

## Partnership for Good Governance



### Results of projects in Ukraine under the European Union/Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance<sup>1</sup>

#### What is the Partnership for Good Governance?

In April 2014, the European Union and the Council of Europe agreed to implement targeted cooperation activities with EU's Eastern Partnership countries to bring them closer to European standards in the fields of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The projects under the Partnership for Good Governance, are funded primarily by the EU, and co-funded and implemented by the Council of Europe.

In addition to 14 regional projects, there are **five country-specific projects for Ukraine**, with a **total budget of € 3.9 million**

#### Strengthening the implementation of European human rights standards in Ukraine

The project is running from 1 January 2015 until 20 December 2017, its budget is 1.7 million euros.

- ▶ Expert advice was provided on the following draft legislation: On National Policy of Ukraine, On Private Detective Activity, On Misdemeanors, On Operative Search Activities, On Public Assemblies, the Code of Ethics of the National Policy and anti-discrimination legislation;
- ▶ Effective cooperation with the National Police of Ukraine resulted in its strong commitment to implement recommendations of the CoE, align reform policy with European standards and brought to the establishment of the Human Rights Department empowered to prevent and reveal ill-treatment cases within the police system;
- ▶ The Ombudsperson's Office received expert support in the implementation of the National Preventative Mechanism at the central and especially regional level; as well as data protection and anti-discrimination;
- ▶ The new distance learning courses "On Introduction to the ECHR", "On Evidence and Proofs", Labour Rights and "Deliberate Ill-treatment in the light of the ECHR" were developed through the Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) programme and successfully piloted among 75 judges of the courts of general jurisdiction and 25 prosecutors;
- ▶ A pool of 50 certified HELP trainers representing different legal professional groups – judges, prosecutors and lawyers was created through the training of trainers on HELP methodology, making Ukraine's national resource for Human Rights training more sustainable.

<sup>1</sup> Previously known as the Council of Europe/European Union Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website](#)

## Further support for the penitentiary reform in Ukraine

The project is running from 1 January 2015 until 20 December 2017; its budget is 1 million euros.

- ▶ Legal amendments on execution of criminal sanctions adopted by the Parliament (four draft laws envisaging a more humane treatment of prisoners)
- ▶ The Code of Ethics for Prison Staff developed and adopted by the Minister of Justice; 90% of prison governors went through the relevant trainings;
- ▶ A European shift away from punitive to rehabilitative approach in prison management is now captured in the draft law on the Penitentiary System and the Ministry of Justice Passport of Reforms;
- ▶ Dynamic Security approach now features in the Passport of Reforms of the Penitentiary;
- ▶ Catalogue of 12 Social and Life Skills Courses tested and integrated into the Curriculum of the Prison In-Service Training to be taught to the personnel from 2018 onwards.

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website](#)

## Fight against corruption in Ukraine

The project is running from 1 January 2016 until 20 December 2017, its budget is 1 million euros.

- ▶ Expert advice was provided on the issues of independence and functioning of the National Agency on Corruption Prevention (NACP) and financial reporting requirements to non-governmental organisations.
- ▶ Council of Europe experts prepared recommendations to improve framework regulating political party financing in Ukraine;
- ▶ Investigators of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine were introduced with good practices in corruption prevention and investigation in the UK;
- ▶ NACP received expert support in developing and applying performance indicators and progress benchmarks;
- ▶ Institutional capacities of the newly established Asset Recover and Management Agency were supported through a tailor-made training.

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website](#)

## Freedom of media in Ukraine

The project is running from 1 January 2015 until 20 December 2017, its budget is 177,000 euros.

- ▶ A number of activities were organised to strengthen the capacity of the National TV and Radio Broadcasting Council of Ukraine in the implementation of the law on transparency of media ownership, including study visit to Georgia and development of the web-site module and software for collecting and publishing the data on media ownership;

- ▶ Expert support was provided to the development of the draft law on audio-visual services;
- ▶ Concepts of the new media and community media were actively promoted. Recommendations to the development of the draft law on community media was provided;
- ▶ The reform of state and communal print media was supported particularly through regional trainings and development and launching of the on-line course on the issues concerned.

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website](#)

## Supporting free and fair elections in Ukraine

The project is running from 1 January 2015 until 20 December 2017; its budget is 88,000 euros.

- ▶ The Venice Commission provided opinions on the draft law on the financing of political parties as well as on amendments to the Law "On Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine. It is involved in the process of revision of the electoral legislation as well as in the discussion on political party legislation.
- ▶ International conference "Women's political representation in the EaP countries – regional study and exchange of information", took place on 1 December 2016 in Kiev in the premises of the Ukraine Parliament, with 80 participants representing Parliaments, Central Election Commissions and CSOs from EaP countries as well as media and international independent gender experts. The conference was accompanied by a photo exhibition co-organized with GIZ about political active women at local level in EaP countries.
- ▶ Following the regional presentation of the Genderstudy, a national Forum "Political parties 'strategy on enhancement of women political participation", was organised on 25 April 2017 in Kiev, in the premises of the Ukrainian Parliament, where the Ukrainian version of the regional study was presented, and the recommendations of the study in particular for Ukraine were discussed with Ukrainian MPs and representatives from local authorities of Ukraine.
- ▶ A delegation from Ukraine (MP, CEC, CSOs, NAPC – 8 persons in total) participated in the regional conference "Money in Politics" in Tbilisi on 19-20 June 2017 and exchanged about the current problems relating to political party financing and strategies to improve transparency, accountability and ethical behaviour of relevant actors in that field.
- ▶ A country paper on "Lasting challenges and International Practices in Eastern Europe: Political party /campaign finances and the use of Administrative Resources in Ukraine" was produced and presented at the conference on 19-20 June 2017.
- ▶ The two handbooks "Reporting on Elections: Council of Europe Handbook for Civil Society Organisations" and "Using International Standards in elections: Council of Europe Handbook for Civil Society Organisations" were translated in Ukrainian and disseminated to domestic observer organisations in the country during 2017.
- ▶ The e-learning course for Domestic observer organisations (English language) was launched in June 2017 and is accessible to electoral stakeholders in EaP countries. In Ukraine, electoral stakeholders, in particular CSOs, received invitations to use and to promote the tool within the observer community.

[A background information sheet on this project is available on the website](#)

**For more information** <http://partnership-governance-eu.coe.int>

**Contact:** [Nichola Howson](#), Communication Officer, +33 3 88 41 22 39

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