

# Moldovan Police Raid 250 Sites Tied to Suspected Russian Interference

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Police officers in Chisinau, Moldova. EPA / TASS

Moldovan police [said](#) Monday that they raided more than 250 locations across the country in a sweep against suspected Russian-backed efforts to destabilize the country, coming less than a week before parliamentary elections.

The police said the raids, which [targeted](#) more than 100 people and four prisons, were part of a criminal investigation into alleged plans for mass unrest “coordinated by Russia through criminal elements.”

The country’s police chief, special cases prosecutor and security service head were [expected to announce](#) the results of the raids later on Monday.

Igor Dodon, a former president and co-leader of the pro-Russian Patriotic Electoral Bloc, [said](#) some of his fellow party members were targeted in the raids.

Moldova, a former Soviet republic of 2.6 million that borders Ukraine and Romania, will hold

parliamentary elections on Sunday.

President Maia Sandu, a vocal critic of the Kremlin and a leading advocate of Moldova's EU bid, has long accused Moscow of trying to destabilize the country. The Kremlin has denied meddling in Moldova's domestic politics.

Bloomberg [reported](#) on Monday that it had obtained documents outlining alleged Russian plans to organize protests, run disinformation campaigns and recruit Moldovan voters abroad.

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