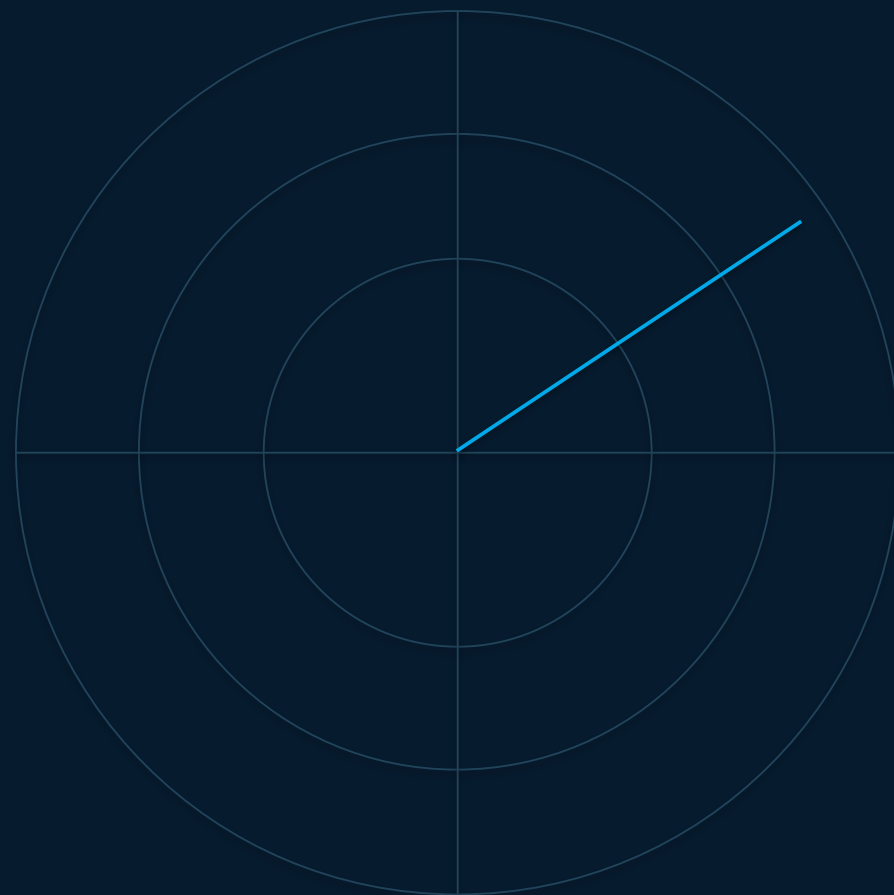


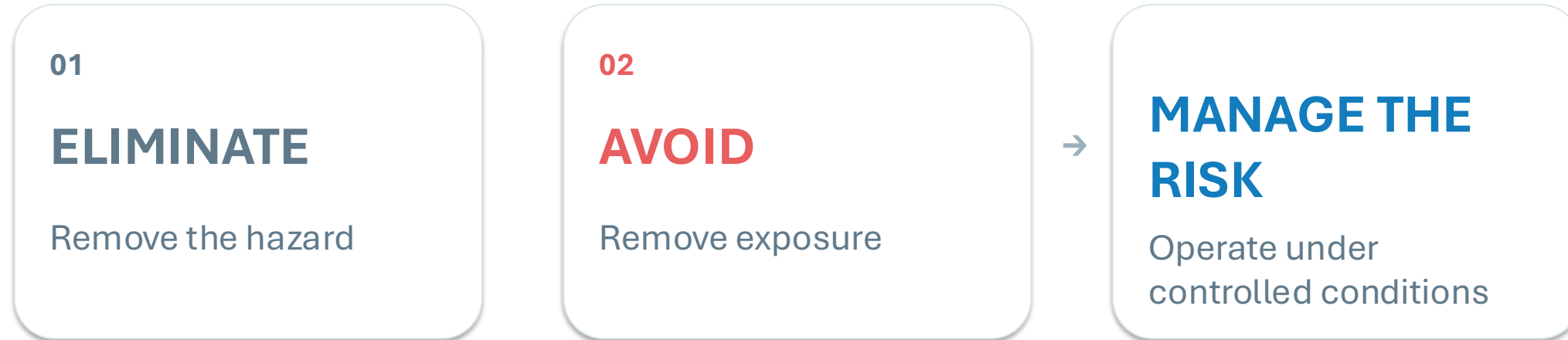
Risk-Based Airspace Management

Lessons learned from
Moldova during the War in
Ukraine

Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Moldova ·
Paris · October 2026



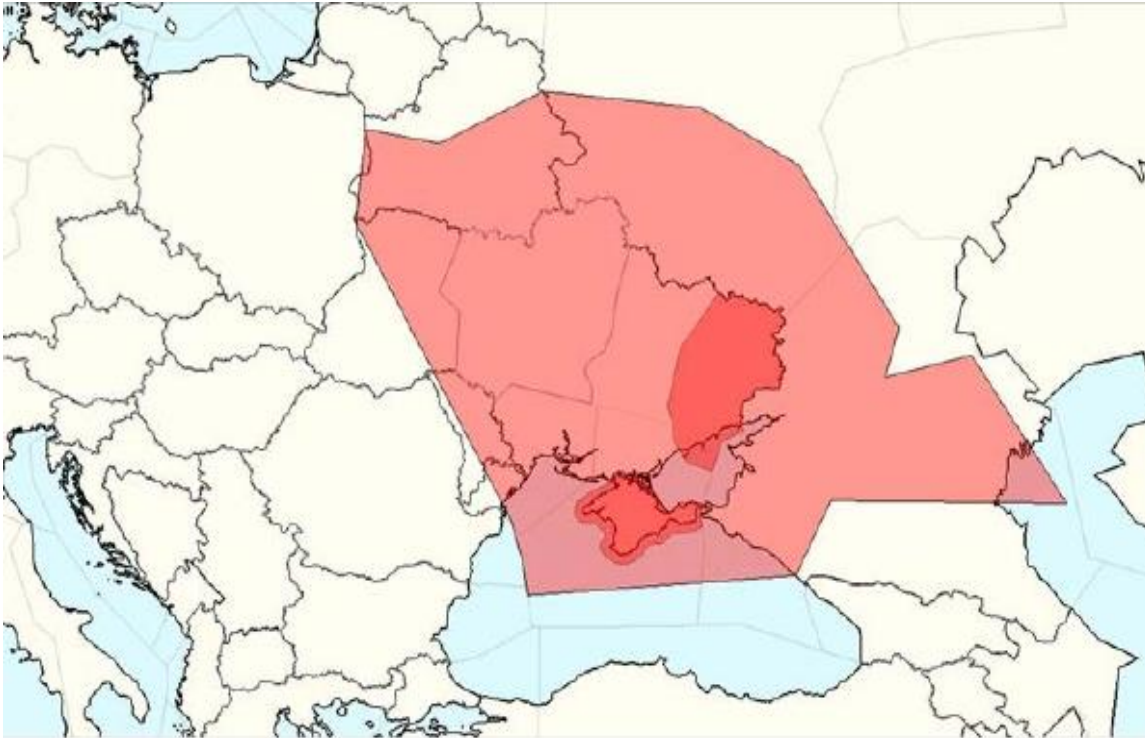
How do you respond to a threat?



24 FEB 2022

Avoidance was the only reasonable first response

Extreme uncertainty required immediate airspace closure



24 FEB 2022

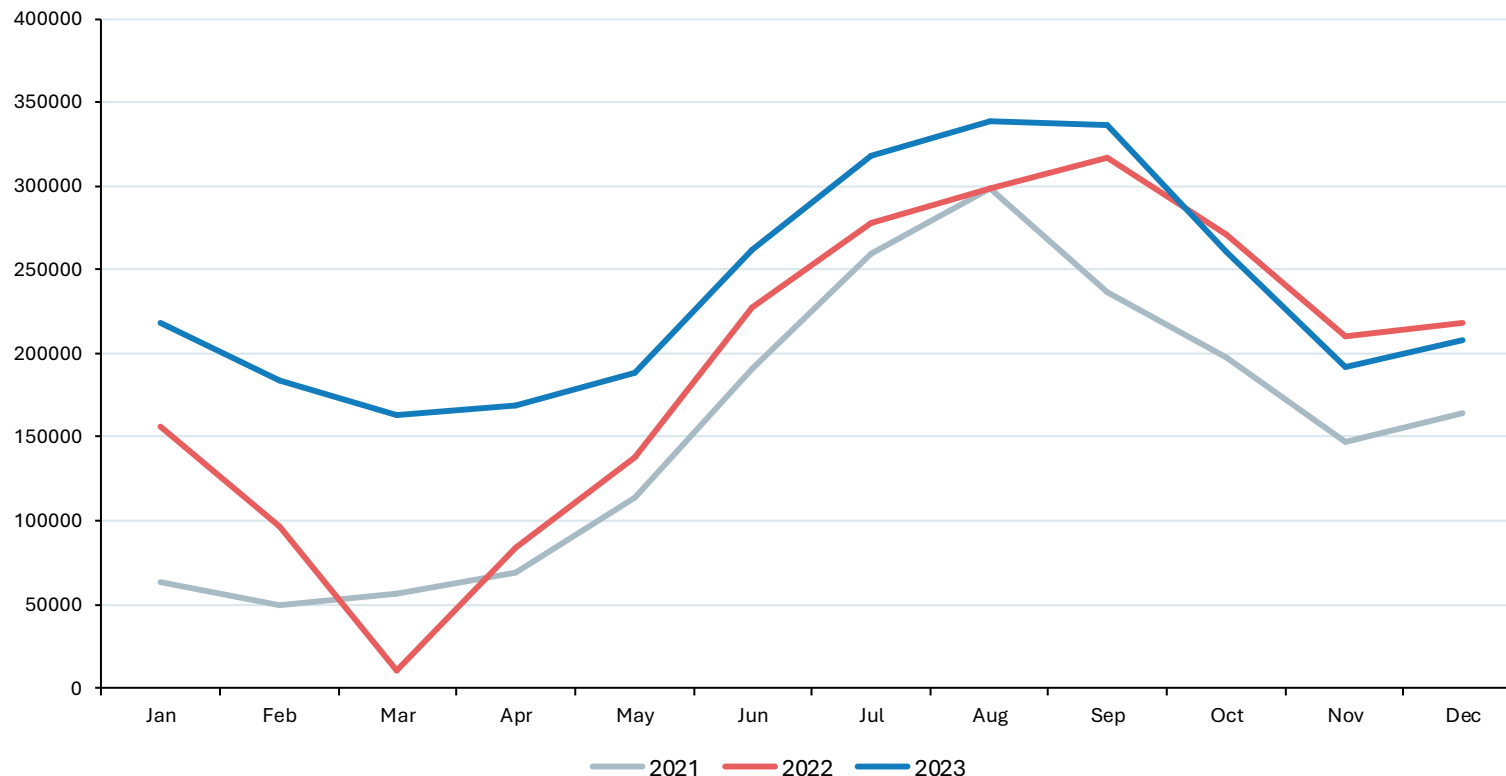
An uncoordinated Russian NOTAM declared most of Moldova's airspace a danger area.

Precautionary action under extreme uncertainty



CIVIL AIRSPACE CLOSED

Airspace closure addressed safety — but disrupted connectivity



-89%

FEB → MAR 2022

Passenger traffic

The question changed:

How do we reopen safely while the threat remains?

The framework already existed, the role had to adapt

NATIONAL FUA FRAMEWORK

Flexible Use of Airspace

Established for airspace management and stronger civil–military cooperation.

STRATEGIC LEVEL

CIMSA

Civil–military, interinstitutional body responsible for strategic airspace management.

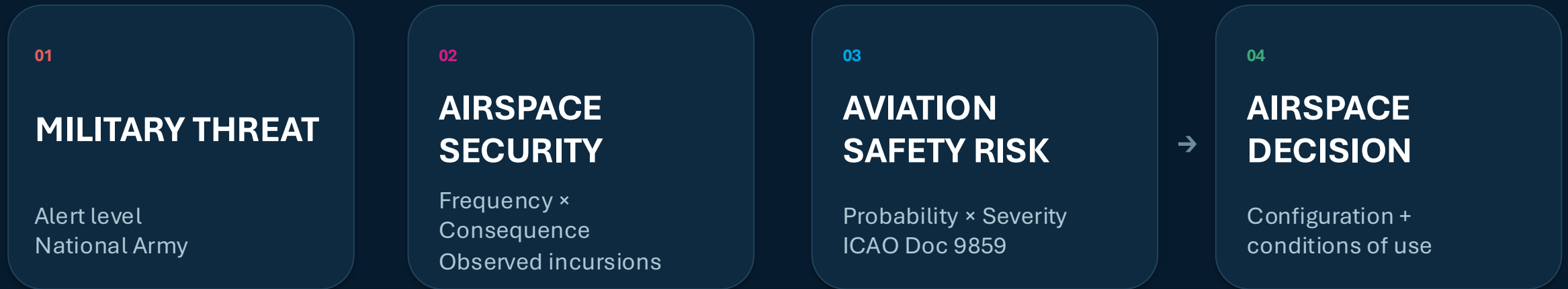
AFTER 24 FEB 2022

Framework adapted

CIMSA became the platform supporting conflict-related risk assessment and airspace configuration decisions.

The value of a framework is its ability to adapt

Risk assessment model for airspace management



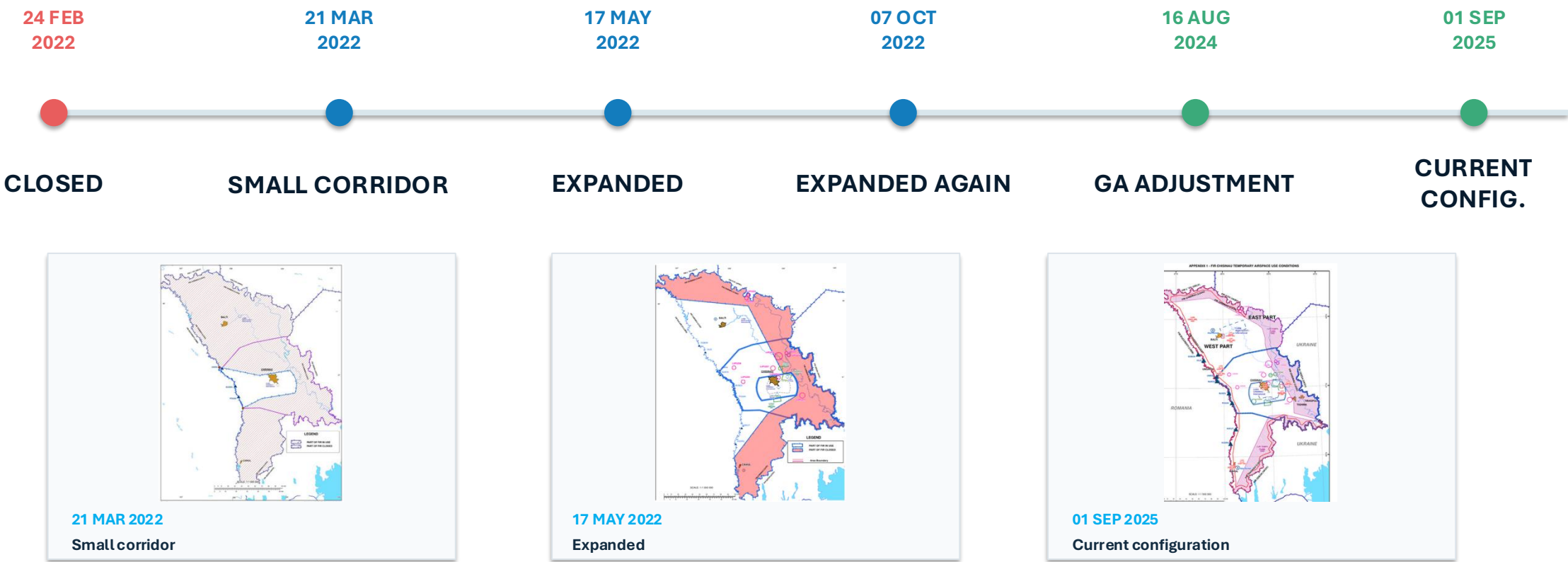
A broader perspective: What is the threat? What has occurred? What is the aviation safety risk? What configuration is proportionate?

STRATEGIC
Periodic + event-triggered
Adjust airspace configuration

Reassessed every 30 days — or when new hazards emerge.

TACTICAL
Real time
Temporary operational measures

Moldova progressively reopened its airspace



Source: AIP Supplements 004/2022, 007/2022, 014/2022, 008/2024, 005/2025.

Four lessons for building airspace resilience

01

BUILD THE FRAMEWORK & PLAN THE FULL CYCLE

Civil–military structures · options · scenarios ·
restriction + reopening

02

EXERCISE TOGETHER

Joint civil–military exercises based on realistic
scenarios

03

SEE THE THREAT

Invest in detection and tracking capabilities

04

SHARE ACROSS BORDERS

Early warning · threat information · operational
coordination

**AIRSPACE RESTRICTION DECISIONS SHOULD BE:
PROPORTIONATE · REASSESSED · REVERSIBLE**

**The risk environment will
continue to change.**

**Resilience is the ability to adapt
as the risk evolves.**

Thank you

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Civil Aviation Authority of the Republic of Moldova

