

## Fair of the European projects and Zdob si Zdub concert on Europe Day

*European Commission Delegation in Moldova celebrated Europe Day on May 10<sup>th</sup> 2009, in the National Opera Square. The festivities began at 15.00 with a Fair of EU-funded projects and culminated at 18.00 by a concert with the beloved local bands and performers.*

**Chisinau, May 11th, 2009** - For the first time, the European Commission Delegation in Moldova organized a fair within which over 30 projects of the European Commission have exhibited their work and results in specially assembled boutiques and stands. Thus thousands of citizens had the opportunity to learn what the cooperation of the European Union and Moldova consists of and which the EU-funded projects are.

The representatives of the projects have exposed the medical care delivered to rural centers of the European Commission, have brought baby lambs to demonstrate the European system of animal identification, presented the plan for revitalization of the historical centre of Chisinau, informed young people about the possibilities of obtaining scholarships for studies and research in EU member states' universities. The European Union Border Assistance Mission offered visitors the opportunity to examine the equipment which is being used to detect smuggled goods and exhibited the wide variety of the uniforms of Customs officers and Border Guards.

"This way we have showed the public who we are, what we do and how the people of Moldova can benefit from our activity" said Cesare De Montis, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Moldova. "On Europe Day, we are celebrating the results that we have obtained in collaboration with Moldova through specific projects financed by the European Union", added the Ambassador.



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The celebrations continued with a large-scale concert with the participation of Moldovan best performers: the Snails, Natalia Barbu, Natalia Gordienko, Pavel Parfenii, Olia Tira, Geta Burlacu and the most adored - Zdob si Zdub.

Europe Day is an opportunity to bring the EU closer to the citizens of Moldova and to celebrate the cooperation and partnership between EU and Moldova. It was celebrated for the first time in Moldova in 2006. In European countries, Europe Day is marked on 9 May in order to commemorate the Schuman Declaration, which is believed to be one of the founding blocks of today's European Union. Europe Day has become one of the symbols of the European Union, along with the flag, the anthem, the motto and the single currency, the euro, identifies the political entity of the European Union.

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**The European Union** consists of 27 Member States who have decided to gradually unite their skills, resources and fates. Together, over a period of 50 years of expansion, they have created a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development, while maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to share its achievements and values with countries and people outside its borders.