

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Office of the Spokesman

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**STATEMENT BY IAN KELLY, SPOKESMAN**

**Election of Prime Minister of Moldova**

The United States congratulates Mr. Vlad Filat on his election today as Prime Minister of Moldova. We welcome the convocation of the new, democratically elected Parliament and the election of Mihai Ghimpu as its Speaker. The United States looks forward to working closely with Moldovans and their new government in efforts to build a democratic, prosperous European state. The United States reiterates its support for Moldova's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

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## **Moldova: Aftermath of Protests**

**Robert Wood**

Acting Department Spokesman

**Washington, DC**

**April 16, 2009**

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The United States is concerned about the situation in Moldova following the violence on April 7. Although order has been restored and subsequent demonstrations have been peaceful, we have received reports from civil society and international observers of mistreatment of those detained by Moldovan authorities. We are also troubled by reports that students and journalists have been intimidated by government officials. President Voronin's announcement of an amnesty for many of those detained is an encouraging step toward reconciliation.

We urge the government to act in accordance with Moldovan law and its international obligations when dealing with the opposition, protesters, and the media. All parties need to conduct themselves responsibly. It is also important that the government reach out to opposition parties and address their concerns about the April 5 election in a cooperative and transparent manner. We stress that there is no excuse for violence, such as took place on April 7. The United States remains committed to working closely with Moldova and its people as the country continues down the path of European integration. Respect for the rule of law and human rights are key elements in our relationship.

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**Press Statement on Moldovan Parliamentary Elections**

The United States welcomes Moldova's announcement that parliamentary elections will be held (on April 5, 2009.) We stress the importance of a fair and transparent election process that allows the citizens of Moldova to freely choose their leaders. We call upon the Government of Moldova to ensure full access to the media for all candidates and full freedom of assembly in an atmosphere free from intimidation. President Voronin's recent statement that the campaign will be a test of Moldova's European direction is positive. We also welcome Moldova's stated intention to cooperate closely with international election observers during the course of the campaign and on Election Day.

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**U.S. Embassy Statement on Today's Protests in Chisinau**

April 7, 2009

The United States regrets the violence in Chisinau that has led to injuries, damage to property and a possible loss of life. We call on all participants to refrain from violent action and to resolve their differences through peaceful means. We encourage government authorities to continue to show restraint.

Citizens of a democracy have the right to assemble and express their views in a peaceful manner. We encourage all Moldovan citizens to work together and resolve their differences amicably.