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Moldova's Social Policy Response to Covid-19: Citizen Support for Government Initiatives



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MOLDOVA'S SOCIAL POLICY RESPONSE TO COVID-19: CITIZEN SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES

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ABSTRACT

This report analyses citizens' attitudes towards and support for government initiatives aiming to mitigate the socio-economic impact of the early phase of the Covid-19 pandemic in Moldova. It draws on mixed-methods research carried out in Moldova in June and July 2020 by questionnaire conducted with a nationally representative sample (n=1202) and a qualitative survey through in-depth interviews (n=95). The questionnaire respondents share a high degree of dissatisfaction with the way the authorities managed the Covid-19 pandemic and its socio-economic impact. Respondents with more confidence in state institutions are more satisfied with the way the pandemic and its effects were managed. Participants interviewed in the qualitative survey highlighted several gaps and inconsistencies in the way the authorities managed the pandemic and its impact on people's lives. The "pro-business and pro-citizens" measures announced by the government of Moldova on 1 April 2020, in a context strongly influenced by the presidential elections which took place in November 2020, proved to be modest and hardly effective. The support measures introduced by the Moldovan government for businesses and employees represented 1.2% of GDP, which is extremely low compared to the support provided to enterprises and employees in Western countries and other countries in the region. The actions or inactions of the authorities might further undermine citizens' trust in state institutions and the official interpretation of events.

INTRODUCTION

The crisis caused by the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in the Republic of Moldova,¹ still ongoing, reveals citizens' attitudes and support for the government's initiatives to mitigate the health and socio-economic impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The analysis of this case sheds light on the role of citizens' trust in and support for government institutions in a broader, international discussion about social capital in the context of the pandemic.

Moldova is among the countries in Central and Eastern Europe that have reported high rates of infection with the new type of coronavirus and a large number of fatalities. With a population of less than 3 million permanent residents (without migrants), on 26 October 2020 Moldova registered 17,739 cases of Covid-19 infections

1 GDP per capita in Moldova was recorded at USD 3,716 in 2019, which is equivalent to 29 percent of the global average (World Bank). The population of the Republic of Moldova in 2019 totaled 3.55 million people, including migrants, and without Transnistria. The estimated population of actual residents (without migrants abroad) is 2.64 million (National Bureau of Statistics of the Republic of Moldova).

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and 418 deaths per 1 million population. For comparison, in neighboring Romania, this ratio was 10,921 cases of infection and 333 deaths per 1 million. In Ukraine, 7,870 cases of infection and 146 fatalities per 1 million inhabitants were reported. Among the post-Soviet countries, only Armenia recorded a higher number of infections (26,252), but slightly fewer deaths (398) per 1 million inhabitants. At the same time, a significant part of the population considers the official estimates exaggerated and denies the gravity of the crisis, and is avoiding observing sanitary and physical distancing rules.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union and on gaining its independence (in 1991), the Republic of Moldova adopted a democratic parliamentary regime committed to the observance of basic human rights and freedoms. Yet Moldova has faced systemic economic difficulties, endemic poverty and low quality of governance (Negură, 2016). The massive pauperization of the population in the 1990s took place against the background of the brutal transformation of the labor market in the 1990s, especially due to the closure of a large number of state-owned enterprises and the emergence of private enterprises, together with the weakening and shrinking of the social welfare system. The social welfare system in Moldova, inherited from the Soviet era, was affected in the post-1990 years by underfinancing and lower institutional capacity (Cerami, 2009; Negură, 1916). According to official data, in the early 2000s, almost 40% of the workforce in Moldova was employed in the informal sector. By 2018, the proportion of informally employed people has remained at 38% (Statistical Yearbook, 2009, 2019). The main areas of informal employment in 2013 were agriculture (69%), retail, hotels and restaurants (12%), construction (11%), and transport and communications (4%) (Statistical Yearbook, 2009, 2019; Popa et al., 2015).

The case of Moldova is interesting from the perspective of institutional trust and society's support for government measures to prevent the spread of the virus and to reduce the negative social and economic effects of the pandemic. Society has shown rather high compliance with health regulations during the state of emergency, from 17 March to 15 May 2020, according to the *Covid-19 Community Mobility Reports* data presented by Google, measuring people's movements between public and residential spaces during the pandemic compared to pre-pandemic data (Spătari, 2020). Against the background of growing anxieties over socio-economic insecurity and increased distrust of state institutions, observance of health rules and various forms of cohesion and solidarity have given way to manifestations of distrust and tacit sabotage of government policies, especially those imposing mobility restrictions and social distancing measures, perceived to contradict the interests of the population.

Opinion polls conducted in Moldova during the last decades reveal a low level of trust in institutions and politicians. Confidence in the government fell sharply in 2015–2016 (from 23% in 2012 to 7% in 2015), following revelations about a high-scale bank fraud at the end of 2014 involving some politicians and state institutions. Low confidence in public institutions fueled widespread adherence to conspiracy scenarios during the first phases of the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the poll carried out in May 2020 by Watch-Dog and the polling company CBS-Axa, half of the respondents agreed that "the [Covid-19] virus is no more dangerous than common flu and everything is done intentionally to destroy the economy." President Igor Dodon himself downplayed the severity of the coronavirus in a YouTube program in the pre-election period. According to a survey conducted in October 2020 by the Institute of Public Policy and CBS-Axa, 9.8% of respondents believed that the Covid-19 pandemic is certainly a myth, and a further 15.9% believed "it is rather a myth". Following a series of corruption scandals and in particular the "theft of the century" at the end of 2014, low trust in politicians and state structures fuels distrust in the official interpretation of events in the context of the pandemic.

The pandemic disadvantaged a significant number of citizens during the state of emergency and afterwards, especially manual workers and service employees. The survey conducted in July 2020 by the Centre for Sociology and Social Psychology within the Institute for Legal, Political and Sociological Research in Moldova (CSSP-ILPSR) found a high sense of socio-economic insecurity among respondents: 63.4% of respondents said that they were afraid or very afraid that, as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, they would not be able to provide their family with necessities; 67.3% of respondents admitted that they were afraid that they would not be able to cover their basic living expenses, and 47.8% feared that they would lose their jobs. It is noteworthy that people with primary or secondary education share the highest level of fear of not being able to provide their family with necessities: 72.7%, compared to 58.6% among respondents with higher education. Data from the National Bureau of Statistics of Moldova for 2020 confirm that these fears are not without reason. Thus, the incomes of the general population decreased by 4.8%, especially in cities, according to official estimations. Incomes decreased the most for the poorest quintiles (-12% for the 1st quintile, and -2.2% for the 4th quintile) (UNDP, 2020). Vulnerable

groups, namely poor households, vulnerable women, NEET youth, returned migrants and self-employed people, have felt the sharpest decline in incomes during the pandemic (PwC Vulnerable Groups Survey, UNDP, 2020). Moreover, 83% of households in urban areas and 74% in rural areas stated that they did not have enough money to cover their current bills (UNDP, 2020). The correlations calculated by the authors of this paper using data on the respondents' social status and their answers about their belief in the existence of the Covid-19 virus suggest that people with a low perceived socio-economic status, with a lower level of education, and those who share a low degree of trust in state institutions, are more likely to deny the severity of the Covid-19 pandemic. Denial of the severity or existence of the Covid-19 pandemic by the most disadvantaged could be interpreted as a "maladaptive coping strategy" in the face of the perceived threat of insecurity and socio-economic exclusion (Jaspal & Nerlich, 2020).

This paper draws on the results of a mixed-methods research study conducted by the authors with colleagues from the CSSP-ILPSR. A qualitative survey was conducted in May 2020 by conducting in-depth, semi-directive interviews with 95 persons. One of the criteria for selecting interview participants was for them to have formal or informal leadership status in their communities and/or society. The sample was structured according to gender, place of residence, socio-occupational status, age and ethnicity of the respondents, without aiming to be nationally representative. Of the 95 participants, 18 were employed in the non-governmental sector, 45 worked in state institutions, 21 were employed in the private sector, 6 were freelancers, 4 were retirees and one respondent was unemployed. The interviews were conducted based on a guide, drawing on a set of indicators on social cohesion, including trust in institutions. The interview guide also contains some questions regarding attitudes, behaviors and social transformations during the Covid-19 pandemic. The transcribed interviews were analyzed according to the grounded theory model (Corbin & Strauss, 1990). The qualitative data obtained from the analysis of the interviews are corroborated with some results from the questionnaire survey conducted in July 2020. The quantitative survey was conducted on a nationally representative sample of 1,202 adults. Several questions in the questionnaire were related to fears in the pandemic context and one question aimed to assess the degree of satisfaction with the management of the Covid-19 pandemic by the authorities.

This paper refers to the concept of social capital, developed by Robert Putnam (1993, 2000), James S. Coleman (1988), Pierre Bourdieu (1980) and other scholars. This concept is defined by Putnam as follows: "(...) 'social capital' refers to features of social organization such as networks, norms, and social trust that facilitate coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit" (Putnam, 1993). Interpersonal trust and institutional trust are at the same time a factor in and consequence of capital social and social cohesion (Putnam, 2000; Ward & Meyer, 2009). Also, citizen trust and support for government policies are key for policy performance (Levi & Stolker, 2000; Córdova, 2011).

Drawing on Bourdieu's theoretical work, other researchers have pointed out that socio-economically and culturally disadvantaged people and groups have limited access to civic associations and public institutions and benefit from a weak social support network (Portes & Landolt, 1996; Negură, 2020).

Several studies have shown the link between certain indicators for social capital and the success of measures for combating and preventing the spread of Covid-19 and its effects (Koh & Cadigan, 2020; Pitas & Ehmer, 2020; Kokubun, 2020; Borgonovi & Andrieu, 2020; Varshney et al., 2020; Kristin, 2020; Bian et al., 2020). Some studies show that high social capital, defined by the level of collective adherence to norms, values and trust, promotes a higher degree of cooperation of the civilian population with state authorities and civil society organizations in combating the pandemic and thus preventing the spread of the virus (Kokubun, 2020). In countries where no firm lockdown measures were taken in March and April 2020, social cohesion played a positive role in preventing the spread of the virus (Borgonovi & Andrieu, 2020; Varshney et al., 2020). In the long run, governments should consider investing in social capital (Kokubun, 2020; Kristin, 2020; Borgonovi & Andrieu, 2020). Yet an increase in institutional trust is only achieved over time, through consistent, diligent and good faith actions by the government and other state institutions (Khemani, 2020).

According to some studies, social trust, especially trust in institutions, is one of the most significant components of cohesion and social capital that have helped prevent the spread of the virus and mitigate its negative social and economic effects. Compliance with lockdown and social distancing rules depends on the level of trust in decision-makers (Bargain & Aminjonov, 2020; Brodeur, Grigoryeva & Kattan, 2020). At the same time, impractical and inapplicable measures as well as failing to address the socio-economic dimension of the crisis lead to opposite effects (Elcheroth et al., 2020).

In Moldova, the pandemic caught the state unprepared, as the authorities themselves confessed, bringing to the fore a weak and inefficient health system. Moreover, the government's social and economic policy response to the pandemic came late and with little impact on businesses and people's lives. Shortly after the official recognition of the pandemic in Moldova, on 7 April 2020, the number of infections continued to increase within the population and especially among medical staff. Some experts have criticized the inconsistent quarantine measures and the premature lifting of restrictions which led to an increase in the infection rate. Parliament and the government initiated a series of legislative measures to reduce the negative economic and social effects of the pandemic. Some analysts and representatives of opposition parties have criticized the "populist" nature of some measures, such as the "First House", a subsidized program for lending to young families to buy a home, and the "Good Roads" program proposing the repair of roads in the country (Law 12 in Appendix 2). Both programs were initiated by the previous government and continued by the current government, despite criticism (Agora.md, 2020). Several analysts found that the way the government handled the health and socio-economic crisis caused by the Covid-19 pandemic was strongly influenced by the electoral context of 2020. In November 2020, the election of the President of Moldova took place. In this regard, the government has been criticized for not imposing stricter restrictions when the infection rate was rising, unlike other countries in the region and the world. In the context of forthcoming elections, any legislative initiative that seeks to improve the living conditions of the population, whether from the government or opposition parties, is often labelled as "populist" and financially unsustainable.

On 1 April 2020, two weeks after quarantine began, the government of the Republic of Moldova announced a series of "pro-business and pro-citizens" measures. This package of measures only entered into force on 23 April 2020 (see Laws no. 7, 8, 11 in Appendix 2) along with other controversial measures, such as one supposed to favor some tobacco companies. One of the measures provided for tripling the unemployment fund. Persons dismissed during the state of emergency were to receive unemployment benefits equivalent to one minimum wage (MDL 2,775, the equivalent of EUR 137.50 on 1 April 2020). The measures for companies, of modest value, were rather indirect (loans, loan interest subsidies, VAT refunds) and therefore difficult to access. Fiscal measures and the increase in unemployment benefits have favored the increase in the number of employees dismissed (Spătari, 2020). The support measures adopted by the Moldovan government for businesses and employees represent 1.2% of GDP. This proportion is extremely low compared to the support provided to enterprises in Western countries (in Germany 28.5% of GDP, Italy 21.4%, France 15%), compared to other countries in Central and Eastern Europe (Poland 6.2 %, Romania 3.5%) and even compared to those in the Eastern Partnership countries (Georgia 6.9%, Azerbaijan 3.2%, Armenia 2.3% of GDP) (Spătari, 2020). According to research conducted in August and September 2020 by UNDP, 91% of respondents – representatives of enterprises – did not receive any support from the state and only 3.6% benefited from some support measures during the pandemic (PwC B2B Survey, UNDP, 2020). In addition, the crisis caused by the pandemic is being felt through a declining number of jobs and thus through increased demand for employment. The National Agency for Labor declared a decrease of 7.6% in available jobs, especially for unskilled workers (12%) and textiles (30%). Research commissioned by UNDP shows that 49% of poor households were looking for a job in Moldova and 4% abroad (PwC Vulnerable Groups Survey, UNDP, 2020).

For this report, we collected 30 legislative acts (laws, bills, provisions, decisions, etc.) of a social, economic and health nature that have been developed and adopted by the government (or other governing institutions) since 1 February 2020 (see Appendix 2). Most (10) refer to the field of "Labor market" (documents no. 1, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 16, 24). Six acts refer to social assistance (no. 4, 6, 15, 21, 23, 25); five acts refer to the pension system (no. 2, 3, 19, 20, 26); three acts refer to education (no. 13, 28, 29); two relate to healthcare (no. 18, 27); and one document refers to long-term care and disability (no. 22). Of all the acts included in this collection, 17 explicitly refer to the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Of the latter, 8 refer to the labor market, three to education, and two to pensions, social assistance and healthcare.

ATTITUDES TOWARDS COVID-19 PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT: QUANTITATIVE FINDINGS

In the following section, we will analyze the degree of satisfaction among respondents to the quantitative research conducted by CSSP-ILPSR on how the government administrated the Covid-19 crisis and mitigated its socio-economic effects according to several variables such as age, level of education, place of residence, intention to participate in voting and trust in state institutions. To facilitate the analysis, we grouped the answers to the question “To what extent are you satisfied with how the Moldovan authorities managed the Covid-19 pandemic?” into two categories: those who are satisfied and very satisfied; and those who are hardly satisfied or not at all satisfied.

The correlation analysis using the Chi-square test shows statistically significant associations between pandemic management satisfaction and respondents’ age ($p < 0.01$). Satisfaction with how the authorities have handled the crisis increases with age. Respondents in the 18–24 age group were less satisfied with the actions of the authorities (14.2%) and those in the 65+ category were more satisfied (30.3%). However, there are no significant associations between satisfaction and education level ($p = 0.327$) or the place of residence ($p = 0.304$).

We also analyzed the correlation between satisfaction with pandemic management and respondents’ intention to participate in the upcoming elections. Respondents who were satisfied with the actions of the authorities have a higher certainty to participate in the elections (66%), compared to those who were dissatisfied: 52.3%. Those who were dissatisfied with the actions of the authorities were less determined to participate in the elections. The results are statistically significant ($p < 0.01$).

We also correlated the degree of satisfaction with the management of the pandemic with the level of trust in the state’s political institutions and the media. Respondents who trust parliament, government and the presidency were to a lesser extent dissatisfied with the actions of the authorities in managing the pandemic crisis. Thus, of the respondents who have no or little trust in the government, 85.6% were not at all or were to a small extent satisfied with the way the authorities managed the pandemic, while those who have some or a lot of trust in the government were dissatisfied to 71.0% with the pandemic management. A reverse situation occurs in the case of respondents who trust the Church. Those who have some or a lot of trust in the Church were less satisfied (77.6%), while 83.9% of those who have little or no trust in the Church were dissatisfied with the way the authorities managed the pandemic. There are no significant differences between those who trust or do not trust the media in terms of respondents’ level of satisfaction with the management of the pandemic.

Therefore, the results of the questionnaire survey indicate that respondents generally share a high degree of dissatisfaction with the way the authorities managed the Covid-19 pandemic. Over 80% were dissatisfied and only 19% were satisfied with the management of the pandemic and its socio-economic effects. Correlation analysis suggest that young respondents are the most dissatisfied, and the level of satisfaction increases with age. It is noteworthy that respondents who were satisfied with the actions of the authorities were more confident that they would participate in the upcoming elections. At the same time, respondents with more confidence in state institutions were a little more satisfied with the way the pandemic is being managed.

GOVERNING THE PANDEMIC SITUATION: QUALITATIVE FINDINGS

A large number of in-depth interview participants discussed the Covid-19 crisis from the perspective of how central and local authorities managed the crisis caused by the pandemic. Participants addressed this topic by answering the following questions: “Do you think that the authorities (local, central) are taking the right measures to prevent the spread of the virus? Also to lessen the negative effects of the pandemic on the economy and people’s daily lives? Give examples from your locality.”

Most of the themes and thematic references coded within the generic theme “Governance of the Covid-19 pandemic situation” have a general negative tone (19 themes and 94 references). Other sub-themes and thematic references have rather a neutral-ambivalent tone (14 themes/56 references). A smaller number of thematic units and references have a positive tone (4 themes/ 27 references). This thematic distribution of statements according to their general tone suggests that the respondents primarily made negative and neutral-ambivalent assessments of the actions of the local and central government in managing the Covid-19 crisis and, to a lesser extent, some positive assessments. These data are consistent with the results of quantitative research on the degree of satisfaction with the administration of the Covid-19 pandemic.

We could say that the subtopics with a negative tone, the most critical, were generally, with some exceptions, articulated by all socio-demographic categories of respondents. Some positive sub-themes, such as “Authorities control the situation” were formulated by people employed in the public sector, foremost in the administrative system (6 references out of 6). At the same time, a negative sub-theme such as “Inadequate State Communication” was formulated by respondents employed in the public sector (6 out of 11) and the non-governmental sector (5 out of 11).

— Negative assessments

Several respondents consider that the strategies and actions of the state regarding communication with citizens were inadequate (7 sources/ 11 references – henceforth: 7s / 11r); that citizens have not been properly informed since the beginning of the pandemic (F/36–45/urb/Mold/sup/pub)² or that politicians’ statements were contradictory (M/66–75/Chis/Mold/sup/pub). But this is also explained by the fact that, at first, both society and the authorities were confused and did not know how to proceed (M/56–65/Chis/Mold/sup/pub; F/46–55/urb/Mold/sup/pub). Some respondents referred to the notorious episode in which President Dodon tried to explain how the Covid-19 virus manifests and spreads as an example of irresponsible communication between the authorities and citizens (M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/NG).

Neither the authorities nor the press has informed sufficiently and professionally, hence the large proportion of those who do not believe in the existence of the virus. “Instead of useful medical advice for self-protection, the press only transmitted obituaries and statistics about the infected and the dead. The positive and negative information disseminated by the media was not balanced. The need for the slogan ‘Stay home’ was not clearly explained” (M/56–65/Chis/Mold/sup/pub). Correct information for Moldovans returning from abroad would have prevented the spread of the virus in Moldova. However, the information they received was largely delayed and incomplete (M/56–65/Chis/Mold/sup/pub). Another mistake reported by some respondents is the late placement of returned migrants in quarantine (M/46–55/rur/Mold/sup/pub).

Authorities and medical staff have not made enough effort to popularize certain bio-medical knowledge that would have been useful to the population to protect themselves and limit the spread of the virus (M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/NG). According to the same respondent, the state authorities missed the chance to communicate a message of solidarity to citizens. Instead of such a message, the state delivered flawed and contradictory communication (M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/NG).

Some respondents expressed concern that focusing the information message on Covid-19 on isolation, distancing and “stay home” will leave its mark on the collective mind and behavior that could alienate people from each other (F/26–35/urb/Mold/sup/NG).

Some respondents believe that the state mismanaged the medical system before and especially during the pandemic (3s/3r). Some believe that medical staff were inadequately equipped to cope with the growing task of preventing and treating infected people, as evidenced by a large number of infections among medical staff (7s/7r). Instead of fortifying and empowering the system and the medical staff, “On the first line are the politicians in the chase for PR (...). They did not comply with the requirements of the emergency regime” (M/66–75/Chis/Mold/sup/pub). Some decisions taken by the authorities have been politicized in the context of the upcoming elections (2s/2r). Moreover, some respondents consider that the Covid-19 pandemic itself has been politicized (M/56–65/Chis/Mold/sup/pub-priv; F/26–35/urb/Mold/sup/NG).

Some respondents consider that the authorities have sometimes taken exaggerated or arbitrary measures (4s/5r). An example in this sense is the ban imposed on the elderly not to leave their house (at certain hours), without providing these people with necessary items for protection and survival (M/46–55/Chis/Rus/sup/pub-priv). The introduction of restrictions and then their lifting was done abruptly and arbitrarily (M/26–35/

2 Each interview excerpt is coded according to the socio-biographical data of the interviewee, namely by gender (M/F), age group (16–25, 26–35, 36–45, etc.), place of residence (urban – urb, rural – rur or Chisinau – Chis), declared ethnicity (Moldovan – Mold, Ukrainian – Ukr, Russian – Rus, Gagauz – Gag, Jewish – Jew.), education (higher – sup, secondary – sec), professional activity sector (public – pub, private – priv, public / private – pub-priv, non-governmental – NG, self-employed – self-empl, unemployed – unempl, medical – med). Thus, M/36–45/urb/Mold/sup/pub means that the interviewee is male, 36–45 years old, resident of an urban locality (but not Chisinau), Moldovan/Romanian, with higher education, employed in the public sector.

Chis/Mold/sup/priv). Too high fines are another example of exaggerated measures (2s/2r). Another respondent considers fines an example of a fair measure applied by the authorities (F/16–25/rur/Mold/stud/pub).

Attempts to adjust the budget and attract external credit have taken too long (M/26–35/Chis/Mold/sup/NG). The promotion of laws considered aberrant would show, according to one respondent, the incompetence and even bad will of this government in crisis management (M/26–35/rur/Mold/sup/priv). Another mistake of the central authorities in the management of the crisis was that no doctors were included in the commission for the state of emergency.

— Economic and social effects of the pandemic

The negative economic effects caused by the pandemic are evident for most respondents who spoke on the subject. Therefore, this issue must be treated with seriousness and with a sustained effort on the part of society and the authorities, the respondents consider (5s/7r). The economic crisis is already being felt, but the worst crisis in this regard is just around the corner, some respondents say, and this will manifest itself in serious phenomena, such as rising prices, wage cuts, massive lay-offs, declining productivity (M/16–25/rur/Mold/sup/pub; M/56–65/Chis/Mold/sup/pub; F/56–65/rur/Mold/pub/NG).

A fairly high number of negative assessments refer to policies considered inefficient in the economic field (21s/21r). The restrictions imposed in the context of quarantine were considered too harsh by several respondents. These have been a heavy obstacle to the existence and further development of many businesses, especially small business, the most vulnerable in such a crisis. On the other hand, measures to support the business environment have not been sufficient and effective. One participant considered that it would have been sufficient for the authorities to focus on protecting vulnerable groups, and let the economy carry on working (M/26–35/Chis/Mold/sup/NG).

As unemployment rises, some respondents also anticipate negative social phenomena, such as rising crime (F/46–55/Chis/Mold/sup/med). Other respondents make a connection between the economic crisis, the disappearance of jobs and the negative psycho-moral manifestations of society: “Human society will be worse, many have lost their jobs, many will be without a job” (F/56–65/urb/Mold/sup/pub; F/36–45/urb/Mold/super/priv; M/36–45/rur/Mold/med/pub). The topic of “job losses” was addressed especially by respondents from Chisinau city (n=4) and other urban areas (n=3). Another point of view comes from a respondent, a resident of a rural area, namely that the pandemic did not affect agriculture much, in any case, less than the spring drought, which the authorities did not provide much compensation for anyway. In particular, grain production was severely affected (M/46–55/rur/Mold/med/pub; M/56–65/rur/Mold/med/selfempl).

The pandemic has particularly affected private sector companies, according to one respondent, who herself is the manager of such a company. Many companies were closed and employees were laid off or transferred to technical unemployment (F/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/priv). Two respondents (both young) consider that market price fluctuations during the pandemic hide certain concerted actions by politically supported economic agents (M/16–25/rur/Mold/sup/pub; M/16–25/urb/Gag/sup/NG).

The sub-theme of economic insecurity was analyzed by a considerable number of interviewees (15s/17r). One respondent, an urban resident, confesses that she lives from accumulated savings, but shares a sense of financial insecurity in the medium term (F/26–35/Chis/Rus/sup/pub-NG). One respondent, self-employed in an NGO, predicts that the experience of precariousness will lead many people to revise their principles of life and at the same time delegitimize the neoliberal ideology, according to which everyone must manage on his/her own (M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/non-gov). A category of citizens, those considered “privileged,” a category to which one of the respondents attributes himself, would not have been affected too much by the pandemic from an economic point of view, but possibly from a psychological and social perspective (M/36–45/Chis/Jew/sup/pub).

In general, the issue of economic insecurity was recognized by most respondents as an important issue in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. The period of the interviews (May 2020) may not yet allow for a full assessment of the situation, but some respondents have already felt the effects of the crisis following dismissal, job transfer or job loss, the closure of the company they run, or in which they work. However, they all share a more or less acute sense of socio-economic insecurity, which some respondents associate with possible negative developments from a moral and social point of view.

Positive assessments

A significant number of respondents, especially those employed in administrative structures, consider that central and/or local authorities have taken the right and timely measures to deal with the health situation and limit the spread of the virus (M/36–45/urb/sup/Mold/pub). Thus, the sub-theme “Correct measures [in crisis management]” accumulated 17 references from 17 sources, and the sub-theme “Generally correct measures” appear in 19 sources/19 references.

Some participants (6s/6r) consider that the measures taken by the authorities were (in general) correct, but were not carried out correctly for several reasons: sabotage of its actions by society, low capacity (including financial) and will to implement and control by the authorities, the complexity and unpredictability of the situation and the lack of experience in managing pandemic situations. However, in connection with the last argument, some respondents also made an “excuse”, namely that even international institutions (including the WHO) failed to provide sufficient information to limit the spread of the virus in China and around the world (F/26–35/rur/Mold/sup/pub; M/26–35/rur/Mold/sup/priv).

Some respondents thought that the actions of the authorities were more effective where the population supported these measures by getting involved in monitoring and compliance with the rules and reporting the violators (M/46–55/rur/Mold/sup/pub).

Neutral/ambivalent assessments

Some respondents (4s/5r) suggest several measures that should have been taken to reduce the negative effects of the pandemic. These include the earlier introduction of a state of emergency, the prior preparation of society and the economy for quarantine (M/56–65/rur/Ukr/sup/pub). Other respondents consider that the relaxation of the restrictions came too early (3s/3r). One respondent considers that economic activities should be resumed under the individual responsibility of economic operators (M/46–55/Chis/Mold/sup/pub). Economically, some respondents believe that the authorities should have found ways to keep businesses afloat during the pandemic since most companies are not able to pay for the technical unemployment of employees (F/46–55/Chis/Mold/sup/pub; F/26–35/rur/Mold/sup/pub).

Another participant suggests that the government and society should have learned some important things from this experience, namely: the priority of food resilience capacity, which involves, on the one hand, the concentration of vital food resources in Moldova (an allusion to the case criticized in the press for the export of quantities of wheat in March and April 2020) and, on the other hand, the empowerment of the population to be food resilient, among other things by providing opportunities to grow plant foods, even in urban areas. At the same time, this respondent believes that the state should have launched a more ambitious program to support citizens to reduce the increase in precariousness among those who suffer most from quarantine measures and the economic crisis. The individualistic “stay home” message should have been changed with a call for vigilance, but also solidarity. Regional hospitals should not have been closed to “optimize” them but should have been equipped to meet local needs, including during crises (M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/NG). The pandemic showed us, says the same respondent, that cities, especially the capital, were deprived of many public spaces – parks, green spaces, and recreational areas – which proved so necessary to citizens in this period of the pandemic. The government could have learned a lot about public policy in the context of the pandemic, but it does not, as it seems because the authorities do not acknowledge their mistakes and do not build a medium and long-term strategy, all the more necessary as epidemiologists predict the outbreak of a “second wave” of the pandemic in the fall (M/36–45/Chis/Jew/sup/pub; M/36–45/Chis/Mold/sup/NG).

As can be seen from this summary analysis, respondents expressed some critical views on the actions taken by the government and other state institutions to prevent the spread of the virus and combat the negative effects of the pandemic. These data are consistent with the results of the survey conducted by CSSP-ILPSR in July 2020, according to which 80.75% of respondents were not satisfied at all or only to a small extent with the way the Moldovan authorities were managing the Covid-19 crisis. In-depth interviews criticized inadequate communication by the state (n=10), inadequate supply of medical staff (n=7), insufficient economic and social measures (n=21). Several respondents rated the measures applied by the state as wrong (n=10), correct decisions but not fulfilled (6), and 21 respondents share the perception of inadequate management of the pandemic situation. However,

it can be said that most of the interviewees expressed a constructive attitude towards the actions of the state. A large number of people expressed positive (n=17) or moderately positive (n=19) opinions. Some respondents who expressed positive opinions are employed in the public sector (n=11). At the same time, the critical opinions expressed are generally relevant and constructive.

CONCLUSIONS

This report maintains a dependency link between some components of social capital, namely institutional trust and citizen support for the government, and the efficiency of actions undertaken by the authorities in fighting the pandemic and its negative effects on the economy and people's wellbeing. Most participants in the quantitative questionnaire (with 1,202 participants) and interview participants (95 subjects) are broadly dissatisfied with the actions taken by the Moldovan authorities to "flatten the curve" of infections and counteract the negative social and economic effects, or consider them insufficient. Participants in the interviews highlighted several gaps and inconsistencies in the way the authorities managed the pandemic, especially in a pre-election period (in November 2020 the election of the president of the republic took place). Young people, self-positioned at the bottom of the social hierarchy, with a low level of education and low confidence in state institutions are most willing to deny the severity of the pandemic and at the same time express dissatisfaction with the measures taken by state institutions to combat the virus and the socio-economic effects of the pandemic. These people feel the most vulnerable to the possible socio-economic risks caused by the pandemic. This finding suggests that disadvantaged people are most likely to apply "maladaptive" coping strategies to the pandemic and quarantine conditions. In the perception of several participants in the research, Moldovan society has not adopted sufficient strategies for collective resilience despite or beyond the state's ability to manage the crisis, such as those applied in certain Asian societies. Furthermore, the government's policy response to support businesses and citizens in the pandemic was limited and had little effective. The (in) actions of the authorities are likely to further undermine citizens' trust in state institutions and the official interpretation of events in the context of the pandemic.

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**APPENDIX 1: SOCIAL POLICY DEVELOPMENTS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 BY POLICY AREA
(MOLDOVA, JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2020)**

	Policy Area	Pensions	Healthcare	Long-term care and disability	Labor market	Education
(1)	Have there been any significant legislative reforms in the indicated policy area during the indicated time period?	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
(2)	If (1) yes, have any of these reforms been explicit responses to the Covid-19 pandemic?	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
(3)	If (2) yes, has there been significant regional variation in the implementation of these reforms?	No	No	No	No	No
(4)	Have subnational governments enacted any significant legislative reforms in the indicated policy area during the indicated time period?	No	Yes	Don't know	No	Yes
	Policy Area	Family benefits	Housing	Social assistance	Other*	
(1)	Have there been any significant legislative reforms in the indicated policy area during the indicated time period?	Yes	No	Yes	Don't know	
(2)	If (1) yes, have any of these reforms been explicit responses to the Covid-19 pandemic?	Yes	No	Yes	Don't know	
(3)	If (2) yes, has there been significant regional variation in the implementation of these reforms?	No	No	No	No	
(4)	Have subnational governments enacted any significant legislative reforms in the indicated policy area during the indicated time period?	No	No	No	No	

* Legislative reforms in other policy areas explicitly aimed at social protection, e.g. food subsidies or tax cuts aimed at social protection.

APPENDIX 2: SOCIAL POLICY LEGISLATION IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 (MOLDOVA, JANUARY–SEPTEMBER 2020)

Note: This appendix covers all major national social policy legislation published between 1 January 2020 and 30 September 2020.

Law 1		
(1)	Number of law	130
(2)	Name of law (original language)	Hotărâre cu privire la modificarea anexei la Regulamentul de formare a prețurilor de comercializare a produselor social importante, aprobat prin Hotărârea Guvernului nr. 774/2016 (nr. 130, 26 februarie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	Decision on amending the annex to the Regulation on the formation of prices for the sale of socially important products, approved by Government Decision no. 774/2016 (No. 130, 28 February 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	26 Feb. 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	26 Feb. 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	n/a
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	This is an amendment to a Government decision from 2016 about the state's commitment to regulate the prices for the most important products. The existing list of products was extended to include hygienic masks, gloves and disinfectants.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	No
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a
Law 1: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	This is an amendment to a Government decision from 2016 about the state's commitment to regulate the prices for the most important products. The existing list of products was extended to include hygienic masks, gloves and disinfectants.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a

Law 1: Component 1		
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	These are not real benefits but only a state intervention to regulate the prices on the market of some important products in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	No
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	none
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	none
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	There are no direct costs for the state from this government decision.
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 2		
(1)	Number of law	198
(2)	Name of law (original language)	198. Hotărâre privind modificarea punctului 12 din Hotărârea Guvernului nr. 1167/2008 pentru aprobarea Regulamentului cu privire la modul de stabilire și plată a ajutorului social (nr. 135, 4 martie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	198. Decision on the amendment of point 12 of the Government Decision no. 1167/2008 approving the Regulation on the establishment and payment of social allowance (No. 135, 4 March 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Don't know
(5)	Date of law's enactment	4 March 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	4 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Don't know
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	The social allowance (<i>ajutorul social</i> , i.e. the guaranteed minimum income) is upgraded every year, so this does not necessarily relate to the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet, this increase, although small (4.8%), may have a particular significance in the context of the pandemic.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	No
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	This is an amendment to an existing Government decision (from 2008).

Law 2: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	According to this amendment, on 1 April, the level of the guaranteed minimum income increased by 4.8%. The social allowance is indexed, based on the index of the annual increase in consumer prices over the previous year. After indexation it is MDL 1,107 (EUR 55). [to be continued]

Law 2: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	Yet, the <i>Ajutorul Social (AS)</i> program is criticized for being too small and an inadequate support for the poor. Exclusion from AS is very high: AS covers only about 20% of the poorest quintile. Together with low adequacy of support, the relative incidence of the benefit (the share of the benefit in total disposable income) is only 8% for the poorest (see Fall 2019 MEU Special Focus Note: Social Assistance, "Moldova's Social Assistance Spending is Low, and of Low Effectiveness", http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/810281574937601261/Moldova-Special-Focus-Note-Social-Assistance-November-2019-en.pdf).
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	Yes
(17)	<i>If fix-term</i> , duration in months	Usually, the social allowance is approved for one year but it is renewable after each year.
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	Even if formally the amendment brings an increase, in fact, it maintains the same amount because of the inflation rate and increases in the prices of consumer products.
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Fix-term
(21)	<i>If fix-term</i> , duration in months	12
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	It is approved for 12 months, but is renewable.
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	No
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	n/a
(25)	<i>If fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 3		
(1)	Number of law	165
(2)	Name of law (original language)	230. Hotărâre cu privire la indexarea prestațiilor de asigurări sociale și a unor prestații sociale de stat (nr. 165, 11 martie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	Decision on the indexation of social security benefits and state social benefits (No. 165, 11 March 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	11 March 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	13 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	n/a

Law 3		
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	<p>The Government Decision includes: Indexation with the indexation coefficient of 4.83% for: 1) pensions established and recalculated under Law no. 156/1998 regarding the public pension system; 2) pensions for seniority in work of the personnel in the fields of education and healthcare who are paid from the state's social insurance budget; 3) pensions of civil servants; pensions of customs officers; 4) capitalized periodic payments (following a work accident, suffered trauma or contracted an occupational disease due to the company without a succession in law, subsequently liquidated); 5) disability benefits; 6) established pensions for social protection of citizens who have suffered from the Chernobyl catastrophe; 7) monthly monetary compensation in exchange for insurance with food products and food supplements that contribute to the elimination of radionuclides from the body for persons participating in the liquidation of the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe. From 1 April 2020, the amount of the minimum pension for the age limit is MDL 1,131.46 (EUR 57.53).</p> <p>The amount of the minimum disability pension is:</p> <p>1) in case of a severe disability MDL 848.60 (EUR 43.15); 2) in case of an accentuated disability MDL 792.02 (EUR 40.27); 3) in case of an average disability MDL 565.73 (28.77).</p> <p>If the amount of the pension calculated according to the law is less than the amount of the minimum pension for the respective category, the difference between these amounts shall be covered by the means of the state budget.</p>
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	No
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 3: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Pensions
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The state pensions for staff in the fields of education, healthcare, civil servants, and customs officers were recalculated. Capitalized monthly payments were established for beneficiaries who suffered a work trauma or who suffered from the Chernobyl catastrophe.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If <i>fix-term</i> , duration in months	Indefinite.
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	<p>1) Pensions established and recalculated under Law no. 156/1998 regarding the public pension system; 2) pensions for seniority in work of the personnel in the fields of education and healthcare, who are paid from the state social insurance budget; 3) pensions of civil servants; pensions of customs officers; 4) capitalized periodic payments (following a work accident, people who suffered a trauma or contracted an occupational disease due to the company without a succession in law, subsequently liquidated); 5) disability benefits; 6) established pensions for social protection of citizens who have suffered from the Chernobyl catastrophe; 7) monthly monetary compensation in exchange for insurance with food products and food supplements that contribute to the elimination of radionuclides from the body for persons participating in the liquidation of the consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe.</p>
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If <i>fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If <i>fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	No
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a

Law 3: Component 1		
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 4		
(1)	Number of law	132
(2)	Name of law (original language)	236. Hotărîre pentru aprobarea Regulamentului cu privire la modul de stabilire și plată a indemnizațiilor pentru unele categorii de copii și tineri (nr. 132, 4 martie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	236. Decision approving the Regulation on the establishment and payment of allowances for certain categories of children and young people (No 132, 4 March 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	4 March 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	14 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	n/a
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	Decision approving the Regulation on the establishment and payment of allowances for certain categories of children and young people
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	No
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 4: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social Assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>The right to benefit from allowances for some categories of children and young people includes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) children with the status of children temporarily left without parental care as well as young people who, until the age of 18, had the status of children temporarily left without parental care or a child left without parental care, who are pupils/students; 2) children with the status of children temporarily left without parental care who are placed in boarding school. <p style="text-align: right;">[to be continued]</p>

Law 4: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	The following benefits are delivered: 1) single allowance upon graduation from boarding school; (MDL 500 / EUR 25.42) 2) monthly maintenance allowance (MDL 500 / EUR 25.42) 3) monthly allowance for the costs of the dwelling (MDL 500 / EUR 25.42) 4) single allowance for research, thesis editing and diploma thesis in the last year of studies (MDL 500 / EUR 25.42) 5) single allowance upon graduation from the educational institution (MDL 1000 / EUR 50.84)
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	The following benefits are paid: 1) single allowance upon graduation from boarding school; 2) monthly maintenance allowance 3) monthly allowance for the costs of the dwelling 4) single allowance for research, thesis editing and diploma thesis in the last year of studies 5) single allowance upon graduation from the educational institution.
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 5		
(1)	Number of law	13/5
(2)	Name of law (original language)	333. Hotărâre privind unele măsuri de atenuare a efectelor crizei epidemiologice (nr. 13/5, 24 martie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	333. Decision on certain measures to mitigate the effects of the epidemiological crisis (No 13/5, 24 March 2020).
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	24 March 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	27 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes

Law 5		
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	<p>In the context of recent events caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and in order to facilitate the operational-financial activities of the professional participants of the non-banking financial market, NCFM* has ordered a package of measures associated with the efforts of state authorities and relevant institutions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic crisis, approving measures aimed at supervised entities, operating through regulatory operating payments of insurance companies; insurance and/ or reinsurance intermediaries for March-June 2020 will be paid by 25 July 2020; payments from savings and loan associations/ Central National Association, non-bank lending organizations and credit history bureaus per set quarters.</p> <p>Determining non-bank lending entities are to apply the extension/renegotiation of credit / financial leasing contracts, an action that will not have the effect of classifying loans in a more severe category. It is important to note that these measures are to be applied individually and selectively by non-bank lending institutions, taking into account their own capacities, ensuring the prudent management of the related risks.</p> <p>* The National Financial Market Commission (NCFM) is an autonomous public authority, accountable to parliament, which authorizes and regulates the activity of participants on the non-banking financial market, as well as supervises their observance of legislation.</p>
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	No
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	No

Law 5: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	In the context of recent events caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and in order to facilitate the operational-financial activities of the professional participants of the non-banking financial market, NCFM has ordered a package of measures associated with the efforts of state authorities and relevant institutions to mitigate the effects of the pandemic crisis, approving measures aimed at supervised entities.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a

Law 5: Component 1		
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 6		
(1)	Number of law	224
(2)	Name of law (original language)	300. Hotărâre privind aprobarea Avizului asupra proiectului de lege pentru modificarea Legii nr. 121/2001 cu privire la protecția socială suplimentară a unor categorii de populație (nr. 224, 1 aprilie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	300. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law amending Law no. 121/2001 on the additional social protection of certain categories of the population (No 224, 1 April 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	1 April 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	2 April 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 6: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social Assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The implementation of the submitted bill requires additional allocation of funds from the state budget, the cost of which, according to the information note, is estimated at MDL 7.1 million per month, sources that were not planned in the State Budget Law for 2020. Or, according to Art. 131 para. (6) of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova, no budget expenditure can be approved without establishing the source of funding. In addition, we inform that in order to gradually stage the monthly state allowance for the targeted categories, by Law no. 188/2019 for the amendment of article 2 of Law no. 121/2001 on the additional social protection of certain categories of the population, from 1 January 2020, the amount of the monthly state allowance was increased from MDL 100 to 300 (EUR 14.95). At the same time, the Government Action Plan for 2020–2023 provides for an increase of the amount of the monthly state allowance for the mentioned categories, from MDL 300 to 500 (EUR 14.95), for the year 2021. Thus, starting from the measure planned in the Government Action Plan, in the process of medium-term budgetary planning (for the years 2021–2023) the proposal for the allocation of the financial means necessary to increase the amount of the given benefit.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	Expansion
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	No
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a

Law 6: Component 1		
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	n/a
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Expansion
(21)	<i>If fix-term</i> , duration in months	Indefinite
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	n/a
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Yes
(25)	<i>If fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	MDL 7.1 million (EUR 353,774) per month
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 7		
(1)	Number of law	56
(2)	Name of law (original language)	171. Lege privind instituirea unor măsuri de susținere a cetățenilor și a activității de întreprinzător în perioada stării de urgență și modificarea unor acte normative (nr. 56, 2 aprilie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	171. Law on the establishment of measures to support citizens and entrepreneurship during the state of emergency and the amendment of normative acts (No. 56, April 2, 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a.
(5)	Date of law's enactment	2 April 2020 (and 23 April 2024 – see the note).
(6)	Date of law's publication	7 April 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	This initiative became law through the vote by parliament on 2 April. Yet the parliamentary session did not have a quorum; therefore, the law was later annulled by the Decision of the Constitutional Court from 13 April. Eventually, the measures were to enter into force through the provisions of the Commission for Exceptional Situations (CES) and through the Law no. 60 from 23 April 2020 (Spățari, 2020, p. 5). See also Law 11 in Appendix 2.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 7: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>In order to support entrepreneurial activity and to mitigate the negative effects generated by the epidemiological situation (Covid-19) on the economy, the subsidy mechanism is established as follows:</p> <p>(1) Subsidy subjects (enterprises and non-commercial organizations, residents of the Republic of Moldova that have established technical unemployment and/or suspended employment)</p> <p>(2) Size of the subsidy:</p> <p>1. A subsidy of the amount paid in respect of income tax, compulsory state social security contributions due by the employer, individual compulsory state social insurance contributions and compulsory health insurance premiums in the form of a percentage contribution due by the employer and the employee related to the indemnity/salary granted to employees who are technically and/or stationary unemployed.</p> <p>2. For the subjects of the subsidy who have totally or partially ceased their activity, other than those specified in point 1, a subsidy in the amount of 60% of the amount paid of the income tax, of the obligatory state social insurance contributions due shall be granted, of the employer, of the individual compulsory state social insurance contributions and of the compulsory health insurance premiums in the form of a percentage contribution due by the employer and the employee related to the indemnity/salary granted to the employees who are technically and/or stationary unemployed.</p> <p>3. The subsidy shall be granted to employees who are technically and/or actually unemployed and employed until 1 March 2020.</p> <p>Period for which the subsidy is granted. The subsidy is granted for benefits/salaries related to technical unemployment and/or furlough during the state of emergency.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a.
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to some degree (Spătari, 2020)

Law 8		
(1)	Number of law	58
(2)	Name of law (original language)	399. Ordin cu privire la aprobarea Regulamentului privind subvenționarea întreprinderilor și organizațiilor necomerciale, rezidente ale Republicii Moldova, care au instituit șomaj tehnic și/sau staționare urmare a situației epidemiologice (Covid-19) (nr. 58, 29 aprilie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	399. Order on the approval of the Regulation on subsidizing enterprises and non-commercial organizations, residents of the Republic of Moldova that have established technical and / or stationary unemployment due to the epidemiological situation (Covid-19) (No. 58, 29 April 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	29 April 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	30 April 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	n/a
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	The regulation on subsidizing enterprises and non-commercial organizations, residents of the Republic of Moldova that established technical unemployment as a result of the epidemiological situation Covid-19, was approved.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 8: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The regulation on subsidizing enterprises and non-commercial organizations, residents of the Republic of Moldova that established technical unemployment as a result of the Covid-19 epidemiological situation, was approved.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a

Law 8: Component 1		
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 9		
(1)	Number of law	280
(2)	Name of law (original language)	366. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Avizului asupra proiectului de lege pentru completarea articolului 14 din Legea nr. 289/2004 privind indemnizațiile pentru incapacitate temporară de muncă și alte prestații de asigurări sociale (nr. 280, 13 mai 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	366. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law for the completion of article 14 of Law no. 289/2004 regarding the indemnities for temporary incapacity for work and other social insurance benefits (no. 280, 13 May 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	13 May 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	15 May 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	N/a
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 9: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	Decision on the indemnity for temporary incapacity for work and other social insurance benefits. As the proposed intervention has an impact on the state social insurance budget and requires the identification of additional financial means from the state budget to cover the deficit of the state social insurance budget, the project cannot be supported.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a

Law 9: Component 1		
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 10		
(1)	Number of law	290
(2)	Name of law (original language)	384. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Planului național de acțiuni pe anul 2020 pentru implementarea Strategiei naționale privind ocuparea forței de muncă pentru anii 2017-2021 (nr. 290, 13 mai 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	384. Decision on the approval of the National Action Plan for 2020 for the implementation of the National Employment Strategy for the years 2017–2021 (no. 290, 13 May 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	13 May 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	22 May 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 10: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The National Action Plan for 2020 for the implementation of the National Employment Strategy for 2017–2021 is approved. Ministries and other central administrative authorities will submit to the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, by 1 Feb. 2020 information on the National Action Plan for 2020. The Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection will submit to the Government by 1 April 2021 information on the national action plan for 2020 for the implementation of the National Employment Strategy for 2017–2021.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes

Law 10: Component 1		
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 11		
(1)	Number of law	67
(2)	Name of law (original language)	67. Hotărâre pentru controlul constituționalității unor prevederi din Legea nr. 56 din 2 aprilie 2020 privind instituirea unor măsuri de susținere a cetățenilor și a activității de întreprinzător în perioada stării de urgență și modificarea unor acte normative (sesizările nr. 49a/2020, nr. 51a/2020, nr. 52a/2020 și nr. 53a/2020) nr. 10, 13 aprilie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	67. Decision for the control of the constitutionality of some provisions of Law no. 56 of 2 April 2020 on the establishment of measures to support citizens and entrepreneurial activity during the state of emergency and the amendment of normative acts (notifications no. 49a / 2020, no. 51a / 2020, no. 52a / 2020 and no. 53a / 2020) no. 10, 13 April 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	13 April 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	20 May 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	n/a
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	n/a
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	See also Law 7.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 11: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	n/a
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion

Law 11: Component 1		
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	No
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 12		
(1)	Number of law	1590-VIII
(2)	Name of law (original language)	232. Decret privind promulgarea Legii pentru modificarea Legii nr. 293/2017 privind unele măsuri în vederea implementării Programului de stat „Prima casă” (nr. 1590-VIII, 1 iunie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	232. Decree on the promulgation of the Law amending Law no. 293/2017 on some measures for the implementation of the State Program “First House” (No. 1590-VIII, 1 June 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	21 December 2017
(5)	Date of law’s enactment	1 June 2020
(6)	Date of law’s publication	1 June 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 12: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Housing
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The law provides for some measures in order to implement the state program “First House”: for housing purchased under the Program to exceed the area of the house one owns exclusively or together with other family members. The person who owns, in exclusive ownership or together with other family members, a dwelling, regardless of its surface area, in the village (commune), acquired by inheritance, is also considered eligible. [to be continued]

Law 12: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	The law, initially adopted in April 2017 by the Democrat Party in power at that time, has been criticized by opposition media and pundits for being “populist”. The law is now maintained under the new government dominated by the Socialist Party. This law, together with others, have also been criticized by current opposition parties and mass media for being part of the pre-electoral strategy in the context of the presidential election on 1 November 2020.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to some degree

Law 13		
(1)	Number of law	71
(2)	Name of law (original language)	235. Lege privind anularea examenelor naționale de absolvire a programelor de studii în învățământul general, sesiunea de examene 2020 (nr. 71, 21 mai 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	235. Law on the Cancellation of National Examinations for the Graduation of Curricula in General Education, 2020 Exam Session (No. 71, 21 May 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	21 May 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	21 May 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	n/a
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	This law cancels the organization and conduct of national examinations for graduation from study programs in general education, the 2020 exam session.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a

Law 13		
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a
Law 13: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Education
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>In order to prevent the risk of Covid-19 disease and to ensure the safety, protection of life and health of graduates of general education curricula during the 2020 examination session,</p> <p>1) The organization and conduct of the national examinations for the graduation from the study programs in general education, the 2020 exam session are canceled.</p> <p>2) The certificate of gymnasium studies is issued for the students who complete in this year of studies the ninth grade with annual averages for school subjects and the general average higher or equal to "5" (five), with the calculation of the marks for the exams, based on the grades obtained during the 7th to 9th grades.</p> <p>3) The baccalaureate diploma is issued for students who have registered, within the established deadlines, to take the exam in the 2020 exam session and complete in this year of studies the 12th grade of high school or the high school program in the institutions of post-secondary technical vocational education with annual averages in school subjects and general average higher than or equal to "5" (five), with the calculation of grades for baccalaureate exams based on grades obtained during high school classes / years of study I–III in post-secondary technical vocational education.</p> <p>4) Students in the ninth, twelfth grades and those who have completed the high school curriculum in post-secondary technical vocational education institutions, who fail to complete this year of studies with annual averages in higher school and general average or equal to "5" (five), will be able to take the exam in the next session, depending on the evolution of the pandemic situation, under the conditions established by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 14		
(1)	Number of law	325
(2)	Name of law (original language)	422. Hotărâre pentru aprobarea Avizului la proiectul de hotărâre a Parlamentului cu privire la măsuri de sprijinire a persoanelor fizice și juridice în contextul pandemiei de Covid-19 (nr. 325, 3 iunie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	Decision approving the Opinion on Parliament's draft decision on measures to support natural and legal persons in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic (No 325 of 3 June 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	3 June 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	3 June 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	A number of measures have been put in place to support individuals and legal entities during the state of emergency. It was proposed to grant a tax holiday for income tax owed by individuals and legal entities for a period of three months. From 25 April to 25 July 2020, the deadline for the payment of local taxes for economic agents whose activity has been totally or partially stopped is postponed.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 14: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	According to the information note, the draft provides for a set of measures to support individuals and legal entities in the context of adverse developments in the spread of Covid-19 virus, in particular the exemption or postponement of the obligation to pay income taxes, real estate tax, property tax and local taxes for 2019 by individual entrepreneurs or households (farmers), whose average annual number of employees during the entire fiscal period does not exceed three units and who are not registered as VAT payers. Likewise, this provision regulates the payment of income tax from entrepreneurial activity, in installments, for the first quarter of 2020, until 25 June 2020.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown

Law 14: Component 1		
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 15		
(1)	Number of law	326
(2)	Name of law (original language)	423. Hotărâre pentru aprobarea Avizului la proiectul de lege privind reîn- toarcerea benevolă a conaționaliilor în țară (nr. 326, 3 iunie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	423. Decision approving the Opinion on the draft law on the voluntary return of compatriots to the country (No. 326, 3 June 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	3 June 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	3 June 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly men- tioned as a motivation in the law or any ac- companying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that con- tained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 15: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	According to the informative note, the mentioned draft law aims to stimulate the voluntary return of compatriots to the country, by granting certain facilities to the persons who will participate in the national strategic program for the voluntary return of compatriots to the country. In this context, in recent years the government has taken action to provide the necessary support to the citizens of the Republic of Moldova who want to return to / (re) integrate in the country, regardless of whether they left for a period or settled abroad. In this sense, regarding the content of art. 2 on the main definitions in the draft law, we draw attention to the fact that, in accordance with the National Strategy "Diaspora 2025", approved by Government Decision no. 200/2016, the diaspora includes citizens of the Republic of Moldova temporarily or permanently settled abroad, persons originating in the Republic of Moldova and their descendants, as well as the communities formed by them. This broad and inclusive definition is the basis for identifying the direct beneficiaries of the National Strategy "Diaspora 2025", and the Action Plan for the years 2017-2020 on the (re) integration of the citizens of the Republic of Moldova returned from abroad, approved by Government Decision no. 724/2017 contains concrete actions that correspond to their needs.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a

Law 15: Component 1		
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 16		
(1)	Number of law	398
(2)	Name of law (original language)	510. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Avizului la proiectul de lege privind măsurile economice și sociale anticriză aplicabile pentru micșorarea impactului generat de pandemia de Covid-19 (nr. 398, 17 iunie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	510. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law on anti-crisis economic and social measures applicable to reduce the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic (No 398, 17 June 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	26 June 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	26 June 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 16: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The government examined the draft law on anti-crisis economic and social measures applicable to reduce the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. [to be continued]

Law 16: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	<p>According to the briefing note, the draft law proposes a series of anti-crisis instruments for individuals and legal entities, the application of which are supposed to have an immediate beneficial impact on both employees and firms in the Republic of Moldova.</p> <p>Thus, with reference to the provisions of art. I of the project, in the conditions of the existing exceptional situation, the government undertakes actions to identify the additional sources of income, at the same time, with the reduction of some non-priority expenses, in order to ensure measures to fight the pandemic. At this stage, the need to establish salary restrictions and reduce staff costs, which remain a priority with other social payments, is not identified. In addition, the proposed period for capping wages is uncertain, due to the impossibility of forecasting concrete deadlines for the evolution of the pandemic and its expected economic effect.</p> <p>Art. II of the project reveals that Law no. 61 /2020 regarding the amendment of the State Budget Law for the year 2020 no. 172/2019 provides for the reduction by MDL 6 million of the allocations for financing political parties, the rectified value of the allocations being MDL 31.2 million (EUR 1.49 million). Given the epidemiological situation regarding Covid-19 infection, the expenses for travel, repairs, services, procurement of goods, financing of political parties, as well as other reductions of allowances identified by the Ministry of Finance, with the contribution of central public authorities, amount to about MDL 506.8 million (EUR 25.25 million).</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	MDL 506.8 million
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 17		
(1)	Number of law	453
(2)	Name of law (original language)	563. Hotărâre pentru aprobarea Regulamentului cu privire la organizarea procedurii de implementare a proiectelor de renovare/construcție a blocurilor sanitare în instituțiile de învățământ primar, gimnazial și liceal (nr. 453, 1 iulie 2020)

Law 17		
(3)	Name of law (English)	563. Decision approving the Regulation on the organization of the procedure for the implementation of projects for the renovation / construction of sanitary blocks in primary, secondary and high school institutions (No. 453, 1 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	1 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	7 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	The Covid-19 pandemic is not explicitly mentioned. Yet the provision makes more sense in the context of the pandemic and sanitary demands in schools and daycare centers.
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 17: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Education
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>Pursuant to art. 145 para. (1) lit. d) of the Education Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 152/2014 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2014, no. 319-324, art. 634), with subsequent amendments, and of the Law on the state budget for 2020 no. 172/2019 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2019, no. 393-399, art. 321), with subsequent amendments, the Government decides:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Regulation on the organization of the procedure for the implementation of projects for the renovation / construction of sanitary blocks in primary, secondary and high school educational institutions is approved (annexed). 2. The Public Institution "Social Investment Fund of Moldova", in July of this year, will ensure the evaluation and initiation of the development / renovation projects of the sanitary blocks in the educational institutions benefiting from the respective projects. 3. The Ministry of Education, Culture and Research will ensure the selection of primary, secondary and high school education institutions and will monitor the project implementation process in the beneficiary institutions. 4. The operational expenses of the Public Institution "Social Investment Fund of Moldova" for the implementation of the renovation / construction projects of the sanitary blocks of primary, secondary and high school education institutions shall not exceed the amount of MDL 200,000 (EUR 10,227) from the budget allocated to the institution for implementation of these measures. 5. The Government Decision no. 93/2019 for the approval of the Regulation on the organization of the implementation procedure of the renovation / endowment projects of the early education institutions and of the Regulation on the organization of the implementation procedure of the renovation / construction projects of the sanitary blocks in the primary, gymnasium education institutions and high school (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2019, no. 48, art. 80), with subsequent amendments.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a

Law 17: Component 1		
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 18		
(1)	Number of law	466
(2)	Name of law (original language)	568. Hotărâre cu privire la unele măsuri de stimulare a medicilor și farmaciștilor rezidenți, studenților din învățământul superior și profesional tehnic postsecundar și postsecundar nonterțiar medical și farmaceutic antrenați în controlul și combaterea infecției Covid-19 (nr. 466, 3 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	568. Decision on certain measures to encourage resident doctors and pharmacists, post-secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary medical and pharmaceutical technical and vocational higher education students involved in the control of Covid-19 infection (No 466, 3 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Click to enter a date.
(5)	Date of law's enactment	3 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	3 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 18: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Healthcare
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>To encourage resident doctors and pharmacists, students of higher, post-secondary vocational and post-secondary non-tertiary medical and pharmaceutical education, involved in the control and fight against Covid-19 infection, on the basis of subparagraph c) of part (1) of Article 136 of the Code of the Republic of Moldova on education No. 152/2014 (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2014, No. 319-324, art. 634), with subsequent amendments, the Government decides:</p> <p>1. Resident doctors and pharmacists, students enrolled in the system of higher, post-secondary vocational and post-secondary non-tertiary medical and pharmaceutical education at the expense of the state budget, as well as on a contract for paid training, who will be undergoing internship during 2020 in public health facilities involved in the control and fight against Covid-19 infection receive a scholarship for practice in the monetary amounts established by the Government for the 2020/21 academic year, according to the annex.</p> <p>2. The period required for internship in public healthcare institutions involved in the control and fight against Covid-19 infection is three months for resident doctors and pharmacists, as well as for students of higher medical and pharmaceutical education.</p> <p>3. Internship scholarships are awarded once a year for internships in public health facilities involved in the control and management of Covid-19 infection. Individuals who receive scholarships for practice can simultaneously receive other types of scholarships financed from the state budget established by Government Decree No. 1009/2006 on the amount of scholarships, other types of social assistance for students of higher education institutions, students of post-secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary vocational and technical education and secondary vocational educational institutions and persons who study in the system of postgraduate education, if they comply with the conditions for the payment of the relevant types of scholarships.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 19		
(1)	Number of law	485
(2)	Name of law (original language)	584. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Avizului asupra proiectului de lege pentru modificarea și completarea Legii nr. 156/1998 privind sistemul public de pensii (nr.485, 8 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	584. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law for amending and supplementing Law no. 156/1998 on the public pension system (no. 485, 8 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	1998
(5)	Date of law's enactment	8 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	10 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 19: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Pensions
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>The Government examined the draft law for amending and supplementing Law no. 156/1998 on the public pension system, submitted as a legislative initiative (no. 180 of 12 May 2020) by Mr. Liviu Vovc, Member of Parliament, and communicates the following.</p> <p>Art. I of the draft law proposes the amendment of Law no. 156/1998 on the public pension system with a new article, regulating the granting of the survivor's pension for persons who have lost their breadwinner as a result of infection from participation in actions to combat an epidemic, regardless of the contribution period in the social insurance system.</p> <p>The public social insurance system is based on certain principles that make possible its organization and efficient functioning, provided in law no. 489/1999 on the public system of state social insurance, namely the principle of equality, which ensures all participants in the public system (taxpayers and beneficiaries) a non-discriminatory treatment regarding the rights and obligations provided by law, as well as the principle of reciprocity, according to which social security rights are due on the basis of social security contributions paid.</p> <p>At the same time, the Government supports the promotion of social protection measures for the descendants of health system employees who died in the fight against Covid-19.</p> <p>In this regard, the Government approved a draft law on the compensation of the descendants of medical staff who died as a result of medical activity in the fight against Covid-19, covering the expenses from the state budget.</p> <p>In view of the above, in order to comply with the principles underlying the organization and functioning of the public social security system, as well as to ensure the financial and social sustainability of the public pension system, the proposed project cannot be supported.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite

Law 19: Component 1		
(21)	If <i>fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If <i>fix-term</i> , duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 20		
(1)	Number of law	489
(2)	Name of law (original language)	588. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Avizului asupra proiectului de lege privind acordarea, cu titlu de excepție, a dreptului la pensie anticipată pentru limită de vârstă (nr. 489, 8 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	588. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law on the granting, as an exception, of the right to an early retirement pension (No 489, 8 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	8 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	10 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 20: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Pensions
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The Government has examined the draft law on the granting, as an exception, of the right to an early retirement pension, submitted as a legislative initiative (No. 255 of 17 June 2020) by a group of Members of Parliament, and communicates next. [to be continued]

Law 20: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	<p>According to the information note, the draft provides for the early granting of the right to an old-age pension to persons who have three years left to obtain this right and to those who were dismissed during 2020.</p> <p>The proposed amendment establishes derogations from the principles of organization and functioning of the public social insurance system, established in Law no. 489/1999 on the public social security system, namely: the principle of equality, which ensures all participants in the public system (taxpayers and beneficiaries) a non-discriminatory treatment regarding the rights and obligations provided by law, as well as the principle of reciprocity, according to which social security rights are due on the basis of social security contributions paid.</p> <p>Moreover, starting with 2017, the pension system reform was carried out with the aim of ensuring the functioning of a fair and sustainable pension system, which would guarantee a decent living for pension beneficiaries.</p> <p>Therefore, in the context of carrying out the actions of the pension system reform by Law no. 290/2016 on amending and supplementing some legislative acts, the conditions and the method of calculating pensions for some categories of citizens were unified (excluding the special conditions for establishing pensions for some categories of citizens in the part related to retirement age, special internship contribution, etc.).</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 21		
(1)	Number of law	490
(2)	Name of law (original language)	589. Hotărâre cu privire la aprobarea Avizului asupra proiectului de lege pentru modificarea art. 18 din Legea nr. 289/2004 privind indemnizațiile pentru incapacitate temporară de muncă și alte prestații de asigurări sociale (nr. 490, 8 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	589. Decision on the approval of the Opinion on the draft law for the amendment of art. 18 of Law no. Regulation (EC) No 289/2004 on allowances for temporary incapacity for work and other social security benefits (No 490 of 8 July 2020)

Law 21		
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	8 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	10 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 21: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>The Government examined the draft law to amend art. 18 of Law no. 289/2004 regarding the indemnities for temporary incapacity for work and other social insurance benefits, submitted as a legislative initiative no. 212 of 1 June 2020, and communicates the following.</p> <p>According to the information note, the basic purpose of the project is to improve the legal provisions on social benefits enjoyed by insured persons, by indexing the annual childcare allowance on 1 April relative to the annual inflation rate. We mention that, in order to develop motivational and support schemes for parents, amendments were made to Law no. 289/2004 regarding the indemnities for temporary incapacity for work and other insurance benefits</p> <p>according to which, starting with 1 January 2020, it is possible for the right to the monthly child raising allowance to be realized / requested optionally, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - from the date of granting leave for the care of the child and until the date of reaching the age of 3 years, in the amount of 30% of the calculation base established for each year; - from the date of granting leave for childcare and until the date of reaching the age of 2 years and 2 months, in the amount of 60% for the first year and in the amount of 30% for the second year, from the established calculation basis for each year. Moreover, starting with 1 July 2019, the mother or father who, after the granting of childcare leave, resumes their activity, is employed, carries out activities in order to obtain income or is released before the expiration of the childcare leave is entitled to a monthly allowance. Respectively, the mother or father has the same right to benefit from the monthly allowance for raising the child and carrying out activities in order to obtain income.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a

Law 21: Component 1		
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 22		
(1)	Number of law	532
(2)	Name of law (original language)	646. Hotărâre privind modificarea Hotărârii Guvernului nr. 372/2010 pentru aprobarea Regulamentului cu privire la modul de evidență și distribuire a biletelor de reabilitare/recuperare acordate persoanelor în vârstă și celor cu dizabilități (nr. 532, 20 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	646. Decision regarding the modification of the Government Decision no. 372/2010 for the approval of the Regulation on the manner of registration and distribution of rehabilitation / recovery tickets granted to the elderly and those with disabilities (no. 532, 20 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	20 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	24 July 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 22: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Long-term care and disability
(14)	Brief description of reform component	One of the changes brought is that this Regulation establishes the manner of registration and distribution of tickets for rehabilitation / recovery to pension beneficiaries, established under the conditions of Law no. 156/1998 on the public pension system, and beneficiaries of state social benefits for the elderly and for persons with disabilities, established under the conditions of Law no. 499/1999 on state social allowances for some categories of citizens.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion

Law 22: Component 1		
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 23		
(1)	Number of law	544
(2)	Name of law (original language)	657. Hotărâre pentru aprobarea Avizului la proiectul de lege cu privire la modificarea Legii nr. 140/2013 privind protecția specială a copiilor aflați în situație de risc și a copiilor separați de părinți (nr. 544, 20 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	657. Decision for the approval of the Opinion on the draft law regarding the amendment of Law no. 140/2013 on the special protection of children at risk and children separated from their parents (no. 544, 20 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	20 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	24 July 2020.
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 23: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Social assistance
(14)	Brief description of reform component	he government examined the draft law on amending Law no. 140/2013 on the special protection of children at risk and children separated from their parents, submitted as a legislative initiative (No. 260 of 18 June 2020) by a group of Members of Parliament, and communicates the following. [to be continued]

Law 23: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	<p>According to the informative note on the project, the author reveals the need for at least one specialist for the protection of children's rights in each town hall. This need results from the fact that the number of specialists in that field is insufficient.</p> <p>In order to ensure the implementation of the previous law, parliament adopted Law no. 83/2017 for the amendment and completion of some legislative acts, which establishes, among others, the right (competence) of the local public administration authority to decide the establishment of the position of specialist for the protection of children's rights (see art. 14 paragraph (2) letter y2) of Law no. 436/2006 on local public administration).</p> <p>Thus, the solution proposed by the author at art. 1 point 2 of the draft, according to which the Government is to be responsible for the establishment (activity) and professional training of the child protection specialist, in localities where at least one child at risk is identified, cannot be supported. Or, the concept of the provision in question comes into contradiction with the norm noted above and with art. 3 para. (2) and art. 29 para. (1) lit. c) of Law no. 436/2006 on local public administration, which establish that local public administration authorities have decision-making and organizational autonomy in the administration of local affairs, and contributing to the training and re-training of staff under the authority is one of the mayor's duties.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 24		
(1)	Number of law	591
(2)	Name of law (original language)	690.Hotărâre cu privire la prelungirea termenului de plată a ajutorului de șde o unic (nr. 591, 31 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	690. Decision on the extension of the period for payment of the single unemployment benefit (No 591, 31 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	n/a
(5)	Date of law's enactment	31 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	01 Aug 2020

Law 24		
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 24: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>It is important to note that certain rules enter into force at a later period (rules aimed at simplifying the business environment and consolidating budget revenues).</p> <p>The main proposals included in the draft law are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increasing unemployment benefit, the minimum amount being proposed by MDL 2,775 (EUR 140.94); Granting unemployment benefits in the amount of MDL 2,775 for people who are registered as unemployed, but who do not meet the criteria for granting unemployment benefits (extension of categories of beneficiaries); Supporting disadvantaged families by: (1) the increase of the minimum guaranteed monthly income from MDL 1,107 to MDL 1,300 (EUR 60), during the period of emergency; (2) increasing the amount of the minimum guaranteed monthly income for each child from 50% (MDL 553 / EUR 25) to 75% (MDL 975 / EUR 50). Subsidizing the expenses related to the payment of the salary / allowance in case of technical unemployment, 100% / 60% taxes and related contributions salaries / allowances paid, depending on the reason for interrupting the activity; Exemption from patent payments for patent holders who have ceased their activity during the state of emergency; Reimbursement of fixed-amount social contributions for patent holders, self-employed persons, individual entrepreneurs who ceased their activity during the state of emergency; Reduction of the VAT rate from 20% to 15% for the food service industry (or "HORECA" sector); Postponement until 25 July of the deadline for paying local fees for agencies and economic operators who have ceased their activity according to the Decisions of the Commission for Exceptional Situations; Consolidation of the incomes of the fund for social support of the population, etc. <p>The proposals found in the bill should ensure the attenuation of the negative effects of the spread of Covid-19 infection.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a

Law 24: Component 1		
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	to a large degree

Law 25		
(1)	Number of law	435
(2)	Name of law (original language)	435. Decret privind promulgarea Legii pentru modificarea Legii asigurării cu pensii a militarilor și a persoanelor din corpul de comandă și din trupele organelor afacerilor interne și din cadrul Inspectoratului General de Carabinieri nr. 1544/1993 (nr. 1685-VIII, 29 iulie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	435. Decree on the promulgation of the Law amending the Law on pension insurance for the military and persons in the command corps and in the troops of the internal affairs bodies and within the General Inspectorate of Carabinieri no. 1544/1993 (no. 1685-VIII, 29 July 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	29 July 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	1 August 2020.
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	No
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	No
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	No
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 25: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Pensions
(14)	Brief description of reform component	The purpose of this bill is to increase the degree of social protection of pensioners to ensure a decent living. [to be continued]

Law 25: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	<p>The main provisions and new elements of the bill:</p> <p>According to the statistical information of the National Social Insurance House, on 1 July 2019, 700,887 pension beneficiaries were registered in the Republic of Moldova, with an average pension size of MDL 1,895 (EUR 96). At the same time, 527,710 persons are beneficiaries of old-age pensions with an average pension size of MDL 1,834 (EUR 93), 123,448 beneficiaries of disability pensions with an average pension size of MDL 1,431 (EUR 73) and 11,191 persons benefit from survivor's pensions with an average size of the pension of MDL 977 (EUR 50). Of the total number of retirees, 75% are old-age retirees.</p> <p>From 1 April 2019, the amount of the minimum old-age pension constitutes MDL 1,079.33 (EUR 54.82). According to the data of the National Bureau of Statistics, the subsistence minimum for pensioners is MDL 1,574.20 (EUR 79.95), and the number of beneficiaries who receive a pension under this threshold is about 400,000 people.</p> <p>Thus, in order to increase the degree of social protection of people with low pensions, it is proposed to further index, on 1 October 2020, pensions that do not exceed, in the first half of the current year, the subsistence minimum for pensioners; on 1 October 2021 pensions that do not exceed the double size of the subsistence minimum; and on 1 October 2022, pensions that do not exceed the triple size of the subsistence minimum will be subject to indexation.</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes

Law 26		
(1)	Number of law	660
(2)	Name of law (original language)	790. Hotărâre cu privire la indexarea prestațiilor de asigurări sociale și a unor prestații sociale de stat (nr. 660, 3 septembrie 2020)
(3)	Name of law (English)	790. Judgment on the indexation of social security benefits and state social benefits (No. 660, 3 September 2020)
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Click to enter a date.
(5)	Date of law's enactment	3 September 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	11 September 2020

Law 26		
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 26: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Pensions
(14)	Brief description of reform component	<p>According to the decision, the pensions established and recalculated under the Law on the public pension system, those for seniority in employment, the pensions of civil servants established under the Public Service Law, the pensions of customs officers, the capitalized periodic payments established under the Law on capitalization will be indexed periodic payments, disability benefits established under the Law on Insurance for Accidents at Work and Occupational Diseases, pensions established for citizens who have suffered from the Chernobyl catastrophe and the monthly monetary compensation offered to them in exchange for food and supplementary insurance, pensions established on the basis of the Law on pension insurance of the military and of the persons in the command corps and in the troops of the internal affairs bodies and within the General Inspectorate of Carabinieri and the indemnities of the descendants of the medical staff deceased as a result of medical activity in the fight against Covid-19.</p> <p>The indexation coefficient for them on 1 October 2020 will be 1.07%. The amount of the minimum pension for the age limit will be MDL 1,143.57, and the amount of the minimum disability pension, in case of a severe disability MDL 857.68 (EUR 43.56), for an accentuated disability MDL 800.50 (EUR 40.66) and in case of a medium disability MDL 571.79 (EUR 29.04).</p>
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	No
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a

Law 26: Component 1		
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes

Law 27		
(1)	Number of law	69
(2)	Name of law (original language)	LEGE Nr. 69 cu privire la instituirea unor măsuri pe perioada stării de urgență în sănătate publică și modificarea unor acte normative
(3)	Name of law (English)	Law No. 69 on the imposition of measures during the period of the state of emergency in public health and amendment of some normative acts
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	21 May 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	26 May 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 27: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Healthcare
(14)	Brief description of reform component	Given the current epidemiological context and the importance of taking timely and swift measures that are dictated by the dynamics of the evolution of the national and international epidemiological situation, determined by the spread of Covid-19 virus, taking into account the fact that the public interest requires measures enabling effective intervention and appropriate means to manage the crisis, taking into account the need to continue to provide adequate protection against the new coronavirus disease and appreciating the importance of those involved in controlling and combating Covid-19 infection, including remote work, as well as a subsidy for employees who are technically unemployed and / or stationary, the Government decides to extend to one month the measures provided in the Law no. 69.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	n/a
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a

Law 27: Component 1		
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes

Law 28		
(1)	Number of Law	351
(2)	Name of Law (original language)	Ordinul 351 din 19.03.2020 cu privire la continuarea la distanță a procesului educațional
(3)	Name of law (English)	Order 351 of 19 March 2020 on the remote continuation of the educational process
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	Unknown
(5)	Date of law's enactment	19 March 2020
(6)	Date of law's publication	19 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 28: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Education
(14)	Brief description of reform component	Methodology regarding the remote continuation of the educational process in quarantine conditions for primary, secondary and high school education institutions (approved by order no. 351 of 19 March 2020);
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	n/a
(17)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	If fix-term, duration in months	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a

Law 28: Component 1		
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes

Law 29		
(1)	Number of Law	292
(2)	Name of law (original language)	Ordinul 292 din 10.03.2020 cu privire la suspendarea procesului educațional în instituțiile de învățământ
(3)	Name of law (English)	Order 292 of 10 March 2020 regarding the suspension of the educational process in educational institutions
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	
(5)	Date of law's enactment	
(6)	Date of law's publication	10 March 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 29: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Education
(14)	Brief description of reform component	Pursuant to the Order of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova no.292 of 10 March 2020, the General Directorate of Education, Youth and Sports of the Chisinau Municipal Council announces the suspension of the educational process in general education institutions in Chisinau between 11-23 March 2020.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	n/a
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a

Law 29: Component 1		
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes

Law 30		
(1)	Number of law	DISPOZIȚIA nr. 16 din 10 aprilie 2020
(2)	Name of law (original language)	Provision no. 16 of 10 April 2020
(3)	Name of law (English)	
(4)	Date of first parliamentary motion	
(5)	Date of law's enactment	
(6)	Date of law's publication	16 April 2020
(7)	Is the Covid-19 pandemic explicitly mentioned as a motivation in the law or any accompanying text?	Yes
(8)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for the initial parliamentary motion for this law?	Yes
(9)	Was the Covid-19 pandemic a motivation for a significant revision of the legislative project after the initial parliamentary motion?	Yes
(10)	Note on (7)-(9)	n/a
(11)	Was this law a legislative package that contained multiple social reform components?	n/a
(12)	If (11) yes, how many distinct social reform components did it contain?	n/a

Law 30: Component 1		
(13)	Policy Area	Labor market
(14)	Brief description of reform component	By derogation from the provisions of art. 1 para. (3) of Law no. 270/2018 on the unitary salary system in the budgetary sector, for the financial motivation of the personnel involved in the surveillance, control and treatment of Covid-19 infection, during the state of emergency, it is established: [to be continued]

Law 30: Component 1		
(14)	[Continued] Brief description of reform component	1.1. increase of monthly compensation for work performed in high-risk conditions for health up to a basic salary: Agency staff National Public Health, staff of medical institutions, including secondary staff, subordinated to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, National Administration of Penitentiaries, directly involved in actions for prevention, control and treatment of Covid-19 infection; 1.2. the actual size of the increase is set by the head of the institution, depending on the contribution and professionalism of the employee in order to prevent, control and treat Covid-19 infection; 1.3. the increase in compensation for work performed in high-risk conditions for health is part of the salary and is included in the calculation of the average salary in all cases of application; 1.4. the increase in compensation for work performed in high-risk conditions for healthcare is not included in the formation of the monthly salary for the calculation of salary difference and is not included in the limit of the variable part of the monthly salary.
(15)	Change in coverage of existing benefits?	Expansion
(16)	Duration of coverage change?	n/a
(17)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(18)	Note on (15)-(17)	n/a
(19)	Change in generosity of existing benefits?	Expansion
(20)	Duration of generosity change?	Indefinite
(21)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(22)	Note on (19)-(21)	n/a
(23)	Introduction of new benefits?	Yes
(24)	Duration of new benefits?	Indefinite
(25)	<i>If fix-term, duration in months</i>	n/a
(26)	Note on (23)-(25)	n/a
(27)	Cuts of existing benefits?	n/a
(28)	Note on (27)	n/a
(29)	Estimated cost of reform in 2020 (national currency)	Unknown
(30)	Estimated cost of reform in 2021 (national currency)	Unknown
(31)	National Currency Code (ISO 4217)	MDL 498
(32)	Source of cost estimation	Law
(33)	Note (29)-(31)	n/a
(34)	If the implementation of the reform should already have started, has the reform been implemented?	Yes