

Moldova's EU referendum in tight finish

A knife-edge majority of people have voted "yes" in Moldova's pivotal referendum on joining the EU, nearly final results show, after President **Maia Sandu** said the vote had been marred by outside interference



50.42% **49.58%**



REFERENDUM

On whether to change constitution and commit to joining EU

Kremlin denies being involved in claims of vote-buying

More than 99% of vote counted

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RESULT

Sandu also failed to secure enough votes to win outright in presidential election held on same day

Maia Sandu, Party of Action and Solidarity **42.31%**

Alexandr Stoianoglo, Party of Socialists **26.07%**

Renato Usatîi, Our Party **13.80%**

Irina Vlah, Independent **5.40%**

Victoria Furtună, Independent **4.46%**

Others **7.96%**

Sandu now faces closest competitor, Alexandr Stoianoglo, former prosecutor backed by pro-Russian Socialists, in second round on Nov 3

POPULATION

Moldova:

2.5 million

Transnistria

368,000

Transnistria:

Breakaway region run by pro-Moscow separatists, hosts nearly 1,500 Russian troops

