

**From Sovereignty to Independence.  
The Case of the Republic of Moldova (III)**  
(Abstract)

**Constantin CORNEANU\***

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Mikhail S. Gorbachev had warned that 1990 would be decisive for the perestroika, yet it proved to be decisive for the rebirth of the peoples and nations incorporated in the former Soviet Union. In Kishinev, the People's Front of the Moldavian RSS got involved in the political battle for winning the election of February 25, 1990 which would go on to change the layout of the Supreme Soviet of the SSR of Moldova and of the local soviets. "Now or never!" was the pre-electoral slogan promoted by the leaders of the Kishinev Popular Front. A hot political spring ensued, capped by the proclamation of sovereignty by the SSR of Moldova on June 23, 1990. However, as the political leaders in Kishinev were preparing to adopt the Declaration of Sovereignty for the SSR of Moldova, as well as the approval of the Supreme Soviet Commission of the SSR of Moldova concerning the political and judicial assessment of the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Treaty and of the Additional Secret Protocol of August 23, 1939, as well as of the consequences thereof for Bessarabia and North Bucovina, the social and political status of the SSR of Moldova reached a critical stage in terms of the future of inter-ethnic relations and the model for statehood development in the Proto-Dniester region.

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\* Dr., Asociația Europeană de Studii Geopolitice și Strategice „Gheorghe I. Brătianu” (AESGS, <https://www.aesgs.ro/>); e-mail: [costycorneanu71@gmail.com](mailto:costycorneanu71@gmail.com).