



HIGHLIGHTS

Office of Inspector General

United States Department of State

ISP-I-23-19

What OIG Inspected

OIG inspected the executive direction, policy and program implementation, resource management, and information management operations of Embassy Chisinau.

What OIG Recommends

OIG made 6 recommendations: 5 to Embassy Chisinau and 1 to the Bureau of Information Resource Management. In its comments on the draft report, the Department concurred with all 6 recommendations. OIG considers all 6 recommendations resolved. The Department's response to each recommendation, and OIG's reply, can be found in the Recommendations section of this report. The Department's formal response is reprinted in its entirety in Appendix B.

July 2023

OFFICE OF INSPECTIONS

BUREAU OF EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN AFFAIRS

Inspection of Embassy Chisinau, Moldova

What OIG Found

- The Ambassador and the Deputy Chief of Mission fostered a positive and supportive work environment. Staff praised the open manner in which the Front Office handled the Ukraine crisis and the decision not to evacuate while fully considering staff security.
- The embassy managed increased U.S. engagement with the government of Moldova and growth in bilateral assistance, but at the risk of staff burnout. Limits on the administrative support platform hampered the embassy's ability to add staff.
- While Embassy Chisinau monitored and evaluated its bilateral assistance activities, it did not conduct joint evaluations with the government of Moldova as required by the bilateral agreement.
- The embassy's internet and telephone cabling did not comply with Department of State standards.
- Spotlight on Success: In the run-up to and in the aftermath of Russia's February 24, 2022, full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Embassy Chisinau carried out extensive contingency planning, which the Department cited as best practices to be shared with other embassies.
- Spotlight on Success: The embassy's Public Diplomacy Section automated certain grants management functions, greatly increasing the efficiency of the grants management process.