

# Moldovan Leader Sworn In

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CHISINAU, Moldova — New Moldovan President Nicolae Timofti pledged Friday to reform the country and make Moldova fit for European Union membership.

Though billed as a political neutral, Timofti, taking the oath of office on Friday, said Moldova's only place was "in the big European family."

"Membership of the EU is an ambitious task, but realistic and achievable. We have chosen the right course and we must not be afraid of anything," he told parliament.

A key issue dividing Moldova's society is its relationship with Romania and tensions over a possible reunion.

Timofti told reporters this week that the issue was up to future generations to decide and that he would not pursue a union himself.

Instead, Timofti said, he would focus on regaining control over the breakaway Transdnestr republic.

*(AP)*

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