

Opening statement

On behalf of the President of the Senate of the Netherlands, Ms Mei Li Vos, on the occasion of the visit of the President of the Republic of Moldova, Ms Maia Sandu

datum 16 December 2025

Dear Madam President,

On behalf of the States General of the Kingdom of The Netherlands: welcome.

It is a great privilege for us to receive you here today in the Dutch Senate. I have fond memories of our meeting in September 2023.

Your visit today is the direct result of the Russian aggression in Ukraine:

Yesterday and today leaders and senior politicians from across Europe have gathered here in The Hague, the city of Peace and Justice for the Signing Conference for the adoption of the Convention on the Establishment of an International Claims Commission for Ukraine.

The claims commission will be established in the framework of the Council of Europe, the organization of 46 Member States that promotes democracy, human rights and the rule of law across Europe and beyond.

Both the Republic of Moldova and the Kingdom of the Netherlands are active member states of the Council of Europe.
And our Members of Parliament are very much involved in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

The Republic of Moldova and the Kingdom of The Netherlands are partners in the United Nations, partners in the European Political Community, with NATO through the Partnership for Peace-Program and in many other international organizations.

In this regard it also needs to be mentioned that your country, which has held candidate status for EU accession as recently as 2022, has achieved substantial progress on reforms.

Your Excellency,

Last Friday we welcomed the President of Finland, Mr Alexander Stubb, with whom we discussed similar issues, since the situation in Europe, and especially in border countries like Finland and Moldova, are a daily concern.

With Finland we also discussed the power of multilateralism.
Meetings like ours – bilateral – and like to your meeting later today – multilateral – where words are our means, will bring us further in the end.

Allow me to give the floor to my colleague from the House of representatives, Mr Thom van Campen.

Mulțumesc.

Thank you.

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