

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

The European Union developed reform support programmes for Ukraine

On November 2 Head of Cooperation of the EU Delegation to Ukraine Berend de Groot visited Lviv.

During the visit he stated, that the European Union, jointly with its partners, including the US, developed a set of programmes, targeted at support of reforms in Ukraine.

Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power

“Jointly with the international partners we are going to support most actively the already formed amalgamated communities and help them in their economic activities”, said the head of Lviv oblast state administration, Oleg Synyutka.



Supporters of decentralization in Ukraine consolidate their efforts

On November 3 Minregion of Ukraine, Ukrainian association of raion and oblast councils, and Swiss-Ukrainian project “Decentralization support in Ukraine” (DESPRO) signed a memorandum of cooperation in support of activities of the Central Office for Reforms.

The Central Office for Reforms will coordinate and provide methodical, communicational, and expert assistance to regional offices, which guide the reform at the local level.

Source: web-site Ministry of Regional Development

«We should coordinate the activities of all decentralization supporters in Ukraine, join the efforts in order to implement the local self-government reform, form capable territorial communities in Ukraine, and, finally, achieve the international standards of public services provision”, said the First deputy minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal economy of Ukraine Vyacheslav Negoda.



The EU will allocate 97 million euro to support decentralization in Ukraine

On November 20 a visit of Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn, to Lviv took place.

During the visit the Commissioner said that the European Union was ready to allocate 97 million euros for decentralization support in Ukraine. The funds will be targeted at training of highly-qualified specialists.

Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power

«For successful implementation of the reform we need people of the respective qualification. EU is willing to provide funds for training of these people. I am convinced, that in the nearest future the investments from our side will yield respective results for Ukraine», said the Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations, Johannes Hahn.



Almost 60 % of Ukrainians support decentralization

On November 25 a large-scale social survey “Decentralization and local self-government reform” was presented.

During September-October 2015 sociologists studied the knowledge and opinions of the public, concerning decentralization.

The survey indicated that the people of Ukraine made a clear choice in favor of the European democratic way of development and authority decentralization: most Ukrainians (59%) believed that the reform of local self-government and decentralization was necessary. 42% of respondents expect the situation in Ukraine to improve after the reform implementation.

Source: web-site Government portal



«It is important for ordinary citizens to be heard on a regular basis, for their wishes to be taken into account during the reform, for them to become a part of this process, for recommendations of the citizens to become a part of the legislation», **said Ambassador, representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for coordination of cooperation programmes in Ukraine, Head of office of the Council of Europe in Ukraine, Vladimir Ristovski.**

France will participate in training of public servants in Ukraine

On November 25 Vice-prime minister Gennady Zubko met the Minister of decentralization and public service of France, Marylise Lebranchu.

Based on the meeting results, he noted that France was interested in strengthening of cooperation with Ukraine in the field of decentralization and regional authority organization, as well as in the area of territorial development and reformation of state service. France is ready to provide Ukraine with module programmes for training of officers for both public service and local self-government bodies.

Source: web-site Government portal



«France offered assistance in reformation of Ukrainian educational establishments, which trained state servants», **said the Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal services of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**

The Parliament simplified the system of administrative services provision

On November 26 Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine approved the package of laws, delegating the responsibilities for administrative services provision from central authorities to the local level.

Adoption of these laws will allow to transfer the responsibilities for administrative services provision in the area of state registration of legal and physical persons-entrepreneurs to local self-government bodies, local state administrations, notary offices, and banks.

Beside that, the procedures of state registration of property rights (for immovable property) are simplified, and the issues concerning the delegation of respective competences to local authorities are regulated.

Source: web-site Government portal



«This will grant local self-government bodies an additional resource, and, first of all, give people an opportunity not to stand in queues, not to go from the raion to the oblast centre, not to give bribes, but, instead, get the needed certificate or permission swiftly and efficiently», **said the Prime-minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk.**

A law, allowing amalgamated communities to form their own budgets, is adopted

On November 26 Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine approved the law, needed for formation and appropriate fulfillment of budgets of amalgamated territorial communities.

The draft law provides for changes to be introduced into the Budget code, which shall regulate the procedures for development of draft budgets of amalgamated territorial communities and define the mechanisms for control of observance of budgetary legislation on inter-budgetary relations in local self-government bodies of the newly-formed communities.

«With the adoption of this law, communities will be able to fund budgetary establishments with full amounts and in time, as well as bear other necessary costs», **said Vice-prime Minister, Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal services of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**



Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power

Deputies of local councils will vote by roll call

On November 26 Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine approved the law, making the voting process in local councils transparent, and allowing the public to control the voting of every deputy.

Approval of the draft law will enhance personal responsibility of deputies and improve the quality of local self-government functioning. Decisions of local councils shall be approved by open voting by roll call, except for cases, for which secret voting is provided by the legislation in force.

«The deputies must feel personal responsibility for decisions made. This is an extremely important step for development of local self-government», **said the people's deputy Vadym Kryvenko.**



Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power

The Parliament addressed the issues of state registration of amalgamated communities

On November 26 Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted in the first reading the draft law, regulating the issues concerning state registration of a newly-formed local authority as a legal person.

The draft law also eliminates the drawbacks in the issues of inheritance of competences by amalgamated territorial communities, their councils, and executive committees.

«This is one of the laws, which create all pre-conditions, allowing the newly-formed amalgamated communities to function effectively», **said Vice-prime Minister, Minister of regional development, construction, and housing and communal services of Ukraine, Gennady Zubko.**



Source: web-site of Decentralization of Power