

Pressure by a Political Party to Replace a Member of the Public Broadcaster's Supervisory Board

The personal composition of the Supervisory Board of the National Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine (UA:PBC) is established in accordance with Articles 8-10 of the Law of Ukraine “On Television and Radio Broadcasting”. In particular, Article 8, para 8 of the Law stipulates that candidates to the UA:PBC Supervisory Board can be rejected by the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting based on the unconformity with criteria set up by the Article 9 of the said Law. Article 10, para 3 of the Law stipulates that the National Council terminates the powers of a member of the UA:PBC Supervisory Board according to the procedures established by the National Council itself.

Subsequently, the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting has the unique competence prescribed by the law to terminate powers of the UA:PBC Supervisory Board members, including those appointed in respect of parliamentary factions and groups of the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian Parliament) of current convocation.

Article 16, para 1 of the Law of Ukraine “On the Status of a Member of the Parliament of Ukraine” grants the right of members of parliament to appeal to national and local authorities, their officials, heads of enterprises, institutions and organizations regardless of their ownership and subordination, and civic associations on issues related to MP’s activities, and to take part in the consideration of these issues.

MP’s appeal is the written proposal of the MP of Ukraine, addressed to the aforementioned bodies, officials and associations, to perform certain actions, to give an official explanation or to express a position on issues under their own competence.

In light of the above, the appeal of the parliamentary faction of the Oleh Lyashko Radical Party to the National Council was exercised in the framework of the legislation in force and on the basis of the above-mentioned provisions of the Law of Ukraine “On the Status of the Member of Parliament of Ukraine”.

On 16 March 2017, the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting decided to exclude the consideration of the issue of changes to the composition of the UA:PBC Supervisory Board from its agenda.