



## GenderDoc-M Final Report 2005

### The Applicant:

**Name of the applying organisation:** Information Centre GenderDoc-M

**Title of the project applied for** “Sexual diversity information campaign: combating prejudice and promoting rights”

**Address:** C.P. 422, MD 2004  
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**E-mail and Web address:** [director@gay.md](mailto:director@gay.md), [www.gay.md](http://www.gay.md)

**Person responsible for:**

- a) realisation of the project: Maxim Anmeghichean / Balanetkii Boris
- b) finances of the project: Mitieva Elena

### 1. Project report

#### 1.1 *Relevance in relation to SHC Strategy*

The reporting period in general terms coincides with two major events in the Moldovan political life: parliamentary elections and agreement by Moldova and the European Union on the EU-Moldova Action Plan. These events had direct influence on the LGBT situation in Moldova.

The Communist Party still holds the majority in the new parliament, but has smaller margin of flexibility and manoeuvre, being forced to cooperate with (former) opposition. While the Communist Party is still the ruling party, it has close political ties with three other political parties (which became clear during elections of the president): Christian Democrats People’s Part (CDPP), Social Liberal Party (SLP) and the Democratic Party (DP). It’s been the Communist Party which included sexual orientation in the National Human Rights Action Plan, from which we can say that they are relatively open towards LGBT issues. SLP leader Oleg Serebrean has previously made a public statement that he would support an anti-discrimination legislation, which would include sexual orientation as one of the grounds. DP has always been known as the most gay-friendly party in Moldova. On the other hand, CDPP is known as a very homophobic party, actively promoting its homophobia at the political level.

The EU-Moldova Action Plan states that Moldova should adhere European values, which include respect for minority rights and tolerance. The Plan states as one of the actions that Moldova should pass anti-discrimination legislation for minorities in line with the European standards. GenderDoc-M is doing active lobby to make sure this provision doesn’t stay out of the Implementation Plan of the EU-Moldova Action Plan, being agreed now by Moldova and the European Commission.

There is also report about functioning of Democratic structures in Moldova was produced by the Parliamentary Assembly of Council of Europe in September 2005. In the report the

violations of the rights of sexual minorities and freedom of association were included and one of the recommendations in the report states: “to ensure fully the respect of fundamental rights of sexual minorities”. (*see attached*)

Theoretically, overall the political picture looks more favourable for LGBT rights than it did with the previous parliament. On the other hand one needs to keep in mind that Moldovan politics is very unpredictable and LGBT rights are still very much prejudiced against. While there is hope for better laws, there is no certainty that they will be passed.

- *The general status of GenderDoc-M during the period*

GenderDoc-M continues to raise its profile as a successful advocacy organization for LGBT rights and service provider for the LGBT community. Special attention is paid to information work (in relation to advocacy) and training events for students and professional groups.

Internally, the major change is the leave of the Executive Director, Maxim Anmeghichean, who from September 2005 will be employed by ILGA-Europe ([www.ilga-europe.org](http://www.ilga-europe.org)). GenderDoc-M made all necessary arrangements so that the leave doesn't affect everyday activity of the Centre. An interim director was appointed – Boris Balanetkii ([director@gay.md](mailto:director@gay.md)), and he will continue coordination of the project, funded by the SHC.

*1.2 Current project status*

All the activities planned for 2005 have been successfully implemented. All the money received within the grant has been used for activities implementation.

*1.3 Project activities and results*

- a) Which activities have been realised during the period.

Major activities planned for the entire project year are:

1. Publication of the LGBT magazine “Mirror”
2. Development of the web-site [www.gay.md](http://www.gay.md)
3. Organisation of the Fourth Moldovan LGBT Pride “Rainbow over the Dnister – 2005”
4. Publication of the information bulletin “Dialogue”
5. Work with journalists (organisation of contest, provision of stipends for journalists)
6. Monitoring of Moldovan press

*2.2 Project activities and results*

Activity 1: Publication of the LGBT magazine “Mirror”

After the break of almost two years, GenderDoc-M has renewed the publication of the magazine for the LGBT community “Mirror”. Four issues of the magazine were printed within the project once in a quarter. In the issues the information about GenderDoc-M projects, activities and policy statements, interviews, articles on development of the LGBT movement abroad, international news, religion, prose, presentations of books, etc are included.

GenderDoc-M initially had problems in signing contracts with two main distribution agencies in Moldova: Moldpresa (for Chisinau) and Posta Moldovei (for the rest of Moldova). But by the end of May the problem was solved and beginning with June over 300 copies of each issue were given for distribution throughout the country. The price of one magazine is 10 lei.

We plan to continue issuing the magazine in 2006 one issue per quarter as it is very popular among the LGBT community in Chisinau and other cities of the republic.

#### Activity 2: development and maintenance of on-line information resources

GenderDoc-M continued in 2005 to develop its web-site, which is the only source of information on Moldovan LGBT issues. The site is regularly updated with Moldovan and international news, the articles from the magazine and the information bulletin are also placed on the web-site. Special attention is given to presentation of GenderDoc-M, which has been updated and gives a comprehensive overview of its project and activities. One part-time member of staff is working on the administration of the web-site.

#### Activity 3: Organization of the Fourth Moldovan LGBT Pride “Rainbow over the Dnister – 2005”

The IV Pride was a very successful event, which attracted overall around 1000 participants to different events and had significant political impact. The programme included the following activities:

##### **May, 20, Friday**

###### Memorial Complex “Monument of Glory”

10:00 – 10:30 Laying of flowers to the Eternal Fire

###### News Agency “Infotag”

11:00 - 12:00 Press-conference

###### Disco-club “Star Track”

20:00 – 02:00 Pride opening ceremony, awards ceremony, concert and disco-party

##### **May, 21, Saturday**

###### Conference Hall of the “Jolly Alon” Hotel

10:00 – 17:30 International conference “Experience and Problems in LGBT Advocacy Work” followed by the conference “Establishing a Network of LGBT Organizations on the post-Soviet Territory”.

###### Sport Complex “Yunosti”

19:00 – 21:00 Friendly football match for the GenderDoc-M Prize

###### Hotel “X”

22:00 – 03:00 Eurovision Private Party

##### **May, 22, Sunday**

Tourist Complex “Doina” (Institute of Labour)

11:00 – 15:00 Psycho-social animation: “Building a safe space for love”

Meeting Hall at “Passpartout” restaurant

17:00 – 20:00 Discussion club: Transgender

Cultural and Entertainment Centre “Studio 01”

21:00 – 23:00 Safer Sex Promotion Party

23:00 – 03:00 Pride Closing Ceremony, International Transvestite Beauty Contest “Miss Flawless Queen – 2005”, disco

**LGBT movies at “Cinema Club”**

Every day between May 16-21 thematic award-winning fiction movies. All movies start at 20:00.

**Radio station “Seven on the Seven Hills”**

Radio shows “Color” devoted to the issues of sexual diversity in Moldova (May 6, 13, 20 and 27 from 21:00 to 22:00).

All of the events attracted significant public attention, were an excellent learning experience for members of the Moldovan LGBT community and the interested public, media and professional groups. Among international pride participants were Swedish MP Gustav Fridolin, HOMO Hans Ytterberg, founders of the European LGBT movement and prominent LGBT activists Nigel Warner (GB), Kurt Krickler (Austria), Deborah Lambilotte (Belgium, also organized a workshop on transgender issues), three activists from Bosnia on a study visit, many activists from the post-Soviet territory and other guests. GenderDoc-M made most use of participation of Mr. Fridolin and Mr. Ytterberg. With support of SIDA meetings were organized for them with the Ministry of Justice, Human Rights Centre, Chairman of the Human Rights Parliamentary Committee, members of the youth wings of political parties, etc.

GenderDoc-M was refused authorisation for a public manifestation before the Moldovan parliament, which was also planned for the pride. The reasons for refusal were clearly homophobic, and we sued the city hall. In June we won the case in the Court of Appeal, but the city hall appealed to the higher instance – the Supreme Court. It is a very important litigation for GenderDoc-M, and we are ready to go all the way to the European Court of Human Rights. The court hearing and its decision is one of the most important outcomes of the pride. At the moment we are invited to the Supreme Court for hearing, which will be held on 8 of February 2006. Please, see attachments for more details of the case.

Activity 3: organization of creative contest for journalists

The contest was announced in cooperation with the Independent Journalism Centre. In was advertised in the magazine “Mirror”, bulletin “Dialog”, on the organization web page, and some newspapers (Arguments and Facts etc). The information about the contest was also sent to all Moldovan mass media via e-mail.

All articles appeared during the year 2005 in different Moldovan mass media were collected in GenderDoc-M library. All programs appeared on the radio and TV were recorded (if that was possible) and also put in GenderDoc-M archive.

At the beginning of 2006 the jury was created and all materials dedicated to the issue of sexual diversity and sexual orientation were reviewed.

According to the decision of the jury the stipends were awarded to three journalists from different newspapers and one stipend was awarded to the radio station “Seven on seven hills” as a most tolerant radio station in 2005. This radio station is of the most popular among listeners of different ages from Chisinau and suburbs.

#### Activity 5: Stipends for journalists covering sexual diversity issues.

During 2005 the stipends were awarded to:

- “Radio 7” for a cycle of four programmes, which were aired in May before, during and after the pride. Subjects of the programmes:
  - Psychological aspects of homosexuality;
  - Legal and social aspects of homosexuality in Moldova;
  - History of LGBT movement in the world and in Moldova;
  - Gay Prides: history, developments, importance for LGBT movement;
- Chisinau TV program “EURO TV” for organization of two programmes ”Life in balance” dedicated to the LGBT subject. In the programmes the representatives of the LGBT community and GenderDoc-M participated. First programme was dedicated to the lesbian issues and the second – to the gay issues. Both programmes were watched by large auditory and people had possibility to call to the program to ask questions and express their opinion. There were received a lot of phone calls. A part of phone calls were quite aggressive and intolerant that shows that the level of tolerance towards LGBT community in Moldova is still very high.
- Two journalists from the newspaper “New Time” were awarded stipends for in-depth highlighting of the subject of sexual diversity and sexual orientation.

#### Activity 5: Monitoring Moldovan press

GenderDoc-M continued the process of monitoring of Moldovan press, the articles being collected and filed, short description of the articles drafted. For the moment the team of three persons works over the producing of the press monitoring report. The final version of the report will be ready till the end of March 2006.

#### Activity 6: Publication of information bulletin

Three issues of the bulletin were printed during the reporting period and distributed during the pride events and via the mailing list. The articles included in bulletin are dedicated to the description of GenderDoc-M activities, international news, religion, advises on human relations with LGBT persons (“If your friend is gay”), combating prejudices against bisexual persons, interviews with public persons etc. The issues of bulletin were distributed to the different governmental and non governmental organizations, state institutions (different ministries (Ministry of Justice, Health Ministry, Ministry of Internal Affairs etc), and our beneficiaries.

It is planned to continue publishing the bulletin in 2006 once in 4 months.

### Activity 7 (extra): printing of the 5 years report of Genderdoc-M activities

It was planned within information and organizational development programs of the organization to issue 5 years report dedicated to the work of the organization from 1999 till 2004. The report was planned to be printed out in three languages: Romanian, Russian and English. We received the grant from British Embassy for printing the report but the sum of money allocated in the budget was enough to print only in one language. Taking into consideration the importance of this report for the organization (it is summary of our work during 5 years and it shows the development of GenderDoc-M, its growth and achievements) and the fact the we have money remaining for printing costs in the project we asked Swedish Helsinki Committee to allow us spending this money to cover the expenses related to printing of the 5 year report. After we received the approval it was printed 250 rom / 250 engl coloured copies of the 5 year report. On the report it is indicated that it was printed with the financial support of Swedish Helsinki Committee

- b) Specify the members of staff that have been involved in the project i.e name of staff involved, function and extent of function (in time).

<b>Position in the project</b>	<b>Name of the person</b>	<b>Extent of function</b>
Executive director	Maxim Anmeghichean (replaced by Boris Balanetkii)	One year
Information officer	Alexei Marcicov	One year
Librarian	Natalia Esmanciuc	One year
Financial manager	Elena Mitieva	One year
Web site administration	Victor Porubin	One year
Responsible for publications	Vitalie Dogaru	One year

- c) Report on the results of the project according to the Project Indicator Framework.
- the web-site regularly updated, has an average of 200 visitors a day;
  - four issues of the magazine printed with 500 copies circulation (per issue), over 300 copies of each issue given for distribution;
  - three issues of the bulletin were printed with circulation of 500 copies (per issue), over 400 copies of each issue were distributed during the different activities (pride, trainings and seminars, conferences) and via the mailing list;
  - the contest for journalists was announced, at the end of the year the commission was created to award the stipends
  - the stipends were awarded for the journalists covering sexual diversity issues:
    - one stipend of 300 euros was awarded for organization of four radio programmes on LGBT issues were aired,
    - one stipend of 245 euro was awarded for organization of 2 TV programs,
    - four stipends of 180 euros were given to four journalists to highlight the subject of sexual diversity in different newspapers
  - LGBT pride was organized with an overall of over a 1000 participants, over 25 international guests;
  - GenderDoc-M started litigation against the city hall on freedom of association and won the case in the Court of Appeals, at present there is no definitive decision of Supreme Court
  - 5 years report was printed out 250 copies in Romanian and 250 copies in English

- d) Explanation of possible deviations and/ or changes

There is a slight deviation in the time table of the project due to the fact that the funding for the project was received in April 2005, while the activities were planned to be started in January. However, it doesn't affect the overall project implementation.

- e) If any positive or negative side effects have been noticed, please specify.

Litigation on freedom of association is certainly a very positive side effect of the project.

#### *1.4 Target group*

How has the target group received or experienced the project.

The target group had direct experience with the project. The bulletin and magazine are distributed throughout the country via distribution agencies and by post; the articles are also later put on the web-site. The Fourth Pride was a very interactive and close to the public and target group event. Members of the LGBT community took part in radio and TV programs organized within the project.

#### *1.5 Gender issues*

LGBT community includes lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, and therefore within all of GenderDoc-M work there is a special attention to women's issues, and they are reflected in our publications and other informational products.

Very often attention to gender issues is needed when projecting different symbols related to GenderDoc-M work and publications. While producing symbols and logos we always pay special attention to gender equality, and try to develop logos, which cover all types of relations between two persons.

#### *1.6 Environmental issues*

GenderDoc-M always pays attention to environmental issues within its work: re-use and recycle paper, recycle bottles, etc. The project is not directly related to environmental issues.

#### *1.7 Implementation*

The action plan elaborated for the project implementation has successfully worked. Big part of activities was fulfilled as it was planned.

#### *1.8 Monitoring and Evaluation*

Planned monitoring and evaluation activities are effectuated as planned.

#### *1.9 Risks*

The risks described in the matrix are valid. As predicted, public authorities have prohibited a peaceful manifestation during the Pride. GenderDoc-M also still meets passive approach from media in relation to LGBT rights. In comparison to previous pride events, this year there was less print media coverage of the pride. On the other hand more press agencies and radios, including Radio Free Europe and BBC, have covered the pride.

### *1.10 Visibility of SHC*

GenderDoc-M always mentions the Swedish Helsinki Committee as one of our funders. Concretely this fact is mentioned in printed presentations of the organization, including a booklet about GenderDoc-M. The appropriate stickers are placed visibly at the equipment, purchased within the project. Information about the SHC support will be placed at all GenderDoc-M publications, issued within the project, and on the web-site.

## **2. Financial Report**

### *2.1 Project budget*

a) Report on the use of the grant from the SHC (specified in relation to the budget).

See attached document.

b) Explanations of possible deviations between actual and planned costs.

There are some deviations in the budget line "Operational costs" appeared during the project implementation.

1. In the budget line "Accounting /audit" it was overspent 48 euros due to the difference in the exchange rate during the year and that from this budget line GenderDoc-M paid expenses covering services of accountant and of audit.

2. In the budget line "Printing costs of magazine Mirror" there are left 169 Euros due to the fact that it is was not printed 1000 copies as planned but 600.

Initially from the budget lines "Printing costs for magazine "Mirror"and bulletin "Dialog" was remaining 1700 Euros. GenderDoc-M asked for the permission from Swedish Helsinki Committee to spend this sum of money to cover printing costs of the 5 year report of GenderDoc-M activities. After we received the permission and printed the report 169 euros are remaining in this budget line.

3. In the budget line "Web site administration/design" there 912 euros are left. This sum of money was not spent due to the fact that the person who administrated web page worked not full time as planned but part time according to the volume of work he had to fulfil during the project implementation. Beginning with the upcoming year the work within the web page was extended and volume of work and responsibilities of web administrator will grow and beginning with 2006 he will work full time.

4. In the budget line work with journalists 586 Euros are left. 500 Euros were planed to cover the costs of press monitoring report printing. As it turned out press monitoring report can be finished only when the year is over and all articles appeared in mass media are collected and reviewed. At the moment we are working over this report and plan to finish it till the end of March.

c) Report on interest earned on SHC's donation and how it will be used (related to the project or other activities of your organisation).

d) Please attach:

- an accountant statement regarding **the SHC grant** made by a certified accountant
- a translation in English of the accountant statement, by an authorised translator
- a copy of the accountant's certificate

The auditor statement will be made during the next week and will be sent to Swedish Helsinki Committee as soon as it will be finished and translated into English. The certificate of auditor will be attached.



## 2.2 Grants

Specify each donor and amount requested for specific purposes. If grants are approved please specify specific amounts and the name of your contact in the donor organisations.

<b>Donor organization</b>	<b>Project period</b>	<b>Amount received in 2005</b>	<b>Purpose of grant</b>	<b>Contact person from the funding organization</b>
Cordaid foundation	01.09.2004 – 31.08.2007	30 000 euro	Organizational development, regional development, HIV/AIDS prevention for MSM	Piet van Gils
Swedish Helsinki Committee	01.01.2005 – 31.01.2006	30 825 euro	Awareness Raising Campaign	Miroslav Durdevic
Coc Netherlands	01.02.2005 – 31.01.2006	15 000 Euro	Women's activities, work with elderly LGBT people, work on transgender issues	Bjorn van Roozendaal, Arjos Venrig
Open society institute	01.01.2005 – 28.02.2006	28 000 USD	Activities dedicated to the investigation of health (mental, sexual, reproductive) needs of the LGBT community	Rachel Thomas
British embassy in Chisinau (Small grants program)	01.01.2005 – 31.12.2005	8 500 USD	Effective response to the needs of socially vulnerable groups in Moldova	Angela Murahovschi
Soros foundation Moldova	01.03.2005 – 01.03.2006	12 960 USD	HIV/AIDS prevention and outreach work for LGBT community	Liliana Gherman