

This monthly newsletter is a brief overview of Ukrainian authorities' work on implementation of Reform #1 in Ukraine


DECENTRALIZATION IS IRREVERSIBLE: AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION ARE ADOPTED IN THE FIRST READING

On August 31 Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on its special meeting supported in the first reading the draft law on introduction of amendments into the Constitution of Ukraine on authority decentralization.

The draft law proposes amendments concerning state authority decentralization in Ukraine and strengthening of constitutional and legal status of local self-government.

Beside that, the draft law takes into consideration the Complex of measures on fulfillment of Minsk agreements of February 12, 2015 – it is provided that the peculiarities of local self-government in certain regions of Donetsk and Lugansk oblasts shall be defined by a separate law.

Source: web-site of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine




"We have voted for abolishing of our slavery: for elimination of dependence of our communities on the central authority",
said the Chairman of parliament, Volodymyr Groysman

THE LAW ON LOCAL ELECTIONS HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE: THE NEW ELECTORAL SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY WILL BE TESTED THIS AUTUMN

On August 6 President Petro Poroshenko signed the law on local elections. The legal act provides the basic principles, order of organization and holding of local elections.

This year the new electoral system, which has never been used in Ukraine, will be tested.

Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power



"Local elections, which will take place in October 2015, will complete the process of reloading of authority in Ukraine",
said the first deputy head of the Presidential Administration, Vitaliy Kovalchuk.

ON OCTOBER 25 THE FIRST ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN 74 UNIFIED COMMUNITIES

On August 28 the Central electoral commission officially announced, that September 5, 2015 will be the launching date of electoral process of the first elections of deputies of village, settlement, city councils of 74 unified territorial communities and respective village, settlement, and city council heads.

The first elections will be held on October 25 in 5 communities in Volyn oblast, 10 – in Dnipropetrovsk, 8 – in Zhytomyr, 2-in Kirovograd, 7-in Odessa, 10–in Poltava, 21 – in Khmelnytsky, 10 – in Chernivtsi, and 1 – in Ivano-Frankivsk oblast.

Source: web-site of The Central electoral commission

“More than a half of all communities in the country have already initiated unification. People want European standards for services, jobs, education, and healthcare, as well as decent salaries. Investors and companies want transparent, fair, and understandable rules of economic and business activity”,
says the Vice Prime-Minister, Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal economy of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko



THE GOVERNMENT AND THE EXPERTS ARE JOINTLY WORKING ON THE DRAFT LAW ON PREFECTS

The government, jointly with Polish experts and specialists from the associations of local self-government bodies, started working on the draft law on prefects.

According to the proposed amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine, the institution of prefects shall replace oblast and raion state administrations. It is intended, that prefects shall be appointed by the President, following the recommendation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. A prefect is a civil servant, and the post will be a political one. The basic function of a prefect is to control observance of the Constitution and laws of Ukraine by local self-government bodies.

Source: web-site Government portal

“It is important for a prefect to be free of political influences of the local environment of the region he manages. He must represent the government and not political powers”,
says the wojewoda of Mazowieckie wojewodztwo (Poland) Jacek Kozlowski.

