



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

<http://assembly.coe.int>



NATIONAL SEMINAR

on the role of parliaments in the effective policy making in conformity with the Council of Europe standards

organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
in cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

30 May 2017, Kyiv

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Venue

Conference Hall
5 Hrushevskoho str.
Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
(main building)

1. Objectives

National parliaments are essential to the effective implementation of international standards at national level and fulfil their duty to protect human rights through legislating, involvement in the ratification of international treaties, holding the executive to account, liaising with national and local institutions and fostering the creation of a democratic culture.

The current activity is implemented by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe within the project “Strengthening the Parliamentary capacity to implement the Council of Europe standards and policies in Ukraine”. It constitutes an inclusive part of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2015-2017 and is in line with PACE resolutions regarding Ukraine.

The official sources of information regarding the needs of Ukraine constitute first of all the reports resulting from the PACE monitoring visits to Ukraine. The latest visit to monitor the honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine was conducted by PACE co-rapporteurs in February 2016. The outcome of the visit is reflected in PACE Resolution 2145 (2017) on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine. The findings suggest improvements needed in the democratic functioning of the Verkhovna Rada, in adoption of applicable laws in compliance with the CoE standards and policies.

2. Participants and languages

Members of Parliaments of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Representatives of PACE, Venice Commission, CoE relevant Departments

Representatives of civil society

The documents of the conference will be available in **English** and some documents in **Ukrainian**. Working languages will be **English and Ukrainian** with simultaneous interpretation provided.

3. Background documents

- PACE Resolution 2145 (2017) on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine;
- PACE Resolution 1974 (2014) on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine;
- CM Recommendation Rec(2004)5 to member states on the verification of the compatibility of draft laws, existing laws and administrative practice with the standards laid down in the European Convention on Human Rights (English and Ukrainian)

4. Draft Programme

TUESDAY, 30 May 2017

9.00 - 9.30 Registration of participants

OPENING SESSION

9.30 – 10.00

Mr Ihor ALEKSIEIEV, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Activity of Justice Bodies and Implementation of Court Rulings of the Committee on Legal Policy and Justice Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Mr Marten EHNBERG, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

SESSION 1 **THE ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY AND OPPOSITION IN POLICY MAKING**

Chairperson: **Mr Ihor ALEKSIEIEV**, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Activity of Justice Bodies and Implementation of Court Rulings of the Committee on Legal Policy and Justice Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

10.00 - 11.30 Speakers:

Mr. Thomas MARKERT, Secretary of the Commission, European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)

Mr. Andreas GROSS, Political Scientist, former Member of the Swiss Parliament and former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Exchange of views

11.30 - 11.45 *Coffee break*

SESSION 2 **GUIDELINES ON THE PARLIAMENTARY SUPERVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT IN POLICY MAKING**

Chairperson: **Mr Marten EHNBERG**, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

11.45– 13.00 Speakers:

Ms Tamar CHUGOSHVILI, First Deputy Chairperson of the Parliament of Georgia, Chairperson of national delegation of Georgia to PACE

Mr. Volodymyr BUTKEVYCH, Professor of International Law, former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights, Vice-chairman of the Constitutional Commission of Ukraine

Exchange of views

13h00 – 14h00 Lunch

SESSION 3 **EXAMINATION OF DRAFT LAWS BY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES**

Chairperson: **Mr. Volodymyr BUTKEVYCH**, Professor of International Law, former Judge of the European Court of Human Rights, Vice-chairman of the Constitutional Commission of Ukraine

14.00 – 15.30 Speakers: Parliamentary procedures in law-making

Ms. Yuliya KYRYCHENKO, Legal expert, NGO “Center of Policy and Legal Reform”

Mr Oleksiy GOTSUL, Lawyer, European Court of Human Rights

Exchange of views

15.30 – 15.45

Coffee break

SESSION 4 PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS IN THE LAW-MAKING PROCESS

Chairperson: **Ms. Yuliya KYRYCHENKO**, Legal expert, NGO “Center of Policy and Legal Reform”

15.45 – 16.45

Speakers:

Ms. Hanna HOPKO, Member of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Head of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee (tbc)

Mr. Andreas GROSS, Political Scientist, former Member of the Swiss Parliament and former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Mr. Ruslan BORTNIK, Director, Ukrainian Institute for Analysis and Management of Policies

Reanimation Package of Reforms: NGOs, local legal clinics

Exchange of views

16h45 Conclusions:

Mr Marten EHNBERG, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

Mr Ihor ALEKSIEIEV, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Activity of Justice Bodies and Implementation of Court Rulings of the Committee on Legal Policy and Justice Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

SECRETARIAT OF THE PACE

Parliamentary Project Support Division (PPSD)

Mr	Geza MEZEI	Head of Secretariat
Ms	Anna LUNGU	Project Manager ☎ + 33 6 62 27 65 23 anna.lungu@coe.int

Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Mr	Bas KLEIN	Deputy to the Head of the Secretariat bas.klein@coe.int
----	-----------	---