Newsletter #1

Dear Colleagues,

Glad to present the first newsletter from the Reanimation Package of Reforms for May 12-21, 2014

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 about 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 to develop 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.

1. Cooperation between RPR and Parliament:

For two weeks before the presidential elections in Ukraine in cooperation with the MPs, RRP activists achieved:

1) Adoption by the Parliament of the Law No. 4556 "Draft law on Amendments to the Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine in the sphere of state anti-corruption policy in connection with the implementation of the Action Plan for the liberalization of the EU visa regime for Ukraine", making amendments to the Criminal Code necessary for the Plan on Visa Liberalization and strengthen accountability for corruption;
2) Adoption in the first reading of the two laws necessary for implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU: the Law No. 4585 "Draft Law on Standardization", which determines the creation of a single standardization body, abolition of industry standards and the Law No. 4583 "Draft Law on Metrology", implementing European standards in this sphere.



Agenda #5 for Parliament from Reanimation Package of Reforms

General lobbying plan for the plenary week of 20-23d of May was approved by RPR activists, after a joint meeting with MPs from Interfaction Parliamentary group “Platform of Reforms” and it included:

- The Law No. 4751 “Draft Law on Ukrainian Documents that Certify the Identity and Give the Right to Travel Abroad” – to be put on the agenda of the Parliament
- The Law No. 4728 “Draft Law on Amending Certain Ukrainian Laws to increase access to information about real rights to property for the purpose of corruption prevention and protection of property rights” - to be put on the agenda of the Parliament
- The Law No. 4756 “Draft law on cooperation of local communities” - to be put on the agenda of the Parliament

- The Law No. 4873 “Draft Law on Amending Article 124 of the Ukrainian Constitution (regarding the Rome Statute provisions recognition)” - to be put on the agenda of the Parliament
- The Law No. 4846 “Draft Law on Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on transparency of political party funding in Ukraine and campaigning” - to be put on the agenda of the Parliament and adopted as a basis and generally
- The Law No. 4728 “Draft Law on Amending Certain Ukrainian Laws to increase access to information about real rights to property for the purpose of corruption prevention and protection of property rights” - to be put on the agenda of the Parliament
- The Law No. 2012a “Draft Law on transparency of public funds use” – to be adopted in the first reading
- The Law No. 1182 “Draft Law on Amending the Ukrainian Law "On the collection and accounting of a single fee for obligatory public social insurance" (to create the conditions for unshadowing small business)” - to be adopted in the first reading

2. What of the planned in collaboration with the deputy association Interfaction Parliamentary group “Platform of Reforms” we have failed to do:

RPR haven’t managed to obtain support in Parliament for the important Law No. 4846, which makes financial reporting of the parties and other election participants transparent, requires to account for the money spent on the election campaign till the elections date and not only after this date, as now required by the electoral law.

Deputies also refused to put on the agenda the Law No. 4756 on cooperation of local communities, the Law No. 4728 for access to the property registry, and even didn’t manage to put on voting for the introducing to the agenda the bill No. 4751, which regulates the procedure and fee for obtaining passports. One of the key reasons for the failure of these laws is pre-election situation in the country.

Many of the deputies are involved in the campaign for the presidential candidates in the regions; therefore, there are not enough deputies in the Parliament to support the bills.

3. RPR Cooperation with the Cabinet of Ministers

Administrative group of Reanimation Package of Reforms is celebrating the important victory - the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the proposal of the group has adopted a Resolution on the list of administrative services provided through the Centres of Administrative Services. This act states that all Centres of Administrative Services (CAS) would provide according to the "one office" and the "single window" principle the most needed administrative services to citizens, including:

- Registration of residence;
- Issuing passports (first "domestic", and from January 1, 2015 "foreign" passports);
- Registration of individual entrepreneurs and legal entities;
- Registration of real property rights;
- Registration of land.

This is a real step towards decentralization. Providing services through CASs are convenient for people because CASs have extended office hours, non-separate-offices service system, transparency, queue management (in large CASs), convenient waiting conditions, etc.

4. Promotion of new laws for the journalists and activists

Activists of Law enforcement agencies reform group held a press conference in UNIAN, where they presented the police reform concept to journalists and civil society activists.



Presentation of Police reform at UNIAN news agency

5. Cooperation with international organizations

PR activists met with EU Commissioner Štefan Füle and presented him the priority reforms that RPR promoted. The EU Commissioner, in turn, introduced the RPR activists the plan of reforms for Ukraine from the European Commission – The European Agenda for Reform.

6. Expansion of RPR and the Interfaction Parliamentary group "Platform of Reforms"

RPR activists held introductory meeting of the working group on the social security system reform — it is the 19th group in the Reanimation Package of Reforms.



MPs – members of interfaction group "Platform of Reforms"

Interfaction Parliamentary group "Platform of Reforms" also welcomed a new member – MP Yuri Shapoval, member of the European Sovereign Ukraine parliamentary group, has joined the "Platform of Reforms" group.

7. National Reanimation tour – involving local elites

RPR experts started 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. RPR Presentations has taken place in Odessa, Mykolayiv, Kherson, Ivano-Frankivsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Lviv, Truskawetz, Kharkov, Zaporizhzhya.

Around 500 activists joined the network of RPR supporters after the tour and showed their interest to become the members of working groups.



Presentation of RPR and the interested audience.

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General information:

Today RPR experts are united in the following groups for reforms:

Priority – Reanimation groups:

- Judicial reform. Prosecutors
- Reform of law enforcement bodies
- Decentralization. Territorial reform. Local Government
- Administrative Reform
- Anti-corruption reform
- Reform of the electoral law
- Tax Reform. Development of business
- Media Reform

Reform groups:

- Lustration
- Medical Reform
- Social security reforms
- Human rights protection reform
- Cultural policy reform
- Constitutional Reform
- Reforms in ecology
- E-government reform
- Education Reform
- Formulation and implementation of Ukrainian policy on European integration

Creating of the Reanimation Package of Reforms initiative is the evidence that Ukrainians have learned after the defeat of the ideas of the Orange Revolution. At that time the citizens had gained re-elections and fair election to the presidency of Viktor Yushchenko and ran back to their own issues. In 2014 - the citizens have decided to take responsibility for the success or failure of the EuroRevolution and make reforms by themselves.

24 members of parliament from 5 parliamentary groups have formed an Interfaction Parliamentary group “Platform of Reforms” for cooperation with the Reanimation Package of

Reforms activists. 5 co-chairs run the group: MP Yuri Derev'yanko (unaffiliated), Pavlo Rizanenko (faction “UDAR"), Andriy Shevchenko (faction “Bat’kivschyna"), Yuri Syrotiuk (faction "Svoboda"), Yuri Blagodyr ("European Sovereign Ukraine" group). Before each plenary week there is a joint plenary meeting of activists for approval of a plan of action for a week. At the beginning of a plenary week activists meet with the Speaker of Parliament, heads of parliamentary groups and committees and personally hand in the list of bills from the public and require their approval during the plenary week.

Together with the government officials Reanimation Package of Reforms activists has created **Reform Support Centre at the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.** Every citizen may propose his or her reformist idea to the government through the Reform Support Centre. Together with ministers activists also develop draft decrees of the Cabinet of Ministers and seek their approval.



First meeting of Reform Support Centre

Only **for two and a half months Reanimation Package of Reforms activists have managed to gain adoption of 6 laws**, including those that bring revolutionary changes in the judiciary, public procurement, public accountability of government and the establishment of freedom of speech in Ukraine (the Law №0947 on Access to Public Information, two Laws on public procurement (the Law №2207, the Law №4578), Law on restoring confidence in the judiciary (the Law №4378-1 on judges lustration), Law on Public Broadcasting (the Law №1076), Law on education (the Law №1187-2) Seven more laws have been approved in the first reading.

Together with the Cabinet of Ministers the Reanimation Package of Reforms experts have developed and lobbied for the adoption of the Concept of local government reform, the

Law №2207 “Draft law on Public Procurement”, Resolution on the list of administrative services provided through the Centres of administrative services.

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

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