies or invited persons; indicating the information about the video recording of the meeting, holding of consultations, hearings or public debates.

# Chapter III: Exercise of parliamentary control function by the Parliament

#### Recommendations to the Parliament:

- 24. Explicit regulation of the mechanisms for asking questions and forwarding interpellations to avoid confusion in their application.
- 25. Development and publication of an exhaustive list of all subjects responsible for the presentation of reports, its inclusion in the Regulation of the Parliament or in the draft normative act regarding the organization and functioning of the Parliament.
- 26. Institutionalizing a monitoring mechanism for the implementation of the recommendations of the inquiry/special committees.
- 27. Ensuring the functionality/completion of the "Parliamentary control" column on the official page of the legislature.
- 28. Establishing the right of the parliamentary opposition to organize selection contests for the authorities formed by the Parliament.
- 29. Development of an Instruction by which the standing or special parliamentary committees responsible for organizing public contests are obliged to ensure the publication of information about all stages of the contest.
- 30. Ensuring the publication of full information about public tenders in a single section dedicated to the procedures on the Parliament's web-page the "Public contests" section.

# Recommendations to the standing parliamentary committees:

- 31. Strengthening the capacities of the standing committees to carry out the ex-post impact assessment.
- 32. Standardization of practices in the activity of committees in terms of planning actions, method of communication and placement of information regarding the results of the activity.
- 33. Ensuring the activity of subcommittees within standing committees and publishing information on the results of their activity.
- 34. Ensuring the transparency of the committee's activity by publishing on the web-page the activity plans and parliamentary control plans, as well as the results of the exercise of control (decisions, information notes, reports, etc.)

# Chapter IV: Parliament's communication with citizens and stakeholders

#### Recommendations to the Parliament:

- 35. Launch of the new official page of the Parliament in as limited terms as possible.
- 36. Plenary information and in an accessible format for citizens regarding the activity of the institution.
- 37. Ensuring an institutionalized and unified mechanism for informing citizens regarding the hearing schedule and field visits of deputies (deputies who have planned visits/hearings with citizens for the corresponding day, localities where they go).
- 38. Documentation and proactive communication of the degree of achievement by elected officials of the hearing schedule.
- 39. Recording in the materials developed by the institution (annual activity report of the Parliament Secretariat, statistical report on the activity of the Parliament, monthly and annual newsletters, communiqués, posts in social networks) of the information regarding the hearings with citizens organized both in the legislature's premises and on the ground, as well as information on cooperation with civil society organizations, including those on the ground.
- 40. Informing citizens in a timely and appropriate manner (in detail) about the hearing schedule and field visits by deputies (parliamentary factions).
- 41. Compliance with the general term in which an administrative procedure must be completed (art. 60, para. (1) of Administrative Code) for cases of providing answers to petitions.
- 42. Compliance with the deadline for satisfying requests for access to information of public interest (art. 19, Law no. 148 of 09.06.2023).
- 43. Educating and informing, together with LPA, citizens regarding the drafting and submission of petitions, which would exclude costs for traveling to Chisinau and save time of citizens (including, with the participation of other institutions, non-governmental organizations).
- 44. More intensive promotion of the e-petition system.
- 45. Ensuring the permanent, continuous and efficient nature, based on needs and priorities, of the platform for dialogue and civic participation in the Parliament's decision-making process.
- 46. More active involvement of civil society at the stage of drafting the concept of normative acts.
- 47. Organization, during field visits of the specialized parliamentary committees, of the meetings with the local civil society organizations in order to address some subjects and problems they face.

### Recommendations to local public administration authorities:

48. Providing the necessary support for the deputy's work with citizens: ensuring access to premises, providing the necessary equipment and information, notifying the voters about the place and time of the meeting with the deputy.

# Chapter V: Monitoring of budgetary and administrative management

# Recommendations to the Parliament:

- 49. Publication of reports related to the institution's activity (information on business trips abroad, annual procurement plan, procurement monitoring, etc.) in an open, reusable format (for example, in Excel format).
- 50. Approval for each parliamentary faction of the budget, detailing the expenditure destinations for which that budget can be used.
- 51. Establishment/implementation of effective tools/mechanisms for recording and controlling the supporting documents on the basis of which non-taxable compensatory payments are made.
- 52. Review of the composition of the working group for public procurement, so that there are no persons holding public offices in its composition.