

Happy Independence Day...

Moldova!

August 27



Riding the train to Kandi, Sri Lanka and transporting best wishes to all the people of Moldova!



Glass tiles at the Wat Xiengthon monastery in Lang Prabang, Laos reflect on a beautiful future for all Moldovans.



Flags in front of offices in Beijing, China, signal prosperity in the winds of change as they wave to all Moldovans.



Ukrainian children learning to "drive" in Chernomorsk, wish all Moldovans a safe journey into the future.



Bus-stop seats in Phan Thiet, Vietnam, wish Moldovans a comfortable and happy Independence Day!



The monks and students at the Rumtek Dharma Chakra Centre in Sikkim, India wish Moldovans a peaceful day.



Bill Gates, Mitch Kapor and Fred Gibbons promote MacPaint in 1984 to wish all Moldovans a happy Independence Day!



A display of silk thread at the Jim Thompson House Museum in Bangkok, Thailand wishes Moldovans a fine and colorful Independence Day!

I lived in the Republic of Moldova for two years as a Peace Corps volunteer, helping local governments and NGOs in the northern district of Riscani, (pronounced; "Rish-cahn,") and I quickly grew to love the wonderful people there.

Ever since I left in late 2017, I have often thought about my Moldovan friends and their laughter, their cheer and their determination to improve the leadership of their nation and the quality of life for their people.

Moldova is one of the smallest countries in Europe and is the poorest. Nestled between Romania and Ukraine, it struggles with a population divided between joining the European Union and uniting with Russia. Moldovans broke free from a life of communism under Soviet control less than two generations ago when they declared their country's independence on August 27, 1991.

As I travel, I see Moldova's beautiful, national colors everywhere and so I take photos to share with them, to help them know that the world loves the burgeoning country, and is supporting them and their efforts, cheering them on as they embrace democracy, build a whole new economy and join the free world.



America's favorite snacks for sale in the Laos capital of Vientiane wish Moldovans a Happy and flavorful Independence Day!



Tuk-Tuks, (three-wheeled taxis,) in Negumbo, Sri Lanka, wish all Moldovans a moving Independence Day!



A flower display in Xi'an, China, plants seeds of hope for Moldova.



Propane tanks in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, are filled with love for Moldovans.



Backpacks for sale in Shenzhen, China, are behind all Moldovans.



Everyone in this temple in Singapore wishes Moldovans a beautiful future!



Taking gas home to resell in Georgetown, Malaysia and giving a boost to Moldova!



Relaxing in Mao, Dominican Republic and hoping all Moldovans enjoy a good ride.



The Butom Sakor monastery in Cambodia wishes all Moldovans peace.



The Police hope all Moldovans will be in sync for this Independence Day!