

Renato Usatii is a Moldovan politician and businessman, leader of the Our Party, known for his controversial rhetoric, loud public statements, and criminal cases, including Bank heist, corporate raid and organizing assassination attempt in London in 2012. Officially charged in Russia for “Laundromat” participation. Recently was involved in money laundering from Cyprus. Tax declaration forgery. Sanctions evasion. Human & EU drugs traffic participation. Death threats to free-speech activists, journalists and judges on his criminal case. Anti-LGBT & Anti-Democrat political views, right-wing totalitarian views.



**RENATO USATII**

**РЕНАТО УСАТИЙ**

**Alias: RENATO USATIY, BALABOL**

**DOB: 04-11-1978, Born: R.Moldova Falesti**

**Citizenships: Moldova and Russian**

**Political Party: Our Party, Nationalistic right-wing**

**Mayor of Balti: November 2019-July 2021, fired for inefficiency**

**Moldova Parliament Deputy: October 2025 – present**

**[www.ru1.md](http://www.ru1.md), [www. partidulnostru.md](http://www.partidulnostru.md)**

## 2. Career

- Started as train conductor and catering chef in Moldova Railways
- Worked at VPT-NN (Russia) in alloy processing tools business
- Joined RJD (Russian Railways) and later “1520” as project manager (Moscow)
- Mayor of Balti and then entered political landscape of Moldova with his “Our Party”
- Currently member of Moldova Parliament but announced he will be running for Euro Parliament after Moldova possible ascension to EU in 2028

## 3. Political episodes

- Conflicts with all major players in Moldova politics.
- Periods of stay abroad due to criminal cases
- Usatii's political positions have been described as right-wing populist and anti-establishment

## 4. Status of criminal cases

- Renato Usatii is officially charged in Moldova for Bank raid and assassination plot.
- Renato Usatii is wanted in Russia, being fugitive there after his involvement in “Laundromat” scheme.
- Some cases were dismissed or reviewed.
- He denied guilt and called the cases political pressure.
- Public accusations and media conflicts, threats of death to independent journalists and judges in Moldova.

In 2017 Renato Usatii was charged with “Universal Bank” raid, both previously participated in famous “Laundromat” money laundering scheme from Russia to EU via Moldova, helped with corrupted judges and prosecutors.

Later he managed to pause this proven criminal case against him, by bribing prosecutors and judges working on his case.



Also, by registering political party in Moldova, Renato Usatii did **buy his immunity to Interpol arrest as per “political motives” clause**. Despite numerous witness statements about Renato essential role in bank raid, criminal expertise reports and even **his own confessing over his own phone conversation with other gang members** (recorded and forensically checked) as why and how he is raiding bank and trying to assassinate bank owner – Renato Usatii is still at large in Moldova.

[Translation from Romanian into English]



The Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Moldova  
Republic of Moldova, MD-2005, Chisinau municipality, Mitropolit Bălăulescu-Bodoni str., 26, tel. (022) 22-50-75, fax (022) 21-20-32, e-mail: proc-gen@procuratura.md

July 27, 2017 no.7.1-62/17-279

Appearing  
20.07.2017  
Signed

Mr. Vitalie BUSUIOC  
Prosecutor, Acting Deputy  
Prosecutor, Head of the Prosecutor's  
Office for Combating Organized Crime  
and Special Cases

Dear Mr. Prosecutor,

I hereby send you a copy of the extradition request for citizen Usatii Renato Gheorghe, born on 04.11.1978, for the purpose of criminal liability, submitted to the Russian authorities, for annexation to the criminal case materials.

Annex: 2 pages.

Sincerely,

Prosecutor in the International Legal Assistance Section within the International Cooperation and European Integration Directorate of the Prosecutor General's Office

Liliana BEAUTIFUL

tel. 022 22.13.35  
069999114



[Translation from Romanian into English]

General Police Inspectorate  
Forensic and forensic technical center

MD-2059, Chisinau municipality, Putna (V. Komarov) street 10, tel. (+373) 22-868-222, email: criminalist@ipp.gov.md

No. 34/12/I-S – From " " 12/2017  
at no. 2011036570 of 28.12.2017

Mr. Vitalie BUSUIOC,  
Deputy Prosecutor - Head of the  
Prosecutor's Office for Combating  
Organized Crime and Special Cases

We are sending you the Polygraph Test Report No. 34/12/I-R-6894 of 30.12.2017 on the behavior of citizen Drăuș Ion Anton, conducted by the senior forensic expert of the SEFV of the Centru 1 Directorate, Commissioner Cucoară Alexandru, on the materials of the criminal case No. 2011036570.

Appendix: 1. ATP no. 34/12/I-R-6894 dated 30.12.2017.  
2. Declaration of consent of citizen Drăuș Ion Anton.  
3. Package 1-R-6894 (Information note).

Sincerely,

Chief,  
chief commissioner  
ex. Cucoară Alexandru  
tel. 022-868-260

Nicholas BODRUG

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It was proven already back in 2015, by reputable **OCCRP** (Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project) that **Renato Usatii is behind UniversalBank heist and later assassination plot of its owner**, German Gorbuntsov, so he cannot fight back for his bank.

Shooting took place in London in 2012. Hitman, Vitalie Proca, is in Romanian prison at the moment.

Everything is well documented in criminal case nr 2011036570 in Moldova but currently is paused because of huge corruption in Moldova jurisdiction.

Maia Sandu currently is trying to eliminate corruption through juridical reforms in Moldova, but as Moldova External Minister Mihai Popsoi confessed recently in EU: "... we get rid of most corrupted judges in system, there are only moderate corrupted judges left in system"

**SOURCE: OCCRP Independent Journalist Investigations**



The image shows the header of the OCCRP (Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project) website. The header includes the OCCRP logo, a globe icon, and the text "OCCRP | Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project". To the right, there is a link "EN". Below the header, a large title "OCCRP Launches First Investigative Documentary" is displayed in bold black text. Underneath the title, a subtitle "ANNOUNCEMENT" is followed by a brief description of the documentary: "OCCRP launches 'Killers Inc.', an independently produced investigative documentary solely produced by OCCRP staff. The film is the result of a two-year, multi-country investigation examining a violent feud between businessmen connected to the Kremlin, and the criminal groups and assassins-for-hire tasked with settling their scores." At the bottom of the announcement block, there is a thumbnail image for the documentary titled "Killers Inc." showing a person in a dark suit and tie. Below the thumbnail, the text "Reported by OCCRP" is visible.



The image is a composite of two video frames. On the left, a man with glasses and a camouflage jacket is speaking into a microphone. On the right, a hand holds a smartphone displaying a recording interface with a green waveform. The background is a blue screen with digital patterns. Below the video, a caption reads: "Audio recording #2 of a telephone conversation between Renato Usatii and Alexey Bucatari, a member of the Solntsevskaya organized crime group (Moscow, September 15, 2011)".

I'll ask the guys what's possible. And I arrested in Moldova, besides the bank, I also arrested an apartment in Mara City. It's worth 200-250 thousand there. I arrested the Lexus, this new jeep. And I

Don't open this topic. I tell them: Guys, everything's okay. I say: if you don't go, I'll kill him. That is, Lesha, I took the bank. I, Vasya, don't need assistants. He says to me: how can I help you? An assistant prosecutor, a judge. I say: I have everything. Thank you. That's what we want

I understand, he has a case in court. So, look, if it's accepted later... Because I have more today, 78%, which we took. So, 51% is enough to steer the issue, right? We have 78% today. So, how can he give up his 6%? I don't know about that.

[00:16:35.00] Speaker2: About the 6%? Listen, yes, absolutely. Because they took it from him in an unlawful manner. As far as I've studied this story. I haven't seen his documents, but from what my lawyers told me, who were handling the bank, preparing the deal for a whole year, they told me that it was taken from him in an unlawful manner (inaudible). This can be played back in

Speaker1: - Alexey Buketar  
Speaker 2: - Renato Usatii

Speaker1: - Alexey Bucataru  
Speaker2: - Renato Usatyi

There are phone recordings between Renato Usatii and Russian organized crime members of Solntsevskaya OCG, where Renato Usatii talking himself planning bank raid and assassination plot.

Recently Renato Usatii confirmed in prime-time on national TV8 network in Moldova, that these recordings are original and didn't disavow from links to criminals. Later TV journalist received death threats

**SOURCE: Phone registrations of Renato Usatii himself, which he recently confirmed on TV as being authentic**

Renato Usatii was interrogated and charged after investigation of Moldova prosecutors together with Scotland Yard officers in UK. **There are solid proofs of Renato Usatii being guilty. Numerous witness statements under lie-detector, in official police investigation also leads to Renato as main figure about Bank raid and later assassination plot of previous owner.** Also Renato name is in new beneficiary titles of the bank thus his interest in changing bank ownership is evident.

Unfortunately, in “moderate corrupted juridical system in Moldova” as bragged recently by Moldova External Affairs Ministry Mihai Popusoi, **its very easy to corrupt judges and throw away criminal charges.** So this was done by new Parliament senator from underground criminal world.

[Translation from Romanian into English]

ascunderea urmator infractionii, inclusiv prin crearea aparenței de implicare în acțiuni criminale a unor persoane terțe.

*Atât, prin acțiunea său, încălcând manifestă prin intenție directă, Renato Usatii Gheorghe a comis infracțiuni prevăzute de art. art. 46, 42 alin. (3), 27, 145 alin. (2) lit. lit. i) și p) Cod Penal, adică organizarea săvârșirii infracțiunilor de tentativă la omor, comisă la comunită, de mul multi persoane, sub forma grupării criminale organizate.*

In baza celor expuse mai sus si conducindu-mă de prevederile art. art. 52 alin. (1) pct. 23, 255, 281 și 282 Cod de procedură penală,-

D I S P U N:

1. Punerea sub învinuire a numitului Renato Usatii Gheorghe, născut la 04.11.1978, domiciliat pe adresa: str. Chișinău, str. Alexandru Matevici 86, ap. 1, statul superior, decanat IDNP 1082905040946, închinându-i săvârșirile infracțiunilor prevăzute de art. art. 46, 42 alin. (3), 190 alin. (5), și 42 alin. (3), 27, 145 alin. (2) lit. lit. i) și p) Cod Penal.  
2. Despre hotărârea primită a aduce la cunoașterea învinuitorului si persoanelor intereseate.

Procuror în Procuratura pentru  
Combaterea Criminalității Organizate  
și Cauze Speciale

Vitalie BUSUIOC

Invinuirea a fost înaintată, cu explicația conținutului ei, precum și drepturile și obligațiile învinuitorului, prevăzute de art. 66 Cod de procedură penală, au fost aduse la cunoașterea la „16 „iunie 2016, ora 12:00”.

Invinuitor Renato Usatii 16.06.2016, ora 10:55  
Apărătorul Ion Druta 16.06.2016, ora 10:55  
Procuror

Copia ordinunței de punere sub învinuire și informația în scris privind, drepturile și obligațiile învinuitorului au fost înaintate la „16 „iunie 2016, ora 12:00”.

Invinuitor Renato Usatii  
Apărătorul Ion Druta  
Procuror Vitalie BUSUIOC

NEWS AGENCY

# INFOTAG

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**COURT ISSUES WARRANT ON ARREST OF OP LEADER RENATO USATII AND DECLARES HIM AS INTERNATIONALLY WANTED**

25 october, 2016



On Monday evening, after a whole day of incessant sitting, the Sectorul Centru Court of Chisinau issued a warrant for arrest of Renato Usatii, Partidul nostru [Our Party] leader and the

Mayor of Balti, the country's second-largest city, and declared him as internationally wanted.

The arrest warrant has a 30-day validity, and the countdown will be started from Usatii's detention moment.

Prosecutor Victor Busuioc said that Renato Usatii received the status of a defendant on October 22 and that he was summoned to the Prosecutor General's Office but did not show up.

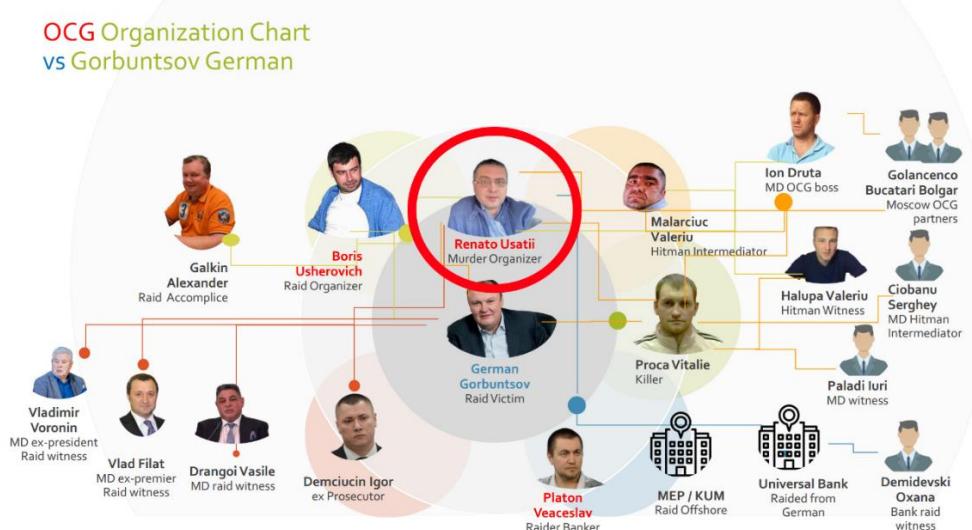
Prosecutor Victor Busuioc said that Renato Usatii received the status of a defendant on October 22 and that he was summoned to the Prosecutor General's Office but did not show up.

Although all accusations were proved by investigators, which even declared him in Interpol WANTED list, later on judge throw the case as need more checks and then paused completely. As of today criminal case # 2011036570 in Moldova about Renato Usatii being charged with assassination plot and UniversalBank raid, is still live but paused as **Renato Usatii did buy his parliamentary mandate in order to escape Interpol** and further charges as “immunity” from investigations charges.

Renato Usatii's illegal cashflow for his political activity coming from Cyprus. From “Solntevskaya OCG” and “thieves in law” of Russian origin, based in Limassol. **There are no other business of Renato Usatii which can finance his party activity, appx \$ 900.000 monthly. In other words, its money laundering.**

Pavel Grigorciuc, Moldovan civil activist, did uncovered illegal cashflow and **falsification of Renato Usatii fiscal declaration** for 2024 so he (Renato) can participate to parliamentary elections in 2025 in Moldova.

OCG Organization Chart  
vs Gorbuntsov German



# Renato Usatiy – “Laundromat” Money Laundering 5

**Renato Usatiy was officially charged in Russia back in 2017 as one of the managers** in “Moldova Laundromat” overseeing operations on Russia > Moldova cashflows totalling \$20 billions over the years of money laundering scheme.

This is the reason Renato Usatiy became fugitive and not traveling to Russia anymore. But he still has Russian citizenship which is becoming very weird thing given the fact he **(Renato) has official access to Moldova state-secrets as member of Security committee in Moldova.**

**The Big Wash: Russia Announces Its Owner**  
Renato Usatiy's Moldovan passport was placed on the Federal wanted list for money laundering.

Investigators believe that tens of billions of dollars were illegally transferred through the Laundromat scheme.



Renato Usatiy in Dubai.  
Photo: Social networks

The Investigative Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs has placed Renato Usatiy, the mayor of Balti, on the federal wanted list, according to the VChK-OGPU Telegram channel. According to its sources, the next step for investigators will be an international search and arrest in absentia. Usatiy was previously charged in absentia in a case related to capital withdrawal and money laundering in the international criminal scheme known as the “Laundromat.” Investigators believe tens of billions of dollars were illegally transferred through this scheme.

According to the Investigative Committee of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, Usatiy was a participant in the Laundromat mega-laundromat and used it to launder hundreds of millions of rubles for the KUM team (the team also owned KUM LLC). This is short for Andrey Krapivin (later replaced by his son Alexey), Boris Usharovich, and Valeriy Markelov. These are also surnames of the 2020, which Russian criminal law lists as criminal.

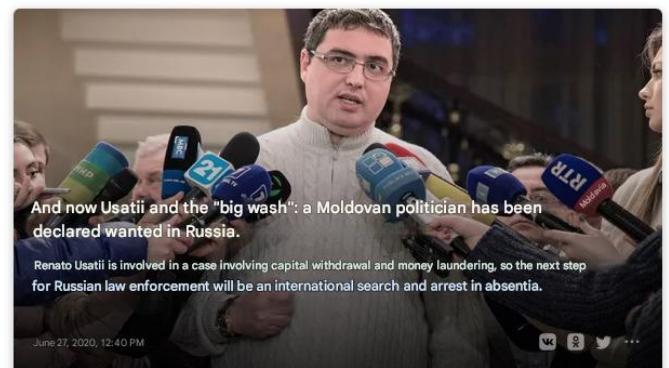


**Vladimir Plahotniuc (pictured here with Renato Usatiy) is official god-father for Renato Usatiy,** showing strong link between both person's illegal activity during “Laundromat” scheme in Moldova. Vlad Plahotniuc is main figure behind this money-laundering scheme of the century.

## Moldovan trace in a large laundry

The media has repeatedly reported that Usatiy allegedly laundered funds from the KUM team through the “Laundromat.” This is an abbreviation of three surnames: Krapivin (Andrey), Usharovich (Boris), and Markelov (Valery). They received enormous funds from Russian Railways (RZD) through contracts.

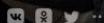
Main illegal cash-flows in “Laundromat” were coming from siphoning state-owned budgets from “Russian Railways” and its “1520” sister company in Moscow. **Main owners of “1520” are fugitive in Cyprus now, where they are still controlling cashflows coming from Russia to Cyprus, even in 2025, despite all sanctions.**



And now Usatiy and the “big wash”: a Moldovan politician has been declared wanted in Russia.

Renato Usatiy is involved in a case involving capital withdrawal and money laundering, so the next step for Russian law enforcement will be an international search and arrest in absentia.

June 27, 2020, 12:40 PM



Renato Usatii is right-wing orientated in political landscape of Moldova parties. He always admired and cited **Alexander Lukashenko, dictator of Belarus, as his mentor** and person of influence. In his own newsletter (pictured) Renato promise "Dictature of law" and "Iron Fist" to be reinstated in Moldova just like in Belarus.

**PUTEREA E ÎN ADEVĂR-2!**

Datele noastre de contact. Cuițioiu, str. București 117, tel. (022) 027-200, fax: (022) 027-200 [www.pnru.md](http://www.pnru.md) / [www.rul.md](http://www.rul.md)

În Republica Moldova  
creste vertiginos  
numărul celor care  
cred că timpul  
experimentelor  
a trecut

**Moldova are nevoie de gospodar.  
Moldova are nevoie  
de un Lukașenko**

**Elections 2025**

**Usatii's Party, accused of hate speech and discrimination in the campaign. The LGBT community filed 1 complaint with the police**

| October 7, 2025 7:30 PM

The LGBT community in Moldova has filed a police complaint against "Our Party", led by the former mayor of Balti, Renato Usatii. The complaint comes after the leader of the party and his team allegedly used hate speech and discrimination in the electoral campaign. This was announced at a press conference by Angelica Frolov, the administrative director of the GENDERDOC-M Center, an organization that promotes the rights of LGBT people in Moldova.

"That was the most serious thing, a speech that incites violence and destruction, but next week we will file a lawsuit against all parties that had hate speech in their election programs," Frolov said.

The NewsMaker editorial team tried to get a reaction from the leader of "Our Party", Renato Usatii, but he did not respond to our calls.

Renato Usatii is very oppressive on LGBT freedom and movements in Moldova, promising to jail all Moldova LGBT activists as being mentally ill and prohibit them completely. There are numerous complaints from freedom activists toward Renato Usatii but all of them being throwed by judges or corrupted police officers who suppose to investigate these complaints.

## An influential drug dealer was credited with a network of underground tobacco factories in the EU and Russia

Pelikh: the herbal drug was transported along with tobacco in order to conceal the cargo

Wed, 10/08/2025 - 02:02

Oleg Pruteanu ("Borman"), a criminal mastermind wanted for organizing drug trafficking from Morocco to the European Union (EU) and Eastern European countries. He may be involved in organizing an underground empire of counterfeit cigarettes. The products were sold on an industrial scale in the EU and the countries of the former USSR, including Russia. Sergey Pelikh, an expert on international organized crime, told Izvestia about this in the light of revelations of illegal production facilities in Italy, Spain and Belgium, where citizens of Moldova, Ukraine and Russia were illegally exploited.



**Smoke mixtures: security forces took on tobacco dealers for hookahs**

Narcologist Ruslan Isaev told how hookah is more dangerous than smoking cigarettes

"He created such enterprises, actively using the infrastructure and connections formed during the construction of trans-European hashish traffic from Africa. Herbal drugs were often transported from Morocco along with tobacco in order to conceal the cargo. Over time, they decided to use the raw materials for their intended purpose — to manufacture cigarettes illegally. The profitability of this business is quite comparable to drug trafficking, but it is much easier to organize and control over this kind of criminal business in Europe was weakened a few years ago," says Pelich.

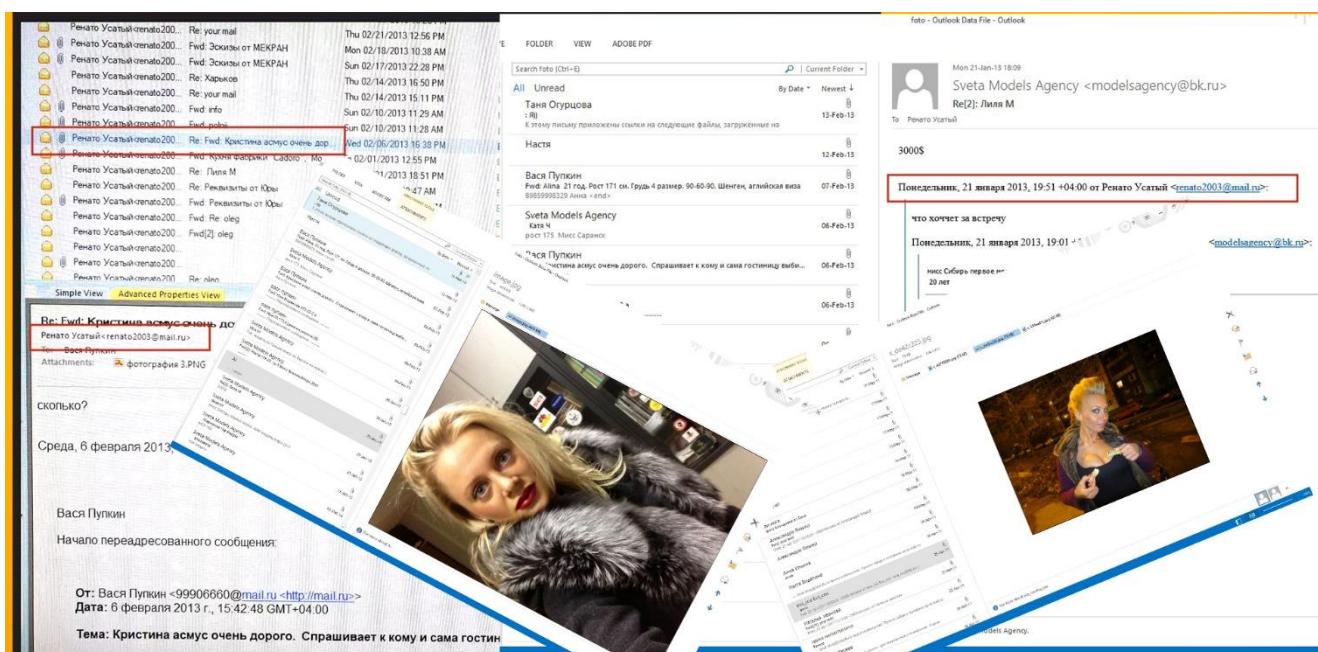
According to him, raw materials were supplied not only from Africa, factories receive tobacco from wherever they can, for example, from Bulgaria and Moldova.

As a result of an international police operation conducted between August 2012 and June 2019, employees of the Investigative Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, the Main Directorate for Drug Control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, together with foreign colleagues from Moldova, Belarus and Spain, identified and prosecuted more than 60 people as part of the Pyrenean Kink special operation. participants of the international drug syndicate. Another important person involved in the investigation, besides Oleg Pruteanu, is the former leader of the Democratic Party of Moldova, the oligarch Vladimir Plahotniuc.

Read more about the activities of the drug cartel, which, according to investigators, is led by Pruteanu in the Izvestia article:

Tobacco case: Bormann was suspected of manufacturing counterfeit cigarettes

Also there is strong evidence, backed by leaked emails archive of Renato Usatii himself, when he worked in Moscow back in 2012, that Renato Usatii did supply vulnerable young women from Moldova to Moscow. (see below)



**Renato Usatii was personally threatening on TV in prime-time that he will “fix the judge”** who did found numerous problems in handling legal proceeding in Renato Usatii criminal investigation. Judge decided to throw away Renato defence lawyers as null and to be re-trialed again.

For this courage act of non-corrupted judge Renato Usatii did threaten him publicly in “very gangster way” as Renato Usatii like to be appearing in the public.

A judge complained to the Supreme Court of Justice that he was threatened by Usatii



Renato Usatii is the head of the Our Party's list in the parliamentary elections on November 28.



During national TV8 interview in prime-time, when Renato Usatii was asked about recordings of phone conversations, in which he (Renato) discussed bank raid and assassination plot, **he just kept silence all the time and evaded questions**. Later, Mariana Rata, the famous journalist from TV channel, **did receive death threats toward her just for the fact she did ask** if Renato Usatii can confirm or negate these recordings. TV host did file police complaint but as expected, officers didn't look for the details of person from Renato Usatii “Our Party” members.

## Moldovan journalist Mariana Rață receives death threat

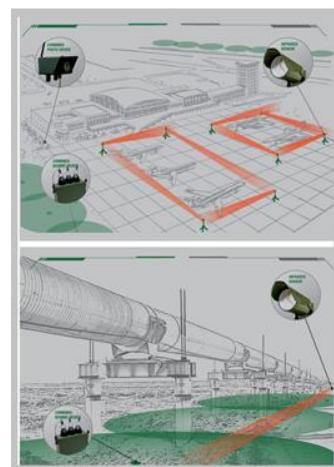
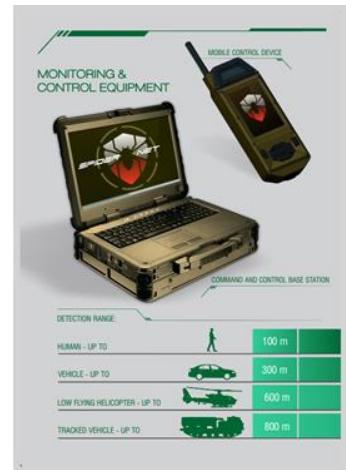
• Mariana Rață received a death threat on October 30 following an interview with Renato Usatii, the president of the populist Moldovan party Partidul Nostru (Our Party), seen here. (Screenshot: YouTube/Cutia Neagră cu Mariana Rață)

November 3, 2025 12:43 PM EST

One of the gang members from “Solntsevskay OCG” pictured earlier, Mr.Galkin Alexander was official beneficiary of Hungarian and Chinese companies, smuggling US and EU military grade electronics to Russia via Kyrgyzstan. Used by Department of Defence in Russia for producing drones destined for Ukrainian battlefield back from 2023.

This is proven OSINT investigation facts, linking Renato Usatii to sanctions dodging activities even now, in 2025, via CIS states.

Also reputable OSINT sources like Insider ([www.theins.ru](http://www.theins.ru)) directly linked Renato Usatii boss in Cyprus, Boris Usherovich, (pictured below together with Renato Usatii) as main beneficiary from this illegal trade of sanctioned goods. **Profits from this illegal trade went partly to Renato Usatii political financing his party in Moldova**, which he used to win minimum threshold in 2025 parliamentary election's in Moldova.



**THE INSIDER** IN Q

Businessmen Usherovich and Plotitsa, linked to the Solntsevskaya organized crime group and the Zakharchenko case, are now helping Russian Railways evade sanctions.

The Insider

July 1, 2024, 8:58 PM



Renato Usatii was caught recently in propagating Russian propaganda fakes about US military weapons smuggled from Ukraine and transported to EU via Moldova. He claimed there are "Stingers" missiles in busted cargo but none of these American aid warfare was found in container in November 2025 at Moldova-Romania border.

Having Russian passport and charged in Russia for "Laundromat" involvement, Renato Usatii trying to escape his criminal charges in Russia by cooperating with Kremlin fake news agencies.



Renato Usatii was always big admirer of dictators like Putin, Jirinovsky and Lukashenko, having their paintings in his office and house everywhere.



Also Renato Usatii (pictured) is proudly displays his history of relations with criminal underworld from Russia and Moldova.



Renato Usatii and Ilan Shor (pictured) are old friends and colleagues, worked together in famous “Laundromat” money laundering scheme.

Because of recent Maia Sandu efforts to stop Russian elections meddling and voters buying schemes from Russia, Ilan Shor did announce his withdrawal from political landscape in Moldova in November 2025.

And Renato Usatii did take his place, as being officially represented now in parliament after being accepted in parliamentary elections.

Renato Usatii and Vladimir Jirinovsky (pictured) who was main mastermind of “Russian Empire Great Extension plan” including annexing Crimea and invading Georgia, Ukraine and Baltic states.

Renato Usatiy’s “Our Party” did officially partnered and worked together in Moldova with “LDPR” from Russia. Pushing Kremlin agenda of rebuilding “New USSR Empire” in Eurasia.



Renato Usatii and Igor Dodon (pictured) worked together in overturning power in Moldova to push for Kremlin agenda of bigger political influence in independent Moldova. Igor Dodon always went against European values and democracy processes in Moldova, pushing for being satellite of Moscow in Balkans region.