



# *LAW OF UKRAINE*

## **On Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language**

**(Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy (BVR), 2019, No. 21, Art. 81)**

{As amended under Laws

No. 113-IX dated 19 September 2019, BVR, 2019, No. 42, Art. 238

No. 114-IX dated 19 September 2019, BVR, 2019, No. 45, Art. 289

Code

No. 396-IX dated 19 December 2019, BVR, 2020, No. 7, No. 8, No. 9, Art. 48

Law

No. 531-IX dated 17 March 2020, BVR, 2020, No. 16, Art. 101}

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,

on the basis of the Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine dated 16 July 1990, and the Act of Declaration of Independence of Ukraine dated 24 August 1991 and approved by the All-Ukrainian Referendum held on 1 December 1991, by which the independent national statehood of Ukraine was restored;

guided by the Constitution of Ukraine that defines the Ukrainian language as the only State language in Ukraine and imposes on the State the duty of ensuring the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of public life throughout Ukraine;

acting in accordance with the Decision No. 10-rp/99 of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine dated 14 December 1999, which establishes that the Ukrainian language as the State language shall be the mandatory means of communication throughout Ukraine in the exercise of powers by government authorities and local self-government authorities (the language of acts, work, record keeping, documentation, etc.), as well as in other common spheres of public life, which are determined by law;

with regard to the Concept of the State Language Policy, as approved by the Decree No. 161/2010 of the President of Ukraine dated 15 February 2010, which defines strategic priorities in overcoming deformations in the national language and culture, language and information space caused by the centuries-old assimilation policies pursued by colonialists and occupants, and according to which the full-fledged functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of public life throughout the State is a guarantee of preserving the identity of the Ukrainian nation and strengthening the state unity of Ukraine;

being aware that the Ukrainian language is the determining factor and the key feature of the identity of the Ukrainian nation that has historically formed and for many centuries lived continuously on its own ethnic territory, constitutes the overwhelming majority of the country's population, has given the State its official name, and is also the basic systemic component of the Ukrainian civil nation;

seeking to strengthen the state-building and consolidating functions of the Ukrainian language, increase its role in ensuring the territorial integrity and national security of Ukraine;

intending to create appropriate conditions for ensuring and protecting the language rights and needs of Ukrainians;

and also taking into consideration the Opinion of the European Commission for Democracy through Law, according to which, in view of the special conditions prevailing in Ukraine, a balanced policy in the sphere of language requires adequate safeguards for preservation of the State language as an instrument of social consolidation, and the Recommendation of the European Commission for Democracy through Law to the Ukrainian legislature to find substantially more acceptable ways of affirming the supremacy of the Ukrainian language as the only State language and to take additional measures in order to strengthen its role in the Ukrainian society,

hereby adopts this Law.

### **Section I GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

**Article 1.** The status of the Ukrainian language as the only State language in Ukraine

1. The Ukrainian language shall be the only State (official) language in Ukraine.
2. The status of the Ukrainian language as the only State language stems from the state-building self-determination of the Ukrainian nation.
3. The State status of the Ukrainian language is an integral element of the constitutional system of Ukraine as a unitary state.
4. The status of the Ukrainian language as the only State language in Ukraine shall be exclusively determined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

5. The procedure for the functioning and use of the State language shall be exclusively determined by law.

6. Deliberate distortion of the Ukrainian language in official documents and texts, including its deliberate use in contravention of the requirements imposed by Ukrainian spelling and the State language standards, as well as the creation of obstacles and restrictions in the use of the Ukrainian language, shall entail the liability established by law.

7. The status of the Ukrainian language as the only State language implies its mandatory use throughout Ukraine in the exercise of powers by government authorities and local self-government authorities, as well as in other common spheres of public life determined by this Law.

8. The Ukrainian language as the only State language functions as the language of interethnic communication, is a safeguard for the protection of human rights for every Ukrainian citizen, regardless of his ethnic origin, and is a factor in the unity and national security of Ukraine.

## **Article 2. Scope of the Law**

1. This Law governs the functioning and use of the Ukrainian language as the State language throughout Ukraine in the spheres of public life referred to in this Law.

2. This Law shall not apply to the sphere of private communication and the conduct of religious rites.

3. The procedure for the use of the Crimean Tatar language or other languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine in the respective spheres of public life is determined by the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine, subject to the specific features determined by this Law.

## **Article 3. Purposes of the Law**

1. Purposes of this Law include:

1) protection of the State status of the Ukrainian language;

2) establishment of the Ukrainian language as the language of interethnic communication in Ukraine;

3) ensuring the functioning of the State language as an instrument of consolidation of the Ukrainian society, a means of strengthening the state unity and territorial integrity of Ukraine, its independent statehood and national security;

4) ensuring the use of the Ukrainian language as the State language throughout Ukraine in the spheres of public life referred to in this Law, as well as in international communication, during the performance of representative functions by officials and officers;

5) ensuring the development of the Ukrainian language to strengthen national identity, preserve national culture, traditions, customs, historical memory, and to ensure its continued functioning as a state-building factor for the Ukrainian nation;

6) support for the Ukrainian language by promoting:

a) proficiency of Ukrainian citizens in the Ukrainian language;

b) the development of the Ukrainian sign language as the main or one of the main means of communication between sign-language persons. The status, principles and procedure for the use of the Ukrainian sign language shall be determined by law;

c) the use of the Ukrainian language in compliance with Ukrainian spelling and other State language standards;

d) the use of Ukrainian words, phrases and terms instead of foreign-language words, where corresponding equivalents exist in the Ukrainian language, and by raising public awareness of them;

e) prevention of the vulgarisation of the Ukrainian language and its mixing with other languages;

f) dissemination of knowledge about the Ukrainian language and its role in the development of Ukrainian and European cultures;

g) popularisation of dialects and subdialects of the Ukrainian language, and their preservation;

h) study of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine and abroad;

7) dissemination of the Ukrainian language in the world and assistance in meeting the linguistic needs of foreign Ukrainians and Ukrainian citizens who reside or temporarily stay outside Ukraine.

## **Article 4. Status of the Ukrainian sign language and linguistic rights of sign-language persons**

1. The Ukrainian sign language shall be the language of the community of sign-language persons.

2. The Ukrainian sign language is a natural visual sign language system with its own lexical and grammatical structure, which has formed evolutionarily and is used as the main or one of the main means of communication between sign-language persons who permanently reside or have for a long time resided within Ukraine.

3. In Ukraine, everyone is guaranteed the right to use freely the Ukrainian sign language in public life, to learn and support it, as well as to study in the Ukrainian sign language.

4. Nothing in this Law may be interpreted as being intended to narrow the scope of the use of the Ukrainian sign language.

## **Article 5. The State Programme for Mastering the State Language**

1. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall approve and ensure the implementation of the State Programme for Mastering the State Language (the “Programme”).

2. The Programme shall determine the key strategic objectives and priority tasks of the State policy of supporting the State language for the relevant period, as well as the measures designed to achieve said objectives and fulfil the tasks.

3. Under the Programme, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall take measures to establish and ensure the operation of a network of state and communal courses for the study of the State language by Ukrainian citizens, foreigners and stateless persons, create conditions for the development of educational entities, which would allow each person to master the State language, including through non-formal and informal education.

4. The Programme should be developed and implemented with regard to the statutory guarantees and privileges that are required in order to meet the needs of Ukrainian citizens, foreigners and stateless persons in the study of the State language and expansion of its use both in Ukraine and abroad.

5. An action programme in the relevant year for the development of culture by the central executive body in charge of shaping the State policy in the field of culture and arts should include measures to facilitate the mastering of the Ukrainian language, including through publication of Ukrainian language textbooks, creation of a Ukrainian terminology dictionary database, and provision of free access to said book products for Ukrainian citizens, foreigners and stateless persons, and must comply with the Programme.

## **Section II**

### **THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE AND UKRAINIAN CITIZENSHIP**

**Article 6.** The duty of a Ukrainian citizen to be proficient in the State language

1. Each citizen of Ukraine is required to be proficient the State language.

2. The State provides each citizen of Ukraine with opportunities for mastering the State language through a system of preschool, secondary general, extramural, occupational (vocational), professional pre-higher, higher education, and adult education institutions, as well as by supporting non-formal and informal education aimed at studying the State language.

3. The State organises free Ukrainian language courses for adults and provides an opportunity to master the State language freely to those Ukrainian citizens who did not have this opportunity.

**Article 7.** The obligation to be proficient in the State language for acquisition of Ukrainian citizenship

1. A person intending to acquire Ukrainian citizenship shall be required to attest an appropriate proficiency in the State language.

Persons who have rendered outstanding services to Ukraine, including foreigners and stateless persons who, according to the procedure established by the laws of Ukraine, do military service in the Armed Forces of Ukraine and have been granted a state award, and persons whose admittance to Ukrainian citizenship is in the State interests of Ukraine, shall be entitled to acquire Ukrainian citizenship without attesting their level of proficiency in the State language. These persons shall be required to master the State language, within one year from the acquisition of citizenship, at the proficiency level determined by law.

2. Requirements on the level of proficiency in the State language, necessary for the acquisition of Ukrainian citizenship, shall be determined by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

3. Proficiency examinations in the Ukrainian language required for the acquisition of Ukrainian citizenship shall be held according to the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

**Article 8.** Language of identity documents of Ukrainian citizens

1. Identity documents of Ukrainian citizens shall be issued in the State language. In the instances stipulated by the law and international treaties, to which the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consented to be bound, such documents shall be issued in other languages and duplicated in the State language.

2. Citizens of Ukraine whose native language is different from the Ukrainian language shall be entitled, under Article 40 of this Law, to a transcribed record of their names and surnames in the identity documents of a citizen of Ukraine in accordance with their national tradition.

3. Names and surnames shall be recorded in passports of citizens of Ukraine for travel abroad in transliteration from Ukrainian.

## **Section III**

### **THE OBLIGATION TO BE PROFICIENT IN THE STATE LANGUAGE**

**Article 9.** Persons required to be proficient in, and use the State language in the course of their official duties

1. The following persons shall be required to be proficient in, and use the State language in the course of their official duties:

1) President of Ukraine, Prime Minister of Ukraine, First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine, Vice Prime Ministers of Ukraine, other members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, first deputy and deputy ministers, heads of other central executive authorities and their deputies, Head of the Administration of the President of Ukraine and his deputies, Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine and his deputies, Head of the Security Service of Ukraine and his deputies, Head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine and his deputies, Prosecutor General and his deputies, heads of oblast and local prosecutor's offices, head of the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office and his deputies, members of the Council of the National Bank of Ukraine, Chairman and other members of the Accounting Chamber, Chairman of the Anti-Monopoly Committee of Ukraine, other State Commissioners of the Anti-Monopoly Committee of Ukraine, heads of the local offices of the Anti-Monopoly Committee of Ukraine, members of the National

Agency on Corruption Prevention, members of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language, members of the Central Election Commission, members of the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine, members of national committees for regulation of natural monopolies, members of the National Securities and Stock Market Commission, members of the National Commission for State Regulation in the Field of the Market of Financial Services, members of other State collegial bodies, Head of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine and his deputies, Chairman of the State Property Fund of Ukraine and his deputies, permanent representatives of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, President of Ukraine at the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, Director of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine, Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights and his representatives, Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and his deputies, ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Permanent Representative of the President of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and his deputies;

*{Article 9.1.1 as amended under the Law No. 113-IX dated 19 September 2019}*

2) deputies of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils, officers of local self-government authorities;

3) civil servants;

4) heads of local state administrations, their first deputies and deputies;

5) employees of the National Bank of Ukraine;

6) military servicemen of the officer rank, who do military service under contracts;

7) middle- and senior-ranking superiors of the National Police, other law enforcement and intelligence agencies, officers of other bodies, to whom special ranks are awarded;

8) personnel of low, sergeant, and sergeant-major ranks of the National Police, other law enforcement and intelligence agencies, and other bodies, to whom special ranks are awarded;

9) prosecutors;

10) judges who have been elected or appointed in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine and administer justice on a professional basis, members and disciplinary inspectors of the High Qualifications Commission of Judges of Ukraine, members of the High Council of Justice;

11) lawyers;

12) notaries;

13) heads of educational institutions of all patterns of ownership;

14) education, academic and education, academic workers, other than foreigners and stateless persons, who have been invited to educational institutions and/or academic institutions and work on a temporary basis as academic, education, or academic and education workers, or teachers of foreign languages;

15) medical personnel of State and communal health care institutions;

16) officers and officials, other than persons who are not citizens of Ukraine, of State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations not referred to in paragraphs 1.1–15 of this Article.

2. Persons applying for election or appointment to the positions referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be required to be proficient in the State language.

#### **Article 10.** Requirements on the level of proficiency in the State language

1. Requirements on the respective level of proficiency in the State language for the persons referred to in Article 9 of this Law shall be established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

2. The level of proficiency in the State language of the persons referred to in Articles 9.1.1, 9.1.3, 9.1.4, 9.1.7, 9.1.9, 9.1.10, and 9.1.13 of this Law shall be attested by the State Certificate of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language (the “State Certificate”), issued according to this Law by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

3. The level of proficiency in the State language of the persons referred to in Articles 9.1.2, 9.1.5, 9.1.6, 9.1.8, 9.1.11, 9.1.12, 9.1.14–16 of this Law shall be attested by a document of complete general secondary education, provided that such a document evidence study of the Ukrainian language as an academic subject (discipline) by a person, or by the State Certificate of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language, issued according to this Law by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

4. A document evidencing the level of proficiency in the State language shall be presented by a person prior to being elected or appointed to the positions referred to in Article 9.1 of this Law.

#### **Article 11.** Levels of proficiency in the State language

1. Classification of levels of proficiency in the State language shall be developed and approved by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language, subject to the Council of Europe’s recommendations on language education (CEFR).

2. Following an examination held to determine the level of proficiency in the State language, a person shall be issued a State Certificate of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language (the “State Certificate”) attesting one of the levels on the scale established by paragraph 3 of this Article.

3. The scale of levels of proficiency in the State language defines three general skill levels: elementary level A, intermediate level B, and fluent level C.

The State Certificate of first-degree elementary level (A1) attests that a person can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type, such as introduce himself and others, ask and answer questions about personal details (place of residence, family, personal belongings, etc.); can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

The State Certificate of second-degree elementary level (A2) attests that a person can understand and use sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment, etc.); can communicate in an environment requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on routine matters.

The State Certificate of first-degree intermediate level (B1) attests that a person can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. The level of proficiency in the Ukrainian language allows for dealing with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in Ukraine. The person can produce simple connected text on topics which are of personal interest; can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions, and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

The State Certificate of second-degree intermediate level (B2) attests that a person can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his field of specialisation; can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party; can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.

The State Certificate of first-degree fluent level (C1) attests that a person can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning; can express himself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions, can use the Ukrainian language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes; can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing mastery of grammar rules.

The State Certificate of second-degree fluent level (C1) attests that a person can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read, can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation, and can express himself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.

#### **Section IV**

### **USE OF THE STATE LANGUAGE IN THE OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, AUTHORITIES OF THE AUTONOMOUS REPUBLIC OF CRIMEA, LOCAL SELF- GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES, STATE- AND COMMUNITY-OWNED ENTERPRISES, INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS**

**Article 12.** Working language in the operation of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations

1. The working language in the operation of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, including the language of conferences, events, meetings and the day-to-day communication language, shall be the State language.

The working language in the operation of foreign diplomatic institutions of Ukraine and other state missions abroad shall be the State language.

2. Where a language other than the State language is used during a conference, event or a meeting, translation into the State language must be provided.

3. The working language of international events, conferences and meetings shall be the State and/or other language specified by organisers or an international treaty. During conferences, meetings or day-to-day communication between a designated group of persons and foreigners or stateless persons, another language, acceptable to the parties, may be used.

4. The requirements laid down in this Article shall apply subject to the specifics set out in Articles 21–23 of this Law.

**Article 13.** Use of the State language in regulations, record keeping and document management

1. The language of regulations and acts of the individual application, record keeping and document management in government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities shall be the State language.

2. Draft regulations and acts of individual application shall be drawn up in government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities according to the Ukrainian legal terminology standards established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

3. Regulations and acts of individual application adopted by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government authorities shall be made public in the State language, in the manner prescribed by law.

4. Within the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, acts of individual application adopted by the authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or local self-government authorities shall be made public in the State language and may be additionally made public translated into the Crimean Tatar language as the language of the indigenous people in Ukraine.

5. The language of local acts that govern the operation of State- or community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall be the State language.

6. Unless otherwise provided by law, government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall accept for consideration the documents drawn up in the State language.

7. When writing to foreign addressees, government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations may use other language than the State language.

8. Response to the appeals made by individuals and legal entities to government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall be given in the State language, unless otherwise provided by law.

**Article 14.** Use of the State language in legal proceedings

1. In the courts of Ukraine, proceedings shall be conducted and records shall be kept in the State language.

2. Other languages than the State language may be used in court proceedings in the manner prescribed by the procedural codes of Ukraine and the Law of Ukraine on Judicial System and Status of Judges.

3. Courts shall adopt decisions and make them public in the State language in the manner prescribed by law. Texts of court decisions shall be drafted with regard to the State language standards.

**Article 15.** Use of the State language in the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations

1. The language of regulations, documentation, record keeping, commands, training, educational activities, other regulation communications and official activities in the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations established under the law shall be the State language.

**Article 16.** Use of the State language in law enforcement agencies, intelligence agencies, special-purpose government agencies with law enforcement functions

1. The language of regulations, documentation, record keeping, official activities and communication with citizens of Ukraine in law enforcement agencies, intelligence agencies, special-purpose government agencies with law enforcement functions shall be the State language.

2. An employee of a law enforcement agency, intelligence agency, special-purpose government agency with law enforcement functions may communicate with a person who does not understand the State language in a language acceptable for both parties, as well as via an interpreter.

**Article 17.** Use of the State language when crossing the state border of Ukraine

1. When the Ukrainian border is crossed by citizens of Ukraine, border, customs and other types of control shall be performed in the State language.

2. When the Ukrainian border is crossed by foreigners or stateless persons, border, customs and other types of control shall be performed in the State language or in other language spoken by a controlling officer or official.

**Article 18.** Use of the State language in the process of elections and referendums

1. The language of elections and referendums and the language used in the activities of election commissions and referendum commissions shall be the State language.

2. Electoral and referendum documentation shall be drafted in the State language.

3. Election and referendum ballot papers shall be printed in the State language.

4. Election campaign materials broadcast on television, radio, placed in outdoor advertising media, distributed as leaflets and newspapers, or posted on the Internet shall be made in the State language.

Election campaign materials, including videos of elections of the President of Ukraine, people's deputies of Ukraine, deputies of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government deputies and officers, all-Ukrainian and local referendums and their results, as well as political advertising, campaign advertisements and televised debates, shall be adapted for perception by sign-language persons through interpretation in the Ukrainian sign language and/or subtitling in the Ukrainian language subject to the requirements established by law.

5. Distribution of election campaign materials produced in the State language and dubbed in the languages of the respective indigenous peoples or national minorities of Ukraine shall be allowed in certain inhabited localities, in the manner and on the terms established by law in respect of the procedure for the exercise of the rights of Ukraine's indigenous peoples and national minorities.

**Article 19.** Use of the State language when concluding international treaties of Ukraine

1. Bilateral international treaties of Ukraine shall be concluded in the State language and the language of the other party unless otherwise provided by such international treaty.

2. Multilateral international treaties shall be concluded in the languages agreed by the parties thereto.

## Section V

### USE OF THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE AS THE STATE LANGUAGE IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE

**Article 20.** The State language in the field of labour relations

1. No one shall be forced to use a language other than the State language while being at work and performing duties under an employment contract, except when:

a) serving consumers or other customers who are foreigners or stateless persons;

b) drawing up legal, technical, informational and promotional texts or other messages and documents (including verbal ones) addressed to foreigners or stateless persons, legal entities, authorities and officers of foreign states and international organisations.

2. Employment contracts in Ukraine shall be executed in the State language, which shall not preclude the parties thereto from using its translation.

**Article 21.** The State language in the field of education

1. The language of the educational process in educational institutions shall be the state language.

The State guarantees every citizen of Ukraine the right to receive formal education at all levels (preschool, secondary general, occupational (vocational), professional pre-higher and higher), as well as extramural and postgraduate education in the State language at the State and communal educational institutions.

Persons from among national minorities of Ukraine shall be guaranteed the right to study at communal educational institutions, in order to receive preschool and primary education, in the language of the respective national minority of Ukraine, along with the State language. This right shall be exercised by setting up, in accordance with the law, of separate classes (groups) providing education in the language of the respective national minority of Ukraine along with the State language, and shall not apply to classes (groups) providing education in the State language.

Persons from among indigenous peoples of Ukraine shall be guaranteed the right to study at communal educational institutions, in order to receive preschool and secondary general education, in the language of the respective indigenous peoples of Ukraine, along with the State language. This right shall be exercised by setting up, in accordance with the law, of separate classes (groups) providing education in the language of the respective indigenous peoples of Ukraine along with the State language, and shall not apply to classes (groups) providing education in the State language.

Persons from among indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine shall also be guaranteed the right to study the native language of the respective indigenous people or national minority of Ukraine at communal secondary general education institutions or via national cultural societies.

Persons with impaired hearing shall be guaranteed the right to study sign language and to learn the Ukrainian sign language.

2. Educational institutions, including occupational (vocational), professional pre-higher and higher education institutions, shall provide for mandatory study of the State language to the extent that would allow for professional activity to be pursued in the selected field using the State language.

Indigenous persons or members of national minorities of Ukraine, foreigners and stateless persons shall be provided with appropriate conditions for learning the state language. Persons from among indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine, foreigners and stateless persons shall be provided with adequate facilities for study of the State language.

3. The language of an independent external assessment performed following the completion of secondary education, as well as that of entrance examinations, shall be the State language, except for an independent external assessment of knowledge of foreign languages.

4. The State facilitates learning the languages of international communication, primarily the English language, at the State and communal educational institutions.

5. At educational institutions, according to their curricula, one or more disciplines may be taught in two or more languages ? the State language, English or other official languages of the European Union.

6. At the request of occupational (vocational), professional pre-higher and higher education seekers, educational institutions provide opportunities for learning the language of the indigenous people or national minority of Ukraine as a separate discipline.

7. Foreign languages shall be taught at educational institutions and foreign language courses in the respective foreign or the State language.

8. The State facilitates the establishment and operation abroad of educational institutions where teaching is conducted in the State language or the State language is taught.

9. The specifics of using languages in different types and at different levels of education shall be determined by special laws.

**Article 22.** The State language in the field of science

1. The language of science in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. Scientific publications shall be made public in the State language, English and/or other official languages of the European Union. Where made public in the English and/or other official languages of the European Union, the published materials must be accompanied by an abstract and a list of keywords in the State language.

3. Dissertations written by persons seeking a degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Arts, Doctor of Sciences, or, in the instances provided for by law, scientific reports in the event of defence of scientific achievements published in the form of a monograph or a collection of articles in domestic and/or international peer-reviewed professional publications, as well as dissertation synopses and reviewers' opinions, shall be made either in the State or the English language.

A specialised academic council may require in its decision that a translation or a brief abstract be provided in the State language for articles published in international professional publications in languages other than the English language.

4. Public defence of a dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Arts, public defence of scientific achievements in the form of a dissertation or a published monograph, or a collection of articles for the degree of Doctor of Sciences shall be conducted in the State language or, at the request of the seeker, in the English language.

5. The language of public scientific events (scientific conferences, round tables, symposia, seminars, scientific schools, etc.) may be the State language and/or the English language.

The language of public scientific events on the topic of a particular foreign language (linguistics) or foreign literature may be a respective foreign language.

If the event is conducted in a foreign language, organisers shall notify thereof its participants in advance. In this case, interpretation in the State language is optional.

6. A person attending any public scientific event may under no circumstances be denied the right to use the State language.

### **Article 23.** The State language in the field of culture

1. The State ensures the use of the State language in the field of culture.

2. The language of cultural and artistic, recreation, and entertainment events shall be the State language. The use of other languages shall be allowed during such events, where justified by the artistic or creative concept of the event organiser, as well as in the instances stipulated by law in respect of the procedure for exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine. The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to the use of languages during the performance and/or reproduction of songs, other musical works with text, or phonograms.

Cultural and artistic, recreation, and entertainment events in Ukraine shall be hosted (compèred) in the State language. Where the event is hosted (compèred) by a person who is not proficient in the State language, the organiser shall provide simultaneous or sequential interpretation thereof in the State language. Specifics of hosting (compèring) cultural, artistic, and entertainment events held in Ukraine in pursuance of international obligations before the European Broadcasting Union shall be determined by an agreement between the parties. The law in respect of the procedure for the exercise of the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine may determine specifics of using the languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine during hosting (compèring) of cultural events held by the respective minority.

3. Announcements, posters, other information materials about cultural, artistic and entertainment events, as well as admission tickets, shall be produced in the State language. Use of other languages than the State language shall be allowed in announcements, posters, other information materials, provided that the amount and font of the text in another language are not larger than those of the text in the State language. Requirements on the font size shall be optional when writing performers' proper names, names of creative teams or titles of works, as well as legitimate trademarks (brand and service marks).

4. Public rendition and/or public showing of a theatrical performance in a language other than the State language at a state or communal theatre shall be accompanied by a translation in the State language by means of subtitles, audio translation or otherwise.

5. The language of museum work and art exhibitions shall be the State language.

Museum records in museums of all patterns of ownership shall be kept in the State language.

Information about museum items on display at museums or art exhibitions shall be provided in the State language. In addition to the State language, information about museum items may be duplicated in other languages. In written information about museum items, captions made in other languages shall be placed below or to the right of a caption made in the State language. The font size of textual information provided in the State language about museum items must be at least that of a corresponding text in another language. Audiovisual information provided in the State language about museum items must be at least as legible, loud and accessible as the corresponding information in a foreign language.

Admission tickets to museums or exhibitions, public announcements of exhibitions shall be produced in the State language. Duplication of information in admission tickets in another language shall be allowed. The font size of a text printed on admission tickets in another language may not be larger than the font size of a text printed in the State language.

Information materials about a museum or exhibition shall be made in the State language and, where necessary, in other languages as well.

6. The language of film distribution and screening in Ukraine shall be the State language.

Films produced by Ukraine's film industry entities shall be distributed and screened in Ukraine with the dialogue component of a soundtrack performed in the State language, including by dubbing or voice-over. Domestic films may be screened in the Crimean Tatar language or other languages of indigenous peoples in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Film Industry". In the event that lines spoken in other languages are used in the dialogue component of a soundtrack performed in the State language, including by dubbing or voice-over, such lines shall be re-recorded or subtitled in the State language. The total duration of subtitled lines performed in other languages in a film may not exceed 10 per cent of the total duration of all lines in such film.

Films not referred to in the second indent of this paragraph shall be distributed and screened in Ukraine dubbed or voiced over in the State language. Along with the State language, foreign films may contain audio tracks performed in other languages.

Distribution in Ukraine's film exhibition facilities of documentaries without dubbing or voice-over in the State language, but subtitled in the State language, shall be allowed subject to such film scoring at least 2 points under cultural criteria of a cultural test, as stipulated in the Law of Ukraine on State Support of Film Industry in Ukraine, and a permit for such distribution indicated in a state certificate of the right to distribute and screen films, which has been issued in the manner prescribed by law.



As part of events within film festivals held in Ukraine with the consent of a central executive authority that implements the State policy in the field of the film industry, films in the original language, but subtitled in the State language, may be screened in Ukraine's film exhibition facilities. Beyond festival events, such films shall be screened in the State language.

Film exhibition facilities may screen foreign films in their original languages, accompanied with subtitles in the State language. The total number of shows for a film screened in a language other than the State language may not exceed 10 per cent of the total number of shows for films screened by a film exhibition facility each month.

Information about screenings of foreign films in original languages shall be communicated to the audience in advance.

Online video-on-demand service providers, where audio tracks in the State language for films accessible from the territory of Ukraine are available to them, shall ensure that such audio tracks to the respective films are loaded by default.

The State shall assist video-on-demand service providers whose services are available in Ukraine in the production of audio tracks in the State language and/or in obtaining rights to such audio tracks.

7. Film posters and admission tickets to film theatres and other film exhibition facilities shall be made in the State language.

8. The language of tourist and sightseeing services shall be the State language. Tourist and sightseeing services may be provided to foreigners or stateless persons in other languages.

9. The State facilitates the creation and dissemination of works of culture and arts in the State language.

**Article 24.** The State language in the field of television and radio broadcasting

1. Television and radio organisations shall broadcast in the State language. The mandatory (minimum) amount of broadcasting in the State language for certain categories of television and radio organisations is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting.

**Article 25.** The State language in the field of print mass media

1. Print mass media in Ukraine shall be published in the State language.

Print mass media may be published in other languages than the State language, provided that an edition in the State language is published concurrently with a corresponding edition in a foreign language. All language versions must be published under the same title, be similar to each other in their content, size and printing method, and their editions must have the same consecutive numbering and be issued on the same day.

2. Subscription distribution of print mass media published in languages other than the State language shall be allowed, provided that their (co-)founders offer an option to subscribe in Ukraine to the same edition in the State language.

3. (Co-)founders of print mass media shall produce, publish and deliver, in the manner prescribed by law, mandatory copies of documents (volumes (editions) of the print mass media) in the State language.

4. At each site of print mass media distribution, the print mass media in the State language must amount to at least 50 per cent of the print mass media titles distributed at such a site.

At a site of distribution of print mass media published in a language other than the State language, the same print mass media in the State language shall be distributed.

5. The requirements imposed by paragraphs 1 and 2, and the second indent of paragraph 4 of this Article shall not apply to the print mass media published exclusively in the Crimean Tatar language, other languages of indigenous peoples of Ukraine, in the English language or another official language of the European Union, regardless of whether they contain texts in the State language, as well as to scientific publications whose language is determined by Article 22 of this Law.

In this case, mandatory copies of documents stipulated in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be produced, published and delivered in the respective language.

**Article 26.** The State language in the field of book publishing and distribution

1. A publisher entered in the State Register of Publishers, Manufacturers and Distributors of Publishing Products shall be required to publish in the State language at least 50 per cent of all book titles published by it in the respective calendar year.

This requirement shall not apply to publishing products published in the Crimean Tatar language, other languages of indigenous peoples or national minorities of Ukraine with the funds from the State and/or local budgets under the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

2. The percentage of book publications in the State language must be at least 50 per cent of the total number of book titles available for sale at each bookshop or at other book distribution facilities.

Dictionaries, textbooks and phrasebooks published in the languages, one of which is the State language, and book publications comprising texts of identical content in two or more languages, one of which is the State language, shall be regarded as book publications in the State language.

Provisions of the first indent of this paragraph shall not apply to bookshops or other establishments that distribute book publications in the official languages of the European Union or in the State language only and/or dictionaries, foreign language phrasebooks or textbooks, as well as to specialised bookshops established to exercise the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine according to the law.

3. The State facilitates publication and dissemination of works of Ukrainian literature, translation and publication in the State language of literature in foreign languages.

**Article 27.** The State language in the field of computer software and website user interfaces

1. Computer software with a user interface, which is sold in Ukraine, must have a user interface in the State language, English and/or other official languages of the European Union.

For the purposes of this Law, user interface shall mean displayed information with which a user interacts directly when using computer software or a website and which contains a text in any language of human communication (such as the language of the computer software visual design, the language of interaction, dialogues and transactions between the user and computer software).

The requirements of this Law shall not apply to programming languages.

2. Computer software with a user interface, installed on the goods sold in Ukraine, must have a user interface in the State language, containing at least the same information in terms of amount and content as foreign-language versions of the same interface. Failure to comply with this requirement shall entail consequences as laid down in consumer protection laws in respect of the sale of goods of inadequate quality.

3. Government authorities, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall use in their work the computer software with a user interface in the State language only.

Until a user interfaces in the State language has been developed for the relevant computer software, such computer software may be used with its user interface in the English language.

4. During computer software procurement for government authorities, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, availability of a user interface in the State language shall be a mandatory requirement, except as referred to in the second indent of paragraph 3 of this Article.

5. State- and community-owned educational institutions shall use for educational purposes the computer software with a user interface in the State language.

Until a user interfaces in the State language has been developed for the relevant computer software, such computer software may be used with its user interface in the English language.

6. Online representative offices (including websites, webpages in social networks) of government authorities, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, mass media registered in Ukraine, as well as those of economic entities that sell goods and services in Ukraine and are registered in Ukraine, shall be made in the State language. In addition to the versions of online representative offices (including websites, webpages in social networks) made in the State language, versions in other languages may exist. A version of an online representative office in the State language must have at least the same information in terms of amount and content as its foreign-language versions and should be loaded by default for users in Ukraine.

For foreign economic entities that sell goods and services in Ukraine and have their subsidiaries, branches, or representative offices in Ukraine, the version of websites in the State language must contain sufficient information in terms of amount and content to enable accessible navigation and disclosure of the purpose of the activity pursued by the owner of such online representative office.

A version of such a website in the State language should be loaded by default for users in Ukraine.

This rule shall not apply to online representative offices of the mass media referred to in Article 25.5 of this Law.

7. Mobile apps of government authorities, local self-government authorities, mass media registered in Ukraine, as well as those of economic entities that sell goods and services in Ukraine, must have a user interface version in the State language.

8. In specialised scientific, technological, medical diagnostic equipment, other specialised professional equipment, other than consumer goods, (such as instruments, machinery, appliances, benches, etc.) and its software, as well as in specialised software intended for use only in the field of information technology, availability of a user interface in the State language may be optional, if a user interface in the English language is provided.

**Article 28.** The State language in the field of publicly available information

1. Publicly available information (such as advertisements, including those containing a public offer of an agreement, directional signs, pointers, signboards, messages, captions and other publicly placed textual, visual, and audio information that is or may be used to inform general public about goods, work, services, certain economic entities, officers or officials of enterprises or government authorities, local self-government authorities) shall be presented in the State language, unless otherwise provided by this Law.

2. Publicly available information may be duplicated in other languages according to the law.

3. The requirements of this Article shall not apply to the information posted via the Internet, except as stipulated in this Law.

**Article 29.** The State language in the field of public events

1. Unless otherwise provided by this Law, the language of public events shall be the State language.

For the purposes of this Law, public events shall include meetings, conferences, rallies, exhibitions, training courses, seminars, training sessions, discussions, forums and other events, accessible or open to attendees of such events free or by invitation, for a fee or free of charge, permanently, periodically, at one time or from time to time, which are organised, either in whole or in part, by government authorities, local self-government authorities, State-owned institutions or organisations, as well as by economic entities whose owners (founders, members, shareholders) include the State or a territorial community, regardless of the proportion of such ownership.

Where another language other than the State language is used at a public event, its organiser shall be required to provide simultaneous or consecutive interpretation into the State language, if requested by at least one attendee at such public event.

This provision shall not apply to the events held for a limited number of persons or events organised specifically for foreigners and/or stateless persons.

Events specifically organised to study a foreign language shall be held in the State and/or the respective foreign language.

2. The use of the Crimean Tatar language or other languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine during public events is determined by the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

**Article 30.** The State language in the field of consumer services

1. The language of consumer services in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. Enterprises, institutions and organisations of all patterns of ownership, individual entrepreneurs, other economic entities that serve consumers (except as stipulated in paragraph 3 of this Article) shall deliver services and provide information about goods (services), including via online shops and online catalogues, in the State language. Information in the State language may be duplicated in other languages.

3. At the request of a client, services may also be provided to him personally in another language acceptable to the parties.

4. An electronic commerce entity registered in Ukraine shall be required to provide, in the course of its activities and where commercial electronic messages are disseminated, all the information referred to in the Law of Ukraine on Electronic Commerce, including that on the scope of the electronic contract, in the State language.

5. Information about goods and services within Ukraine shall be provided in the State language, subject to the specific features determined by Article 33 of this Law.

*{Article 30.5 as amended under the Law No. 114-IX dated 19 September 2019}*

6. Manufacturers (contractors, sellers) of all patterns of ownership in Ukraine shall provide consumers with information about products (goods), work or services in the State language. This information may be duplicated in any other language.

7. The information about products (goods), work or services, referred to in paragraph 6 of this Article, shall be communicated to consumers according to the procedure, in the manner and to the extent laid down by the Law of Ukraine on Consumer Protection.

Use of words, acronyms, abbreviations or symbols in the English language and/or use of Latin and/or Greek alphabet letters shall be allowed in the information provided in the State language about products (goods), work or services.

8. Where information about goods and services is provided in other languages in addition to the State language, the amount of the information in the State language about goods and services may not be less than the mandatory amount of information according to the requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine on Consumer Protection.

**Article 31.** The State language in technical and design documentation

1. Any technical or design documentation under a contract to which a government authority, local self-government authority, State- or community-owned enterprise, institution or organisation is a party shall be produced in the State language.

Technical and design documentation shall be approved by government authorities or local self-government authorities on the condition that it has been produced in the State language.

2. The language of technical or design documentation to be produced under a contract with a foreigner, a stateless person or a legal entity founded under the laws of another country may be determined by the terms of a contract for production of documentation or, with the parties' consent, by any other means.

**Article 32.** The State language in the field of advertising

1. The language of advertising in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. In the print mass media published in one of the official languages of the European Union, advertising shall be allowed in the language in which such print mass medium is published.

3. The language of advertising on television and radio shall be the State language.

The language of advertising disseminated by television and radio organisations broadcasting to foreign countries or by television and radio organisations broadcasting in one or more of the European Union's official languages may include, in addition to the State language, the European Union's official languages.

The specifics of using the Crimean Tatar language or other languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine are laid down by the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

**Article 33.** The State language in the field of health care

1. The language in the field of health care, medical assistance and medical services shall be the State language.

2. At the request of a person seeking medical assistance or health care services, such services may also be provided to him personally in another language acceptable to the parties.

3. Documentation on patients' state of health shall be drawn up by health care institutions in the State language.

4. The language of the acts regulating the operation of health care institutions, record keeping and document management shall be the State language.

5. Health care institutions shall use medical terminology in their documentation according to the standards established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.

6. Labelling of medicines and medical devices, as well as the texts of instructions for use thereof, shall be performed in the State language. Labelling of medicines and medical devices to be procured by a specialised procurement organisation in pursuance of a procurement agreement between the central executive authority that ensures the formation and implementation of the state policy in the field of health care and the respective specialised procurement organisation, as well as the texts of instructions for use thereof, may be performed in the original language.

*{Article 33.6 added under Law No. 114-IX dated 19 September 2019}*

7. Labelling of medicines and medical devices to be procured under procurement agreements executed between the central executive authority that ensures the formation and implementation of the state policy in the field of health care and specialised procurement organisations determined under the Law of Ukraine on Public Procurement, as well as for instructions for use of such medicines and medical devices, shall be performed in the original language until 31 March 2022.

*{Article 33.7 added under Law No. 531-IX dated 17 March 2020}*

8. Labelling of medicines and medical devices to be procured by a person authorised to carry out procurements in the field of health care according to the list approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, as well as instructions for use and brief descriptions of such medicines and medical devices, may be in the original language (other than the State language), provided that the supplier, in the instances prescribed by the law, ensures that each package of a medicine or medical device imported into the territory of Ukraine is accompanied by a copy of the instructions for use and a brief description of such medicine or medical devices, translated into the State language and attested by the signature of the applicant or its authorised representative (for medicines) or that of the authorised representative (for medical devices).

*{Article 33.8 added under the Law No. 531-IX dated 17 March 2020 — amendments shall be in effect until 31 March 2022}*

9. Where an unregistered medicine has been imported into the territory of Ukraine for supply purposes following a procurement carried out by a person authorised to carry out procurements in the field of health care, to implement programmes and centralised health care activities using funds from the State Budget, or to carry out procurement involving a person authorised to carry out procurements in the field of health care using local budget funds, labelling, as well as instructions for use and a brief description of such medicine may be in the original language (other than the State language), provided that the supplier ensures that each package of imported medicine is accompanied by a copy of the text of labelling and instructions for use/brief description of the medicine translated into the State language and attested by the signature of the duly authorised person of the central executive authority that ensures the formation and implementation of the state policy in the field of health care.

*{Article 33.9 added under Law No. 531-IX dated 17 March 2020}*

#### **Article 34.** The State language in the field of sports

1. Sporting events, including international ones, shall be held in Ukraine in the State language.

Special foreign-language terms used in certain sports may be applied without translation.

2. Information and other announcements during a sporting event shall be made in the State language. During international events, these announcements may be duplicated in other languages.

3. Admission tickets to sporting events, other information products about sporting events shall be produced in the State language. Texts of admission tickets to international sporting events, other information products about international sporting events may also be duplicated in other languages.

#### **Article 35.** The State language in the field of telecommunications and postal service

1. The language of services in the field of telecommunications and postal service in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. Addresses of senders and recipients of postal items and messages forwarded within Ukraine shall be made in the State language.

3. International postal items and messages transmitted through public telecommunications networks shall be processed with the use of the languages specified in the international treaties to which the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consented to be bound by.

#### **Article 36.** The State language in the field of transport

1. Services in the field of transport in Ukraine shall be provided in the State language.

2. On all types of passenger transport, at the railway stations, bus stations, airports, sea and river ports, the language of information, announcements, messages, signs and enquiry services shall be the State language. Where necessary, this information may be duplicated in the English language and, in the international passenger service, — also in the official language(s) of the relevant vehicle's country of destination.

3. The language of services provided to passengers on transport shall be the State language. At the request of a passenger, services may be provided to him individually in another language acceptable to the parties.

4. The language of traffic services and communication on all types of transport shall be the State language, unless another language is used under the terms of an international treaty, to which the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consented to be bound.

5. Names of airports, ports, stations, stops, proper names of vehicles shall be presented in the State language according to the rules of Ukrainian spelling. In addition to the State language, these names may be conveyed in Latin alphabet letters according to their pronunciation in the State

language. Special identifiers (codes), comprising Latin letters and assigned to airports by international organisations, may be used in the names of the airports.

**Article 37.** The State language in the field of record-keeping, document management, correspondence and reporting of public associations, political parties and other legal entities

1. The language of correspondence with government authorities, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations for public associations, political parties and other legal entities registered in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. Public associations, political parties and other legal entities registered in Ukraine shall adopt constituent documents and decisions, submit statistical, tax and other reporting to government or local self-government authorities in the State language.

**Article 38.** The State language in the appeals forwarded to public associations, political parties and other legal entities

1. Everyone shall be entitled to apply in the State language, either verbally or in writing, with appeals to public associations, political parties and other legal entities registered in Ukraine. Public associations, political parties and other legal entities registered in Ukraine shall respond in the State language to the appeals made in the State language, according to the Law of Ukraine on Appeals by Citizens.

2. Public associations, political parties and other legal entities registered in Ukraine may also accept for consideration appeals made in other languages.

## **Section VI**

### **USE OF THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE AS THE STATE LANGUAGE IN PROPER NAMES AND TITLES**

**Article 39.** Names of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities

1. The proper name of the sole body of legislative power in Ukraine shall be the “Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine”. This name shall be conveyed in other languages by transliterating the words “Verkhovna Rada” in the letters of the respective alphabet according to pronunciation thereof in the Ukrainian language and by translating the word “Ukraine” in the respective language.

The State facilitates the introduction of the name “Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” into other languages, in compliance with the first indent of this paragraph.

2. Official names of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall be made in the State language.

3. Official names of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall be inscribed on seals, stamps, postmarks, official letterheads and signboards in the State language.

4. In addition to the State language, official names of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations may be indicated in the English language. The names made in the English language shall be located on the right-hand side or at the bottom of signboards and official letterheads.

The specifics of conveyance by local self-government authorities and communal enterprises of their names in the Crimean Tatar language or other languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine are laid down by the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

**Article 40.** The State language in personal names

1. Surnames, first names and patronymics of citizens of Ukraine shall be made in the State language according to the rules of Ukrainian spelling, be conveyed by transliteration into the letters of a relevant alphabet according to pronunciation thereof in the State language and shall not be translated into other languages.

2. A person shall be entitled to a transcribed record of his surname, first name and patronymic in accordance with his national tradition.

**Article 41.** Use of the State language in geographical names and names of toponymic sites

1. Geographical names, as well as names of public gardens, boulevards, streets, lanes, descents, passages, avenues, squares, plazas, embankments, bridges and toponymic sites shall be made in the State language.

2. Names of toponymic sites shall not be translated into other languages and shall be conveyed in official documents, mass media, cartographic, reference, encyclopaedic, educational and other publications in the letters of a relevant alphabet according to pronunciation thereof in the State language.

3. When used in Ukraine, names of geographic sites and toponymic sites located within other states, as well as those of geographic sites and toponymic sites that are not under sovereignty or jurisdiction of any state, shall be conveyed in the State language in transcription from the original language, subject to the specifics of Ukrainian phonetics and spelling. Where the name of such geographic site or toponymic site has a Ukrainian origin, such name may be used instead of or along with its foreign-language version. Names of Ukrainian origin shall be given preference in official documents.

4. Within Ukraine, inscriptions on road signs, signboards and other directional signs of geographic and toponymic site names shall be conveyed in the State language. In addition to names in the State language, directional signs of geographic and toponymic site names may contain versions

thereof in the Latin alphabet. Inscriptions in Latin letters should be made smaller and located on the right-hand side or at the bottom.

**Article 42.** Language of trademarks

1. Trademarks (goods and services marks) shall be used in their legally protected form.

## **Section VII**

### **SUPPORTING THE STANDARDS OF THE STATE LANGUAGE**

**Article 43.** The National Commission for Standards of the State Language

1. Standards of the Ukrainian language as the State language shall be developed and approved by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language (the “Commission”).

2. The Commission shall be tasked with preservation and development of the State language through establishment of the State language standards and methods for testing the level of proficiency in the State language required for acquisition of citizenship or holding the positions determined by law.

3. The Commission is a central executive authority whose operation shall be directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine through a minister heading a central executive authority in the field of education and science (the “Minister”).

4. The Commission is a legal entity and shall have an official seal bearing the National Emblem of Ukraine and its name, shall maintain its independent balance sheet and accounts with bodies of the State Treasury Service of Ukraine, as well as independent assets that constitute items of State property and are under the Commission’s operational management.

5. Powers of the Commission shall be determined by this Law.

6. The Commission shall have an official website, which is the official source of information about the Commission’s work.

**Article 44.** Powers of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language

1. The Commission shall have the following powers:

- 1) develop, with regard to proposals and opinions from the Institute of the Ukrainian Language of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, other academic and educational institutions, and approve the State language standards, in particular:

- a) Ukrainian spelling and any changes thereto;
- b) Ukrainian terminology;
- c) standards of transcription and transliteration;

- 2) approve requirements on the levels of proficiency in the State language for the acquisition of citizenship;

- 3) approve requirements on the levels of proficiency in the State language for persons referred to in Articles 9.1 and 9.2 of this Law;

- 4) approve the procedure for testing the level of proficiency in the State language;

- 5) approve the form of the State Certificate;

- 6) submit, in the manner prescribed by law, to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine its proposals on amendments to the legislation, associated with the support for the State language standards;

- 7) approve tasks used in the examination for proficiency in the State language;

- 8) organise examinations to determine proficiency in the State language and designate the examining institutions (organisations) specially authorised by the State;

- 9) issue State Certificates;

- 10) maintain and administer the Register of State Certificates of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language (the “Register”);

- 11) develop and submit, in the manner prescribed by law, to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for its consideration a draft Procedure for holding examinations to review proficiency in the State language;

- 12) exercise other powers established by this Law.

2. Decisions of the Commission shall be binding throughout Ukraine and may be appealed in court.

3. While developing the Ukrainian terminology standards in various fields, the Commission shall promote the use of Ukrainian words, phrases and terms instead of foreign-language ones.

**Article 45.** Membership of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language

1. The Commission is a collegial body consisting of nine members.

2. The Minister shall make a submission to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for appointing the Commission members from among the candidates proposed by the central executive authority in charge of shaping and implementing the State legal policy, the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the central executive authority in charge of shaping and implementing the State language policy, the central executive authority in the field of education and science.

3. Within one month from the relevant submissions made, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall appoint members of the Commission from among the persons proposed by the Minister.

A member of the Commission shall be appointed and dismissed by the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

4. A citizen of Ukraine who, by the time of his appointment (election), has reached the age of 30, is proficient in the State language, holds an academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy in the field of philology in one of such branches of studies as the Ukrainian language, general linguistics or translation studies, and who is capable of performing the respective official duties, based on his educational and professional levels, shall be eligible for appointment to the position of a Commission member.

5. A member of the Commission may not:

- 1) hold a representative mandate;
- 2) engage in any other paid or entrepreneurial activities (save for teaching, academic or creative activities);
- 3) be a member of the management or supervisory board of a profit-making enterprise or organisation.

6. The term of office of a Commission member shall be six years.

Powers of a Commission member whose term of office has expired shall terminate upon adoption of a relevant decision by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The same person may not be a Commission member for more than two consecutive terms.

7. Powers of a Commission member shall be terminated early by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon the Minister's submission in the event of

- 1) submission by him of a personal letter of resignation from the position of a Committee member;
- 2) availability of a medical opinion stating his inability to exercise his powers for reasons of health;
- 3) his violation of restrictions on holding more than one office;
- 4) a guilty verdict against him coming into force;
- 5) termination of his Ukrainian citizenship;
- 6) him being declared missing or deceased;
- 7) his death.

8. Members of the Commission are civil servants.

#### **Article 46.** Chairman of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language

1. The Commission shall be headed by its Chairman elected by the Commission from among its members.

2. The Chairman of the Commission shall:

- 1) represent the Commission in its relations with government authorities, local self-government authorities, enterprises, organisations and institutions;
- 2) preside at the Commission meetings;
- 3) sign minutes of the Commission meetings;
- 4) sign decisions of the Commission.

#### **Article 47.** Operation of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language

1. The Commission shall operate in the form of meetings. Meetings of the Commission shall be convened on the Commission Chairman's own initiative or at the request of at least three Commission members. The Commission shall meet at least twice a month.

In the event that the Commission Chairman has failed to convene a Commission meeting at the request of its members within two days after such a request was made, these Commission members shall convene its meeting independently by duly notifying thereof the other Commission members.

2. The procedure for holding the Commission meetings shall be determined by the rules of procedure, which are approved by a majority of votes cast by the Commission members and may not be inconsistent with this Law.

3. A Commission meeting shall be duly constituted if attended by more than half of its membership stipulated in this Law.

4. A decision of the Commission shall be regarded as adopted if supported by the votes cast by at least five of its members.

5. In between the meetings, members of the Commission shall exercise their powers in accordance with the decision of the Commission.

6. The Commission Staff shall provide administrative, information, reference and other support for the Commission's activities.

Regulations on the Commission Staff and its structure, as well as regulations on the independent structural subdivisions within the Staff shall be approved by the Commission. The limit on the number of employees in the Commission Staff shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine upon submission by the Commission Chairman.

The Chief of Staff and his deputies shall be appointed and dismissed by the Commission.

#### **Article 48.** Documents evidencing the level of proficiency in the State language and examination for proficiency in the State language

1. The level of proficiency in the State language shall be evidenced by:

- 1) the State Certificate;

2) an extract from the Register, evidencing the issuance of a State Certificate and containing the information stipulated in this Article;

3) a document of complete general secondary education — in the instances referred to in Article 10.3 of this Law.

2. Examination for proficiency in the State language shall be arranged and held by the Commission. Results of examination shall be reviewed and assessed by the Commission Staff.

Powers to conduct examination for proficiency in the State language and/or to review and assess the results of examination may be delegated by the Commission under its decision to an institution (organisation) specially authorised by the State to perform independent external assessment according to the Law of Ukraine on Education. Results of such examination may be appealed to the Commission in accordance with paragraph 9 of this Article.

3. The Procedure for holding examination for proficiency in the State language shall be developed by the Commission and approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

4. Objectivity of examination for proficiency in the State language is ensured by making public in advance the information about the programmes, time and procedure for holding examinations, by maintaining compliance with uniform requirements on the procedure for holding thereof, by a selection of tasks, independence of examination boards, and uniform assessment criteria.

5. Tasks used in the examination for proficiency in the State language shall be approved by the Commission.

The Commission shall be entitled to engage academic and educational institutions, including the Institute of the Ukrainian Language of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, in the development of tasks.

6. Taking an examination for proficiency in the State language involves completing oral and written tasks. The Commission may establish special requirements on the examination taken by persons with vision, hearing or speech impairments.

7. A person may retake an examination for proficiency in the State language an unlimited number of times, but not more than once in four months, in order to obtain the first State Certificate or to raise an attested level of proficiency in the State language.

8. Taking an examination for proficiency in the State language shall be free for citizens of Ukraine.

9. Results of the examination for proficiency in the State language, held according to the second indent of paragraph 2 of this Article, may be appealed to the Commission.

The procedure for appealing the results of the examination and for handling complaints shall be approved by the Commission's decision.

Decisions determining the results of an examination and decisions taken by the Commission following the consideration of the respective complaints may be appealed to court.

10. The Commission shall issue a person the State Certificate, provided that, upon passing the examination for proficiency in the State language, such person has confirmed proficiency in the State language at a level referred to in Article 11 of this Law.

Results of an examination shall be determined within 15 calendar days from the date of such examination. A record of the issuance of the State Certificate shall be made by the Commission in the Register on or before the day following the determination of the examination results. A State Certificate shall be deemed as issued upon a relevant record made in the Register.

Where a record has not been made in the Register within three calendar days from establishing the level of proficiency in the State language, which entitles a person to a respective State Certificate, such State Certificate shall be deemed as issued.

The procedure for maintaining the Register shall be determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

11. A State Certificate shall be valid indefinitely.

12. A State Certificate may be voided under a court ruling in a lawsuit filed by the Commission. Grounds for voiding the State Certificate shall include violations made during the examination, provided that such violations were of a significant nature and resulted in adopting a substantially wrong decision to issue the State Certificate.

13. Access to the information contained in the Register (surname, first name, patronymic of a State Certificate holder, level of proficiency in the State language, the State Certificate serial number and date of issue) shall be made publicly available online on the Commission's official website.

14. Preparations for holding an examination for proficiency in the State language shall be funded from the State Budget in the manner prescribed by law.

15. A person who has passed the examination for proficiency in the State language shall be entitled to access his examination paper following its grading and to receive a certified copy thereof. The Commission shall establish the procedure for issuing certified copies of completed examination papers.

## Section VIII PROTECTION OF THE STATE LANGUAGE

**Article 49.** The Commissioner for the Protection of the State language

1. With the aim of facilitating the functioning of the Ukrainian language as the State language in the spheres of public life referred to in this Law, the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language (the “Commissioner”) shall operate throughout Ukraine.

2. The Commissioner's tasks shall include:



1) protection of the Ukrainian language as the State language;

2) protection of the right of citizens of Ukraine to receive in the State language throughout Ukraine information and services in the spheres of public life referred to in this Law, elimination of obstacles and restrictions in the use of the State language.

3. The Commissioner is an officer whose status is defined by this Law.

The Commissioner shall perform his functions independently of other government authorities and officers.

4. The Commissioner, for the purpose of implementing the tasks assigned to him, shall exercise the following powers:

1) submit proposals to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on supporting the effective implementation of the State policy aimed at the protection of the State language, comprehensive development and functioning of the State language throughout Ukraine in the spheres of public life defined by this Law, and on helping to meet the language needs of Ukrainians living outside Ukraine;

2) provide for monitoring of the implementation of laws on the State language, State special-purpose programmes for the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language as the State language;

3) consider complaints of acts or omissions by government authorities, local self-government authorities, enterprises, institutions and organisations of all patterns of ownership, other individuals or legal entities, filed by individuals and legal entities in respect of compliance with the laws on the State language;

4) forward to the Commission for Higher Civil Service, ministries and other central executive authorities, the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblast, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations his submissions, which shall be mandatory for consideration, for the conduct of internal investigations, as well as for disciplining the officers guilty of violating the laws on the State language;

5) draw up reports and apply penalties in the instances stipulated by law;

6) monitor the exercise of powers by his representatives according to paragraph 6 of this Article;

7) approve the form of a statement of findings from monitoring the use of the State language, as well as the form of the report and resolution referred to in Article 57 of this Law.

5. The Commissioner shall prepare on annual basis and submit to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, on or before 1 May of the year following the reporting year, and present to the public an annual public report of his activities and of the status of compliance with this Law, together with the Accounting Chamber's conclusions and recommendations delivered following the application of measures of the State external financial monitoring (audit) of the Commissioner's activities, and with the information on the progress in implementing the relevant recommendations. Concurrently with the submission of an annual report, the Commissioner shall post it on his official website for the purpose of public access, including in the form of open data under the Law of Ukraine on Access to Public Information.

6. The Commissioner shall exercise his powers directly. The Commissioner shall appoint representatives to support the exercise of his powers. A representative of the Commissioner shall be an employee of the Commissioner's Secretariat and shall exercise the powers specified in this Law at the seat of the Secretariat or in another location determined by the Commissioner.

Statements and reports drafted by the Commissioner's representative shall be forwarded to the Commissioner.

**Article 50.** Appointment and dismissal of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language

1. The Commissioner shall be appointed and dismissed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

2. The Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights, the head of the central executive authority in charge of shaping and implementing the State legal policy, and the head of the central executive authority in the field of the State language policy shall submit one nomination each for the position of the Commissioner to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

3. Submission of nominations for the Commissioner's position shall close three months prior to the expiration of the term of office for which the Commissioner was appointed. In the event of early termination of the Commissioner's powers, nominations shall be submitted within 30 days from the date of early termination.

4. A citizen of Ukraine, at least 35 years of age, who holds a diploma of higher education, is proficient in the State language and the English language, experienced in human rights work or in protecting the State language, and who is capable of performing the respective official duties, based on his business and moral qualities, as well as educational and professional levels, may be nominated for the Commissioner's position.

5. A person may not be nominated for the Commissioner's position, if such person:

1) has been brought to justice for violating the requirements of this Law;

2) has been involved in any attempted introduction of official multilingualism contrary to the Constitution of Ukraine and the established constitutional procedure.

6. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall consider all nominations for the Commissioner's position and resolve on the appointment of the Commissioner in the course of one meeting.

7. Prior to consideration, each of the nominees for the Commissioner's position shall be entitled to speak before members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

8. Nominees for the Commissioner's position may not be present during discussion of, or voting for nominations by members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

9. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall adopt its decision concerning appointment to the Commissioner's position by personal votes of members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine cast in an open ballot.

10. A nominee who has received the highest number of votes shall be appointed to the Commissioner's position by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

11. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall appoint the Commissioner for a term of five years. After expiration of this term, powers of the Commissioner shall terminate upon adoption of a relevant decision by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. A person may be reappointed to the Commissioner's position. A person may not hold the Commissioner's position for a third time.

12. Powers of the Commissioner shall be terminated early by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in the event of:

- 1) submission by him of a personal letter of resignation from the position of the Commissioner;
- 2) availability of a medical opinion stating his inability to exercise his powers for reasons of health;
- 3) his violation of restrictions on holding more than one office;
- 4) bringing him to justice for violating the requirements of this Law;
- 5) his involvement in any attempted introduction of official multilingualism contrary to the Constitution of Ukraine and the established constitutional procedure;
- 6) a guilty verdict against him coming into force;
- 7) termination of his Ukrainian citizenship;
- 8) him being declared missing or deceased;
- 9) his death.

13. The Commissioner is not a civil servant.

**Article 51.** Requirements on incompatibility with the position of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language

1. The Commissioner may not:

- 1) hold a representative mandate;
- 2) engage in any other paid or entrepreneurial activities (save for teaching, academic or creative activities, medical practice, sports instructor or referee practice);
- 3) be a member of the management or supervisory board of a profit-making enterprise or organisation;
- 4) be a member of a political party.

**Article 52.** Secretariat of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language

1. A Secretariat shall be established to support the Commissioner's activities. The Commissioner's Secretariat shall provide administrative, expert, analytical, legal, information and logistics support for the Commissioner's activities.

2. The Regulations on the Commissioner's Secretariat shall be approved by the Commissioner.

3. The structure of the Commissioner's Secretariat shall be approved by the Commissioner, while the staffing table and the budget — by the Head of the Commissioner's Secretariat with the consent of the central executive authority in charge of shaping the State's budget policy.

4. The Head and employees of the Commissioner's Secretariat are civil servants and shall be appointed and dismissed in the manner prescribed by the Law of Ukraine on Civil Service.

**Article 53.** Protection of the State language as an integral element of the constitutional system

1. In order to protect the State language against public abasement or neglect, deliberate distortion of the State language in official documents or texts, including intentional use thereof with violations of the State language standards, as well as against disregard for statutory requirements on mandatory use of the State language, the Commissioner shall:

- 1) carry out state monitoring of the use of the State language by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, their officers and officials, as well as by public associations, political parties, other legal entities and their officers;
- 2) provide opinions and recommendations to government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities in Ukraine regarding the use of the Ukrainian language as the State language in their activities;
- 3) provide opinions on the elements of public abasement or neglect of the State language in public speeches made by officers of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities in Ukraine, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, public associations, political parties and other legal entities, as well as by officers of foreign States;
- 4) submit proposals to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on amendments to the legislation intended to protect the State language.

2. In order to exercise the powers stipulated in this Article, the Commissioner shall engage, where necessary, employees of the National Police, the central executive body in charge of shaping and implementing the State policy in the field of consumer protection, the central executive authority implementing the State policy in the field of state monitoring of compliance with consumer protection laws, employees of local state administrations, other government authorities.

The procedure for liaison between the Commissioner and government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities shall be approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The procedure for liaison between the Commissioner and the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting shall be approved by a joint decision of the Commissioner and the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine.

**Article 54.** Protection of human rights in respect of the use of the State language in the spheres of public life referred to in this Law

1. Everyone shall be entitled to apply to the Commissioner or other agencies authorised to protect and monitor the use of the State language with a complaint of a violation of the requirements of this Law and for the elimination of obstacles and restrictions in the use of the State language.

2. A person may appeal to the Commissioner decisions, acts or omissions by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, their officers, officials and employees, where:

1) a regulation or an act of individual application has been adopted and/or officially made public by a government authority, authority of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or a local self-government authority in other language than the State language in contravention of the requirements of this Law, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such act has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards and this was done intentionally;

2) other language than the State language has been used in court proceedings, except as stipulated by this Law and procedural codes;

3) a court decision has been drafted in other language than the State language, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such decision has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards and this was done intentionally;

4) an act regulating the operation of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations has been adopted in other language than the State language in contravention of the requirements of this Law, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such act has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards and this was done intentionally;

5) the person, in response to his written appeals (proposals, comments, statements, petitions, complaints or other written appeals), has received a document in other language than the State language in contravention of the requirements of this Law, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such document has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards and this was done intentionally;

6) an officer, official or employee of a government authority, authority of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authority, State- or community-owned enterprise, institution or organisation has refused to use the State language when communicating with the complainant;

7) other language than the State language has been used during conferences, events or meetings held at government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions or organisations in contravention of the requirements of this Law;

8) State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions or organisations, their officers or employees have refused to provide information about goods or services in the State language.

3. A person may appeal to the Commissioner decisions, acts or omissions by public associations, political parties, other legal entities, their officers and employees, where:

1) an act regulating the operation of public associations, political parties, other legal entities and concerning the person's rights has been adopted in another language than the State language in contravention of the requirements of this Law, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such action has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards and this was done intentionally;

2) the person, in response to his written appeals (proposals, comments, statements, petitions, complaints or other written appeals), has received a document in another language than the State language in contravention of the requirements of this Law, or where the person reasonably believes that the language in which such document has been drafted fails to meet the State language standards;

3) an officer or employee of a public association, political party or other legal entity has refused to use the State language when communicating with the complainant;

4) a legal entity, its officer or employee have refused to provide information about goods or services in the State language.

4. A person may apply to the Commissioner for other reasons.

5. Complaints shall be lodged with the Commissioner within six months from detection of a violation by the complainant.

6. The Commissioner shall not consider those applications that are pending in court and shall terminate any consideration in progress, where a person concerned has filed a lawsuit, application or complaint with a court.

**Article 55.** Consideration of complaints by the Commissioner

1. A complaint must indicate the person's surname, first name, patronymic, place of residence, and state the facts of the complaint. A written complaint must be signed by the complainant indicating the date. An electronic complaint must also indicate an electronic mail address to which a response

may be sent to the complainant or information about other means of contacting him. When forwarding an electronic appeal, the use of signature shall not be required.

2. On the day of receipt of a complaint, the Commissioner's Secretariat shall register it and submit it to the Commissioner for consideration.

3. The Commissioner shall study the information contained in a complaint within 10 working days from the receipt thereof. Following such study, the Commissioner may adopt a decision to:

1) conduct a linguistic expert examination according to the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;

2) monitor the use of the State language;

3) dismiss the complaint.

4. Having considered a complaint, the Commissioner shall notify the complainant of the findings of such consideration.

5. Under the Commissioner's reasoned decision, a complaint shall be dismissed and returned to the complainant, where:

1) this Law does not cover decisions, acts or omissions referred to in the complaint;

2) the complaint concerns the instances of compliance with the State language standards during public speeches by officers of a government or local self-government authorities;

3) where the facts referred to in the complaint have already been a subject of consideration, and a decision concerning them has been adopted by the Commissioner;

4) a complaint concerning compliance with the State language standards fails to provide any substantiation;

5) the factual circumstances referred to in the complaint are the subject of legal proceedings concerning a violation of the requirements of this Law.

6. Complaints that fail to comply with paragraph 1 of this Article shall neither be considered nor resolved.

7. The time for considering a complaint shall be 30 working days from adopting a decision to conduct a linguistic expert examination or from taking preliminary monitoring measures in respect of the use of the State language. The Commissioner may extend the time for considering the complaint, but not more than by 30 working days, of which he shall promptly notify the complainant.

8. Decisions, actions or omissions by the Commissioner may be appealed in court.

#### **Article 56.** Carrying out state monitoring of the use of the State language

1. The Commissioner shall exercise state monitoring of the use of the State language in the instance referred to in Article 55.3 of this Law, as well as on his own initiative.

The scope of state monitoring of the use of the State language shall include compliance with the requirements imposed by this Law on the use of the State language.

The procedure for state monitoring of the use of the State language by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, economic entities, other legal entities and their officers are laid down by this Law.

2. When carrying out state monitoring of the use of the State language, the Commissioner or his representative shall be entitled to

1) demand and obtain copies of documents and other information concerning a monitored item, as may be necessary to monitor the use of the State language;

2) free access to government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, and attend their meetings, subject to compliance with the law;

3) demand and obtain copies of documents and other information concerning a monitored item from public associations, political parties, other legal entities.

3. Government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations, as well as public associations, political parties, other legal entities, shall provide, at the request of the Commissioner or his representative, copies of documents or other information concerning a monitored item within 30 days from receiving a relevant request, save for information designated by law as restricted information.

Where a respective entity referred to in the first indent of this paragraph has refused or failed, without statutory grounds, to provide the relevant copies of documents or information within the period stipulated by this Law, the Commissioner or his representative shall apply to such entity again. In the event of repeated refusal or repeated failure to submit the relevant copies of documents or information, the Commissioner shall impose a penalty in accordance with the law.

4. Following the monitoring of the use of the State language, the Commissioner or his representative shall draw up a statement of findings from monitoring the use of the State language.

5. A statement of findings from monitoring the use of the State language must contain the following information:

1) place of the statement;

2) date of the statement;

3) name or title of the person monitored for use of the State language;

4) grounds for monitoring the use of the State language;

5) description of circumstances identified in the course of monitoring the use of the State language;

6) opinion of compliance or non-compliance with (violation of) statutory requirements on mandatory use of the State language;

7) surname, first name, patronymic of the Commissioner or his representative who has drawn up the statement.

6. Where an instance of violation by a government authority, the authority of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authority, State- or community-owned enterprise, institution or organisation, other economic entity, irrespective of their patterns of ownership, or by public association, the political party of requirements on mandatory use of the State language, as stipulated in Articles 12–23, 25–29, 31–42 of this Law, has been recorded in a statement of findings from monitoring the use of the State language, the Commissioner or his representative shall draw up a report on the basis of such statement.

**Article 57.** Procedure for imposition of fines on economic entities for violating the law on the use of the State language in the field of consumer services

1. In the event of violation of the requirements laid down by Article 30 of this Law by an economic entity engaged in business within Ukraine, the Commissioner or his representative shall draw up a statement of findings from monitoring the use of the State language, issue a warning to such entity and a demand that the violation be remedied within 30 days from the date of the statement, which shall be indicated in the statement.

Such a statement must comply with the requirements laid down by Article 56.5 of this Law. A copy of the statement shall be delivered to the respective economic entity.

Where the requirements laid down by Article 30 of this Law have been repeatedly violated within one year, the Commissioner or his representative shall draw up a report.

2. A report following the action taken to perform state monitoring of the use of the State language shall be drawn up in two copies. One copy of the report shall be delivered to the economic entity or its representative, and the other shall be kept by the Commissioner. The form of the report shall be approved by the Commissioner.

3. The report shall indicate:

- 1) the date and place of its drafting;
- 2) position, surname, first name, patronymic of the reporting person;
- 3) information about the economic entity;
- 4) date, place and facts of the offence;
- 5) other information as may be required to resolve the matter.

4. A report of the offence shall be signed by the reporting person and by the economic entity held liable for the violation or by its representative.

In the event that the economic entity held liable for the violation or its representative refuse to sign the report, a respective record shall be made in the report. The said persons are entitled to provide clarifications and comments on the contents of the report, which shall be attached thereto, as well as their reasons for refusal to sign the report.

5. Cases of violation of the requirements of this Law by an economic entity engaged in business within Ukraine shall be considered by the Commissioner on the basis of relevant statements of findings from monitoring the use of the State language, other materials collected by the Commissioner or his representative during monitoring or consideration of the matter, clarifications from the economic entity and any documents attached by it.

6. A resolution to impose fines shall be issued by the Commissioner if violations of the provisions of this Law have been found following consideration of the case. The form of the resolution to impose fines shall be approved by the Commissioner.

A fine from three hundred to four hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes shall be imposed by the Commissioner on economic entities engaged in business within Ukraine if the requirements laid down by Article 30 of this Law have been repeatedly violated within one year.

A case of imposition of a fine shall be considered with the participation of the economic entity's representative. In the absence of such representative, the case may only be considered if, despite the economic entity being promptly, but at least three days before a hearing of the case, given notice of the place and time of such hearing, no motion for postponing the consideration of the case has been received from it.

7. A resolution to impose a fine shall be made in two copies. The first copy shall be kept by the Commissioner, and the second copy shall be either forwarded to the economic entity or delivered to the representative against receipt within three days from the adoption of the resolution.

8. An economic entity shall transfer the amount of fine to the State budget within fifteen days from receiving the resolution, of which it shall notify the Commissioner in writing within three days, indicating the number and date of the payment order. Where a resolution has been appealed, the fine shall be paid within fifteen days from notice of dismissal of the appeal.

9. A resolution to impose a fine shall be binding on the economic entity.

In the event of failure to comply with the said resolution, the amount of fine shall be collected in the manner prescribed by law.

A resolution to impose a fine may not be enforced in the event of failure to initiate enforcement within a period stipulated by the Law of Ukraine on Enforcement Proceedings.

10. A resolution to impose fines for violating the law in the field where the State language is used may be appealed by an economic entity to court

## Section IX FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. This Law shall come into force two months after its promulgation, save for:

Articles 7.2, 7.3, 10.2 and 10.3 of this Law, which shall come into force two years from this Law coming into force;

Article 13.2, which shall come into force simultaneously with coming into force of a decision by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language to adopt the Ukrainian legal terminology standards;

Article 21.3 of this Law, which shall come into force on 1 January 2030;

Articles 22.2–6 of this Law, which shall come into force a year from this Law coming into force;

Articles 23.2–6, 23.8 of this Law, which shall come into force two years from this Law coming into force;

Article 25 of this Law, which shall come into force thirty months from this Law coming into force ? for print mass media of national and regional circulation, and sixty months from this Law coming into force ? for print mass media of local circulation;

Article 26 of this Law, which shall come into force two years from this Law coming into force;

Articles 27.2 and 27.6 of this Law, which shall come into force three years from this Law coming into force;

Article 30 of this Law, which shall come into force eighteen months from this Law coming into force;

Article 31 of this Law, which shall come into force a year from this Law coming into force;

Article 32 of this Law, which shall come into force six months from this Law coming into force;

Articles 33.3–5 of this Law, which shall come into force a year from this Law coming into force;

Article 36.5 of this Law, which shall come into force a year from this Law coming into force;

Article 37 of this Law, which shall come into force a year from this Law coming into force;

Articles 55, 56 and 57 of this Law, which shall come into force six months from this Law coming into force;

paragraphs 7.8, 7.13, 7.14, 7.19, 7.20, 7.21, 7.25, indents five to nine of paragraph 7.28, paragraphs 7.29, 7.32, 7.33, paragraph 7.34(a), paragraphs 7.36, 7.37, 7.40, 7.41, 7.42, 7.43, 7.44 of this Section, which shall come into force two years from this Law coming into force;

paragraph 7.1 of this Section, which shall come into force three years from this Law coming into force;

paragraph 7.2 of this Section, which shall come into force thirty months from this Law coming into force ? for print mass media of national and regional circulation, and sixty months from this Law coming into force ? for print mass media of local circulation;

paragraph 7.17 of this Section, which shall come into force six months from this Law coming into force;

paragraph 7.24 of this Section, which shall come into force five years from this Law coming into force.

2. Article 10.2 of this Law shall not apply to persons who, by the time of this Article coming into force, have occupied positions referred to in Article 9.1 of this Law.

In the event that, after Article 10.2 of this Law coming into force, the person referred to in the first indent of this paragraph has applied for election or appointment to the positions referred to in Article 9.1 of this Law, such person shall validate the level of proficiency according to the procedure established by this Law.

3. Article 21 of this Law shall apply subject to the following features: persons from among indigenous peoples or national minorities of Ukraine, who had begun to acquire general secondary education in the language of the respective indigenous people or the respective national minority of Ukraine (except for the persons referred to in the second indent of this paragraph) before 1 September 2018, shall continue to acquire such education until 1 September 2020 under the rules that had existed prior to this Law coming into force, with a gradual increase in the number of academic subjects taught in the Ukrainian language.

Persons from among national minorities of Ukraine whose languages are the official languages of the European Union, who had begun to acquire general secondary education in the language of the respective national minority of Ukraine before 1 September 2018, shall continue to acquire such education until 1 September 2023 under the rules that had existed prior to this Law coming into force, with a gradual increase in the number of academic subjects taught in the Ukrainian language.

4. Until the temporary occupation of the part of the territory of Ukraine is over, one of the tasks of this Law shall be to facilitate the study of the Ukrainian language by those citizens of Ukraine who reside in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine defined in accordance with the law.

5. When the membership of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language is formed and the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language is appointed for the first time after this Law coming into force, the persons applying for these positions shall validate their levels of proficiency in the State language in compliance with the Law of Ukraine on Civil Service.

6. The provisions of the last sentence, the second indent of Article 23.2 of this Law, shall not apply to films (including television series, animation and documentary films) first made public prior to Article 23.6 of this Law coming into force.

7. That the following legislative acts of Ukraine be amended:

1) in the Code of Ukraine on Administrative Offences (The Official Bulletin of the Supreme Council of the Ukrainian SSR, 1984, Appendix to No. 51, Art. 1122):

a) Articles 188<sup>52</sup> and 188<sup>53</sup> be added to read as follows:

**“Article 188<sup>52</sup>. Violation of the law on the functioning and use of the Ukrainian language as the State language**

A violation of the requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language on the use of the State language during conferences, events, meetings and day-to-day communication, in the acts, record keeping and document management of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities, State and communal enterprises, institutions or organisations, other State- or community-owned economic entities, in legal proceedings and record-keeping by the courts of Ukraine, in law enforcement agencies, intelligence agencies, special-purpose government agencies with law enforcement functions, on the state border of Ukraine, in the process of elections and referendums, in international treaties of Ukraine -

shall entail imposition of a fine from two hundred to four hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes or a warning, if the offence has been committed for the first time.

A violation of the requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language on the use of the State language in the field of education, science, culture, book publishing, computer software and website user interfaces, in the field of publicly available information, public events, technological and design documentation, advertising, health care, sports, telecommunications and postal service, transport -

shall entail the imposition of a fine from two hundred to three hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes or a warning, if the offence has been committed for the first time.

A violation of the requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language on the use of the State language by print mass media -

shall entail the imposition of a fine from four hundred to five hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes or a warning, if the offence has been committed for the first time.

Other violations of the requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language on the use of the State language than those referred to in paragraphs 1–3 of this Article -

shall entail the imposition of a fine from two hundred to three hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes or a warning, if the offence has been committed for the first time.

A repeated violation from among those referred to in paragraphs 1–4 of this Article, were committed within a year and for which a person has already been subjected to an administrative penalty, -

shall entail the imposition of a fine from five hundred to seven hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes.

**Article 188<sup>53</sup>. Failure to comply with lawful demands of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language in the process of state monitoring of the use of the State language performed by such Commissioner**

A repeated failure to comply with lawful demands of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language in the process of state monitoring of the use of the State language performed by such Commissioner -

shall entail imposition of a fine from one hundred to two hundred tax-free minimum individual incomes on officers”;

b) Article 244<sup>24</sup> be added to Chapter 17 to read as follows:

**“Article 244<sup>24</sup>. The Commissioner for the Protection of the State language**

The Commissioner for the Protection of the State language shall consider cases of administrative offences associated with violation of the laws on the use of the State language or failure to comply with lawful demands of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language (Articles 188<sup>52</sup>, 188<sup>53</sup>)”;

c) in Article 255.2:

the numbers “244<sup>24</sup>” be added in the first indent after the numbers “244<sup>23</sup>”;

paragraph 24 be added to read as follows:

“24) representatives of the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language (Articles 188<sup>52</sup>, 188<sup>53</sup>)”;

2) Article 4.1 of the Law of Ukraine on Print Mass Media (Press) in Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1993, No. 1, Art. 1) be replaced with two new paragraphs to read as follows:

“Print mass media registered in Ukraine shall be published in the State language.

Use of languages in print mass media is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language.”

Article 4.2 thereby be regarded as Article 4.3;

3) in Article 3.2 of the Law of Ukraine on Notaries (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1993, No. 39, Art. 383; 2013, No. 33, Art. 436), the words “at the level established by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

4) Article 4<sup>1</sup> be added to the Law of Ukraine on Transport (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1994, No. 51, Art. 446, as amended) to read as follows:

“**Article 4<sup>1</sup>.** Language of transport services

The language of transport services in Ukraine shall be the State language.

Use of languages in the field of transport is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

5) Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine on News Agencies (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1995, No. 13, Art. 83; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 3.** Language of news agency products

Under the laws of Ukraine, news agencies shall distribute their products in the State, as well as in other languages, adhering to generally accepted ethical and moral rules of word usage”;

6) Article 6 of the Law of Ukraine on Appeals by Citizens (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1996, No. 47, Art. 256) be restated as follows:

“**Article 6.** Language of appeals, decisions and responses thereto

Use of languages in the field of citizens’ appeals, decisions and responses thereto is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

7) Article 4 of the Law of Ukraine on the Procedure for Media Coverage of Activities of Government Authorities and Local Self-Government Authorities in Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1997, No. 49, Art. 299; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 4.** Language of information disseminated about activities of government authorities and local self-government authorities

Information about activities of government authorities and local self-government authorities shall be disseminated in the State and other languages in the manner prescribed by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

8) in Article 5.2 of the Law of Ukraine on the Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1998, No. 20, Art. 99; 2013, No. 14, Art. 89), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

9) in the Law of Ukraine on Film Industry (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1998, No. 22, Art. 114; 2012, Nos. 12–13, Art. 78; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218; 2015, No. 18, Art. 131):

a) Article 6 be restated as follows:

“**Article 6.** Language in the field of film industry

Use of languages in the field of the film industry is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

b) Article 14.2 be restated as follows:

“Use of the State or other languages in film distribution and screening is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

c) the third indent of Article 15.3 be restated as follows:

“presence in a film of materials (statements, actions, etc.) that promote war, violence, cruelty, fascism and neo-fascism, are intended to eliminate Ukraine’s independence, incite ethnic, racial or religious hatred, abase the nation, abuse or neglect the State language, disrespect national and religious shrines, humiliate a person, promote ignorance, disrespect for parents, as well as drug addiction, substance abuse, alcoholism or other bad habits, which is corroborated by the opinion of an expert commission for film distribution and screening”;

10) Article 7.1 of the Law of Ukraine on General Secondary Education (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 1999, No. 28, Art. 230; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218; 2018, No. 43, Art. 345) be replaced with two new paragraphs to read as follows:

“The language of general secondary education in Ukraine shall be the State language.

Use of languages in general secondary education is determined by the Laws of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language and on Education.”

Article 4.2 thereby be regarded as Article 4.3;

11) Article 7 of the Law of Ukraine on Extramural Education (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2000, No. 46, Art. 393; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 7.** Language(s) of teaching and upbringing in extramural education

1. The language of extramural education shall be the State language.

2. Use of languages in the field of extramural education is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

12) Article 13 of the Law of Ukraine on the Armed Forces of Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2000, No. 48, Art. 410) be restated as follows:

“**Article 13.** Language in the Armed Forces of Ukraine

The language of the Armed forces of Ukraine shall be the State language.



The language of regulations, documentation, record keeping, commands, training, educational activities, other regulation communications and official activities in the Armed Forces of Ukraine shall be the State language”;

13) Article 9.2.5 of the Law of Ukraine on Citizenship of Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2001, No. 13, Art. 65) be restated as follows:

“5) proficiency in the State language at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language”;

14) Article 5.2 of the Law of Ukraine on Service in Local Self-Government Authorities (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2001, No. 33, Art. 175; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“Persons with appropriate education and training, who are proficient in the State language at the level established by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language shall be eligible for appointment to this position”;

15) Article 10 of the Law of Ukraine on Preschool Education (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2001, No. 49, Art. 259; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 10.** Language(s) in preschool education

1. The language of preschool education shall be the State language.

2. Use of languages in preschool education is determined by the Laws of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language, and on Education”;

16) Article 4 of the Law of Ukraine on Postal Service (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2002, No. 6, Art. 39; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 4.** Language in the field of postal service

The language of the postal service in Ukraine shall be the State language.

Use of languages in the field of postal service is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

17) Article 6 of the Law of Ukraine on Advertising (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2004, No. 8, Art. 62; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 6.** Language of Advertising

1. The language of advertising shall be the state language.

2. Intellectual property items in advertising shall be used in the language in which they have been granted legal protection under intellectual property laws.

3. The specifics of using languages of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine in advertising are laid down by the law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

18) Article 7 of the Law of Ukraine on Telecommunications (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2004, No. 12, Art. 155; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218) be restated as follows:

“**Article 7.** Use of languages in the field of telecommunications

1. The language of telecommunications in Ukraine shall be the State language.

2. Use of languages in the field of telecommunications is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

*{Section IX.7.19 no longer in force under the Code No. 396-IX dated 19 December 2019}*

20) in Article 7.1 of the Law of Ukraine on the Central Election Commission (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2004, No. 36, Art. 448), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added;

21) in the first indent, Article 7.1 of the Law of Ukraine on the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2005, No. 16, Art. 265; 2006, No. 18, Art. 155), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

22) Article 6 of the Law of Ukraine on Geographical Names (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2005, No. 27, Art. 360; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218; 2014, Nos. 6–7, Art. 80) be restated as follows:

“**Article 6. Standardisation of geographical names**

Geographical names shall be made in the State language.

Use of languages in geographical names is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

23) in Article 4.1 of the Law of Ukraine on Consumer Protection (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2006, No. 7, Art. 84; 2011, No. 47, Art. 531; 2014, No. 4, Art. 61):

paragraph 4 be restated as follows:

Article 4.1.4 be restated as follows: “4) the necessary, accessible, accurate and timely information in the State language about the products, their quantity, quality, range, the manufacturer (contractor, seller), according to the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

Article 4.1.4<sup>1</sup> be added to read as follows:

“4<sup>1</sup>) service in the State language under the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

24) the Law of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2006, No. 18, Art. 155, as amended):

a) a new indent be added after the fourth indent of Article 6.2 to read as follows:

“abasement or neglect of the State language.”

Indents five to fourteen thereby be regarded as indents six to fifteen, respectively;

b) Article 9.5 be deleted;

c) in Article 10:

in the first indent of Article 10.2 and in the first indent of Article 10.4, the number and words “75 per cent” be replaced with the number and words “90 per cent”;

in the first indent of Article 10.3, the number and words “60 per cent” be replaced with the number and words “80 per cent”;

Article 10.7(b) be deleted;

25) in the Law of Ukraine on the Status of a Deputy of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2007, No. 14, Art. 168):

a) in Article 1.2, the words “and is proficient in the State language at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added;

b) the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added to Article 28.4;

26) Article 7<sup>1</sup> be added to the Law of Ukraine on Border Control (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2010, No. 6, Art. 46, as amended) to read as follows:

“**Article 7<sup>1</sup>.** Language on the state border of Ukraine

1. The language of border control during the crossing of the state border of Ukraine is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

27) Article 4<sup>1</sup> be added to the Law of Ukraine on Physical Culture and Sports (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2010, No. 7, Art. 50, as amended) to read as follows:

“**Article 4<sup>1</sup>.** Language of sporting events

Use of languages during sporting events is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

28) in the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as approved by the Law of Ukraine on the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2010, Nos. 14–17, Art. 133; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218):

a) in Article 2:

Article 2.3 be restated as follows:

"3. The language of work for the Verkhovna Rada, its bodies and officers shall be the State language”;

Articles 2.5 and 2.6 be added to read as follows:

"5. A foreigner or a stateless person may speak at the sessions of the Verkhovna Rada or its bodies in another language. Simultaneous or consecutive interpretation of such speech into the State language shall be provided by the Verkhovna Rada Staff at all times.

6. A speech or any part thereof delivered in a language other than the State language at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada, the Verkhovna Rada committee, an ad hoc commission or ad hoc investigative commission of the Verkhovna Rada shall be translated in the State language in a transcript of the respective meeting”;

b) Article 173.3.2 be restated as follows:

“2) is proficient in the State language at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language”;

29) Article 4.2 of the Law of Ukraine on the State Voter Register (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2011, No. 5, Art. 34) be restated as follows:

“2. The rules established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language shall be applied to the transliteration of surnames, first names, patronymics and other proper names”;

30) Article 5.1 of the Law of Ukraine on Culture (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2011, No. 24, Art. 168; 2013, No. 23, Art. 218; 2017, No. 26, Art. 298) be restated as follows:

“1. Use of languages in the field of culture is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language and other laws”;

31) Article 8 of the Law of Ukraine on Information (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2011, No. 32, Art. 313) be restated as follows:

“**Article 8.** Language of information

1. The language of information is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language, other laws of Ukraine and the international treaties to which the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consented to be bound by”;

32) in Article 6.1 of the Law of Ukraine on the Bar and Practice of Law (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2013, No. 27, Art. 282), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State

language”;

33) in the Law of Ukraine on the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2014, No. 13, Art. 222; 2018, No. 36, Art. 272):

a) the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added to the first sentence of Article 7.1;

b) a new indent be added after the eighth indent of Article 5.8 to read as follows:

“8) the State Certificate of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language, corresponding to the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language.”

The ninth indent to be regarded as the tenth indent, accordingly;

34) in the Law of Ukraine On Higher Education (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2014, Nos. 37–38, Art. 2004; 2017, Nos. 38–39, Art. 380):

a) in the first indent of Article 42.1, the word “fully” be deleted; the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

b) Article 48 be restated as follows:

“**Article 48.** Language of educational process in higher education institutions

1. The language of the educational process in higher education institutions shall be the State language.

2. Use of languages in higher education institutions is determined by the Laws of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language, and on Education”;

35) in the Law of Ukraine on Prevention of Corruption (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2014, No. 49, Art. 2056, as amended):

a) in Article 3.1.1(a), the words “Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language” be added after the words “Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights”;

b) in a note to Article 50, the words “Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language, members of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights”;

c) in a note to Article 56, the words “Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language, members of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Human Rights”;

36) in Article 9.1 of the Law of Ukraine on Local Elections (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2015, Nos. 37–38, Art. 366), the words “and is proficient in the State language at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added;

37) in the Law of Ukraine on National Police (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2015, Nos. 40–41, Art. 379, as amended):

a) in Article 23.1, Article 23.1.31 be added to read as follows:

“31) take measures, on the basis of a relevant resolution adopted by the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language, to support the exercise by the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language of his powers, including by facilitating the collection of actual data about presence or absence of elements of violation in the actions (omissions) by certain persons of requirements imposed by the Law of Ukraine “On Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”.

Police employees shall be engaged upon a reasoned application filed by the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language, suggesting the exact actions to be taken by police employees. This application shall be forwarded to the head of a local police authority at the place where the actions referred to in the application are to be taken”;

b) in Article 49.1, the words “at the level established under the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language” be added;

38) in the Law of Ukraine on Electronic Commerce (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2015, No. 45, Art. 410):

a) a twelfth indent be added to Article 5.1 to read as follows:

“compliance with laws on the State language”;

b) Article 7.5 be added to read as follows:

“5. The procedure for the use of the State and other languages in electronic commerce is determined by the Law of Ukraine on Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language”;

c) Article 11.14 be added to read as follows:

“14. Proposals to conclude an electronic contract (offers), the text of electronic contracts, electronic messages shall be made in the State language. At the request of a buyer, the electronic contract may be executed in another language with the parties’ consent”;

39) Article 3<sup>1</sup> be added to Section I of the Law of Ukraine on Academic and Scientific Technological Activities (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2016, No. 3, Art. 25, as amended) to read as follows:

“**Article 3<sup>1</sup>.** Language of academic and scientific-technological activities

1. The language in the field of academic and scientific-technological activities shall be the State language”;

40) in the Law of Ukraine on Civil Service (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2016, No. 4, Art. 43; 2017, No. 35, Art. 376, No. 45, Art. 405):

a) Article 3.3.8<sup>1</sup> be added to read as follows:

“8<sup>1</sup>) the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language”;

b) Article 19.1 be restated as follows:

“1. Those adult citizens of Ukraine shall be eligible for civil service who are proficient in the State language at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language and who have been awarded at least the following higher education degrees:

1) master for Category A and Category B positions;

2) bachelor, junior bachelor for Category C positions;

c) Article 25.1.5 be restated as follows:

“5) a copy of the State Certificate of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language (an extract from the Register of State Certificates of the Level of Proficiency in the State Language) evidencing the level of proficiency in the State language established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language”;

41) in Article 69.1 of the Law of Ukraine on Judicial System and Status of Judges (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2016, No. 31, Art. 545), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added;

42) in Article 7.1 of the Law of Ukraine on the National Commission for State Regulation of Energy and Public Utilities (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2016, No. 51, Art. 833), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

43) in Article 6.1 of the Law of Ukraine on the High Council of Justice (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2017, Nos. 7–8, Art. 50), the words “at the level established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language” be added after the words “proficient in the State language”;

44) Article 4.2 of the Law of Ukraine on the Unified State Register of Persons Subject to Military Service (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2017, No. 18, Art. 217) be restated as follows:

“2. The rules established by the National Commission for Standards of the State Language shall be applied to the transliteration of surnames, first names, patronymics and other proper names”;

45) in Section XII.3 “Final and transitional provisions” of the Law of Ukraine on Education (Bulletin Vidomosti Verkhovnoi Rady Ukrainy, 2017, Nos. 38–39, Art. 380):

a) in Section XII.3.18, the words and numbers “in the language of the respective indigenous people or national minority of Ukraine (other than persons referred to Section XII.3.19” be added after the words and numbers “before 1 September 2018”;

b) Section XII.3.19 be added to read as follows:

“19) persons from among national minorities of Ukraine whose languages are the official languages of the European Union, who had begun to acquire general secondary education in the language of the respective national minority before 1 September 2018, shall continue to acquire such education until 1 September 2023 under the rules that had existed prior to this Law coming into force, with a gradual increase in the number of academic subjects taught in the Ukrainian language.”

8. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

1) within one month from this Law coming into force, submit to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for its consideration a draft law on amendments to the State Budget of Ukraine for the respective year, as regards financing the operation of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language and the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language;

2) within three months from this Law coming into force:

form the membership of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language;

appoint the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language;

ensure, within its competence, creation of appropriate conditions for the operation of the National Commission for Standards of the State Language and the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language;

3) within six months from this Law coming into force:

prepare and submit for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine a draft law on the procedure for the exercise of rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities;

define measures to implement Section IX.4 of this Law;

approve the State Programme for Mastering the State Language under Article 5 of this Law;

adopt, within its competence, the Procedure for holding examination for proficiency in the State language, the Procedure for monitoring by the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language of the use of the State language by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, and any other acts as may be necessary to implement provisions of this Law;

approve the Procedure for monitoring by the Commissioner for the Protection of the State Language of the use of the State language by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities;

provide for translation and publication in the State language of international treaties of Ukraine which have not been made public in the State language as of the date of this Law coming into force;

cause ministries and other central executive authorities to bring their regulations in conformity with this Law.

9. Within six months from this Law coming into force, government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, State- and community-owned enterprises, institutions and organisations shall bring their regulations in conformity with this Law.

President of Ukraine

P. POROSHENKO

City of City of Kyiv  
25 April 2019  
No. 2704-VIII



On Supporting the Functioning of the Ukrainian Language as the State Language  
Law of Ukraine on April 25, 2019 № 2704-VIII  
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Legislation of Ukraine  
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## Publications of document

- **Голос України** on May 16, 2019 — № 90
- **Урядовий кур'єр** on May 18, 2019 — № 92
- **Відомості Верховної Ради України** on May 24, 2019 — 2019, № 21, page 5, article 81
- **Офіційний вісник України** on May 31, 2019 — 2019, № 41, page 9, article 1422, код акта 94526/2019