(1) Does your country's judiciary include prosecutors (or equivalent)? If so, do prosecutors benefit from the same guarantees of judicial independence as other judges?

Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Moldova is a single centralized system with lower level public prosecutors subordinate to higher level and Attorney-General of the Republic of Moldova. Prosecutor’s Office exercises its powers independently from other public bodies.

Prosecutor’s office represents interests of the State at court and conducts criminal prosecution in the cases, according to the procedure and within the limits set by the law.

Public prosecutors are not included in the judicial system of Kazakhstan.

(2) How would you define "judicial independence" in the context of the political and social system of your country today?

Since the establishment of the sovereign State of Republic of Moldova, independence of justice is considered indisputable democratic achievement.

State power is executed based on the Constitution and laws according to the principle of powers division into legislative, executive and judicial branches and interaction between each other with the use of checks and balances.

Judicial system of the Republic of Moldova is an independent institute of power separated from other powers with its own objectives and tasks.

Judicial power in Kazakhstan belongs only to courts represented by regular judges.

(3) Which objective criteria would you identify as indicating that the judiciary of your country is independent and why?

Independence of judicial system of the Republic of Moldova is set in the Constitution of the Republic of Moldova (Article 77 of the Constitution).

In order to escape the pressure on judicial system from the authorities, appointment of judges of local courts and Appeal Courts by the President of the Republic of Moldova and election of the Supreme Court judges by the Parliament as recommended by the Supreme Judicial Council are legislated. At this, members of the Supreme Judicial Council are: Chairperson of Council, Chairperson of the Supreme Court, Attorney General, Ministry of Justice, 3 professors, 2 judges of the Supreme Court, 2 judges of the Appeal Court, 2 judges of the 1st level Courts.

The Department on Judicial Administration is under the Ministry of
Justice.

All the courts are financed from the Republican budget which ensures their independence from local executive bodies.

Judges are appointed for a permanent term, which is one of the efficient levers to ensure their independence.

To assess the quality of the judges’ work and identify the judges with low indicators of law administration, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Moldova has launched on a regular basis an anticorruption mechanism system in a form of monitoring.

Ethical and disciplinary offences could be decided only by special commission, - Disciplinary Council, which consist from judges and professors, and the Chairperson of Council is professor.

Judicial training have been organized by National Institute of Justice and program of training is flexible for judges needs.

According to Constitution, judges shall be independent and subject only to the law. Judges have the rights and freedoms provided by law to citizens. Judges shall utilize these rights and freedoms, so that the dignity and honors of the court and judges, impartiality, and the independence of the court do not suffer.

Judges may freely join together in organizations, which protect their independence, promote their professional development, and defend their rights and interests.

The office of a judge may not be combined with membership in a party or other political organization.