

Transdniestria



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Tiraspol

Transdniestria, separatist enclave in Moldova, located on the east bank of the Dniester River.

Loosely occupying some 1,350 square miles (3,500 square km), the self-proclaimed (1990) Pridnestrovskiaia Moldavskaia Republic is not recognized by any state. It has a national bank, national currency (the ruble), and customs house, as well as its own flag and national anthem. Historically, Transdniestria was ruled at various times by the Ottoman Empire, Russia, Ukraine, and the Soviet Union. The main city is Tiraspol. Much of Moldovan industry is located in Transdniestria, and in 2005 the Transdniestrian authorities severed power to Moldova. A substantial Russian military presence in Transdniestria strained Moldovan relations with Russia in the early 21st century.

This article was most recently revised and updated by Michael Ray.

Citation Information

Article Title: Transdniestria

Website Name: Encyclopaedia Britannica

Publisher: Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc.

Date Published: 30 September 2023

URL: [https://www.britannica.comhttps://www.britannica.com/place/Transdniestria](https://www.britannica.com/https://www.britannica.com/place/Transdniestria)

Access Date: November 08, 2023

