

Moldova continues to modernize the crisis management mechanism



The experience of recent years, marked by energy crises, pandemics, refugee flows and extreme weather phenomena, has shown that the state needs a faster and better coordinated mechanism to protect people.

In this context, the Government approved the creation from September 1, 2026 of a new, modern mechanism based on the anticipation and prevention of crisis situations. It will be composed of: the National Crisis Management Commission, regional or territorial and local crisis management commissions, their operational coordination centers and the National Crisis Management Center, created in September 2025.

At the same time, the normative framework regulating the activity of the Commission for Exceptional Situations (CSE) was repealed.

How was it before and how will it be from September 1, 2026?

- **before** the state acted, predominantly, after the crisis materialized. The focus was on repairing damages and providing compensation for losses. The Commission for Extraordinary Situations (CES) intervened only when the situation was already serious.
- **From autumn 2026** the new crisis management mechanism emphasizes anticipation, prevention, permanent monitoring of risks to reduce damage and stop the effects of the crisis before it affects the population.

Direct benefits for people:

- **faster help:** the intervention of vital state services will be coordinated much more efficiently at the central, regional and local level.
- **clear information:** citizens will receive official information from one reliable source, avoiding confusion and fake news at critical times.

- **decisions close to communities:** local problems will be solved faster, because the decision no longer depends only on the central authorities in Chisinau.

To avoid overlapping responsibilities, the roles have been distributed between those who monitor, those who decide strategically at the national level, those who lead local structures and those who act in the field:

1. **National Crisis Management Commission** it is the decision-making forum, led by the Prime Minister. The commission meets to make strategic decisions, such as mobilizing additional resources, allocating money from the reserve fund, or establishing measures during the state of emergency. The Secretariat of the Commission is provided by the National Crisis Management Center, which provides the necessary informational, analytical and logistical support.
2. **National Crisis Management Center (NCMC)** it is a structure subordinate to the Government that works non-stop (24/7). Its role is to collect information from all institutions, analyze the risks and prepare all the necessary data so that the Government can make correct decisions, from the early stages of a danger.
3. **Regional, territorial and local crisis management commissions** are organized on three levels: regional (in the case of ATU Gagauzia it is headed by the Governor), territorial (in each district and in the municipalities of Chisinau and Balti, headed by the presidents of the districts or mayors) and local (in villages/communes and cities, headed by mayors). Their role is to manage the crisis at the local level and coordinate aid to the population. These commissions ensure that the decisions taken by the central authorities in Chisinau are effectively applied in each locality.
4. **Operational Coordination Centers (OCCs)** they are not permanent offices with new employees, but inter-institutional operative structures, which can be activated as needed in each district, Chisinau municipality, Balti municipality, ATU Gagauzia, as soon as a danger appears or a crisis is triggered, to coordinate the intervention to help the community. Outside of crisis situations, the specialists who are part of the OCC carry out their regular work, being prepared to assemble in the command center only when the situation demands it. The centers collect the information from the territory and transmit it to the NCMC, ensuring a fast and accurate flow of information. Also, the OCC organizes the technical

secretariat of the regional/territorial crisis management commissions and collects, analyzes and evaluates operational data, formulating proposals for the decisions of the president of the commission.

This reform clarifies institutional responsibilities and establishes a predictable framework for coordination between central, regional and local authorities during crisis situations. By delimiting strategic decisions from technical and operational coordination, the state strengthens its reaction capacity, uses available resources more efficiently and increases the degree of protection of citizens in the face of an increasingly diverse and dynamic spectrum of risks and threats.

