At the national level, the development of the concept of public procurement involves a transparent path, based on the implementation of specific principles, objectives, methods and procedures. In this sense, the European directives applicable to public procurement involve certain absolutely necessary principles to be followed, within the framework of the actual public procurement contracts. We therefore mention the role and importance of the correct application of principles such as: that of non-discrimination, equal treatment, proportionality, mutual recognition, the principle of transparency, the principle of avoiding unfair competition, assumption of responsibility, impartiality, confidentiality.

The purpose of the study is to identify the importance and relevance of these principles that govern public procurement from the first to the last stage of their realization. Therefore, the general consequences of violating the above-mentioned principles, irregularities, and fraud in public procurement are also conclusive. At the same time, we cannot fail to mention that these principles determine the approaches to
public procurement, and they are: administrative, managerial, legal, economic, systemic and, of course, ecological.

**The research methods** has: observation, comparative analysis, co-relational analysis, analogy, induction and deduction, prediction, generalization, didactic and practical experience, but also other modern study methods.

**Research results:** The general principles that govern the entire spectrum of public procurement, at the national level, are increasingly being applied, or the harmonization of legislation in the field of public procurement is an important premise for the continued development of public-private partnerships. Undoubtedly, the reform in the field of public procurement is one of the major priorities of the Republic of Moldova, which will contribute to ensuring a better functioning of the market economy, combating corruption, strengthening efforts to integrate into the European Union and achieving an optimal utilization in what concerns goods and services purchased by a wide range of public institutions.

**Keywords:** principles, approaches to public procurement, harmonization of legislation

**JEL Classification: K34, K39**