



Organization for Security and  
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**Mission to Moldova**

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To the Office of the People's Advocate of the Republic of Moldova

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the staff of the OSCE Mission to Moldova, I would like to express our sincere condolences at the passing of the People's Advocate of the Republic of Moldova, Mihail Cotorobai.

The Mission is deeply saddened by the passing of our close partner and friend, Mr. Cotorobai. We recall his efforts to speak out against human rights violations in the Republic of Moldova. The Mission staff recall also Mr. Cotorobai's attention to the needs of national minorities and his contribution to a more inclusive and tolerant society. His passion, his determination and his readiness to speak for all at all times were qualities that exemplified him as an outstanding human rights defender and a person that represented the best aspects of Moldovan society.

His participation within the framework of the settlement process helped to build co-operation and bring the Sides closer. His contributions in the forum sought to defend the rights of all people and to ensure greater security. His engagement with his counterpart in Transnistria was another point of strength. The Mission is grateful for Mr. Cotorobai's personal commitments in this area and for being always ready to engage his office for the benefit of the settlement process to promote the rights of persons on both banks of the Dniester/Nistru River. His leadership and his personal character will be greatly missed by many in our Mission and beyond.

With our deepest condolences to the family and team,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Antti Karttunen'.

Antti Karttunen  
Deputy Head of Mission