

Introduction

The Independent Journalism Center (IJC) was created in December 1994 as a unit of the Open World House (an association of NGOs), and was registered as an independent non-governmental organization in November 1998. During the first years, the Open World House provided IJC with the best conditions for performing different activities. Gradually, the range of services that were offered to journalists enlarged, as did the spectrum of informational resources and technical means. The extent of this development determined the need for additional rooms and a number of changes in organization, so as to allow the Center perform its projects independently. Having just one room at the beginning, we are now able to provide journalists with a resource center consisting of a computer room (including access to the Internet), a multi-lingual library (including Moldovan and foreign periodicals), a database, and two conference, seminar and training halls (including for the Press Club meetings). More than 300 journalists and students in journalism use the services of the resource center every month, while their number increases continually.

The Independent Journalism Center started its activity as an office aiming to promote a free and independent press in the Republic of Moldova. This goal hasn't changed since then, although it is now more specific and emphasizes on the professionalism of journalists and others working in mass media. Hence, while the training programs centered initially on general topics, now they focus on concrete issues regarding the training needs of journalists.

Since the idea of creating an alternative school for journalists' professional improvement in the Republic of Moldova couldn't be materialized due to a number of reasons, and the Faculty of Journalism at the State University of Moldova thus remained the only such school, this has determined the implementation of short-term training programs for journalists. This formula appears to be a successful endeavor in the present conditions of our society, in which journalists work hard to support their livelihood and the mass media organizations are unable to finance long-term training for professional improvement.

The training projects include a series of special projects focusing on certain aspects and problems of the theme journalism - economic journalism, how to write about national minorities, issues concerning women, children, healthcare, etc. - as well as the legislative framework of the mass media, including the rights and duties of journalist, access to information, etc. These projects are usually conceived on a long-term basis; they require step by step implementation, and are expected to be for the benefit of a large number of journalists.

An important part in the activity of IJC is represented by its media-related publications. Our analytic magazine "Mass Media in the Republic of Moldova" has survived for a long time, and one year ago we founded a new bimonthly informational bulletin "Curier media". Moreover, our Center managed to reify an older request of the journalists - the "Guide to the Mass Media in the Republic of Moldova".

Mention should be also made of the fact that, with no doubt, the Press Club is one of the most popular projects among the journalists.

The recently created IJC Media Law Unit has started its activity of providing to journalists and mass media organizations relevant information in the field of local and international mass media legislation, as well as consulting.

Hundreds of people throughout the world can read daily news from the Republic of Moldova, which is due to the Moldova News Project conceived in collaboration with DNT and consisting of selecting the most important news from the Republic of Moldova and their subsequent display on the Internet. At the moment of writing this report, the Web page has been visited 25,7631 times. The Independent Journalism Center has become a reference point for many foreign journalists, different international mass media institutions and organizations, etc., which are interested in the Republic of Moldova: we thus answer almost daily - by phone or e-mail - to many questions regarding the state of mass media in the Republic of Moldova, contacts with politicians, leaders, journalists, organizations, institutions, etc.

IJC performs its activities in collaboration with different mass media institutions and organizations in Europe and USA. Just recently our Center has become member of a South East European network of journalism centers (South East European Network For Professionalisation of the Media).

During the last years we participated at the foundation of a number of professional organizations in the field of the written press and broadcasting, among which the Independent Press Association and the Electronic Press Association, the purpose of which, as non-governmental organizations, is to unite and strengthen an independent body of mass media. We hope their achievements will increase in the future.

The Board of Experts of the Independent Journalism Center - consisting of 10 journalists with significant experience in the field, who work for local and international mass media - helps us to preserve the contact with reality and improve the elaboration of new projects and strategies.

Our activity in the past years would have been impossible without the generous support of different organizations and persons - from the Republic of Moldova as well as abroad - devoted to the independence of journalism, to whom we hereby wish to express our gratitude.

*Corina Cepoi,
Director*

Objectives of the IJC

As the only organization from the Republic of Moldova which offers assistance to journalists and mass media organizations, the Independent Journalism Center sees its mission in providing support to the affirmation of a qualitative, independent and objective press, and professional journalism, and in contributing to the sustained development of mass media, as a necessary and indispensable element in the process of democratization.

In order to fulfill the stipulated objectives, the Independent Journalism Center:

- elaborates and implements training programs (seminars, workshops, theoretical and practical courses, etc.) on various topics for journalists from different domains of mass media;
- contributes to learning about the Western experience and practice in the field of mass media by supporting contacts between Moldovan journalists and their Western colleagues;
- encourages the solidarity of journalists by providing support to professional associations of journalists;
- supports and participates directly in the elaboration of a democratic legal framework for mass media;
- offers support to the local and regional independent press;
- offers consulting to the mass media organizations regarding business and market principles;
- organizes and encourages exchanges of opinions and learning concerning the status and evolution of the mass media in the Republic of Moldova (the Center issues two publications, organizes the Press Club meetings, commissions opinion polls, etc.);
- conducts different journalistic contests, and organizes an annual rating of the most popular journalists;
- provides journalists and mass media organizations with informational support (literature in different languages, Moldovan and foreign periodicals, access to the Internet, IJC data base);
- organizes training for beginners in journalism, and provides support to school and high-school publications.

While performing its activities, the IJC strives to capitalize on the experience of similar institutions from other countries, to gain the support from and collaboration with mass media organizations and local, national and international democratic institutions. In 1999, the IJC administered more than 20 projects in collaboration with the International Center for Journalists (USA), Article XIX (Great Britain), American Bar Association, Thomson Foundation (Great Britain), Superior School of Journalism in Lille (France), Internet Access and Training Program (IATP/IREX), Committee for Freedom of the Press, Soros Center for Contemporary Art, Independent Press Association, Journalists' Union of Moldova, Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences (MSU), CONTACT Center, Broadcast Coordination Council.

The fulfillment of the proposed objectives would have been impossible without the generous financial support of the SOROS-Moldova Foundation, which finances the fundamental activities of the IJC. The financial support from other organizations - provided through certain

important projects - is also vital for the existence and role of the IJC; among such funders are Eurasia Foundation (USAID), USA Embassy, World Bank (Program of small grants), Open Society Institute, TACIS (AGRO-Inform Program, "*Pamint*" National Program), Council of Europe, Know How Fund, Dynamic Network Technologies Association (DNT), Press Now (Denmark) and UNICEF.

Training Projects

Seminars, workshops, conferences

The training projects of the Independent Journalism Center are conceived of as important parts of the professional development of journalists in the Republic of Moldova, and of the development of a free and objective press.

The philosophy behind them is to ‘import’ as well as create own modern ideas, methods, and media practices and techniques, a constant exchange of information and experience concerning different domains of mass media; this aim is being achieved through the help of experts invited from Europe and USA. At the same time, the projects of the Independent Journalism Center aim at addressing the journalists and other persons involved in the mass media production - managers, editors, cameramen, salesmen, as well as students and teaching staff at the Faculty of Journalism at MSU - and different types of mass media, including news agencies, radio and TV stations, local and regional publications, school and high-school publications.

Similarly to other democratic institutions, independent mass media must be developed according to certain principles. Thus the elaboration of training programs has as its starting point the most urgent needs, expressed by the journalists themselves, as well as the practice of democratic countries, where the mass media are recognized as the forth power in the state. It is this point of view that must be considered when an attempt is made to include in the activity of IJC certain training courses focused on problems faced by NGOs, minorities, etc.

Economic and Business Reporting in the Mass Media of the Republic of Moldova

1998 - 1999

Funding: Eurasia Foundation, Soros-Moldova Foundation

The goal of the project was to influence both the quality and the quantity of materials on economy in the central and local mass media, and to encourage a more active interaction and communication between the mass media and the public sector. It is expected that this fact would eventually stimulate the interest of the population in economic reforms.

The program consists of several components, which combine practical courses in reporting economic topics with practical training at successful publications from Central and Eastern Europe, as well as study trips and grants for journalists and mass media organizations, whereby they become able to apply in practice the gained knowledge.

The program started on 27 May, 1998, with an introductory seminar attended by 84 participants, journalists and mass media managers (29) from the districts of the Republic of Moldova. Thirteen experts - as representatives of Moldovan and foreign economic institutions and economic newspapers - were invited to lecture.

A number of 42 Romanian-speaking journalists and 17 Russian-speaking journalists were invited to participate in different seminars and one-week practical training in Romania and Ukraine (for Russian-speaking journalists), which were held in June 1998. As the number of journalists who wished to participate was bigger than expected, the Eurasia Foundation provided additional funding for 5 journalists.

Meanwhile, a journalist contest on reporting in economy and business was organized. There were 48 participants (30 of Romanian language and 18 of Russian), out of whom 20 persons were selected to receive practical training in the USA and Poland.

Practical Training in the USA

28 November - 12 December, 1998

The two-week training programs in the USA offered the Moldovan journalists the opportunity to learn about different modalities used by American press to reflect economic and business topics in the local, national and international media. They visited a number of publications, radio and TV stations, such as *USA Today*, *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Kiplingers Personal Finance Magazine*, *Journal of Commerce*, CNN, CBS-News Affiliate in Washington and National Public Radio.

Apart from these activities, they assisted at the daily briefing at the White House, and met different representatives of economic and financial institutions of the USA (USA Department of Commerce, World Bank and IMF Institute of Economic Development, NASDAQ Exchange, New York Exchange, and Bloomberg News Agency).

Practical Training in Poland

11 - 20 January, 1999

This program was coordinated with Batory Foundation and took into consideration the professional needs of the participating journalists. The practical training for ten journalists included visits to the private station TVN in Warsaw, Reuters Poland news agency, Central Bank, IDEE Foundation, ING Barrings, Warsaw Exchange, *Rzeczpolita* newspaper. While in Gdansk, the journalists had the possibility of meeting the former minister of privatization Janusz Lewandowski at the Research Institute of Market Economy.

The Moldovan journalists appreciated the high level of competence of Polish journalists doing economic reporting. The visit to Poland offered to them an educational experience on this country's economic reforms on the macro- and micro-economic levels.

Post-Training Workshop

22 - 23 February, 1999

The journalists and press managers who visited Poland and the USA assembled at a two-day workshop in order to exchange experience and opinions, and an anthology of the journalists' travel notes while in these two countries - entitled 'Journalistic Landmarks - USA and Poland' - was published.

Reporting in Culture and Arts

Seminar, 26 - 27 March, 1999

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation through Soros Center for Contemporary Art

The two-day timetable of this seminar included general definitions of cultural journalism, evolution of this field, cultural policies, interpretation of cultural events, professional ethics, and new technologies. The participating expert was Victoria Anghelescu - art critic and journalist for *Curentul* daily, Bucharest.

Participants were students and young journalists with work experience in cultural journalism of up to 5 years. The great number of persons wishing to participate, as well as the interest of the participants, strengthened our belief regarding the necessity of organizing additional seminars.

Radio Reporting

Workshop for young journalists, 5 - 8 April, 1999

Partners: Faculty of Journalism (SUM), Superior School of Journalism in Lille

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation and *Alliance Francaise* in Moldova

The participants learned about the hierarchy of values, selection of priorities, angle of approach, techniques of writing, etc. Discussions were initiated on the importance of the sound in radio, organization of time, instruments and working techniques of the reporter. The participants also prepared and presented together two radio news reels on real events in the Republic of Moldova. Instructor: Jean-Pierre Monzat, Radio France International.

Although the planned number of participants was 15, there were 21 participants every day.

Professionals in Residence

Consulting, July - October, 1999

Funding: United States Information Agency (USIA)

This program resulted in the exchange of knowledge and experience between American mass media professionals and those from the Republic of Moldova. Following this goal, during four months a number of American specialists in mass media visited different independent publications and press organizations in Moldova.

Robb Hill offered consulting to newspapers of the Independent Press Association in the field of computer layout, digital equipment and photojournalism. The thematic range of individual consulting was established during a seminar organized by the IJC. During one month Robb Hill managed to visit 11 local and regional publications, and the news agency DECA-press.

Ken Blum's program, an expert in advertising, included visits at different advertising agencies (Standard, Moldreclama, ADV, Noba Group, Makler), and consulting to newspapers of the API.

Jack Ronald (editor and expert in mass media ethics) continued the seminars of Ken Blum concerning advertising - how to make advertising work for the client, why it is important to comply with the contract, how to persuade your client to realize the benefits of advertising.

In September, Jack Ronald held a series of seminars on ethics for local journalists. These seminars were organized in Balti (10 September, 13 participants), Chisinau (11 September, 8 participants), Cimislia (17 September, 4 participants), and Orhei (18 September, 9

participants). Both the instructor and the participants considered the exchange of opinions on ethics to be an important achievement. They also discussed different aspects and situations that must be avoided or treated with attention.

Jack Ronald held a series of lectures on the topic of professional ethics for the second- and third-year students of Journalism and Communication Sciences at the State University of Moldova. The high level of attendance at the lectures and the subsequent questions and discussions showed how topical this area was, as well as the high degree of the students' interest.

Individual consulting in management and advertising was provided to the *Accent Provincial* (Glodeni), *Ora Locala* (Ialoveni), and API office in Chisinau. Informative visits were made to *Komsomolskaia Pravda - Moldova*, *Kommunist*, *Makler*, *Dobryi Den* (Ribnita), *Novaia Gazeta* (Tighina), TiViK Asket TV station (Tiraspol).

During the last two weeks, Jack Ronald worked with the newspaper *Economicheskoe Obozrenie-Logos Press*.

Alphonse Vinh provided a 5-day seminar concerning the Internet, with the participation of 9 journalists. They learned how to find the shortest way of access to the necessary information. The seminar was conceived in such a way as to allow these journalist to organize, in turn, their own seminars for their colleagues (two of them already started working as instructors in the training courses provided by the IATP).

Judy Yablonky (expert in management) worked with API, offering consulting for the organization's restructuring, and with the recently founded Electronic Press Association (APEL), offering consulting on short term and long term planning.

There was also a one-day seminar organized for the entire IJC team, centered on the issues of daily organization of activity, and the development and future of the Center.

Basics in Journalism for the Teaching Staff Responsible for School Publications

Summer School, 8 - 14 August, 1999, Holercani

Funding: Soros Foundation Moldova, UNICEF

This project was actually a continuation of the previous IJC project 'Basics in Journalism for Beginners' 1998.

The team of instructors included the following experts on theory and practice:

Mihai Guzun, Professor, Ph.D. - dean of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences at Moldova State University;

Ana Bantos, Ph.D. - assistant editor-in-chief of *Limba Romana* magazine, PhD in Philology;

Dumitru Maxim - layout, journalist, *Basarabia* magazine;

Alexandru Cantir - BBC reporter in Moldova, president of Committee for Freedom of the Press;

Iosif Moldovanu - director of European Youth Exchange Moldova, director of the project 'Education for Democratic Citizenship'.

The theoretical component of the training approached different problems regarding the role and mission of the press, freedom of expression, NGOs in mass media, journalism ethics, press genres (news and news editing, interviews, reporting, commentary and analysis). Theoretical classes were combined with practical ones, and the participants had the possibility of writing articles for the summer school newspaper. The second part of the training focused on newspaper layout and content, which were discussed in workshops. The instructor provided individual consulting on layout and inserting pictures and photos on the page using a computer (Word 97 and Adobe Pagemaker 6.5).

Finally, the participants edited the summer school publication containing articles and photos which were prepared during one week. The decision was made to found the association 'Press Junior' - an association of teaching staff and students who publish school newspapers, and who would meet periodically to discuss various topics and exchange experience and opinions.

Following the summer school and the suggestions of the participants, three monthly training courses in school and high-school journalism were organized in collaboration with the Center for Youth Development:

'The Management of School Newspapers', October 1999;

'Ethics in Journalism', November 1999;

'Layout in Adobe Page Maker 6.0', December 1999.

The meetings were attended by teaching staff, students and volunteers who worked for school newspapers.

The Independent Journalism Center also organizes weekly seminars entitled 'Basics of Journalism' for school and university students from Chisinau. Experts include journalists, teaching staff and IJC volunteers.

Local TV Management

Practical Course, 20 - 26 September, 1999

Funding: Soros Foundation Moldova, Eurasia Foundation, Thomson Foundation

The organization of this course was determined by the large number of TV stations on the informational market of the Republic of Moldova, as well as by the lack of managers in this field.

The course was organized in collaboration with the Broadcast Coordination Council.

The experience of both local and foreign experts was applied (Mr. Graham Ironside, a specialist in the reorganization and modernization of programs production systems, and trainer in TV management from Great Britain, was partially financed by the Thomson Foundation).

The course saw the participation of different TV station managers from Chisinau, Cahul, Balti, Orhei, Briceni, Glodeni, Tvardita, Comrat, Ciadir-Lunga, Vorniceni, Taraclia.

The acquired theoretical background was illustrated in practice by visiting PRO TV, NIT, and the TV station of Strasenii. The majority of the participants appreciated the high level of organization of the training and the input of experts. Through this project the IJC and the

Broadcast Coordination Council created premises for a useful cooperation with the local TV stations.

‘Legal Framework’ Projects

The democratization of the mass media legal framework, and the adjustment of the Moldovan legislation to European standards - so as to ensure congenial conditions for a free press - represent the main directions of IJC’s activity at the present moment. Emphasis is placed on the necessity to improve and elaborate new laws and publish them, as well as on concrete, primarily legal assistance to journalists and the mass media when they are intimidated and harassed as a result of their opinions and information.

Access to Information for Journalists

Seminar, 15 - 16 April, 1999

Funding: Article XIX (Great Britain), Soros Foundation Moldova

Partners: American Bar Association

The project ‘Freedom of Expression, Freedom of Press and Democracy’ was elaborated by Article XIX and the International Center Against Censorship in collaboration with IJC, and was financed by the TACIS Program for democracy. This is a long term project, centered on spreading and affirming journalists’ basic rights: freedom of expression and free access to information. Following this goal, three seminars were organized and two surveys performed.

During the first seminar - ‘Mass Media Legislation in the Republic of Moldova and the European Standards’ - held on 27-28 November, 1997, in Chisinau, there was an attempt, with the participation of lawyers, leaders of NGOs, and journalists, to determine the level of implementation in the Republic of Moldova of Article 10 from the European Convention on Human Rights, as well as the way in which the civil and criminal law of the Republic of Moldova approach libel and defamation, the right not to reveal the sources of information, presumption of innocence, etc. (at the same time the guide ‘Mass Media and Freedom of Expression’ in Romanian, adjusted to the conditions of the Republic of Moldova, was published). The idea of comparing the legislation and practice in the Republic of Moldova with European standards was developed further, and produced certain effects, if we should judge by the fact, for example, that the Parliament already accepted to discuss in the first reading the draft-law on access to information.

The second activity within the project - the workshop ‘Moldovan Legislation on Press: Access to Information’, a partnership between Article XIX, IJC and ABA - took place on 2 December 1998 with 24 participants, who were asked to analyze the law project conceived by Alexandru Cantir (Committee for Freedom of the Press) in collaboration with Vasile Spinei (Parliamentary Commission for Education, Mass Media and Culture). The presence of American and European experts was very helpful for the improvement of the project and its presentation in the Parliament for the first reading.

The seminar ‘Access to Information’, organized in May 1999, represented a further step in the activity of the Independent Journalism Center, in collaboration with Article XIX, ABA, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Moldova, Journalists’ Union of Moldova. We believe the success of the seminar was also due to this collaboration. Approximately 40 persons were invited and participated: lawyers, journalists, politicians. Mention should be made of the younger generation’s interest in the theme, as well as the desire to promote the law project on free access to information. During evaluation the majority of the participants

considered the seminar met their expectations, and the authors of the project declared the seminar was very useful as it “offered many new and interesting ideas”, that would bring about “a qualitative improvement of the law project”.

All the comments and recommendations from the seminar were translated, prepared and transmitted to the authors of the law project (Vasile Spinei and Alexandru Cantir). Following the suggestion of Frank Coocsey (ABA), a group of experts met on 7 July and worked on the law project, applying the seminar’s recommendations, and then the law project was presented in the Parliament for first reading.

The law project on access to information was approved in first reading at the end of July 1999. The Republic of Moldova is thus the first of the former soviet republics which will have a law on access to information. Following the suggestion of Vasile Spinei, the Independent Journalism Center in collaboration with ABA organized several roundtables with the participation of state officials, lawyers and journalists, aimed at preparing the law project for its second reading and at training the persons who were directly involved in providing information.

Along with its theoretical and practical dimensions, the project of Article XIX and IJC also had an educational purpose. We believe it is sustainable through a concentration of efforts from several organizations towards one goal: promotion of freedom of expression, human rights and democracy in general.

IJC Media Law Unit

Funding: USIS

This is a new project, that started in the middle of 1999, the purpose of which is to provide journalists and mass media organizations with information in the field of local and international mass media legislation, as well as with consulting support.

In this respect, we started the foundation of a library containing juridical literature in the field of mass media, including the electronic version of different laws and law projects in the field, other countries’ mass media legislation, a database with documents and materials presented in courts (suits involving journalists, topics on access to information, etc.), texts of judicial decisions, lists of lawyers with experience in the field of mass media legislation, journalists/organizations that are or were brought to court.

The Media Law Unit translated into English and monitorized the elaboration and initiation in Parliament of the law project on access to information, press law, etc.

How to Write and Not Be Sued?

Seminar, 18 - 19 November, 1999

Funding: USIS

This was the first seminar organized by the IJC Media Law Unit. A number of specialists in journalistic legislation and ethics from Romania and USA, as well as Moldova, were invited as experts. The 14 participants had the possibility of learning about new things on journalistic responsibility and ethics, the international legal regulations in this domain, the right to

information that must not contradict the citizen's right to privacy, and, in this respect, the special status of the public official as compared to that of a common citizen. The theoretical issues were subsequently followed up by practical analysis of specific situations.

Contests

Promotion of Agricultural Reform

Contest, 1 January, 1999 - 31 March, 2000

Funding: Program AGROinform (TACIS), National Program 'Pamint'

This project, that was organized in collaboration with the Guild of Journalists Writing on Agriculture and the Independent Press Association (the administration of the project was the task of the Independent Journalism Center), aimed at spurring the qualitative reflection and promoting of the agricultural reform in mass media. The contest was scheduled for four periods:

- 1 January - 30 July, 1999 (the deadline for submitting materials - 9 July)
- 1 July - 30 September, 1999 (the deadline - 8 October)
- 1 October - 31 December, 1999 (the deadline - 12 January 2000)
- 1 January - 31 March, 2000 (the deadline - 7 April)

The information about the contest was mailed to 400 journalists in February/March 1999, during the launching press conference on 2 March 1999, the seminars of Independent Press Association, IATP and IJC training, and different press conferences that were organized by IJC and others.

The first stage included 25 journalists from the written press, radio and TV, who presented 120 papers, and the winners were announced on 29 July during a press conference. The jury was formed of experienced journalists, as well as specialists in the field of agricultural reform. There were three prizes: 1st prize - 75\$, 2nd prize - 50\$, and prizes of encouragement - 25\$.

National press:

1st prize - Anatol Cislaru (GP Flux)

2nd prize - Gheorghe Tofan (GJA)

prizes of encouragement - Ion Preasca (*Tara*), Veaceslav Mitu (Moldpress Press Agency)

Local press:

1st prize - Svetlana Gutu (*Ora Locala*, Ialoveni)

2nd prize - Elena Motricala (*Est Curier*, Criuleni)

prizes of encouragement - Elena Roman (*Cuvintul*, Rezina), Gheorghe Sova (*Duminica*, Falesti)

Broadcasting:

1st prize TV - Ina Ghighinisvili (TiViK Asket, Tiraspol)

2nd prize TV - Olga Avanesova (TiViK Asket, Tiraspol)

The members of the jury appreciated the active participation of local and regional journalists.

The second stage of the contest included 23 journalists, and the winners were announced on 28 October 1999. The winners were:

National press:

1st prize - Vasile Martin, *Moldova Suverana*

2nd prize - Ion Preasca, *Tara*
prizes of encouragement - Gheorghe Tofan, *Agricultural Reform*

Local press:

1st prize - Svetlana Gutu, *Ora Locala*, Ialoveni
2nd prize - Ana Curcudel, *Accent Provincial*, Glodeni
prizes of encouragement - Elena Roman, *Cuvintul*, Rezina

News agencies:

1st prize - Veaceslav Mitu, Moldpress
2nd prize - Anatol Cislaru, Flux
prizes of encouragement - Anatol Pasat, Infotag

Broadcasting:

1st prize - Pavel Savca, National Radio
2nd prize - Claudia Rotaru, TVM
prizes of encouragement - Andrei Bargan, Cim TV

Healthcare System Reform

Seminar and contest, 9 - 26 November, 1999

Funding: World Bank Office in Moldova, Soros-Moldova Foundation

This project is aimed at professional journalists who are specialized in reporting on medicine and at those interested in the project of reforming the healthcare system, elaborated by the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova.

IJC's project started with a seminar, the purpose of which was to stimulate the formation of a public opinion through objective information about the reorganization of the healthcare system. The healthcare reform generates many contradictions, while the lack of information, or wrong information in the press leads to panic among readers. That is why one of the first steps of the reform was to provide journalists with access to objective and direct information about the reasons of implementing this project, its future and advantages. The seminar participants had the possibility to debate on these topics.

In the end, a contest was announced: the seminar participants were invited to provide - at the Independent Journalism Center till 26 November 1999 - at least two stories reflecting the healthcare reform in the Republic of Moldova, and at least one of them must have been published/broadcast between 11 - 26 November 1999.

The members of the jury were Victor Volovei (coordinator of the project 'Reorganization of the Healthcare System', Ministry of Health of the Republic of Moldova), Gheorghe Rusu (Director of CNSPMS), Dumitru Tintiu (Head of the Department of Public Health and Management at USMF 'N. Testimitanu'), Violeta Cojocaru (UNICEF). The final meeting of the jury on 27 December 1999 announced the winners of the contest, who received diplomas and prizes in cash:

National written press:

1st prize - Tatiana Dobrynina, *Nezavisimaia Moldova*
2nd prize - Irina Tcaci, *Logos-press*

Local written press:

1st prize - Valentina Cibotaru, *Glia Drochiana* (Drochia)
2nd prize - Maria Turcanu, *Ecoul nostru* (Singerei)

Electronic press:

1st prize - Galina Alcaz-Jalencu, Radio Moldova

2nd prize - Livia Timciuc, TV Moldova

Solidarity of journalists

The Foundation of the Electronic Press Association (APEL)

Funding:

The implementation of the project to create and register APEL passed through three stages. The first started in October 1998, and received the support of the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) and USIS, when Michael Beardsley, an American expert in broadcasting, arrived to Moldova in order to analyze the context in which Moldovan broadcasting developed, as well as the possibilities of organizing an electronic press association.

Second, as a result of Mr. Beardsley's survey and with the participation of Jim Wychor from Wychor Communications, Minnesota, a number of meetings were organized with the representatives of radio and TV stations from Chisinau and the districts, where the concrete modalities of founding an electronic press association were discussed. A draft of by-laws was elaborated and the Electronic Press Association started its activities in November 1998, having as objectives the solidarity and development of broadcasting in the Republic of Moldova, the encouragement and promotion of high standards for journalists in broadcasting, the representation of audiovisual in the Parliament and Government.

Third, in June 1999, the association received assistance in the elaboration of its working plan and organizational development (the assistance was again provided by Jim Wychor, who considered his participation in the fulfillment of the APEL project a duty of honor).

APEL was officially registered in July 1999.

Independent Press Association

In October 1999, Judy Yablonky, an expert financed by USIS and ICFJ, worked on the organizational development of API (as well as APEL).

Publications and Resources for Journalists

Analytic Bulletin ‘Mass Media in Moldova’

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

The analytic bulletin ‘Mass Media in Moldova’ has been published by the Independent Journalism Center since August 1995, and it is the only magazine that treats the problems of journalism as a profession, reflecting the evolution and the present and possible future problems in the mass media in the Republic of Moldova.

The bulletin is published twice per year (except for 1998, when it appeared in four issues), with a circulation of 500 copies in Romanian and English, and it focuses on journalists, press organizations, governmental bodies dealing with the problems of journalism, private sector, foreign experts and organizations, embassies, and foundations which support the independent press of new democracies.

Each issue of the bulletin centers on a concrete topic. The topics of 1999 were:

- problems of press distribution in the Republic of Moldova (June 1999);
- Moldovan Television (December 1999).

Apart from its main topics, the bulletin contains various articles, opinions, opinion polls for journalists, managers, and all those interested in the affirmation of a free press in the Republic of Moldova.

MM 1 1999

Information and the Culture of Communication in Moldova

Cable Television: Premises, Conditions, Trends

Journalism as Business

The Journalist - the Last in the Hit Charts

The Ethics Code of the Journalists in Moldova

Opinion Poll: What Journalists Think about Journalism Issues

The Party Press and the Value of the Civil Society

The Regional Press Crisis

The BASA Style and the Problem of Staffing

The Ratings of Publications

MM 2 1999

The New Generation in Moldovan Journalism

The Mass Media Audiences (Opinion Poll)

The Mass Media and Nongovernmental Organizations

The Business of Independent Press

Press Services: Barrier or Facilitator in Relations with the Media?

ICFJ - A Useful Resource for Moldovan Journalists

TV Transmitters and Stations in the Counties of Moldova

The section 'Our guest' includes interviews with Western journalist who are familiar with the evolution of press in the Republic of Moldova. In 1999 these were Jack Ronald (editor and director of the *Commercial Review* daily, Portland, Indiana, USA, who, as Fulbright Professor, lectured at the State University of Moldova) and Judy Yablonky (journalist and consultant in communications, with 25 years of experience in the field of international mass media).

The opinions on the bulletin 'Mass Media in the Republic of Moldova' were generally positive, and the suggestions of our readers were taken into consideration.

The MM Bulletin is also distributed electronically on the web page of the Independent Journalism Center.

Informational Bulletin 'Curier Media'

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

The bulletin 'Curier Media' was launched in 1998, and represents an on-going source of information for journalists and mass media organizations on things happening in the mass media on the local, regional and global level. The information is selected on a daily basis; the bulletin is published twice per month in Romanian, on four A4 pages, and is distributed in 250 copies among different editorial offices, radio and TV stations of the Republic of Moldova. The bulletin is also distributed electronically on the web page of the Independent Journalism Center.

The bulletin contains information on the following topics:

- mass media current events (national and international);
- employment proposals, conferences, national and international programs;
- topics on the legal framework of the press and freedom of expression;
- courses, seminars, Press Club meetings, other events in the activity of the Independent Journalism Center.

Information is selected on a daily basis from the news wires of BASA-Press, FLUX, Infotag, Interlic, Moldpres, DECA-Press, as well as from the informational bulletins provided by the European Journalism Center, International Center for Journalists, International Freedom of Expression Exchange Clearing House, International Press Institute, Europemedia, World Association of Newspapers, etc.

The Guide 'Mass Media in the Republic of Moldova'

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation, Know How Fund

The Independent Journalism Center, in collaboration with the Faculty of Journalism at the State University of Moldova, published in 1999 the first guide to Moldovan press (in Romanian and English), containing general data on all publications, radio and TV stations in the Republic of Moldova, on the press services of ministries and departments, as well as other information of interest to journalists.

The MM guide was published in 2000 copies, and was distributed free of charge to those interested from the Republic of Moldova and abroad (first of all to journalists and mass media organizations). It is planned to publish the guide once every two years. The resource center offers an electronic version of the guide, which is continually updated.

Opinion Polls

General Problems of Mass Media in the Republic of Moldova

Opinion Poll, December 1999

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

This is an opinion poll which has been performed among the journalists every year since 1995.

The 1999 opinion poll was conducted by IMAS, Bucharest.

The questionnaire included the following questions:

How much are you familiarized with the documents that focus on access to information, stipulated by the national and international legislation?

What are the sources of your information in this case?

What stipulations of the law thwart your free professional practice?

In your opinion, what is the degree in which the journalists of the Republic of Moldova are politically biased, thus damaging the principles of free journalism?

What is, in most cases, the main reason for political dependence?

How often do you accept tasks which are incompatible with your professional principles?

How much are you familiar with the Code of Professional Ethics, which was elaborated and signed by a number of mass media organizations from the Republic of Moldova in 1999?

How do you appreciate the degree of access journalists have to any information of public interest, which the officials or public persons possess?

What public institutions restrict to a higher degree the citizens' and journalists' access to information?

Do you or do you not have a personal contract of employment with the mass media organization you work at, a contract that would contain provisions in accordance with the generally accepted rights and duties of journalists?

What do you think is the degree in which you are protected against any persecutions, threats or pressures that may occur while performing your professional duties?

What do you expect from the professional organizations of journalists with regards to the stimulation of your activity?

The Mass Media Audiences in the Republic of Moldova

Opinion poll, November 1999

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

This opinion poll was conducted by IMAS - Institute of Marketing and Opinion Polls, Bucharest.

There were two questionnaires, in 1998 and 1999, respectively. The interviews were performed at the homes of selected persons by interviewers of the Independent Foundation of Opinion Polls Socio-Moldova. The sample represented the population of the Republic of Moldova of 18 years and older, except Transnistria.

The opinion poll was divided in three compartments: TV, radio and written press.

The answers revealed the media consumer's preferences depending on age, nationality, gender, as well as the division of the informational market in the Republic of Moldova among different types of mass media.

The main results of the opinion poll were published in bulletin MM 2 1999. Other results will be published in MM 1 2000.

Special Projects

The Freedom of Press Week in Moldova

Series of events, 3 - 8 May, 1999

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation, Eurasia Foundation

The Independent Journalism Center, in collaboration with the Journalists' Union of Moldova, API, Committee for Freedom of the Press in Moldova, and the Faculty of Journalism at SUM, organized a series of events dedicated to the World Day of Press Freedom (3 May), having as its goal the enhancement of the public opinion's awareness regarding the need for a truly free press in Moldova.

3 May

The week started with a press conference at the Journalists' Union, during which the program and the objectives of the project were presented. The organizers announced the results of 'Freedom of the Press' poster contest: 1st place - Vitalie Coroban (Flux), 2nd place - Vitalie Nezvinschi (*Banci si Finante - Profit* magazine), and 3rd place - Vitalie Pogolsa.

4 May

It was the day of the Congress of Journalists' Union of Moldova, during which the present situation of Moldovan press was analyzed. The Congress urged the state to provide support to the mass media, as the majority of editorial offices are bankrupt. The Congress also traced the main vectors and modalities of collaborative work with state structures in order to receive assistance for the press. Tudor Iascenco, the president of the Independent Press Association, suggested that a day or week 'without press' might be declared to enhance the awareness of public opinion regarding the problems faced by the mass media.

The Congress demanded that the leadership of Journalists' Union of Moldova elaborated a report on the situation of the press in Moldova and presented it to international organizations, including the Council of Europe and International Federation of Journalists. The Congress adopted the Ethics Code of the Journalists from Moldova.

5 May

The Independent Journalism Center hosted the round table 'The Copyright in the Republic of Moldova', with the participation of journalists and specialists in the domain. The general opinion of journalists was that the copyright is infringed. Vera Macinscaia, judge at the Supreme Court of Justice and invited expert at the round table, declared that in 1998 no case concerning the violation of copyright was examined. Moreover, during the last 25 years no criminal verdict for the violation of copyright was registered. According to the information provided by Mihai Cius, general director of the State Agency for Copyright in Moldova, the editorial boards and journalists usually take back the petitions they submit to court regarding the violation of copyright.

5 - 7 May

These days included the photographic exhibition 'Democracy in Focus' (with the presentation of 70 works by Moldovan professionals), the Day of Open Doors at the regional press, and meetings of regional press representatives with students of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences (Moldova State University).

8 May

The activities culminated in the Mass Media Festival 'Freedom of the Press - Your Real Image' at the National Opera Square, with the participation of journalists, artists, and youth. During the three hours of entertainment, mass media organizations exhibited advertising boards, and young people were involved in different contests, receiving prizes from a jury of journalists.

The activities of the Freedom of the Press Week united more than 200 journalists and students. Although it was organized for the first time, the Week had a special impact on both specialists and readers.

The Press Club

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

The Press Club was organized in collaboration with the Committee for Freedom of the Press in the fall of 1995. Through its meetings the Club strives to achieve better communication between journalists in order to find solutions to common problems and organize meetings between journalists and persons from various walks of life, including politicians, leaders of nongovernmental organizations, ambassadors, etc.

It has become a tradition that every year in December, the Press Club and the IJC award 10 special prizes to the most popular journalists of the year.

Journalists consider that the Press Club is the initiator of some dialogues which are very useful to both the press and public opinion.

In 1999, the following persons were Press Club guests:

22 January, 1 July: Ion Sturza, Minister of Economy; topic - economic situation and the reforms;

2 February: Valeriu Matei, vice-president of Parliament, and Iurie Rosca, vice-president of Parliament; moderator - Vasile Botnaru; topic - appointment of a new government;

20 May: round table with the participation of writers Vladimir Besleaga, Vasile Vasilache, Ion C. Ciobanu, Dumitru Matcovschi, Andrei Burac, Eugenia David, Valeriu Babanschi, Andrei Turcanu, Vasile Garnet, theater directors Victor Ciutac, Dumitru Fusu, etc.; moderator - Nicolae Negru; topic - presidential republic - pros and cons;

1 July: Alexandru Muravschi; moderator - Arcadie Gherasim; topic - the economic crisis;

9 September: Anatol Grimalschi, minister of Education and Sciences, and Dumitru Ivanov, president of the corresponding trade union; moderator - Vitalie Dogaru; topic - the educational system;

30 September: Vasile Nedelciuc, member of Parliament, president of the Parliamentary Commission for Foreign Policy, and Iurie Leanca, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs; moderator - Nicolae Negru; topic - the foreign policy of Moldova;

28 October: Victor Barsan, the ambassador of Romania to Moldova; moderator - Nicolae Negru;

5 November: Slavian Gutu, Foreign Relations officer, World Bank; Nicolae Chirtoaca, senior state counselor; Aliona Niculita, CONTACT Center; moderator - Victor Osipov (Radio d'Or); topic - the civil society in Moldova;

18 November: spokesmen and representatives of press services; moderators - Vitalie Dogaru and Doina Melnic; topic - press services: barrier or facilitator in relations with the press?

11 December: Arcadie Gherasim; moderator - Nicolae Negru; topic - the public television in Moldova;

26 November: a group of Bulgarian journalists, with whom the situation of ethnic minorities and the reflection of their problems in Moldovan and Bulgarian mass media were discussed; moderator - Nicolae Negru.

Since 1997, there was a TV version of the Press Cub at Catalan TV, which since December 1999 continued at TVM.

Ranking the Most Popular Journalists

Opinion poll, festivity

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

This is a project which has been taking place since 1995 and based on an opinion poll among journalists. In 1999, the opinion poll was conducted by IMAS S. A. - Institute of Marketing and Opinion Polls, Bucharest.

The sample was stratified, each mass media organization being considered as a separate stratum. All the editors-in-chief of the organizations included in the opinion poll were asked to participate in it. The interviews were held on 8 - 15 December 1999. 355 questionnaires involving 51 editorial offices were completed.

The most popular journalists in 1999 were:

in written press:

Constantin Tanase (director of the press group FLUX)

Petru Bogatu (deputy editor-in-chief of the newspaper *Tara*)

Dumitru Ciubasenco (editor-in-chief of the newspaper *Moldavskie vedomosti*)

Viorel Mihail (editor-in-chief of the magazine *Saptamina*)

radio and television:

Maria Trifan (editor Radio Moldova)

Constantin Chiroscu (program producer at TVM, reporter BASA-press)

Alexandru Cantir (BBC correspondent)

Mircea Surdu (editor and program producer at TVM)

local press:

Lucia Bacalu (reporter, publication *Unghiul*, Ungheni)

Tudor Iascenco (director of publication *Cuvintul*, Rezina)

the hopeful of the year:

Liliana Vitu (BBC reporter)

the best debut in broadcasting

PRO-TV Chisinau

the best debut in written press

Jurnal de Chisinau

the journalist who incited the public opinion most of all:
Andrei Turcanu

the most successful manager of 1999:
Alexandru Tanase (magazine *Profit*)

the best performance in 1999:
Radio 'Antena C'

The ranking of the most popular journalists of the year was announced at the festive meeting of the Press Club on 25 December, with 170 journalists participating.

Additional Projects

Mass Media Strategies for Women

Seminar, 16 - 19 February, 1999

Funding: United States Information Service (USIS), Soros-Moldova Foundation

The purpose of this project was to familiarize the leaders of women's NGOs from Chisinau and counties with mass media strategies and practices in the context of their problems. Mrs. Roxana Marinescu, an experienced member of the Society for Women's Issues Analyses AnA from Bucharest, who had implemented a number of projects on women and the press, was invited as instructor.

The leaders and representatives of 16 national and regional women's NGOs were selected for participation, to whom the following topics of discussion, during the four days of the seminar, were suggested: types of messages, development of genres and the press, types of mass media, mass media practices for NGOs (press conferences, communication, mass media strategies), planning a press campaign, preparing and conducting an interview. The seminar included both theoretical explanations and practical exercises.

The experience of the instructor, the prepared materials, and the interest of the participants ensured the success of the seminar. In spite of the age differences, the participants were equally satisfied with the work experience and group study: 'We had the opportunity to make a lot of contacts and start cooperating because we have similar problems'. The success of the seminar was also expressed, among other things, by the fact that a number of NGOs, which did not participate at the seminar, asked for the materials distributed by the instructor.

NGOs and the Mass Media: Possibilities of Collaboration

Seminar, 26 July, 1999

Funding: IJC, CONTACT Center, Center for Assistance to NGOs CEAVA (Lille, France), Soros-Moldova Foundation

This seminar represented the first attempt to analyze the relations between the non-profit sector and the mass media. The contribution of IJC to this seminar was to select and invite 10 journalists and university professors who would examine the situation of the press and of the non-governmental sector in Moldova.

Moderators: Vitalie Cazacu, director of the news agency DECA press (registered as NGO); Victor Osipov, manager of Radio d'Or and NGO Temma.

Minorities in a Multicultural Environment

Research visit of Bulgarian journalists to Moldova, 20 - 27 November, 1999

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation

This visit was prompted by the necessity to inform the Bulgarian mass media on the real situation of national minorities in Moldova in general, and that of the Bulgarian minority in particular. The program included a number of meetings with state officials, writers, members

of the parliament, journalists, and businessmen of Bulgarian origin. The journalists visited the Bulgarian general school in Chisinau, the Bulgarian society “Renaissance”, CONTACT Center, Soros Foundation, Ministry of Education, the Pedagogic College ‘*Sf. Chiril si Metodie*’ in Taraclia, College of Folk Music and Instruments in Tvardita (which offers ample education in Bulgarian culture: music, dance, traditions), and the house of a Bulgarian family.

During the last day, a meeting between Bulgarian and Moldovan journalists was organized at the Press Club, the main topic being how ethnic minorities issues are reflected in the mass media of both countries.

The members of the delegation were pleasantly surprised by the tolerance and openness of the Moldovan central authorities with regards to certain topics concerning interethnic relations, unlike the county authorities in Taraclia, who, for different reasons, refused any kind of meeting. Moreover, in the opinion of Bulgarian journalists, the real conditions for national minorities, as created by the Moldovan authorities and stipulated by the Moldovan legislation, are far more favorable than those described by the Bulgarian mass media. The organizers thus consider that the purpose of the project - to inform the Bulgarian colleagues on the real situation of the Bulgarian minority in Moldova - has been achieved, for they would be now able to influence through their publications the development and amelioration of the relations between the two states on both community and national levels.

The Resource Center of the IJC

The Independent Journalism Center has a resource center consisting of a library and a database, which were created following the request of journalists and mass media organizations.

The IJC library contains more than 800 books in Romanian, English (about 50%), French, Russian, Spanish, and German, which are arranged according to certain compartments: written press, radio, television, management, public relations, legislation, dictionaries, etc. Every month, the library is visited by approximately 60 journalists (they may use the copier to make copies of the selected materials, and, under certain terms, may borrow books). Moreover, the library can provide different reports, assessments, legislative acts, and other documents regarding the mass media in Moldova and other countries.

The resource center is subscribed to all the newspapers in Moldova (more than 50), both in Romanian and Russian, as well as to a number of newspapers and magazines from Romania and other countries (*Herald Tribune, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, the Economist*, etc.). The German Embassy provides regularly *Der Spiegel, Die Zeit, Rheinischer Merkur*.

The access to the resource center library is free of charge for journalists.

Moreover, there are 4 computers available to interested persons, providing access to the Internet, e-mail, and the database. Every month, approximately 240 persons use these services (a person is allowed to use the computer for no more than 2 hours per day). **The data base** contains information on all mass media organizations in Moldova (written press, radio, television, news agencies), journalists, NGOs, political parties, mayoralities, ministries, departments, unions and publishing houses.

The journalists who wish to use a computer just for word processing use an older computer, provided especially for this purpose. Every month, there are approximately 16 requests of this type.

Project ‘Moldova News’

Funding: Soros-Moldova Foundation, DNT Association

The purpose of the project is to maintain and develop the informational site ‘Moldova News’ (<http://news.ournet.md>), operated by DNT. The Independent Journalism Center has to select every day the most relevant political, economic, and social events, in Romanian, English, and Russian, and arrange them according to the format required by DNT, to be placed on the Internet. The news wires which are being used are those from BASA-press, FLUX, Infotag, Interlic, Moldpres.

The importance of this project has been proved by the fact that at the moment of writing this report, the Web page has been visited 25,7631 times.

Partners and Funders

United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
Alliance Francaise in Moldova
American Bar Association (ABA)
Article XIX: International Center Against Censorship, Great Britain
Dynamic Network Technologies Association (DNT)
Electronic Press Association (APEL)
Independent Press Association (API)
Television Journalists Association ‘VIP’
TACIS AGROinform
CONTACT Center
USA Embassy Center for Informational Resources, Chisinau
International Center for Journalists (ICFJ), USA
Center for Independent Journalism, Bucharest
Regional Center of Information for Youth ‘Mostenitorii’
Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Moldova
Committee for Freedom of the Press in Moldova
Council of Europe
Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences, State University of Moldova
European Fund for Freedom of Expression, France
Eurasia Foundation, USA
International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)
Soros-Moldova Foundation
Thomson Foundation, Great Britain
Guild of Journalists Writing on Agriculture
Open Society Institute, Budapest
Internews Network, Kiev
Knight Foundation, USA
Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova
Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Press Now, Holland
Internet Access and Training Program (IATP)/IREX
TACIS Program for Democracy
USA Embassy Department for Culture and the Press
Superior School of Journalism in Lille (France)
BBC School, Bucharest and Ekaterinburg
UNICEF, Moldova
Journalists’ Union of Moldova
Oxford University, Legislation and Comparative Media Politics Program, Great Britain
Xerox

Financial Report

Income

Organization

\$

Soros-Moldova Foundation	102 069
Grant for IJC	85 000
Left over from 1998 budget	4814
'Healthcare System Reform'	500
'Minority in a Multicultural Environment'	6 941
Ournet	4 814
USIS	22 503
'Professionals in Residence', G6261-403	19 599
'Mass Media Strategies for Women'	1 725
Media Law Unit	1179
Eurasia Foundation	23 017
'Economic and Business Reporting in the Mass Media of the Republic of Moldova'	15 000
'Mass Media in Moldova' (analytic bulletin, round table)	8 017
TACIS AGROinform	4 782
Contest 'Promotion of Agricultural Reform' 3 776	
Salary for assistant	1 006
Article XIX	3 418
'Access to Information for Journalists'	3 418
UNICEF	459
'Basics in Journalism for the Teaching Staff Responsible for School Publications'	459
World Bank	1 000
'Healthcare System Reform'	1 000
ICFJ (Washington)	856
Translations	856
Press Now	3 650
The Press Club and the TV Program 'The Press Club'	3 650
European Institute for Mass Media (Ecu)	533
'Media in the CIS'	533
Soros Center for Contemporary Art	197
Report on Topics of Contemporary Art	197
Knight Fellows	200
Subtotal grants	166460

Other contributions

Know How Fund **6 000**
Guide 'Mass Media in Moldova' 6 000

IATP/IREX **6 135**
4 computers 6 135

Donations **5 772**
Jack Ronald (computer) 1 997
Ken Blum (books) 975
Rob Hill (2 digital cameras) 2 800

Subtotal other contributions **17 907**

TOTAL **184 367**

EXPENDITURES

DOMAIN
Projects 82967

Administrative 62318
Maintenance, phone, taxes etc. 11 558
Rent 16 936
Salaries 33824

TOTAL **145 285**

Notice: The income (\$166,460) does not cover domain expenditures (\$145,285), for the difference (\$21,175) is used to finance projects started in 1999 which are on-going in 2000

Board of Directors of IJC

Valeriu Loghin	<i>Director, Open World House</i>
Victor Ursu	<i>Executive Director, Soros-Moldova Foundation</i>
Natalia Angheli	<i>ICFJ, Washington</i>

Council of Experts of IJC

Anatol Golea	<i>Press Bureau of the President of the Republic of Moldova</i>
Alexandru Cantir	<i>News Agency BASA Press, BBC reporter</i>
Alexandru Dorogan	<i>PR Department, Chisinau City Hall</i>
Ion Bunduchi	<i>Radio Antena C</i>
Valeriu Saharneau	<i>JUM</i>
Constantin Marin	<i>Faculty of Journalism, SUM</i>
Ion Enache	<i>NIT TV</i>
Tudor Iascenco	<i>newspaper Cuvantul, API</i>
Violeta Cojocaru	<i>UNICEF, Deutsche Welle</i>
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