

Project: PACE UP (Support to the Ukrainian Parliament)

The Assembly also extends its parliamentary co-operation activities in Ukraine through “PACE UP – Support to the Ukrainian Parliament” project (2026 – 2030), initiated following a request from Mr Ruslan Stefanchuk, Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, on 9 September 2025, and the subsequent positive reply from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 24 November 2025, while also taking into account an earlier request from the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament to the PACE Secretary General in February 2024. The inception phase of the parliamentary cooperation project in Ukraine has been launched in April 2026 to conduct a comprehensive benchmarking analysis and to identify the current needs of the Ukrainian Parliament and its Secretariat through extended consultations with their respective leadership and representatives. PACE action and support will be focused on fostering political dialogue and exchanges of Ukrainian parliamentarians and staffers with European peers, closer cooperation with PACE bodies and committees, and expert/technical assistance to improve legislative processes, oversight, and internal parliamentary coordination within the Ukrainian Parliament on issues related to democratic institutions functioning, protecting human rights and strengthening rule of law.

What are the objectives of the Project?

The Project aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Ukrainian Parliament so that it can effectively fulfil its constitutional role in safeguarding democracy, the rule of law, and human rights during the war and post-war recovery. Specifically, the Project seeks to:

- strengthen the Parliament's engagement within the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE);
- improve the quality of legislation and parliamentary oversight by integrating Council of Europe standards and European good practices;
- enhance the Parliament's capacity to respond to war-related governance and human rights challenges;
- promote transparent, inclusive, and citizen-oriented parliamentary communication.

What are the Project's main activities?

The Project will implement a combination of technical assistance, capacity building, peer exchange, and policy support, including:

- supporting political dialogue and cooperation between the Ukrainian Parliament and PACE;
- organising peer-to-peer exchanges and study visits with parliaments of Council of Europe member States;
- delivering expert and consultancy support on legislative reforms related to democracy, rule of law, and human rights;
- facilitating dialogue between Parliament, public authorities, and civil society;
- strengthening the Parliament's Research Service;
- developing methodologies, guidelines, and tools for improved legislative scrutiny and parliamentary oversight;
- improving parliamentary communication through training, technical assistance, digital communication tools.

What do we expect to achieve?

- Stronger participation of Ukrainian parliamentarians and parliamentary staff in PACE activities and enhanced international parliamentary cooperation.
- Improved knowledge, skills, and institutional capacity to draft legislation and exercise parliamentary oversight in line with Council of Europe standards.
- More effective legislative processes supported by evidence-based research, better internal coordination, and the application of rule of law principles.
- Strengthened parliamentary capacity to address complex wartime and post-war governance challenges while protecting human rights and democratic institutions.
- More transparent, inclusive, and citizen-centred communication, improving public understanding of parliamentary work and reinforcing public trust in democratic institutions.

What is the budget and duration of the Project?

The Project is implemented within two stages:

- Inception phase: April – December 2026; Budget: 250 000 EUR (within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023 – 2026; funded by Germany)
- Implementation phase II: January 2027 – December 2030; Budget: 2 250 000 EUR (within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Democratic Security for Ukraine” 2027 – 2030).

Who benefits from the Project?

- Ukrainian delegation to PACE
- Leadership of the Ukrainian Parliament
- Members of the Ukrainian Parliament
- Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees
- Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees

How does the Project action work?

- The Project works through two complementary intervention pillars:
- Strengthening international parliamentary cooperation. It enhances the participation of Ukrainian parliamentarians and Secretariat staff in PACE through political dialogue, expert support, peer exchanges, and cooperation with counterparts from other Council of Europe member States. This helps transfer knowledge, build professional networks, and promote European democratic standards.
 - Strengthening parliamentary capacities and institutional practices. The Project provides expert advice, research, training, practical tools, and technical assistance to parliamentary committees and the Secretariat. It supports improved legislative drafting, parliamentary oversight, internal coordination, policy development, and public communication by embedding Council of Europe standards and European good practices into the Parliament's daily work.

How to get more information?

- [PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Co-operation Division](#)