

²²³⁷ Government of Mauritius, *Constitution of the Republic of Mauritius*, (March 12, 1968), chapter II, article 6; available from <http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/AssemblySite/menuitem.ee3d58b2c32c60451251701065c521ca/>. See also Government of Mauritius, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (July 29, 2005) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, August 17, 2005, 2.

²²³⁸ Government of Mauritius, *Written communication submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007)*, 1. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 7.

²²³⁹ Government of Mauritius, *Written communication*, submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006) "Request for Information on Efforts by Certain Countries to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor", Washington, DC, February 20, 2007, 2. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 7. See also ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 19.

²²⁴⁰ ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 19.

²²⁴¹ Government of Mauritius, *The Child Protection (Amendment) Act No. 34*, (December 6, 2005), article 13; available from http://supremecourt.intnet.mu/Entry/dyn/GuestGetDoc.Aspx?Doc_Idx=2977961&Mode=Html&Search=No. See also U.S. Department of State, "Mauritius (Tier 2)," Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/82806.htm>. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 7. See also ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 20.

²²⁴² Government of Mauritius, *The Mauritius Police Force: Police Family Protection Unit*, [online] March 29, 2007 [cited December 10, 2007]; available from <http://www.gov.mu/portal/site/police/menuitem.fd3503a43d26d778455084e80fb521ca/>. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 7.

²²⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, March 3, 2008*, para 28f.

²²⁴⁴ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 7.

²²⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, March 3, 2008*, para 27d.

²²⁴⁶ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 8. See also Government of Mauritius, *Written communication submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (December 5, 2006)*, 7.

²²⁴⁷ ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 13.

²²⁴⁸ Government of Mauritius, *Written communication submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007)*, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 6. See also ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 13.

²²⁴⁹ Government of Mauritius, *Written communication submitted in response to U.S. Department of Labor Federal Register Notice (November 8, 2007)*, 4. See also U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 8.

²²⁵⁰ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, March 3, 2008*, para 29b.

²²⁵¹ U.S. Embassy- Port Louis, *reporting, November 30, 2007*, para 8, 11. See also ECPAT, *Report on the Status of Action*, 14, 15, 17. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Mauritius," section 5.

Moldova

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Moldova, children often work on family farms or perform other work for their families. It has been reported that two-thirds of rural children have engaged in agricultural work by the age of 14.²²⁵² According to the Government of Moldova, the number of registered cases of the worst forms of child labor increased between 2001 and 2004, the most recent period for which such information is

available.²²⁵³ The Ministry of Internal Affairs reported that in 2003 there were 3,681 children living or working in the streets.²²⁵⁴

Moldova is a major country of origin for children trafficked abroad for sexual exploitation, forced labor, and begging.²²⁵⁵ Russia is reported to be the primary destination for children trafficked internationally from Moldova for commercial sexual exploitation and begging. Turkey is also a

major destination for girls trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.²²⁵⁶ Trafficking from and through the separatist region of Transnistria is reported to occur.²²⁵⁷ There have also been reports that girls are trafficked internally from rural areas to the capital, Chisinau.²²⁵⁸ According to information gathered by ILO-IPEC in 2003, boys and girls as young as 12 years are trafficked, often by people they know.²²⁵⁹ Migration of adults in search of work has left approximately 40,000 children parentless.²²⁶⁰ These children often do not have proper supervision and are at greater risk of exploitation.²²⁶¹

maximum of 35 hours a week and no more than 7 hours a day.²²⁶⁵ Children under 18 years are not permitted to work on holidays or weekends.²²⁶⁶ To be eligible to work, children must pass a medical exam every year until they reach 18 years.²²⁶⁷ Children under 18 years are prohibited from working overtime or participating in hazardous work, including work at nightclubs, work involving gambling, or selling tobacco or alcohol.²²⁶⁸ The Government has approved a list of hazardous work forbidden to children, including underground work, metal work, energy and heat production, and well drilling.²²⁶⁹

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ²²⁶²	
Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	30.1
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	31.2
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2000:	28.9
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	9
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	91
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	83
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2000:	82.2
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 16 years.²²⁶³ In certain cases, children 15 years old can work with parental or legal authorization if the work will not interfere with the child's education, health, or development.²²⁶⁴ Children between 15 and 16 years are allowed to work a maximum of 24 hours a week and no more than 5 hours a day. Children between 16 and 18 years can work a

The constitution prohibits forced labor and the exploitation of minors.²²⁷⁰ The law provides for 10 years to life imprisonment for trafficking and using children in the worst forms of child labor.²²⁷¹ The law protects children under 18 years from sexual exploitation.²²⁷² The law permits vulnerable youth from 16 to 18 years (including those living in residential institutions, orphans, children from single parent families, and victims of trafficking) to receive benefits from the Unemployment Fund.²²⁷³ The minimum age for compulsory military service is 18 years. The minimum age for voluntary military service for officer trainees is 17 years, though participation in active combat is not permitted until 18 years.²²⁷⁴

The Labor Inspection Office (LIO) is responsible for enforcing all labor laws, including those pertaining to child labor.²²⁷⁵ The LIO employs 123 people, including 81 inspectors.²²⁷⁶ There were 371 child labor investigations in 2007. Of those, 298 were found to involve hazardous conditions, including 15 that were cited as abusive.²²⁷⁷ The law permits inspection for child labor of both legally registered workplaces and of persons, thus covering informal worksites. Inspectors are also allowed to seek assistance from local public administrators to withdraw licenses of employers who repeatedly neglect labor inspection recommendations.²²⁷⁸ In May 2007, a Child Labor Unit (CLU) was established within the LIO. The CLU is responsible for developing, implementing and monitoring national action to combat the worst forms of child labor.²²⁷⁹ However, USDOS reports that the Government of Moldova does not enforce its child labor laws effectively.²²⁸⁰

The Center to Combat Trafficking in Persons (CCTIP) is the Moldovan Government's principal anti-trafficking agency. It operates a task force to coordinate the country's law enforcement efforts.²²⁸¹ In 2007, the CCTIP also organized an awareness-raising campaign which included 18 seminars with the Center for Combating Trafficking in Women, two seminars with IOM for religious workers, two seminars for university students, and two conferences in Chisinau and Causeni that trained lawyers, teachers, and social workers.²²⁸² The Ministry of Justice is responsible for addressing the social reintegration of children who have been used for criminal activities and are at risk of trafficking.²²⁸³ The law stipulates Government protection for the victims/witnesses in trafficking cases. USDOS and others report that the law has been inadequately implemented, and very few witnesses feel safe enough to testify in court.²²⁸⁴ A trafficking victims' referral network exists in 12 regions.²²⁸⁵ Child trafficking victims returned from Russia were referred by law enforcement to NGOs for services.²²⁸⁶ During the first 9 months of 2007, the Ministry of the Interior inspected 195 travel and employment agencies and withdrew the licenses of 14 for suspected trafficking.²²⁸⁷ During the first 11 months of 2007, the Ministry of Internal Affairs registered 495 trafficking cases and convicted 219 persons. Of these, there were 43 cases of child trafficking and 9 persons were convicted for child trafficking.²²⁸⁸ USDOS reports that corruption among government officials and law enforcement hampered efforts to combat trafficking.²²⁸⁹

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The National Commission for Tripartite Bargaining and Consultation approved the Collective Convention on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and a List of Jobs prohibited to Children on July 3, 2007. A Child Labor Documentation Center was established within the LIO in May 2007. The National Strategy on the Residential Childcare System in Moldova and the National Plan of Action (2008-2012) for its implementation were approved on July 9, 2007. The strategy aims to reduce the number of children living in orphanages, who are especially vulnerable to trafficking, by promoting alternatives to

residential care.²²⁹⁰ In June 2007, the LIO, with support from ILO-IPEC, developed a training program for labor inspectors on child labor through which 34 labor inspectors were trained.²²⁹¹ The National Human Rights Action Plan was revised to include measures to address trafficking in persons.²²⁹²

The Moldovan Government is participating in a project called Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labor in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II; 2006-2009), a USD 3.5 million USDOL-funded project implemented by ILO-IPEC. The project is operating in Albania, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine; and aims to withdraw 1,350 children and prevent 3,150 children from exploitive labor in the region.²²⁹³ The Government is also participating in the USD 2.2 million German Government-funded ILO-IPEC project to combat child labor in the Stability Pact countries; a USD 606,300 German Government-funded ILO-IPEC regional project (Albania, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine) to combat child trafficking; and a USD 1,209,189 German Government-funded regional project (Albania, Moldova, Romania, Ukraine) to combat the worst forms of child labor through education and youth employment.²²⁹⁴

The Government of Moldova is participating in a USDOL-funded USD 1.25 million project implemented by Catholic Relief Services. The project seeks to provide market-based job training, livelihood skills courses, and links to employment opportunities for young women and girls at risk for trafficking.²²⁹⁵ The Government is also supporting a USAID-funded USD 756,000 anti-trafficking project implemented by Winrock International. The project seeks to prevent trafficking by improving access to employment for young women and girls.²²⁹⁶ The U.S. Government also provides funding to UNDP and the IOM to implement anti-trafficking projects in Moldova.²²⁹⁷ The Ministry of Social Protection, Family, and Child provided staff and facilities to assist victims of trafficking and provided funding for the Chisinau Rehabilitation Center.²²⁹⁸ The National Employment Agency of the Ministry of Economy and Trade provided free vocational training and employment services to repatriated trafficking victims and persons who are at risk.²²⁹⁹

²²⁵² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 6d.

²²⁵³ PROTECT CEE, *Moldova Country Profile*, [online] 2006], 4; available from http://www.ilo.org/iloroot/docstore/ipecc/prod/eng/2005_fs_moldova.pdf.

²²⁵⁴ United Nations, *Common Country Assessment*, Chisinau, July 2005, 37; available from http://www.un.md/key_doc_pub/doc/CCA_Eng_last.pdf.

²²⁵⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 5, 6d.

²²⁵⁶ Mike Dottridge, *Action to Prevent Child Trafficking in South Eastern Europe*, UNICEF, Geneva, 37; available from <http://www.unicef.org.uk/publications/pdf/traffick3008.pdf>.

²²⁵⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 5.

²²⁵⁸ U.S. Department of State, "Moldova (Tier 2 Watch List)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/>. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 5.

²²⁵⁹ ILO-IPEC, *Rapid Assessment of Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in Moldova*, 2003, Chisinau, 2004, 25-28, 54-56; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ipeccinfo/product/editSearchProduct.do>. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, Project Document, Geneva, September 2003, 10.

²²⁶⁰ Vladimir Lozinski, *Lack of Jobs in Moldova Leaves Children Without Parental Care*, UNICEF, Rublenita, Moldova, October 17, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/moldova_36200.html.

²²⁶¹ PROTECT CEE, *Moldova Country Profile*, 5.

²²⁶² For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Labour Code*, (March 28, 2003), article 46; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/SERIAL/64896/63849/F1780758090/MDA64896ENG.PDF>. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Moldova," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100573.htm>. See also Government of the Republic

of Moldova, *Constitution of the Republic of Moldova*, (1994), article 35; available from <http://www.e-democracy.md/en/legislation/constitution/>.

²²⁶³ Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Labour Code*, article 46. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5. See also ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, Project Document, Geneva, 2006, 34.

²²⁶⁴ Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Labour Code*, article 46.

²²⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, articles 96, 100.

²²⁶⁶ *Ibid.*, articles 109, 110. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5.

²²⁶⁷ Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Labour Code*, article 253. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007.

²²⁶⁸ Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Labour Code*, articles 105, 255. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007.

²²⁶⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²²⁷⁰ Government of the Republic of Moldova, *Constitution of the Republic of Moldova*, articles 44 and 50.

²²⁷¹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 6d.

²²⁷² U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²²⁷³ *Ibid.*

²²⁷⁴ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Moldova," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from http://www.child-soldiers.org/document_get.php?id=917.

²²⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007, para 5.

²²⁷⁶ *Ibid.*

²²⁷⁷ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, May 8, 2008.

²²⁷⁸ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, August 26, 2005.

²²⁷⁹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, November 29, 2007.

²²⁸⁰ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 6d.

²²⁸¹ *Ibid.*, section 5.

²²⁸² U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, *reporting*, May 8, 2008, para 85, 86.

²²⁸³ ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, Technical Progress Report, RER/03/P50/USA, Bucharest, March 2005, 3.

²²⁸⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Moldova." See also Barbara Limanowska, *Trafficking in Human Beings in Southeastern Europe. 2003 Update on Situation and Responses to Trafficking in Human Beings in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria,*

Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro including the UN Administered Province of Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, and Romania., December 2003, 79; available from http://www.osce.org/documents/odhr/2003/12/1645_en.pdf.

²²⁸⁵ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, May 8, 2008, para 65.

²²⁸⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Moldova."

²²⁸⁷ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Moldova," section 5.

²²⁸⁸ Ibid.

²²⁸⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Moldova."

²²⁹⁰ ILO-IPEC, *Trafficking and other Worst Forms of Child Labour in Central and Eastern Europe (Phase II)*, Technical Progress Report, Geneva, August 31, 2007, 5.

²²⁹¹ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, November 29, 2007,

para. 5.

²²⁹² ILO-IPEC, *Combating Trafficking in Children for Labour and Sexual Exploitation in the Balkans and Ukraine*, 2.

²²⁹³ ILO-IPEC, *Balkans Child Trafficking Phase II, Project Document*, cover page, 69.

²²⁹⁴ ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December 12, 2007.

²²⁹⁵ Catholic Relief Services, *Moldova Employment and Training Alliance (META)*, Technical Progress Report, Chisinau, January 31, 2008.

²²⁹⁶ U.S. Department of State, *USG Funds Obligated in FY 2007 for TIP Projects*, [online] February 2008 [cited March 14, 2008]; available from <http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/101403.pdf>.

²²⁹⁷ U.S. Embassy- Chisinau, reporting, May 8, 2008, para 2.

²²⁹⁸ Ibid., para 21.

²²⁹⁹ Ibid., para 32.

Mongolia

Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor²³⁰⁰

Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2002-2003:	7.2
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2002-2003:	8.7
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2002-2003:	5.7
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 2002-2003:	
- Agriculture	93.4
- Manufacturing	0.5
- Services	5.2
- Other	1
Minimum age for work:	16
Compulsory education age:	16
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	101
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	91
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2002-2003:	73.3
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Mongolia is traditionally a nomadic herding society, so most working children can be found in rural areas, especially engaged in activities in the livestock sector.²³⁰¹ Boys generally herd and tend livestock, while girls mostly undertake domestic tasks; milking cows and producing dairy products, collecting animal dung for fire, shearing wool, and gathering fruit and nuts.²³⁰² Children as young as 5 years are engaged in informal gold and fluor spar mining.²³⁰³ These children face severe health hazards, such as exposure to mercury and handling of explosives in the mines.²³⁰⁴ The National Human Rights Commission of Mongolia estimates that there are 40 to 50 horse racing events each year, and at each event, approximately 2,000 children between the ages of 6 and 16 years are engaged as jockeys, which poses risks to the life and health of the children involved.²³⁰⁵

In urban areas, children sell goods, wash cars, polish shoes, collect and sell coal and wood, and work as porters.²³⁰⁶ Children also work informally in petty trade and scavenging in dumpsites.²³⁰⁷ Child prostitution is a problem in Mongolia. One