

LAW No. 1024-XIV on citizenship of the Republic of Moldova

(02 June 2000)

Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova No. 98 of 10 August 2000, article No. 709

MODIFIED

[Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14](#)
[DCC 11 of 30.10.12, Official Gazette 237-241/16.11.21 art.21; into force as of 30.10.12](#)

[LP284 of 28.12.11, Official Gazette 30-33/10.02.12 art.93](#)

[LP112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301](#)

[LP137 of 01.07.10, Official Gazette 131-134/30.07.10 art.451](#)

[LP127-XVIII of 23.12.09, Official Gazette 197-200/31.12.09 art.664](#)

[LP275-XVI of 18.12.08, Official Gazette 0237-240/31.12.08 art.876](#)

[LP273-XVI of 07.12.07, Official Gazette 84-85/13.05.08 art.288](#)

 [Law 372-XVI of 29.12.05, Official Gazette 16-19/27.01.06 art.70](#)

 [Law 14-XV of 17.02.05, Official Gazette 42-45/21.03.05 art.142](#)

 [Law 222-XV of 01.07.04, Official Gazette 108-111/09.07.04 art.586](#)

 [Law 328 of 24.07.03, Official Gazette 163/01.08.03 art.666](#)

 [Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600](#)

 [Law 191 of 08.05.03, Official Gazette 97/31.05.03 art.432](#)

 [Law 551 of 18.10.01, Official Gazette 128/19.10.01 art.902](#)

 [Law 417-XV of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824](#)

 [Law 262-XV of 15.06.01, Official Gazette 97/17.08.01 art.769](#)

NOTE:

Within the Law, the words „Ministry of Technological Development” and „Ministry of Foreign Affairs” shall be replaced with the followings „Ministry of Information Technology and Communication” and „Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration” by [Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301](#)

Within the Law, the words "Department of Informational Technologies" shall be replaced with the followings "Ministry of Technological Development" by [Law 372-XVI of 29.12.05, Official Gazette 16-19/27.01.06 art.70](#)

The Parliament adopts this organic Law.

Chapter I
General Provisions**Article 1.** Notions

For the purposes of this Law, the following notions shall be used with the meaning of:

child - person below the age of 18 years;

foreign citizen - person who is a citizen of another state and is not a citizen of the Republic of Moldova;

stateless person – person who is neither a citizen of the Republic of Moldova, nor a citizen of another state;

[Art.1 notion in accordance with Law 284 of 28.12.11, Official Gazette 30-33/10.02.12 art.93]

naturalization - the granting of citizenship upon request to persons lawfully and habitually residing on the territory of Republic of Moldova, under this Law;

multiple citizenship - simultaneous possession of two or more nationalities by the same person;

descendant - blood relative on descendant line, his/her equivalent under the law in force;

lawful and habitual residence - permanent residence legalized on the Republic of Moldova.

lawful and habitual residence – legal residence of a person on indefinite period of time based on official documents issued by receiving State authorities.

[Art.1 notion in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

Article 2. Object of the Law

This Law shall establish the legal framework of the bonds relating to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 3. Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova

(1) The citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall establish a permanent legal and political bond between a natural person and the Republic of Moldova, generating mutual rights and obligations between the state and the individual.

(2) The citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be preserved both on the territory of Republic of Moldova and in other states, as well as on the territory over which no state has sovereignty.

Article 4. Legal regulation

The issues related to citizenship of the Republic of Moldova are regulated by the Constitution, international treaties to which Moldova is party, this law and other legal acts adopted in accordance therewith.

[Art.4 in accordance with Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

Article 5. Proof of Citizenship

Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be proven with the identity card, passport, certificate of birth in case of a child or a certificate issued by competent authorities of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 6. Legal Status of Citizens of the Republic of Moldova, Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons

(1) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova shall be equal before the Law and public authorities and shall equally enjoy all the social, economic and political rights and the freedoms proclaimed and guaranteed by the Constitution and other laws and by international agreements to which Moldova is a party.

(2) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova alone shall have the right to elect and to be

elected, to hold positions involving the exercise of public authority and the right to participate in referendums, as stipulated by the Law.

(3) The legal status of foreign citizens and stateless persons shall be established by the Law and the international agreements to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Article 7. General Principles related to Citizenship

The rules on citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be based on the following principles:

- (a) everyone's right to a citizenship;
- (b) non-discrimination of citizens, irrespective of the grounds for the acquisition of citizenship;
- (c) inadmissibility to arbitrarily deprive a person of his/her citizenship and the right to change citizenship;
- (d) avoidance of statelessness;
- (e) the change of the citizenship of a spouse shall produce no effects on the citizenship of the other spouse or the citizenship of a child, if there is no written request of the parents to change the child's citizenship;

Article 8. Protection of Citizens

(1) Citizens of the Republic of Moldova shall enjoy the protection of the State both within the country and abroad.

(2) No citizen of the Republic of Moldova shall be extradited or expelled from the country.

Article 9. Priority of International Agreements

International agreements shall have priority, if any international agreement, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party, provide regulations other than those established by his Law.

Chapter II

Acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova

Article 10. Grounds for Acquisition of Citizenship

(1) Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be acquired by:

- (a) birth;
- (b) recognition;
- (c) adoption;
- (d) recovery;
- (e) naturalization;

(2) Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova may also be acquired on the basis of international agreements, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Article 11. Acquisition of Citizenship by Birth

(1) Citizen of the Republic of Moldova shall be the child

a) born to parents, both or one of whom is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova, upon his/her birth;

b) born on the territory of Republic of Moldova, whose parents are stateless persons;

c) born on the territory of Republic of Moldova, whose parents possess the citizenship of another state, or one of them is stateless and the other one is a foreign citizen, if that state does not grant citizenship to the child.

[Art.11 paragraph. (1), let. (c) modified by Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette

149/18.07.03 art.600]

(2) The foundling found on the territory of Republic of Moldova shall be considered its citizen, unless otherwise proven, before the age of 18.

Article 12. Acquisition of Citizenship by Recognition

(1) Individuals who acquired and retained the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova under previous legislation and those who acquired citizenship under this law shall be recognized as citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) Recognized citizens of the Republic of Moldova shall be individuals who are not citizens of other states and wish to become citizens of the Republic of Moldova and namely:

(a) those born on the territory of Republic of Moldova or at least those, one of whose parents, or grandparents were born on the above-mentioned territory;

(b) those who before 28 June 1940 resided in Bessarabia, in the North Bucovina, Hertza Region, and the M.A.S.S.R., their descendants, if they have lawful and habitual residence in the Republic of Moldova;

[Art.12 paragraph (2), let. (b) modified by Law 137 of 01.07.10, Official Gazette 131-134/30.07.10 art.451]

(c) those who have been deported or those who have fled the Republic of Moldova, since 28 June 1940, and the descendants thereof;

d) those who on 23 June 1990 were residing and keep reside, lawful and habitual in the Republic of Moldova.

[Art.12 paragraph (2), let. (d) inserted by Law 222-XV of 01.07.04, Official Gazette 108-111/09.07.04 art.586]

[Art.12 paragraph (2) modified by Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

Article 13. Acquisition of Citizenship by Adoption

(1) A stateless child shall automatically acquire the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova through adoption if the adoptive parent(s) is/are citizen(s) of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) Both the adoptive parents, of whom one is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and the other one is a foreign citizen, shall jointly decide on the child's citizenship. If they fail to reach a mutual agreement, the court shall decide upon the affiliation of the child to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, taking into account his/her interests. When a child reaches the age of 14, his/her consent, certified by a notary, shall be required.

(3) The child - a foreign citizen, adopted by spouses, both or one of whom is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and the other one is a foreign citizen or stateless person, can become a citizen of the Republic of Moldova if he/she renounces the citizenship of the foreign state, except in cases provided by international agreements to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Article 14. Citizenship of the Child in case of Nullity or Cancellation of Adoption

If the adoption of a stateless or foreign child is declared null or void, the child shall be considered never having acquired the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, if he/she is a lawful and habitual resident abroad or if he/she leaves the country for permanent residence abroad.

Article 15. Citizenship of the child over whom guardianship is established

(1) A stateless child under guardianship of citizens of the Republic of Moldova, shall automatically become a citizen of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) A stateless child, under guardianship of spouses, one of whom is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and the other one stateless, shall automatically become a citizen of the Republic of Moldova.

(3) The citizenship of a stateless child under guardianship of spouses, one of whom is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and the other one a foreigner, shall be mutually agreed upon by the guardians. If they fail to reach a mutual agreement, the court shall decide upon the affiliation of the child to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, taking into account his/her interests. When a child reaches the age of 14, his/her consent, certified by a notary, shall be required.

(4) The child - a foreign citizen, under guardianship of spouses, both or one of whom is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and the other one is a foreign citizen or a stateless person, can become a citizen of the Republic of Moldova if he/she renounces the citizenship of the foreign state.

Article 16. Recovery of Citizenship

(1) The person, who previously possessed the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, may recover it, upon request, preserving, if desired, the foreign citizenship, if not subject to the requirements provided for in Article 20, paragraph (1), letters (a)-(d).

[Art.16 paragraph (1) in accordance with Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

(2) The person who was deprived of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova under Article 23, letter c), may not recover it, and in the rest of the cases stipulated in Article 23 he/she may recover it only in line with the requirements of naturalization, but not earlier than five years of permanent lawful and habitual residence on the territory of Republic of Moldova upon the deprivation of citizenship.

Article 17. Requirements for Naturalization

(1) Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova may be granted upon request to a person who reached 18 years old and who:

(a) though not born in this territory, has resided lawfully and habitually here at least for the last ten years; or has been married to a citizen of the Republic of Moldova for at least three years; or has resided lawfully and habitually for at least three years with parents or children (inclusively adoptive parents and adopted children) who are citizens of the Republic of Moldova, or

(b) has resided lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova for five years before reaching the age of 18, or

(c) is stateless or a recognized refugee, according to provisions of the national Law, and has resided lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova for at least eight years, and

(d) knows and observes the provisions of the Constitution; and

(e) knows the national language, sufficiently well to integrate into social life; and

(f) loses or renounces the citizenship of another state, if possessed, except in cases when the loss or the renunciation is not possible or cannot reasonably be requested.

(2) Knowledge of the provisions of the Constitution and national language by the applicant for citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be tested as established by the

Government.

Article 17. Requirements for Naturalization

(1) Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova may be granted upon request to a foreigner residing lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova, who:

a) has resided lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova for at least 10 years. For stateless persons, refugees and beneficiaries of political asylum, the term is of 8 years, or

b) has resided lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova for five years before reaching the age of 18, or

c) has been married to a citizen of Republic of Moldova for at least 3 years and has resided lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova for the last 3 years, or

d) has resided lawfully and habitually for at least three years with parents or children (inclusively adoptive parents and adopted children) who are citizens of the Republic of Moldova, as well as

e) knows and observes the provisions of the Constitution; and

f) passes the assessment test of the on the knowledge of the state language; and

g) has legal subsistence sources.

(2) Knowledge on Constitution provisions and national language by the applicant for citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be tested as established by the Government.

(3) Period of lawfully and habitually residence of the foreigner on the territory of Republic of Moldova is calculated from the date of authorizing the residence on the territory by Moldovan authorities. Date of authorizing the residence is considered the date of issuing the document confirming the right of foreigner to reside on the territory of Republic of Moldova by competent authorities. Proof of lawfully and habitually residence is based on the official documents issued by State competent authorities or information from Centre for State Information Resources.

(4) Residence of foreigner on the territory of Republic of Moldova is considered lawfully and habitually where, following residence authority:

a) foreigner has not emigrated from Republic of Moldova;

b) the right to residence of foreigner has not been cancelled or revoked, the status of stateless person or refugee has not been ceased or cancelled;

c) extension of right to residence is consecutive.

(5) If during the lawfully residence on the territory of Republic of Moldova, the foreigner has changed the juridical status, the term of previous statute will be considered, whichever is continuous.

[Art.17 in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

[Art.17 modified by Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301]

Article 18. Level of Knowledge of the National Language

(1) A person shall be considered to know the national language if that person:

a) sufficiently understands conversational language and official information;

b) discusses and answers questions of social life;

- c) is able to read and sufficiently understand any written text of social nature, laws and other regulations;
- d) is able to write an exposition on a social topic.

(2) Upon review of applications for citizenship, the following persons shall not be required to know the national language:

- (a) pensioners upon retirement age;
- (b) invalids, whose invalidity is set for an unspecified period of time.

[Art.18 paragraph.(2) modified by Law 222-XV of 01.07.04, Official Gazette 108-111/09.07.04 art.586]

Article 19. Citizenship of the child, whose parents acquired the Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova

(1) The child born to parents who are foreigners or stateless persons, who acquire the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, shall acquire the citizenship together with his/her parents.

(2) If only one of the parents acquires citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, the parents shall mutually agree upon the citizenship of the child. If parents fail to reach an agreement, the court shall decide upon the affiliation of the child to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, taking into account his/her interests, when parents make a deliberate declaration in this respect.

(3) In cases stipulated in paragraph (1) and (2), the consent of the child who reached 14 years of age, certified by a notary, shall be required.

Article 20. Grounds for Rejection of Citizenship

(1) Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall not be granted to the individual, who:

[Art.20 the single paragraph becomes paragraph (1) by Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301]

- a) committed international, war crimes or crimes against humanity;
- b) has been involved in terrorist activities;
- c) has been sentenced to imprisonment for premeditated offences and has previous criminal records or is under penal prosecution upon the review of his/her application;
- d) performs activities which jeopardize the safety of the state, public order, people's health or their moral conduct;

e) is the citizen of a state that did not conclude an agreement on dual citizenship with the Republic of Moldova, except in cases provided in Article 12 paragraph (2), Article 17 para. (1), letter g) and Article 24 paragraph (2).

[Art.20 paragraph (1), let. e) modified by Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301]

e) not entirely meets the requirements for acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, as established by this Law.

[Art.20 paragraph (1), let. e) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

[Art.20 paragraph (1), let. e) modified by Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301]

(2) The provisions of paragraph (1) let. c) shall not apply to persons specified in Article 12 paragraph (2) if they are not citizens of another state.

[Art.20 paragraph (2) inserted by Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-

112/08.07.11 art.301]

Chapter III
LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP OF THE REPUBLIC OF
MOLDOVA

Article 21. Grounds for Loss of Citizenship

Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova may be lost:

- (a) by renunciation;
- (b) by deprivation;
- (c) on grounds deriving from international agreements, to which the Republic of Moldova is a Party.

Article 22. Renunciation of Citizenship

(1) Renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be approved to a person who reached the age of 18 which presents evidence of having acquired or being in the process of acquisition of the citizenship of another state or assurances of acquisition of another citizenship.

(1) Renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be approved to an applicant who presents evidence of having acquired or being in the process of acquisition of the citizenship of another state or assurances of acquisition of another citizenship.

[Art.22 paragraph (1) modified by Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199;into force as of 05.07.14]

(2) If the person to whom renunciation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova was approved, despite the assurances, shall not acquire the citizenship of another state and would thereby become stateless, the part relating to this person in the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova regarding the approval of renunciation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be abrogated in accordance with the established procedure.

[Art.22 in accordance with Law 275-XVI of 18.12.08, Official Gazette 237-240/31.12.08 art.876]

Article 23. Deprivation of Citizenship

(1) The citizenship of the Republic of Moldova may be revoked to a person by the decision of the President of the Republic of Moldova if that person:

(a) acquired the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova by way of fraud, false information or concealment of any relevant fact proved by the court;

[Art. 23 paragraph (1), let. a) modified by Law 551 of 18.10.01, Official Gazette 128/19.10.01 art.902]

(b) voluntarily enrolled in a foreign military service;

(c) committed actions seriously prejudicing the vital interests of the state, proved by court;

[Art. 23 paragraph (1), let. c) modified by Law 551 of 18.10.01, Official Gazette 128/19.10.01 art.902]

[Art.23 paragraph (1), let. d) has been excluded by Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

(2) Deprivation of citizenship shall not be allowed for reasons stipulated in para. (1) of this article if the person would thereby become stateless, except for reasons stipulated in

paragraph (1) letter a).

(3) Deprivation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall not produce any effect on the citizenship of spouse and his/her children.

Chapter IV

MULTIPLE CITIZENSHIP

Article 24. Cases of Multiple Citizenship

(1) The Republic of Moldova shall allow multiple citizenship to:

a) children who acquired automatically at birth the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova and the citizenship of another state;

b) its citizens who possess simultaneously the citizenship of another state when the other citizenship is automatically acquired by marriage;

c) children, citizens of the Republic of Moldova, who acquired the citizenship of another state by adoption;

d) if this results from provisions of the international agreement to which the Republic of Moldova is a Party;

e) if the renunciation or loss of the citizenship of another state is not possible or cannot reasonably be requested ;

f) other cases stipulated by this law.

(2) In the interests of the Republic of Moldova and in exceptional cases, citizens of another state may become citizens of the Republic of Moldova by the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova, if they do not fall under art. 20 letter a) - d).

(3) Acquisition of another citizenship by Moldovan citizens does not entail loss of Moldovan citizenship.

(4) Citizen of Republic of Moldova who possesses the citizenship of another state, in relation to Republic of Moldova, is only recognized a citizen of Republic of Moldova, except the cases established in paragraph (1) let. a)-e) and paragraph (2).

[Art.24 modified by Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

Article 25. Rights and Duties in cases of Multiple Citizenship

Citizens of the Republic of Moldova, who reside lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova and are in legal possession of the citizenship of another state, shall enjoy the same rights and duties as the other citizens of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art.25 modified by Law 127-XVIII of 23.12.09, Official Gazette 197-200/31.12.09 art.664].

[Art.25 modified by Law 273-XVI of 07.12.07, Official Gazette 84-85/13.05.08 art.288]

Article 26. Military Service in cases of Multiple Citizenship

The person who is a citizen of the Republic of Moldova and is in legal possession of the citizenship of another state shall be subject to call-up by the Republic of Moldova, if that person resides lawfully and habitually in its territory, irrespective of the exemption from military service in the other state.

Chapter V

POWERS OF THE PUBLIC AUTHORITIES REGARDING CITIZENSHIP

Article 27. Powers of the President of the Republic of Moldova

The President of the Republic of Moldova:

a) tackles citizenship matters, under the provisions of the Constitution and the present Law;

b) issues decrees in cases of granting, recovery, renunciation and deprivation of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, and sends well-reasoned answers to application for citizenship was rejected.

Article 28. Powers of the Informational Technologies Department and its Subordinate Agencies

The Informational Technologies Department and its subordinate agencies:

a) receive from persons who reside lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova, under provisions of this Law, applications for citizenship, collect information about the applicants, draft well-reasoned recommendations and submit them to the President of the Republic of Moldova for decision together with recommendations of the Ministry of the Interior and those of the Information and Security Service;

a) under provisions of this Law, receive from persons who reside lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova applications regarding acquisition of citizenship by naturalization and acquisition of citizenship in general, verify the documents, collect information about the applicants, draft well-reasoned Informative Notes and together with recommendations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, those of the Information and Security Service and applicant's request, submit them to the President of the Republic of Moldova for decision.

[Art.28 let. a) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199;into force as of 05.07.14]

[Art.28 let. a) words "If meeting all the conditions laid down by law, ministry and its bodies draft a well-reasoned note" declared unconstitutional by DCC 11 of 30.10.12, Official Gazette 237-241/16.11.21 art.21; into force as of 30.10.12]

b) according to Article 12, paragraph (2), examine applications for acquisition of citizenship by recognition, and take decision to recognize or refuse citizenship. For persons who hold the citizenship of another country, a decision shall be taken in accordance with the well-reasoned Note of the Information and Security Service;

c) determine persons membership to Republic of Moldova who lawfully and habitually reside on its territory;

c) determine persons membership to Republic of Moldova;

[Art.28 let c) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199;into force as of 05.07.14]

d) issue certificates of acquisition or loss of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova to persons who reside lawfully and habitually on the territory of Republic of Moldova;

d) submit to the President of Republic of Moldova well-grounded proposals on withdrawal of Moldovan citizenship;

[Art.28 let d) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199;into force as of 05.07.14]

e) issue documents that certify the acquisition or loss of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

f) keep record of the persons who acquired or lost the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

g) execute decrees and decisions of the President of the Republic of Moldova

regarding citizenship and issue relevant documents;
h) discharge other duties under the Legislation.

[Art.28 in accordance with Law 112 of 09.06.11, Official Gazette 110-112/08.07.11 art.301]

Article 29. Powers of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its Institutions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, diplomatic missions and consular institutions of the Republic of Moldova:

a) receive from persons who reside lawfully and habitually abroad under provisions of this Law, applications for citizenship, collect information about the applicants, draft well-reasoned recommendations and submit them to the President of the Republic of Moldova for decision together with the recommendations of the Informational Technologies Department, and the Information and Security Service;

a) under the provisions of this Law, receive from persons who reside lawfully and habitually abroad, applications for citizenship, collect information about the applicant, verify the documents and together with the Informative Note of the Ministry of Information Technology and Communications, the Informative Note of the Information and Security Service and the applicants' request submit them to the President of the Republic of Moldova for decision;

[Art.29 let. a) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

[Art. 29 let. a) modified by Law 417 of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824]

b) determine persons membership to Republic of Moldova who lawfully and habitually reside abroad;

b) determine persons membership to the Republic of Moldova;
[Art.29 let. b) in accordance with Law 24 din 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

c) submit to the President of Republic of Moldova well-reasoned proposals regarding deprivation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

d) issue certificates of acquisition or loss of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova to persons who reside lawfully and habitually abroad;

[Art.29 let c) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 086/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

e) execute decrees and decisions of the President of the Republic of Moldova on citizenship;

f) discharge other duties under the Legislation

Article 29¹. Powers of the Ministry of the Interior

The Ministry of the Interior:

a) collects data about the applicant, carries out the necessary control in order to establish grounds for refusal of granting the citizenship, drafts recommendations regarding the granting or recovery of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova and presents them to the Informational Technologies Department;

b) ascertains the cases of illegal possession of other states citizenship by citizens of the Republic of Moldova and submits proposals regarding deprivation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova to Ministry of Information Technology and Communication.

[Art.29¹ let. b) in accordance with Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

[Art.29¹ inserted by Law 417 of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824]

Article 30. Powers of the Information and Security Service

The Information and Security Service drafts, under this Law, recommendations regarding the persons who applied for granting or recovery of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, as well as conclusions on proposals for its deprivation, and submit them to the concerned institution.

Article 31. Commission on Citizenship and Political Asylum under the President of the Republic of Moldova.

The Commission on citizenship and political asylum under the President of the Republic of Moldova shall be in charge to preliminarily review matters related to the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova. Its operation procedure shall be established in the regulation approved by the President of the Republic of Moldova.

Chapter VI

PROCEDURE FOR ACQUISITION AND LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Article 32. Applications for Citizenship

(1) To apply for the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova an application form shall be filled in, in the format established by the Government. Application of the under 18 years-old individual shall be reviewed upon the request of his/her legal representative, attested by a notary, and, while abroad, it shall be attested in a diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) If an application for citizenship is lodged on behalf of the child aged between 14 and 18, the child shall give his/her consent in written form which shall be attested by a notary and, while abroad, it shall be attested in a diplomatic mission or consular offices of the Republic of Moldova.

Article 33. Procedure for Submittal of the Application

(1) Application for acquiring and reacquiring the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be addressed to the President of the Republic of Moldova and shall be submitted in person or through an attorney acting on the basis of a power of attorney certified by a notary to the Informational Technologies Department in the area where the applicant resides, or to the diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova, if the applicant resides lawfully and habitually abroad or Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art.33 paragraph (1) modified by Law 275-XVI of 18.12.08, Official Gazette 237-240/31.12.08 art.876]

(2) Application regarding renunciation to Moldovan citizenship shall be addressed to the President of the Republic of Moldova and shall be submitted only by persons who reside lawfully and habitually abroad, at diplomatic mission and consular office of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art.33 paragraph (2) inserted by Law 275-XVI of 18.12.08, Official Gazette 237-240/31.12.08 art.876]

[Art.33 modified by Law 14-XV of 17.02.05, Official Gazette 42-45/21.03.05 art.142]

[Art. 33 modified by Law 417 of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824]

Article 34. Proposals for Deprivation of Citizenship

Proposals, recommendations and other documents regarding deprivation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be presented to the President of the Republic of Moldova by the Informational Technologies Department, as well as by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova directly or through diplomatic missions or consular offices of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art. 34 paragraph (1) modified by Law 417 of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824]

[Art.34 paragraph (2) has been excluded by Law 232 of 05.06.03, Official Gazette 149/18.07.03 art.600]

Article 35. State Payment

(1) A state tax is collected for the applications for the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova submitted by a person who resides lawfully and habitually in the Republic of Moldova, under the Law.

(2) A state tax collected for the applications for the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova submitted by a person who resides lawfully and abroad, under the Law.

[Art.35 in accordance with Law 262 of 15.06.01, Official Gazette 97/17.08.01 art.769]

Article 36. Documents required for the Acquisition and Recovery of Citizenship

(1) For acquisition or recovery of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova the following documents shall be presented:

- (a) application form;
- (b) Curriculum Vitae;
- (c) certificate from the place of residence containing names of his/her family members;
- (d) receipt for the payment of the state tax;
- (e) photos of respective size;
- f) certificate of non-possession or renunciation of the former citizenship, except in cases provided for in Article 17, paragraph (1), letter g); The certificate of approval for renunciation of citizenship of another state can be presented after the decision on approval for granting of citizenship is issued by the Commission for Citizenship and Political Asylum under the President of the Republic of Moldova. This decision shall be the basis for the guarantee of acquisition of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova provided by the body which is authorized to receive applications for citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;
- (g) other documents stipulated by this Law.

(2) The language of the documents listed in paragraph (1), shall be selected in accordance with the Law on the use of languages in the Republic of Moldova No. 3465 of 1 September 1989.

(3) Public authorities, which are aware of the fact that the applicant does not meet the requirements for granting citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, shall inform the Commission on Citizenship and Political Asylum under the President of the Republic of Moldova.

[Art.36 paragraph (1), let. f) modified by Law 222-XV of 01.07.04, Official Gazette 108-111/09.07.0 art.586]

Article 37. Documents required for Renunciation of Citizenship

(1) For the renunciation of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova to be approved the following documents shall be presented;

a) application - questionnaire;

b) Curriculum Vitae;

c) certificate from the place of residence containing names of his/her family members;

[Art.37 paragraph (1), let d) excluded by Law 275-XVI of 18.12.08, Official Gazette 237-40/31.12.08 art.876]

e) receipt for the payment of the state tax;

f) evidence confirming the possession, acquisition or assurances of acquisition of another citizenship;

g) other documents, stipulated by the present Law.

(2) The language of the documents listed in paragraph (1), shall be selected in accordance with Law on the use of languages in the Republic of Moldova No. 3465 of 1 September 1989.

(3) Parents who renounce to the citizenship of Republic of Moldova, may apply for preserving their children's citizenship of the Republic of Moldova.

(4) If both parents are citizens of the Republic of Moldova and one of them renounces the citizenship, submitting an application for renouncing the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova together with his/her child, the other parent shall present a statement of his/her consent, certified by a notary.

Article 38. Timeframe for processing of applications and proposals relating to citizenship

(1) The timeframe for processing the applications and proposals relating to citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall not exceed one year. The timeframe shall begin on the day of presenting all the documents required for granting, recovery or renunciation of the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova.

(2) Renewed applications and proposals regarding citizenship shall be reviewed only if new essential circumstances shall be identified.

Article 39. Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of Moldova

(1) The person who is granted citizenship of the Republic of Moldova by naturalization or by recovery of citizenship shall take, within six months from the day of entry into force of the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova, before the county prefect, or before the head of diplomatic mission or consular office of the Republic of Moldova, the following oath of allegiance to the Republic of Moldova:

[Art.39 paragraph (1) modified by Law 328 din 24.07.03, Official Gazette 163/01.08.03 art.666]

"I (family name, name), born (time and place of birth), swear to be a faithful citizen to the Republic of Moldova, to sacredly respect its Constitution and other laws, not to take any actions that would prejudice the interests and territorial integrity of the state".

(2) The citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall be acquired from the date of taking the oath.

Article 40. Documents relating to the Change of Citizenship

(1) Persons, who acquired the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova under this Law, receive a certificate of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova at the Informational

Technologies Department, or diplomatic missions and consular office.

(2) Persons who are lawfully and habitually resident on the territory of Republic of Moldova and who lost the citizenship of the Republic of Moldova shall receive identity cards of the national passport system, according to the status of the person at the Informational Technologies Department.

(2) Persons who lawfully and habitually reside on the territory of Republic of Moldova and who lost the citizenship of Republic of Moldova shall receive identity cards issued by competent authorities, according to persons' status.

[Art.40 al.(2) in accordance with Law 24 of 13.03.14, Official Gazette 86/05.04.14 art.199; into force as of 05.07.14]

[Art. 40 modified by Law 417 of 26.07.01, Official Gazette 108/06.09.01 art.824]

Chapter VII

APPEAL OF DECISIONS ON CITIZENSHIP OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Article 41. Decrees on citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, issued by the President of Republic of Moldova, may be appealed in the Appeal Court within six months from the day of entry into force of the decree.

[Art.41 modified by Law 191 of 08.05.03, Official Gazette 97/31.05.03 art.432]

Article 42. Appealing the Actions undertaken by Civil Servants

Refusal to receive applications for citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, breach of the timeframe, violation of procedure for the processing of applications and execution of decisions on such issues, refusal to grant citizenship, other actions undertaken by civil servants may be appealed in courts under the Law.

Chapter VIII

FINAL AND TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

Article 43

(1) Applications pending on the day of entry into force of this Law shall be reviewed under its provisions.

(2) Pending the establishment by the Government of a procedure for the evaluation of the level of knowledge of the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova and of the national language by the applicants for citizenship of the Republic of Moldova, such evaluation shall be made by the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family under the Law.

Article 44

Within five months the Government shall:
bring its normative acts in line with this law;
draft normative acts required for the execution of this law;
present to the Parliament proposals for bringing the legislation into force in line with this law.

Article 45

Upon entry into force of this Law, the following shall be abrogated:
Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova no.596-XII of 5 June 1991;
Law no.1462-XII of 26 May 1993 amending Article 2 of the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;
Law no.1474-XII of 8 June 1993 completing and amending Article 2 of the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

Article II of the Law no.278-XIII of 10 November 1994 amending and completing some legislative acts;

Law no.961-XIII of 24 July 1996 amending and completing the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

Law no.1259-XIII of 16 July 1997 amending and completing the Law on Citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

Decision of the Parliament no.597-XII of 5 June 1991 on the procedure for entry into force and implementation of the Law of the Republic of Moldova on citizenship of the Republic of Moldova;

Decision of the Parliament no.1138-XII of 4 August 1992 approving the Regulations of the procedure for solving problems of citizenship of the Republic of Moldova.

**SPEAKER OF
THE PARLIAMENT**

Dumitru DIACOV

**Chisinau, 2 June 2000
No. 1024-XIV.**