

# Reanimation Package of Reforms

## Newsletter # 2 (June)

### Glad to present the new issue of Reanimation Package of Reforms Newsletter

Reanimation Package of Reforms is a public initiative created in winter 2014 on Maydan aiming to transform the remonstrative energy of people to the creative one - reformist. The initiative has united approximately 200 experts, civil society activists and human rights defenders from the leading think tanks, NGOs and members of protest groups that emerged in Ukraine during EuroRevolution. Reanimation Package of Reforms aims at developing reform bills, seek their approval, and promote approved documents and reform ideas throughout Ukraine among all segments of the population. The RPR activists and experts work on bills with deputies of Interfaction Parliamentary group "Platform of Reforms" and members of the government through the Reform Support Centre at the Cabinet of Ministers.



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## Cooperation between RPR and Parliament

The RRP experts have achieved the approval in general and in the first reading of several laws as follows:

- the [Law 4583 «On Metrology and Metrological Activity»](#), approved by the Parliament in general;
- the [Law 4585 «On Standardization»](#), approved by the Parliament in general;
- the Law 4756 «On Cooperation of Local Communities», approved by the Parliament in general;
- the [Law 2012a «On the Open Use of Public Funds»](#), adopted in the first reading;
- the adoption of the Law 1187-2 «On Higher Education» (includes autonomy of universities, the cooperation between education and the labor market, mobility of students and the development of higher education system according to European standards).



Also the RRP anti-corruption group activists have managed to prevent the adoption of state procurement corruption schemes by the Verkhovna Rada: the RRP experts insisted that the Parliament of Ukraine excluded from the previously adopted mobilization law (Law #4785) a norm, that allowed shadow spendings on defense. According to the paragraph 11 of the bill, the Ministry of Defence, Armed Forces of Ukraine and law enforcement services were allowed to make any purchases at its discretion in the case of «a crisis, that threatens the national security of Ukraine, the announcement of mobilization and/or the implementation of martial law conditions». In the case of a such kind of procurement, the military customers were not required to give them to publicity, but only to report the government. Thanks to the efforts of the RRP activists, the parliamentarians have excluded the potentially corruptive norm from the mobilization law.

On the 3rd of July the RRP activists and experts have held the street action called «The Puppeteers of Judicial System» near the building of the Parliament.



They showed the judicial system of Ukraine, which is managed by the odious MP Kivalov. Despite the fact, that a new coalition was formed in the the Parliament in February, and the heads of the dictatorial regime have escaped from the country, Kivalov still holds the position of the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on the Rule of Law and Justice making doing everithing to prevent the Ukraine judicial system reformation and insisting on approval of laws, written by Yanukovich and members of his Administration. Under the pressure of activists the Parliament failed the approval of Law #2522 on amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine on the strengthening of judges' independence guarantees.

### RPR experts in collaboration with the Interfaction Parliamentary group “Platform of Reforms” failed to do:

Though it was on the agenda, the Law #4829 «On the Amendments to Some Legislative Acts according the Improvement of Measures for Restoring of Confidence to Judicature» did not come to consideration at the session hall of the Verkhovna Rada, and the Law #3541 «On Public Prosecutor’s Office» was not on the agenda. The RRP offers the MPs to put both bills on the agenda in July.

The RRP activists have held several meetings with the Prosecutor General, international experts, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe Thorbjorn Jagland, the Commissioner Stefan Fule, who insisted on the adoption of the Law «On Public Prosecutor’s Office» in the version supported by RRP experts, not the one suggested by the Prosecutor General. In fact, Mr. Yarema does not want to give up the general oversight function, which is a vestige of the Soviet system. European prosecutors are much more successful in their fight against corruption without such broad powers preserved by the Ukrainian Prosecutor General.

## Lobbying the new electoral law and early elections to the Parliament

At a press conference in the Crisis media center as well as [at a press-point in the Parliament lobby](#) the activists from the electoral law reform group called the Parliament and the President to ensure the early parliamentary elections according to the new law, which provides the election of people's deputies by open lists.



*Denys Kovryzhenko expert RPR and Andriy Shevchenko, Member of Parliament*

On the 25th of June the activists showed the public and the media the way the elections to the Parliament will be held if the existing electoral law is not changed. The participants brought the garbage bags, near the Administration of the President, on which nice cats were painted. Election by closed lists means election of «a cat in the bag»: there is a nice top-five list, and then the points in each electoral list are distributed not by the voters but by the party functionaries. The activists have asked the President for public support of the electoral law reform for the upcoming parliamentary elections by open lists.



*RPR activists required changes to electoral laws near the Administration of the President of Ukraine*

## RPR Cooperation with the Cabinet of Ministers

The RRP administrative reform group experts and the minister of justice have tested the implementation of the regulation of the Cabinet of ministers of Ukraine «On the list of administrative services provided through the administrative services center (ASC)», submitted by RRP. The RRP experts, the minister of justice and media visited the ASC in the Dnipro district of Kyiv. At this center the minister of justice Pavlo Petrenko applied for international passport. The entire procedure, including documents registration and photographs, took twenty minutes. The journalists received an evidence, that the ASC in Kyiv works effectively.

The RRP experts participated in the governmental Anti-Corruption Strategy discussion and expressed their suggestions, which have been taken into account. The RRP experts also started participation in a working group on the implementation of state funding of political parties and strengthening of the financial transparency of all members of the political process under the minister of justice.

## The RRP and the Constitutional process

The RRP constitutional reform activists have held a round table on «Constitutional Reform: implementation scenarios, their risks and threats», where the amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine in terms of decentralization of public administration in Ukraine and local government reforms were discussed. The participants also demanded from MPs to eliminate the Interim commission for the Constitution amending as a closed structure, and proposed the President to create a relevant body working on the principles of open society for the reformation of the Constitution in the manner when the most will have independent experts, lawyers, constitutionalists – not MPs and officials. The RRP experts also co-hosted a range of special «round tables» with the leading constitutionalists on the development of new Constitution, which were held in the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.



## The cooperation with the President

RRP activists and experts appealed to the newly elected president with 10 requirements. In particular they called on Poroshenko to make all the appointments under the control of the public, to start the decentralization reform, judicial reform, law enforcement services reform etc. The full list of requirements (infographics) may be seen here.



### 10 priority reforms for President



**Administrative reform**



**European Integration**



**Anti-corruption reform**



**Media-reform**



**Decentralization**



**Judicial Reform**



**Constitutional Reform**



**Reform of police and prosecutor's office**



**Electoral law reform**



**Transparency of appointments**

Activists and experts of Media reform group of RRP attended the press-conference in the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center, where the requirements to the President regarding media reform were reported. Among the requirements: the assignment of independent professionals by president's quota, meeting the criteria developed by 13 Ukrainian media organizations, as the National Council for Television and Radio Broadcasting members, in particular the candidates should be equidistant from media holdings and political parties.



Experts of Media reform group of RRP during the press-conference in the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center

The RRP activists took part in a meeting between President Poroshenko and the Maidan representatives. Hanna Hopko demanded to appoint a responsible person in the presidential Administration for cooperation with civil society. The president in response offered the RRP activist Hopko to lead this direction. The RRP is currently discussing this proposal.

## National Reanimation tour – involving local elites

RRP experts continue to conduct the national tour to present reform agenda for Ukraine. Deputies and officials of local governments, local politicians, activists and journalists gathered in each city in order to discuss reanimation reforms. RRP Presentations has taken place in Sumy, Rivne, Zhytomyr, Chernihiv.



## The intermediate results of the first Parliamentary session after EuroMaidan



Yuriy Derevyanko, Svitlana Zalishchuk and Yuri Syrotyuk

4 of July, joint meeting of RPR experts and “Platform of Reforms” MPs was held in the Verkhovna Rada in order to sum up the results of cooperation during the first 130 days of the new parliamentary majority, “We could not have imagined that this meeting would be chaired by the representatives of the ruling faction and civil society activists, said the co-chair of the inter-fractional union “Platform of Reforms”, MP from faction “Svoboda”, Yuri Syrotyuk, at the meeting opening. - We create the open lobbying mechanisms. RPR is an example of white, positive and good lobbying when there are public groups, deputy groups and this work has a positive impact.”

**Within 130 days of the new parliamentary majority the activists of Reanimation Package of Reforms in cooperation with deputies union “Platform of Reforms” adocated the adoption of 10 laws:**

**The Law on State Procurements No. 2207 and No. 4587; and the Law of Ukraine on Access to Public Information No. 0947; the Law on Restoring Confidence in the Judiciary System No. 4378-1; Law on Public Broadcasting in Ukraine No. 1076; amendments to the Criminal Code necessary for visa liberalization No. 4556; Law on Standardization No. 4585; Law on Metrology and Metrological Activity No. 4583; Law on Higher Education No.1187-2; Law on Cooperation of Local Communities No. 4756.**

Public activists believe that for the post-EuroMaidan Parliament the result is very modest. “Only three anti-corruption laws were adopted during 130 days! Taking into account that corruption was one of the major reasons for millions of people to stand at the Maidan. And even these three laws were adopted not because of the deputies good will, but because of the pressure from the IMF and the necessity to implement the visa liberalization plan”- said the RPR expert, chairman of the The Anti-Corruption Action Centre, Vitaly Shabunin.

The RPR experts and “Platform of Reforms” deputies

have agreed on a common agenda for the two last plenary weeks of the summer:

- 1. To solicit the early ratification of the EU Association Agreement;**
- 2. To require from the Parliament the election law reform through the introduction of an electoral system under open lists and the adoption of the law No. 4846 providing for more transparent financial reporting of parties and the participants of electoral process;**
- 3. The adoption of law on prosecution;**
- 4. The adoption of two anti-corruption laws No. 4728 and No. 2012;**
- 5. The adoption of the law No. 4751 that regulates the procedure and fee for obtaining foreign passports;**
- 6. The recognition of the Rome Statute and the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court, the draft law No. 4873;**
- 7. Continuing the Judicial Reform via the draft law No. 4829;**
- 8. The adoption of two European integration laws: No. 4179 and No. 4987-1;**
- 9. The adoption of two laws on decentralization: No. 3747 and No. 4070;**
- 10. The adoption of the law on electronic commerce No. 2306;**
- 11. The adoption of the law on police identification No. 4988.**



Additionally, it is important to note that RPR experts and “Platform of Reforms” deputies agreed on the creation and public presentation of the so-called “black list” of lawmakers and the authors whose legislative initiatives should never appear in the Parliament, because the persons concerned are sufficiently tarnished their parliamentary reputation. The criteria for participants of “lawmakers black list” will be developed over the next two weeks, when the plenary sessions of the Parliament will not be conducted.

The RPR experts and the national deputies agreed to jointly publicly demand from colleagues in the Parliament and officials of other governmental branches to do everything possible to fulfill the planned agenda: “This means the implementation of tools, standards and procedures of public policy that should prevail in a democratic society,” said the deputy of the fraction “UDAR”, a former community activist and expert, Viktor Chumak.

## Reanimation Package of Reforms today

Today RPR experts are working in more than 20 reform groups:

### Priority - reanimation:

Judicial reform. Prosecutors.

Reform of law enforcement bodies

Decentralization. Territorial reform. Local Government

Administrative Reform. (CMU, CEB, administrative services, state service).

Anti-corruption reform. Government procurements.

The reform of the electoral law. National referendum.

Tax Reform. Entrepreneurship development.

Media Reform

**The mid-term reforms:** Lustration; Medical reform; Social security reform; Human rights reform; Cultural policy reform; Constitutional Reform; Reforms in Ecology; Working Group on Climate Change (over 30 NGO); Education Reform; Shaping and implementing the Ukraine's European integration policy.

The launch of the initiative Reanimation Package of Reforms indicates that the Ukrainians have learned after the defeat of the ideas of the Orange Revolution. At that period the citizens achieved re-election and fair election of Viktor Yushchenko as the President and went doing their own business. However, in 2014 the citizens have decided to take personal responsibility for the success or failure of Euro Revolution and personally take part in reforms making. 24 deputies out of 5 parliamentary factions formed a cross-fraction union **"Platform of Reforms"** for the cooperation with the RPR activists. The union is managed by 5 Co-Chairs: the deputies Yuriy Derev'yanko (independent), Pavlo Ryzanenko (fraction "UDAR"), Andriy Shevchenko (fraction "Batkivshchyna"), Yuri Syrotyuk (fraction "Svoboda"), Yuri Blagodyr (group "Sovereign European Ukraine"). Prior to each plenary week there is a joint meeting of deputies and activists to approve an

action plan for a week. At the beginning of the plenary week activists meet with the parliament speaker, heads of parliamentary groups and committees, personally and over agenda from the public and require their approval during the plenary week.

Along with government officials the activists of Reanimation Package of Reforms have created the **Reform Support Centre** at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. Every citizen may propose his/her reforming idea to the government via the Reform Support Centre. Jointly with the ministers the activists also have developed the draft resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers and seek their approval.

During four months the activists of Reanimation Package of Reforms achieved the adoption of 10 laws, including those bringing revolutionary changes in the judiciary system, public procurement, public accountability of government and the establishment of freedom of speech in Ukraine, as well as ensure the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU (Law on access to public information, two public procurement Laws, the Law on restoring confidence in the judiciary system (judges lustration), the Law on Public Broadcasting, the Law on amendments to the Criminal Code necessary for the Plan on visa liberalization that increase accountability for corruption), Law No. 4583 "On metrology and metrological activity", Law No. 4585 "On standardization".

Along with the Cabinet of Ministers the experts of the Reanimation Package of Reforms developed and lobbied for the adoption the Concept of local government reform, the draft law "On public Procurement", the Resolution on the list of administrative services provided through the Center for administrative services provision.

The experts of the Reanimation Package of Reforms meet regularly with representatives of international organizations, members of governments and parliaments of Ukraine's partners, assess the success or failure of reform efforts of the Ukrainian government and make recommendations for the effective cooperation with the Ukrainian government and the Parliament.



**0947**

Посилює прозорість і підзвітність органів влади, розширює доступ до публічної інформації



**2207**

Зупиняє щорічний розпил державними підприємствами 300 млрд. грн.



**4587**

Нова редакція Закону про здійснення держзакупівель



**1076**

Створює незалежне суспільне мовлення на базі державних телерадіокомпаній



**1187-2**

Автономія вузів, зв'язок освіти з ринком праці, мобільність студентів та ін.



**4378-1**

Люстрація суддів, причетних до порушень прав людини і громадянина під час ЄвроМайдану



**4556**

Зміни до Кримінального кодексу та ін. законів, необхідні для Плану з візової лібералізації



**4585**

Закон про стандартизацію: єдиний орган стандартизації, скасування галузевих стандартів



**4583**

Впроваджує європейські стандарти у метрологічній діяльності



**4756**

Закон про співробітництво територіальних громад

*During four months the activists of Reanimation Package of Reforms achieved the adoption of 10 laws*