



## “Government’s First Year: Expert Opinions”

*The opinion poll “Government’s First Year: Expert Opinions” was conducted among the expert community by Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation in partnership with the Reanimation Package of Reforms on April 2-5, 2017. A total of 51 experts from the RPR member organizations have been polled.*

- Experts have given mostly average scores to the Government of Groysman for the first year of their activities; the average score is 2.7 points on a five-point scale.
- The experts singled out the following biggest successes of the Government: introduction of e-declaration of property and income of civil servants and the launch of reforms in the healthcare sector. Transition to public procurement through the electronic system “Prozorro”, raising the minimum wage, progressive changes in tax legislation, overall macroeconomic stabilization, and continuation of decentralization have also been marked as positive achievements.
- The failure of the energy sector reform and the delay with the land reform and the introduction of agricultural land market have been named the biggest failures in the Government’s first year. The situation with the increase in the minimum wage is controversial, as some experts consider it as the Government’s success, while others – as its failure.
- Most respondents believe that over the past year the Government has had more failures than successes, but, according to one third of the experts, the numbers of successes and failures were almost equal.
- According to the respondents, the most successful ministers are acting minister of healthcare Uliana Suprun and minister of finance Oleksandr Danyliuk. Pavlo Petrenko (Minister of Justice), Liliya Hrynevych (Minister of Education and Science), and Volodymyr Omelian (Minister of Infrastructure) were also mentioned as one of the most successful ministers.
- Among the Government’s priorities the experts singled out the fight against corruption, including the issue of the NAPC re-staffing and increasing its responsibility for checking the declarations of civil servants. The healthcare reform, the land and the tax reforms, as well as reorganization of ministries and development of clear-cut strategic plans of the ministries are also considered to be of priority.

## RESULTS OF THE OPINION POLL

### 1. How would you assess the first year of Government headed by Mr. Groyzman?

	Number of responses
1 – very poor	4
2	13
3	27
4	7
5 – excellent	0
<b>Average score</b>	<b>2.7</b>

### 2. What would you consider to be the biggest achievements of the Government over the past year? (please mark no more than five statements)

	Number of mentions
Introduction of e-declaration of property and income of civil servants	10
Launch of reforms in the healthcare sector	9
Introduction of public procurement through the electronic system “Prozorro”	8
Progressive changes in the tax law (electronic unified register of VAT refund, liquidation of the tax police, etc)	8
Increase in the minimum wage (to 3,200 UAH)	8
Macroeconomic stabilization and holding the exchange rate of the national currency	7
Continuation of the decentralization reform	7
Introduction of electronic services and e-governance in the Cabinet of Ministers (in particular, within the governmental and public initiative “Together against Corruption”)	5
Launch of the secondary education reform	5
Procurement of medical drugs and healthcare products through the international organizations	4
Transition to market tariffs for heat, electricity, and gas supply	4
Launch of the governmental program on providing free medical drugs (“Affordable Medication”)	3
Reform of the system of civil service and public administration	3
Diversification of energy supply and reducing dependence on Russia in the sphere of gas supply.	3
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nationalization of Privatbank – 2</li> <li>• Abolishing regulation of prices for socially significant food products – 2</li> <li>• Strengthening of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the defense capability of the country – 2</li> <li>• Good communication with the public and the expert community – 2</li> <li>• Economic growth – 2</li> <li>• Start of road repairs and renovation of transport infrastructure – 2</li> <li>• Continuation of the police reform – 2</li> <li>• Development of projects related to new export markets – 2</li> <li>• Stable activity of the Cabinet of Ministers – 2</li> </ul> Introduction of mid-term budget planning; introduction of the system of marriage registration on the same day when the application is submitted; timely submission of the draft budget; establishment of the Credit and Export Agency; launch of public broadcasting; launch of the reform at the Ukrainian Railways enterprise;	

cancellation of registration of foreign investments; formal unbundling of Naftogaz; terminating trade relations with the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk regions; development of the coal mines liquidation scheme; identifying priority steps for further reforms - 1 mention each	

**3. What do you consider the biggest failures of the Government? (please mark no more than five statements)**

	<b>Number of mentions</b>
Delay with the land reform and the introduction of agricultural land market	8
Failure of the energy sector reform and securing energy independence of the country	8
Delay with the pension reform	6
Increase in the minimum wage (to 3,200 UAH)	6
Poor business climate and negative appeal of the Ukrainian economy for international investors	6
Failure of the program of privatization of state-owned enterprises	5
Delay with systemic economic reforms	5
Slow reform of civil service and public administration system	5
Blocking of the healthcare reform and the absence of a healthcare minister	4
Imitation of fight with systemic high-ranking corruption	4
Poor living standards and growth of poverty	4
Keeping a high level of monopolization in the key economic sectors	4
Sharp increase in prices for all housing and utility services for the population	3
Discrediting of the e-declaration of property and income of civil servants	3
Incomplete judicial reform and a high level of corruption in the judicial system	3
Failure of the police reform	3
Obligating inactive individual entrepreneurs to pay a single social fee	3
Ineffective system of verifying social aid paid to the citizen	3
Slowdown of the decentralization reform	3
<p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drawbacks in the public procurement system “Prozorro” – 2</li> <li>• Ineffective budget policy – 2</li> <li>• Delay with the educational reform – 2</li> <li>• A lack of strategy for reforming and developing culture – 2</li> <li>• Powerful impact of oligarchs on the governmental decision-making – 2</li> <li>• A lack of strategy for reforming and developing the scientific sector – 2</li> <li>• A lack of strategy concerning the occupied territories – 2</li> <li>• Failure of the NAPC – 2</li> <li>• Poor coordination between the governmental ministries – 2</li> </ul> <p>Lack of a socially oriented economic development strategy; failure to ensure systemic support of the Government’s initiatives by the Parliament; postponement of a visa-free regime; terrible roads; low salaries of civil servants; lack of attention to the reform of ministries; underdeveloped “passport reform”; poor use of the MIC to strengthen the Ukrainian army; lack of effective employment policies; institutional weakness of the state apparatus; failed competition to fill the office of head of the Ukrenergo company; the scandal surrounding the PhD thesis of the wife of Mr. Kyrylenko, Minister of Culture; lack of proper information policy;</p>	

failure to overcome the problems related to amber extraction in Volyn region; criminal proceedings against Mr. Nasirov; blowing up the scandal with waste treatment in Lviv; failure to formulate the state-building idea; competition for the top positions in the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) – 1 mention each	
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**4. What has, in your opinion, prevailed in the Government's activity: successes or failures?**

	Number of responses
1 – there were much more successes	0
2 – successes have somewhat prevailed	6
3 – there was an equal number of successes and failures	16
4 – failures have somewhat prevailed	12
5 – there were much more failures	15
6 – hard to say	2

**5. Who of the ministers was the most successful, in your opinion? (please mark no more than five statements)**

	Number of mentions
Acting Minister of Healthcare Uliana Suprun	22
Minister of Finance Oleksandr Danyliuk	22
Minister of Justice Pavlo Petrenko	10
Minister of Education and Science Liliya Hrynevych	9
Minister of Infrastructure Volodymyr Omelian	8
Minister of Foreign Affairs Pavlo Klimkin	5
First Vice Prime Minister – Minister of Economic Development and Trade Stepan Kubiv	4
Vice Prime Minister – Minister of Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Utilities of Ukraine Hennadiy Zubko	4
Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman	3
Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minister of Energy and Coal Mining of Ukraine Ihor Nasalyk – 2</li> <li>• Minister of Culture Yevhen Nyshchuk – 2</li> <li>• Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade Maksym Nefiodov – 2</li> <li>• Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers Oleksandr Sayenko - 2</li> </ul> Andriy Reva, Taras Kutovyi; Stepan Poltorak; Ivanka Klympush-Tsyntsadze; Vadym Chernysh; Ostap Semerak; Heorhiy Tuka; Arsen Avakov; Ihor Zhdanov – 1 mention each.	17

**6. What action, in your opinion, should by undertaken by the Government as soon as possible? (please mark no more than five statements)**

	Number of mentions
To intensify the fight against corruption, in particular, to raise the issue of re-staffing the NAPC and to increase its responsibility for checking the declarations of civil servants	11
To implement a full-scale healthcare reform, in particular, to lower prices for medical drugs by simplifying licensing procedures and procuring medicines without intermediaries	10

To reorganize the ministries; to develop clear-cut strategic plans of the ministries	8
To implement the land reform; to lift the moratorium on the sale of agricultural land	8
To implement the tax reform; to liberalize tax policy	8
To deregulate business; to facilitate the development of small and medium enterprises	7
To launch the pension reform	7
To implement the reform of the energy sector; to develop a proper energy strategy; to encourage the development of alternative energy; to liquidate monopoly in the energy markets	7
To establish the Financial Investigation Service; to reform the customs and the SFS	6
To focus on regional policy and decentralization	6
To monetize subsidies; to set up registries of social aid recipients	6
To complete the educational reform and the reform of research and innovation sphere	6
To complete the reform of state property; to continue privatization	6
To continue implementation of the civil service reform	5
To reform the military-industrial complex	5
To complete the reform of the internal affairs agencies	4
To establish cooperation with the Parliament to ensure support of the governmental draft laws	4
To dismiss / to re-staff the government	4
To 'put things right' in the agricultural sector	4
To find a way to lower utility rates for the population	3
To encourage economic growth; to aim at the GDP rise	3
To support the judicial reform	3
Other	22