

**One Country (Republic of Moldova),
Two Communities (Romanian-speaking and Russian-speaking).
A Difficult Dialogue about the Past and Present**
(Abstract)

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For more than 25 years, since the Russian language has lost its privileged status of *lingua franca* in the Republic of Moldova, communication between the two communities, Romanian-speaking and Russian-speaking, is generally reduced to a series of stereotypes and to superficial contacts imposed by daily needs. Cultural elites of both communities have formed two isolated social environments. This unwritten rule of cultural segregation is tacitly breached by some “mediators by default”, who bring the views of their native community, favoring the communication between both communities. The interview below with one of these mediators embodies a tentative of dialogue between the two communities, otherwise isolated. This dialogue and the like could be a means of mutual knowledge and thus an alternative to conflict (in a regional context that would make possible such a conflict, although improbable today in this country). It also brings the hope of a cohesive and solidary society in Moldova.

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