



Омбудсман України
Ombudsman of Ukraine

The role of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights in observing the rights of military personnel

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The Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights ensures the Commissioner's activities in exercising parliamentary control over the observance of constitutional human rights and freedoms.

In order to effectively respond to new challenges, a new position was introduced within the Ombudsman Institution in Ukraine

**Representative of the Ukrainian Parliament
Commissioner for Human Rights in the System of
Security and Defense Sector**

This official is currently performing the functions of
the Military Ombudsman in Ukraine.

The Military Ombudsman manages

The Department for Monitoring the Observance of Rights in the Defence Sector and the Rights of Veterans and Servicemen, Prisoners of War and Members of Their Families,

The Department has two Divisions

Division for Observance of Rights of
Persons Deprived of their Liberty as
a Result of Armed Aggression against
Ukraine and Missing Persons

Department for the Observance of
Rights of Servicemen, Police Officers,
Veterans and Other Persons

The main task of the Department is

to ensure the exercise of the Commissioner's powers in the field of parliamentary control over the observance of constitutional rights and freedoms of:

- military personnel, law enforcement officers and members of their families;
- military personnel being POWs, missing under special circumstances, unlawfully deprived of their liberty or held hostage and members of their families;
- civilians illegally detained by the armed formations of the Russian Federation, missing under special circumstances and members of their families;
- war veterans, combatants, and their families, as well as family members of deceased defenders;
- veterans of military service or service in law enforcement agencies.

Cooperation with the civil society sector is an important area of work.

The Representative of the Ombudsman
in the System of Security and Defense Sector

has established an Expert Council,

which includes representatives of NGOs, experts and scholars.

During martial law, the following issues that needed to be addressed should be highlighted:

- 1.** Ensuring the observance of the rights of citizens in connection with conscription for military service during mobilisation.
- 2.** Control over the observance of the rights of servicemen to adequate financial and other types of support.
- 3.** Ensuring the right to proper medical care, receiving appropriate rehabilitation (prosthetic) services.
- 4.** Observance of the rights and guarantees of persons declared partially fit for military service as a result of injury.
- 5.** Restoration of the rights of servicemen (property rights, dismissal, status, etc.).

The main methods of the Department's work in the area of observance of the rights of servicemen and their families:

- monitoring visits to military institutions and organisations;
- holding group meetings and personal receptions of family members of prisoners of war and missing persons with representatives of state authorities, military formations and civil society organisations;
- working with citizens' appeals, reviewing applications, providing explanations, studying problems and solving them;
- active and constructive correspondence on problematic issues with top- level managers or authorised state bodies;
- work in the committees of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine, Government committees, interagency thematic commissions and working groups.

RESULTS

- proposals for improving Ukrainian legislation are regularly submitted to the Parliamentary Committees;
- the Department's employees participate in the development of draft laws aimed at implementing the rights and social guarantees of servicemen, their families and family members, as well as family members of deceased combatants in the format of working groups;
- on the initiative of the Office of the Commissioner, the Ministry of Defence and the General Staff developed and introduced amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Military Duty and Military Service";
- a draft law on the right to discharge from service of persons with disabilities was registered in the Parliament;

- at the stage of settling is the issue of payment of financial support to servicemen (changes to the procedure for payment of financial support to family members of servicemen who went missing or were in captivity);
- together with the Command of the Medical Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, a system of control over the work of military medical institutions and rehabilitation centres where wounded soldiers undergo treatment and rehabilitation was established.
- the Department **processed 7,604 appeals** to the Commissioner on the observance of the rights of servicemen, their families, prisoners of war, missing persons and civilians of Ukraine illegally detained by Russia;
- since the beginning of the year, the **rights of 477 Ukrainian citizens have been restored in 182 cases** (including two collective appeals).

The current system of functioning of the Ombudsman institution in Ukraine allows for timely and effective response to detected violations, elimination of preconditions for their commission and improvement of legislation, effective interaction with central executive authorities