

## **Signing of a cooperation agreement with the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices in Moldova (AMDM)**

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A meeting was held at the Moldovan Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices on 14 March 2023. The delegation of the Office was led by the President, Mr Grzegorz Cessak. During the meeting, the Office for the Registration of Medicinal Products, Medical Devices and Biocidal Products signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices in Moldova (AMDM), continuing the long-term cooperation between the two Agencies. Deputy Minister of Health of Moldova and Polish Ambassador to Moldova Tomasz Kobzdej were also present during the signing of this important document.

Moldova is now officially a candidate for membership of the European Union. For the Republic of Moldova, this is a fantastic and historic moment in which the Office wants to support our Moldovan partners.

The signing of a new cooperation agreement at a time of brutal Russian aggression against Ukraine and Russian attempts to destabilise Moldova sends an important signal to our Moldovan partners that they can count on the support of the Office in aligning Moldovan pharmaceutical law with the requirements of the European Union.

During the meeting, AMDM Director General Dragoş Guțu also highlighted the role of this memorandum in the process of harmonising the law and the activities of the Medicines and Medical Devices Agency once the Republic of Moldova becomes an EU candidate country.

"We are talking about a memorandum with a mature European agency. It is about the Medicine Agency in Poland, with which we have been cooperating for several years. Three years ago we went through a twinning project. Now this memorandum is a new page in our cooperation process. It is important to have a partner like Poland, a mature Agency that went through the same procedures of harmonising laws and processes 20 years ago," said Dragoş Guțu.

In 2018, Lithuania and Poland were designated as the winning countries for the European twinning project "Strengthening the AMDM as a regulatory authority in the field of medicine, medical devices and pharmaceutical activities".

For a period of two years, a team of Lithuanian experts, representatives of the Ministry of Health, the State Agency for Drug Control, the National Health Insurance Fund, in cooperation with colleagues from the Polish Office for Registration of Medicinal Products, Medical Devices and Biocidal Products, supported the Moldovan Medicines and Medical Devices Agency in developing practical skills in the regulation and supervision of the market of medicinal products and medical devices, in accordance with the requirements and standards of the European Union.

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