

DOCTRINE OF INFORMATION SECURITY OF UKRAINE

Russian information aggression and media fake epidemic spread worldwide have caused a serious need for responding to these phenomena in Europe at a global level.

The European Parliament became imbued with the approval of its own resolution on combating anti-European propaganda spread throughout the EU and reflected the basic principles of this counteraction in the Document called “EU strategic communication to counteract propaganda against it by third parties” adopted on November 23, 2016.

Following the example of the European Parliament and responding to the challenges of today in Ukraine, the Decree of the President of Ukraine No. 47/2017 of February 25, 2017 approved the Doctrine of Information Security of Ukraine (hereinafter - the Doctrine)

<http://www.president.gov.ua/documents/472017-21374>.

The Doctrine defines **the national interests of Ukraine** in the information area, **the threats** to their implementation, **the directions and priorities of the state policy** in the information area. The document clarifies the principles of the state information policy formation and implementation, principally, related to combatting the destructive information influence of the Russian Federation under the conditions of the hybrid war unleashed by it, with the use of the latest information technologies of influence on the citizens’ consciousness and aimed at inciting ethnic and religious hatred, propaganda of aggressive war, invasive change of the constitutional system or any violation of the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine.

The Doctrine is based on the principles of respect for the rights and freedoms of citizens, respect for human dignity, protection of legitimate interests of individuals, of society and of the state, ensuring the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

The following bodies are directly involved into the implementation of the Doctrine:

The National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine; the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine; the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine; the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine; the Ukrainian State Film Agency; **the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine**; the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine; the Security Service of Ukraine; the intelligence agencies of Ukraine; the State Service of Special Communications and Information Protection of Ukraine; the National Institute for Strategic Studies.

The national interests of Ukraine in the information area are defined, in particular, as follows:

1) the vital interests of a person:

ensuring the human constitutional rights and freedoms for collecting, storing, using and disseminating information;

ensuring the constitutional rights to privacy;

protection from destructive information and psychological impacts;

2) the vital interests of the society and the state:

protecting the Ukrainian society from aggressive influence of destructive propaganda, especially those made by the Russian Federation;

protecting the Ukrainian society from aggressive informational influence of the Russian Federation aimed at propaganda of war, inciting ethnic and religious hatred, invasive change of the constitutional system or any violation of the sovereignty or territorial integrity of Ukraine;

comprehensive meeting the needs of citizens, enterprises, institutions and organizations of all forms of ownership in access to accurate and objective information;

ensuring the free flow of information, except as provided by law;

development and protection of the national information infrastructure;

conservation and enhancement of spiritual, cultural and moral values of the Ukrainian people;

ensuring comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all areas of social life throughout Ukraine;

free development, use and protection of languages of ethnic minorities and promoting learning of languages of international communication;

strengthening of information connections with the Ukrainian diaspora, facilitating maintenance of its ethnic and cultural identity;

development of media culture of the society and of the socially responsible media environment;

forming of an efficient legal system to protect an individual, the society and the state from destructive impacts of propaganda;

creation of a systems and mechanisms of protection against negative external information and psychological impacts, especially propaganda, on the basis of international law provisions;

development of the information society, in particular, its technology infrastructure;

safe operation and development of the national information landscape and its integration into the European and world information landscapes;

development of a strategic communications system of Ukraine;

effective interaction between public authorities and civil society in the formation and implementation of the state policy in the information area;

ensuring development of information and communication technologies and information resources of Ukraine;

security of state secrets and other information, protection requirements of which are provided for by law;

creation of a positive image of Ukraine in the world, delivering rapid, accurate and objective information to the international community concerning events in Ukraine;

building the system of foreign broadcasting of Ukraine and ensuring the availability of a foreign Ukrainian channel in cable networks and in satellite broadcasting outside of Ukraine.

The current threats to the national interests and national security of Ukraine in the area of information are defined as follows:

conducting of special information operations aimed at undermining the defence capacity, demoralization of the staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and of other military forces, provoking extremist manifestations, feeding panic, sharpening and destabilizing the socio-political and socio-economic situation, inciting ethnic and religious conflicts in Ukraine;

conducting by the aggressor-state of special information operations in other countries in order to create a negative image of Ukraine in the world;

information expansion exercised by the aggressor-state and structures controlled by it, in particular, by expanding its own information infrastructure in the territory of Ukraine and of other countries;

information domination of the aggressor-state in the temporarily occupied territories;

insufficient level of development of the national information infrastructure which limits the ability of Ukraine to efficiently counteract the information aggression and to proactively act in the information area in order to implement the national interests of Ukraine;

inefficiency of the state information policy, shortcomings in the legislation on regulation of social relations in the information area, uncertainty of a strategic narrative, insufficient level of media culture of the society;

dissemination of calls for radical action, propaganda of isolationist and autonomist concepts of the regions coexistence in Ukraine.

The priorities of the state policy in information area are:

1) on ensuring information security:

creation of an integrated information system of evaluating threats and rapid responding to them;

improving powers of state regulatory authorities that perform in the information landscape of the state in order to achieve an adequate level of capacity of the state to meet real and potential threats to the national interests of Ukraine in the information area;

legislative regulation of a mechanism of finding, fixing, blocking and deleting from the information landscape of the state, in particular, from the Ukrainian segment of the Internet, the information that threatens lives or health of Ukrainian citizens, promotes war, ethnic and religious hatred, invasive change of the constitutional system or violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine, threatens the state sovereignty and promotes the Communist and/or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes and their symbols;

designation of mechanisms for regulation of operation activities of telecommunications companies, printing companies, publishers, broadcasters, TV and radio centres and other enterprises, institutions, organizations, cultural institutions and the media, and using of local radio stations,

television centres and printing houses for military purposes and conducting explanatory work among the forces and population; prohibition of operation of receiving and transmitting radio stations of personal and collective use and transferring information via computer networks under the conditions of martial law introduction;

optimization of legal mechanisms for implementation of the commitments of Ukraine within the European Convention on Transfrontier Television related to states that are not signatories of this Convention;

creation and development of structures responsible for information and psychological security, especially in the Armed Forces of Ukraine, based on the practice of NATO member-states;

development and protection of the technological infrastructure for ensuring information security of Ukraine;

ensuring of full coverage of the territory of Ukrainian with digital broadcasting, especially in border areas and temporarily occupied territories;

development of digital broadcasting, prevention of influence on its infrastructure of entities associated with the aggressor-state;

building an effective and efficient strategic communications system;

development of mechanisms for cooperation of the state with civil society in addressing the information aggression against Ukraine;

fighting against disinformation and destructive propaganda of the Russian Federation;

strengthening capacity of the security and defence sector to counter specific information operations aimed at invasive change of the constitutional system, any violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity, undermining the defence capacity of Ukraine, demoralization of the staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and of other military force, worsening of the socio-political situation;

detection and prosecution under the law of Ukrainian information landscape entities created and/or used by the aggressor-state to conduct an information war against Ukraine and prevention of their subversive activities;

prevention of free circulation of information products (printed and electronic) primarily originated from the territory of the aggressor-state that contain propaganda of war, ethnic and religious hatred, invasive change of the constitutional system or any violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, provoking riots;

conducting by the intelligence agencies of Ukraine of campaigns on promotion and protection of the national interests of Ukraine in the area of information, countering external threats to the state information security outside Ukraine;

prevention of the use of the state information landscape in destructive purposes or for actions aimed at discrediting Ukraine at the international level;

2) on ensuring protection and development of the information landscape of Ukraine and of the constitutional right of citizens for information:

facilitating development of national production of text and audio visual content, including by establishing a system of quotas and conducting targeted competitions for grants;

ensuring operation of the Public Service Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine, including its adequate financing;

establishing a system of local communities broadcasting which will facilitate expanding communication possibilities and reducing conflicts within communities;

supporting the domestic book publishing activities, including translations of foreign works, providing them to educational institutions and libraries;

development of legal instruments of protecting human and civil rights to free access to information and its dissemination, processing, storing and protection;

comprehensive support of self-regulation mechanisms for the media based on the principles of social responsibility;

enhancing media literacy level of the society, facilitation in training of highly competent qualified personnel for the media area;

improvement of legal regulation of the information area in addressing current threats to national security;

meeting the needs of population of temporarily occupied territories in objective, prompt and reliable information;

full coverage of the territory of Ukraine with digital and Internet broadcasting instead of analogue broadcasting and providing equal possibilities for every citizen to access information

resources on the Internet;

forming of a system of the state support of national audio visual products;

promotion, including via audio visual means, of in particular of social advertising, of milestones and state experience, of the value of freedom, democracy, patriotism, national unity, protection of Ukraine against external and internal threats;

3) on openness and transparency of the state to its citizens:

development of e-governance mechanisms;

facilitating possibilities for access to and use of public information in the form of open data;

informing the citizens of Ukraine about the activities of public authorities related to establishment of efficient cooperation of these bodies with the media and journalists;

reforming government communications;

development of services aimed at large-scale and more effective public involvement in decision-making of public authorities and local governments;

promoting creation of a culture of public debates;

4) on creation of positive international image of Ukraine:

thorough reforming of a system of reporting about Ukraine in the international arena;

development of public diplomacy, including cultural and digital diplomacy;

activation of coordinated information work of Ukrainian diplomatic institutions abroad;

promotion and development of foreign broadcasting in Ukraine;

creation and ensuring operation of the legal mechanism of state bodies interaction with civil society to provide information support commercial, humanitarian, educational, cultural and other activities of such institutions outside Ukraine;

maintaining continuous monitoring propaganda of the aggressor-state, elaboration and prompt implementation of appropriate countermeasures;

prevention of the international information landscape use for destructive purposes or for actions aimed at discreditation of Ukraine at the international level;

reforming the system of collaboration with the Ukrainian diaspora by ensuring closer cooperation and implementing effective measures, in particular through “person to person” communications;

participation in international cultural events to present national culture and identity;

introduction of international cultural festivals in Ukraine to promote the Ukrainian culture and “person to person” communications.