

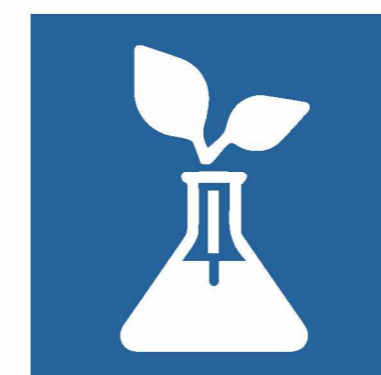
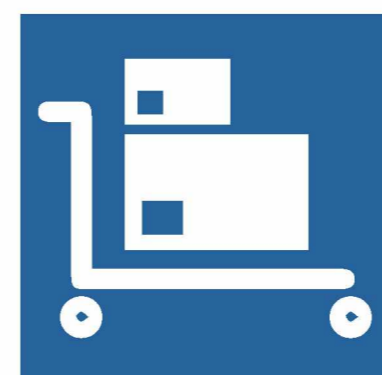


THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF PRIDNESTROVIE

PRESSURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ON PRIDNESTROVIE AMID COVID-19 PANDEMIC FIGHT

(MARCH-APRIL 2020)

FACTS.
ANALYSIS.
STATISTICS.



TIGHTENING IMPORT REGULATIONS

Since March 16, 2020, Ukraine closed all its automobile checkpoints on the border with Pridnestrovie upon the Moldovan side's recommendation.

That done, Chisinau began to impede or completely block goods import into Pridnestrovie. Obstacles were created for the humanitarian movement of citizens and cars to/from the territory of Moldova: to bring the returning citizens or procure medicines, medical equipment and reagents for COVID-19 laboratory tests.

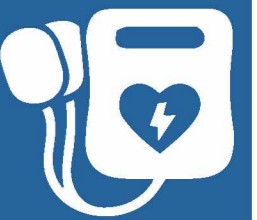
To this end, the Moldovan authorities resort to unreasonable administrative and bureaucratic barriers, creating formidable obstacles in a state of emergency and making it impossible for Pridnestrovie to carry out economic activities in the already difficult conditions and effectively counter the COVID-19 pandemic.

PROBLEMS:

Medicines import restrictions through the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint



Import restrictions on medical equipment to protect against COVID-19



Inability to use Visa and Mastercard in Pridnestrovie



Unreasonable examination of goods for their classification as dual-use products



Restrictions on plant protection products import through the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint



Restrictions related to vehicles and agricultural equipment import



Requirement to obtain Moldovan medical insurance policies for the citizens returning from abroad



MEDICINES IMPORT RESTRICTIONS



The import of medicines into Pridnestrovie was completely blocked in the period of March 18-27, 2020.

11 VEHICLES WERE
DELAYED AT THE
BORDER FOR
9 DAYS



The vehicles transporting batches of medicines into Pridnestrovie were halted at the border with demands to obtain permits from the Republic of Moldova, which led to the significant cargo downtime and additional financial costs for the Pridnestrovian pharmaceutical companies.

During the indicated period, 11 vehicles transporting medicines for the Pridnestrovian companies - Vivafarm LLC, Provizor LLC, Valeander LLC, Remedium LLC, Keyser LLC - were delayed at the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint.

IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO PROTECT MEDICAL STAFF



From 5 to 10 April, 2020, the cargo of medical equipment for hospitals in Pridnestrovie was detained, including spare parts for mechanical ventilation devices

RM demanded that the medical institutions of Pridnestrovie be registered and that Moldova's representatives be provided access to these hospitals to confirm delivery of equipment to the addressee. Parts for mechanical ventilation devices were classified as dual-use products, and to enable their import, a permission from a special interdepartmental commission of the Republic of Moldova is required.

On April 21, 2020, the Moldovan side hindered import of medical devices for healthcare facilities in Pridnestrovie

Goods detention was motivated mainly by the requirements on the need to obtain Moldovan permits.

From 25 to 28 April, 2020, the Republic of Moldova blocked the delivery of the volume printer purchased to produce components of personal protective equipment for medical staff

The cargo was delivered by an individual from Ukraine; however, when trying to enter the territory of the Republic of Moldova, the car was delayed with the reference to the fact that individuals are not entitled to import such equipment.

INABILITY TO USE VISA AND MASTERCARD IN PRIDNESTROVIE



The possibility to use international Visa and Mastercard bank cards was blocked in Pridnestrovie, at the end of 2019, in accordance with the appeal of the National Bank of Moldova.

About 10 thousand citizens of Pridnestrovie, including retirees who receive pensions on the cards of these systems, cannot use their funds in the territory of Pridnestrovie.

This resulted in an unreasonable - in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic - need, to travel to Varnita to use ATMs.

UNREASONABLE EXAMINATION OF GOODS FOR THEIR CLASSIFICATION AS DUAL-USE PRODUCTS

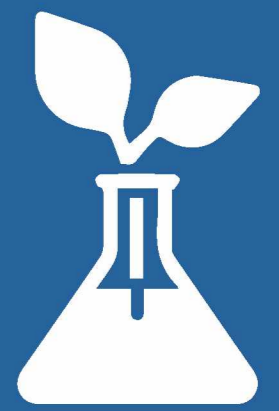


Moldovan customs authorities prevented the clearance of medical, telecommunication, network, agricultural, ventilation equipment and electrically conductive materials, transited to Pridnestrovie via the Tudora-Starokazacie automobile checkpoint. The detention of goods was explained by their alleged classification as dual-use goods, which required subsequent protracted procedures of inter-departmental approval and the permission from Moldova's special inter-departmental commission.

The following cargoes were blocked at the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint:

MAR. 19 - APR. 5	Telecommunication, network equipment, spare parts for ATMs to the address of Sheriff LLC from China	APR. 2 - APR. 10	Electric pumping station for irrigation of agricultural crops to the address of TechAgroPolyus LLC from Ukraine	APR. 10 - APR. 17	Filters and temperature sensors for air compressors and smoking thermal chambers for the Bendery Meat Processing Plant
MAR. 26 - APR. 5	Telecommunication, network, fire-fighting equipment for Interdnestrcom CJSC and LightTel LLC from Germany	MAR. 19 - APR. 10	Specialized technical elements for the State Unitary Enterprise "Special-Purpose Machinery and Equipment" of the PMR's Ministry of Interior from Germany	APR. 10 - APR. 17	Complete transformer substation for the State Unitary Enterprise "ERES" from Ukraine
MAR. 19 - MAR. 26	Computer and network equipment for Mir Kompyuterov LLC from the EU	APR. 4 - APR. 10	Filters for the forced ventilation installation for Tirotex-Energo LLC	SINCE APR. 21	Vibration analyzer addressed to "MGRES" CJSC from the Russian Federation

RESTRICTIONS ON PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS IMPORT

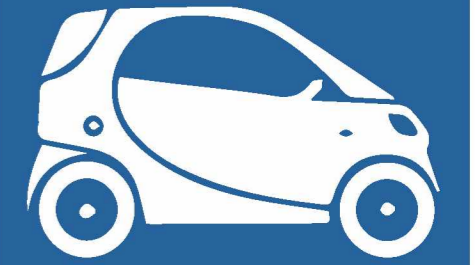


The Moldovan Customs Service detained vehicles transporting plant protection products for Pridnestrovian economic agents at the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint from April 14 to April 17, 2020. Under the pretext of the imported PPP agents' absence in the register of RM, Pridnestrovian enterprises got asked for requirements of PPP testing and approbation to further obtain permission for use.

A number of Pridnestrovian economic agents revised the import schedule of PPP that do not exist in the Moldovan registry until the Ukrainian-Pridnestrovian border opening.

Due to adverse weather conditions (frost and drought), interruptions in the PPP supply do aggravate the harvest situation.

RESTRICTIONS RELATED TO VEHICLES AND AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT IMPORT



“Tiravtotransport” cars purchased by Pridnestrovian residents

From April 1 to the present, at the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint has been blocked a “Tiravtotransport” LLC container with light motor vehicles purchased by Pridnestrovian residents in the USA. The Moldovan side refuses to allow this cargo passing since the age of several vehicles exceeds the age limit established by the Republic of Moldova's legislation.

The agricultural machinery belonging to “Agromechanism” Company

From April 22, 2020 to the present, at the Tudora-Starokazacie checkpoint remains blocked a cargo with agricultural machinery: 16 tractors, 3 rototillers and 2 engines following to “Agromechanism” LLC from Japan. The Republic of Moldova customs authorities require additional technical documentation and refuse to pass this cargo to Pridnestrovie.

REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN MOLDOVAN MEDICAL INSURANCE POLICIES



On March 31, the Moldovan authorities decided to introduce a requirement on medical policy compulsory purchase from April 1, upon entry into Moldova, worth 200 euros and that has also been applied to residents of Pridnestrovia.

However, for citizens returning to their permanent place of residence in Pridnestrovia this requirement carries an exclusively additional financial burden since they receive medical services at their place of residence in Pridnestrovia at the expense of deductible taxes to the budget of the republic.

THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA'S REFUSAL TO HOLD AN EXPERT DIALOGUE



The Pridnestrovian side has repeatedly taken the initiative to hold a subgroup on banking interaction meeting to discuss the issues of bank cards.



Pridnestrovia also proposed holding a meeting of expert (working) groups on April 9, this year on customs interaction issues in order to discuss the problems of vehicles import, Pridnestrovian goods as dual-use products classification, etc.

Both meetings did not take place as the Moldovan side lacked readiness.