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Volodymyr Groysman
Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

In the 21st century, successful reforms cannot be implemented top-down. The Ukrainian parliament of the current convocation establishes new traditions of cooperation with non-governmental organizations and expert community, in particular with the Reanimation Package of Reforms. Together with our partners, we try to work more efficiently and are building a parliament based on a European model.



Dmytro Shymkiv
Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration

The Revolution of Dignity has formed a powerful civil society that aids in settling a number of critical issues. In fact, it is the civil society that acts as a safeguard of democracy. Involvement of members of the civil society, the experts of the Reanimation Package of Reforms, ensures openness and facilitates dialogue with the authority. I would like to thank the RPR for their persistence, resourcefulness, and their definite stand on important issues.



Geoffrey Pyatt
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the USA to Ukraine

Ukraine has made more progress on reforms this year than at any point in its history. The country's vibrant civil society has led this effort, with RPR playing a particularly critical role in pushing forward the agenda on anti-corruption, constitutional, educational, judicial and many other reforms. The challenge now is to build on that record and accelerate the reform process into 2016.



Jan Tombinski
the EU Ambassador to Ukraine

Reanimation Package of Reforms has established itself as one of the leading, independent and outspoken partners of international community in Ukraine. By combining sound analysis, wide network of experts and impressive outreach to the public well beyond Kyiv - it remains one of the most trusted and respected voices of reforms' advocacy in Ukraine and the 'training centre' for future public leaders in Ukraine.



INTRODUCTORY WORD

The Reanimation Package of Reforms would not have achieved its results without the powerful pool of experts and the team of enthusiasts advocating important decisions to the stakeholders and the public. In 2015, the civil society once again demonstrated its ability to respond to the crisis in a timely and effective manner. However, we would not have overcome all of the challenges without the participation of the proactive government officials, the media, the diplomatic corps, and the international donors. We would like to thank everyone for their ardent support. We are looking forward to continuing our cooperation in the coming months and years.

2015 was, undoubtedly, one of the most difficult years in the contemporary history of Ukraine – Russian military aggression, war, enormous economic losses aggravated by corruption which has not been eradicated yet. It is at such a time that reforms have to be carried out. The government has assumed political responsibility for the situation in the country. Throughout the year, the Reanimation Package of Reforms civil initiative has tried to be, above all, its partner, not an opponent, in order to pool efforts and speed up the process of implementing the necessary changes.

Among the RPR achievements over the past year - the adoption of 55 regulations developed, finalized, or strongly advocated by the experts of the NGOs – members of the Reanimation Package of Reforms. We have managed to boost the process of decentralization and have ensured the recruitment of civil servants on a competitive basis, the transparency of media ownership, the de-statization of press, the introduction of public financing of political parties, the harmonization of Ukrainian legislation and that of the EU to support implementation of the Association Agreement, the reform of scientific and R&D sectors, the creation of opportunities for large-scale energy modernization of buildings involving energy service companies, etc.

The process of voluntary amalgamation of territorial communities is in progress; fiscal decentralization has been implemented - most of the collected taxes now remain in the local communities; a law on the public broadcaster is being implemented; the patrol police is being launched; selection to the local prosecutor's offices has started; an integrated web portal on the use of public funds is running in test mode; new anticorruption institutions have been set up; citizens are now able to file electronic petitions, which is a new tool of interaction with the authority; access to the archives of the Soviet secret service has been provided. In addition, the RPR should be credited for the introduction of 3G in Ukraine, as our expert group has long been working towards it.

Among the goals we have set for 2016: the adoption of new electoral laws, the introduction of autonomy of healthcare establishments, and the implementation of the law to support transparent and effective activity of the National Commission for State Regulation of Energy and Public Utilities. The RPR also directs its efforts towards building a fair tax system – to create conditions for effective functioning of private pension funds, reduce the tax burden on wages, simplify the tax payment and reporting system, and transform the revenue service from a punitive institution into a servicing one. We also aim to adapt the Ukrainian legislation to the EU laws and facilitate consistent implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, particularly in part of the Free Trade Zone, in order to implement key economic and sectoral reforms. The coalition experts will also continue to prepare draft laws to implement the Amendments to the Constitution regarding judiciary (including a new law on the judiciary which formalizes participation of the public in the assessment and recruitment of judges to the new courts, amends the procedural codes to unify processes and minimize the workload, and introduces e-justice).

Faithfully yours,

Artem Myrhorodskyi

Head of the Reanimation Package of Reforms Secretariat



NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS – MEMBERS OF THE RPR:

All-Ukrainian Association of Small and Medium Businesses 'Fortress'
Anti-corruption Action Center
Association for Support of Defense of Ukraine
Association of Tax Consultants
Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors
Association on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving
Bureau of Ecologic Investigations
CASE-Ukraine
CCC Creative Center
Centre for Economic Strategy
Centre for Innovations Development at NaUKMA
Centre of Policy and Legal Reform
Centre for Political Studies and Analysis
Centre UA
Civil Network OPORA
Civil Society Institute
Coalition of Civic Organizations 'For Sober Ukraine'
Committee of Voters of Ukraine
Cultural Assembly
Development and Security Association
Election Law Institute
Environment-People-Law
Europe Without Barriers
Foundation of Regional Initiatives
Health Forum
Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation
Institute for Social and Economic Studies
Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation
Institute for Socio-Economic Transformation
Institute of World Policy
Internews Ukraine
Liberation Movement Research Center
Life
MAMA-86
Media Law Institute
National Ecological Centre of Ukraine
Network of Energy Innovations 'Greencubator'
'No Bribery' Movement
PLAST – National Scout Organization of Ukraine
Rodyna
Telekrytyka
Transparency International Ukraine
Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research
Ukrainian Insurance Federation
Ukrainian Science Club
Union of Ukrainian Archeologists

BOARD OF THE REANIMATION PACKAGE OF REFORMS

The Board is a strategic management body that implements the strategy adopted by the Assembly of the NGOs, as well as develops and approves tactical decisions. The representatives of 24 NGOs have elected the following authoritative persons as members of the RPR Board:



Ihor Koliushko

Chairman of the Board of the
Centre of Policy and Legal Reform,
Co-Head of the RPR Board



Taras Shevchenko

Director of the Media Law Institute,
Co-Head of the RPR Board



Iryna Bekeshkina

Director of Ilko Kucheriv
Democratic Initiatives Foundation



Inna Borzylo

CEO at Centre UA



Oksana Velychko

Director of the ethnographic complex
'Ukrainian Village', manager of the
group 'RPR-Kyiv'



Mykola Vyhovskiy

manager of the RPR group
'Administrative Reform'



Hlib Vyshlinskyi

CEO at Center for
Economic Strategy



Mykhailo Zhernakov

leading expert of the RPR
group 'Judicial Reform'



Oksana Nechyporenko

Coordinator of the Go Global Initiative,
ex-head of the RPR Secretariat



Viktor Taran

Head of the Center for Political
Studies and Analysis



Oleksiy Khmara

CEO at Transparency
International Ukraine



Vitaliy Shabunin

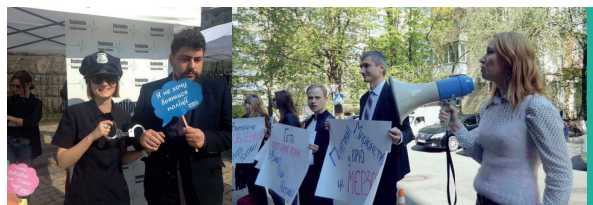
Head of the Board of the
Anti-corruption Action Center

Dmytro Kotliar and **Artem Myrhorodskyi** were members of the RPR Board until December 2015.



WHO WE ARE:

The Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR) is a civil platform that brings together the leading NGOs and experts from all over Ukraine and performs functions as a coordination center in charge of the development and implementation of key reforms in Ukraine.



RPR MISSION:

To pool efforts to facilitate reforms in order to build an independent, democratic, legal, powerful, and authoritative Ukrainian state with a prosperous society and equal opportunities for every individual to develop and achieve self-fulfillment.



STRATEGIC GOAL:

To implement key reforms in order to establish an open society, government's accountability to the public, and a new relationship between the citizens and the state, as well as ensure safety and welfare of the Ukrainian people.

STRUCTURE OF THE RPR

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF THE RPR HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY:



Artem Myrhorodskyi
Head of the Secretariat



Vadym Miskyi
Coordinator
of Expert Groups



The RPR has a three-tier horizontal governance structure ruled by collective decisions. There is no single leader.



Throughout 2015, the RPR Coordination Council was the highest body, consisting of a representative of each group and leaders of specific Secretariat areas of work.



In December 2015, the Coordination Council decided to proclaim the Assembly of the NGOs as the highest body.

Assembly of the NGOs – members of the RPR

The Assembly of the NGOs (hereinafter referred to as the Assembly) is the highest body of the RPR. NGOs – members of the RPR – authoritative, experienced CSOs with impeccable reputation – have the right of vote at the Assembly. New NGOs granted the status of associated members and participate in the Assembly in a consultative capacity.

The Assembly is authorized to adopt the RPR Charter and the RPR Strategy, listen to the reports on the activity of the Board and the Secretariat, accept and exclude organizations-members of the Coalition as advised by the RPR Board, etc.

Board of the RPR

The Board of the RPR is a body that implements the strategy adopted by the Assembly, as well as develops and approves tactical decisions. Members of the Board are authoritative persons, experts of the RPR, and independent experts. The Board of the RPR consists of twelve members.

The Board of the RPR controls implementation of its decisions by the Secretariat, represents the RPR in the relations with partners, etc.

Secretariat of the RPR

The Secretariat is an executive body of the RPR. Key functions of the Secretariat are advocacy and support, through communications, of the activity of the civil platform and its members. The Secretariat coordinates the activity of the RPR; supports the functions of advocacy, communication, international relations, regional activity, fundraising, and organizational development; prepares and holds RPR press events; supports activities of groups, initiatives, and other structural divisions, etc.

Working groups

Representatives of NGOs - members of the RPR, as well as individual experts, are working in 23 expert groups in specific areas. Each expert group works in the form of public meetings and opinion exchange. The aim of the group is to implement relevant reforms, secure good governance in specific fields, and ensure the partnership between government and society as well as public control over the authorities.

The RPR also supports initiatives aimed at reforming specific areas, such as youth policy, deregulation, education, 3G-reform, and others.

ADVOCACY

RPR ADVOCACY HAS BEEN COORDINATED BY:



**Yaroslav
Yurchyshyn**

area manager



**Vitaliy
Sharlay**

analyst (until September)



**Andriy
Shevchenko**

consultant (until November)



**Bohdan
Yatsun**

analyst (since September)

With its powerful advocacy direction, the Reanimation Package of Reforms has promoted advancement of the legislative initiatives developed and supported by the group experts and NGOs – members of the RPR, their adoption in a non-altered form, and ensured monitoring of their implementation. At the stage of implementation, it is often necessary to improve the already adopted initiatives.

of the faction), four MPs from the Volia Narodu faction (20%), and three from the Opposition Bloc (7%) have co-authored the RPR initiatives.

As for the effectiveness of cooperation in the legislative environment, Oksana Prodan (the Petro Poroshenko Bloc), who has registered 18 draft laws jointly with the RPR – eleven of which have been adopted as laws – is a leader in this respect. She is followed by Hanna Hopko with 18 draft laws, eight of them adopted, and Viktor Chumak (the Petro Poroshenko Bloc) with 17 and six respectively.

Cooperation with the legislature

As of November 30, 2015, the RPR advocacy basis included 115 draft laws with a positive opinion and 22 with a negative opinion. Out of the 115 positive draft regulations, 55 have been adopted, two of them have been returned to the parliament with remarks of the President. Four draft laws (reform of the prosecution and the confiscation procedure) were adopted, according to the experts, in an abbreviated form, one draft law on deregulation has been failed in the parliament. Of the 55 draft laws pending, twelve are being prepared for the second reading, 25 are ready for the first reading, and 18 are currently being reviewed by the committees.

Out of the draft laws with a negative opinion, eight have been rejected upon the recommendation of the RPR, while 14 are at the various stages of consideration.

The initiatives developed and supported by the experts have been co-authored by 262 MPs, or 62% of the acting parliament. Most of the co-authors belong to the Petro Poroshenko Bloc (73% of the faction as of November 30), the People's Front (64% of the faction), and the unaffiliated group of MPs (64% of the group). Among the parliamentary factions most actively cooperating with the RPR are the Radical Party of Oleh Liashko (95% of the faction, as the majority of the faction members sign most of the initiatives), Samopomich (89%) and Batkivshchyna (84%). Cooperation with the opposition factions and groups is less active: only five members of the Vidrozhennia group (22%

Most effective is cooperation with the representatives of the informal association 'Club of Reforms', which includes most active partners-members of the parliament, representatives of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Secretariat, executive authorities, and international programs of various public initiatives and funds. Meetings take place each session week in the parliament. From April to November 2015, 13 meetings were held, attended by 54 MPs from the coalition factions, the Radical Party, and the unaffiliated group of MPs. Until autumn, the meetings of the club were coordinated by advocacy consultant Andriy Shevchenko. Later on, each faction have appointed its own coordinator.



It is also worth noting a high level of cooperation with the leadership of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, especially with the team of Volodymyr Groysman, chairman of the parliament, and Andriy Parubiy, first deputy chairman. As a result of this cooperation, all the recommendations of the RPR regarding the Agenda are to be considered by the Conciliatory Councils, while eight RPR experts have worked in seven groups in charge of preparation of the Plan of legislative support of reforms. The RPR experts have been involved in the working groups on electoral and anti-corruption legislation initiated by Andriy Parubiy.

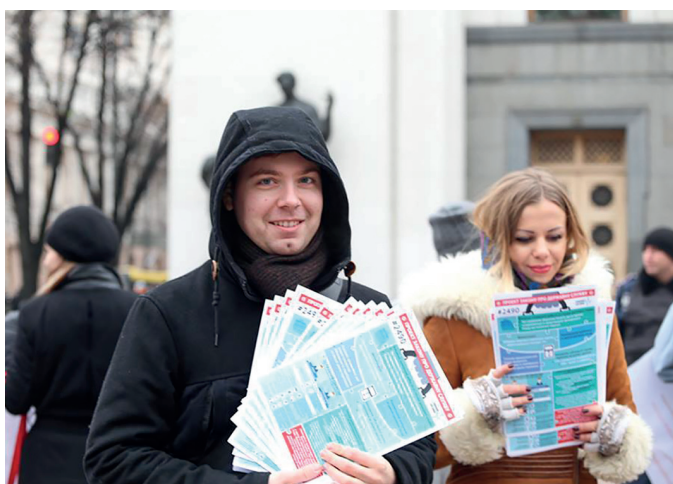
Cooperation with the executive authorities

The President of Ukraine has been the most effective partner in the executive branch of power, having initiated eight draft laws endorsed by the RPR, seven of which have become laws. The RPR experts, with the support of the Deputy Head of Presidential Administration Olexiy Filatov, had the National Reforms Council and the Constitutional Commission refer two draft laws on the judicial reform (one drafted by the Constitutional Commission, and the other by the RPR experts) for assessment of the Venice Commission, which is an unprecedented case in the activity of the Commission. Members of the coalition are working in all reform project offices of the National Reforms Council, which have counterparts in the RPR groups. Experts of the NGOs - members of the RPR, are invited to the meetings of the National Reforms Council.



Cooperation is most active with the following ministries: the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade (four draft laws, two adopted), the Ministry of Regional Development, Construction and Housing and Communal Services of Ukraine (three adopted laws), the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Ministry of Energy and Coal Mining, the Ministry of Finance (one law adopted for each ministry). Out of the central executive authorities, the closest cooperation is with the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory (de-communization issues) and the National Agency of Civil Service (civil service issues).

Over the course of 2015, the RPR managed to reach such a high level of cooperation with the authorities that experts did not even have to seek contact with their representatives because instead they were invited to take part in the decision-making themselves. Our task remains to improve the level of openness and accountability of the government agencies.



COMMUNICATIONS

RPR COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN COORDINATED BY:



**Andriy
Andrushkiv**
area manager



**Tetiana
Kyrylenko**
PR-manager



**Maksym
Filipenko**
SMM-manager
(until October)



**Rostyslav
Abramets**
SMM-manager
(since October)

The daily updates of the media on the progress of reforms in the country and development of a common communication strategy have contributed to the adoption of important regulatory framework, its further implementation, organization of public awareness campaigns related to the reforms, and the formation of the RPR brand as that of the most powerful expert and public association.

Recognition of the initiative in media

Over the past year, the RPR communications team have managed to record more than 8,500 media mentions of the RPR in printed and electronic media that have used comments of the RPR experts and abstracts from the RPR informational materials.

Systematic cooperation with the editorial offices of the leading television channels (UA:Pershyi, 5 Channel, 24 Channel, 112 Channel, News ONE, ICTV, Hromadske TV) and radio stations (Hromadske Radio, National Radio, Radio Era, Holos Stolytsi, Vesti) has been established. This guarantees constant presence of the RPR experts in talk shows and guest programs in the abovementioned media sources.

Activity in social networks has made the RPR pages on Facebook and Twitter not only instruments for mobilizing the civil society and drawing attention to the legislative process, but also a source of information for the media. The most popular socio-political resources have often published news citing the RPR Facebook and Twitter pages. The daily audience of the RPR Facebook page ranges from 9,000 to 35,000 readers. The average monthly audience of the RPR account on Twitter is more than 450,000 users.

Next year the RPR communications team will continue to work on the development and implementation of successful communication instruments and methods of the widest possible dissemination of the RPR experts' opinions. The team plans to develop separate platforms for socio-political online media, increase its activity in social media networks, and improve the format of meetings with journalists and bloggers to successfully implement the communications strategy of the RPR.



Public events of the RPR

With the participation of experts, government representatives, and media, 106 events have been organized and supported in order to implement the communication strategy of the RPR. Round tables, press conferences, and briefings have been held both at the authoritative information agencies (Ukrainian Crisis Media Center, UNIAN news agency, Ukrinform), the press point of the Verkhovna Rada, and the RPR office.

Public discussions of the draft laws, in the form of a round table involving all the stakeholders, has been an important tool of communication for the legislative changes. Stakeholders and the media have been presented the documents being finalized rather than the registered draft laws, which in turn allowed to take into account all points of view while formulating the final text.

Direct action campaigns have become one of the most effective methods to deliver information to the media, the public, and the authorities. Together with the activists and the experts of the most influential NGOs, the RPR community have held 26 direct action campaigns over the past year. The following demands have been announced: the reduction



RPR agendas

As in 2014, the RPR Agenda – special infographics sent to the parliamentary journalists, as well as the heads of factions and members of the presidium of the parliament on the day of the Conciliatory Council – has become one of the most effective tools in presenting the priorities and demands of the RPR with regard to the laws that are to be adopted during each session week. These documents are also available for the public on the most popular socio-political resource Ukrainska Pravda. Over the past year, more than 20 agendas have been developed. During the critically important votings special infographics explaining important draft laws endorsed by the RPR have been distributed at all parliamentary workplaces with the help of the MPs from the informal association 'Club of Reforms'.



EVENTS HAVE BEEN ORGANIZED BY:

Olha Holoborodko
event manager

of political influence on judges, the reformation of the prosecution, the adoption of new legislation on the National Police, the passing of the new electoral law for local election, the reformation of civil service, the autonomization of healthcare establishments, the adoption of new legislation on the associations of co-owners of multi-apartment houses, and the passing of the law on public broadcasting and de-statization of the media. Direct action campaigns have become the most popular tool for presenting the stance of the RPR in the Ukrainian television. For example, the campaign in which the activists demanded that the influence of the Presidential Administration on the judiciary is reduced, known as 'Judges In Chocolate', was filmed by 18 television crews.

71 statements of the NGOs – members of the RPR have been published and shared in the media to publicly present the stance of the RPR regarding the actions taken by the authorities to legislatively support the reforms and implement the adopted laws. Statements concerning the process of the formation of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption and the anticorruption prosecution, the development of the law on civil service, the adoption of anti-monopoly laws, the establishment of the Constitutional Commission, and the preparation of Amendments to the Constitution have not only been covered in news reports in the press and online media, but have also influenced the processes of lawmaking and implementation.

The most popular Internet resources - Ukrainska Pravda, Livyi Bereh, Ukrinform, Lihabiznesinform, 24 Channel – have provided their blogging platforms as the places for the RPR experts to communicate their stances. 50 unique publications explaining the adopted laws and the developed draft laws on reforms have been prepared within the joint project of the RPR and Platfor.ma website.

To inform the general public about the process of reforms, the RPR experts have prepared the policy briefs 'Reforms under the Microscope' in Ukrainian and English. These briefs describe in detail the process of the implementation of 15 reforms, achievements and challenges in these spheres, as well as actions to be taken in order to ensure future progress of the reforms.

'The Roadmap for the Parliament of the Eighth Convocation' - a document presenting step-by-step plans for implementing reforms in 24 key areas, where each step is supported by a specific draft law – has also been updated in 2015.



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WERE COORDINATED BY:



**Olena
Halushka**

International Relations Manager

The key task of the RPR international relations is to promote the legislative initiatives developed or endorsed by the RPR experts and their subsequent implementation through informing and involving the representatives of foreign organizations and embassies in pressuring the Ukrainian authorities to fulfill their obligations and monitoring this process. Strong participation of international partners – donors of Ukraine is paramount in the promoting of specific reforms, especially institutional ones, including the reform of the public administration, the reform of the judiciary, the anti-corruption reform, the reform of the prosecutor's office, and others.

World for us

The RPR has established cooperation and communication with the representatives of 23 embassies of foreign countries in Ukraine, 12 international organizations, EU institutions, international NGOs, and think tanks.

The goal is being implemented through a number of instruments, with one of the most important ones being the organization of bilateral and multilateral meetings of the RPR experts with foreign diplomats and politicians both in Kyiv and abroad - in Brussels, Strasbourg, Washington D.C., and other cities. Face-to-face meetings have provided a chance to convey the stance of the civil experts to the United States Vice President Joe Biden, United States Ambassador to the United Nations Samantha Power, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs Federica Mogherini, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Johannes Hahn, Ministers of foreign affairs of Denmark, Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Sweden, and other states. The RPR experts have participated in a number of important international events – this includes two Civil Society Forums of the Eastern Partnership and the International Support for Ukraine Conference.

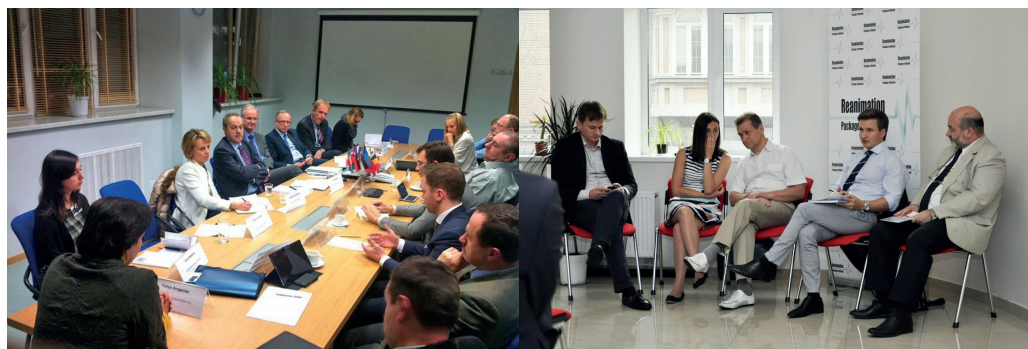
Other important aspects of work were the involvement of foreign experts to the preparation of legislative acts by the

RPR experts, and an exchange of information and news. We mail out in English the experts' statements and invitations to the events. We also send a quarterly newsletter covering the legislative activities of the community, information

We for the world

Press breakfasts for the foreign journalists, experts of the embassies, and representatives of the international organizations providing technical assistance to Ukraine in the reforms implementation have become a new tool of international communication in 2015. At the RPR office, ten events with this format, on the topics of anti-corruption, constitutional, judicial, electoral, public finance, and civil service reforms, were held.

Over the course of 2015, the RPR, together with the Wilfried Martens Center for European Studies, Kyiv School of Economics and the informational campaign 'Stronger Together', implemented the project #UkraineReforms in order to communicate the reforms and study positive foreign experience in the field of reforms implementation. Within this project the visits of ten leading reformists of the European countries, including Mikuláš Dzurinda, Andrius Kubilius, Leszek Balcerowicz, Juhan Parts, Einars Repše, and others, were held.



REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN COORDINATED BY:

Over the past year, the RPR team has done tremendous work on the regional level. The RPR understands that reforms can be properly implemented only when all the citizens of Ukraine, not only the activists in Kyiv, demand them and are aware of their goals. Therefore, in launching our regional activities, we have set the following aims:



**Natalia
Vatamaniuk**
Regional Initiatives
Coordinator

- To show by the example of the RPR that communities can pool their efforts and, by offering constructive proposals, can demand that the authorities make changes;
- To bring the reforms in action back onto the agenda of nation-wide discussion;
- To explain the reforms developed by the RPR in simple language;
- To listen to the opinions, criticism, proposals, and comments from the local communities and involve the regional experts;
- To find the points of contact from where we can move forward together, facilitating the reforms in synergy.



ON THE PATH OF REFORMS

DURING THE ALL-UKRAINIAN TOUR ON THE PATH OF REFORMS, WE HAVE TRAVELLED THROUGHOUT ALL OF CONTINENTAL UKRAINE IN PERSON.

25  **CITIES**

the RPR team has visited 25 cities in which they held expert discussions with the participation of the local authorities, entrepreneurs, public figures, and journalists; open lectures at the universities; press breakfasts with the journalists; and round tables on the specific reforms.

19  **UNIVERSITIES**

the RPR team has met with the students in 19 leading Ukrainian universities;

70  **INTERVIEWS**

the RPR experts have given 70 interviews to the regional media concerning the progress of the reforms;

4000 

participants have attended the RPR events in the regions over the past year.

The tour became the first step towards the establishment of close contacts and the development of a powerful network of people from all over Ukraine working for the same cause. Regular organization of trainings, seminars, and forums in Kyiv provides the possibility for the most active citizens to meet each other. Thus, successful cases and effective instruments are spreading even faster.

The regional activities of the RPR yield results. For example, the public initiative 'We will live here' in Sumy was created on the model of the RPR working groups, a regional reform roadmap was prepared in Rivne, the 'School of Young Reformers' was established in Ternopil, and large-scale forums with the participation of the authorities and the citizens were held in Chernivtsi with the assistance of the Democratic transformations laboratory. Having learned about the anti-corruption instruments at one of the regional events, the activists unite, begin collaborating with the MPs, and initiate high-profile investigations. After the visits of the RPR decentralization experts and heated discussions, they understand the need of cooperation and vote for a perspective plan of their city. Inspired by the

success of their peers, the activists set up their own NGO to tackle the local issues.

It is worth noting that the following NGOs – members of the RPR – are active in the regions: CHESNO, Transparency International Ukraine, Greencubator, the Media Law Institute, the Center for Political Studies and Analysis, the Civil Society Institute, the Centre of Policy and Legal Reform, the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research, etc. They organize schools, trainings, conferences, monitoring, analytics, opinion polls, and investigation. Within the project 'Lustration as viewed by media and public', supported by USAID, the RPR judicial reform group together with the Ukrainian Legal Foundation conducted the trainings for the regional investigative journalists in autumn 2015 to raise awareness of the mechanisms of lustration and the judiciary.

Owing to the established system of contacts and constant communication of active RPR supporters in the regions, experts, and NGOs – members of the RPR, the interested persons take part in the expert discussions of the draft laws, public campaigns, flashmobs in social media on the eve of votings in the parliament, and preparation of petitions to the MPs.



Andriy Shevchenko

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to Canada

The RPR is a remarkable manifest of the epoch. It is a lab of changes and a drop in the ocean in the spirit of the Maidan, a reform task force and a beautiful hive of builders of a new country. The power of the RPR lies not only in the concentration of intellect and expertise. These people impress me by their courage, enthusiasm, uncompromising attitude towards lies and folly, extraordinary integrity and positive mentality. That's why the RPR (and the entire Ukraine along with it) is doomed to succeed!



Відкритий
Університет
Реформ

OPEN UNIVERSITY OF REFORMS



Mykhailo Zhernakov

Open University of Reforms (OUR)
coordinator, leading expert
of the RPR group «Judicial Reform»,
member of the RPR Board

In early 2015, the RPR members realized that they have enough expertise and advocacy skills to implement the reforms. Obviously, one civil platform cannot implement all of the necessary reforms, even if the platform had worked 24/7. There are enough young and energetic people in Ukraine that are ready to apply their efforts to building the future of the country and to becoming a driving force able to introduce real changes. Therefore, the RPR has found a format that allows the sharing of one's own experience and skills in the reform implementation to as many people as possible.

The Open University of Reforms – the center for the professional training of young reformists – was established with the idea that anyone with a possibility and a wish to implement reforms would have the knowledge and skills for it. In 2015, 100 trainees – journalists, doctors, managers, economists, civil servants, students – graduated from the University. Lectures, workshops, case studies of reforms in the fields of rule of law, anti-corruption reform, healthcare reforms, and reforms in the media and economic sectors were held over the past year.



During their studies, the participants of the project learned about the mechanisms of power and civil society, adopted the experience of the leading reformists – famous politicians and public figures, and developed skills of communication with the society and the authorities.

The students and graduates of the OUR participate in the activities of the RPR groups and NGOs – members of the RPR, and work on the projects of the RPR expert groups. For example, our students' project 'Reform of outpatient departments with our own hands' has laid down part of the groundwork for autonomization of healthcare establishments.

THUS, THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF REFORMS IS:

- a free project for everyone willing to unleash their potential as a public activist and to raise their awareness as a concerned citizen;
- an opportunity to learn the mechanisms of reform implementation and to implement one's own reformist project;
- a talent pool for the RPR, NGOs – members of the coalition, and other progressive communities.



By training active citizens in the field of top-priority reforms, RPR contributes to the formation of active, intellectual, conscientious youth – the future elite of Ukraine.

Enrollment to the OUR, which takes place several times a year, is open for everyone. Please follow us on Facebook for updates: facebook.com/OUReforms



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Transparency International Ukraine
- Anti-corruption Action Center
- Center for Political Studies and Analysis
- Centre of Policy and Legal Reform
- Media Law Institute
- 'No Bribery' Movement

LEAD EXPERT:



Dmytro Kotliar
independent expert

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The main goal of the group is to strengthen integrity and accountability in the public sector, ensure transparency of political parties' financing and political activity, provide free access to information of public interest, reduce corruption risks in the public procurement, and ensure criminal prosecution of the corruption offences.

DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Support the Activity of the National Anti-corruption Bureau and the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption.
	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Support the Activity of the National Anti-corruption Bureau and the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption.
DRAFT LAW № 1895	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine (regarding Sanctions to be Imposed on a Member of Parliament for Violating the Requirements of Personal Voting).
	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine Regarding Access to Public Information in the Form of Open Data.
DRAFT LAW № 2913	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine in the Sphere of Access to Public Information to Improve Specific Provisions.
DRAFT LAW № 2043A	On Amendments to the Code of Ukraine on Administrative Infringements to Strengthen State Control over the Observance of the Right to Public Information, Protection of Personal Data, and Citizens' Petitions.
DRAFT LAW № 2324A-7	On Amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure of Ukraine (to Make More Effective the Use of Preventive Measures with regard to Persons Convicted of Grave or Especially Grave Corruption Crimes).
DRAFT LAW № 2344A	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Corruption Prevention (regarding the Requirements for the Members of the Panel in Charge of Selecting the Candidates for the Members of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption).

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2123A	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Political Corruption Prevention and Counteraction.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2896	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Information About the Ultimate Beneficiary Owner (Controller) of a Legal Entity
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2879	On Amendments to Article 46 of the Law of Ukraine On Corruption Prevention (regarding the Scope of Declared Information by Persons Authorized to Perform Functions of the State or Local Self-government).
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2087-A	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Public Procurement to Bring Them in line with the International Standards and to Take Measures to Combat Corruption.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 3559	On Public Procurement.
DRAFT LAW № 1591	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine to Ensure Openness of and Access to the Information about the Activity of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Its Committees and Members.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the group mainly focused on the implementation of the anti-corruption laws adopted in October 2014, as well as the formation and launch of effective activity of new anti-corruption agencies.

It is worth noting the systematic, goal-oriented, and impeccable work of the Anti-corruption Action Center towards implementation of the laws on the National Anti-corruption Bureau and the Specialised Anti-corruption Prosecution. Experts of the Anti-Corruption group have also prepared Amendments to the laws in order to strengthen the independence of these agencies. Moreover, the experts became members of the panels that selected the heads and employees of these agencies, as well as closely watched over the competition procedures to ensure that they are fair and transparent. Experts of the Transparency International Ukraine and the Center for Political Studies and Analysis, in the coalition with other RPR members,

worked to ensure independent selection of members of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption.

Successful advocacy of the Law on financing of political parties, developed by group's experts Denys Kovryzhenko and Dmytro Kotliar, was a big achievement. The process of advocacy was facilitated by Transparency International Ukraine and the Center for Political Studies and Analysis in the coalition with other RPR members. The adopted Law provides for a comprehensive reform of the political financing system, restricts private financing of parties, establishes the transparency and accountability mechanisms for the party finances, and ensures effective state control of compliance with the party financing requirements during and in between of the elections.

Ensuring transparency of authorities and access to the information of public interest that is necessary to detect and prevent corruption was an important direction in the activities of the group.



REFORM OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Centre of Policy and Legal Reform
- Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement

LEAD EXPERT:



Oleksandr Banchuk
candidate of legal sciences,
expert of the Centre of Policy
and Legal Reform

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The expert group on the Law Enforcement Agencies reform was built around the idea of a radical reform of the law enforcement bodies in Ukraine. The ultimate goal of the reform is to create such a system of law enforcement agencies that will be focused on the protection of rights and freedoms of citizens, as well as the provision of high-quality services to the public. The reform should tackle the issues of corruption in the law enforcement agencies and ensure that these agencies hire professionals with decent wages, and that are respected and trusted by the citizens.

DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

	On the Police and Police Activities.
	On Amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure of Ukraine (to Support the Right of the Specific Categories of the Convicted Persons for a Just Sentence).
	On the State Bureau of Investigations.
	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Introduce the Concept of Criminal Misdeeds.
	On the National Police.
	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Substitute Life Sentence with a Milder Punishment.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Adoption of the Law On the National Police has become one of the key events of the past year. The Law includes a number of positive novelties regarding de-politicization of the police, its focus on provision of services to the public, open competitions to the lower-level offices, etc. The Council of Europe acknowledged this Law as a detailed and comprehensive document which pertains, among other things, to the personnel issues. Emergence of a new patrol police that has, by its daily activities, restored the citizens' belief in the possibility of truly systemic changes has been

one of the brightest practical examples of the reform implementation.

Adoption of the Law On the State Bureau of Investigations has become another major achievement of the group. Its adoption will provide the possibility to develop a truly independent mechanism for effective investigation of complaints regarding the violation of human rights and bringing the guilty law enforcement officers to responsibility.

DECENTRALIZATION OF POWER AND THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT REFORM



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Civil Society Institute
- Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research

LEAD EXPERTS:



Anatoliy Tkachuk
member of the Ukrainian parliament of the 1st convocation, member of board of the Civil Society Institute



Yuriy Hanushchak
member of the Ukrainian parliament of the 6th convocation, director of the Territory Development Institute

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The ultimate goal of the reform of local self-government and decentralization is to create a comfortable and safe living environment in Ukraine. To this end, it is necessary to build an effective system of authority and its territorial organization based on three pillars: powers (optimal distribution of powers between different levels of authorities), resources (the volume of resources should match the powers), and responsibility (the authorities shall be responsible to the people for their effective activity and to the government for the legality of their actions).



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

	On Voluntary Amalgamation of Territorial Communities.
	On the Fundamentals of State Regional Policy.
	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On the Capital of Ukraine – Kyiv Hero City.
	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Decentralization of Powers in the Field of Architectural and Construction Control and Improvement of Urban Development Legislation.
	On Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (regarding decentralization of power).
	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Organization of the First Election of Local Councils and Mayors of Villages, Settlements, and Cities.
	On Amendments to Article 59 of the Law of Ukraine On the Local Self-government in Ukraine (regarding Personal Voting).

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The year of 2015 was tremendously successful for the reform of the local self-government and decentralization of power. Important laws launching the reforms have been adopted in the field of administrative and territorial reform, regional policy, provision of financial resources, decentralization of powers in the field of architectural and construction control, and decentralization of administrative services.

Owing to the adopted laws and in order to create capable administrative and territorial units, the process of the amalgamation of territorial communities has been launched all over Ukraine, which has been already completed by 190 communities. 159 communities have already conducted the first election of the local self-government bodies.

Another success of this reform is the introduction of fiscal decentralization, which is when a large share of taxes is kept by the amalgamated community, and this community is also empowered to regulate the rates of local taxes and tax benefits. These changes will urge the local

self-government to develop, compete, and attract investments, while the citizens are encouraged to control the activity of these bodies and take part in local administration.

The group experts have made hundreds of trips all around Ukraine to explain and communicate the reform, as well as provide information and expert support to the local self-government bodies.



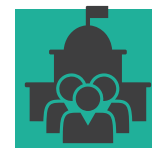
Yevhen Bystrytskyi

Chief Executive at the International Renaissance Foundation

The main achievement of the RPR is the combination of high-quality analytical work with effective actions aimed at the direct participation of the public in governmental decision-making. Over the last year, the RPR has assumed a law-making character. The experts of the initiative are actually trying to overcome the Soviet drawback of legislative and executive branches of power. They make public, which used to mean 'state', policy open.



REFORM OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Centre of Policy and Legal Reform
- CCC Creative Center

LEAD EXPERT:



Ihor Koliushko
Chairman of the Board
of the Centre of Policy
and Legal Reform

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The goal of the administrative reform is to turn the Government and the ministries into the bodies that are able to effectively shape and implement the government policy and the civil service into a patriotic, professional, and politically neutral corps oriented towards satisfaction of public interests and due realization of civil rights, the system of provision of administrative services into a convenient and transparent mechanism of realization of civil rights.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2490	On Civil Service.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2984	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Extend the Powers of the Local Self-government Bodies and Optimize Provision of Administrative Services.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2981	On Amendments to the Budget Code of Ukraine (regarding Financial Support of the Provision of Administrative Services by the Local Self-government Bodies).
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2982	On State Registration of Property Rights and Real Estate Encumbrances.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2983	On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs, and Non-governmental Organizations.
DRAFT LAW № 1632	On Identification and Travel Documents of Ukraine.
DRAFT LAW № 2354A	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Organization of Activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and Central Executive Authorities.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the group experts prepared and actively supported a number of important laws. Thus, the Law On Civil Service will become a basis for creating professional, politically neutral civil service, as well as ensure open access of citizens to civil service and combat political corruption. Moreover, last year, the local self-government bodies were granted powers to provide most popular administrative services.

The group has supported the draft law On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Organization of Activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and Central

Executive Authorities which aims to solve the issue of the lack of transparency in government decision-making, the lack of institutional memory in its activity, the lack of a systematic horizontal coordination in the policy-making, incomplete separation of political and administrative offices, etc.

The experts have developed the draft law On Administrative Procedure, the adoption of which was provided for by the Coalition Agreement. The draft law is being finalized by the Ministry of Justice to be submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

REFORM OF THE ELECTION LEGISLATION



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Civil Network OPORA
- Election Law Institute
- Internews Ukraine
- Committee of Voters of Ukraine
- Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research

LEAD EXPERTS:



Yevhen Radchenko
Internews Ukraine
Director for Development

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The ultimate goal of the electoral reform is to conduct elections in Ukraine in accordance with the international standards on the basis of coordinated election laws. These laws would ensure the development of intra-party democracy, the accountability and responsibility of elected representatives, the reduction of the role of money in politics, and the inevitability of punishment for electoral offenses.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Political Corruption Prevention and Counteraction.



On Local Election.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Throughout the year, the RPR has initiated and maintained the discussion on the introduction of a proportional electoral system with open lists. Draft laws on electoral reform, which have been considered before the local election campaign, were highly politicized, which in turn impeded the implementation of a systematic reform.

The Parliament has not endorsed a new version of the Law On Local Election prepared by the RPR group. However, certain novelties proposed by the RPR's draft have been incorporated into the adopted law: two-stage mayoral election in cities (later conducted in 28 cities), gender quota (according to the results of election, 15% of deputies of the regional councils and 18% of deputies of local councils of regional centers are women), and improved requirements for financial reporting of parties and candidates.

The group experts have prepared the amendments to the

Criminal Code of Ukraine regarding the criminalization of the bribery of voters. However, despite the President's promises to introduce the relevant draft law to the Parliament, it has still not been introduced. Despite the difficulties, the group experts have monitored the prosecution of persons involved in election offenses in 2014 and strengthened the cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs in this respect. For the first time, the organizers of bribery during the local election have been held accountable.

At the same time, the legal preconditions for strengthening the transparency of politics and reducing the dependence of political parties on the oligarchs were created in 2015. The state financing of parties, as well as the special requirements for the transparency of political finances, will come into effect in 2016.



Pavlo Petrenko
Minister of Justice of Ukraine

Together with the RPR, we have managed to open all of the registers of movable and immovable property, as well as the business registers, to ensure more effective control over the governmental officials. Together, we have developed the laws with regard to visa liberalization that pertain to anti-corruption legislation. These are the laws establishing the Anti-corruption Bureau and the Anti-corruption Agency, the bodies in charge of tracing and asset recovery, special confiscation, and the arrest of the property of corrupt officials.



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Center for Social and Economic Research - CASE Ukraine
- Institute for Socio-Economic Transformation
- Association of Tax Consultants
- Centre for Economic Strategy

LEAD EXPERT:



Illia Neskhoodovskyi
Director of the Institute
for Socio-Economic
Transformation

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The group experts have united with regards to the idea of building a transparent, efficient, fair, and non-corrupt tax system in Ukraine. The main goal of the tax reform should be to create conditions for economic growth by liberating the entrepreneurial potential of the Ukrainian nation and promoting the competitive advantages of the country.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1861	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine (regarding Transfer Pricing).
DRAFT LAW № 1877	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine in order to Cancel Strengthening of Fiscal and Administrative Pressure on the Individual Income.
DRAFT LAW № 1918	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Improve Specific Provisions.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2049	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine (regarding Taxation of Non-profitable Organizations).
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1863	On Amendments to Chapter VIII Final and Transitional Provisions of the Law of Ukraine On Collection and Record of a Single Fee for Mandatory State Social Insurance (to Reduce the Load on the Salary Fund).
DRAFT LAW № 3688	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine and Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Ensure a Balance of Budgetary Revenues in 2016.
DRAFT LAW № 2173A-1	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine to Improve VAT Administration.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the group actively participated in the development of the tax reform. The RPR experts contributed to the development and advocacy of the legislation, particularly in the issues concerning improvement of VAT administration, introduction of electronic taxpayers' cabinet, etc. The group also took part in the preparation of the analytical materials on the tax reform.

Illia Neskhoodovskyi, lead expert of the group, is a member of the target team 'The Tax Reform' under the National Reforms Council. At the same time, a large number of provisions of the tax section of the Coalition Agreement, developed with the participation of the RPR experts, were implemented in 2015. The Parliament adopted a number of laws provided for by the tax reform chapter of the Reforms Roadmap.



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Association on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving
- Civil Network OPORA
- National Ecological Centre of Ukraine
- Network of Energy Innovations 'Greencubator'

LEAD EXPERT:



Viktor Butok
independent expert

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The goal of the reform is to attain a country with a transparent energy market that consumes the minimum amount of energy, with an appropriate level of comfort and safety of citizens, and the effective energy resource supply of economic agents. This goal can be reached using the ecological mix of energy sources and the generation of income from recycling with the assistance of highly efficient cutting-edge technologies.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1313	On Introducing New Investment Opportunities and Safeguarding the Rights and Legitimate Interests of Entrepreneurs to Conduct Large-scale Energy Modernization.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1409	On Amendments to the Budget Code of Ukraine (to Introduce New Investment Opportunities and Safeguard the Rights and Legitimate Interests of Entrepreneurs to Conduct Large-scale Energy Modernization).
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 2010-ІІ Е	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Competitive Conditions for Electricity Production of Alternative Energy Sources.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № №1565	On Specificity of Exercising the Property Right in a Multi-apartment Building.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № №1892	On Amendments to the Tax Code of Ukraine regarding Taxation of Particular Non-profit Organizations.
DRAFT LAW № 2966	On the National Commission for State Regulation of Energy and Public Utilities.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1674	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On the Customs Tariff of Ukraine to Abolish the Import Duty on Electric Cars.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Owing to the successful advocacy and the teamwork of group experts, in 2015, the Verkhovna Rada have adopted important draft laws on the development of renewable energy, energy service companies, the mechanism of creating associations of co-owners of multi-apartment houses, etc.

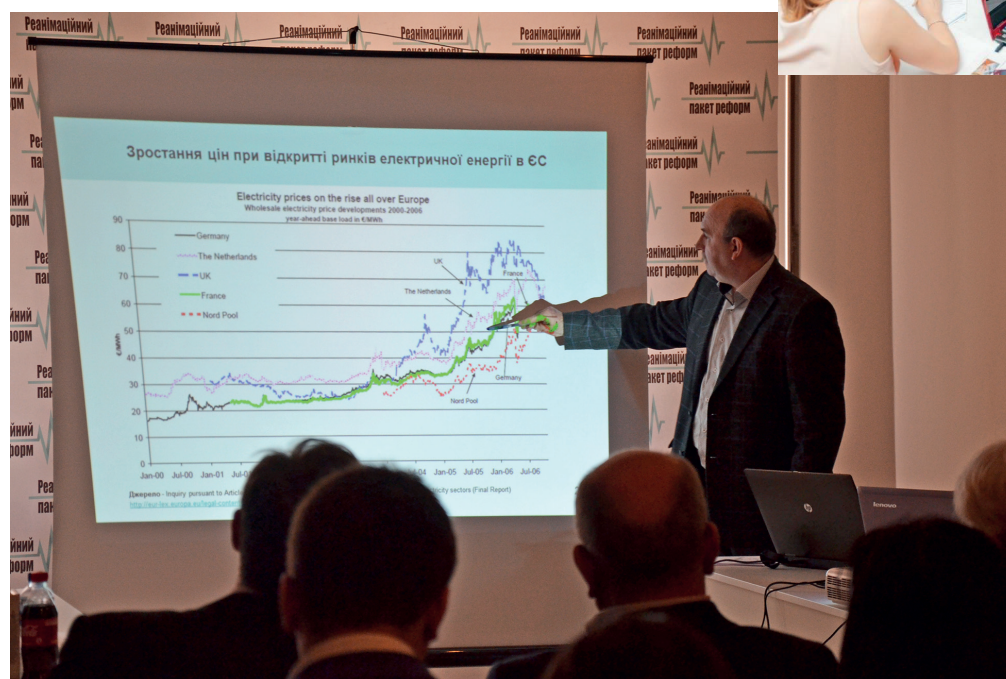
Back in late 2014, the RPR experts considerably amended a chapter of the Coalition Agreement in the part of 'Energy sector reform and energy independence' and 'Providing utility services to the public and housing policy reform' which has laid down the conceptual framework of the RPR energy group. In 2015, almost half of these provisions were implemented. In particular, the basic Law of Ukraine On the Natural Gas Market was adopted. This law will help shape an effective competitive environment in the natural gas market that is in line with all of the basic requirements of the EU law.

The laws on energy service companies, which open new investment possibilities for a large-scale energy modernization through the energy service mechanism, have

also been adopted.

The law On Specificity of Exercising the Property Right in a Multi-apartment Building partially resolves the issue of exercising this property right, creates conditions for the effective use and maintenance of the common property of multi-apartment buildings, and specifies the alternative types of management.

This year, the Government has taken the first steps towards the elimination of cross-subsidies in the electric power industry by reducing the gap in prices between industrial and domestic consumers. The National Action Plan for Energy Efficiency 2020 has also been adopted.



Svitlana Zalishchuk
MP, the RPR co-founder

The RPR has become a unique political player in Ukraine. First, it is one of the most influential civil platforms whose activity has resulted in the adoption of dozens of laws. Second, the RPR has managed to unite different public communities in order to develop a common agenda. Unity and common priorities are a tremendous advantage, especially over the politicians.



MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

➤ **Centre of Policy and Legal Reform**

LEAD EXPERTS:



Roman Kuybida
Deputy Chairman
of the Board of the Centre
of Policy and Legal Reform



Mykhailo Zhernakov
judge of Vinnytsia District
Administrative Court
(2012-2015)

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

Ukrainian courts should be independent, responsible, and institutionally capable. Fairness, integrity, and independence should be key values for the new judges. The main instruments to improve the judiciary should be: transparent competitive selection of all judges, fair accountability mechanisms, real judicial self-government, public control over the judiciary, and legal proceedings. As a result of a successful judicial reform, the level of trust to the judiciary should increase. Ukraine should rise to the level of the European countries in the international rankings on fighting corruption, independence of justice, and court accessibility.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1656	On Assuring the Right to Fair Trial.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED AS A BASIS № 1497	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges (to Improve the Principles of Organization and Functioning of the Judiciary in line with the European Standards).
DRAFT LAW № 3524	On Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (regarding Judiciary).
DRAFT LAW № 2033A	On Amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure of Ukraine (to Secure the Right of Specific Categories of the Convicted for Legal Sentence).
DRAFT LAW № 1881	On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Improve the Mechanism of Restoring Creditability of the Judiciary.
DRAFT LAW № 2908	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Assuring the Right to Fair Trial regarding Election of Judges to Administrative Offices.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the RPR experts prepared an alternative draft law On Amendments to the Constitution (regarding Judiciary) as opposed to the draft prepared by the Constitutional Commission. The RPR experts proposed to exclude the powers to address career issues of the judges from the jurisdiction of the political bodies, as well as to establish a new three-tier court system with open and transparent competitive selection to each judicial position. As a result of the advocacy, the draft law On Assuring the Right to Fair Trial incorporates most of the proposals of the RPR working group on the judicial reform.

During the selection of new members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges and the High Council of Justice, the working group members gathered the information about the candidates and spread it through the

media and among the subjects who selected them. The vast majority of candidates with unfavorable past or relationships with politicians were not supported.

Some proposals were incorporated in the Law On Assuring the Right to Fair Trial (in particular, those regarding free video recording of open court hearings, regular assessment of judges, and judicial self-government). The draft law on the implementation of the mechanism for reviewing the sentences of wrongfully convicted persons has also been developed and adopted as a basis.

On December 22, 2015, the Verkhovna Rada decided to send the draft law No. 3524 On Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (regarding Judiciary) to the Constitutional Court for assessment.



Oleh Rybachuk

Head and Co-Founder of the Centre UA

The long-lasting inability of politicians to unite for the sake of Ukraine has given Ukraine the image of a country that never misses an opportunity to lose a chance. The powerful energy of the Euromaidan has exploded like a supernova and has created the Reanimation Package of Reforms, which helped Ukraine in coming out of its coma. Today's slogan of the RPR can sound like 'drive development together'.



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Media Law Institute
- Centre UA
- Telekrytyka
- Internews Ukraine

LEAD EXPERT:



Taras Shevchenko
Director of the Media
Law Institute

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The overall objective of the media group is to improve the media environment in Ukraine by ensuring the adoption of legislation to implement public broadcasting, reform the state-owned and municipal press (de-statization), ensure transparency of media ownership, adopt a new law to regulate electronic media, harmonise the regulations and expand the rights of mass media during the election campaigns.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1357	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Public Broadcasting of Ukraine.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1123	On Reforming the State-owned and Municipal Press.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1831	On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine to Ensure Transparency of Media Ownership and Implement the Principles of Government Policy in the Field of Broadcasting.
DRAFT LAW ADOPTED № 1647	On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Protection of Public Morality (regarding Government Supervision).

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

2015 was most successful for the media group, as four laws out of the media reform package were adopted. The latest achievement was adoption of the Law on de-statization of state-owned and municipal media, which will be implemented in 2016-2018. The law on public broadcasting is being implemented, the network of state-owned broadcasters is being transformed, as provided for by law. The parliament has also adopted the

laws that allow to determine the actual owners of television and radio broadcasters. The transitional period of implementation of this law will finish on April 1, 2016. Given the scale of the reform, the ultimate goal has been achieved only in the form of dismissal of the National Expert Commission for Protecting Public Morality.



CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM



MEMBER OF THE GROUP: ➡ Centre of Policy and Legal Reform



Ihor Koliushko
Head of the Board
of the Center of Policy
and Legal Reform

LEAD EXPERTS:



Volodymyr Shapoval
Chairman of the Central Election
Commission (2007-2013),
Deputy Head of the Constitutional
Court of Ukraine (2002-2005)

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, introduction of the constitutional Amendments began in two areas: decentralization of power and judicial reform. A number of RPR experts became members of the Constitutional Commission set up by the President. Thus, the Commission has taken the RPR groundwork as a basis. The work of the group has contributed to a significant

impact of civil society on the constitutional development in Ukraine.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is considering two draft laws supported by the Reanimation Package of Reforms on Amendments to the Constitution regarding judiciary and decentralization.

REFORM OF THE FINANCIAL SECTOR



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Financial Services and State Regulation of Financial Services Markets Regarding Disclosure of Information.



On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Responsibility of Bank-related Persons.



On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine (regarding Conditions for Retrieval of Term Deposits).



On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Development of the Institutional Capacity of the National Bank of Ukraine.



On Amendments to the Budget Code of Ukraine regarding Development of the Institutional Capacity of the National Bank of Ukraine.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the group has managed to implement legislative support for the disclosure of data concerning bank refinancing, the strengthening of responsibility for deliberate bankruptcy, and the improvement of the process of securing individual deposits and withdrawing insolvent banks from the market. As part of the reform, the institutional capacity and financial independence of the National Bank of Ukraine has been provided for, and the legislative support of a sustainable and

predictable funding base for banks (term deposits) has been secured. Ukraine is gradually clearing up and rehabilitating the financial sector, strengthening requirements for corporate management in banks, protecting investors' rights, promoting capitalization and the restructuring of banks, and the strengthening of the responsibility of bank-related persons. In 2015, the first stage of the recapitalization of the banking system was completed.



MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

Center for Political Studies and Analysis

LEAD EXPERT:



Viktor Maziarchuk
Center for Political Studies and Analysis

THE GOAL OF THE GROUP

The goal of the group is to introduce new principles that are used in order to improve the financial transparency and accountability of the authorities, introduce international standards into the assessment system, and reform both the governmental agencies in charge of financial control as well as the approaches to the formation of local budgets.



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Transparent Use of Public Funds.



On the Accounting Chamber.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The Center for Political Studies and Analysis coordinated development and advocacy of the law On Transparent Use of Public Funds, whereby public funds administrators shall now publish information about the planned and actual use of funds (under the agreements, for business trips, etc) quarterly on a special website. It will allow the Ukrainian citizens to check whether or not the public funds are used in a transparent and effective manner. Web portal e-data.gov.ua is already operating in a test mode and should become fully functional in 2016.

Furthermore, in 2015, the RPR experts prepared and supported the draft law On the Accounting Chamber, which

is the governmental auditing body of Ukraine. Along with the consideration of the international standards of public finance auditing, this law determines the legal status, authorities, and procedure of the activity of the Accounting Chamber. In general, the activity of the Accounting Chamber should become more transparent and open to the public, while its controlling measures become more effective.

No less important is the work of the group experts on the introduction of mid-term budget planning and the key performance indicators in the governmental agencies.





MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

➤ **Ukrainian Science Club**

DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Scientific Work and Research and Development.

LEAD EXPERT:



Nataliya Shulha
CEO at Ukrainian Science Club

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, expert group 'Science. Technology. Innovations' made efforts to develop and advocate the draft law On Scientific Work and Research and Development, which lays down the principles of decentralization in the management of decision-making and the de-monopolization of financing in the scientific sector. In addition, it facilitates the integration of the Ukrainian scientists and national

research structures to the European and world scientific and educational space. Adoption of the law is only the first step. Implementation of the novelties of the law needs further work of the RPR group in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Science and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, as well as organization of the awareness campaign among the scientific community.



Serhiy Kvit
Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine

Based on the results of 2015, I would like to note an important expert and organizational role of relevant NGOs. In the context of the educational reform, I would like to mention the RPR, CEDOS, and an entire pool of non-governmental organizations working towards the upcoming basic law On Education.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015

DRAFT LAW
№ 2009A

Environmental Impact Assessment

DRAFT LAW
№ 3259

On Strategic Environmental Assessment

MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- **MAMA-86**
- **Bureau of Ecologic Investigations**
- **Environment-People-Law**

LEAD EXPERT:



Dmytro Skrylnikov
Director of the Bureau of Ecologic Investigations

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Throughout the year, the group worked on and advocated in the parliament the draft law On Environmental Impact Assessment, which is being prepared for the first reading. At the same time, the RPR experts made efforts to create

an environmental lobby in the Verkhovna Rada to endorse their initiatives, as well as oppose those who lobby construction and other issues.

POLICY OF NATIONAL MEMORY



MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

🔗 Liberation Movement Research Center

DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On the Legal Status and Commemoration of the Fighters for the Independence of Ukraine in the 20th Century.



On Memorializing the Victory over the Nazism in World War II of 1939-1945.



On Access to the Archives of the Repressive Bodies of the Communist Totalitarian Regime of 1917-1991.



On Condemning the Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Banning the Propaganda of Their Insignia.



LEAD EXPERT:

Ihor Rozkladay
Media Law Institute

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the group implemented about 70% of its goals. Over the course of the year, the group completed the development of the planned draft laws, four of which were adopted by the parliament. The group has also prepared another three draft laws to be advocated next year. Their adoption is provided for by the strategic documents on the level of official government policy in the Action Plan. This is done in order to implement both the Program of the Cabinet of Ministers and the Coalition Agreement in 2015,

as well as the Plan of legislative support of reforms in Ukraine.

Significant results were achieved in the issues of implementation. Government authorities have developed a number of regulatory acts aimed at implementing the norms of the adopted laws. Today, the country continues renaming toponymic entities and providing access to archival documents of the Soviet secret services.

PENSION REFORM



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- 🔗 Ukrainian Insurance Federation
- 🔗 Institute for Social and Economic Studies



LEAD EXPERT:

Halyna Tretiakova
CEO at the Ukrainian Insurance Federation

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The experts of the RPR group on pension reform have participated in the development of the draft law No. 2767. Adoption of this law will allow for the reformation of the first level of the pension system, and in particular, to abolish special pensions and exemption from non-core expenditures, as well as to introduce the second level – mandatory savings. While the draft law is being finalized for

consideration, the RPR experts have prepared the proposals for the second reading to the governmental draft law. This has been done on the basis of the Concept of the pension system reform, developed by the RPR, which has been calculated in accordance with the economic and mathematical model, acknowledged by the World Bank, the Pension Fund, and USAID.



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Development and Security Association
- Association for Support of Defense of Ukraine

LEAD EXPERT:



Valeriy Sadovskyi
Head of the Development and Security Association



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Introducing Short-term Contracts in the Armed Forces of Ukraine.



On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine to Ensure National Security of Ukraine.



On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding Military Service of Foreigners and Stateless Persons in the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The group for reforming the system of national security and defense has prepared a number of draft laws, three of which were adopted in 2015. The experts have conducted and published the results of systematic research: 'Analysis of government policy in the field of national security and defense of Ukraine' and 'Analysis of safeguards of social

security and welfare of the military service members and other persons involved in the protection of state sovereignty of Ukraine.' At the same time, the RPR representatives participated in the development of the National Security Strategy and the Military Doctrine approved in autumn 2015.



Andriy Parubiy

First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Together with public experts, especially RPR, we have managed to formalize in law the disclosure of property registers, lay the foundation for de-shadowing and de-oligarchization of party financing, and provide institutional support for combatting corruption. Election of an anti-corruption prosecutor was one of decisive steps and our common victory on the anti-corruption front. It would have been impossible without such cooperation.

CULTURE



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Cultural Assembly
- Union of Ukrainian Archaeologists

LEAD EXPERT:



Natalia Kryvda
Director of Academic
Programs at Edinburgh
Business School Ukraine



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine to Introduce a Contractual Form of Employment in the Field of Culture, as well as a Competitive Procedure of Appointment of Heads of State-owned and Municipal Cultural Establishments.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The major challenge of the reform is that real change in the sphere of culture needs a paradigm shift in its functioning and governance. Therefore, the group started its work with formulating the principles of cultural policy. In the summer, the Cultural Alliance was set up, including the RPR Culture Group. Together with the partners in the Alliance, the RPR group has developed the Strategy of cultural development

of Ukraine by 2025 which is being discussed by experts. In addition, a new version of the law On protection of archeological heritage has been developed. A number of proposals concerning the draft laws on film production, publishing, socio-humanitarian foundation and other issues have been prepared.

E-GOVERNANCE



LEAD EXPERT:



Oleh Levchenko
CEO at Podolian Agency
of Regional Development



DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding Access to Public Information in the Form of Open Data.

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

A major result of 2015 was adoption of the law On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine regarding access to public information in the form of open data. At the same time, the group, together with the experts of the working group set up to develop governmental policy on e-governance under the Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine and representatives of NGOs, has prepared a Green Book on the governmental policy of e-governance development in Ukraine (published in two languages), and three White Books on governmental policy on electronic interaction,

electronic identification, and electronic services, as well as a draft White Book on governmental policy in the field of e-democracy. The prepared drafts have been discussed by public experts and have given an incentive to prepare the Concept of electronic services system and the Concept of electronic identification within the e-governance system in Ukraine, which are being finalized by expert working groups established under the Interdepartmental Council for E-Governance Development in Ukraine.

HEALTHCARE REFORM



MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

- Health Forum
- Life
- Coalition of Civic Organizations
'For Sober Ukraine'

LEAD EXPERT:



Zoriana Chernenko
Director of the Health
Forum NGO

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

Throughout the year, the RPR group has advocated the package of draft laws on the autonomy of healthcare establishments and the decentralization in the healthcare sector, which remained blocked at the level of the Healthcare Committee. Despite the unwillingness of legislators to support important draft laws, the experts have reminded them of the need to conduct the healthcare reform during the street campaigns and other events

throughout the year. Owing to a powerful public awareness campaign, the group has managed to acquire the support of a number of NGOs, as well as stimulate interest in the healthcare reform among the progressive Ukrainians. The group has analyzed the process of reforms in the previous years and has prepared relevant recommendations regarding new principles of financing and management of the healthcare sector.

ELECTRONIC DEMOCRACY



MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

- Centre for Innovations Development
at NaUKMA

LEAD EXPERT:



Serhiy Loboyko
Director of the Centre
for Innovations Development
at NaUKMA

DRAFT LAWS SUPPORTED IN 2015



On Amendments to the laws of Ukraine On Public Petitions and On the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (regarding Electronic Form of an Appeal and E-petition).

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

The group has developed an alternative presidential draft law on electronic petitions, but as a result of the advocacy campaign, they have managed to lobby the inclusion of 90% of the provisions developed by the RPR experts into the adopted law. The RPR working group has participated in the development of the technical requirements for the petition services of the Verkhovna Rada. At the same time,

a petition site of Kyiv City Council has been developed and launched with the assistance of the group. The group experts raised the issue of e-democracy and the role of e-petitions in the public and media discourse of Ukraine, which has contributed to the formation of the All-Ukrainian e-Dem community.



MEMBER OF THE GROUP:

 **Rodyna**

LEAD EXPERT:



Lesia Shevchenko
President of the Foundation
«Open Society»

RESULTS OF THE YEAR

In 2015, the RPR-Kyiv group actively cooperated with the local authorities as part of the Anti-corruption Council under Kyiv city mayor. The experts of the group have taken part in the development of the municipal anti-corruption program. The group has issued recommendations concerning Amendments to the regulations on investment competitions in Kyiv.

At the same time, the group experts are actively working towards the reform of the administrative services.

In the field of advertising, they have prepared the Amendments to the Procedure for obtaining permits for outdoor advertising. They have also successfully insisted that the municipal enterprise 'Kyiv-Reklama' be deprived of its supervisory powers.

The experts of the group are participating in the work of the Smart City group (urban strategy) and the group on e-government in part on provision of administrative services in an electronic form.



Liubomyr Huzar

Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Bishop, Cardinal of the Catholic Church

While implementing any reforms and changes in the country, one should always remember that they have to be based on the principle of equality. It is necessary to introduce real democracy – respect for citizens. As it is citizen that is the biggest value of each state.



RPR IN FIGURES

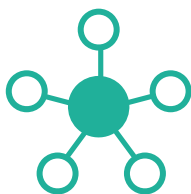
55
REGULATIONS



23
EXPERT GROUPS



46
NGOS-MEMBERS
OF THE RPR



350
EXPERTS



25
CITIES



262
MPS – CO-AUTHORS
OF THE LAWS



106
PRESS EVENTS



8500
MENTIONS IN THE MEDIA



FINANCING OF THE RPR ACTIVITIES IN 2015



Stanislava Tsarkova
fundraising consultant



Nataliya Yevchenko
financial manager

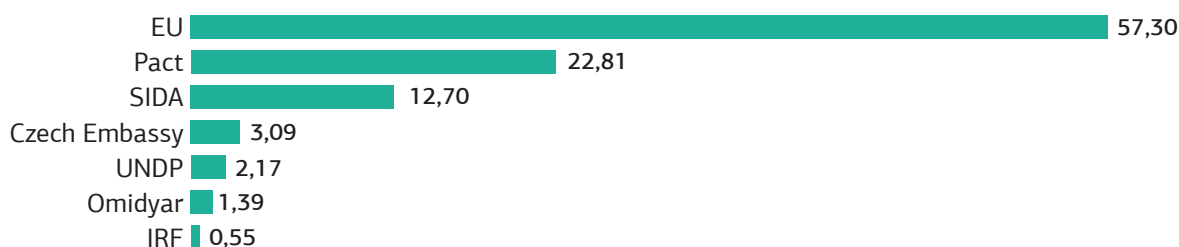
THE RPR IS A COALITION THAT SETS HIGH STANDARDS NOT ONLY FOR POLITICIANS, BUT ALSO FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR. OUR VALUES ARE TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR THE USE OF FINANCIAL RESOURCES INVESTED INTO OUR ACTIVITY. FOR THIS REASON, WE ARE PRESENTING AN OPEN REPORT ABOUT THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF THE COALITION BY THE INTERNATIONAL DONORS.

The total amount of financing of RPR activities in 2015 totaled to be around EUR 583 thousand. Effective use of these funds provides us a possibility to facilitate the development of a democratic European state.

The financial information provided shows actual expenses for support of activity of the RPR and Secretariat, but does not include financing of NGOs – members of the RPR which promote specific reforms.

In 2015, we were supported by: the European Union (European Commission), USAID/UNITER/Pact, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ukraine, United Nations Development Program, Omidyar, and the International Renaissance Foundation.

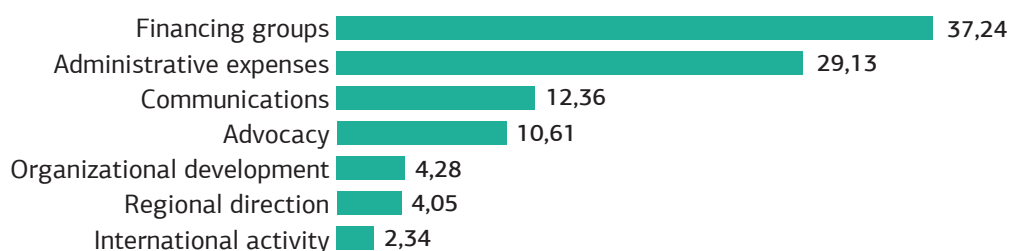
STRUCTURE OF RPR EXPENDITURES IN 2015 BROKEN DOWN BY DONORS, %



Key areas of RPR activity in 2015 were as follows: advocacy, communications, international and regional affairs. Expenditures for financing groups and organizational development make up a separate category in the total scope of RPR expenses.

Administrative expenses include expenses for project management, as well as administrative support of the RPR Secretariat.

STRUCTURE OF RPR EXPENDITURES IN 2015 BROKEN DOWN BY TYPES OF ACTIVITY, %

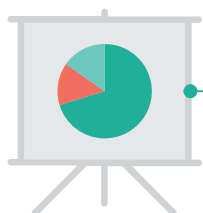




Oleksandra Kryvoruchko
project manager
at the Centre UA



Tetiana Semiletko
project manager
at the Media Law Institute



RPR activities are financed on the principles of transparency, avoidance of double-entry bookkeeping, integrity, responsibility, justice, accountability, and equality.

Since the RPR is the coalition and does not have a status of a legal entity, it attracts financial resources through non-governmental organizations, which are its members. Such NGOs guarantee that all the rules and procedures of the coalition, as well as decisions of its managing bodies, will be observed and implemented.



In 2015, organizational and financial support was largely provided by the following non-governmental organizations, which have received funds to finance the RPR activity:



Media Law Institute – an independent think tank uniting lawyers and experts specialized in media law and human rights.



Centre UA – the United Actions Center that facilitates reforms, advocates transparency and accountability of the authorities, improves the quality of politics, and fights for freedom of speech.



Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research – non-governmental, party independent, non-profitable analytical institution whose mission is to promote values and democratic procedures in the field of public policy and administration.

Financial reports from these organizations are confirmed by the annual audit, which ensures the transparent use of funds received from donors.

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The contents of this publication is the exclusive responsibility of the Media Law Institute and by no means represents the points of view of the European Union.

Photographs in the report have been taken from the RPR archive.

SUPPORT



USAID
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Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ukraine

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