



GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

DECISION No 422/2026

of 05-08-2026

**on the National Framework for Integrated Analysis and Management
of Risks to National Security**

Published: 12-08-2026 in the Official Gazette No 371-374 Article 438 Date of entry into force

Pursuant to Article 6 paragraph 7 of Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management (Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova, 2025, No 437-440, Article 600), as subsequently amended, the Government hereby DECIDES:

1. To approve the Methodology for the National Assessment of Risks to National Security (attached hereto).

2. The National Crisis Management Centre shall initiate the process of preparing the National Risk Assessment every 5 years, or whenever there are significant changes to the national or international security landscape.

3. Within two months of the date of entry into force of this Decision, the National Crisis Management Centre shall transmit to public authorities and institutions standardised forms and other supplementary instructions regarding integrated risk analysis and management, in accordance with the Methodology for the National Assessment of Risks to National Security.

4. Within four months of the date of entry into force of this Decision, public authorities and institutions shall submit to the National Crisis Management Centre the risks identified within their respective areas of competence to be analysed and included in the extended list of risks (initial extended list).

5. Within eight months of the date of entry into force of this Decision, the National Crisis Management Centre shall approve, following consultation with the National Security Council Service, the priority list of risks and the priority risks profiles relating to national security, in accordance with the Methodology for the National Assessment of Risks to National Security.

6. This Decision shall enter into force one month after the date of its publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Moldova.

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Counter-signed by:
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Minister of Infrastructure

Vasile TOFAN

Vladimir Bolea

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Minister of Economic
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No 422. Chisinau, 5 August 2026.

Approved
by Government Decision No 422/2026

METHODOLOGY for the National Assessment of Risks to National Security I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The Methodology for the National Assessment of Risks to National Security (hereinafter referred to as the *Methodology*) is intended to establish the national framework for the integrated analysis and management of risks to national security, by setting out the principles, processes, and institutional mechanisms that ensure a unified, coherent and integrated system for the identification, analysis, assessment, monitoring, prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, in compliance with the provisions of Article 6 paragraph 7 of Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management.

2. This Methodology aims to strengthen national capabilities for integrated analysis and management of risks by integrating all categories of risks into a common, unified, coherent, and coordinated framework of governance, planning, and action.

3. This Methodology pursue the following objectives:

3.1 ensuring the coherence and interoperability of the processes of integrated analysis and management of risks carried out by public authorities and institutions, in compliance with Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management and Law No 249/2025 on National Security of the Republic of Moldova;

3.2 integrating measures aimed at reducing vulnerabilities and enhancing resilience to risks into national, sectoral and cross-sectoral legislation, policies, strategies, programmes, and

development plans, as well as guiding the development of capabilities and investment priorities necessary for managing identified risks;

3.3 developing response and recovery capabilities through coordinated mechanisms for response and rapid restoration of vital functions at national, sectoral, regional and local levels;

3.4 strengthening disaster protection through the mitigation of potential impacts, the promotion of a culture of preparedness, prevention and safety, cooperation between the authorities and institutions competent in the field of civil protection and other relevant authorities and entities, as well as providing an evidence-based foundation for decisions concerning the prioritisation of measures and investments in the field of disaster risks reduction;

3.5 aligning the national risk management framework with the international standards and practices, including those promoted by the United Nations, in particular through the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the European Union, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, and the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO 31000), through the use of national risk governance capacity assessment tools;

3.6 ensuring the effective implementation of this Methodology by central and local public administration authorities, within the limits of their legal competences and available resources, while observing the principle that additional responsibilities shall be correlated with the financial, material and human resources necessary for their fulfilment, in accordance with the applicable legislation;

3.7 ensuring that the results of the National Risks Assessment shall contribute to strategic planning processes, including medium-term budget planning, guide the prioritisation of investments, and support the development of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery measures relating to identified risks and the crisis situations associated therewith;

3.8 identifying critical dependencies and highlighting the interconnections between critical infrastructures and essential services, with regard to ensuring an integrated and coherent approach to systemic risks.

4. This Methodology shall be binding on public authorities and institutions, including those under their authority or coordinated by them, regardless of their administrative level or organisational structure.

5. For the same purpose, the provisions of this Methodology shall also apply to economic operators, irrespective of the form of ownership, which, by the nature of their activities:

5.1 own, manage, or operate critical infrastructures or provide essential services;

5.2 contribute, directly or indirectly, to ensuring national security and societal resilience;

5.3 are required by law to develop and implement their own risk management measures, as well as internal crisis management plans and plans for the continuity of activities and operations.

6. The implementation of this Methodology shall be carried out through the cooperation of all stakeholders referred to herein, including non-governmental organisations, academia, and other civil society entities, through institutional and interinstitutional coordination mechanisms established by law, under the supervision of the National Crisis Management Centre (hereinafter referred to as *NCMC*), where national strategic decisions or response measures to threats to

national security are required, under the supervision of the National Security Council (hereinafter referred to as *NSC*).

7. For the purposes of this Methodology, the terms defined in Article 2 of Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management and Article 3 of Law No 249/2025 on National Security of the Republic of Moldova shall apply.

In addition to the terms defined in the aforementioned legislative acts, the following terms shall be used for the purposes of this Methodology and its implementing acts:

7.1 *early warning* – the process of identifying, analysing and promptly disseminating information regarding imminent risks that may trigger a crisis situation, aimed at preventing or reducing their impact on the population, institutions and critical infrastructures;

7.2 *risk classification* – the process of grouping the identified risks into homogenous categories, based on their nature, origin, area of manifestation and the level of severity, in accordance with this Methodology;

7.3 *risk communication* – the structured exchange of information among authorities, institutions, the private sector and the public throughout all stages of the risk management cycle, with the purpose of raising awareness, enhancing preventive preparedness or mitigation efforts;

7.4 *risk trigger* – an event, action or condition that causes a risk to materialise or increases the severity of its consequences;

7.5 *impact assessment* – the process of determining the severity of the potential consequences resulting from the materialisation of a risk on the protected values and interests of the State, society and the individual;

7.6 *probability assessment* – the process of estimating the likelihood of a risk materialising or the frequency of its occurrence during the assessment cycle

7.7 *risk profile* – a standardised document containing the detailed analysis of a risk, the assessment of its impact and likelihood, the reasonable worst-case scenario, the risk score, existing control measures, and any other information deemed relevant.

7.8 *impact* – the aggregate of direct and indirect, immediate or long-term effects resulting from the materialisation of a risk on the population, the environment, the economy, critical services and infrastructure, security and public order;

7.9 *risk indicator* – a quantitative or qualitative parameter used to monitor the evolution of a risk, associated vulnerabilities, and the effectiveness of control measures;

7.10 *competent institution* – a public authority or institution vested with legal powers in the area concerned by the risk and responsible for the implementation of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery measures;

7.11 *extended list of risks or initial extended list* – an official document drawn up by the NCMC, comprising all risks identified at national level, classified and documented in accordance with this Methodology;

7.12 *priority list of risks or priority list* – an official document prepared by the NCMC, comprising the set of risks essential to national security identified during a national risk assessment cycle;

7.13 *risk management* – the set of management activities through which risks are identified, assessed, prioritised, monitored and reviewed, including the coordination of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery measures following the occurrence of a risk;

7.14 *risk matrix* – a graphical analytical tool that positions risks according to their combined impact and probability scores, enabling the determination of their severity and priority levels, as illustrated in Figure 1;

7.15 *risk level* – the degree of severity of a risk, determined by combining impact and probability scores and classified according to a predefined rating scale.

7.16 *contingency plan* – a scenario-based operational document that establishes the actions, responsibilities and resources required to prevent a potential crisis situation or to mitigate the consequences resulting from the occurrence of a crisis situation within a specific field or sector of activity;

7.17 *continuity plan* – a strategic document defining the measures and procedures required to maintain or restore the critical functions of an institution, authority or entity following disruptions caused by crisis situations;

7.18 *probability* – a measure of the likelihood of a risk materialising, expressed through numerical or descriptive values;

7.19 *cross-border risk* – a risk whose effects extend beyond national borders and require international cooperation for assessment and response;

7.20 *priority risk* – risks assessed as having a high or critical level of severity, requiring enhanced prevention and preparedness measures, as well as response and recovery measures;

7.21 *risk scenario* – a narrative description of a plausible situation involving the materialization of a risk, used for impact assessment and response planning;

7.22 *essential services* – services, facilities or activities indispensable for maintaining the vital functions of the State, vital economic activities, public health and safety or the environment, necessary to ensure a minimum standard of living and societal well-being of society, the disruption or destruction of the underlying physical or digital system, would significantly affect the safety or security of the population and/or the functioning of State institutions;

7.23 *risk score* – a numerical value resulting from the combination of impact and likelihood scores, used for risk classification;

7.24 *risk source* – an element or condition capable of generating, amplifying or triggering a risk;

7.25 *risk tolerance* – the level of risk considered acceptable by the competent authorities and institutions, taking into account strategic priorities and available capabilities. Risk tolerance levels shall be further developed in subsequent methodological documents;

7.26 *analysis unit* – a thematic or sectoral area used for assessing the impact of risks;

7.27 *acute risk* - a risk that materializes suddenly, with high intensity and immediate impact on protected values, creating the conditions for the onset of a crisis situation;

7.28 *chronic risk* - a risk that persists throughout the national risk assessment cycle and may lead to the reaching of a critical impact threshold affecting one or more protected national values and interests;

7.29 *preliminary screening* – the process of preliminary examination or filtering of risks included in the extended list of risks, aimed at identifying risks with the potential for critical materialization during the assessment cycle;

7.30 *atypical risk* – a risk displaying unusual characteristics in relation to standard assessment models, either through impact or likelihood scores that differ significantly from the average of the risk set, or due to the novel nature of its sources or consequences, requiring a review of the assessment to verify its reasonableness.

8. National security risk management activities shall be conducted in accordance with the following fundamental principles:

8.1 *integrated approach principle* – the coherent treatment of all types of risks and the alignment of the dimensions of national security (State, society, individual) within a unified risk management framework;

8.2 *prevention principle* – the timely identification of risks and the mitigation of their consequences;

8.3 *priority and proportionality principle* – giving priority to the planning and allocation of available resources for managing the effects of risks posing a significant impact on national security;

8.4 *principle of adequate planning and responsible use of resources* – the planning of sufficient financial, logistical, and human resources required for risk management measures throughout the entire prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery cycle, as well as ensuring the efficient and responsible use of resources;

8.5 *principle of integrated and loyal coordination* – cooperation in good faith among authorities and institutions at the national, sectoral, regional, and local levels, in a spirit of mutual support, under the coordination of the NCMC and/or the NSC;

8.6 *principle of democratic oversight* – ensuring the accountability of institutions and authorities entrusted with risk management, supervision and regulation to democratically legitimate authorities, while respecting the functional and institutional independence of autonomous public authorities, including the National Bank of Moldova and the National Commission for Financial Markets, in accordance with the law.

II. INSTITUTIONAL AND COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

9. The NCMC shall ensure the coordination and consistency of the integrated analysis and risk management process at the national level through the uniform application of this Methodology.

10. In exercising its responsibilities regarding the National Risk Assessment, the NCMC shall perform the provisions set forth in Article 45 and 46 of Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management and the Government Decision No 579/2025 on the organisation and functioning of

the National Crisis Management Centre, ensuring the coordination and consistency of the national methodology.

11. The NSC shall exercise oversight of the process of managing risks to national security and shall establish general policy directions and the measures necessary for the prevention and mitigation of the vulnerabilities, risks, threats, and hazards.

12. In situations of siege or war, strategic coordination and decision-making shall be exercised in accordance with Law No 249/2025 on National Security of the Republic of Moldova and the regulatory framework applicable to the field.

13. The NCMC shall periodically report to the NSC, but not less than once every six months, on the risk assessments it carries out in order to ensure strategic coordination and the integration of the results obtained into the national decision-making process.

14. The NCMC shall regularly consult with the National Security Council Service (hereinafter referred to as the *NSC Service*) throughout the implementation process of the National Risk Assessment.

15. Ministries, specialized central administrative authorities, subordinate agencies and other public institutions shall ensure risk management within their respective field of competence, in accordance with national security legislation, crisis management legislation and this Methodology, without prejudice to the functional independence of autonomous authorities.

16. First-level and second-level local public administration authorities shall be responsible for identifying and analysing risks at the local level, as well as for ensuring prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery processes within the territory of the relevant administrative-territorial units, within the limits of the powers established by law.

17. During the disaster risks management process, local public administration authorities shall cooperate, as a matter of priority, with the responsible structures of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, in its capacity as the competent authority for the coordination and direction of civil protection actions, and, where appropriate, with the territorial structures of other public authorities, for the purpose of ensuring public order and security and the operational support necessary for intervention activities.

18. Economic operators, including managers of critical infrastructures and providers of essential services, shall be responsible for implementing risk management measures, including prevention, preparedness, response and recovery measures, within the scope of the powers and obligations established by law.

19. Economic operators shall cooperate with central and local public administration authorities by making available the resources, expertise and information necessary for the protection of national values and interests, with regard to ensuring the continuity of essential services.

20. Economic operators, including managers of critical infrastructure and providers of essential services, shall have the following obligations, as provided for in the sector-specific normative acts:

20.1 to cooperate with public authorities in the prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery process by providing, in a timely manner, accurate and relevant information, expertise and available resources;

20.2 to contribute to the development and implementation of sectoral and local risk management plans, particularly in the fields of critical infrastructure and essential services;

20.3 to develop, maintain and implement their own crisis management plans, plans for the continuity of activities and operations, prevention and preparedness plans, contingency plans, as well as other internal risk management mechanisms, in compliance with the applicable standards and specific legislation;

20.4 to participate in exercises, training activities and table-top exercises organised by competent authorities, ensuring the testing and validation of their own and interinstitutional capabilities;

20.5 to establish internal mechanisms for monitoring and reporting risks, vulnerabilities and incidents, ensuring their transmission to the competent sectoral institutions for integration into risk assessments and risk registers;

20.6 to cooperate with public authorities in public information and awareness-raising activities concerning risks, protective measures and preventive conduct;

20.7 to ensure the training of their personnel in the management of risk situations, including compliance with the security requirements and the implementation of emergency procedures;

20.8 to adopt physical, cyber, and information security measures aimed at reducing vulnerabilities and ensuring the continuity of essential functions;

20.9 to contribute, in compliance with the law and within the limits of their competencies and available resources, to the implementation of financial, logistical and human measures associated with their role within the national risk management system;

20.10 to participate in public-private partnerships and in the exchange of data, best practices and lessons learned, with a view to strengthening national resilience;

20.11 to implement occupational health and safety management systems in order to reduce operational vulnerabilities.

21. Institutional cooperation between the NCMC and the National Coordination Centre for the Coordination of Critical Infrastructure Protection shall be ensured in compliance with the applicable regulatory framework and established cooperation mechanisms, with the objective of integrating information on risks related to critical infrastructure, strengthening data exchange and ensuring the consistency of prevention, preparedness and crisis response measures.

22. Non-governmental organisations, academia and other civil society entities shall participate, in good faith, in the risk management process, within the limits of their competencies and available resources, through:

22.1 carrying out independent monitoring activities and providing expertise;

22.2 fostering societal resilience and a culture of security;

22.3 engaging in public information and awareness campaigns;

22.4 participating in exercises, simulations and training sessions organised by the competent authorities, or initiation of such activities;

22.5 providing humanitarian and logistical support during the response and recovery phases.

23. The exchange of information, data, resources and good practices among public authorities, the private sector and civil society, as well as the process of integrated analysis and management of risks conducted pursuant to this Methodology, shall be carried out in a manner that ensures the security, confidentiality and integrity of information and data, including information classified as a State secret and personal data or any other secret protected by law, in compliance with the legislation governing national security, the protection of information classified as State secret, the protection of personal data, access to information of public interest and the protection of critical infrastructure, as well as internal regulations governing restricted-access information.

24. The request, processing, transmission and use of technically sensitive, operationally sensitive, or commercially sensitive information shall not be used for regulatory or sanctioning purposes in the absence of a separate legal basis.

III. INTEGRATED RISK ANALYSIS

25. Integrated risk analysis represents the continuous process of identifying, collecting, integrating, classifying, and assessing existing and potential risks to national security, for the purpose of supporting decisions on their prevention and management.

26. Integrated risk analysis shall ensure the continuous monitoring of risk developments and the updating of the National Risk Register (hereinafter referred to as the *Register*).

27. The National Risk Assessment constitutes the strategic document developed on the basis of the results of the integrated risk analysis and serves as the instrument for substantiating measures aimed at strengthening national resilience.

28. The Integrated Risk Analysis Methodology is based on a standardised risk assessment cycle, correlated with the national risk management cycle, with a view to substantiating prevention, preparedness, response, recovery and adaptation measures.

29. The risk assessment cycle comprises the following stages:

29.1 preparation of the extended list of risks, including all potential risks identified at national level;

29.2 drawing up simplified risk profiles for the risks included in the extended list of risks;

29.3 development and approval of the priority list of risks, subject to detailed assessment;

29.4 preparation of detailed risk profiles for each risk included in the priority list of risks;

29.5 processing, consolidation, and integration of assessment results in the Register;

29.6 preparation and approval of the National Risk Assessment Report.

30. The risk management cycle shall be carried out on a continuous basis and shall include the following stages:

30.1 prevention;

30.2 preparedness;

30.3 response;

30.4 recovery;

30.5 adaptation; and

30.6 institutional learning.

31. The National Risk Assessment and integrated risk analysis constitute methodological instruments underpinning the risk management cycle, providing the analytical support necessary for the planning and implementation of measures across all stages thereof.

32. The development of the extended list of risks constitutes the first stage of the process of identifying and structuring risks within the National Risk Assessment of risks to national security and consists in determining the full spectrum of threats and hazards that may affect the national values and interests of the Republic of Moldova.

33. The extended list of risks shall include:

33.1 threats;

33.2 hazards.

34. Threats and hazards shall be classified into corresponding risk categories according to their source, manifestation mechanism or sector of impact.

35. The extended list of risks is methodological and operational in nature and constitutes a working instrument within the risk assessment process, serving as the basis for:

35.1 the systematic collection of data and information relating to identified risks from national and international sources, including thematic reports, institutional databases, scientific research and official statistics;

35.2 the periodic consultation of public authorities and institutions, economic operators, civil society entities and subject-matter experts for the purposes of technical validation and ensuring interdisciplinary expertise;

35.3 the integration and centralisation of qualitative and quantitative data and information in a standardised format enabling comparative analysis and risk prioritisation;

35.4 the preparation, for each identified risk, of a simplified risk profile containing at least:

35.4.1 a unique identification code comprising 3 letters and 3 digits, assigned by the NCMC;

35.4.2 the designation of the risk;

35.4.3 the risk category;

35.4.4 the institutions involved in risk management (lead and supporting institutions).

36. The procedures governing the establishment, use and management of risk identification codes shall be approved by the NCMC.

37. In the process of integrating and centralising data, the risk assessments and analyses prepared by the competent authorities pursuant to special legislation, including in the field of cybersecurity, shall be used, as appropriate, without duplicating the obligations and procedures established thereunder.

38. Risks shall be included in the extended list of risks on the basis of a preliminary assessment of their relevance to national security, resilience and the functioning of the State, in relation to the protected national values and interests.

39. The extended list of risks is a continuously updated document, which consolidates, in an integrated, centralised and uniform manner, potential risks of national relevance, classified within the established risk categories and meet at least one of the following criteria:

39.1. they involve the existence of a state or non-state actor possessing the capability and intent to cause significant harm or damage to one or more protected national values and interests;

39.2. they constitute an inherent hazard within the risk category under consideration, independent of the actions of a hostile actor, but with the potential to cause significant harm to one or more protected national values and interests;

39.3. they reveal or amplify critical vulnerabilities corresponding to the domain of the relevant risk category;

39.4. they constitute an acute risk affecting, directly or indirectly, one or more protected national values and interests;

39.5. they constitute a chronic risk which, during the National Risk Assessment cycle, may reach a critical impact threshold on one or more protected national values and interests, thereby creating the conditions for the emergence of a crisis situation;

39.6. they jeopardise the achievement of strategically relevant objectives in the short, medium or long term in relation to the protected national values and interests of the Republic of Moldova;

39.7. they are transnational or global in nature and have the potential to significantly affect, through their direct or indirect effects, the protected national values and interests of the Republic of Moldova;

39.8. they are supported by historical incidents, sectoral assessments, scientific data or statistical analyses indicating emerging trends relevant to the corresponding risk category.

40. With the view to ensure a coordinated management of identified risks, responsible institutions shall be designated for each risk included in the extended list of risks, in compliance with the powers and responsibilities provided for by the legislation.

41. For each risk included in the extended list of risks, taking into account the powers and responsibilities of the competent public institutions and authorities, and following consultations therewith, the NCMC shall propose the designation of:

41.1 the lead institution, which shall bear responsibility for the overall coordination of the risk management process within its field of competence, based on its statutory responsibilities, its direct connection to the source of the risk and/or institutional resources necessary for managing the risk;

41.2 the supporting institutions, which are designated by the lead institution, the NCMC or NSC Service providing support to the lead institution, within the limits of their legal competences, through the provisions of resources, expertise and operational capabilities, throughout the phases of risk management cycle – prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.

42. The designation of the lead institution and the supporting institutions shall be carried out for the purpose of establishing responsibility regarding the risk management throughout the entire risk management cycle.

43. The designation of the lead institution and supporting institution shall be carried out through the National Crisis Management Plan, upon the proposal of the NCMC, in consultation with the relevant institutions, by establishing the role of economic operators, including the managers of critical infrastructure and providers of essential services, in compliance with the provisions of point 20, based on the following criteria:

- 43.1 the exercise of central legal powers in the relevant risk field;
- 43.2 the holding of essential responsibilities in a sector where the materialization of the risk could lead to critical consequences;
- 43.3 acting as an authority that regulates or manages relevant critical infrastructure;
- 43.4 having institutional capacities for monitoring, analysing and responding to the risk;
- 43.5 demonstrated capacity of interinstitutional coordination and for exercising command-and-control functions.

44. In crisis situations, the institution designated as the lead institution for risk management shall exercise the duties of a lead institution, in compliance with the provisions of Law No 248/2025 on Crisis Management.

45. Depending on the nature and scale of the crisis, the NCMC may propose to the Prime Minister, on an exceptional basis and under the conditions expressly provided for by the applicable sectoral regulatory acts, the designation of another competent institution to coordinate the response phase, subject to the prior notification of the lead institution responsible for risk management, which shall retain its duties regarding the assessment and updating of the relevant risk.

46. Public institutions or authorities designated as lead institutions shall coordinate the risk management process within their field of competence and shall ensure the implementation of necessary measures throughout the entire risk management cycle.

47. Public institutions and authorities designated as lead institutions shall have the following obligations:

47.1 to identify, assess and submit for validation the risks falling within their field of competence that are to be included in the extended list of risks and in the priority list of risks, in compliance with this Methodology;

47.2 to prepare and update risk sheets, making use, where appropriate, of risk assessments developed pursuant to special legislation, and to ensure their regular submission to the NCMC for integration into the Register;

47.3 to develop and maintain crisis management plans, prevention and impact reduction and/or preparedness plans, as well as business and operational continuity plans;

47.4 to establish and coordinate working groups related to the risk management process, with the involvement of supporting authorities and institutions, as well as subject-matter experts;

47.5 to designate sectoral contact points for ongoing interaction with the NCMC;

47.6 to designate and coordinate, jointly with the NCMC, the supporting institutions involved in the activities of the working groups established for the implementation of measures related to risk assessment and management;

47.7 to ensure the coordination of the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery phases, in accordance with the powers established by normative acts;

47.8 where appropriate, jointly with the NCMC, to delegate to a competent authority specific responsibility for managing one or more stages of the risk management cycle;

47.9 to develop preparedness activities, under the coordination of the NCMC, including activities aimed at enhancing the capacities required by the institutions involved in the risk management process;

47.10 to organize training sessions, exercises and joint practical activities with supporting institutions in order to strengthen response capabilities;

47.11 to develop and implement plans setting out prevention objectives and actions aimed at eliminating or reducing the likelihood and impact of risk occurrence;

47.12 to formulate proposals regarding the introduction, amendment, consolidation or removal of risks from the extended list of risks, based on sound justifications supported by sectoral assessments, expert opinions, relevant precedents or other substantiated arguments, which shall be submitted to the NCMC for validation;

47.13 to report periodically to the NCMC on the status of the implementation of risk management measures and on the level of sectoral resilience.

48. The public institutions and authorities designated as supporting institutions shall contribute, within the limits of their legal competences, to the assessment and management of risks by providing the resources, expertise and capabilities required by the lead institution.

49. The public institutions and authorities designated as supporting institutions shall have the following requirements:

49.1 to provide data, analysis, technical expertise and informational support necessary to identify, assess and monitor the risks;

49.2 to make available operational capabilities, human and logistical resources, and available financial means, in accordance with their legal competences and approved plans;

49.3 to apply the common procedures, cooperation protocols and methodological standards approved at the national level;

49.4 to designate permanent contact points and ensure their functional continuity in rapport with the lead institutions and the NCMC;

49.5 to report periodically to the lead institution on progress achieved, disruptions and requirements identified in the process of implementing risk management measures.

50. Validation and acceptance of the role of lead institution shall be carried out through consultation with the proposed authority or institution, with a view to ensuring a clear and efficient allocation of responsibilities for risk management.

51. Following the identification of the lead institution, as part of the designation process, the NCMC shall consult the proposed public authority or institution for the purpose of validating and accepting its role as the lead risk management institution.

52. Where a risk is cross-sectoral in nature, central competences are shared among several institutions and no inter-institutional consensus exists, the NCMC, in cooperation with the NSC

Service, shall conduct an analysis and make the final designation of the lead institution responsible for managing the risk.

53. Supporting institutions shall be designated for the purpose of ensuring an integrated and inter-institutional approach to the risk assessment and management process.

54. Following the validation and acceptance of the role of lead institution, and in order to ensure integrated management, the NCMC shall consult the designated institution to determine the preliminary supporting institutions involved in the preparedness, prevention, response and recovery phases relating to the potential risk.

55. Supporting institutions shall participate in the working groups established for risk assessment and management, with the objective of ensuring an integrated and cross-sectoral approach to the risk concerned. In carrying out this role, supporting institutions shall contribute, in good faith, data, analyses, operational resources and specialized expertise necessary for strengthening prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capacities in relation to the managed risk.

56. The lead institution, in coordination with the NCMC, may delegate additional responsibilities to supporting institutions, within the limits of their competences and capacities, in order to ensure the effective and integrated management of the risk.

57. Cooperation between lead institutions and supporting institutions shall be carried out on the basis of approved policy documents, cooperation protocols and common procedures endorsed by the NCMC.

58. The purpose of developing the priority list of risks is to identify risks requiring detailed analysis and assessment, based on the likelihood of their occurrence and their potential impact on protected national values and interests.

59. For the purpose of identifying priority risks, each risk included in the extended list of risks shall undergo a preliminary screening, consisting of an indicative assessment of the likelihood of occurrence during the cycle of a national risk assessment and of its potential impact on protected national values and interests.

60. Risks included in the extended list of risks shall be prioritized and entered into the priority list of risks according to the severity of the risk.

61. The extended list of risks shall be compiled by the NCMC on the basis of data provided by the competent authorities, and the priority list of risks shall be approved by decision of the Director General of the NCMC, following the opinion of the NSC Service.

62. The extended list of risks and the priority list of risks shall be updated periodically in accordance with developments in the security environment, such as major changes in the national or international security environment.

63. The priority list of risks shall be developed through a gradual process of analysis, filtering, validation and consolidation of the risks identified in the extended list of risks.

64. The development of the priority list of risks shall be carried out through:

64.1 preliminary screening to assess and select risks with critical potential, using the risk filtering indicator questionnaire developed by the NCMC;

64.2 the moderation, consolidation and validation of priority risks, according to the severity of the risk.

The preliminary screening constitutes the risk-filtering stage for risks included in the extended list of risks, with a view to identifying risks with critical potential that are to be subject to detailed assessment.

65. The NCMC, with the support of the NSC Service, shall initiate and coordinate the preliminary screening process. The purpose of this process is to determine whether the risk cumulatively meets the following criteria:

65.1 the potential for the risk to occur during the national risk assessment cycle (5 years);

65.2 its occurrence could generate a critical impact capable of evolving into a crisis or major crisis, with significant effects on one or more protected national values and interests of the Republic of Moldova.

66. The detailed assessment of priority risks shall be carried out through the preparation and validation of priority risk profile, for the purpose of supporting the integrated risk analysis and the national risk assessment.

67. Public authorities and institutions shall be required to identify risks for each segment falling within their area of competence.

68. The lead institution, supported by the expertise of supporting institutions, shall carry out an indicative assessment and complete the priority risk profiles on a preliminary basis, making use, where appropriate, of risk assessments and analyses prepared by competent authorities pursuant to special legislation.

69. The NCMC shall centralize the preliminary screening forms and, on the basis of the consolidated results, shall prepare the draft priority list of risks.

70. The draft priority list of risks shall be consulted with the NSC Service, which may propose the inclusion of additional risks affecting national security, in accordance with its internal analyses and assessments.

71. The NCMC, jointly with the NSC Service, shall validate the final version of the priority list of risks.

72. Following the validation of the priority list of risks, each identified risk shall be subject to a detailed analysis and assessment through the development of the corresponding risk profile.

73. The development of the components of the priority risk profile shall be the responsibility of the lead institution, supported by the expertise of the working group composed of supporting institutions and entities involved in the risk management phases.

74. The lead institution may request the support of other institutions, authorities or entities, in order to draw on the specific expertise required to conduct a comprehensive analysis and assessment.

75. The NCMC shall ensure the coordination of the process, provide methodological support, validate the content of the relevant sections and approve the assigned scores, thereby authorising the implementation of the subsequent phases in the development of priority risk profiles.

76. The validation of the components of the risk profile shall be carried out by the NCMC and shall entail certifying the conformity of the information with the standards and compliance criteria established by this Methodology and by the NCMC instructions, as well as ensuring an integrated and cross-sectoral analysis.

77. Upon completion of the review and validation process, the NCMC shall request the lead institution to compile the descriptive part, the reasonable worst-case scenario and its assessment, according to the completed questionnaire, into a consolidated risk profile document.

78. The NSC Service shall assist the NCMC in the process of validating the components of risk profiles relating to risks that constitute threats to public order, State security or national defence.

79. The descriptive analysis shall be carried out by the lead institution, supported, where necessary, by the working group comprising the supporting institutions, and shall consist of the collection, consolidation, interpretation and structuring of the main characteristics relating to the nature and origin of the risk, its previous manifestations, as well as emerging trends.

80. Based on the descriptive analysis, the lead institution shall develop, for each priority risk under its responsibility, the reasonable worst-case scenario, which shall constitute a hypothetical simulation of a major crisis situation generated by the materialisation of the risk under analysis, and shall submit it to the NCMC for validation.

81. The NCMC may request the completion or improvement of the scenario or of other risk analysis elements in order to ensure alignment with the established methodological parameters.

82. In the case of risks that constitute threats to public order, State security or national defence, the NSC Service shall assist the NCMC in the process of validating the scenario or other risk analysis elements.

83. The results of the detailed assessment of priority risks shall be recorded in standardised risk profiles, developed and managed by the NCMC for the purpose of ensuring the comparability, integration and consolidation of data at national level.

84. The NCMC shall ensure the structuring and standardisation of all risk profiles included in the consolidated documents, which shall comprise at least the following elements:

84.1 a summarised version of the descriptive section;

84.2 a reasonable worst-case scenario;

84.3 a narrative summary describing the anticipated outcome resulting from the potential materialisation of the reasonable worst-case scenario;

84.4 an overall assessment of likelihood and impact;

84.5 the scores resulting from the process of assessing the impact and likelihood of the reasonable worst-case scenario;

84.6 an overall impact determined by the NCMC following the moderation and consolidation stage of the priority risk assessment results.

85. Priority risk profiles shall be subject to an inter-institutional review and validation process carried out by the NCMC together with the NSC Service, with a view to ensuring the

quality, coherence, accuracy, integrity and integration of all relevant data into the national risk assessment.

86. Risk classification shall constitute the stage of determining the severity level of each priority risk on the basis of the results of its likelihood and impact assessment.

87. Risk classification shall be carried out by positioning risks within the national risk assessment matrix, on the basis of the combination of the impact score and the likelihood score, in accordance with Figure 1.

88. The matrix shall distinguish the following severity levels: very low risk, low risk, moderate risk, high risk and critical risk.

89. Risks classified as high or critical shall be considered priority risks and shall be subject to enhanced prevention, preparedness and vulnerability reduction measures.

90. Integrated risk analysis shall include the assessment of interdependencies and systemic effects associated with priority risks, in order to identify their impact on the functioning of State and society.

91. As part of the integrated risk analysis, the interdependencies among critical infrastructures, essential services, vital functions of the state, and other systems relevant to national security shall be assessed.

92. The integrated risk analysis shall aim to identify critical dependencies and assess the cascading effects resulting from the materialization of a risk on interconnected sectors, domains, and systems.

93. Where appropriate, dependencies on economic operators, including private entities, that contribute to the provision of essential services, or the maintenance of vital state functions shall be examined.

94. For priority risks, cascading effects and the potential systemic impact on critical infrastructures, essential services, and vital functions of the State shall be analysed, including through the development of scenarios concerning the cross-sectoral propagation of effects.

95. The impact of each risk shall describe the consequences of the risk occurrence as assessed in terms of financial, human, time-related, and reputational resources, and shall be evaluated using a five-level scale ranging from Very Low (1) to Very High (5).

96. Impact analysis, conducted using qualitative, semi-quantitative and quantitative methods validated at national level and aligned with international standards (ISO/IEC 31000 and ISO/IEC 31010, as well as the guidance of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the European Union), shall be carried out through the following mandatory methodological steps:

96.1 data collection and preliminary documentation, including the use of statistical data, sectoral reports, academic studies, forecasting models and expert opinions;

96.2 risk scenario description, including the establishment of the context, risk sources, triggering factors and affected units of analysis (individual, society, State, critical infrastructures and essential services);

96.3 assessment of the severity of consequences, including the determination of direct and indirect effects on protected values (human, social, institutional, reputational, economic and environmental values, as well as irreversible losses of cultural heritage and fundamental national values, etc.);

96.4 determination of impact factors, including the quantification of human losses, material consequences and psychological, reputational and institutional effects, using measurable quantitative and qualitative indicators;

96.5 score assignment, by allocating numerical values (1-5) to each impact criterion assessed;

96.6 determination of the final impact score, established as the highest of the partial scores or, where appropriate, as a weighted average where multiple values are simultaneously affected, applying clear methodological criteria for score aggregation;

96.7 documentation and integration of results, including the recording of the final score in the risk profile within the impact-probability matrix.

97. The impact level shall be determined on the basis of a uniform five-level scale, applied consistently by all public institutions and authorities, as follows:

97.1 Level 1 – consequences manageable through sectoral or local resources, without significant adverse effects on protected values;

97.2 Level 2 – limited disruptions, with manageable effects on a community or a limited sector;

97.3 Level 3 – serious consequences affecting a region or an essential sector, resulting in impairment of normal functionality;

97.4 Level 4 – major disruptions at national level, significant loss of life, considerable economic damage, or adverse effects on multiple protected values simultaneously;

97.5 Level 5 – catastrophic consequences, massive loss of life, collapse of essential services and compromise of the State's vital functions.

98. All impact assessments shall be documented in the standard risk profile. The responsible institutions shall retain all supporting documentation (data, calculations, references, scenarios, etc.) for subsequent verification and audit purposes.

99. Risk likelihood reflects the frequency or plausibility of the occurrence of the reasonable worst-case scenario during the national risk assessment cycle and shall be assessed using a five-level scale ranging from very low (1) to very high (5), with numerical values from 1 to 5 assigned accordingly.

100. The likelihood of each risk shall be assessed differently, as follows:

100.1 for hazards, by estimating the statistical probability of occurrence over a five-year period;

100.2 for threats, by applying the PEV methodology (Potential – Exposure – Vulnerability/Preparedness Capacity), which involves the assessment of:

100.2.1 the actor's potential to pose a threat;

100.2.2 the level of exposure of national values;

100.2.3 the degree of vulnerability or preparedness capacity of the target system.

The detailed approval of the PEV methodology, including the scales and implementation guidelines, shall be carried out by the NCMC in coordination with the NSC Service and the competent sectoral authorities.

101. The risk score or risk level shall be calculated by multiplying the numerical value assigned to impact by the numerical value assigned to likelihood (Risk Score/Level = Impact Value × Likelihood Value).

102. The results of the impact and likelihood assessment shall be integrated into a national risk matrix, hereinafter referred to as the risk matrix, in a 5 × 5 format, which positions each risk according to the scores assigned thereto, as illustrated in Figure 1.

MATRICEA NAȚIONALĂ DE RISC (5×5)						
		PROBABILITATE				
		Foarte scăzută (1)	Scăzută (2)	Medie (3)	Ridică (4)	Foarte ridicată (5)
IMPACT	Foarte ridicat (5)					
	Ridicat (4)					
	Mediu (3)					
	Scăzut (2)					
	Foarte scăzut (1)					
Nivelul de risc		Risc foarte scăzut	Risc scăzut	Risc moderat	Risc înalt	Risc critic

103. The risk matrix shall serve as the official instrument for:

103.1 classifying risks into 5 priority levels: very low, low, moderate, high, and critical;

103.2 supporting strategic planning processes, institutional development programmes, and prevention, preparedness, response and recovery measures, including the determination of investment priorities necessary for reducing vulnerabilities and strengthening national resilience;

103.3 supporting the preparation of the National Risk Assessment Report.

104. The final positioning of a risk within the risk matrix shall be determined following the moderation and consolidation of scores by the NCMC, in cooperation with the NSC Service.

105. The impact and likelihood scores included in each risk profile shall be consolidated in a single database for the purpose of their standardisation across the entire set of risks included in the priority list of risks by the NCMC.

106. In order to ensure consistency, individual impact and likelihood scores shall be subject to a process of moderation and consolidation of results, which involves:

106.1 verifying the rationality and consistency of the scores;

106.2. standardising them against the national risk set;

106.3 final validation by the NCMC with a view to consolidating the national risk assessment matrix.

107. Any risk identified as atypical during the standardisation process shall be subject to review in order to verify the reasonableness of the impact assessment in relation to the risk's worst-case scenario.

108. On the basis of the standardised likelihood and impact scores established for each priority risk, the NCMC, together with the NSC Service, shall prepare the draft national risk assessment matrix.

109. The consolidated priority risk profiles and the national risk assessment matrix shall be subject to a single round of consultation with the lead institutions.

110. The NCMC and the NSC Service shall determine the procedures for conducting the consultation process.

111. Documents classified as state secrets shall be excluded from the working versions of the risk profiles submitted for consultation.

112. Following the consultation round, the NCMC shall prepare the final versions of the priority risk profiles and the national risk assessment matrix.

113. A standardised risk profile shall be prepared for each priority risk and shall contain, at least the following elements:

113.1 the unique identification risk code;

113.2 the risk title;

113.3 the lead institution and supporting institutions;

113.4 risk indicators and risk triggers;

113.5 the final score and positioning within the impact-likelihood matrix;

113.6 a descriptive analysis of risk potential, triggering factors and factors determining the likelihood of occurrence;

113.7 the risk history and emerging trends;

113.8 the reasonable worst-case scenario;

113.9 the anticipated outcome;

113.10 the impact on protected values;

113.11 the data sources and the degree of confidence associated therewith.

114. The priority risk profiles shall be validated by the NCMC and incorporated into the Register.

115. Any substantive amendment shall be documented by means of an update note and validated in accordance with the same procedure.

116. The consolidated results shall be included in the Register and shall serve as the basis for national planning in the field of security and resilience.

117. Upon completion of the consolidation process for the priority risk profiles and the National Risk Assessment Matrix, the NCMC shall prepare the National Risk Assessment Report.

118. The National Risk Assessment Report shall include, at least, the following elements:

118.1 an executive summary containing a description of the process, the scope, the main findings, and recommendations, including courses of action;

118.2 the National Risk Assessment Matrix;

118.3 the Register, comprising the priority list of risks, including their overall impact and likelihood;

118.4 the consolidated risk profiles, where deemed necessary, attached as annexes.

119. The National Risk Assessment Report shall be approved and signed by the Director General of the NCMC, subject to the opinion of the NSC Service.

120. Following its approval, the final version of the National Risk Assessment Report shall be transmitted by the NCMC to the NSC, the Prime Minister and members of the Government, the Speaker of Parliament, the President of the Republic of Moldova, as well as to other institutions and authorities, in accordance with the needs assessment conducted at the NCMC level, applying the need-to-know principle and the appropriate confidentiality regime.

IV. NATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT

121. The National Risk Assessment is the structured process by which the likelihood and impact of each risk to national security are determined on the basis of the criteria and units of analysis set out under the national methodological framework and has the purpose to identify and prioritise priority risks and to integrate them into the Register.

122. The national risk assessment process shall be conducted in stages and shall include the following phases:

122.1 updating the extended list of risks to national security by identifying new risks, reassessing existing risks and removing risks that have lost their relevance;

122.2 identifying and prioritising the risks to be subject to detailed assessment on the basis of the criteria established by this Methodology;

122.3 developing risk scenarios for each selected priority risk, including the definition of assumptions, triggering factors, likely developments and potential consequences;

122.4 conducting a detailed assessment of priority risks through the application of standardised methodological tools and criteria, including the estimation of likelihood and impact;

122.5 assessing existing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capacities and capabilities, as well as identifying vulnerabilities and capability gaps;

122.6 carrying out an integrated analysis and consolidating assessment results, including the cross-sectoral comparison of risks and the determination of the national risk profile;

122.7 preparing, validating and approving the National Risk Assessment Report, and integrating its conclusions and recommendations into strategic planning, capability development and resource-allocation processes;

122.8 integrating and updating assessment results in the Register and monitoring the implementation of the recommendations made.

123. The assessment of capacities and capabilities is the process of analysing the resources, mechanisms and structures available for prevention, preparedness, response and recovery in relation to the priority risks assessed.

124. The assessment shall aim to identify gaps, functional vulnerabilities and capacity-building requirements that may affect the ability of the competent authorities and institutions to manage risks and crisis situations.

125. The assessment may include an analysis of the following elements:

125.1 the legal and institutional framework;

125.2 coordination structures and mechanisms;

125.3 human resources and the level of professional preparedness;

125.4 financial resources;

125.5 available infrastructure and equipment;

125.6 information and communication systems;

125.7 the level of interoperability;

125.8 business continuity and operational continuity plans;

125.9 response and recovery capabilities.

126. The results of the assessment of capacities and capabilities shall be reflected in the National Risk Assessment Report and shall serve as the basis for formulating the measures necessary to strengthen resilience and develop national capabilities.

127. The Register shall constitute the principal reference source for substantiating and updating strategies, programmes, and other public policy documents, without their development being contingent upon the periodicity of risk assessment exercises.

128. The NCMC shall ensure the methodological and operational coordination of the entire assessment process, while the NSC Service shall provide analytical and validation support for risks relating to public order and security sectors, State security and national defence.

129. The Register shall be updated:

129.1 periodically, every 5 years, according to the national risk assessment cycle;

129.2 whenever data or events arise that significantly alter the impact or likelihood of a risk;

129.3 at the request of the NSC, based on documented justification.

130. Updating the Register shall involve the review of simplified and priority risks profiles, the reclassification of their positioning within the national risk matrix, and the validation of the amendments by the NCMC.

131. Public versions of the Register shall include only information that has not been classified as a state secret, as agreed in accordance with the regulations governing the protection of information classified as a state secret.

132. The results of the national risk assessment shall constitute one of the instruments used to support strategic planning processes and capability development programmes at national and sectoral levels.

133. The conclusions and recommendations formulated within the framework of the national risk assessment may be used by public authorities and institutions for establishing investment priorities, planning risk reduction measures, and developing prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capacities.

134. The results of the national risk assessment shall contribute to identifying institutional strengthening needs and guiding projects and programmes aimed at enhancing national resilience.

135. The recommendations formulated within the framework of the national risk assessment may be taken into account in the development of public policy documents, sectoral programmes and institutional development plans.

136. Disaster risk assessment shall be carried out by the lead institution designated in the field of civil protection, with the participation of supporting institutions and under the methodological coordination of the NCMC.

137. The Ministry of Internal Affairs shall ensure the consolidation of disaster risk assessment results and their transmission to the competent national or international authorities and institutions, in accordance with their respective competences and the classification level of the information concerned.

138. The NCMC shall coordinate the process of communicating and disseminating the results of the national risk assessment, including the related conclusions and recommendations.

139. The results of the national risk assessment shall be communicated and disseminated to the participating authorities and institutions in accordance with their competences and the information classification regime.

140. Subject to the classification level of the information concerned, a public version of the National Risk Assessment Report may be prepared.

141. The products resulting from the National Risk Assessment may be used to inform decision-makers and to support activities aimed at strengthening the culture of security and resilience.

142. The national integrated risk management framework shall be applied in a differentiated manner, according to the level of competence and responsibility, as follows:

142.1 National level – through the conduct of integrated assessments of risks relevant to the country as a whole, including the analysis of events and risk factors manifesting within the territory of the Republic of Moldova, in the neighbouring region, or at the global level, having a direct or indirect impact on national values and interests. At this level, the Register shall be developed;

142.2 Sectoral level – through the conduct of sector-specific risk assessments in essential fields of activity by the specialised central public administration authorities and other competent institutions. The results of these assessments shall be reflected in sectoral risk registers and sector-specific response plans, which shall subsequently be integrated into the Register;

142.3 Local level – through the conduct of risk assessments at the level administrative-territorial units of the first and second levels, as well as at community level, taking into account local vulnerabilities and the effects generated by events of external origin. At this level, crisis management plans shall be prepared, including prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery measures adapted to local circumstances.

143. The national risk management framework shall be implemented in compliance with the principle of subsidiarity, whereby risks are managed at the level closest to their source, with support from higher levels, as well as with the principle of proportionality, whereby resources and measures are allocated according to the severity and impact of the risks.

144. The application of the national risk management framework shall not affect sectoral risk management mechanisms provided for in the special legislation and shall be based on the principle of complementarity between the integrated national framework and existing sectoral mechanisms.

145. Institutions responsible for implementing risk reduction and resilience-building measures shall identify resource requirements and incorporate them into strategic planning and budgetary processes, in accordance with the competences and procedures laid down by national legislation.

146. The results of risk assessment conducted at the sectoral and local levels shall be integrated into the national risk assessment, and the Register shall constitute the single reference document for the planning and coordination of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery measures at the level of the Republic of Moldova.

147. The results of national, sectoral, regional, and local risk assessments shall be integrated into strategic planning documents in the field of national security through the following forms:

147.1 thematic and cross-cutting analyses (including interdependencies and cause-and-effect analyses);

147.2 foresight analyses, scenarios and projections over medium-term and long-term time;

147.3 lines of action, strategic objectives, and capability targets;

147.4 priority programmes and projects for risk reduction, preparedness, and recovery;

147.5 phased implementation plans, including milestones, deadlines, and responsible entities;

147.6 proposals for improving the regulatory framework and for standardisation;

147.7 sets of performance and risk indicators, used for monitoring and evaluation.

148. Public institutions and authorities shall ensure the integration of the results of risk assessment into their own sectoral strategies, programmes, and plans, as well as their compatibility with national documents coordinated by the NCMC.

149. The integration of regional and local assessments into the national risk management process shall be carried out through:

149.1 the collection and transmission, upon request or on their own initiative, of the relevant analyses to the NCMC, either through the competent national institutions, or directly to the NCMC, depending on the nature and classification of the information;

149.2 support for the analysis and assessment process carried out by the competent authorities through the provision of information and participation in territorial coordination networks;

149.3 the designation of contact points for interaction with the NCMC and the territorial structures of central authorities;

149.4 where appropriate, the procurement of disaster risk assessment services or assessment services for other hazards from private sector organisations, civil society, research institutions, or specialists in civil protection, risk or crisis management.

150. The results of risk assessments conducted by managers of national critical infrastructures shall be submitted to the competent sectoral authorities, which shall integrate them into sectoral assessments. Consolidated sectoral assessments shall be submitted to the NCMC for integration into the Register, in compliance with the institutional coordination mechanisms established by law.

151. Economic operators managing national critical infrastructure shall ensure resources proportionate to the level of risks under their management and to their role in maintaining service continuity.

152. The results of integrated risk assessments shall provide the basis for the prioritization of investments and the multiannual programming of resources in the areas of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery, applying the principles of early warning indicators and risk prioritization criteria.

153. A mechanism for the periodic review and testing of the national risk management framework shall be established, including through stress tests, scenarios, and simulation exercises.

154. The purpose of the risk management process is to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the consequences of risks, as well as to ensure recovery from their impact on national values and interests, expressed through:

154.1. the life, health, safety, and well-being of citizens, including the psychological and social dimensions, as well as the management of consequences arising from the evacuation or displacement of populations;

154.2. the continuity of the functioning of public institutions and governance processes, as well as the uninterrupted provision of essential services to the population, the economy, and critical infrastructures, including in the fields of healthcare, food supply, water, education, energy, transport, communications, and the economy;

154.3. the national economy, macroeconomic stability, economic security, and the sustainable development of the Republic of Moldova;

154.4. the environment and natural resources, the maintenance of ecological balance, the protection of biodiversity, and the capacity to adapt to climate change;

154.5. the constitutional order, public safety, and social cohesion;

154.6. the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of the State, the security of the information and digital space, as well as the protection of citizens' fundamental rights and freedoms;

154.7. the national identity, cultural heritage, and fundamental values of the Republic of Moldova;

154.8. the reputation and credibility of the Republic of Moldova, institutional and governance capacity, as well as the level of public trust in State institutions at both the national and international levels.

155. The national values and interests referred to in point 154 shall constitute the methodological basis for the development and updating of the Register, as well as for the planning and implementation of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery measures.

156. Risk management shall include the full range of prevention, preparedness, response, recovery, monitoring, and communication measures, as follows:

156.1. Prevention and preparedness shall include:

156.1.1. the development and updating of contingency plans, crisis management plans, and government and sectoral business continuity plans, as well as prevention and preparedness measures;

156.1.2. the establishment and maintenance of capabilities and institutional functions, strategic reserves, and public protection and safety mechanisms;

156.1.3. the training and professional development of personnel, as well as the organization of exercises and the periodic testing of plans;

156.1.4. the development of risk communication mechanisms and appropriate public information measures.

156.2. Response in the event of risk manifestation shall consist of:

156.2.1. the activation of plans and crisis coordination structures;

156.2.2. the operational and tactical management of actions aimed at mitigating and managing consequences;

156.2.3. ensuring information flow and public communication;

156.2.4. the prompt updating of risk profiles and of the Register, in accordance with the evolution of the situation.

156.3. Recovery shall include:

156.3.1. the restoration of the normal functioning of critical infrastructure and essential services;

156.3.2. post-event assessment and the integration of lessons learned into the risk management cycle;

156.3.3. the updating of the regulatory framework, plans, and relevant policies with a view to strengthening national resilience.

156.4. Monitoring and review shall be carried out through:

156.4.1. continuous monitoring of risks and updating of relevant data;

156.4.2. periodic review of assessments, scenarios, and plans;

156.4.3. audits and independent evaluations of the effectiveness of risk management.

156.5. Communication and consultation shall take place throughout the process and shall include:

156.5.1. the exchange of information among authorities, institutions, and relevant partners, in compliance with confidentiality requirements and the protection of sensitive data;

156.5.2. transparent information of the public and the business community;

156.5.3. consultation of stakeholders during the process of developing and updating assessments and plans.

157. The NCMC shall develop and transmit to public institutions and authorities additional instructions regarding the application of this Methodology, ensuring their alignment with the provisions of Article 1 of Law No. 209/2018 on the National Committee for Financial Stability, in the context of macroprudential and systemic risks.

158. Assessment matrices, evaluation criteria, scoring methodologies, risk profile templates, and technical instructions for the application of this Methodology shall be approved and updated, as necessary, by the NCMC as supporting methodological documents.

159. The methodological annexes shall constitute an integral part of the national risk assessment system and shall ensure the uniform application of the provisions of this Methodology.