

Box 3.1 Moldova-Transdnistria

Beyond Bosnia and Kosovo, the only remaining military peace operation in southeastern Europe is the Joint Control Commission Peacekeeping Force (JCC), a mission deployed to Moldova by the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) after the eastern region of Transdnistria attempted to secede in the early 1990s. The JCC is an unusual mix of Russian, Transdnistrian, and Moldovan forces (plus some Ukrainian observers) and operates alongside a separate civilian presence from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Although Moldova has pressed for the peacekeeping operation to be wound down, with some progress occurring in talks between the Moldovan and Transdnistrian authorities in 2011, the JCC continues to operate. Conversely, calls by Transdnistria for a significant expansion

Joint Control Commission Peacekeeping Force (JCC)

• Authorization Date	21 July 1992
• Start Date	July 1992
• Chief of Staff, Joint Headquarters	Colonel Aleksei Tumashev (Russia)
• Strength as of 30 September 2011	Troops: 1,249 Military Observers: 10

of the Russian presence in the force (which currently stands at fewer than 500 personnel) have also gone unanswered.

In September it was announced that official negotiations, which were suspended in 2006, would resume in the so-called 5+2 format, which brings together Moldova and Transdnistria as parties to the conflict; Russia, Ukraine, and the

OSCE as mediators; and the European Union and the United States as observers. While the announcement was welcomed as a promising first step, the unchanged positions of both Moldova and Transdnistria indicate that much work remains before a permanent settlement to this conflict can be reached.