



# *THE LAW OF UKRAINE*

## **About national minorities (communities) of Ukraine**

{With changes introduced in accordance with Laws  
No. 3389-IX of 09/21/2023  
No. 3504-IX of 12/08/2023 }

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,

based on the interests of the Ukrainian people - citizens of Ukraine of all nationalities regarding the development of a sovereign, independent, democratic, social, legal state,

based on the Constitution of Ukraine , the Declaration of the Rights of Nationalities of Ukraine , guided by the provisions of the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the Protection of National Minorities , the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages , other international treaties regarding the rights of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) of Ukraine, consent to the obligation the validity of which is granted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,

striving to create appropriate conditions for the realization and protection of the rights of all persons belonging to national minorities (communities) of Ukraine, preservation and development of their linguistic, cultural, ethnic, religious identity, ensuring full development as a part of Ukrainian society,

respecting cultural diversity and encouraging intercultural dialogue in order to develop mutual understanding, mutual respect and cooperation between all persons living within the territory of Ukraine, regardless of ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious affiliation,

ensuring the equality of citizens of Ukraine regardless of ethnic origin,

consolidating the Ukrainian nation,

adopts this Law for the purpose of determining the specifics of social relations regarding ensuring the realization of rights and freedoms by persons belonging to national minorities (communities) of Ukraine.

### **Section I. GENERAL PART**

#### **Article 1.** Definition of terms

1. In this Law, the terms are used in the following sense:

1) the national minority (community) of Ukraine (hereinafter - the national minority (community) - a permanent group of citizens of Ukraine who are not ethnic Ukrainians, live on the territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, united by common ethnic, cultural, historical, linguistic and/or religious signs, are aware of their belonging to it, show a desire to preserve and develop their linguistic, cultural, religious identity.

National minorities (communities) are integral, integrated and organic parts of Ukrainian society;

2) a settlement in which persons belonging to a national minority (community) traditionally live - a village, settlement, city in which persons belonging to the relevant national minority (community) live, according to official state statistical information for the relevant periods have lived continuously for the past 100 years and constitute at least 10 percent of the total population as of the time of collection or receipt of such information.

The requirement for continuous residence in the settlement does not apply to persons deported or victims of genocide on national grounds, as well as to persons who left their place of residence as a result of or in order to avoid the negative consequences of armed conflict, temporary occupation;

3) a settlement in which persons belonging to a national minority (community) make up a significant part of the population, - a village, settlement, city in which persons belonging to the relevant national minority (community), according to official state statistical information , make up more than 15 percent of the total population as of the time of collecting or receiving such information.

*{Article 1 as amended in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 ; as amended by Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

#### **Article 2.** Legislation on the legal status of persons belonging to national minorities (communities)

1. Legislation regarding the legal status of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) consists of the Constitution of Ukraine , this Law, other laws of Ukraine, as well as international treaties of Ukraine, the consent of which has been granted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

2. If an international treaty of Ukraine, the binding consent of which has been given by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, establishes other rules than those stipulated by this Law, the rules of the international treaty shall be applied.

#### **Article 3.** State guarantees in the sphere of realization and/or protection of the rights of citizens of Ukraine who belong to national minorities (communities)

1. The state guarantees citizens of Ukraine who belong to national minorities (communities) (hereinafter - persons who belong to national minorities (communities)) the rights provided for in Article 5 of this Law.

2. Implementation of the integration policy by the state involves refraining from the policy and practice of assimilation of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) against their will and protection of such persons from any actions aimed at such assimilation.

3. The state guarantees to persons belonging to national minorities (communities) the protection of their rights, freedoms and legally protected interests in accordance with the law.

4. The state, taking into account the specific situation of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), takes measures to achieve full and true equality between persons belonging to national minorities (communities) in the spheres of economic, social, political and cultural life, and by persons belonging to the majority of the population.

*{Article 3 is supplemented by part four in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

#### **Article 4. Prohibition of discrimination**

1. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities) are equal before the law and have the right to equal legal protection.

2. Any direct or indirect discrimination against persons belonging to national minorities (communities) is prohibited.

Actions that have a legitimate, objectively justified goal and are aimed at eliminating legal or factual inequality in the opportunities to exercise the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) are not considered discrimination.

### **Section II. RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND OBLIGATIONS OF PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES (COMMUNITIES)**

**Article 5.** Rights, freedoms and obligations of persons belonging to national minorities (communities)

1. Citizens of Ukraine, regardless of ethnic origin, belonging to national minorities (communities), are guaranteed equal civil, political, social, economic, cultural and linguistic rights and freedoms, defined by the Constitution of Ukraine .

2. A person belonging to a national minority (community) also has the right to:

- 1) self-identification;
- 2) freedom of public associations and peaceful assemblies;
- 3) freedom of expression of views and beliefs, thought, speech, conscience and religion;
- 4) participation in political, economic and social life;
- 5) use of the language of the national minority (community);
- 6) education, in particular in the languages of national minorities (communities);
- 7) preserving the cultural identity of the national minority (community).

3. The list of rights of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), defined by the second part of this article, is not exhaustive. Other rights and freedoms may be granted to such persons in accordance with the law.

4. A person belonging to a national minority (community) may exercise the rights and enjoy the freedoms guaranteed by this Law, individually or jointly with other persons belonging to national minorities (communities), on the territory of Ukraine.

5. A person who belongs to a national minority (community) is obliged to comply with the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, to defend the state sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, to respect the language, culture, traditions, customs, and religious identity of the Ukrainian nation and all national minorities (communities). and indigenous peoples of Ukraine, as well as promote the integration of the national minority (community) into Ukrainian society.

6. The rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) may be limited in accordance with the law in the interests of national security, to ensure territorial integrity and public order, prevent riots or crimes, protect public health, protect rights and freedoms other persons, if such a restriction is necessary in a democratic society.

*{The first paragraph of the sixth part of Article 5 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

When exercising and/or protecting the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), popularization or propaganda of the terrorist state (aggressor state) and its organs, the Russian Nazi totalitarian regime, symbols of the Russian Nazi totalitarian regime's military invasion of Ukraine is prohibited , representatives of the authorities of the terrorist state (aggressor state) and their actions, which create a positive image of the terrorist state (aggressor state), justify or recognize the legitimate armed aggression of the Russian Federation as a terrorist state against Ukraine, the occupation of the territory of Ukraine.

#### **Article 6. The right to self-identification**

1. Every citizen of Ukraine has the right to freely decide whether to be considered a member of a national minority (community) (several national minorities (communities)). Such a decision or the exercise of rights in this regard should not harm such a person. No one can be forced to declare one's status as a person belonging to a national minority (community). In the event that a person needs to use the rights guaranteed to persons belonging to national minorities (communities), it is sufficient to express the desire to use such rights.

2. It is prohibited to force a citizen of Ukraine in any form to recognize his or her belonging to, deny or change his or her belonging to a national minority (community).

3. A citizen of Ukraine has the right to his own name, patronymic and surname, taking into account the customs of the national minority (community) to which he belongs.

If, according to the customs of the national minority (community) to which the person belongs, the surname or patronymic are not components of the name, then in the documents certifying the person, confirming the citizenship of Ukraine, the special status of the person, based on the written statement of the person, only the components of the name are indicated, and in the birth certificate - the names of the father and mother.

Citizens of Ukraine have the right to restore their national surname, first name and patronymic in accordance with the established procedure.

**Article 7.** Freedom of public associations and peaceful assemblies

1. A person who belongs to a national minority (community) has the right, in accordance with the law, to participate in the formation and activities of public associations of national minorities (communities), in peaceful assemblies for the exercise and protection of their rights and freedoms, the satisfaction of public, in particular economic, social, cultural, linguistic, ecological and other interests, its integration into Ukrainian society.

2. The participation or non-participation of a person belonging to a national minority (community) in a public association of a national minority (community) cannot be a reason for limiting his rights and freedoms provided for by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine.

**Article 8.** Freedom of expression of views and beliefs, thought, speech, conscience and religion

1. A person belonging to a national minority (community) has the right to freedom of observance and expression of views and beliefs, thought, speech, conscience and religion.

A person belonging to a national minority (community) has the right to freely collect, store, use and disseminate information in the language of his or her national minority (community) orally, in writing or otherwise.

2. A person who belongs to a national minority (community) can practice any religion or not practice any religion, conduct individual or collective religious cults and ritual ceremonies, conduct religious activities, form religious organizations in accordance with the procedure established by law.

**Article 9.** Participation in political, economic and social life

1. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities) have the right to participate in elections and referenda, to freely elect and be elected to state and local self-government bodies, have equal access to public service and service in local self-government bodies, and also the right to equal participation in the economic and social life of the country, including in matters related to the preservation and popularization of the culture, traditions and identity of the national minority (community) to which they belong.

2. The state creates the necessary conditions for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) in social and economic life, as well as in the management of state affairs.

*{Article 9 is supplemented by the second part in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

**Article 10.** The right to use the language of a national minority (community)

1. A person belonging to a national minority (community) has the right to free and unhindered use of the language of his national minority (community) in private and public, in oral and written forms, within the limits that do not contradict the law.

2. Public events (meetings, conferences, rallies, exhibitions, training courses, seminars, trainings, discussions, forums, other public events) organized for persons belonging to national minorities (communities) may be held in the languages of the respective national minorities (communities ).

*{Part two of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 }*

3. A cultural-artistic, entertainment or spectacular event organized and conducted by persons belonging to a national minority (community) or for persons belonging to a national minority (community) may be conducted in the language of the relevant national minority (community). Support (conference) for such an event can be provided in the language of the relevant national minority (community). At the request of at least 20 visitors (spectators) of such an event, the organizer provides simultaneous or consecutive translation of the accompaniment (conference) in the national language, if such a request is received no later than 72 hours before the start of the event.

*{The first paragraph of the third part of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 ; with changes introduced in accordance with Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

For the purposes of this Law, an accompaniment (conference) is considered to be a performance related to the running of a program of a cultural, artistic, entertainment and spectacle event, in particular the announcement and commenting of the components of such an event.

*{The third part of Article 10 was supplemented with a new paragraph in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

Announcements, posters, other informational materials about cultural, artistic and entertainment events may be duplicated in the language of the relevant national minority (community) at the decision of their organizers, taking into account the requirements stipulated in the third and fifth parts of Article 23 of the Law of Ukraine "On Ensuring the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as a State ".

4. Languages of national minorities (communities) may be used in the media in accordance with the law.

National minorities (communities) have the right to establish their own media in accordance with the law.

*{Part four of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 }*

5. Publications published in the languages of national minorities (communities) are not subject to the requirements of the first paragraph of the fourth part of Article 26 of the Law of Ukraine "On Ensuring the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as a State Language".

The requirements of the first paragraph of the fifth part of Article 26 of the Law of Ukraine "On Ensuring the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as a State Language" do not apply to the activities of bookstores and other institutions that, in accordance with the law, carry out the distribution of book publications exclusively in the languages of national minorities (communities) and the state language.

The state supports the implementation of measures aimed at the development of bookstores and other institutions that distribute book publications in order to satisfy the cultural needs and interests of national minorities (communities).

*{Part five of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 ; as amended by Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

6. At the request of a person belonging to a national minority (community), the language of the relevant national minority (community) may be used, if such language is understandable to the parties, for:

- 1) provision of emergency medical care;
- 2) provision of assistance and protection, if such a person has suffered from domestic violence;
- 3) provision of care in a boarding house for elderly citizens.

*{Part six of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 }*

7. In settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or where such persons make up a significant part of the population, inscriptions of the official names on the signs of local self-government bodies, communal enterprises, executed in the state language, may be duplicated in the languages of national minorities (communities) by decision of the relevant village, settlement, city councils and are submitted on the right side or below.

8. In settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, information for general viewing (announcements, which, in particular, contain a public offer to conclude a contract, signs, signs, signs, messages, inscriptions and other publicly placed textual, visual and audio information that is used or can be used to inform an unlimited number of people about goods, works, services, certain business entities, officials, employees of enterprises or state bodies authorities, local self-government bodies) is duplicated in the language of the national minority (community) by decision of the relevant village, settlement, city council.

9. In settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, it is allowed to distribute election campaign materials during the elections of the President of Ukraine, elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine and local elections in languages of relevant national minorities (communities) and dubbed in the state language.

*{Part nine of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3504-IX dated December 8, 2023 }*

10. Peculiarities of the use of languages of national minorities (communities), in particular, but not exclusively, when providing any topographical information, communication with authorities in settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, at the request of such persons and if such a request meets real needs, are determined by the methodology approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The methodology should provide an opportunity to:

1) use by persons belonging to national minorities (communities), along with the state language, of the language of the relevant national minority (community) in relations with local executive bodies and local self-government bodies, their officials who carry out their activities in populated areas, in which persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population;

2) use by local bodies of executive power and local self-government bodies, their officials who carry out their activities in settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or where such persons make up a significant part of the population, under by the decision of such a body, along with the state language, the language of the relevant national minority (community) in relations with persons belonging to national minorities (communities);

3) taking other measures based exclusively on the main provisions of the Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages .

*{Part ten of Article 10 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 }*

11. In settlements where persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, distribution of internal and external advertising in the languages of the respective national minorities (communities) with mandatory duplication in the state language is allowed language The dubbing text in the state language must reproduce the content of the dubbed advertisement and is executed in a font no smaller than the text of the dubbed advertisement.

The requirement for duplicating inscriptions is not mandatory when writing product names, trademarks (marks for goods and services) and commercial names protected by law.

In audio and audiovisual media of the local category, it is allowed to distribute advertising made in the languages of national minorities (communities), while in audiovisual media such advertising is subtitled in the state language.

Objects of intellectual property rights are advertised in compliance with the requirements of the second part of Article 6 of the Law of Ukraine "On Advertising".

*{Article 10 is supplemented by part eleven in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 ; as amended by Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

12. The procedure for determining the list and the list of settlements in which persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, are approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

*{Article 10 is supplemented by part twelve in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

13. The Human Rights Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, within the scope of the powers granted to him by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Law of Ukraine "On the Human Rights Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine", exercises parliamentary control over the observance of the right of national minorities (communities) to use the languages of national minorities (communities) .

*{Article 10 is supplemented by part thirteen in accordance with Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

14. The provisions of parts two , three , five , seven - eleven , thirteen of this article apply to the languages of national minorities (communities) of Ukraine, which are official languages of the European Union, languages of national minorities (communities) to which the provisions of the European Charter of Regional languages or languages of minorities in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Ratification of the European Charter of Regional Languages or Minority Languages", with the exception of languages of national minorities (communities), which is the state (official) language of a state recognized by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as an aggressor state or an occupying state.

*{Article 10 is supplemented by part fourteen in accordance with Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

#### **Article 11.** The right to education

1. Features of the use of languages of national minorities (communities) in the educational process are determined by the Law of Ukraine "On Education" and special laws in the specified field.

2. The state promotes the training and improvement of the qualifications of pedagogical and research-pedagogical workers in the languages of national minorities (communities).

3. The state guarantees free provision of textbooks (including electronic ones), manuals for students of general secondary education who belong to national minorities (communities) and teaching staff in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

*{Article 11 is supplemented by a new part in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

4. Private educational institutions providing full general secondary education at the expense of individuals and/or legal entities, in particular those founded by national cultural societies and representatives of national minorities (communities), have the right to freely choose the language of the educational process (except for educational institutions receiving public funds) and are obliged to ensure that students master the state language in accordance with state standards.

#### **Article 12.** The right to preserve the cultural identity of a national minority (community)

1. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities) have the right to:

1) preserve and develop one's cultural, linguistic, religious identity, traditions and customs, use the achievements (assets) of one's culture, preserve and multiply one's cultural heritage;

2) to commemorate (celebrate) events related to their history and culture.

2. The state promotes and supports:

1) identification and arrangement of places of historical memory of national minorities (communities), ensures protection of objects of cultural heritage of national minorities (communities). Monuments of history, culture, religion of national minorities (communities), located on the territory of Ukraine, are part of Ukrainian culture;

2) studying the history and culture of national minorities (communities);

3) holding cultural and artistic events of national minorities (communities).

3. The state ensures that persons belonging to national minorities (communities) study the history and culture of Ukraine.

### **Section III. STATE POLICY IN THE SPHERE OF NATIONAL MINORITIES (COMMUNITIES)**

#### **Article 13.** State policy in the field of national minorities (communities)

1. State policy in the field of national minorities (communities) aims to:

1) promotion of the development of ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of national minorities (communities);

2) integration of national minorities (communities) into Ukrainian society on the basis of recognition of human and citizen rights and freedoms;

3) establishment of norms of interethnic tolerance and mutual respect in Ukrainian society;

4) strengthening national unity and ensuring multiculturalism of Ukrainian society;

5) provision of state support to languages of national minorities (communities) that are threatened with extinction. The list of such languages is approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the basis of international standards.

*{The first part of Article 13 was supplemented by clause 5 in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

2. State policy in the field of national minorities (communities) is based on the principles of:

1) protection of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), as an integral component of the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2) prevention of discrimination against persons belonging to national minorities (communities);

3) recognition of the right of a person who belongs to a national minority (community) to freely choose and freely restore his belonging to a national minority (community), to express his originality and identity;

4) ensuring the free exercise by persons belonging to national minorities (communities) of their rights and interests for the preservation and development of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity;

5) inclusive involvement of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), including through their public associations, in the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities) at all levels of governance;

6) integration of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) into Ukrainian society on the basis of recognition of human and citizen rights and freedoms;

7) prevention of forced assimilation of national minorities (communities);

8) counteracting manifestations of xenophobia, inciting racial, ethnic, religious enmity;

9) prevention of inter-ethnic conflicts, the use of national minorities (communities) by other states for the autonomization of their regions of residence and the disintegration of Ukraine;

10) mutual respect, mutual understanding and cooperation between all persons living on the territory of Ukraine, regardless of ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity and identity.

3. The state guarantees the protection and ensures the realization of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) by implementing measures in the field of state policy aimed at preserving, supporting and developing their originality and identity, integration into Ukrainian society.

**Article 14.** Financial provision of measures to implement the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities)

1. Expenditures necessary to ensure the implementation of measures for the realization of the rights and freedoms of national minorities (communities) are carried out at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine under a separate budget program, local budgets, as well as other sources not prohibited by law.

2. Public associations of national minorities (communities) may be provided with competitive financial support for the implementation of programs (projects, events) at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine, funds of local budgets in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

**Article 15.** Powers of the central body of executive power, which ensures the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities)

1. The central body of executive power, which ensures the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities):

1) summarizes the practice of applying legislation on issues of national minorities (communities), develops proposals for improving legislative and other normative legal acts;

2) carries out regulatory and legal support in the field of national minorities (communities) within the limits of the powers defined by law;

3) supervises compliance with the legislation in the field of national minorities (communities), including monitoring the fulfillment of Ukraine's international obligations in the field of national minorities (communities);

4) collects and analyzes statistical information on the number and types of public associations of national minorities (communities) operating in Ukraine;

5) takes measures to preserve and develop the identity of national minorities (communities), satisfy their cultural, linguistic, informational and other needs;

6) interacts with central and local bodies of executive power, local self-government bodies in the field of national minorities (communities);

7) conducts consultations with the participation of representatives of public associations of national minorities (communities) on issues related to the legally defined rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities);

8) monitors the activities of public associations of national minorities (communities);

9) organizes the conduct of scientific research in the field of national minorities (communities), as well as interacts with domestic and foreign research institutions and educational institutions for the purpose of exchanging experience in conducting such research;

10) establishes and maintains contacts and coordination relations with relevant bodies of foreign states, whose competence includes the implementation of policy in the field of national minorities (communities);

11) promotes the expansion of international cooperation of Ukraine with other states in the sphere of realization of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities);

12) exercises other powers provided for by law.

2. The central body of executive power, which ensures the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities), in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Central Bodies of Executive Power" forms a consultative and advisory body, which includes representatives of public associations of national minorities (community), as well as, if necessary, other permanent or temporary consultative and advisory bodies.

**Article 16.** Powers of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local state administrations regarding the implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities)

1. The Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local state administrations within their competence ensure the implementation of Ukrainian legislation in the field of national minorities (communities), including state and regional programs for the national and cultural development of national minorities (communities).

In order to carry out the tasks specified in the first paragraph of this part, the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local state administrations may, if necessary, form structural subdivisions on issues of national minorities (communities).

**Article 17.** Powers of local self-government bodies regarding the implementation of state policy in the field of national minorities (communities)

1. In order to realize the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), local self-government bodies:

1) contribute to the preservation and development of the cultural and ethnic identity of national minorities (communities) by supporting the activities of public associations of national minorities (communities), national-cultural societies;

2) carry out planning of the socio-economic and cultural development of territorial communities, districts, regions, taking into account the ethnic, cultural and other needs of such persons and the need to preserve and develop their identity, protect and realize rights and freedoms;

3) exercise other powers provided for by law.

**Article 18.** Advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities)

1. To take into account the interests and realization of the rights and freedoms provided for by this Law of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), when solving issues related to the powers of local state administrations, local self-government bodies, and their officials, at the initiative of public associations of national such bodies of minorities (communities), their officials may form consultative, advisory, other auxiliary bodies (hereinafter referred to as advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities), which include representatives of public associations of national minorities (communities).

2. Draft decisions of local state administrations, local self-government bodies, and their officials on issues related to the implementation of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) provided for by this Law shall be submitted for discussion by advisory bodies on national minorities (communities) in case of their formation.

Proposals and comments of advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities) are of a recommendatory nature and are mandatory for consideration by relevant bodies and officials. Local state administrations, local self-government bodies, and their officials are obliged to inform the relevant advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities) about the results of consideration of submitted proposals within ten days from the date of their receipt.

3. The order of formation, main directions and forms of activity of advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities) are determined by the Regulation on advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities), which is approved by the relevant local state administrations and local self-government bodies.

**Article 19.** Center of national minorities (communities)

1. The Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, regional, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations on the initiative of public associations of national minorities (communities) form the Center of National Minorities (communities) of the corresponding administrative and territorial unit (hereinafter - the Center of National Minorities (communities), which must provide institutional and technical conditions for meeting the cultural needs of persons belonging to national minorities (communities) on the basis of equality and inclusive access . policy in the field of national minorities (communities).

*{Part one of Article 19 as amended by Law No. 3504-IX dated December 8, 2023 }*

2. The main tasks of the Center for National Minorities (Communities) are:

1) support and preservation of traditional culture and intangible cultural heritage of national minorities (communities), creation of conditions for comprehensive disclosure of their identity, preservation of language, culture, and folk traditions;

2) provision of informational, advisory and organizational support to public associations of national minorities (communities);

3) carrying out activities aimed at strengthening national unity and consolidation of Ukrainian society, deepening cultural ties between public associations of national minorities (communities) of the region;

4) interaction with state authorities and local self-government bodies to resolve urgent issues regarding the protection of the rights of national minorities (communities).

*{Article 19 was supplemented by a new part in accordance with Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

3. The main functions of the Center for National Minorities (Communities) are:

1) development and implementation of measures and programs on the development of cultures and ensuring the realization of the rights of all persons belonging to national minorities (communities);

2) provision on equal terms to public associations of national minorities (communities), national-cultural societies of methodical, informational and organizational assistance in the organization and holding of cultural-artistic events (festivals, competitions, concerts, days of national cultures, reviews of folk art, exhibitions applied and fine arts, etc.);

3) conducting regular information and cultural and educational events aimed at the integration of national minorities (communities) into Ukrainian society;

4) organizing and conducting events to perpetuate the memory of persons who belong to national minorities (communities) and participated in the defense of the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, repulsed the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, are fighters for the independence of Ukraine, made a significant contribution to the development of Ukraine, science, literature, culture, art;

5) providing public associations of national minorities (communities) with assistance in the implementation of youth and children's projects aimed at fostering a tolerant attitude towards persons of different ethnic origins, mutual respect and cooperation between all citizens, regardless of ethnic, linguistic, cultural, religious identity;

6) organization and holding of ceremonial events to mark commemorative dates related to the history of national minorities (communities);

7) other functions aimed at meeting the cultural needs of persons belonging to national minorities (communities).

*{Article 19 is supplemented by a new part in accordance with Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

4. For the functioning of the Center for National Minorities (Communities), the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the regional, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations allocate appropriate premises.

Organizational support for the functioning of the Center for National Minorities (Communities) is carried out by the structural division of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, regional, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations on issues of national minorities (communities). The Center for National Minorities (Communities) can also hold meetings of advisory bodies on issues of national minorities (communities).

In settlements in which persons belonging to national minorities (communities) traditionally live, or in which such persons make up a significant part of the population, on the initiative of public associations of national minorities (communities), village, settlement, city councils may form a Center of National minorities (communities) of the relevant territorial community.

*{Paragraph three of Article 19 as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated September 21, 2023 }*

5. The premises of the Center of National Minorities (communities) or its individual parts, as well as the land plot on which it is located, are prohibited from being used for commercial purposes.

#### **Section IV. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND FOREIGN RELATIONS OF NATIONAL MINORITIES (COMMUNITIES)**

**Article 20.** International cooperation in the field of protection of rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities)

1. Ukraine promotes the development of international cooperation in matters of ensuring and protecting the rights and interests of national minorities (communities), in particular by concluding and implementing multilateral and bilateral agreements in the specified area.

2. State authorities, within the limits of their powers, cooperate with relevant bodies of other states and international organizations in the field of protection of the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities), contribute to the resolution of issues concerning national minorities (communities), including by conducting interstate dialogue.

3. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities) may be members of intergovernmental bilateral commissions on issues of ensuring the rights and freedoms of persons belonging to national minorities (communities).

**Article 21.** Foreign relations of national minorities (communities)

1. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities) and public associations of national minorities (communities) may maintain relations with representatives of countries of ethnic kinship, national public associations outside Ukraine, participate in the activities of relevant international non-governmental organizations organizations

Such individuals and public associations may receive assistance from foreign states, private individuals, public associations, foundations and other foreign institutions in accordance with the procedure established by law.

2. Persons belonging to national minorities (communities), public associations of national minorities (communities) are prohibited from cooperating with and receiving assistance from foreign states and private individuals, non-governmental organizations of other states, international non-governmental organizations, foundations and other foreign institutions, activities which are aimed at eliminating the independence of Ukraine, changing the constitutional order by violent means, violating



the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state, undermining its security, illegal seizure of state power, propaganda of war, violence, inciting inter-ethnic, racial, religious enmity, encroachment on human rights and freedoms, public health.

Section V. FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. This Law shall enter into force six months after its publication, except for clause 5 of this section, which shall enter into force on the day following its publication.

2. Recognize as invalid:

Law of Ukraine "On National Minorities in Ukraine" (Reports of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 1992, No. 36, Article 529; 2013, No. 23, Article 218; 2014, No. 5, Article 62);

Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine "On the Implementation of the Law of Ukraine "On National Minorities in Ukraine" (Annals of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 1992, No. 36, Article 530).

3. To establish that for the period of martial law in Ukraine, introduced by the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the introduction of martial law in Ukraine" dated February 24, 2022 No. 64/2022 , approved by the Law of Ukraine "On the approval of the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the introduction of martial law in of Ukraine" dated February 24, 2022 No. 2102-IX , and during:

1) for six months from the date of its cancellation or termination, the rights of national minorities (communities) defined in Article 7 (in terms of the right to peaceful assembly), Articles 14 , 18 , 19 and part three of Article 20 of this Law shall be subject to temporary restrictions on the implementation and protection of identify their affiliation by ethnic origin with a state recognized in Ukraine and/or by international organizations as a terrorist state (aggressor state) that commits acts of aggression against Ukraine.

*{Subparagraph 2 of Clause 3 of Section V is excluded on the basis of Law No. 3504-IX dated 08.12.2023 }*

*{Clause 3 of Chapter V as amended by Law No. 3389-IX dated 09/21/2023 }*

4. Article 10 of the Law of Ukraine "On Local Self-Government in Ukraine" (Reports of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 1997, No. 24, Article 170; 2008, Nos. 5-8, Article 78) shall be supplemented with part six of the following content:

"6. To exercise their powers, village, settlement, city, district, oblast councils may form consultative and advisory bodies."

5. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine within six months from the date of entry into force of this clause:

1) prepare and submit to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine proposals to bring the laws of Ukraine into compliance with this Law;

2) take measures to adopt and/or update regulatory acts of executive authorities arising from this Law, ensuring their entry into force simultaneously with the entry into force of this Law;

3) to approve the State target program for ensuring the development of unity in the diversity of national minorities (communities) for 5-10 years.

6. In 2024, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine will inform the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine about the state of implementation of this Law.

President of Ukraine

V. ZELENSKY

Kyiv,  
December 13, 2022  
No. 2827-IX



On national minorities (communities) of Ukraine  
Law of Ukraine dated 13.12.2022 No. 2827-IX  
Revision dated 10.12.2023 , basis — 3504-IX  
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- Голос України від 31.12.2022 — № 267
- Урядовий кур'єр від 06.01.2023 — № 4
- Офіційний вісник України від 13.01.2023 — 2023 р., № 3, стор. 121, стаття 197, код акта 115858/2022