

REANIMATION PACKAGE OF REFORMS







ANNUAL REPORT 2016

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2016

February 29 - March 3

RPR representatives took part in the Ukrainian week in the European Parliament



March 15 and December 21

meeting of the Assembly of NGOsmembers of the RPR. The Charter and the Strategy of the Coalition were approved; a new RPR Board was elected



June 9

RPR activists held a campaign "Heads of courts from the times of Yanukovych regime have sat on 'golden toilets' for too long"



RPR SECRETARIAT

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INTERNATIONAL **RELATIONS** DEPARTMENT



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July 12

RPR organized a campaign «Beach near the Parliament, or MPs, Get Down to Work!» demanding that MPs continue their work and consider urgent draft laws before going on vacations



July 21

Forum "100 Days of the Government: First Assessments and Expectations." RPR brought together experts, public officials, diplomats and journalists to comment on the first hundred days of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine headed by Volodymyr Groysman



July 21

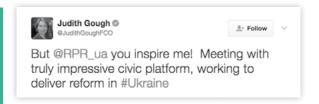
RPR presented a Roadmap of Reforms for 2016-2017





"Important part of Ukraine resilience is civil society groups like @RPR_ua -perhaps strongest civil society in Europe",

 Geoffrey Pyatt, US Ambassador to Ukraine (July 30, 2013 – August 18, 2016)



"But @RPR_ua you inspire me! Meeting with truly impressive civic platform, working to deliver reform in #Ukraine",

- Judith Gough, British Ambassador to Ukraine



"The challenges Ukraine is facing demand intellectual solutions: we have to clearly identify the problems and find the means to resolve it. This is tackled by think tanks, such as the RPR or our Nestor Group",

 Yaroslav Hrytsak, Ukrainian scholar, historian, publicist

"If I were a President, I would promote formation of political forces from such reformist groups as the RPR. Only then will we get brand new power",

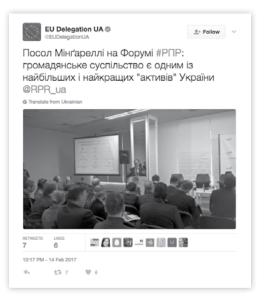
 Oleksandr Paskhaver, scholar-economist, philosopher, advisor to four Presidents of Ukraine

"Once awakened, the civil society cannot be brought back to sleep. Real actions and concern of a group of people have gradually started to change the tectonic structure of the entire Ukrainian society. The strategic goal of transformative cooperation between the Czech Republic and Ukraine is to support building a society based on European values and the rule of law. Therefore, the Czech Republic has been supporting the development of civil society. V. Havel's "Power of the Powerless" is not just a phrase – the achievements of the Reanimation Package of Reforms are a bright example of it in action",

- Zdeňka Caisová, Chargé d'Affaires of the Czech Republic Embassy in Ukraine



"On a Kiev street parallel to the presidential administration building, dozens of young activists are shaping a new European-style state, building parallel institutions and drafting laws that are pushed through parliament", – The Economist



"Civil society is one of the biggest and most valuable assets of Ukraine", (at the RPR Forum) – Hugues Mingarelli, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine

INTRODUCTION



Artem Myrgorodskyi, Head of the RPR Secretariat

During 2016, the Reanimation Package of Reforms – a leading coalition of non-governmental organizations – grew by a third: by the end of the year, there were 72 organizations promoting the reforms in Ukraine in our coalition. We remain the largest consolidated expert community implementing the agenda of most progressive changes in the country.

The Reanimation Package of Reforms is guided by the standards of good governance. The Assembly of the NGOs – the supreme management body of the RPR – has approved a new Charter and the Strategy of the Coalition for the period of two years. The RPR Board conducted 19 meetings, passing strategic managerial decisions of the coalition. In particular, it adopted new rules of work of expert groups, the mission of the Secretariat, and the updated RPR Roadmap of Reforms.

The executive body of the coalition – the RPR Secretariat – has introduced area specialization in the advocacy department and strengthened the department of international relations. New experts have joined our communications team, which tracks the progress of reforms in the country and supports expert discussions on various aspects of the reforms in the national and regional media.

Key reformist achievements of the coalition in 2016, to which the experts of the RPR member NGOs

have contributed, are as follows: fully-fledged launch of the National Anticorruption Bureau and the Specialized Anticorruption Prosecution; introduction of the electronic declaration system; conversion of all public procurement into a paperless form, i.e. a system of electronic procurement ProZorro; formation of 209 amalgamated territorial communities and support of adoption and implementation of the legislation to boost decentralization; full-scaled launch of the judicial reform through Constitutional amendments concerning justice.

Other positive contributions of the RPR coalition members facilitating the reforms include: setting market prices of gas for consumers; achieving disclosure of information on real owners of television and radio channels; ensuring first payments under the program of governmental financing of political parties; establishing independent supervisory boards at state enterprises; completing de-communization; establishing the National Agency of Ukraine for identification, tracing, and management of assets derived from corruption or other crimes.

Unfortunately, the past year was marked by no progress in the updating of election laws, overriding of the moratorium on the realization of constitutional rights of seven million landowners, reforming the prosecutor's office, establishing the State Bureau of Investigation or

introducing European standards of environmental protection.

To ensure a more focused effort in 2017, we set the following top-priority reform-related tasks before ourselves and the Ukrainian authorities: to build a system of anticorruption judicial institutions; to form a new, fair Supreme Court; to reform ministries to enable them to shape and implement governmental policy; to introduce a proportional parliamentary election system; to adopt the law on turnover of agricultural lands and to unblock the land market; to extend the jurisdiction of amalgamated communities and territories beyond population centers; to set up a public broadcaster and ensure its proper financing; to create competitive electricity and heat markets and improve energy efficiency of the housing sector; to approve the governmentally-guaranteed healthcare level.

We are grateful to everyone who shares our values and does their best to contribute to the changes in the country. We call on you to stay on the path of reforms, pool our efforts, and build a better future together!

ABOUT US



WHO WE ARE

The Reanimation Package of Reforms is the largest coalition of leading non-governmental organizations of Ukraine which have pooled their efforts to facilitate and implement reforms in Ukraine.

WHAT WE DO

The RPR functions as a coordination center for 72 non-governmental organizations and 23 expert groups which develop, promote, and monitor implementation of reforms.

STRATEGIC TASKS OF THE RPR

- to turn expert community into the subject of policy-making;
- to consolidate and coordinate public efforts;
- to guarantee the quality of reform-related proposals;
- to advocate adoption and implementation of developed reforms;
- to communicate the changes to the Ukrainian society and the international community.

STRUCTURE



the highest body of the RPR

includes representatives of all 72 members of the coalition



RPR BOARD

strategic management body

includes 12 well-known and influential persons selected by the Assembly of NGOs



RPR SECRETARIAT

executive body

key functions: advocacy, communication, international relations, facilitating activity of expert groups and NGOs

The RPR has a three-tier horizontal governance structure ruled by collective decisions.

The Assembly of the NGOs-members of the RPR is the highest body of the RPR.

The Board of the RPR is a strategic management body that implements the strategy adopted by the Assembly and develops and approves tactical decisions.

The Secretariat is an executive body of the RPR. Key functions of the RPR Secretariat are advocacy and communication support of the activity of the civil platform and its members.

Representatives of NGOs-members of the RPR and individual experts work in groups in specific areas. Each expert group works in the form of public meetings to discuss and develop legislative or other initiatives aimed at the implementation of changes. The aim of an expert group is to implement relevant reforms, ensure good governance in a particular area, secure partnership between government and society, and facilitate public control over the activities of the authorities.

THE RPR BOARD

The RPR Board is a strategic management body. The composition of the Board changes annually at least by a third and is selected by voting at the meeting of the Assembly of NGOs.

CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE RPR BOARD



MEMBERS OF THE RPR BOARD



NGOS-MEMBERS OF THE RPR



AgroReformsUA



Charitable Foundation "Right to Protection"



Civil Society Institute



All-Ukrainian Association of Small and Medium Businesses "Fortress"



Center of Reform Support



Civil Society Online



All-Ukrainian Sustainable Development and Investments Agency



Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM)



of Civic Organizations "For Sober Ukraine"



Anti-corruption Action Center



Centre of Policy and Legal Reform



Committee of Voters of



Association for Community Self-organization Assistance



Centre for Economic Strategy



Congress of Cultural Activists



Association for Support of Defense of Ukraine



Centre for Innovations Development at NaUKMA



CrimeaSOS



Association "Energy Efficient Cities of Ukraine"



Centre for Political Studies and Analysis "EIDOS"



Cultural Assembly



Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors



Centre for Research of Liberation Movement



DeJuRe Foundation



Association on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving



Centre UA



Detector Media



Bureau of Ecologic Investigations



Chamber of Tax Advisors



Development and Security Association



CASE-Ukraine



Civic Organizacion «Center For Economic Research And Forecasting»



DiXi Group



CCC Creative



Civil Network OPORA



Easy Business

The Assembly of the NGOs-members of the RPR is the highest management body of the RPR, consisting of representatives of 72 non-governmental organizations. In 2016, the Assembly held two meetings, adopted the Charter and the Strategy of the RPR, and elected new members of the RPR Board.



Environment-People-Law



Interns' League



Transparency International Ukraine



Election Law Institute



LEAD Office



Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research



Europe Without Barriers



Life



Ukrainian Centre for European Policy



Foundation of Regional Initiatives (FRI)



MAMA-86



Ukrainian Forum of Philanthropists



Forum "Health"



National Ecological Centre of Ukraine



Ukrainian Homeland Defence Support Movement



Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation



Network of Energy Innovations "Greencubator"



Ukrainian Insurance federation



Initiative E+



"No Bribery" Movement



Ukrainian Science Club



Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting



Partnership for Every Child



Ukrainian Archaeologists Association



Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation



PLAST -National Scout Organization of Ukraine



Union of Ukrainian Youth in Ukraine



Institute of Social and Economic Transformation



Podolian Agency for Regional Development



Vostok-SOS



Institute of World Policy



Regional Press Development Institute



Youth Nationalistic Congress



Internews Ukraine



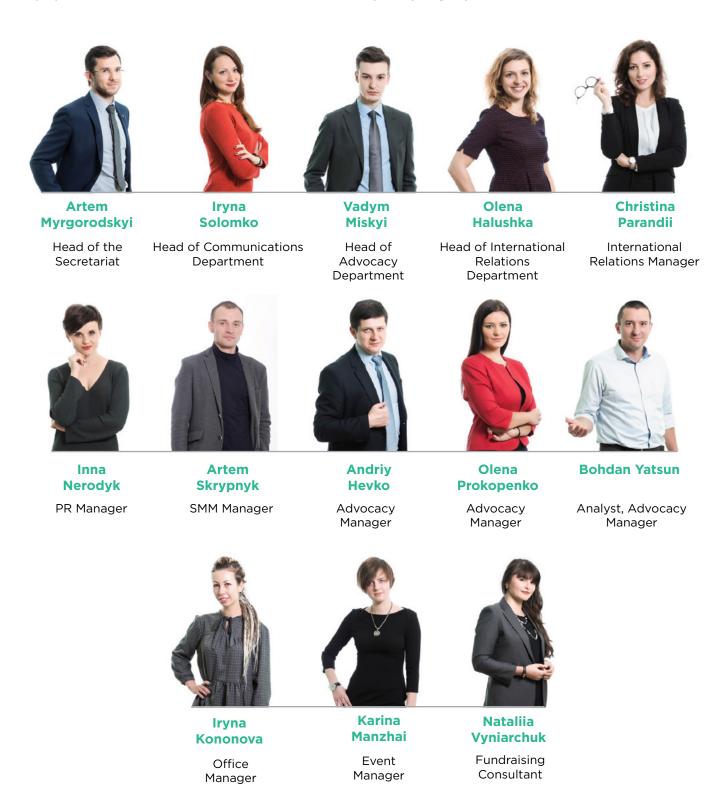
Rodyna



Wikimedia Ukraine

RPR Secretariat

The Secretariat is an executive body of the RPR. It coordinates the activities of the RPR and deals with advocacy, communication, international relations, fundraising, and organizational development of the coalition. It also prepares and holds media events and facilitates the activity of expert groups, initiatives, and other structural units.



Rostyslav Abramets, Andriy Andrushkiv, Olga Holoborodko, Tetiana Kyrylenko, Stanislava Tsarkova, and Yaroslav Yurchyshyn also worked in the Secretariat in 2016.

Advocacy department



Goal: to advocate adoption and implementation of reformist proposals of RPR expert groups; to boost the capacity of RPR groups and experts in policy analysis.

Agenda setting

In 2016, the advocacy department worked on placing the top-priority reforms sought by the public on the political agenda. A new level of cooperation with the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada has been established: an RPR representative participates in the meetings of the Conciliatory Council of the heads of factions and committees with the right to speak. Weekly "RPR agendas for Rada plenary week" and "Rada plenary weeks in review" are published on the news website "Ukrainska Pravda."

An important step in agenda setting was the development and publication of the "Roadmap of Reforms." The new document format includes the description of problems, goals, and objectives of advocacy and implementation of reforms in 23 areas of public policy.

The Reforms Roadmap has helped to improve planning of the RPR groups' activity. Moreover, organization of round tables, open expert discussions, and consultations with the stakeholders have significantly improved the political agenda and facilitated the reforms.

Legislation and its implementation

In 2016, 26 draft laws out of the RPR advocacy database were adopted, 18 of them pertaining to seven strategic priorities of the RPR. Moreover, the coalition prevented attempts to

adopt 'harmful' draft laws and regulations jeopardizing the civil service reform (restricting the powers of the Senior Civil Service Commission) and electronic declaration (postponing the system launch), etc.

The advocacy department has also helped RPR experts to facilitate forming and assessing the work of the following new agencies dealing with implementation of reforms: the Senior Civil Service Commission, the Public Integrity Council; the National Agency for Corruption Prevention; the Supervisory Board of the National Public Television and Radio Broadcasting Company of Ukraine; and the National Agency of Ukraine for identification, tracing, and management of assets derived from corruption or other crimes.

Analysis

Apart from the analytical work focused on the new Roadmap of Reforms, the department prepared the publication of a series of policy briefs "Reforms under the Microscope 2015." It is a comprehensive review of the reforms in 18 areas of governmental policy which includes analysis of adopted legislation and its implementation. Twenty "RPR agendas for Parliament" and twenty "Legislative results of the week" have been issued. Finally, the analysis of the agenda of the meetings conducted by the Cabinet of Ministers and the governmental committees used by the RPR expert groups was prepared.

Structural changes in the department

Vadym Miskyi headed the advocacy department in summer 2016. The unit itself was restructured, with new advocacy managers – Andriy Hevko and Olena Prokopenko – joining the team. Starting from September, each employee of the department has been systemically supporting several RPR groups, which ensures deeper and better-quality advocacy assistance.



26 draft laws, endorsed by the RPR, adopted



"RPR agendas for Rada plenary



"Rada plenary weeks in review"



trainings with the participation of 100+ RPR experts



advocacy events organized: round tables, open expert discussions, consultations with the stakeholders

Communications department



Goal: to ensure effective and wide communication of reforms and activity of both the coalition and its NGOs-members; to garner wider governmental and public support of the developments accomplished or advocated by the coalition experts.

Organization of events

In 2016, the department organized and took part in the organization of dozens of round tables, press conferences, forums, media breakfasts, direct action campaigns, and other activities involving RPR experts, representatives of the Parliament, the government, and other authorities. Regular broadcasts on the "Rada" TV channel with coalition experts have been initiated and briefings with RPR representatives on the public agenda of each plenary week have been conducted at the Rada's press point in partnership with the Verkhovna Rada.

Cooperation with media

In addition to the usual format of cooperation with media, a number of new initiatives have been launched. In particular, an information resource "CensorReform" (http://reforms. censor.net.ua/) with daily news and columns by experts was launched in cooperation with the website CENSOR.NET.UA. "Successful communities" is another special project that was started in partnership with the newspaper "Segodnya". Topical issues are highlighted using round table discussions on the platform of LB.ua and the Gorshenin Institute. RPR experts regularly publish columns in the "Dzerkalo Tyzhnia" periodical. A joint project with NGO "Detector Media» has been initiated to organize a media breakfast for journalists. Workshops for regional journalists were organized, having attracted more than 40 media representatives.

Social networks

According to the research of "Think Twice UA" initiative and the Center of Content Analysis, in 2016 RPR headed the ranking of top research centers of Ukraine based on the number of Facebook and Twitter followers. Messages from RPR's social network pages have been republished by leading Ukrainian media and diplomatic missions. RPR has also successfully broadcasted its events live on the coalition's Facebook page. Additionally, a new format of video comments from the experts was introduced.

Brand book and internal communication

In 2016, an RPR brand book was developed and a new, more functional website was launched. A weekly newsletter – the RPR digest of reforms – has been introduced. Communication experts of the coalition's members have been meeting regularly, strengthening their cooperation. Furthermore, RPR experts have participated in a number of communication trainings.

Structural changes in the department

Since April, the communication department has been completely re-staffed. It is headed by Iryna Solomko. Inna Nerodyk (PR manager) and Artem Skrypnyk (SMM manager) have also joined the team.



18
press conferences



10 forums and



18 direct action campaigns and flash



10 press briefings



15 media breakfasts



6 presentations



120 public statements



15,000 persons approximately visit the RPR website monthly



4,679
shares of Facebook



7,895 followers on Twitter

International relations department



Goal: to advocate the reforms and engage representatives of international organizations and diplomatic missions in monitoring the implementation of reformist commitments made by the Ukrainian authorities.

Organization of events

In 2016, the department expanded its database of international contacts to more than 500 individuals and actively cooperated with representatives of foreign institutions to advocate and communicate the reforms. In particular, it has initiated and coordinated meetings of the RPR experts with foreign high-ranking officials in Ukraine and abroad, including the Secretary of the Department of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Members of the European Parliament, the European Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy, leaders of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Neighborhood and Enlargement Negotiations, foreign ministers and speakers of parliaments of the Baltic and Scandinavian states, the Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine, ambassadors of Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, the Republic of South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the Council of Europe; and representatives of foreign NGOs and think tanks.

Diplomatic breakfasts aimed at discussing topical issues have also proved to be effective.

During the year RPR initiated three advocacy visits (to Brussels, Berlin, and Prague). In addition, the department held public discussions and working meetings to study the experience of foreign reformers within the projects #UkraineReforms

(implemented in cooperation with the Wilfred Martens Center for European Studies, Kyiv School of Economics, and Ukrainian Center of European Policy) and "Days of Czech Reform" (in cooperation with the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ukraine).

The department also promoted RPR's participation in more than 15 forums, study tours, and workshops at the invitation of partner organizations and institutions: the embassies of Canada, Czech Republic, France, the Netherlands, Poland, the UK, and the US; the Atlantic Council; the Prague Center for Civil Society; the International Renaissance Foundation; and WNISEF.

Analytical materials and statements

Preparation and publication of analytical materials regarding tangible successes of Ukrainian reforms (June and November 2016) translated into English and French was an important part of the department's work. Cooperation with English-speaking and foreign periodicals was established, with five articles having been published on the websites of the Atlantic Council, "Euromaidan-Press", and KyivPost.

The department has actively contributed to the preparation of statements and analytical materials of the RPR, distributing them internationally.

Structural changes in the department

In October 2016, a new manager of international relations - Khrystyna Parandii, graduate of European Studies master's program at Maastricht University - joined the department. Given the increased capacity of the department, it was possible to separate the strategically oriented powers of its leader Olena Halushka and tactical responsibilities of the new manager, which helped to optimize the work of the international relations department, improved the effectiveness of advocacy, and improved the system of distribution of information and newsletters.



16
diplomatic breakfasts
held



articles in Englishspeaking and foreign periodicals



50 statements and analytical materials distributed



15 forums and workshops for



500+
persons in the international contacts database



Anticorruption reform

The main goal is to support, promote, and monitor the effectiveness of the anticorruption reform through the mechanisms available to the civil society and expert community. Priority areas of the group's activity include: formation of an integrated system of prosecution for corruption; development of a strong system to prevent corruption in the public sector; establishment of an effective governmental control over the observance of the right of access to public information; initiation of effective counteraction to political corruption.

NGOs











Transparency International Ukraine Anti-corruption Action Center Centre for Political Studies and Analysis "EIDOS" Centre of Policy and Legal Reform

Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM)



Manager Oleksandr Liemienov



Lead expert Yaroslav Yurchyshyn

JANUARY '

January 1

the economic part of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU came into effect; the Agreement on the CIS FTA with Russia was simultaneously terminated the Law "On the reform of state and municipal printed media" covering de-statization of press came into force



January 14

the President signed the Law of Ukraine "On the State Bureau of Investigation" in a live broadcast. The SBI will be granted all the investigative functions of the Prosecutor General's Office The SBI will investigate certain categories of crimes of high-ranking governmental officials and law enforcement agencies

In 2016, considerable progress in the anticorruption reform was achieved, particularly owing to the activity of the expert group and the NGOs-members of the coalition. The Anticorruption Action Center ensured public monitoring and support of the activity of the National Anticorruption Bureau of Ukraine and the Specialized Anticorruption Prosecution.

Moreover, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention (NACP) was established. Organizations-members of the group have contributed to the following activities within the NAPC competence:

control over the finances of political parties:

- an online portal "Party's Pay Office" was launched; 944 reports of the parties for the first three quarters of 2016 have been analyzed; and 550 violations of law were identified (Eidos center);
- methodological recommendations for the NACP personnel have been prepared on the basis of the Latvian experience of control over the financing of political parties (TI Ukraine).

regulation of conflict of interest:

two monitoring campaigns were launched; 25 educational events were organized; 49 acts of local self-government have been analyzed; 43 facts of violation of law were contested (Eidos center).

launch of e-declaration:

- the group managed to prevent disruption of and oppose the attempts of discrediting e-declaration (AntAC, TI Ukraine, other organizations and individual experts of the group);
- conclusions on whether specific

provisions of the 2014 Law "On Corruption Prevention" with amendments and Article 366-1 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine are in accordance with the Constitution were prepared and sent to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine (CPLR, TI Ukraine).

coordination of anticorruption policy:

- "Handbook of Investigators, Prosecutors, Judges: Commentary on Anticorruption Law" was prepared; the Methodology of conducting anticorruption expertise was updated; 165 draft laws and over 10 effective laws were subjected to expertise; more than 10 regional anticorruption expertise trainings were organized (CPLR);
- 50 anticorruption trainings for local activists were conducted within the project "Lab of Active Citizens" (CEDEM).

work with whistleblowers:

participation in the development of the draft law "On whistleblowers protection and disclosure of information about the damage or threat to public interests" (CPLR, CEDEM, TI Ukraine).

The experts of AntAC, Eidos center, and Transparency International Ukraine participated in the selection of the head of the National Agency of Ukraine for identification, tracing, and management of assets derived from corruption or other crimes.

To cleanse the judicial branch of unconscientious judges, the experts of the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM) together with the members of RPR Judicial Reform group have launched the project "CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!"

Representatives of CEDEM, TI Ukraine, and CPLR have been elected as members of the Public Integrity Council under the High Qualification Commission of Judges.

As to the support of the system of public procurement ProZorro, the analytical module bi.prozorro and the monitoring portal Dozorro were launched (TI Ukraine); over 100 investigations in twelve regions have been conducted and 13 criminal proceedings were initiated as a result (Eidos center).





the information campaign «Constitution and Me» started.





January 26

the VRU adopted amendments to the Law of Ukraine «On protection of economic competition» (No. 2168a). The relevant legislative amendments improve the efficiency of control over economic concentrations and enhance antimonopoly legislation in this area



Judicial reform

The main goals of the group are to achieve fair justice in Ukraine thorough an effective judicial reform. Key objectives are: to reboot the judiciary and increase judges' accountability; to establish an independent anticorruption court; to achieve real independence of judges; to introduce a trial jury; to diversify the mechanisms for resolving commercial disputes; to introduce new technologies for organizing judges' activity and the administration of justice; to introduce international standards in the legal education and regulation of legal profession in Ukraine.

NGOs



Centre of Policy and Legal Reform



DeJuRe Foundation



Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM)



Manager Viktoria Obodovska



Lead expert Mykhailo Zhernakov



Lead expert Roman Kuybida

FEBRUARY

February 3

the Verkhovna Rada preliminarily approved amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (on justice)

February 4

the Parliament adopted the resolution "On renaming some population centers and districts." 175 new names of towns and villages have appeared in 17 regions of Ukraine, replacing Soviet-era place names



February 9

a strategic session of the RPR was held The year of 2016 became a breakthrough in the legislative support of the judicial reform and was marked by adoption of the long-awaited amendments to the Constitution regarding judiciary and the new Law "On judiciary and status of judges" on June 2, 2016. Two laws on the system of enforcing the judgments were also adopted: the Law "On agencies and persons engaged in the enforcement of judgments and decisions of other authorities" and the new Law "On enforcement proceedings." The amendments to the Constitution and the Law "On judiciary and status of judges" came into effect on September 30, while the laws on the enforcement of judgments - on October 5, 2016.

Competition to fill the Supreme Court offices was announced in November. The Public Integrity Council has also been set up. There are six RPR experts who specialize in the judicial reform among the PIC members: Halyna Chyzhyk, Roman Kuybida, Roman Maselko, Maksym Sereda, Taras Shepel and Mykhailo Zhernakov.

On December 21, 2016, the Verkhovna Rada adopted the Law "On the High Council of Justice." The RPR made a number of comments on the law, some of which have been taken into account in the final version.

Despite considerable progress in the implementation of the judicial reform,

its ultimate success depends on the adoption of other laws, in particular:

- the Law "On Anticorruption Courts":
- the amendments to the Law "On Prosecutor's Office";
- a new version of the Law "On Bar":
- the Law "On Legal Education and Access to Legal Profession";
- a new version of the Law "On the Constitutional Court of Ukraine";
- the amendments to the procedural codes, in particular, introduction of e-justice.

The Centre of Policy and Legal Reform has been a foundation of the judicial group of the RPR since the very beginning This NGO and its experts helped organize seven round tables and over 15 discussions (media breakfasts, diplomatic meetings, forums) with the participation of experts form and beyond the judicial group of the RPR, MPs, judges, and journalists.

DeJuRe Foundation, established in 2016 by Judicial Group's members has become the foundation NGO of Judicial Group of the RPR since October 2016. It is supporting its activities and the activities of the Public Integrity Council with analytics, communication and fundraising.

It also leads group's efforts policymaking related to justice for business and justice for children.

CEDEM is helping with the organization of round tables and various campaigns related to the judicial reform, as well as provide analytical materials about judges through "CHESNO: Filter the Judiciary!" movement.



February 16

amendments to the Law of Ukraine «On corruption counteraction» were adopted with the amendments introduced by MP Vadym Denysenko in oral form. The amendments raised the limit of declaration by three times to 150 minimum wages and decriminalized responsibility until 2017

February 17

the Law of Ukraine «On public procurement» came into force

February 18

the last law from the so-called «visa-free package» – «On improving the principles of activity of the National Agency of Ukraine for identifying, tracing, and management of assets derived from corruption and other crimes» – was adopted



Ukraine adopted



Public administration reform

The goal of the group is to actively promote the administrative reform that will transform the government and the ministries into bodies capable of effectively formulating and implementing public policy, the public service – into a professional, politically neutral corps aimed at ensuring public interests and proper implementation of citizens' rights, while the system of administrative services – into a convenient and transparent mechanism for the realization of human rights.

NGOs



Centre of Policy and Legal Reform



CCC Creative Center



Manager Mykola Vyhovskyi



Lead expert Ihor Koliushko

MARCH

March 3

RPR representatives took part in the Ukrainian week in the European Parliament



the National Commission for State Regulation in Energy and Utilities approved a new method of setting wholesale market prices for electricity according to the formula "Rotterdam +". This significantly increased electricity tariffs for consumers

March 7

second anniversary of the Reanimation Package of Reforms



The group has been working on the implementation of the Law of Ukraine "On Civil Service." Monitoring of appointments to the civil service offices was another priority in 2016. In addition, organizations and experts of the group are involved in advocating the reform of ministries and central executive bodies, optimizing the system of administrative services provision, and introducing a general administrative procedure.

In 2016, the group experts were actively working on the development of subordinate acts for the new law «On Civil Service», most of which were adopted. Among them: "Provisions concerning the Senior Civil Service Commission"; "The procedure of holding a competition for the civil service offices"; the governmental resolution "On approving the requirements for persons running for civil service offices of A-category"; the resolution "On approving the procedure of election of representatives of public associations, research institutions, educational establishments, and experts to the Senior Civil Service Commission"; and the order of the National Agency of Ukraine on Civil Service "On approving the procedure of public reporting by the head of an executive body."

Ihor Koliushko and Volodymyr Kupriy – experts of the group – have become members of the newly established Senior Civil Service Commission as public representatives.

Several group experts were involved in drafting the governmental Strategy of Public Administration Reform for 2016–2020, which was adopted in June 2016.

The experts and the NGOs-members of the group also helped to prevent adoption of the draft law No.4370-1 on the regulation of certain issues of civil service (authored by Artur Herasymov). It might have led to the concentration of excessive powers in the President's hands, contrary to the Constitution.

To advocate and communicate the necessary changes, over the past year the group has organized two direct action campaigns, prepared seven public statements, and held five round tables and four public discussions. The Centre of Policy and Legal Reform was most active in the organization of the group's activities.



7 statements



5 round tables



direct action campaigns



4
public
discussions

March 15

a meeting of the Assembly of the NGOsmembers of the RPR was held; the Charter and the Strategy of the coalition were adopted



March 19

start of admission to the third cohort of the Open University of Reforms

March 28

Natalia Korchak was elected head of the NAPC. The commission set up to elect members of the National Agency for Corruption Prevention have already selected 4 out of 5 members of this agency, enabling it to begin its work

March 29

the Verkhovna Rada voted for dismissal of Viktor Shokin, Prosecutor General of Ukraine



Local selfgovernment reform and decentralization

The mission of the group is to facilitate effective implementation of the reform of local self-government and decentralization of power in Ukraine, in line with the Concept of reforming the local self-government and the territorial organization of power.

NGOs





Civil Society Institute

Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research



Manager Ivan Lukeria



Lead expert Anatoliy Tkachuk

APRIL

April 6

referendum in the Netherlands on the ratification of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU

April 7

the RPR coalition presented a plan of top-priority actions to overcome a parliamentarygovernmental crisis



April 10

Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk filed his resignation The year of 2016 has become a year of implementation of laws and local self-government reform in communities. In particular, 207 territorial communities became amalgamated and held elections (in 2015, only 159 territorial communities were created). All 366 territorial communities were granted direct inter-budget relations with the State Budget of Ukraine for 2017.

The group has also been working on developing infrastructure and building capacity of the newly created territorial communities. More specifically, they implemented infrastructure development projects worth 1 billion USD. The group also conducted trainings for heads of communities and members of the local councils on the development of territorial communities and new operational framework. This initiated the preparation of a territorial communities development strategy.

Implementation of the legislation on decentralization of powers in the fields of construction and architecture began, with 50 cities and territorial communities having already assumed the powers related to architectural and construction control.

The experts of the group also worked to remove legal barriers that were preventing further implementation of the local self-government reform. Notably, they helped to prepare and register the draft law on amendments to several legislative acts of Ukraine (regarding voluntary amalgamation of territorial communities).

First attempts have been made to regulate the issue of extending jurisdiction of local self-government bodies beyond population centers (with regard to urban development documentation, redevelopment, land resources management). A draft law on amendments to several legislative acts of Ukraine to extend the powers of local self-government bodies of territorial communities onto the entire territory of a relevant village, settlement, or urban territorial community was prepared and registered.

Another important step was tackling the issue of calling the first elections in territorial communities united around cities of regional significance or in territorial communities including population centers located in the neighboring districts (a draft law on amendments to several legislative acts of Ukraine on the specificity of voluntary amalgamation of territorial communities located in the neighboring districts was prepared and registered).

In addition, draft laws specifying the status of prefects (the scope of their activities, powers, grounds and procedure for early termination of powers, guarantees of activity) have been developed. Governmental support of local self-government was introduced, in the form of financial support for the first election of prefects at the expense of the state budget.

RPR experts have contributed to the development of a new version of the Law "On Service at the Local Self-government Bodies." The Civil Society Institute remains the core of RPR's group on decentralization. The Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research and the Institute for Political Education are also taking an active part in its activities. The group experts and their partners have conducted about 100 seminars and workshops for heads of communities, members of local councils, regional NGOs, and journalists. These events dealt with issues of reform of local self-government and decentralization of power in Ukraine.



April 13

RPR discussion club with Bohdan Havrylyshyn



April 14

the Verkhovna Rada elected the new composition of the Cabinet of Ministers

April 27

the Cabinet of Ministers set an equal market price for gas for individuals and industrial consumers





The mission of the group is a comprehensive reform of election law based on best European practices and recommendations given by the OSCE/ODIHR and the Venice Commission, and its proper implementation. The tasks of the group are to ensure comprehensive reform and harmonization of legislation on local and parliamentary elections; to guarantee punishment for electoral crimes and other violations; and to institutionalize cooperation between the expert community, the public, and the Central Election Commission.

NGOs



Civil Network OPORA



Internews Ukraine



Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research



Election Law Institute



Manager Nadia Pashkova



Lead expert Yevhen Radchenko

MAY

May 1

the Law of Ukraine "On civil service" came into force

May 5

RPR representatives met with Andriy Parubiy, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada



May 10

the RPR Board approved the Rules of work of expert groups In March 2016, the experts of the group prepared a comparative analysis of two draft Electoral Codes (No. 3112, 3112-1). The analysis was conducted by Yevhen Radchenko ("Internews-Ukraine"), Svitlana Kononchuk (Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research), Oleksandr Burmahin (Regional Press Development Institute), Denys Kovryzhenko (International Foundation for Electoral Systems), and Olena Chebanenko, an expert on election law.

On October 19, 2016, during the forum "Electoral Reform. Agenda", public representatives raised the issue of electoral reform in the presence of members of political parties and the government. As a consequence, the Statement on the concept of electoral law reform was adopted. The event was organized by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) together with the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, Center UA, civil movement "CHESNO", the Institute "Respublika", the All-Ukrainian NGO "Committee of Voters of Ukraine", civil network OPORA, and RPR with the assistance of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada, and the Government of the United Kingdom.

The forum "Our Money in Politics: 2.0" provided an opportunity for leaders of the NACP and the CEC, MPs, international diplomats, representatives of political parties, and experts to discuss the challenges faced by parties and government in the course of implementation of the law aimed at reducing the risk of political corruption in the financing of political parties and campaigning. The forum was organized by the IFES and the NDI with the assistance of the USAID, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Canada, the Government of the United Kingdom, and the European Union. Other partners of the event included "Eidos" center, the Centre of Policyand Legal Reform, Center UA, civil movement "CHESNO", the Institute "Respublika", the All-Ukrainian NGO "Committee of Voters of Ukraine", civil network OPORA, and the RPR.

During the months of August and September, Yevhen Radchenko, chief expert of the group, and Vakhtang Kipiani, editor-in-chief of the online resource "Istorychna Pravda", conducted six workshops entitled "Election Reform for Real" in Vinnytsia, Lviv, Odesa, Dnipro, Kharkiv, and Kyiv,. The workshops covered key aspects of the election reform and nuances of its implementation. They were organized by the IFES and attracted more than 100 regional journalists.

The experts of the working group - Yevhen Radchenko ("Internews-Ukraine"), Olha Aivazovska (civil network OPORA), Denys Kovryzhenko (IFES-Ukraine), Yuriy Kliuchkovskyi (Electoral Law Institute), and Serhiy Tkachenko (Council of Europe) participated in four meetings of the working group set up under the Chairman of the Rada Andriy Parubiy. The participants discussed the draft law amending electoral law and voiced their opinion on the proposed legislative initiatives, as well as the group's attitude towards the reform of electoral law.



May 12

the Verkhovna Rada appointed Yuriy Lutsenko as the Prosecutor General, having abolished the qualification requirement concerning higher legal education **May 17**

the VRU adopted amendments to the Law of Ukraine «On public television and radio broadcasting» (regarding procedure of accession of SE «Ukrainian studio of television films «Ukrtelefilm»»)

May 19

within the process of decommunization, the VRU voted for renaming 300 place names. Nine districts and 291 population centers have changed their names. The cities of Dnipro and Horishni Plavni have appeared on the map of Ukraine



May 27

the Government approved the action plan of the Cabinet of Ministers for 2016



Law enforcement bodies reform

The mission of the group is to facilitate development of an effective system of criminal justice agencies, to ensure their independence of political or any other unlawful influence, to clearly separate their powers, and to improve criminal law so that it contributes to reducing crime in the country.

NGOs



Centre of Policy and Legal Reform



Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors



LEAD office



Lead expert Oleksandr Banchuk

IUNE

June 2

the Verkhovna Rada adopted amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (on justice) in full

June 3

the President brought before Parliament his proposal to reboot the Central Election Commission. The RPR Anticorruption Group called for rejecting the candidacy of Roman Hreba

June 9

RPR activists held a campaign "Heads of courts from the times of Yanukovych regime have sat on 'golden toilets' for too long"



Over 2016, the experts and the organizations engaged in the group have been working in several areas of the law enforcement system reform. In particular, within the police reform, the proposals to the Government's Plan of Priority Actions for 2016 were prepared, with 90% of them taken into account. Additionally, draft law No. 4753 "On amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the National Police" (to implement the recommendations contained in the comments of the Council of Europe Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law)" was prepared. The group has likewise been working on amendments for the second reading of draft law No. 4670 "On the Disciplinary Statute of the National Police of Ukraine" (regarding establishment of police detective units).

Concerning the prosecutor's office reform, the draft law "On amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Prosecutor's Office" (on the specificity of functioning of the Qualification and Disciplinary Commission of Prosecutors during the transition period)" was developed. It is also important to mention the drafting of law No. 5771-1 "On amendments to several legislative acts

of Ukraine in connection with the adoption of the Law of Ukraine "On amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine" (regarding judiciary) (with regard to reforming the prosecutor's office in accordance with European standards)."

The group greatly contributed to the preparation of the legislative base regulating the activity of the new agency - the State Bureau of Investigation. A package of 50 documents necessary to launch the SBI was assembled, including proposals concerning the SBI Public Monitoring Council which were taken into account.

As to the reform of the penitentiary service, the draft law "On the Penitentiary System" was prepared and is now under review by the Ministry of Justice.

Positive opinion of the Council of Europe on draft law No. 2897 on criminal offences, prepared by the group's experts, is another major achievement.

Apart from advocating specific legislative initiatives, the group has also focused on halting harmful draft laws. Notably, it released comments on several versions of draft laws on special confiscation. As a result, these harmful draft laws failed to pass the vote.



June 21

graduation of the third cohort of the Open University of Reforms



June 24

the President signed the amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (on justice)

June 28

concert-performance «Constitution and Me»



formation of a commission to select the candidates for civil service offices



Manager Dmytro Romanovych



The mission of the group is to shape the conditions necessary for sustainable economic growth by advocating legislative initiatives and monitoring and assisting with their implementation. The main tasks are: to develop effective regulation and deregulation; to enhance competition, exports and international trade; to facilitate economic integration; to foster small and medium business growth; to improve the efficiency of state property management and privatization; to develop infrastructure and access to it; and to deal with land market issues.













Centre for Economic Strategy

Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting CASE-Ukraine

Center of Reform Support EasyBusiness

Ukrainian Centre for European Policy

A number of positive solutions advocated by the group were carried out in the course of 2016. The most noteworthy is the adoption of a package of laws to reform the system of state monitoring (control) by the Verkhovna Rada. It significantly liberalizes and simplifies the interaction between enterprises and state inspectorates. Moreover, a temporary moratorium on business inspections has been imposed until the end of 2017. The largest contribution to the adoption of this decision was made by CASE and the Reforms Support Center.

Adoption of draft law No. 4496 was a major accomplishment, as it simplifies the export of services for the Ukrainian

IT-sphere, freelancers, engineering companies, etc. (coalition of organizations USAID LEV, CES). The law No. 1405 on reforming corporate management of state enterprises was likewise adopted (CES).

Moreover, a pilot project in the area of foodstuffs pricing regulation has been launched (Reforms Support Center).

JULY

July 5

the Verkhovna Rada approved the appeal of the Prosecutor General for criminal prosecution, detention and arrest of MP Oleksandr Onyshchenko from the parliamentary group "Volia Narodu"

July 12

RPR organized a campaign «Beach near the Parliament, or MPs, Get Down to Work!» demanding that MPs continue their work and consider urgent draft laws before going on vacations





Tax and budget reform

The mission of the group is to build a transparent, effective, corruption-free, fair tax system that requires minimal time expenditures for the calculation and pay-

ment of taxes; to reduce the level of GDP redistribution

through the public sector to 37%; and to transform

the State Fiscal Service into a service agency. The

experts believe that the tax reform should aim to create conditions for economic growth by freeing up entrepreneurship potential of the Ukrainian nation and







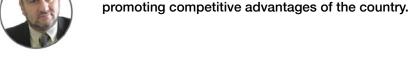


draft laws supported by the group









CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC

Lead

expert

Volodymyr

Dubrovskyi









Centre for Economic Strategy



Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting

CASE-Ukraine

Center of Reform Support

Ukrainian Centre for European Policy

In 2016, the experts and the organizations engaged in the group took part in the development of amendments to the Tax Code as part of the working group of the Ministry of Finance (No. 5368, adopted in full). In particular, Mykhailo Sokolov and Viacheslav Cherkashyn prepared important provisions concerning a unified VAT register, improved VAT administration, transformation of the SFS into a service agency, and liquidation of the tax militia. A large number of articles have been published to support this draft law.

The group experts participated in the development of key performance indicators (KPI) for the SFS, which have been approved by the Ministry of Finance (ISET, TCA, Viacheslav Cherkashyn), and in preparing the budget for 2017, having submitted their proposals (CES, IER).

Moreover, the experts advocated for a draft law on the verification of social payments and took part in the development and advocacy of a model of distributed income tax (Volodymyr Dubrovskyi, Viacheslav Cherkashyn).

The group has researched the issue of reforming the property tax in Ukraine (ISET, IER, Volodymyr Dubrovskyi, Viacheslav Cherkashyn), prepared analytical materials on the liberalization of the cash registers market, as

well as advocated and finalized draft law No. 4117 (ISET, TCA, Viacheslav Cherkashyn).

Working with experts from the Ministry of Finance, ISET, TCA, and group expert Viacheslav Cherkashyn developed six anticorruption campaigns approved by the government.

Communicating the concepts of reforms to business associations, coordinating developments between key stakeholders, and preparing analytical materials, statements, and open letters concerning negative changes proposed by the authorities have also been important components of the group's activities.

July 13

the Cabinet of Ministers set un the Commission for Senior Civil Service and approved its composition. which allowed it to start work

July 14

the Verkhovna Rada renamed the city of Kirovohrad into Kropyvnytskyi in accordance with the law on decommunization

July 15

NGO «Europe Without Barriers» conducted an advocacy campaign in the EU in support of the visafree regime for Ukraine

July 21

Forum "100 Days of the Government: First Assessments and Expectations". RPR brought together experts, public officials, diplomats and journalists to comment on the first hundred days of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine headed by Volodymyr Groysman





Reform of financial sector and pension system

The main goal of the reform of the financial sector and pension system is to develop a sustainable, transparent, and controllable financial sector which would contribute to a sustainable economic growth of Ukraine. The RPR group has been working to achieve the following strategic objectives: to build a stable and transparent banking system; to liberalize the movement of capital and the access of Ukrainian economic agents to foreign capital markets and financial services, and vice versa; to develop a transparent classic European insurance market; to modernize the pension system offering three pension schemes; and to improve institutional regulation of the financial market.

Lead experts
Maria Repko

Ruslan Chornyi



Vitaliy Melnychuk











ГССТ мескоут команыемескомичест трансформаціг

Centre for Economic Strategy

Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting

Ukrainian Insurance federation

Institute of Social and Economic Transformation

In 2016, the group actively advocated and communicated adoption of necessary legislative initiatives. Success has been achieved in a number of areas. In particular, the group took part in the research and advocacy campaign to abolish the 2% fee to the Pension Fund imposed on currency exchange operations (CES, IER). As a result, the Verkhovna Rada adopted the relevant law, and the President approved it.

The experts and the NGOs-members of the group took an active part in finalizing

draft law No. 3555 (financial restructuring). The President signed the version of the law proposed by RPR experts (CES, IER, "Financial Pulse", Ruslan Chornyi, Illia Neskhodovskyi).

The group participated in preparing proposals for the Fundamentals of monetary and credit policy for 2017 and for a mid-term perspective, which have later been adopted (CES, IER, UIF).

Advocacy and communication campaign of the group aimed at establishing the Board of the National Bank of Ukraine has also been effective.

The Ukrainian Insurance Federation (UIF) and Andriy Blinov contributed to the development and advocacy of draft law No. 1797-1 "On Insurance", adopted as a basis in the first reading.

The group has also contributed to the preparation, advocacy, and communication of draft law No. 4496 on removing administrative barriers to export of services, which was adopted by the Verkhovna Rada and signed by the President (CES, IER, CASE).

AUGUST

August 1

transition to the electronic public procurement system ProZorro was completed



August 12

the State Special Communications Service of Ukraine refused to grant the CISS certificate to the system of electronic declarations August 15

NABU claimed that the agency's detectives are being pressurized by the Prosecutor General's Office



Energy sector reform

The goal of the group is a country with a transparent energy market, consuming minimum amount of energy, with a proper level of comfort and safety of its citizens and efficient consumption of energy, with energy balance that meets the principles of sustainable development and ensures the use of cutting-edge highly efficient technologies. The group brings together 30 experts in the field of energy, energy efficiency, and housing, including independent experts and representatives of leading civil organizations.

Manager Anna Shumeiko



Lead experts Viktor Butok



Sviatoslav Pavlyuk





12



5 round tables



25+
discussions



draft laws supported by the group



law adopted



draft laws adopted in the first reading



governmental resolutions supported by the group

greencubator





Civil Network OPORA



National Ecological Centre of Ukraine



DiXi Group



Association on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving



Association
"Energy Efficient
Cities of Ukraine"



All-Ukrainian Sustainable Development and Investments Agency

Over the past year, more than a dozen governmental and other decisions supported and communicated by the group have been adopted.

In the field of energy strategy development, the group has successfully communicated the need to include the issue of Energy strategy update into the government's action plan. The Ministry of Energy and Coal Industry published a draft of this Strategy on December 19.

As to the development and regulation of energy markets, the Verkhovna Rada has adopted the Law "On the National Commission for State Regulation in Energy and Utilities" and draft law No. 4493 "On Electricity Market" in the first reading – both documents have been supported by the group. In addition, the issue of formation of coal prices according to the "Rotterdam +" formula has been brought up for wider discussion.

With the support of experts, the Verkhovna Rada adopted draft laws No. 4901 "On the Commercial Metering of Utilities" and No. 4549 "On the Functioning of ESCO Mechanism" in the first reading. The group has also managed to boost its activity related to the establishment of the Energy Efficiency Fund and the need of a permanent governmental financial support of energy efficiency for the population.

August 17

a campaign against the kidnapping and torturing of employees of the National Anticorruption Bureau of Ukraine «Hands Off NABU!»



August 18

on the eve of the first 100 days of the Prosecutor's General Office, TI Ukraine and RPR demanded that the PGO reported on the progress of investigation of corruption crimes dating back to the period of Yanukovych presidency

August 31

the RPR Roadmap of Reforms was published





The goal of the group is to create favorable conditions for the activity of independent and high-quality media, to align Ukrainian media legislation with the standards of the Council of Europe and the European Union, as well as to support and protect citizens' rights to information. Key reforms tackled by the group members are: launch of public broadcasting, de-statization of press, transparency of media ownership, improvement of electoral legislation related to campaigning and media activities, etc.







8 statements



round tables



draft laws supported by the group



draft law adopted







Detector Media



Centre UA



Internews Ukraine



Regional Press

Development Institute

In 2016, a number of progressive changes in the field of media reform have been accomplished. In particular, the Verkhovna Rada adopted the Law "On amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Public Television and Radio Broadcasting" regarding the procedure of incorporation of the SE "Ukrainian Studio of Television Films "Ukrtelefilm" developed with participation of Ihor Rozkladay, senior expert of the group. The document unblocked the reform

SEPTEMBER

and created conditions for transforming state-owned television and radio broadcasting organizations into branches of the would-be public broadcaster.

An important step was the approval of the Register of printed media and editorial offices which are being reformed during the first stage of de-statization. The editorial offices of state-owned and municipal media which expressed their readiness to become leaders of the reform finally got a chance to begin the process of transition.

For the first time, Ukrainian television and radio broadcasting companies published information about the structure of their ownership and the ultimate beneficiaries, as required by the Law on amendments to several laws of Ukraine on the transparency of media ownership and implementation of the principles of governmental policy in the field of television and radio broadcasting. The group experts worked on the development and advocacy of this law.

September 1

e-declaration system for disclosure of assets, income and expenditures of public officials was successfully launched and started its operation

September 15

first anniversary of the E-Data portal. The database includes over 30 million transactions of the State Treasury, and more than 9 million contracts, documents, and reports of budget administrators

September 20

the VRU rejected one of the key decentralization draft laws on governmental support of community amalgamation (No. 3390)

September 24

the fourth cycle of admission to the Open University of Reforms started





The goal of the group is to ensure effective use of state and local budgets based on the principles of transparency, accountability, and implementation of world's best practices. It is possible to accomplish this goal by focusing on high-quality planning of budget expenditures aimed at achieving the indicators set in the strategy "Ukraine 2020", the Coalition Agreement, the memorandum with the IMF, and other strategic documents, and, importantly, by monitoring the results.









conferences





public discussions





Centre for Political Studies and Analysis "EIDOS"



Civil Society Online

In 2016, there were positive changes in the public finances reform. In particular, short- and mid-term budget planning was launched. As a result, the State Budget for 2017 was adopted with due account for three-year planning.

The group experts have been working on further implementation of the reform of public finances to enhance transparency of public funds use by the government. As of December 31, 44% of budget administrators were registered on the portal of public finances "E-Data."

The main reason for the failure of implementation of the Law "On the Open Use of Public Funds" is insufficient level of sanctions. In order to increase the sanctions and expand the functionality of the portal, experts of the Eidos center prepared draft law No. 5061 on disclosure of information concerning the use of public funds. The subject parliamentary committee supported it and recommended it for consideration in the first reading.

In cooperation with the Eidos center, the UCMC, the Ministry of Finance, and a number of specialized groups, the RPR has for the first time organized a series of public discussions of the draft state budget for 2017. The discussions were held in the form of debates, allowing representatives of the authorities and the expert community to assess whether the budget provides sufficient funding for key reforms (healthcare, education, social sector, etc).

September 26

RPR presented the Roadmap of Reforms in Brussels (in partnership with the Institute of World Policy and the Ukrainian Think Tanks Liaison Office in Brussels)



September 27

the Ministry of Finance approved key performance indicators concerning reforms of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine

September 29

start of the informational and educational project «Reforms Have Sense»

September 30

amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine with regard to justice came into force



Healthcare system reform

The goal of the group is to promote healthcare reform in Ukraine in the following areas: granting autonomy to state-owned and municipal healthcare establishments; providing a proper level of funding; increasing accessibility of healthcare facilities; introducing professional medical self-government; improving the quality of healthcare; establishing a system of public health; extending the sphere of public control and improving the transparency of healthcare establishments.



11 statements



14 round tables



draft laws supported by the group



draft laws adopted







Lead expert Zoriana Chernenko







Forum "Health"

Life

Coalition of Civic Organizations "For Sober Ukraine"

In February, the "Healthcare Forum" initiated a discussion of the concept of healthcare financing reform proposed by the Ministry of Healthcare. The experts supported the concept, and the Cabinet of Ministers approved it in November.

On April 21, the Parliament adopted draft law No. 2309-d on amendments to several legislative acts of Ukraine to improve the healthcare legislation which promotes autonomy of healthcare establishments. The group experts have been advocating for a reform since 2015 and they took part in the development of this draft law.

OCTOBER

The group has been preparing proposals for the Ministry of Healthcare on how to reduce the risk of corruption in the system of medical assistance and healthcare. The experts participated in events under the initiative "Together Against Corruption" and in those organized by the Rada's Healthcare Committee aimed at introducing self-government among dentists.

In September RPR partner Healing War Scars, Inc launched the joint project "National advocacy campaign for veterans' rights". The project's aim is to develop regulations to improve the provision of psychological and socio-medical

services to veterans and civilians who suffered as a result of the armed conflict in Eastern Ukraine.

Another important step was the public discussion of the government's draft resolutions introducing the system of reimbursement and referential prices, and the public discussion of the strategy of healthcare development in Kyiv.

October 6

the public organized the campaign "Operation Usurpation" near the Parliament demanding the rejection of the draft law No.4370-1 by Artur Herasymov amending the Law of Ukraine "On civil service"



the Verkhovna Rada extended the moratorium on land sale until the end of 2017

October 11

RPR presented the Roadmap of Reforms for 2016–2017





Educational reform. Reform in the sphere of science and research

The goal of the group is to reform the Ukrainian education sector to provide high-quality services that meet the needs of students and society overall. The main areas of work are: incorporation of this goal in the educational legislation, specifically, in the new Laws "On Education", "On Professional Education", and "On Comprehensive Secondary Education"; preparation of amendments to the laws on higher education; and support of implementation of the Laws "On Higher Education" and "On Research and R&D Activities."



2 statements



5 round tables



draft laws supported by the group









Ukrainian Science Club

In 2016, the RPR group took part in finalizing the Law "On Education", both for the first and second reading. In autumn, the Verkhovna Rada adopted this law in the first reading. In addition, the group helped to prepare materials for the new Law "On Comprehensive Secondary Education" and the amendments to the Law "On Higher Education."

Similarly, the experts helped to develop the Cabinet of Ministers' draft resolution "On Licensing Terms for Educational Activities." However, after they provided meaningful comments on the document, it was withdrawn from consideration. Proposals concerning the resolution "On the Procedure of Scholarship Provision" are also noteworthy. The experts provided a number of comments which were taken into account.

Finally, the group took part in developing new standards of higher education and a number of decrees of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The experts issued their recommendations concerning the roadmap of reforms in education and science in 2016-2017 which became the basis of mid-term action plans of the MES and the Cabinet of Ministers in relevant areas. The

group has also participated in the development of an anticorruption action plan for the MES and monitoring of its implementation within the initiative "Together Against Corruption."

October 19-28

the Cabinet of RPR members took
Ministers called part in the workshop
a competition to
fill the offices of state secretaries in eight ministries

RPR members took
part in the workshop
«How to reform the
post-Soviet countries»
held in Prague



October 30

the first wave of electronic declaration was completed. 115,568 officials submitted information about their earnings in 2015

October 31

the President vetoed the European integration laws on the environment («On the environmental impact assessment» No.1639-VIII and «On strategic environmental assessment» No.1640-VIII)



The goal of the group is to shift the cultural paradigm from serving ideology or private interests to creating conditions for the functioning and growth of culture (cultural heritage preservation, modernization of cultural processes and innovative thinking). The main task of the group is to shape a legal framework that would recognize culture as a foundation of social life, the basis for modernization of Ukraine, and a key factor in preventing social conflicts.



Viktoria Kolesnikova





Lead expert Natalia Kryvda



8 statements



4 round tables



5 draft laws



draft law adopted







Ukrainian Archaeologists Association

CONGRESS OF CULTURAL ACTIVISTS





Wikimedia Ukraine

One of the major results of the group's work was finalizing the long-term strategy of cultural development, in collaboration with Culture 2025 and the Congress of Cultural Activists, and its presentation together with the Nestor Group. In addition, a Memorandum with the Ministry of Culture including a top-priority action plan was signed.

The law No. 955-19 was adopted, introducing a competitive selection of heads of cultural institutions. The experts and the NGOs-members of the group have been monitoring the competitive procedures conducted in accordance with the law and submitted their proposed improvements to the ministries and the parliamentary committee.

The group participated in developing an anticorruption action plan in cooperation with the Cabinet of Ministers (under the initiative "Together Against Corruption") and prepared its proposals concerning the draft laws to ensure transparency of collective management organizations.

NOVEMBER

November 3

the Parliament adopted a series of laws that significantly simplify the business environment and promote partnership between the government and businesses

November 11

the Public Integrity Council was established



November 17

the EU ambassadors gave the green light for the consideration of visa-free regime between Ukraine and the EU (coordination of the EU stand to hold interinstitutional negotiations)



The goals of the group are: to reform governmental youth policy of Ukraine according to common sense and the standards of the European Union and the UN; to create a healthy environment for youth activists – participants of the Revolution of Dignity - in order to implement reforms; to develop new tools to support a transparent governmental youth policy; to develop a network of youth centers; to initiate and organize monitoring research on the activity of youth organizations; and to conduct public opinion polls on the issues of youth.







Lead expert Yuriy Yuzych



statement



11 round tables



draft laws supported by the group



2 laws adopted



PLAST – National Scout Organization of Ukraine



Foundation of Regional Initiatives (FRI)



Youth Nationalistic Congress



Union of
Ukrainian Youth
in Ukraine



Ukrainian Forum of Philanthropists

In 2016, the group – in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports – held six open discussions of the draft law "On Youth." The NGOs-members of the group contributed to regional discussions of this document.

The experts of the group participated in the preparation and monitoring of projects of all-Ukrainian youth and children organizations financed by the Ministry of Youth and Sports within the trilateral project of the International Renaissance Foundation, the Ministry of Youth and Sports, and the RPR group "Youth Policy."

Moreover, partnering with the Civil Sector of the Euromaidan, Plast – National Scout Organization of Ukraine held public discussions of documents regulating the activity of youth centers in Ukraine.

Another member of the group – the Ukrainian Philanthropists Forum – has advocated for adopting a law on charitable donations via SMS.

November 23

the Cabinet of Ministers approved the Register of printed media and editorial offices to be reformed during the first stage of de-statization. The Register included 244 state-owned and municipal printed media

the first meeting of the Public Integrity Council the President signed the Law of Ukraine «On the National Commission for State Regulation in Energy and Utilities»

November 29

the RPR took part in the 5th Forum of Civil Society Development





The goal of the group is to overcome the consequences of totalitarianism and to form social immunity against human rights violations. Key objectives are: to restore the rights of victims of communist repressions; to provide open access to archives; to maintain the memory about the struggle against totalitarianism and its repressive methods; to shape a coherent policy concerning public holidays; and to improve language legislation.



3 statements



round tables



draft laws supported by the group





Lead expert Igor Rozkladaj



Centre for Research of Liberation Movement

One of the major achievements of 2016 was the implementation of de-communization laws and the organization of public awareness campaigns on legislative changes. Last year, the Verkhovna Rada adopted 12 resolutions on renaming 986 population centers (including 32 towns), 25 districts, and 51,493 toponymic objects (streets, squares, parks).

As a result of the group's advocacy campaign, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a resolution establishing the Sectoral State Archive of the Ukrainian Institute of National Remembrance. It will collect archival documents from repressive agencies of the USSR in one place.

Another important achievement was the registration and launch of the National Memorial Complex of Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred – the Museum of the Revolution of Dignity.

DECEMBER '

December 7

the Cabinet of Ministers appointed Anton Yanchuk as head of the National Agency of Ukraine for identifying, tracing, and management of assets derived from corruption and other crimes

December 8

the suspension mechanism for visafree regime was approved by the European Council and the European Parliament, which has become an important intermediate step towards the abolition of the visa regime between Ukraine and EU

December 18

elections in the amalgamated territorial communities. By the end of 2016, 368 amalgamated territorial communities were formed in Ukraine

December 21

meeting of the Assembly of NGOsmembers of the RPR. A new RPR Board was elected



The goal of the group is to create a system of environmental management to preserve the environment for future generations. To this end, it is necessary to establish sustainable development and use of natural resources; to ensure liability for violations of environmental protection regulations; to create a transparent and accountable system of environmental management and sustainable use of natural resources.



9 statements



round tables



draft laws supported by the group



draft laws adopted







Lead expert Dmytro Skrylnikov



Bureau of Ecologic Investigations



Environment-People-Law



MAMA-86

Over the past year, the experts of the group have been working on the advocacy of important draft laws. In particular, they have managed to lobby adoption of Law No. 1641-VIII, dealing with implementation of integrated approaches to water basin management and Law No. 980-VIII on ratification of the Protocol on pollutant release and transfer registry.

Another key achievement was the adoption of draft laws No. 4551, 1769, 2023, 3445, 2604, which lay down the foundation for managing and protecting the

Nature Reserve Fund objects based on the principles of biodiversity preservation and sustainable development.

The Parliament also adopted two systemic laws in the field of environment: "On Strategic Environmental Assessment" and "On Environmental Impact Assessment." However, they have not come into force yet, as the President had imposed a veto on them.

Moreover, the draft law on amendments and supplements to the Law "On the Fundamentals (Strategy) of Governmental Environmental Policy of Ukraine – 2020" has been discussed with public participation.



the Verkhovna Rada adopted the Law of Ukraine «On the State Budget of Ukraine



the Verkhovna Rada adopted amendments to the Tax Code – law No. 5368 - which was developed with public participation and contains a number of important anticorruption regulations

December 28

the Government approved the Statute of a Public Broadcaster



The goal of the group is to form an integrated and comprehensive system of e-governance in Ukraine in the following key areas: formation of a consolidated vision of e-governance development in Ukraine; access to public information and open data at all levels of power; provision of transparent and effective electronic administrative services for businesses and individuals; improvement of efficiency of governmental agencies through the introduction of an electronic interaction system.



4 statements



8 round tables



draft laws supported by the group







Lead expert Oleh Levchenko



Podolian Agency for Regional Development

In 2016, the group took part in developing the following regulatory acts regarding electronic governance:

- Resolution No. 606 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on certain issues concerning electronic interaction between the governmental electronic information resources;
- Decree No. 686-p of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On the Accession of Ukraine to the International Open Data Charter":
- Joint decree of the Ministry of Regional Policy and the Ministry of Economic Development on approving the procedure of integration of information systems of governmental agencies and local self-government bodies into the Unified State Registry of Administrative Services (registered by the Ministry of Justice as No. 1315/29445);
- Decree No. 918-p of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approving the Concept of Electronic Services System Development in Ukraine").

Moreover, the experts contributed to the open data development roadmap for 2017 and facilitated introduction of new electronic administrative services by the State E-Governance Agency in the spheres of construction, land management, environment, social sector, and entrepreneurship.









The goal of the group is to strengthen democracy in Ukraine; develop e-democracy concepts and tools to fix the drawbacks and enhance the benefits of representative and direct democracies; and to give concrete substance to Article 5 of the Constitution of Ukraine.





Manager Dmytro Khutkyi





Lead expert Sergiy Loboyko

enter for Innovations Development

Centre for Innovations Development at NaUKMA

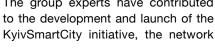
In 2016, the group helped to develop a number of regulatory acts. More specifically, they worked on draft law on amendments to the Law "On Citizens' Appeals", regulations on processing e-petitions by local authorities, draft resolution "On Public Budget of the Local Authorities", as well as proposals to the Action Plan of the Open Government Partnership Initiative.

The group experts have contributed

association "Spilno" ("Together"), and the establishment and functioning of an Open Coalition for E-Democracy Development in Ukraine.

Another important achievement was the launch of new e-democracy tools, namely, the Public Budget of Kyiv, E-Petitions 2.0 for Kyiv City Council, and the governmental e-portal.

The group has done important and substantial analytical work. In the course of the year, a nationwide public opinion poll on e-petitions and the study "The dialogues about the social policy of e-democracy» were conducted, the People's Agenda was developed, and the draft concept of e-democracy and the draft roadmap of reforms were prepared. An e-democracy digest and a series of analytical reports on effective e-governance were published. In addition, the group offered consultations for municipal authorities and lectures for students.











The goal of the group is to have governmental security policy meet present-day challenges and threats. It is important to create a comprehensive system of legislation and a uniform system of strategic forecasting and planning in the area of national security; to improve the national policy on information, radiological, chemical, bacteriological, and nuclear safety; to provide adequate social security and safeguards to military service personnel; to ensure civilian democratic control over the security and defense sector; to create opportunities for citizens to participate in the defense of their homeland as part of territorial defense units.







Lead expert Valeriy Sadovskyi



statements



round tables



draft laws supported by the group



law adopted







Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation



Institute of World Policy

In 2016, the group – in partnership with experts from the Ministry of Defense – developed five anticorruption measures for the defense sector which were later approved by the Cabinet of Ministers.

The group experts have taken part in the development and advocacy of draft laws No. 4921 on amendments to several laws of Ukraine concerning territorial

defense, No. 2488 on the specificity of procurement of goods, works, and services in order to meet the needs of defense, No. 2070 on amendments and supplements to certain legislative acts of Ukraine on border protection issues, as well as the Strategic Defense Bulletin of Ukraine.

Furthermore, the group has been working on analytical materials. In particular, the experts conducted studies "How to determine the priorities of governmental security policy" and "Information security. How the government can raise international awareness of the situation in Ukraine."







Constitutional reform

The goal of the group is to consolidate constitutionalism as a state ideology. The main objectives are to improve the constitutional culture, to develop comprehensive constitutional changes through an inclusive process, to hold wide public consultations in line with the recommendations of the Venice Commission, and to amend the Constitution of Ukraine in accordance with the constitutional procedure. The constitutional amendments are aimed at laying down realistic socio-economic rights of citizens in the Constitution, establishing effective mechanisms to guarantee constitutional rights and freedoms, and instituting a mechanism of government capable of effectively administering the country for the benefit of the Ukrainian society.



Manager Yulia Kyrychenko



Lead expert Ihor Koliushko



Lead expert Volodymyr Shapoval



Centre of Policy and Legal Reform

The group experts participated in drafting the amendments to the Constitution regarding judiciary. On June 2, 2016, the Parliament adopted draft law No. 3524 "On Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine (regarding judiciary)."

The group has also conducted active analytical and educational activities. In particular, the Centre of Policy and Legal Reform together with the RPR organized a nationwide information campaign "ConstitutiON" in 2016 to raise awareness of the constitutional amendments and to inform

citizens about the importance of each stage of the constitutional process. The experts conducted awareness campaigns in 20 regional centers, having cooperated with 300 regional media members.

On the eve of Constitution Day, the group organized a public concert and performance "Chronicles: The Constitution." The event took place at the National Philharmonic Society of Ukraine.



5 statements



22 round tables



draft laws supported by the group



law adopted



61 regional TV programs



38 articles



9 analytical reports



contest of students' essays



media trainings









The goal of the group is to implement reforms in Kyiv, in particular, to increase the quality of services provided to the community by the local authorities and to engage the community in local decision-making. They also aim to facilitate reforms in areas with high corruption risks to minimize corruption and ensure efficient use of property, land, and community budget.









Родина

Rodyna

Centre of Policy and Legal Reform

Centre for Economic Strategy

All-Ukrainian Association of Small and Medium Businesses "Fortress"

Kyiv. In addition, the municipal program "Turbota" («Care») was amended

to introduce a mechanism of social service procurement in Kyiv.

Another important achievement was the adoption of regulation on the competitive selection of candidates to fill the offices of heads of municipal enterprises in Kyiv.

The group experts contributed to the development of draft law No. 5364

on amendments to several legislative acts of Ukraine to reform the sphere of parking.

round tables

supported by the group

of Kyiv City Council supported by the

resolutions of

adopted

Kyiv City Council

It was also a significant achievement that since March 2016, 100% of revenues from the fees for temporary use of advertising spaces on municipal property have been transferred to the budgetary account (excluding VAT).

The group has participated in the development and advocacy of key strategic documents for Kyiv. In 2016, the concept of establishing centers of administrative services in Kyiv for 2016-2018 was approved. The framework program of administrative reforms and implementation of anticorruption action plan in Kyiv has also been adopted, as well as the procedure of engaging and determining the amount of equity of contractors in the creation and development of social and transport infrastructure of







Roadmap of Reforms





On October 11, 2016, the Roadmap of Reforms – a document outlining tasks for the Parliament, the Cabinet of Ministers, local self-government bodies, and other authorities by the end of 2017 – was presented. In this publication, RPR experts analyzed key issues and updated the goals of Ukraine on its path towards political, legal, economic, and social reforms.

Experts from all 23 groups of the RPR worked on this document.

The following reformist challenges are anticipated by the end of 2017: proper implementation of constitutional changes regarding judiciary justice; establishment of a new Supreme Court; engagement of the public in the assessment of judges and competitive selection to the new courts through the Public Integrity Council; and formation of anticorruption courts which will make the punishment for high-profile corruption inevitable. Organization of fair competition to fill the offices of state secretaries of the Cabinet of Ministers and the ministries is important, as well as launching of an independent public broadcaster, de-statization of press, establishment of the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI), and transferring investigatory functions from the prosecutor's office to the SBI. A new electoral law should be adopted. It is also necessary to reduce the tax burden on payroll, streamline tax administration, and enhance transparency and accountability of the National Commission for State Regulation in Energy and Utilities, the national energy regulator.

The RPR identified seven top-priority areas until the end of 2017, namely:



anticorruption



judicial reform



public administration reform



reform of the local self-government and decentralization of



electoral law reform



reform of law enforcement agencies



the package of economic reforms

Open University of Reforms





60 students



60 academic hours



program events



540 hours of volunteer work



10 students hired The Open University of Reforms is an educational project implemented jointly by the Reanimation Package of Reforms and the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law. It is part of the educational dimension of RPR's activities and aims at training civil activists by involving them in the work of the RPR and its members and partners.

In 2016, two calls to join the Open University of Reforms were announced. The first class was enrolled from March until June, and the second – from September until December. A total of 543 candidates submitted applications to join OUR in 2016.

Sixty students were selected and they listened to dozens of lectures led by RPR experts, public leaders, and professional trainers.

In the course of their studies the participants were working as volunteers in more than ten NGOs and the RPR Secretariat. Students participated

in the forums of "CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!" campaign and the Open Parliament initiative. Additionally, they have joined the CHESNO civil movement, the campaign "CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!", and the initiatives of the RPR-Kyiv group.

The students took an active part in the preparation and conduct of direct action campaigns organized by the RPR Secretariat, RPR groups, and the organizations-members of the coalition.

Moreover, in an effort to introduce the public to issues of reforms, the University held a number of public lectures on anticorruption and judicial reforms, attracting 170 attendants Out of 30 students of the second OUR class of 2016, ten were hired by RPR member organizations even before the training was complete!







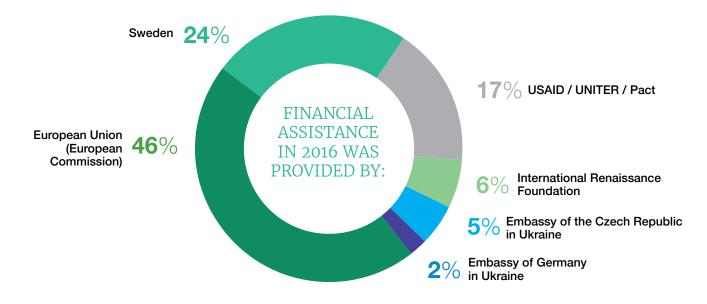




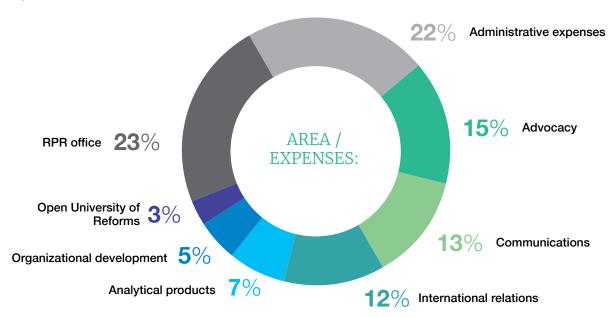
Financing of RPR activities in 2016

The RPR Coalition sets high standards not only for politicians, but also for the public sector, and operates on the principles of transparency and public accountability for the use of donations.

The activities of the RPR and its Secretariat in 2016 were financed in the total amount of **311,672 EUR**. Effective use of these funds allows us to facilitate the development of a democratic European country.



The key areas of the RPR activities in 2016 were as follows: advocacy, communication, international relations. Expenses for the organizational development of RPR member organizations, the development of analytical products, the support of the Open University of Reforms, and the RPR office maintenance are indicated as separate categories in the total amount of financing. Administrative expenses include project management and the functioning of the RPR Secretariat.



Financing of the RPR activities is based on the principles of transparency, non-overlapping of financing, honesty, responsibility, fairness, accountability, and equal opportunities.

Given its form as a coalition and the lack of a legal entity status, the RPR engages financial resources on the basis of decisions of the RPR Board through NGOs-members. They ensure that all rules and regulations of the coalition and the decisions of its managing bodies are followed.

The following NGOs provided the largest organizational and financial support of the RPR activities in 2016:

| CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY AND RULE OF LAW | CENTREUA CONTRE DE ONDRES ACCIONS MOST CIONANO A R. 1964/ARGAD OPINANO, A | institute W of world of policy herryy calcool nealings | Centre of Policy and Legal Reform | TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL UKRAINE |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| NGO "Center for Democracy and Rule of Law" | NGO «Centre UA» | NGO "Institute of World Policy" | NGO "Centre of Policy and Legal Reform" | NGO "Transparency International Ukraine" |
| 72% | 13% | 7% | 6% | 2% |

Financial reports of these organizations are audited annually, guaranteeing transparent use of the funds received from the donors.



Project coordinator representing
CEDEM
Natalia Yevchenko



Project manager representing
CEDEM
Viktor Artemenko



Project manager representing
Centre UA
Oleksandra Kryvoruchko

^{*} The financial information provided shows actual expenses for the activities of the RPR and its Secretariat and does not cover the financing of the RPR member organizations promoting specific reforms.

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72

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS



23

EXPERT GROUPS



300+

EXPERTS



10/4

LAWS ADOPTED
WITH RPR'S ADVOCACY
SUPPORT



200+

EVENTS
IN DIFFERENT
FORMATS



50+

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS (internationa institutions, organizations and diplomatic missions)



40608

FOLLOWERS ON FACEBOOK



18

TRAININGS



33

EXPERT ROUND TABLES

