

Industrial property protection in the Republic of Moldova

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**ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL CULTURE HENRI
CAPITANT MOLDOVA**

Policy Brief

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Chişinău, 2022

Introduction

The legal framework for the organization and operation of the intellectual property protection system in the Republic of Moldova was established over the years based on the constitutional provisions that enshrine the citizens' right to intellectual property, as well as the state's assumption of the task of preserve, develop and propagate the achievements of culture and science (art. 33 of the Constitution), but also the provisions of the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova became a party by continuation of effects or by accession after the proclamation of its independence.

At the legal level, intellectual property objects are divided into two categories:

- a) objects of industrial property (inventions, plant varieties, topographies of integrated circuits, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications, designations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed);
- b) objects of copyright (literary, artistic and scientific works, etc.) and related rights (performances, phonograms, videograms and broadcasts of broadcasting organizations, etc.).

The field of intellectual property also includes other assets that have a separate regulatory system, such as:

- a) commercial secret (know-how);
- b) the commercial name.

Unlike copyright and related rights, which cover only the form of expression of ideas, industrial property law covers the protection of ideas and is embodied in the rights to prohibit third parties from using these ideas without permission¹.

The term industrial property is sometimes mistakenly understood as referring to movable and immovable assets used in industrial production (plants, production equipment, etc.). In fact, industrial property refers to fixed assets in the form of intangible assets (inventions, trademarks, industrial designs, etc.).

Industrial property refers to the protection of new products and processes through patents, the protection of certain commercial assets through trademarks, the external appearance of products through industrial designs, etc.

The Paris Convention² (art. 1(2)) provides that the protection of industrial property covers inventions, utility models, industrial designs, trademarks, service marks, trade names and indications of origin or designations of origin, as well as the suppression of unfair competition.

Protection against unfair competition was recognized as part of the industrial property protection system in the Brussels Diplomatic Conference, convened in 1900 to revise the Paris Convention, and was manifested by the introduction of Article 10bis into the Convention. It should be noted that both national and international legislation has a dynamic and significant evolution, especially in the direction

¹ Dichotomy expressed in Article 9(2) of the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement).

² Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property of March 20, 1883 revised at Brussels on December 14, 1900, at Washington on June 2, 1911, at The Hague on November 6, 1925, at London on June 2, 1934, and at Stockholm on July 14, 1967

of becoming a tool for promoting free competition instead of fair competition³. This direction of development brings unfair competition legislation very close to competition laws, or antitrust laws. On the other hand, laws regarding unfair competition are very often associated with laws regarding consumer protection. Due to the complexity of this field of industrial property, the latter will be the subject of a separate study.

In the present, we will refer to the following areas of industrial property: inventions, plant varieties, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications, designations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed.

I. The legal regulatory framework of the industrial property protection regime

Broadly speaking, the national legislation is harmonized with the European regulations and with the provisions of the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

The regulatory framework applicable to the protection of industrial property in the Republic of Moldova is complex and consists of:

1. National normative acts in the field of industrial property protection

- 1.1. Normative acts with a general character
- 1.2. Special laws on the protection of industrial property
- 1.3. Regulations related to the application of special laws on the protection of industrial property
- 1.4. Decisions of the Government of the Republic of Moldova
- 1.5. Other normative acts

2. International normative acts in the field of industrial property protection, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party

- 2.1. International conventions, arrangements, treaties
- 2.2. Regional conventions, arrangements, treaties

Detailed information with reference to the regulatory framework applicable to the protection of industrial property in the Republic of Moldova can be consulted at: <https://agepi.gov.md/ro/legislatie/nationale> and <https://agepi.gov.md/ro/legislatie/internationale> accordingly.

³ WIPO Handbook, (2017) Introduction to intellectual property, theory and practice, second edition, ISBN 978-90-411-6093-5 (pag. 7)

II. Protection of industrial property in the Republic of Moldova (current situation)

The normative framework applicable to the Republic of Moldova provides that in the case of objects of industrial property, the right to them appears following registration, the granting of the title of protection by the national office of intellectual property or under other conditions provided by national legislation, as well as based on international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

The rights, acts and facts regarding the objects of industrial property are subject to publicity in the cases expressly provided by law, through the registers kept, according to the law, by the State Agency for Intellectual Property (hereinafter AGEPI).

As a rule, rights over industrial property objects are exclusive rights granted, following registration, for a determined period of time.

But, there are also certain exceptions, such as the rights to an unregistered industrial design, or the right of use for geographical indications and designations of origin. In addition, the registration of an object of industrial property produces effects only on the territory of the country/union to which the office granted the protection. In this context, the exploitation of international and regional industrial property protection systems is particularly important.

1. The protection of inventions in the Republic of Moldova is ensured on the basis of registration, extension of effects or validation according to the following applicable basic normative acts:

- Law on the Civil Code of the Republic of Moldova no. 1107 of 06.06.2002 Published: 22.06.2002 in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova No. 82-86 art No: 661 with subsequent amendments and additions;

- Law on the protection of inventions no. 50-XVI (law 50/2008), adopted on 07.03.2008, in force from 04.10.2008;

- The patent cooperation treaty (PCT), ratified by Parliament Decision no. 1624-XII of October 26, 1993

- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the European Patent Organization regarding the validation of European patents (Validation Agreement), in force from 01.11.2015

- Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the Eurasian Patent Organization regarding the legal protection of inventions on the territory of the Republic of Moldova after the Republic of Moldova denounced the Eurasian Patent Convention, in force from 03.12.2012

Inventions are protected by the following titles of protection, conferred under the terms of Law 50/2008:

- a) patent - title of protection that gives the holder the exclusive right to exploit the invention for a period of 20 years;

- b) short-term patent - title of protection that gives the holder the exclusive right to exploit the invention for a period of 6 years with the possibility of extending the validity period for a period of no more than 4 years;

c) complementary certificate of protection - certificate that gives the holder of a patent that produces effects in the Republic of Moldova, the object of which is a medicinal product or a phytopharmaceutical product (basic patent), for which a marketing authorization has been issued, the possibility to obtain the extension of the legal effects of the basic patent, for a period equal to the period between the filing date of the patent application and the date of issuance of the first authorization, reduced by 5 years, for the parts of the basic patent that correspond to the authorization;

d) Eurasian patent – patent issued, based on a Eurasian application, submitted until April 26, 2012, according to the Eurasian Patent Convention, adopted in Moscow on February 17, 1994;

e) validated European patent - the patent issued by the European Patent Organization, according to the Convention on the issuance of European patents, adopted in Munich on October 5, 1973, based on the European patent application, for which validation was requested and confirmed in the Republic of Moldova.

Inventions may have as their object a product, a process, a method, as well as their application for a certain destination, provided that this does not obviously result from the known properties of the product, process or method applied.

An invention in any technological field can be protected if it cumulatively satisfies the following *criteria*:

- Industrial applicability. An invention is considered to be susceptible of industrial application if its object can be manufactured or used in any of the industrial fields, including agriculture.

- Novelty. An invention is considered new if it is not included in the prior art, which includes all knowledge that has been made available to the public by a written or oral description, by use or in any other way, up to the date of filing of the patent application or date of recognized priority.

- Inventive activity. An invention is considered to involve an inventive step if, to a person skilled in the art, it does not obviously follow from the knowledge contained in the prior art.

The right to the patent belongs to the inventor or his successor in rights. If an invention has several co-authors, the right belongs to them jointly. If several persons independently created the same invention, the right to the patent belongs to the person whose patent application has the earliest priority date. The right to a patent for the invention created by the employee in the exercise of his job duties or performing a concrete task entrusted in writing (work invention) belongs to the employer, unless the concluded contract provides otherwise.

2. The protection of plant varieties in the Republic of Moldova is ensured on the basis of registration, according to Law no. 39 of 29.02.2008 regarding the protection of plant varieties.

State policy in the field of legal protection and use of varieties is carried out in the Republic of Moldova by the following bodies:

- State Agency for Intellectual Property (hereinafter AGEPI);

- The State Commission for Testing Plant Varieties of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter the State Commission);

AGEPI is the national office in the field of intellectual property protection and is the only authority of the Republic of Moldova that grants legal protection to new plant varieties. AGEPI receives patent applications for plant varieties, examines the applications, their official publication in the Official Bulletin of Intellectual Property of the Republic of Moldova, grants and issues patents for plant varieties, keeps the Register of Patent Applications and the Register of Patents for Plant Varieties.

The State Commission is the body that carries out the testing of plant varieties within its testing centers, experimental stations, specialized institutions and laboratories according to established methodologies and deadlines, based on international standards, in order to assess their compliance with the conditions of patentability, respectively distinctiveness, uniformity and stability, also carry out the testing of the varieties in order to appreciate their agronomic value.

The rights over a plant variety are obtained and protected on the territory of the Republic of Moldova by granting a patent for a plant variety by the State Agency for Intellectual Property in accordance with Law 39/2008 and the normative acts subordinate to the law, as well as with the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

According to Law 39/2008, a variety is patentable only if it is: distinct, uniform, stable and new. Also, the variety must be designated by a name that meets the legal requirements.

The plant variety patent provides the holder with exclusive exploitation rights and the opportunity to obtain a profit that will allow both the recovery of previous financial investments and the making of new investments. At the same time, the patent certifies the moral right of the breeder to have this quality recognized, as well as his economic right, i.e. the right to remuneration for the work of creating the variety.

The duration of patent protection for a plant variety extends up to 25 years, and in the case of vine, potato and tree varieties - up to 30 years, starting from the date of publication in BOPI of the mention regarding the granting of the patent. At the request of the patent holder, the duration of the patent protection can be extended by another 5 years after the expiration of the mentioned terms.

3. Industrial design protection in the Republic of Moldova is ensured under the conditions of law no. 161 of 12.07.2007 on the protection of industrial designs and models (Law 161/2007) for:

a) industrial designs registered and confirmed by the industrial design registration certificate (hereinafter referred to as registration certificate);

b) international industrial designs registered according to the Hague Agreement on the International Registration of Industrial Designs, adopted on November 6, 1925 (hereinafter referred to as the Hague Agreement) for which protection was requested and granted on the territory of the Republic of Moldova;

c) unregistered industrial designs if they were made public in accordance with Law 161/2007.

Industrial design represents the external appearance of a product or part of it, resulting in particular from the characteristics of lines, contours, colors, shape, texture and/or materials and/or the decoration of the product itself.

Industrial design can refer to the shape of the product, the shape of the packaging, the design of the rooms, labels, etc.

The design can be two-dimensional or three-dimensional, as well as a combination of them.

Protection for the industrial design (ID) is ensured only if it cumulatively meets the following requirements:

- it is *new* (no identical design or industrial model has been made public until the filing date of the application or until the date of the claimed priority) and
- has an *individual character* (the global impression it produces on the authorized user is different from the impression produced on such a user by any other design or industrial model made public until the date of filing the application or until the date of priority invoked).

The right to the industrial design belongs to the author and/or his successor in rights. The natural person who created the industrial design through his creative work is considered its author. If several authors have jointly created the same industrial design, the right to it belongs jointly to them. The way authors exercise their rights is established in the contract concluded between them.

A registered industrial design is protected for a period of 5 years, starting from the date of filing. The validity of the registration certificate can be extended for several periods of 5 years each, up to a maximum of 25 years from the date of deposit.

The unregistered industrial design is protected during a period of 3 years from the date on which it was made public for the first time in the Republic of Moldova.

4. Trademark protection in the Republic of Moldova is ensured on the basis of Law no. 38 of 29.02.2008 on trademark protection (Law 38/2008) by:

- a) registration under the law;
- b) international registration according to the Madrid Agreement on the International Registration of Trademarks of April 14, 1891, hereinafter referred to as the Madrid Agreement, or according to the Protocol relating to the Madrid Agreement on the International Registration of Trademarks of June 27, 1989, hereinafter referred to as the Protocol regarding the Arrangement and respectively the extension of the effects for the territory of the Republic of Moldova;
- c) recognition of the trademark as well-known.

A trademark is any sign or any combination of signs that serve to distinguish the products or services of certain natural/legal persons from those of other persons.

A trademark may consist of any signs:

- a) capable of being represented graphically – particularly words (including personal names), letters, numerals, designs, colours, combinations of colours, figurative elements, three-dimensional shapes, particularly the shape of goods or of their packaging, holograms, positioning signals;
 - b) auditory, olfactory, tactile, and any combinations of such signs,
- provided that they are used to distinguish the goods and/or services of a natural or legal person from those of other natural or legal persons.

A sign can be registered as a trademark if:

-It can differentiate a product/service from competing products/services (trademark distinctiveness);

- It is not false in relation to the claimed products and/or services;
- It does not affect a previous right;
- Does not harm the image and/or interests of the state;
- It is not contrary to public order or good morals, etc.

The rights to the trademark belong to the owner of the trademark, which is the natural or legal person or the group of natural and/or legal persons on whose behalf the trademark is protected in accordance with the law.

The rights acquired through the registration of the trademark in the National Register of Trademarks are confirmed by the title of protection – the trademark registration certificate.

The duration of trademark protection is 10 years from the date of filing and can be renewed whenever the owner wishes.

5. The protection of designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed in the Republic of Moldova is ensured on the basis of Law no. 66 of 27.03.2008 regarding the protection of geographical indications, designations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed based on their registration at AGEPI, in the manner established by law, or based on international treaties, including bilateral agreements, to which the Republic of Moldova is a party.

Geographical indication (GI) is the name of a region or a locality, a specific place or, in exceptional cases, a country, which serves to designate a product originating from this region or locality, from this specific place or from this country and which possesses a specific quality, reputation or other characteristics that can be attributed to this geographical origin and at least one of whose production stages takes place in the defined geographical area.

Designation of origin (DO) is the geographical name of a region or locality, a specific place or, in exceptional cases, a country, which serves to designate a product originating from this region, locality, specific place or country and whose quality or characteristics are essentially or exclusively due to the geographical environment, including natural and human factors, the stages of production of which all take place in the defined geographical area.

Traditional specialty guaranteed (TSG) is defined as a traditional agricultural or food product whose specificity is recognized by registration according to Law no. 66-XVI of 27.03.2008 regarding the protection of geographical indications, designations of origin and traditional specialties guaranteed. (specificity is the characteristic or set of characteristics by which an agricultural or food product is clearly distinguished from other similar agricultural or food products belonging to the same category; traditional product - traditional - proven use on the national market for a period that allows transmission between generations; this period is at least 30 years).

According to the legal provisions, only a group is entitled to submit an application for registration of a DO, GI, or TSG.

By "group" is meant any association, regardless of its legal form or its composition, of producers carrying out a production activity in the delimited geographical area, for the products indicated in the application. Other interested parties can also participate in this group.

A natural or legal person can be assimilated to a group under special conditions provided by law.

The application for registration of a DO, GI or TSG can be accepted taking into account that the following are excluded from protection and cannot be registered:

- names that do not meet the conditions specified in the definitions;
- names that are contrary to public order or good morals;
- names that have become generic.

Also, a name cannot be registered as a DO, GI or TSG and when it conflicts with:

- a) a previously registered trademark for identical or similar products,
- b) the name of a variety of plants or a breed of animals,
- c) a homonymous or partially homonymous name already protected, if the registration will be likely to mislead the consumer as to the true identity or origin of the product

The registration of the designation of origin, geographical indication or traditional specialty guaranteed does not generate the emergence of exclusive rights, but only the emergence of the right to use them.

The duration of the protection of a designation of origin, a geographical indication, or a traditional specialty guaranteed starts from the filing date of the application and is unlimited.

The right to use the designation of origin or the protected geographical indication is granted subject to compliance with the requirements of the corresponding specifications.

III. The effects of the registration of industrial property objects: conferred rights, limits and ways of exploitation

1. The rights conferred. The registration of an object of industrial property gives the owner the exclusive right to use it and to prohibit any third party from using it without the owner's consent. Exceptions to this rule are unregistered designs⁴, appellations of origin, geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed⁵.

The exclusive rights conferred by registration to rights holders have two components:

- The right of use (*positive right*)
- The right to prohibit any use without the owner's consent (*negative right*)

By use is understood in particular the manufacture, inclusion in an offer, introduction to the market, import, export or use for commercial purposes of a product that constitutes, in which it has been

⁴ The unregistered design or industrial model does not give the holder the right to prohibit use without his consent, unless the contested use results from copying the protected design or industrial model.

⁵ Registration of DO, IG, TSG does not generate exclusive rights.

integrated or to which the object of industrial property in question has been applied, such as and storing the respective product for the above-mentioned purposes.

2. The exclusive rights granted for industrial property objects following registration are not absolute and include certain **limitations** specific to each object:

A) The rights granted by the patent do not extend to:

- a) actions carried out in a private setting for non-commercial purposes;
- b) actions carried out for experimental purposes regarding the object of the patented invention;
- c) extemporaneous one-time preparation of a medicine in the pharmacy, according to the medical prescription, as well as actions regarding the medicine thus prepared;
- d) the use of the object of the patented invention on board foreign ships that enter, temporarily or accidentally, the waters of the Republic of Moldova, provided that the invention is used exclusively for the needs of the ship;
- e) the use of the object of the patented invention in the construction or operation of land or air vehicles or other means of transport belonging to member countries of the international treaties on inventions to which the Republic of Moldova is a party, or in the construction of accessory parts for these vehicles, when these means of transport enter, temporarily or accidentally, the territory of the Republic of Moldova.

B) The right of the patent holder for a plant variety does not extend to:

- a) actions carried out for personal non-commercial purposes;
- b) actions carried out for the purpose of scientific research and experiments;
- c) actions carried out for the purpose of creating or discovering and developing other varieties.

Also, agricultural producers can use, for the purpose of multiplication on their own lands, the product of the harvest obtained by cultivating on their own lands the multiplication material of a protected variety, with the exception of hybrids, synthetic varieties, varieties of trees, shrubs and vines, according to the Regulation on the procedures for submitting and examining the application, granting and maintaining in force the plant variety patent, approved by the Government

C) The rights conferred by the design or industrial model are not exercised in the case of:

- a) actions carried out privately and for non-commercial purposes;
- b) actions performed for experimental purposes;
- c) reproduction actions for didactic or bibliographic purposes, indicating the source;
- d) equipment, means of transport, registered in a third country, which temporarily enter the territory of the Republic of Moldova, as well as the import into the Republic of Moldova of parts and accessories in order to repair the mentioned vehicles and perform repairs on the mentioned vehicles.

D) The exclusive right over the trademark does not allow the owner to prohibit a third party from using in his industrial or commercial activity, in accordance with honest practices:

- a) his own name or address;
- b) indications relating to the species, quality, quantity, destination, value, geographical origin, time of manufacturing the product or providing the service, to other characteristics thereof;

c) the trademark, in case it is necessary to indicate the destination of a product and/or service, especially as an accessory or removable part.

Moreover, the exclusive right does not extend to elements of the trademark which, under the law, cannot be independently registered as marks, such as, but not limited to, descriptive terms.

E) The registration of designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed does not generate exclusive rights, and the limitation of the rights conferred by registration is materialized in the provision that if a registered name contains in itself the generic name of a product, the use of this generic names for the corresponding products are not considered contrary to legal provisions.

3. Exploitation of the exclusive rights over industrial property objects can be achieved by the rights holder by placing on the market the products that consist of, are integrated in or on which the corresponding industrial property objects have been applied.

At the same time, the exclusive rights over an object of industrial property (IPO) can be transferred in whole or in part by assignment, by franchise contract, license contract, as well as by succession⁶.

Through the contract of assignment of rights over the IPO, the owner of an IPO (assignor) transfers his rights over the IPO to another person (assignee). IPO, independent of the transfer of the enterprise, can be assigned (as the case may be, in whole or in part). The transfer of the enterprise in its entirety involves the assignment of the IPO, except for cases where there is a contract that provides otherwise or when this fact clearly results from the circumstances.

Through a franchise agreement, one party (franchisor) grants the other party (franchisee), in exchange for a royalty, the right to carry out a commercial activity (franchise activity) within the franchisor's network, with the aim of providing certain products in the name and on the account of the franchisee. The franchisee has the right and the obligation to use the trade name, trademark or other intellectual property rights, know-how and business methods of the franchisor.

IPO may be subject to exclusive or non-exclusive licenses for all or part of the products and/or services for which it is registered. By means of a license agreement, the owner of the registered IPO (licensee) transfers the right to use it to any other person (licensee), reserving ownership of the IPO.

Likewise, an OPI over which exclusive rights have been granted may be the subject of a pledge, of other real rights, as well as of forced execution.

The pledge is registered in the Register of movable real guarantees according to the provisions of the Law on pledges.

IV. Shortcomings of the industrial property protection system in the Republic of Moldova

Although harmonized to a large extent with the European regulations but also with the provisions of the international treaties to which the Republic of Moldova is a party, the field of industrial property

⁶ IP objects in respect of which no exclusive rights have been granted cannot be assigned, licensed and cannot be the subject of real rights

requires certain revisions to give an impetus to innovation, competitiveness, job creation and the financing of some strategic areas of research in the country.

Among the most significant we will mention:

1) In the field of invention and plant varieties patents:

- On 01.11.2015, the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Moldova and the European Patent Organization regarding the validation of European patents (Validation Agreement) entered into force. Its implementation is beneficial to the economy of the Republic of Moldova, but it is not fully benefited by the potential users of the system.

- The special laws do not provide for additional, simplified mechanisms with reference to the granting of compulsory licenses in the case of anti-competitive practices. Also, the flexibilities of the TRIPS Agreement are not fully exploited in the part related to the application of compulsory licenses in situations of emergency, or in the interest of public health.

- On 28.06.2016 by HG no. 805 was approved the Regulation regarding the support of patenting abroad of inventions and plant varieties created in the Republic of Moldova which during the first 5 years of operation were never used by inventors from the Republic of Moldova. Thus, the established mechanism is not functional.

2) In the field of trademarks and industrial design:

- The established regulatory framework is not fair regarding the legal regime of well-known trademarks (these being recognized by the court decision for an unlimited period of time and being entered in the Register of well-known trademarks). The existing established system gives rise to situations of abuse, because some recognized well-known brands lose notoriety over the years, but this is not provided for in the legislation. At the same time, in the specialized law, two notions are used in parallel, a well-known brand and a brand that enjoys a reputation on the territory of the Republic of Moldova. This gives rise to situations of uncertainty and ambiguous interpretations;

- Unlike the system of community trademarks and designs in which the European Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO) examines the signs submitted for protection only through the lens of the absolute criteria of liability for protection, in the case of the Republic of Moldova, AGEPI often assumes the role of arbiter on the potential risk of confusion, over novelty and individual character, thus creating artificial barriers to satisfying the demands of new users of the system.

- The mechanism for counteracting acts of bad faith is not fully effective. At the same time, the legal regime of unregistered trademarks is not very clearly defined.

3) In the field of designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed:

- There is neither at the legislative nor at the institutional level, a clear and transparent mechanism for ensuring the official control, in the part related to compliance with the provisions of the technical specifications;

- The mechanism for obtaining the right to use guaranteed traditional specialties is not regulated;
- On April 11, 2016, the Republic of Moldova signed the Geneva Act of the Lisbon Agreement on Appellations of Origin and Geographical Indications, but has not yet ratified it, which makes it impossible to ensure national GI protection in more than 50 countries covered by this International Act

Recommendations:

In order to strengthen the industrial property protection system in the Republic of Moldova, the following are necessary:

1. Revision of the mechanism for granting compulsory licenses in light of the provisions of art. 31 and 31bis of the TRIPS Agreement, especially in the part related to the repression of anti-competitive practices and the management of emergency situations;

2. Making additional efforts on the part of AGEPI in order to promote the European patent validation system, but also the opportunities to support the patenting abroad of inventions and plant varieties created in the Republic of Moldova.

3. The continuous and constant development of national legislation in the field of inventions, plant varieties, trademarks, industrial designs, designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional specialties guaranteed with the adoption of the best international practices in the field of protection and protection of industrial property rights, an aspect that constitutes the basic pillar in the development of the national IP system.

4. Implementation of a clear and transparent mechanism to ensure official control in the GI, DO and TSG protection system which is a precondition for its development and implicitly for the promotion of traditional local products with added value.

5. Deepening of international, regional and bilateral collaboration with WIPO, EPO, EUIPO, specialized offices from third countries, associations of IP rights holders from abroad with a view to fructify the platforms of experience exchange and at the same time raising the level of legal culture in the field of industrial property protection.

6. Digitization of the services provided by AGEPI and their integration into governmental and, as the case may be, international online platforms, in order to increase transparency and facilitate the access of potential beneficiaries to the IP protection system in the Republic of Moldova.

7. Continuous training of specialists and service providers in the field of industrial property rights protection, creation of master's degrees for the IP specialty within the university environment.