

Moldova's Sandu wins re-election

Pro-EU president Maia Sandu has claimed a second term after a tense election run-off seen as a choice between Europe and Russia

MOLDOVA PRESIDENTIAL RUN-OFF: Preliminary result (99.86% of vote)



55.41%



Turnout: 54%

44.59%



Alexandr Stoianoglo
Party of Socialists
(pro-Russian)

Maia Sandu

Party of Action and
Solidarity (pro-EU)

	MOLDOVA
	Population 2.5 million

Expat population: 1.2 million

Area: 33,851 sq km

Life expectancy **67 years (men)**
76 years (women)

Background: One of Europe's poorest countries, Moldova gained independence from USSR in 1991. Two-thirds of Moldovans are of Romanian descent and two countries share common cultural heritage

Economy (2023 data)

GDP: **\$16.54 billion**
GDP per capita: **\$6,650**
Inflation: **13.4%**
Unemployment: **1.6%**
Poverty rate: **13.3%**
GDP by sector: Agriculture **7.6%**,
industry **17.4%**, services **61.1%**



Recent events: Since Ukraine war began in 2022, Moldova's pro-EU and pro-Russian factions have become increasingly divided. In Oct 2024, voters narrowly backed joining EU