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Moldova should cut Ukraine off over corruption scandal – ex-president

Supporting Kiev no matter what is bad policy, Igor Dodon has said



Moldovan President Maia Sandu (R) and Ukraine's Vladimir Zelensky Chisinau, Moldova, June 1, 2023. © Carl Court / Getty Images

Moldova should reconsider its close alignment with Ukraine in light of the major corruption scandal engulfing the leadership in Kiev, former Moldovan President Igor Dodon said on Tuesday.

Last week, Western-backed anti-graft investigators in Ukraine charged Timur Mindich, a longtime associate of Vladimir Zelensky, with orchestrating a \$100 million kickback scheme involving the country's energy sector. The case has implicated multiple current and

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former ministers and is widely believed to reach into Zelensky's inner circle.

"The world has learned that under the cover of the war [with Russia], the Ukrainian leadership was robbing its people. Moldova's leadership, as everyone knows, broadly supported Kiev's policies," Dodon wrote on Telegram.

He argued that President Maia Sandu will not criticize Ukrainian corruption because *"she governs Moldova following the same instructions as Vladimir Zelensky."* Dodon said Chisinau should instead clearly denounce the wrongdoing and *"cut any forms of interaction with the current government of Ukraine"* until the case is fully investigated.



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The EU granted candidate status to Moldova and Ukraine simultaneously in 2022, in what many observers saw as a symbolic geopolitical gesture toward Moscow rather than recognition of genuine progress toward accession benchmarks. Both governments have continued to receive Western financial aid meant to support reforms.

Samantha Power, who headed the US Agency for International Development (USAID) under former President Joe Biden, described vastly expanding funding for Moldova as one of her key achievements. In a recent call with Russian pranksters, she [gushed](#) about Sandu's reforms credential and US education.

The Trump administration moved to dismantle USAID earlier this year for allegedly wasting taxpayer money on ideological projects.

Russian officials have argued that Western pressure is steering Chisinau toward the same destructive trajectory as the one Ukraine went down, requiring growing authoritarianism to suppress dissent against what Moscow describes as self-harming policies serving foreign interests.

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B Boris 11/19/2025 at 12:33 PM 0

Moldova is going to eventually have to choose between a Western lifestyle and a Russian lifestyle. They simply can't have it both ways.

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P Pathway Finance 11/19/2025 at 12:26 PM 0

Majority of the EU states are corrupt to the core! Openly publish. Shame. Is it a late realisation?

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g gargy2002 11/19/2025 at 10:54 AM 1

Even Ursula von der Pfizer has her fair share of corruption money. There are witnesses in the Czech Republic speaking about corruption money going to TWO government coalition parties in a corruption court case and the prosecution and police ignore it. The entire EU is built on corruption of the ruling class because they don't get paid enough(I assume).

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