



**ЧЕРНІГІВСЬКИЙ ЦЕНТР ПЕРЕПІДГОТОВКИ ТА ПІДВИЩЕННЯ
КВАЛІФІКАЦІЇ ПРАЦІВНИКІВ ОРГАНІВ ДЕРЖАВНОЇ ВЛАДИ,
ОРГАНІВ МІСЦЕВОГО САМОВРЯДУВАННЯ, ДЕРЖАВНИХ
ПІДПРИЄМСТВ, УСТАНОВ І ОРГАНІЗАЦІЙ**

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Навчально-методичний збірник призначений для працівників органів державної влади, органів місцевого самоврядування – фахівців з питань європейської інтеграції, які навчаються за програмами підвищення кваліфікації з англійської мови, викладачів Центру.

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Read and translate the following text

Ukraine is a European country

Ukraine is one of the largest countries of Eastern Europe.

Ukraine occupies an area of 603,700 square kilometres. Its territory stretches for 893 kilometres from north to south and for 1,316 kilometres from east to west.

It has state borders with Russia, Belarus and Moldova. It also borders on Poland, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania. In the south it is washed by the Black and the Azov Seas.

The major part of Ukraine is flat and only 5 % of it is mountainous. The two mountainous areas in Ukraine are the Carpathians and the Crimean Mountains.

The geographical position of Ukraine is very favourable because the country lies on the crossroads of the ways from Asia to Europe.

Ukraine has deposits of iron, manganese, coal, natural gas, oil and other mineral resources. The main branches of industry are: coal and ore mining, iron and steel engineering, machine and ship building.

Besides, Ukraine has always been an agrarian country. Traditionally crop-growing and cattle-breeding are being developed.

1. Geographical Position of Ukraine.

Ukraine is situated in the south-east of Europe.

The territory of Ukraine is 603,700 square kilometres. The territory of Ukraine is mostly flat. There are the Carpathian Mountains in the west and the Crimean Mountains in the south, but they are not high.

It borders on Russia, Belarus, Moldova, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

The main rivers are the Dnieper, the Dniester, the Bug, the Donets and others. The Dnieper is one of the longest European rivers and one of the main sources of hydroelectric power in the country.

Ukrainian territory is washed by the Azov Sea and the Black Sea. The coasts of the Azov Sea and the Black Sea are good for ports. We have quite a lot of big sea ports, for example, Odesa, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Izmail, Mariupol and Kerch.

The geographical position of Ukraine is very favourable because the country lies on the crossroads of the ways from Asia to Europe. Since the times of Kyivan Rus Ukrainian roads have been used for trade contacts.

Due to favourable climatic conditions, Ukraine is traditionally an agricultural country. Wheat, maize and other corns, vegetables, all kinds of fruit are grown here.

The country is rich in natural resources, such as iron ore, coal, non-ferrous metals, oil, gas. It has developed a varied industry, concentrated mostly in and around big cities, such as Kyiv, Zaporizhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa, Kharkiv, Lviv, Mykolaiv and others.

Ukraine produces planes and ships, lorries and buses, electronic equipment and agricultural machines, TV and radio-sets and other goods.

2. An Outstanding Event in Ukrainian History.

There are such events in the life of every country that are kept through the passing centuries. Ukraine has a long history which reflects different stages of its historical development, numerous periods of its prosperity and decay.

For a long period our country lived under the rule of Poland, Lithuania and Russia. Ukraine formed part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics under the name of Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic from 1922 to 1991.

On the 16th of July 1990 the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian republic adopted "The Declaration of the State Sovereignty of Ukraine".

Then on the 24th of August 1991 the Supreme Soviet adopted the "Act of the Independence of Ukraine". It was a document of a great historical importance. This document proclaimed the formation of the independent Ukrainian state. From the moment of adoption of this act only the laws of Ukraine remained in action. This historical decision was approved by the all-Ukrainian referendum which was held on the 1st of December 1991. The Ukrainian people confirmed their wish to live in the sovereign and independent country.

Thus a new period in the history of Ukraine started. It was the third attempt to achieve independence.

The first one was made by Bohdan Khmelnytsky in 1648 — 1654. The second one may be considered the proclamation of the Ukrainian People's Republic in 1917—1919.

An Episode from the History of Ukraine.

I'd like to tell you about one of the episodes from the history of Ukraine.

During the war of independence of the Ukrainians in 1648-1654 the leaders of the war realized, that without the military help of Russia the complete victory over Poland is impossible. That's why in 1648 Bohdan Khmelnytsky appealed to Russia with the request to admit Ukraine as apart of Russia. The tsar's government started to give some military and economic help to Ukraine. In 1654 Khmelnytsky came to Pereyaslav, where he met Russian embassy headed by boyarin Buturlin. General Rada was convoked in the city square. All layers of the population participated in it. Khmelnytsky in his speech at Rada explained the necessity of the union of Ukraine and Russia. All the participants of Rada vowed fidelity to Russia. Buturlin handed to Khmelnytsky the tsar's order about the consent to admit Ukraine.

Political and judicial status of Ukraine was determined by the terms of the treaty — so called March articles. Khmelnytsky vowed fidelity in the cathedral. The population vowed in their towns and villages.

Economical, political and cultural relationships promoted the union. This union weakened the political role of Rech Pospolita, and defeated the plans of Vatican to catholicize Ukraine.

It assisted the further development of Ukrainian people.

3. Ukrainian Traditions.

The Ukrainians, like any other people, have their own customs and traditions: many of these are very old, some appear nowadays.

Most of the customs are connected with the religious festivals or with Ukrainian dwelling.

The most popular of the holidays is the New Year Day; it is celebrated on the 1st of January. On the eve of the holiday children and their parents decorate a New Year's Tree with shining balls and other Christmas ornaments. The mothers of the families prepare holiday dinners. On that day people exchange presents with their relatives and friends: they often go to see them or invite them to their place to see in the New Year together.

They lay festive tables and at 12 o'clock raise their glasses with champagne and say to each other "Happy New Year".

But the Orthodox Church in Ukraine celebrates New Year on the 14th of January to the old-style Calendar. In the evening on the 13th of January children go from house to house and sing Christmas carols: they wish all the best to the people who live in these houses. Of course, the carol-singers are given some reward — sweets, cakes or a little money.

The Orthodox Ukrainian people celebrate Christmas on January, 6: the evening before Christmas is called the Holy Evening. On the Holy Evening all the family get together to have the Christmas Supper. According to the religious tradition, it is necessary to prepare 12 different dishes because of 12 apostles; no one at the table

can eat till the first star appears in the sky. But, unlike in the English-speaking countries, in Ukraine people do not exchange presents on that day.

On the Christmas Evening the religious people go to church; some of them spend the whole night there — they pray and listen to Christmas religious songs which glorify Christ's birthday.

Another religious festival in winter is Twelfth-day or the Jordanian Holiday which is celebrated on memory of Jesus Christ's christening (on the 19th of January). On the eve of this holiday at their supper people sing songs which are called "the generous songs" — that is why this evening is called "the generous evening", too.

In the morning of the Jordanian Holiday the festival procession goes from a church to a river or to a pond where christening of water takes place. After that the priest consecrates the peoples' homes and things.

Easter is another great religious festival: usually it is celebrated on one of Sundays in spring. On that day the religious people go to church and listen to the service, usually they bring with them baskets with food — Easter cakes, butter, cheese and, of course, painted eggs. The priest in the church consecrates all the food: many people believe that the Easter eggs possess magic power and can protect from evil, thunder or fire and have healing powers.

In the morning after the end of the service, the people greet each other with the words: "Christ has resurrected!" and return home for breakfast.

They celebrate Easter as the beginning of spring, too.

There are many other interesting customs and traditions in Ukraine, too.

4. EURO 2012.

Before the start of EURO 2012 the Western media quite often released articles with negative, distorted and false information about Ukraine. It is difficult to guess what has caused it, prejudice, or simply a lack of reliable information. Even then domestic diplomats insisted that with the launch of the championship, the tone and themes of materials about Ukraine in Western editions would change dramatically, for the correspondents, after visiting Ukraine, would see that this is a normal,

civilized European country. Actually, in support of their words from the first days of EURO 2012 positive materials about Ukraine began to appear in European editions.

The leading international media have already published more than 55 stories with extremely positive highlights of EURO 2012. "This is a unique case when the effect of understated expectations played into our hands and foreign correspondents were really impressed. Also, absolutely atypical is purely positive nature of information reports since, and so historically, the priority for the media is always negative information," said Oleh Voloshyn, Head of the Information Policy Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

No racism in Ukraine.

The first exploded myth was about the existence of racism and intolerance in Ukraine. The reason for spreading such rumors was the launch of the BBC Panorama programme, whose journalists biasly and narrowly presented a conflict between fans at one of the Ukrainian stadiums. As a result, a significant number of football fans from the UK had some concerns about visiting Ukraine. And only foreign media have managed to debunk these concerns.

Thus, French journalist Elena Gabrielian said that during the European Football Championship in Ukraine she did not notice any manifestations of racism, which the European media have often mentioned about. "I haven't noticed any radical nationalist attitude of Ukrainians towards foreigners. There was absolutely no racism. The problem is artificially raised in Ukraine," believes the journalist, who works with the French TV channel TF1 during EURO 2012.

And her colleague from the popular British tabloid The Daily Mirror, Oliver Holt, wrote in his author's column: «Absence of Ukrainian racism proves we should sort out our own problems before preaching to others. So what do you think? Maybe we owe Ukraine an apology. Maybe we even owe UEFA president Michel Platini an apology.».

However, the dissemination of reports about racism most disappointed England coach Roy Hodgson. «As a result we lost a lot of fans who have been put off by horror stories about how life would be in Ukraine and Poland. I feel sorry for

those people because all the people who have come over here, they can't speak highly enough and we have been treated with great courtesy and kindness everywhere," Hodgson said.

"Now we can say that the myth of racism in Ukraine is disproved. Recently BBC released a footage about EURO 2012 in Ukraine titled «EURO 2012 proves a treat, on and off the pitch". Besides the general nature of stories about Ukraine has become more positive," Voloshyn emphasized.

Beauty and hospitality.

Ukrainian cities have warmly welcomed European fans impressing them with their friendliness, beauty and comfort.

"After seven decades of Soviet dominance, Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine, has emerged as one of Europe's most vibrant 21st-century cities," says The New York Times. The American newspaper notes that due to EURO 2012 the host city has become fashionable, and like a magnet attracts thousands of tourists from around the world. A positive and enthusiastic reviews of the tournament in the foreign media have added advantages to the international reputation of the country.

Ukrainians are fantastically hospitable people and the atmosphere in the country during EURO 2012 is 100% positive, England fans in Kyiv told the British TV channel BBC. "It's brilliant! The Ukrainian people are absolutely fantastic, we've had a really good time. Everybody loves their football, so it's really, really good. It's just a really positive atmosphere. Everyone is in a party mood, really positive, so it's been a good experience so far," two England female fans said.

Supporters of Roy Hodgson's squad say: nowhere we've been welcomed as warm as in Ukraine. "The Ukrainians have really embraced the vibe, they enjoy their football and the fan zones have been spectacular," says Graham Bleanch of the UK Football Supporters Federation.

«The general mood in the fan zones, on the streets of Ukrainian cities - this is what is impossible to fake. We really have sincere and friendly people, so we've surprised the Europeans! This is what can be considered the biggest opening of EURO 2012," says Mr. Voloshyn.

A striking example of what Ukrainians are an extremely friendly nation and the Europeans felt comfortable at EURO 2012 in Ukraine, was a friendly and sincere atmosphere during the championship. This was stressed by the first deputy chairman of the National Agency for EURO 2012 Oleksandr Birsan. "In fact, preparing for the championship, we have predicted all possible difficulties and hoped that the information component would work with us in unison, and it went wrong. But the best argument that has refuted all the negative, was the championship, which was held extremely well," the official explained.

They will come back for sure.

A ten-thousand army of Dutch fans, decided to thank the city for their hospitality. More than two dozen orange billboards, decorated with posters depicting the tulip and the words "Thank you, Kharkiv!" are installed in different parts of the city. The boards were ordered by representatives of the Embassy of the Netherlands in Ukraine. This is probably the best proof that Europeans are satisfied with the organization of the championship in Ukraine and will return to us for sure.

Everyone who visited EURO 2012 were happy that they came to Ukraine. Hospitality of Ukrainians impressed the European fans, they spoke positively about our country and the organization of the championship, EURO 2012 director Martin Kallen said.

"When fans were coming to Ukraine, they were slightly heads-up, but returning home they were tuned positively and surprised with the hospitality of Ukrainians. I think the large percentage of fans who visited Ukraine will return to the country," Kallen noted.

However, the EURO 2012 director emphasized that even 2-3 years ago there was a likelihood of depriving Ukraine of the right to host the tournament. "But 6-8 months before the tournament the issue was lifted," the EURO official said.

The successful conduct of finals of the European Football Championship in 2012 is an excellent opportunity for further promotion of Ukraine worldwide, believe American journalists from the reputable CNN channel, which has launched a series of programmes about our country titled "Eye on Ukraine". "With the start of the

tournament all the talks of racism and football hooligans are over. People who joined the football festival discussed their own game. This is a huge success for Ukraine and an excellent platform for further promotion throughout the world,"-said CNN reporter Max Foster, who visited Ukraine during EURO 2012. He added that football fans are proud to become part of a great event. «The whole tournament's been a great success for Ukraine. It went incredibly well for Ukraine,» Foster said/ A good organization of the championship has added to the positive image of Ukraine much more than any information campaign. "EURO 2012 has shown thousands of ordinary Europeans, far from politics and economy, that Ukraine is a civilized, developed European country. No PR-campaign wouldn't have reached this effect, for Ukraine has held a very important international event at the level no one expected of her," Voloshyn concluded.

5. Places to see in Ukraine.

There are many places worth sightseeing on the territory of Ukraine because of its ancient history.

A wide range of interesting things awaits the tourists, beginning with Kyiv. Kyiv is the capital of Ukraine and one of the oldest cities in the eastern Europe. It has already celebrated its 1500-th anniversary. That's why it is not surprising that a lot of interesting monuments are situated there, for example, the well-known to all Slavonic world St. Sophia's Cathedral and Kyivo-Pecherska Lavra. It is breathtaking to wander along the streets of the old town, to feel the breath of history.

A cruise on the Dnipro River offers visitors a fascinating introduction to Ukraine's history and culture.

But Ukrainian places of interest are situated not only in Kyiv. Near the small town of Kanev. The old town of Kaniv is situated on the high right bank of the Dnipro River. This town is world-known for its Tarasova Hora. Taras Shevchenko, the great Ukrainian poet, artist and philosopher, is buried here. The museum, where the books, drawings and manuscripts of Shevchenko are kept, is situated in the village not far from Kanev. Even the house, where he was born, is preserved. It is very interesting to look at it.

It's interesting to visit Zaporizhzhia where Cossack movement began in the 15th century. Nearby is the famous 700-year-old oak tree — 36 metres high.

One may come to Poltava and visit the museum of the famous Poltava battle, the field where Peter the Great defeated the Swedes. It is possible to go through Gogol places in the Poltava region and see Dickanka, Sorochintsy.

Odesa, a regional centre, has a Philharmonic and the famous Opera and Ballet Theatre. One can go to Odesa and walk along the boulevards, where Pushkin walked a long time ago, and one can touch the trees, which Pushkin touched.

Chernihiv is one of the oldest towns in our country . There are five out of twenty-five architectural landmarks of the 11th—12th centuries preserved in Chernihiv. It was one of the most important centres of Kyivan Rus'.

Another place in Ukraine, which attracts a lot of visitors, is Uman'. It is famous for its dendrologic park-reserve "Sophiyivka". This park was set up in 1796—1801 by Count Pototsky for his wife, Sophia, and was called after her name. The park is one of the most outstanding monuments of garden architecture in Ukraine.

Lviv, a beautiful city in the west of Ukraine, was founded by Prince Danylo Halytsky. Historically, the city was first mentioned in 1256. Today Lviv has an area of 155 square km. Its core is the city of the 14th—18th centuries. It is densely built up with tall stone buildings, many of them in their original style. The Lychakiv Cemetery contains some famous monuments to well-known Ukrainian and Polish residents of Lviv. The oldest monument in Lviv is the foundation and walls of St. Nicholas' Church, built by Prince Danylo in the 13th century. The remnants of Vysoky Zamok also date back to the 13th century. Lviv is the only city in Ukraine that still has some original Renaissance architecture.

In the south the Crimea lies, with its warm weather, seashore sanatoriums and rest homes. It is also possible to visit the last house of Chekhov (now the museum in Yalta), where Chekhov lived, and where he wrote his last works, and where he died. One may visit the famous symbol of the Crimea — the castle "Swallow's Nest" or the residence of Russian tsars in Livadia.

One can continue this list, because there is also Western Ukraine with the Carpathians and their legends, feudals lords' castles and cathedrals, with their unique culture and nature.

Travelling across Ukraine one can have an excellent opportunity to learn its history and culture, to see its ancient monuments and picturesque views Ukraine has always been famous for.

There are a lot of places to see in Ukraine and to be proud of. And I am glad to live in such a country, with all those beautiful monuments.

Read and translate the following text

The administrative-territorial system of Ukraine

According to article 2 of the Constitution Ukraine is a unitary state. A unitary state is a state the territory of which is divided into administrative-territorial units, which mainly do not have any political autonomy though some of them may have the status of territorial autonomy. In a unitary state there is the sole system of legislation, the sole system of state organs, the sole citizenship, etc. Together with this some part or parts of such a state may possess the status of territorial autonomy, and that is why a state may have its own legislation, own state authorities, own symbolism, etc. Such a position means that territorial autonomy is interpreted as a self-governing unit that is a part of a unitary state, that has some independence within the limits of that state. The Autonomous Republic of the Crimea has such status in Ukraine. In this article it is mentioned, that the territory of Ukraine is integrated and inviolable within the existing border. In general a territory is an integral feature of a state system, spatial bounds of state authority. The Constitution determines that the sovereignty of Ukraine spreads throughout the whole territory. The state disposes the whole territory. Territorial supremacy is the plenitude and independence of state power its territory. It is important to distinguish land, water and air territories of our state.

Nowadays the territory of Ukraine is divided into 24 administrative regions and the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea. They are the largest administrative-territorial units. Two cities with separate status — Kyiv (as the capital of the country) and Sevastopol (the place of stay of navies of Ukraine and Russia) are equalled to these units.

The units of a middle section in the administrative-territorial division of Ukraine are regions and cities of a regional meaning and a republic meaning in the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea. The lowest section of the administrative-territorial system are cities of a regional meaning, towns, villages, and village councils; the last ones can include one or several villages. Each of administrative-territorial units has its own state authorities with these or those powers. The largest

cities (Kyiv which has the majority of regional centers, Sevastopol, Kryvyi Rig, Mariupol, ect.) are also divided into urban regions. Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine states: The «system of administrative-territorial system consists of the: Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, regions, cities, districts, districts in a town, settlements and villages». Ukraine includes the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, the Vinnytsa, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, Kirovograd, Lugansk, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Kherson, Khmelnytskyi, Cherkasy, Chernivtsi, Chernihiv regions, such cities as Kyiv and Sevastopol. The administrative-territorial system of Ukraine has three levels: the highest level includes the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, regions and such cities as Kyiv and Sevastopol; the middle level includes regions and cities of regional obedience; the lowest level includes the regions in cities, the cities of regional obedience, settlements and villages.

The article of the Constitution of Ukraine determines: "Only allukrainian referendum has the right to solve the issues concerning the change of the Ukrainian territory". To provide the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine the following statement has been adopted: The "usage of the existing military bases on the territory of Ukraine is possible on the terms of the lease that is based on the order that was stated by the international agreements of Ukraine and was ratified by Verkhovna Rada (the Supreme Council) of Ukraine".

Local state administrations are the local organs of the executive branch of the general jurisdiction which are provided with the right to represent the interests of the state and take authoritative decisions from its name on the territory of certain administrative-territorial units.

The system of local organs of the state executive branch consists of:

- 1) regional state administrations;
- 2) Kyiv and Sevastopol local state administrations;
- 3) provincial state administrations;
- 4) regional state administrations in such cities as Kyiv and Sevastopol;

5) territorial organs of ministries, state committees, the central organs of the executive branch with the special status (managements, departments).

In Ukraine there were made 24 regional state administrations, two local state administrations (in Kyiv and Sevastopol), regional state administrations in Kyiv and Sevastopol and 490 regional state administrations.

Organization, authority and the order of the work of local state administrations are defined by the Constitution of Ukraine (articles 118-120), by the laws of Ukraine "About local state administrations" since April, 9-th, 1999, "About the capital of Ukraine - city-hero Kyiv" since January, 15-th, 1999 and by other legislative acts.

According to article 118 of the Constitution of Ukraine, local state administrations carry out the executive branch in regions and provinces, in Kyiv and Sevastopol. The chairmen of local state administrations form the composition of local state administrations. The chairmen of local state administrations are assigned for position and are dismissed by the President of Ukraine after the declaration of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. When the chairmen of state local administrations fulfil their plenary powers they are responsible to the President of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers, they are accountable and controlled to the organs of executive branch of the highest level. Local state administrations are accountable and controlled to councils in the part of plenary powers which are sent as a delegate by provincial and regional councils.

Local state administrations are legal entities. They have seals with the picture of the National Emblem of Ukraine and their names, accounts in the banks of Ukraine, they are situated in regional and provincial centers, in Kyiv and Sevastopol. On the houses of local state administrations and their departments there are the plates with the picture of the National Emblem of Ukraine and with the name with the organ that is situated there are and the State Flag of Ukraine is risen.

According to the law of Ukraine "About local state administrations" the main tasks of state administrations within the administrative - territorial unit are:

1) the implementation of the Constitution, laws of Ukraine, the President's acts, the acts of the Cabinet of Ministers and other organs of the executive branch of higher level;

2) legality and law and order, the observation of rights and freedoms of citizens;

3) the implementation of the state and regional programmes of economical and cultural development, the programmes of environmental protection, and in the places of the dense population of native peoples and national minorities there are also the programmes of their national and cultural development;

4) the preparation and implementation of corresponding budgets;

5) the report of the implementation of corresponding budgets and programmes;

6) the cooperation with the organs of local authorities;

7) the implementation of other plenary powers which were given by the state, and which were delegated by corresponding councils.

Local state administrations act on the following principles:

- the responsibility before people and the state for their activity;
- the leading role of a right;
- law and order;
- the priority of human's rights;
- publicity;
- the combination of state and local interests.

Local self-government in Ukraine – is the guaranteed by the state right and the real ability of a territorial community, the dwellers of villages or a voluntary union of rural community of dwellers of several villages, settlements, towns to solve the issues of local meaning within the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine individually or under the control of the organs and representatives of local self-government.

Local self-government is held by territorial

communities of villages, settlements, towns directly, and also with help of rural, settlement, urban councils and their executive organs, and also with help of provincial and regional councils, which present common interests of territorial communities, villages, settlements, towns.

The citizens of Ukraine fulfil their right to participate in local self-government according to their belonging to corresponding territorial communities. Any limits the citizens rights of Ukraine to participate in local self-government depending on their race, colour of skin, political, religious and other persuasions, sex, ethnic and social origin, property, the period of living on a certain territory, language and other features are forbidden.

Local self-government in Ukraine is carried out on principles:

- democracy;
- law and order;
- publicity;
- collective responsibility;
- the combination of local and state interests;
- election;
- legal, organizational and material-financial independence within the plenary powers which are defined by laws;
- accountability and responsibility before territorial communities of their organs and public representatives;
- state support and guarantee of local self-government;
- judicial support of rights of local self-government.

The system of local self-government includes:

- territorial community;
- village, settlement, urban soviet;
- rural, settlement, city chairman;
- the executive branches of rural, settlement, city soviet;

- provincial and regional soviets, that present common interests of territorial communities of villages, settlements, cities;
- the organs of self-organization of population.

In cities with a regional division, district soviets may be formed according to the decision of a territorial community of a city or of a local soviet in accordance with the Law. Regional soviets in cities form their executive organs and elect a chairman who is the chairman of its executive community at the same time.

A rural, settlement, urban chairman is the main public servant of the territorial community in accordance with a villages (a voluntary union of one territorial community of dwellers of several villages), a settlement, a city and he is elected by a corresponding territorial community on the basis of general, equal, direct, elective right through secret vote in the order defined by the law, and carries out the plenary powers on the permanent basis. The term of plenary powers of a village, settlement, city chairman, who is elected during the coming local vote, is defined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

The primary subject of local self-government, its main transmitter of functions and plenary powers is a territorial community of a village, settlement, city. Rural, settlement, urban soviets are the organs of local self-government, which present corresponding territorial communities and carry out the function which come from their name and which are carried out from their interests and the plenary powers of local self-government which are definite by the Constitution of Ukraine.

Regional and provincial soviets are the organs of self-government, that present common interests of territorial communities of villages, settlements, cities. The order of the formation and the organization of the activities of soviets are defined by the Constitution of Ukraine, and also by the regulations of territorial communities. The number of workers of the organs of local self-government is determined by the corresponding soviet within the general

number, determined by the typical states, confirmed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

A territorial community has a right to conduct public hearing, receive the deputies of a corresponding soviet and public servants of local self-government, during the meetings the members of a territorial community can listen to them, discuss affairs and make suggestions about the issues of local importance, which belong to the authorities of local self-government.

Rural, settlement, urban, regional soviet (in case of their formation) can allow, on the initiative of dwellers, create the household, street, district and other organs of self-organizations of the population and provide them with the part of their own competence, finances property.

The organs of local self-government are legal entities and are provided with their own plenary powers within the limits of which they act independently and they are responsible for their activity according to the law.

The law can provide the organs of local self-government with separate plenary powers of the organs of the executive branch and they are under the control of corresponding organs of the executive branch of higher level when they are carried out.

The material and financial base of local self-government is personal and real estate, the profits of local budgets, other means, land, natural resources, which are in the municipal property of territorial communities of villages, cities, districts in cities and also objects of their common property, which are found in the management of district and regional soviets.

Read and translate the following text

Civil Service and Civil Servants

Civil service in Ukraine shall be understood as the professional occupation of persons holding positions at State bodies and apparatus thereof that practically implement tasks and functions of the State for pay from state funds in return.

These persons shall be referred to as civil servants and shall have appropriate official authority.

Rank [post] shall be understood as the primary structural unit of a State body and apparatus thereof, as per table of organization, vested with authority established by normative acts.

Officials shall be understood as heads and deputy heads of State bodies and apparatus [departments] thereof, as well as other civil service employees assigned organizational, executive or consulting functions under normative acts.

Civil service shall be based on the following main principles:

- Service to the people of Ukraine;
- Democracy and legality;
- Humanism and social justice;
- Priority attached to the rights of man and the citizen;
- Professionalism, competence, initiative [resourcefulness], honesty, and dedication;
- Personal responsibility for professional performance and discipline;
- Observance of the rights and lawful interests of bodies of local and regional self-government;
- Observance of the rights of enterprises, institutions, organizations, and citizens' associations.

The right to do civil service shall be vested for Ukrainian citizens regardless of origin, social or property status, racial or national belonging, sex, political affiliation, creed, place of residence, provided that they have an appropriate education

and professional training, and are selected in keeping with due competitive or other procedures stipulated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

A civil servant has to:

- Carry out professional duties with diligence;
- Treat other citizens, executives, and colleagues with respect and show cultured conduct;
- Prevent others' actions that may damage the interests of civil service or blemish a civil servant's reputation.

The national policy in the sphere of civil service shall be determined by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The main guidelines of national policy in the sphere of civil service are: determination of key targets, tasks and principles of civil service institution functioning, securing of effective operation of all state bodies in the frameworks of their competence. The Main Department of Civil Service of Ukraine shall be set up under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for performance of the unified national policy and civil service functional management. Issues related to civil service functions in other state bodies (the legal status of those is governed by special laws) are to be solved by these bodies.

The Main Department of Civil Service of Ukraine under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is the body of Civil Service management in state bodies and apparatus thereof.

The Main Department of Civil Service of Ukraine under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine carries out the next functions:

- plans and forecasts the personnel requirements of state bodies and apparatus thereof;
- in cooperation with other state bodies provides implementation of general trends of the civil service policy sphere in state bodies and apparatus thereof;
- develops and introduces to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine drafts of normative acts related to civil service in the state bodies and apparatus thereof;

- develops, coordinates and monitors implementation of measures aimed to bettering civil service efficiency in state bodies and apparatus thereof;
- performs the methods of competitive selection of civil servants in the state bodies and apparatus thereof;
- organizes general and professional training of civil servants in state bodies and their office;
- monitors the adherence of the citizens' right for doing civil service determined by this law;
- arranges, coordinates and provides the necessary conditions for scientific research development related to civil service.

The main responsibilities of civil servants are:

- Observance of the Constitution of Ukraine and other Ukrainian legislative acts;
- Support of effective work and implementation of tasks assigned by state bodies in accordance with their competence;
- Prevention of violation of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen;
- Direct implementation of official authorities vested in civil servants, timely and definite fulfilment of decisions of state bodies or officials, directives and instructions of their immediate superiors;
- Preservation of state secret, information about citizens that civil servants may get in the line of duty and other information that can not be made public in accordance with the laws currently in effect;
- Constant improvement of civil service and increase the level of professional skills;
- Diligent performance of the official authorities, initiative and creativity in work.

Civil servant has to act in the frameworks of one's authorities. When given the task conflicting with the existing legislation, civil servant has forthwith to notify the instructing official about it in written form; if insisted to perform, the higher official should be informed.

Civil servants have the right:

- To enjoy the rights and freedoms guaranteed to citizens of Ukraine by the Constitution and Laws of Ukraine;
- To participate in solving problems and making decisions in the frameworks of their authorities;
- To get information pertinent to issues that are in the frameworks of their competence from the state bodies, enterprises, agencies, organizations and bodies of regional and self-government administrations;
- For respect of personal dignity, fair and respectful attitude by executives, colleagues and citizens;
- To call for determination of clear instructions of the official authorities by executive in accordance with the position of the civil servant;
- To be paid salaries and bonuses as per rank, position, quality, work experience and length of service;
- To have free access to materials that are concerned with the official duties of civil servant and perforce submit individual explanations;
- To be promoted taking into account the skills and abilities, diligent performance of duties, participation in competitions to occupy higher position;
- To call for official investigation to be acquitted of what one considers groundless accusations or suspicions;
- To have healthy, safe and appropriate working conditions to provide efficient work;
- Social and legal protection as per status of public servant;
- To protect one's rights and interests in superior bodies and due course of law.

Specific duties and rights of civil servants are determined on the basis of job description and are reflected in standard service references and instructions adopted by the executive of the corresponding state body within the frameworks of law and their competence.

-The following persons can not be chosen as civil servants to the state body and apparatus therefore:

-When proclaimed to be incapable in accordance with the established procedure;

-Having a criminal record that is incompatible with holding up a civil service rank;

-Subordinated directly when employed to the Civil Service to individuals that are close relatives or relatives in-law;

-Other cases determined by the Ukrainian Laws.

Applicants for positions of civil servants of 3-7 category as per article 25 of this Law has to submit tax returns and documents testifying to liabilities, including liabilities abroad in regard to themselves and their dependents.

Claimants to positions of civil servants of 1st and 2nd categories as per article 25 of Law of Ukraine "On Civil Service" have to submit the information about the movable and immovable property owned by them and their families, bank accounts and securities.

This information is submitted by the civil servants annually.

Procedure of presentation, storage and use of this information is adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Disciplinary punishment is applied to the civil servant in case of non-performance or improper performance of official authorities, abuse of authority, violation of restrictions concerned with the civil service and also for action that blemishes the reputation of civil servants or discredits the state body where the civil servant is employed.

In addition to disciplinary punishments provided by the Ukrainian labour legislation, the following penalties shall be set for the civil servants:

- Forewarning about incomplete official correspondence;

- Delay for up to one year in giving the next rank or in appointment for a higher post.

Appointment to 3-7 categories of civil servants shall be on competitive basis as per article 25 of Law of Ukraine "On Civil Service", except when otherwise is not stipulated by the Ukrainian Laws.

The procedure of appointment contest is governed by the Regulations adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. Information on civil service vacancies shall be published and promulgated by mass media at least one month prior to the contest. It is forbidden to demand from applicants the information and documents that are not envisaged by legislation of Ukraine.

President of Ukraine, Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, members of the Government of Ukraine, heads of Local State Administrations have the right to select and appoint their deputies, heads of the press service, consultants and secretaries as per table of organization and the category corresponding to rank (patronage service). Civil service employment terms are determined by the relevant authorities.

The civil servant has no right to perform actions envisaged by the articles 1 and 5 of the Ukrainian Law "On Fight against Corruption".

The civil servants have no right to take part in strikes and to perform other actions that prevent normal functioning of state body adopted only by Ukrainian legislative acts.

Ukrainian citizens who do the civil service for the first time shall swear the following Oath of Civil Servant:

"In full awareness of my high responsibility I do solemnly swear that I will serve to Ukrainian people, strictly adhere to the Ukrainian Constitution and Ukrainian Laws, contribute to their realization, strengthen their authority, protect the rights, freedoms and lawful interests of citizens, be worthy of my noble position, and diligently perform my authorities".

Civil servant signs the text of Oath that is kept in the place of employment. An appropriate record about the Oath will be made in the service record.

Newly employed civil servants can be subjected to a trial period up to 6 months.

In order to gain the practical experience, test one's professional skills and professional qualities, an applicant for civil service employment may have to take course on-the job training in the appropriate state body for up to 2 months while on the payroll at the regular place of work.

Civil servants working time is determined in accordance with the Ukrainian labour legislation with taking into account all the peculiarities set forth by the Law of Ukraine "On Civil Service".

In order to perform top priority and emergency assignments the civil servants shall be under the obligation to report for work on days off, holidays and other nonworking days in accordance with the decree of the executive of the body where they are employed; for this work they shall be rewarded in keeping with existing labour legislation.

In accordance with the decision of the executive of the body civil servants may be recalled from annual or additional leave.

The remained part of leave shall be given to the civil servant at any other time of the year or can be added to the next year's leave.

The expenditures of civil servants for official secondments are reimbursed; also other compensations are paid in accordance with the Ukrainian labour legislation.

During the secondment the civil servants have the right for hotel reservation, the right for booking tickets for all types of transport and also get tickets on a top-priority base.

On arriving at the place of destination the civil servants are given the place for work, possibility to use communication, transport, copy machines and other technical services.

Limit age of doing civil service is 60 years old for men and 55 years old for women. If it is necessary, the state body executive by coordination with the Head of the Main Department of the Civil Service of Ukraine under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine can continue postpone the limit age, but not longer than for 5 years.

As an exception the civil servants can keep doing the civil service but only as adviser or consultant after the end of this term in accordance with the decision of the executive of the relevant state body.

Employment, promotion, bonuses and other civil service procedures are carried out in accordance with the job categories and with the ranks that are given to the civil servants.

The principal criteria of jobs categorization are organizational and legal status of the employing state body, character of duties, competence and the position's role and place in the structure of this body.

There are instituted the following job categories:

-1st category – positions of the heads of state committees, that are not the members of the government; the heads of other central executive agencies under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine; the President's of Ukraine Permanent Representative in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; representatives of the President of Ukraine in oblasts, cities Kyiv and Sevastopol; first deputies of the ministers; first deputies of the heads of state committees, that form the part of the government; heads of the President's of Ukraine Administration; the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada and other similar positions;

-2nd category – positions of deputies of the head of the President's of Ukraine Administration; deputies of head of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada; deputies of the head of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Office; heads of organization departments of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada, secretariats of the permanent commissions of Ukraine, the President's of Ukraine Administration, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Office; advisors and assistants of the President of Ukraine, deputies of the ministers; deputies of heads of state committees that form the part of the government; first deputies, deputies of heads of committees and other central executive agencies under the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, first deputy of the Permanent Representative of the President of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, first deputies of heads of Oblast State Administrations, Kyiv and Sevastopol City State Administrations and other similar positions;

-3rd category – positions of deputies of heads of organization departments, heads of sections, chief specialists, experts, advisors to the President's of Ukraine Administration; the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Office; deputies of the Permanent Representative of the President of Ukraine in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; deputies of heads of Oblast State Administrations, Kyiv and Sevastopol City State Administrations, representatives of the President of Ukraine in regions, Kyiv and Sevastopol regions; heads of departments, independent units in staff of ministries, other central executive bodies and other similar positions;

-4th category – positions of specialists of the President's of Ukraine Administration; the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Office; deputies of heads of departments, independent units (divisions) of the ministries and other central executive agencies; heads of departments, units, services of oblast public administration, Kyiv and Sevastopol local public administrations and other equated positions;

-5th category – positions of specialists of the ministries, other central executive agencies; deputies of the President's of Ukraine representatives in regions, Kyiv and Sevastopol regions; deputies of heads of departments, units, services of Oblast State Administrations, Kyiv and Sevastopol City State Administrations; specialists of apparatus of these administrations and other similar positions;

-6th category – positions of heads of departments, services of Regional State Administrations, Regional State Administrations in Kyiv and Sevastopol, specialists of departments, units, services of Oblast State Administrations, Kyiv and Sevastopol City State Administrations and other similar positions;

-7th category – positions of the specialists of Regional State Administrations, Regional State Administrations in Kyiv and Sevastopol, departments and units of these administrations and other similar positions.

Categorization of the existing and newly instituted positions of civil servants that are not listed in this article is carried out by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in coordination with the relevant state body.

There are instituted the following ranks of civil servants:

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 1st category are given 3, 2 and 1 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 2nd category are given 5, 4 and 3 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 3rd category are given 7, 6 and 5 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 4th category are given 9, 8 and 7 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 5th category are given 11, 10 and 9 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 6th category are given 13, 12 and 11 rank;

- Civil servants that occupy positions corresponding to the 7th category are given 15, 14 and 13 rank.

The Regulations on Civil Servants Ranks are adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Civil servant is given a rank in accordance with the position occupied, level of professional skills and results of work.

Ranks that are corresponding to the positions of the 1st category are given by the President of Ukraine. Ranks that are corresponding to the positions of the 2nd category are given by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, except ranks that are assigned to civil servants that are employed to the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Ranks that are corresponding to the positions of the 2nd category (civil servants that are employed to the Apparatus of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine) are given by the Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Ranks that are corresponding to the 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th categories are assigned by the head of state body where the civil servant is employed.

Newly employed civil servant is assigned the rank in the frameworks of relevant job category.

Civil servant must successfully perform his duties on the occupied position during 2 years to be assigned the next rank in the frameworks of relevant job category.

Civil servant can be assigned the next rank ahead of term in the frameworks of relevant job category for performance of especial importance tasks.

Retiring civil servant can be given the next rank outside the frameworks of relevant job category for diligent performance of duties.

Civil servant can be deprived of rank only in accordance with the court decision.

If civil servant demoted to the position of lower category, retired or returned to service, his latest rank shall be retained.

People's deputies who did the civil service prior to election shall have their term in Parliament entered into their civil service employment record.

A note shall be made in the service record of civil servant attesting to each promotion, demotion or other changes in professional status.

Civil servant shall be promoted occupation of higher position on competitive basis, except cases when otherwise provided by Ukrainian Laws or the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and when assigned the higher rank.

Civil servant has the right to participate in a vacancy contests. The priority right for promotion shall be vested in civil servants, who achieved better results in work, showed initiative, permanently improved professional skills and those were included in the personnel reserve.

Personnel reserve is formed for filling in vacancies of civil servants and promotion in state bodies.

Personnel reserve is formed of:

- Specialists of local and regional self-government, industrial, social-cultural, scientific and other spheres, graduates from educational institutions with appropriate majors;

-Civil servants who have taken advanced or on-the job training courses of training in the presence of appropriate references.

Formation procedure and organization of work with personnel reserve are governed by the Regulations on Civil Service Personnel Reserve, adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Civil servants are provided with conditions for training and improvement of professional skills in relevant educational institutions (and faculties) and by means of self-education.

Civil servants constantly improve their professional skills, including studying in relevant educational institutions, as a rule, at least once per every 5 years. The results of training and professional skills improvement considered to be the main grounds for promotion.

Except the general grounds envisaged by the Labour Code of Ukraine the civil service can be stopped in the following cases:

- Violation of right to do the civil service;
- Non-observance of requirements concerned with doing the civil service envisaged;
- Reaching by civil servant of limit age of doing civil service;
- Retirement of civil servants that occupy positions of the 1st or 2nd category;
- Detection and emergence of circumstances that prevent civil servant from performing his/her duties;
- Refusal of civil servant to swear the Oath envisaged by article 17 hereinbefore or its violation;
- Not giving or giving by civil servant of false information concerning his income, envisaged by article 13 hereinbefore.

A change in leadership or in the structure of the state bodies can not be the ground for stopping the civil service of civil servant on the initiative of the recently appointed heads, except civil servants that do the patronage service.

Civil servants that occupied positions of the 1st category for at least 3 years and were retired because of changes in the structure of the body where they were

employed shall have their monthly average salary retained for the period of employment but not longer than 1 year.

Resignation of civil servant that occupies position of the 1st or 2nd category is stopping the civil service in accordance with his written application.

The grounds for resignation are:

- Principal disagreement with decision of state body or official and ethical obstacles for doing the civil service;
- When civil servant is pressed to perform the decision of state body or official which contradicts with the existing legislation and may cause sufficient material or moral damage to the state, enterprises, agencies, organizations or unions of citizens and citizen itself;
- Health problems that prevent from performance of official authorities (if there is a medical certificate).

The resignation is accepted or refused (stating the reasons) by the state body or the official who employed the civil servant. The decision on accepting resignation or refusing it shall be adopted within a month. In case of refusal civil servant must continue to perform his official authorities, shall have the right to retire in accordance with the procedure envisaged by the Labour Code of Ukraine.

In case of resignation of civil servant, who didn't reach the limit age, but has sufficient length of service for pension allowance (25 years for men and 20 years for women) and occupied positions of 1st or 2nd category for at least 5 years, civil servant should be paid 85% of his basic pay, taking into account flat rate addition for rank and for the length of service till reaching the limit age.

When retired civil servant reaches the limit age, he receives the pension as civil servant.

In case if limit age pension is assigned, also in case of new employment or imprisonment all the payments, envisaged by section 4 hereinabove are stopped.

Read and translate the following text

My education and profession

In the life of any person there are some important steps. Studying at school is one of them. I was lucky to study at school, where the cult of knowledge dominated, where the real masters worked. That's why my look into the future was brave. I was sure that my way through life would be courageous and daring, because school prepared me well enough for it.

After leaving Chernihiv secondary school number 22 I found myself at the crossroads. I had to choose among technical schools, institutes and universities. But it is not that easy to choose a profession among more than two thousand ones.

The development of industry, agriculture, transport and other economy sectors cannot exist without skilled workers, knowledgeable engineers, initiative managers, creative scientists. But all these professionals and their abilities are to be taught, educated and developed. Following this aim one needs a teacher. One of those teachers who directly develops industriousness, creativity, independence, organization, forms labor and professional skills giving the concept of modern production and trade is the teacher labor training.

So after secondary school I entered the Industrial Pedagogical Faculty of Chernihiv State Pedagogical Institute, "Labour and Vocational Training (maintenance work)" specialty. While studying at the institute as a future teacher of maintenance work I acquired the next technological knowledge and skills:

- clothes modeling and design,
- sewing of garments,
- Ukrainian folk embroidery,
- drawn-work embroidery,
- knitting,
- ribbon embroidery,
- patchwork,
- crochet,
- weaving,

- applique work using textile materials and accessories,
- soft toys making
- processing of food,
- cooking,
- table setting,
- bread making and confectionery production.

At the Department of General Technical Disciplines I studied the next subjects:

- general technical disciplines (Physics, Chemistry, Advanced Maths, etc.)
- technical drawing;
- automobile engineering;
- clothes and fashion design;
- basics of food technology.

At the Department of the Basics of Materials Science Labor Studies I acquired the knowledge of theory of machines and mechanisms, machine elements, hydromechanics, heat supply engineering, electrical engineering, radio engineering and got practical skills to work with different materials in educational workrooms (tailor shop, joinery, locksmithery, workshop of wood mechanical processing, workshop of metal mechanical processing).

At the Department of Pedagogy, Psychology and Methodology of Labor Studies the next disciplines were taught: professional pedagogy, the theory and methods of labour and vocational training, methods of teaching professional courses, career guidance and career counseling methods at secondary and technical schools, social security, civil defense, labor protection in the industry, basics of scientific research, basics of styling design, methodological principles of professional education, basics of technical design.

In 1998 I received a Specialist Diploma in "Labour and Vocational Training (maintenance work)" and was qualified as a teacher of labour and vocational training (maintenance work).

Unfortunately, having graduated from Chernihiv State Pedagogical University I could not find work on a specialty. I had a chance to get a qualification of the Ukrainian language and literature teacher and the perspective to work on the specialty having

graduated from Chernihiv Regional Institute of Advanced Training and Retraining of Educators, "Philology. Ukrainian language and literature" specialty.

At Chernihiv Regional Institute of Advanced Training and Retraining of Educators I studied the history of world and Ukrainian culture, literary local history, folklore poetry, the ancient Ukrainian literature, literature of the XIX century, literature of XX century, linguistics, Ukrainian speech culture, a special course in Ukrainian, methods of teaching the Ukrainian language and literature, etc.

Having graduated from Chernihiv Regional Institute of Advanced Training and Retraining of Educators I started my professional career at Chernihiv secondary evening school № 1 as a teacher of the Ukrainian language and literature.

During my work at the school I prepared for my classes thoroughly, upgraded my professional skills regularly, provided my students with the level of training which met the requirements of state educational standards, was the member of the methodological association of the Ukrainian language and literature teachers, carried out training and education of students considering the peculiarities the subject, kept classroom documentation, monitored students attendance and progress in the prescribed manner.

Because of the school restructuring, I had to search for a new job. I got to know from the media about the vacant position of the 1st specialist of Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Welfare in Chernihiv Novozavodsky District Council and decided to apply for the competitive selection for the vacant position. While preparing for the exam I studied some regulations, which I needed subsequently in my future work: The Constitution of Ukraine, the Laws of Ukraine "On Civil Service", "On Local Self-Government", "On Service in Local Self-Government Authorities", "On Prevention of Corruption", "On the War Veterans Status and Guarantees of their Social Protection", "On the Status and Social Protection of Citizens Affected by the Chernobyl Disaster", "On the Status of Military Veterans, Veterans of Internal Affairs and Certain Other Persons and their Social Protection", "On the Basic Principles of social Protection of Labor Veterans and other Elderly People in Ukraine".

The competition was held in two stages: the exam and interview. Examination Program included tests on the knowledge of civil service legislation, principles of preventing corruption and legislation with account of particular features of functional authorities of

the relevant state body and its structural department, other knowledge, skills, etc. The interview was held to identify whether the candidates for vacant positions of public state service correspond to the expertise of the respective positions. This step allowed government officials to check not only the knowledge of civil service legislation, but to reveal personal and professional qualities of future employees.

Having successfully passed the test I was accepted as the 1st category specialist of Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Welfare in Chernihiv Novozavodsky District Council. Appointment was conducted by a chairman of the District Council in accordance with the applicable law.

My work was guided by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Laws of Ukraine, acts of the President of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, orders of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of Ukraine, decrees of the Head of Regional Administration, acts of the relevant authorities and local government officials on the matters within their competence, the orders of the Main Department of Labor and Social Protection of Regional Administration, the orders of the Head of Administration, the Regulations on Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Protection.

Within department authorization I provided the benefits and compensation in accordance with the Laws of Ukraine "On the Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of their Social Protection", "On the Status and Social Protection of Citizens Affected by the Chernobyl Disaster", "On the Status of Military Veterans, Veterans of Internal Affairs and Some other People and their Social Protection", "On the Main Principles of Social Protection of Labor Veterans and other Elderly People in Ukraine " and other regulations.

While working I had the following duties and responsibilities:

1. kept records of people eligible for benefits in the Unified State Automated Register (EDARP);
2. received the documents from citizens, checking their reliability, entering the information in the Register;
3. monitored the accuracy of provided privileges to enterprises - service providers;
4. processed reconciliation reports of information received from municipal service utilities with EDARP base;
5. granted the "War Child" status to eligible citizens;

6. participated in the appointment of compensation for purchasing of solid fuel and LPG in cash to eligible individuals;
7. carried out the explanatory work with population on their awareness of the issues within the competence of the department;
8. provided legal assistance to enterprises, institutions and organizations on the issue of granting benefits;
9. implemented the department management orders.

With the consent of the Head of the Department I received the documents and materials from state bodies, institutions and organizations necessary for the implementation of official duties; represented the Department interests in the other bodies of executive power and local self-government, enterprises and organizations on the issues of providing the privileges within its competence. I also presented the suggestions of improving the department work for the Department Chief's consideration.

Within my powers and duties I cooperated with specialists of enterprises and organizations of the city, other departments of Labor and Social Welfare, the Department of Citizenship, Immigration and Registration of Private Persons, the Chernihiv Pension Fund Administration, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Security Service of Ukraine, the structural units of the Ministry of Defense, other bodies of executive power and local government.

I was in a personnel reserve for the post of the Chief Specialist of Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Welfare in Chernihiv Novozavodsky District Council.

In September 2011 I entered correspondence department of Postgraduate Education and Training Center of Chernihiv State Technological University, where the Master's Degree in "Public Service" is provided. The training is financed by the State Budget of Ukraine. Duration of training is 1 year and 10 months.

During laboratory examinations, which are held three times a year and last for 13-14 days, we are learning the legal, commercial, philosophical, psychological disciplines, write tests and course papers, take credits and exams. During the training I am improving my knowledge in Labor Law, foreign and Ukrainian languages, laws on civil service, local government, computer work, etc.

During laboratory examinations which are going to be held in December 2012, I'll learn such disciplines as psychology of management, local finances, the regional economy, technology of computer networks, state governance, innovation and investment processes, will take 9 tests and 4 exams.

In April 2012 I undertook an internship for the vacancy of Deputy Chief of Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Welfare in Chernihiv Novozavodsky District Council.

During the internship I:

1. familiarized with the position responsibility write-up of the Deputy Chief of Personalized Accounting of Labor Management and Social Protection in District Council.
2. improved my knowledge of regulations: Laws of Ukraine "On the Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of their Social Protection", " On the Main Principles of Social Protection of Labor Veterans and other Elderly People in Ukraine", "On the Status and Social Protection of Citizens Affected by the Chernobyl disaster", "On the Status of Military Veterans, Veterans of Internal Affairs and Some other People and Their Social Protection", "On Social Protection of Children of War", "On the Victims of Nazi Persecution", the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine regulations № 117 dated 29 January, 2003 "On the United State Automated Register of Persons eligible for Benefits", № 256 dated March 4, 2002 "On Approval of the Financing the Local Expenditures for the Implementation of State Programs of Social Protection by Giving Subvention from the State Budget" and other legislative acts.
3. participated in arrangement and monitoring the preparation of documents related to the provision of benefits in accordance with applicable laws in strictly defined terms.
4. participated in monitoring the correctness of the calculation of benefits provided to the municipal services utilities.
5. providing consultancies among the people who apply for a personalized accounting Department on the matters of obtaining benefits in accordance with the applicable legislation.

6. participated in the preparation of reports "The Number of Beneficiaries, Registered in EDARP", "On Virtually Held Electronic Exchange" to the Department of Labor and Social Welfare, to the City and District Councils.

After considering the results of the internship in May 2012 I was appointed as Deputy Chief of Personalized Registration Department of Labor and Social Welfare in Chernihiv Novozavodsky District Council and was awarded the 13th rank of the local self-government official.

As a Deputy Chief of Personalized Registration Department I conform to the Chief of the Labor and Social Protection Department of the District Council, the Deputy Head of the Labor and Social Protection of the District Council, the Head of the Personalized Registration Department. In my work I am guided by the Constitution of Ukraine, Laws of Ukraine, acts of the President of Ukraine, acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, regulations of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of Ukraine, regulations of the Regional Administration, acts of the relevant authorities and officials, local government officials on the matters within their competence; by the orders of the Labor and Social Protection Department of Regional State Administration, by the regulations on the Personalized Registration of Labor and Social Protection Department of the District Council. I also arrange the fulfillment of the Department responsibilities and duties and monitor the compliance with the current legislation on benefits and compensation in accordance with the Laws of Ukraine "On the Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of their Social Protection", "On the basic Principles of Social Protection of Labor Veterans and other Elderly People in Ukraine", "On the Status and Social Protection of Citizens Affected by the Chernobyl Disaster", "On the Status of Military Veterans, Veterans of Internal Affairs and Certain other Persons and their Social Protection" and other regulations.

I have the following responsibilities:

1. arrangement of the work of the department, monitoring the staff compliance with legal regulations on providing benefits;
2. analyzing the results of the work and taking measures to improve the effectiveness of the Department work;

3. arrangement of the staff training that enhances their knowledge on the matters of legislation concerning the powers of the Department;
4. responsible for labor and executive discipline, implementation of measures aimed at improving the specialists' culture in providing services to the citizens;
5. providing the personalized registration of the people who obtain benefits;
6. participating in monitoring the electronic information exchange among the utilities which provide municipal services;
7. arrangement of processing of acts on reconciliation of the information of the utilities which provide the municipal services in the accordance with EDARP;
8. performing the background check of the information about the persons eligible for obtaining an annual one-time cash assistance to 5th of May provided by the relevant agencies and organizations;
9. monitoring the granting of the "War Child" status to eligible citizens;
10. checking the correctness of the compensation calculation on purchasing the solid fuel and LPG in cash to eligible individuals and compensation to miners who are entitled to obtain free coal for domestic needs still living in houses with central heating;
11. arrangement of the inventory accounting of personnel files and personal accounts of individuals who receive compensation in accordance with the legislation;
12. consideration of citizens' appeals;
13. arrangement of the provision of consulting and legal assistance to enterprises, institutions and organizations on the matters of obtaining benefits;
14. preparation of the information and reports to the District Council and the Department of Labor and Social Welfare;
15. execution of other orders of the Heads of the Department.

Read and translate the following text

State management

Governance - is the management personnel of public service and public spheres (economic, legal process, social security, education), social groups, organizations and institutions.

In the broadest sense of the term "governance" applies to all three branches of government — legislative, executive and judicial branches, and narrow - only the executive.

State administration — a component of the executive system. It provides and directs all state activities aimed at the implementation of programs and government policies.

Today state administration requires effective and efficient management methods and experienced public.

Concept of governance and state administration

Under the functions of public administration should understand the basic tasks that perform public bodies, their units and officials in the implementation guide state and society. The functions of government include: planning, organization, equipment training, motivation and control. Planning involves defining the state of society in a political situation (where we are?) Vectors and purpose of future development (where we are going?), legal, organizational, resource assets, their coordination and adjustments to the planned goal (by which means we will reach the goal *). The state planning should include the following areas of government activity: government programs, the concept of different areas of social development and reform of budgeting, policy and indicative future plans, presidential messages, etc.

The term "organization" includes the structure and function of government, and direct execution of state decisions. The basic organizational structure at the state level is the bureaucracy, the essence of which is based on professionalism of management and hierarchical distribution of power. Process performance management solutions provides the definition of the content and distribution of authority, the adjustment of the structure

and functions of the organization in accordance with societal changes. Complete frame includes several systems for personnel policy: the principle of patronage (party or bureaucratic), where the head at its discretion appoint officials, and the principle of merit, when recruitment is based on the abilities, knowledge and skills in the open competition (competition) via formation and the prospect of career (HR, which provides for the appointment to public office on a regular basis, deposit of competitive examinations, availability of managerial elite education, dependence promotion from senior management; hired - set the position of the contract, usually on a temporary basis, using specialized tests, personal responsibility manager for personnel policy, mixed, combining personnel and wage systems) the degree of social mobility and access to it (open and closed). Motifs public service include: power (damentally changed in democratic), the prestige, the prospect of promotion material compensation and certain privileges, striving to realize their professional domain for public purpose, political beliefs, feedback between supervisors and subordinates. In the civil service control is manifested in such forms: constitutional control, control of the state laws, administrative proceedings, the prosecutor's supervision, control and audit of financial, social control by the opposition parties, press, pressure groups, referenda, elections and more.

State management unlike private is larger scale and size are varied, apply to areas that can not be objects of market relations (defense and national security) and undergoes a much larger impact of various social factors when making decisions.

The government is the most important function of state government, but its essence is not limited to the rule by violence, coercion, ideology (which is characteristic of social power relations), but is to achieve certain results based on motivational structure (the needs and interests of people).

Structure of the state administration

Public administration institute includes head of state, government, national agencies that are not part of government, regional and local administrations. The head of state is the monarch at the monarchic and the president - with the republican form of government. He has the following powers: alone or with the consent of the legislature appoints the prime minister and his submission forms the government, with

Parliament participates in the formation of the judiciary and national purpose; issue laws or regulations, has law precedents (Suspension) veto, has the right to submit the bill to a referendum, is commander of the armed forces, has the right to dissolve parliament, may be removed as a result of a referendum or impeachment.

Government as the highest political and administrative authority carries domestic and foreign policy, ensures compliance with laws, has the right to the regulatory legislation. Government presidential republic headed by the president and the parliamentary and mixed-Prime Minister. In the mixed form of government there dualism executive power between the president and prime minister. Government formed by the head of state. According to the principle of party formation are one-party governments, coalition governments and the minority party. The government is responsible to the legislature and president. Parliamentary procedures, which involve government liability is resolution of censure, vote of confidence, interpolation.

The organs of national jurisdiction are bodies that do not belong to the government, but perform important public functions.

The government at the regional, local levels by representative of the regional administration, individual ministries, heads of regional executive bodies and local authorities, which the state has delegated certain powers. Governance at the local and regional levels publishes laws defining the status and functions of local government, the judicial and state control over local government services and job substitution, can dissolve governments if their disability.

The degree of civilized society, the level of its political culture includes such administrative models: American, Japanese, European, socialist, states transition societies.

The government of Ukraine is based on the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law on the Cabinet of Ministers, public administration, local government, public service. The structure of government includes the following institutions: the head of state, government, non-governmental structures of national purpose, the local administration.

Ukrainian head of state is the President. He - the guarantor of state sovereignty and the Constitution, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, has the right of legislative initiative, appoint a nationwide referendum on amendments to the constitution by

popular initiative, with the consent of the Parliament appoints the Prime Minister and the proposal approved last government staff and heads local administrations, may dissolve the parliament if it within thirty days does not begin plenary session, may be removed from office following the constitutional impeachment.

The highest authority in the executive branch is the Cabinet of Ministers, which is responsible to the President and is controlled by and accountable to Parliament. It consists of the Prime Minister, the first deputy prime minister, three deputy prime ministers and ministers. Cabinet has internal and external policies, provides the laws and decrees of the President. Cabinet prematurely terminate the authority due to parliamentary confidence in him.

Local administration (regional and district) enforce the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, acts of the President and Cabinet; interact with local governments, serve national and regional programs of socio-economic development, prepare local projects local budgets after their approval by the local representative bodies, to ensure their execution. Chairman administrations may be removed by the President, as well as local representative bodies (two-thirds of their constitutional composition).

State Department of Ukraine features transitional societies. Now it is due to the fact that the lack of administrative reform state authorities were incapable of social reforms, as well as through active lobbying power structures of interest agricultural, industrial and financial oligarchies in profitable allocation of budget and credit, public property, creating favorable tax and customs regimes in return for shadow profits.

The slow, haphazard, hesitant implementation of public administration reforms led to impoverishment of much of the population, deepened the crisis in all spheres of life.

Professional training of state officials

Professional training of state officials should conduct mainly in state educational institutions that can provide training of the profile. In the future training of state officials to be extensively involved on a competitive basis and net private schools, which in market conditions offer a variety of educational services.

Introducing administrative reform, forming the basis of modern machinery of the state and the state apparatus, the development of public service organically linked with professional training.

Development of a national state system of training, retraining and training of state officials carried on a constitutional basis, conceptual positions of administrative reform, on the basis of the revised legislation on public service, education, and other laws and regulations.

In the development of the development of training state officials can not be limited only to the current decision tasks. Strategy professional training - strategy for the future of the state. Identifying the needs for personnel (both qualitative and quantitative - for specializations and qualifications) is due primarily state and forecast of socio-economic and political processes, the level of development of productive forces, task management, those priorities on which to criticize society.

National system of training, retraining and training of state officials has its target orientation, content and features alone. It acts as a single system of educational activities with common requirements for the formation of learning content, with a network of educational institutions, legally determined, and with its control system.

The formation of this system is simultaneously in two directions:

First. The formation of a national system of professional training of civil servants is by implementing systems in vocational educational process on the basis of a single state personnel policy in the state officials by defining the structure and content of his professional activity, professional expertise of state officials, objectives, priorities and principles of professional training, the introduction of uniform national standards of training and assessment criteria to achieve them with the diversity of terms, forms and methods of teaching. It is this system should provide training essence, integrity, ensure continuity and consistency of the learning process.

Second. The formation of a national system of professional training of state officials is also through strengthening controllability of system interconnection and coordination of activities of all institutions engaged in educational work in the civil service.

Studying in the modern sense - is any planned improvements behavior who learns based on new knowledge, attitudes, values, abilities, skills, and more. This education can be seen as an organized communication to learning. Assuming these provisions, the state officials training system solves these common tasks to implement:

- training of state officials, as training to get a new face for her educational qualification (expert, master) specialty aimed at professional work in government agencies or local governments. However, under state officials training and education necessary to understand the person who is already in the public service, and the person who purposefully preparing for the state officials.

- retraining of state officials as training to obtain an educational qualification in another specialty (specialty), aimed at professional work in government agencies or local governments.

- training of state officials as well as training aimed at raising, ie achieve a certain level of general management culture and specialized within a certain category of posts and specialization in certain functions, duties, powers, determined by actual needs of the present (for a particular person, a particular body state or local government for a specific change of state-business relations, etc.).

The system of training state officials can flourish only in constantly and efficiently and growing need in the consequences of their activities. Needed a new motivational mechanism, not just binding and stimulating public servant continually update their professional skills and knowledge. The most versatile way to achieve this - link promotion, certification of professional achievements of a state officials, and the results of its study.

The experience of developed democratic state with a constant, with their national traditions and experience of state (public, civil) service indicates that the results of training of state officials as a condition for promotion and assignment of the next rank, grade, rank, etc., wage others. Admission to public service and promotion it must also be organically linked with the continuous training of state officials.

Many in the development of training for state officials, especially in ensuring its continuity, commitment, depends on changes related to him by both managers and

employees of state and local governments. It is important on a national scale have ensured that the systematic training of employees was part of their professional activities, not personal initiative and a mandatory requirement, part of state-management and carried out by the state budget.

At the same time it is necessary to create a new motivational mechanism, not only stimulating, but the one that puts the employee the need to constantly update their professional knowledge and skills. Experience civilized countries shows that it is necessary to link promotion, wage of qualifications, competence, qualifications to training, employee training are seamlessly integrated to his professional activities, careers, salaries.

Under these conditions, as well as to the improvement of the certification, the assignment of the next rank will increase motivation to work and employee responsibility for their professional development.

Now really exist and operate six subsystems training of state officials based on their specific departmental activities: Working under the guidance of the Main Department of Civil Service of Ukraine system of training of civil servants of the state and local governments.

In these systems, is training and retraining of state officials. However coordinate their activities should be concentrated in the powers of the central executive body responsible for the state personnel policy in the state officials.

Central place and leading role in the structure of education training for state officials belongs to the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine, which provides training and retraining of state officials who are in positions I – IV categories.

Networking schools training for the last period expanded by the establishment of regional administrations regional centers for training of state officials. The main direction of activity - training of state officials of local authorities and local governments, leaders of state enterprises, institutions and organizations of persons included in the personnel reserve for these vacancies.

Vocational training of state officials should conduct mainly in state educational institutions that can provide training of the profile.

In the future training of state officials to be extensively involved on a competitive basis and net private schools, which in market conditions offer a variety of educational services.

Implementation of the new Law of Ukraine "On State Service" poses new challenges for managers and workers of the service personnel, allowing service personnel (personnel services) to plan and organize activities aimed at improving the regulation of public service, organize events for entry into the state service, and passage termination of service, have the tools to assess the level of professional competence and tools, evaluation of the results of performance of state servants; predict staff development, career planning public servants to provide them training and continuous monitoring of performance.

Introduction of modern methods and techniques of personnel management in the public service and mandatory training of civil servants will help improve personnel management in the public service, to ensure an objective decision and strengthen professional capacities of public service.

Read and translate the following text

The electoral system in Ukraine

Article 12 of the Law of Ukraine "On Elections of People's Deputies of Ukraine" the list of subjects of the electoral process: voter CEC and other election commission, established pursuant to this Act, the party that nominated the candidate, the candidate for deputy registered in the manner prescribed by this Law, an official observer of the party that nominated candidates who registered in the manner prescribed by this Law.

Presidential Election in Ukraine are common. The right to vote in the elections to citizens of Ukraine who on election day eighteen years. Citizens of Ukraine who are eligible to vote are voters.

The document confirming the identity of the voter is:

- 1) a passport of Ukraine;
- 2) a temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for recently accepted the citizenship of Ukraine);
- 3) a card (certificate) of penal institution or detention facility, which must contain the following information: name, surname, middle name, date of birth, nationality, photo of a person, signature and seal of the head of the institution (for individuals who are in institutions for punishment or detention facilities);
- 4) a passport of Ukraine citizen for traveling abroad;
- 5) a diplomatic passport;
- 6) a Service passport;
- 7) a military card (only for conscripts).

The basis of a voter's right to vote is his inclusion in the list of voters.

The only authorized structure in Ukraine, which has the right to draw up lists of voters to vote for the election of deputies of all levels is a system of State voter registry.

State Voters registry is automated information and telecommunications system designed to store, process data containing statutory information and its use, established for state registration of citizens of Ukraine who are entitled to vote in accordance with Article 70 of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Register main objectives are:

- 1) the personalized registration of voters;

2) compiling lists of voters for the elections of the President of Ukraine, people's deputies of Ukraine, the deputies of Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local councils, village, town and city mayors, national and local referendums.

Register is maintained in electronic form with a single centralized database, which contains personal data of all voters of Ukraine.

Overall the Register provides inclusion of all voters, regardless of their place of residence or stay in order to implement the principle of universal suffrage.

A voter may be included in the Register only once for one election address and assigned to one polling station. Every voter in case of change of their personal data may personally apply with the registry by their voting address, a statement of change of personal data in the Registry, accompanied by copies of documents proving the change voting address of the voter.

Registry is public, providing access to every voter information made to it to the extent and in the manner prescribed by law.

One of the main characteristics of the registered information is also their ability to update that means making periodic adding or destruction of records, modification or clarification of personal data registered within the period and in the manner prescribed by law.

The organs of the State Voter Registry include: Managing the State register (CEC), the organs of the State Register of Voters (units of local administrations and executive bodies of local councils) and regional authorities administer the State Register of Voters (corresponding structural unit of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic Crimea and structural subdivisions of regional or municipal administrations).

To prepare and conduct the vote in elections at various levels, referendum, after the formation of polling Register maintenance body for each ordinary election polling station established on the territory covered by his authority, is preliminary voter lists for each ordinary polling stations, as well as for special election precincts formed in penal institutions. At the special election precincts formed in hospitals, and places of temporary stay of voters with limited mobility, voter lists are compiled by polling station election commissions in accordance with relevant law.

The right to nominate candidates at various levels realized voters in the relevant multi-, single-mandate constituencies through local party organizations or through self-nomination in the manner prescribed by law. A local party can nominate candidates for local elections, provided that it is registered in the manner prescribed by law, not later

than 365 days before the election. Nomination of candidates local party organization held a meeting (conference) of the organization.

A person nominated as a candidate for deputy in the multi-mandate constituency, can simultaneously be launched only as a candidate to the relevant council majority in single-member constituency or candidate for the village, town, city mayor. A person nominated as a candidate for deputy in single or single-mandate constituency candidate for village, town, city mayor can not simultaneously be nominated in any other single member constituencies with any local election. A person may be nominated as a candidate for deputy, a candidate for the post of village, town, city mayor by nomination from local organization (local organizations) of only one political party.

Central Election Commission registers the candidates included in the electoral list of the party, subject to it by the following documents:

- statement signed by the party leader and sealed by the parties seal;
- copies of the certificate of registration of the party and its charter, certified by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine after the announcement of the start of the electoral process;
- decision of the highest authority of the party to nominate candidates;
- electoral list of candidates from the party approved by the Central Election Commission;
- statements of persons included in the electoral list of the party's consent to run candidates from the party, their autobiographies, the declaration of assets, income, expenses and financial obligations;
- the instrument of a deposit;

Along with these documents, the party shall submit to the Central Electoral Commission election program of the party, which is published on the official website of the Central Electoral Commission.

Submission of documents to the Central Election Commission for registration of candidates ends for seventy-five days before polling day.

The election campaign - is undertaking any activities to encourage voters to vote for or not vote for a particular candidate or party members - the subject of the election process. The election campaign may be in any form and by any means that do not contradict the Constitution and laws of Ukraine.

The election campaign may be conducted in the following forms:

- citizens' assemblies and other meetings with voters;
- rallies, marches, demonstrations, pickets;

- public debates and discussions, "round tables", press conferences regarding the provisions of the election programs and political activities of political parties or candidates;
- publication in print and electronic media political advertisements, speeches, interviews, videos and other publications and communications;
- distribution of election leaflets, posters and other printed campaign materials or publications;
- placement of printed campaign materials or political advertising on outdoor advertising;
- concerts, plays, sporting events, film screenings and television broadcasts or other public events supported by the party or the candidate, as well as disclosure of such support;
- public appeals to vote for or not vote for a party, the candidate or public assessments of these parties or candidates;
- other forms that do not contradict the Constitution and laws of Ukraine.

The election campaign is financed from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated to campaigning, election funds of parties, candidates in single-member constituencies. Using candidates own funds or funds from other sources for the purpose of campaigning, including the initiative voters prohibited.

Powers of the Central Election Commission for the preparation and conduct of the elections shall be determined by the election laws, the Law of Ukraine "On the Central Election Commission" and other laws of Ukraine.

In addition to the powers defined by the Law of Ukraine "On the Central Election Commission", the main functions of the Central Election Commission include:

- monitoring compliance and uniform application of the legislation on elections of deputies of the voters, district and precinct election commissions and their members, state and local governments, enterprises, institutions, agencies, organizations and their officials, the media, candidates, parties, official observers, non-governmental organizations;
- organizational and methodological support to electoral commissions;
- establishing rules and list of equipment, equipment buildings election commission and polling stations, as well as services and works which may be available election commissions;

- establishing forms of election documents, samples of seals and signs of election commissions;
- registration of candidates;
- Approval of form, color and text of the ballot to vote, their centralized production in the required amount and accounting of ballots and transmission of district election commissions;
- the repeated and midterm elections in the cases provided by law;
- exercise other powers stipulated by the laws of Ukraine.

The system of election commissions in the preparation and conduct of the elections, is:

- 1) The Central Election Commission;
- 2) district election commissions;
- 3) precinct election commissions.

They are special collegial bodies authorized to arrange for the preparation and conduct of the elections and ensure the observance and uniform application of the law of Ukraine on the Election of Deputies.

A district election commission or election commission regular or special election precinct may include voters who reside within the territory of Ukraine. The local election commission special election precincts formed in a stationary hospital or penal institution or prison may not include employees of the institution or agency.

Nominator to election commissions are political parties. The right to nominate candidates for local election commissions are also candidates for deputy in the corresponding single-member district.

Chairperson, vice chairperson and secretary of the district election commission shall be representatives of different parties - nominators.

The powers of the district election commission or start taking the oath of not less than two-thirds of its minimum specified by law, at its first meeting which shall be held not later than the third day after the day the decision on its creation.

The district election commission:

- provide training and conduct of the elections within the single-district;
- monitors compliance and uniform application of the legislation on elections of deputies of the voters, the election commission and its members, state and local governments, enterprises, institutions, organizations, media, candidates, parties, official observers, public organizations ;

- provide legal, organizational, methodological, technical assistance to polling station commissions, organizes training of members of these committees on the organization of the electoral process;
- registers of trustees candidates;
- forms a precinct election commissions;
- decides on the use of funds from the State Budget of Ukraine allocated for the preparation and conduct of the elections;
- supervises the activities of local authorities and local governments for providing premises for voting, transportation, communications, and equipment;
- transmits polling station commissions ballots and other documents, provides control over accounting ballots within single-member districts;
- establishes ballot nationwide constituency within single-member districts and single-member district, results protocols, reports the Central Election Commission;
- exercise other powers stipulated by laws of Ukraine.

Powers of district election commission shall terminate fifteen days after the official publication of the Central Election Commission of the results of elections of deputies to the procedure established by this Law.

Precinct Election Commission:

- oversees adherence and equal application of the law on elections of deputies during the voting and counting of votes at a polling station;
- receive the voter list of the authority of the State Register of Voters or the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, makes a list of voters in the cases provided by law, makes it available for public review, and makes changes in the cases prescribed by law;
- enables voters introduction to the electoral lists of candidates from parties, information about candidates in single-seat constituencies, and the decisions taken by the Central Election Commission, the respective district election commission their own decisions and notices;
- provides accounting of the ballots received by the Commission;
- organizes voting on a polling place;
- counts votes at a polling station, the protocol on vote counting at polling stations and transmits them and other election documents to relevant district election commission;

- consider applications and complaints regarding the preparation and organization of the polling station and within its authority makes decisions on them;
- exercise other powers stipulated by laws of Ukraine.

Powers of the election commission terminated five days after the official publication of the Central Election Commission of the results of elections of deputies.

Voting is held from 8 to 20 hours without a break.

Voter must have one of the following documents:

- passport of Ukraine;
- temporary certificate of citizen of Ukraine (for recently accepted the citizenship of Ukraine);
- Military card (only for conscripts).

Upon presentation of one of these documents, if a citizen is in the voter list and after voter put his signature to obtain ballots in the voter list and in certain places on the control coupons ballots, member of the election commission will issue voter 2 Sheets.

Ballot is filled by voter in person at the booth for a secret ballot. It is forbidden for other persons to be in voting booth when the ballot is filling. A voter who because of physical disability is unable to fill the ballot, may with the consent of the chairman or another member of the election commission take the help of another voter, except a member of the election commission, the candidate, his authorized representative, the authorized person party official observer.

A voter may be in the voting booth only for the time required for voting.

The ballot paper intended to vote in multi-member constituency, to tick (check mark, plus or other symbol that certifies the will of the voter) in the square opposite the name of the party, the candidates of whose the voter votes. You can vote for candidates of only one party.

The ballot paper intended to vote in single-member constituency, to tick (check mark, plus or other symbol that certifies the will of the voter) in the square opposite the names of the candidate for whom the voter votes. You can only vote for one candidate for deputy.

If the ballot has more than one mark or do not carry no marks, then the ballot is invalid. In a ballot there is no line "against all".

The counting of votes held at the final meeting of the election commission in the same room where the voting was in sight of as a camera, which continuously transmits

the voting and the counting to the CEC. The final session is held without a break and is over after making and signing of protocols on vote counting at polling stations.

The counting of votes at a polling station is open and transparent exclusively by the members of the election commission.

Precinct Election Commission shall determine the number of voters on the list of voters on the excerpt from the voters list for homebound voting. The number is announced and entered by the commission secretary to the protocol of the vote count.

For signatures in the voter list and extracts from it counts the number of voters who received ballots for the vote and entered into the protocols of the counting of votes.

Chairman of the election commission summarizes the number of unused ballots to vote in the nationwide district and single-member district and announce them separately. Declared number of unused ballots entered by the commission secretary to the relevant protocols.

After following these steps, the election commission in turn opens the ballot box. The first one to open is a mobile ballot boxes used for voters voting at home, and opened last, if any, ballot boxes with broken seals or other damage revealed during the voting.

At the opening of the ballot box, its contents emptied on the table at which the members of the electoral commission are situated. The presence of a control sheet in the ballot box is checked(a control sheets in a portable ballot box).

Ballots for voting in a nationwide district and single-district separated from one another. The election commission counts the total number of ballots separately for single national constituency and district.

The number of ballots in the ballot boxes, except for items and ballots that are not counted announced by the head of the polling station commission and entered by the commission secretary to the protocol on the count of votes at a polling station in the national constituency within single-member districts and single-member district as the number of voters who took part in the vote.

At the decomposition of ballots each ballot is shown to all members of the election commission and the will of voters are proclaimed. If commissioners have any doubts on the contents of the ballot, the Election Commission addresses this issue by voting. In addition, each member of the election commission has the right to examine the ballot. On examination of the ballot work with other ballots stops.

Considered invalid ballots:

- 1) which made unauthorized changes;

2) if it have more than one tag in front of party names or the names of the candidates;

3) if it do not carry no marks;

4) if its checking ticket ballot is not separated;

5) if it is impossible for other reasons to determine the will of the voter.

The local election commission in the manner prescribed by paragraph eleven of Article 82 of this Law, separately counts the number of votes cast for the candidates included in the electoral list of each party in the national constituency and the number of votes cast for each candidate for deputy in single constituency. The results of the vote count announced and recorded according to the protocols of the vote count.

Protocol on counting signed members of the commission, presented to the CEC through video surveillance camera, and then, along with other election documents, packed ballots and voter lists delivered to the district election commission.

Typical violations of the electoral process on polling day

№	Possible violations	who can respond, appeal?	Fixation and evidence of breach	action to eliminate (prevent) violation
1.	Staying in the area during the vote of persons who by law is not granted the right	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Request the President of the LEC with the requirement that a person who can not be at the polling station, left the room. 2. Submit a statement to the DEC. 3. Complain to the DEC or the claim in court.
2.	Holding indoors LEC campaign for or against a candidate	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Attract media attention. 2. Request the President of the LEC to stop campaigning. 3. File a statement to the DEC about administrative offense. 4. Complain to the DEC.
3.	Failure to issue voter ballot, in case of inaccuracies in the voter list and technical slips	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Request the President of the LEC with the requirement to eliminate the violation. 2. Submit a statement to the DEC. 3. Complain to the DEC or the claim in court.
4.	Issuing voter ballot with multiple passports	voter, official observers, media	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Attract media attention. 2. Demand the removal of the results of the offense 3. Call the police and report the violation. 4. Apply to law enforcement agencies on criminal charges.
5.	Issuing voter ballot without a documents certifying personality	voter, official observers, media	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Attract media attention. 2. Demand the removal of the results of the offense. 3. Call the police and report the violation. 4. Apply to law enforcement authorities on criminal charges.
6.	Encourage voter (through bribery, threats or other means) by an unknown person to the transfer of the ballot to another person	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Call the police and report the violations. 2. Detain violators until the arrival of law enforcement authorities. 3. Apply to law enforcement authorities to initiate criminal proceedings.
7.	The obstruction of the LEC members to individuals who have	official observers, trusted	act of infringement,	1. Draw attention of trusted persons of candidates for the offense. 2. Call to the DEC. report a violation of

	a right to be present at the polling station during the vote at a meeting of the LEC and the counting of votes	persons of candidates	material of photo/video shoot	election law, file a complaint to DEC on behalf of the trustee candidate. 3. Apply to law enforcement authorities.
8.	Adding to the ballot of any member of the PEC notes	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Write a statement on behalf of the voters for a new ballot, rather spoiled. 2. Call the police and report the violations. 3. Apply to law enforcement authorities to initiate criminal proceedings.
9.	Lowering the ballot in the ballot box by a member of the LEC, third person	voter, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot	1. Complain to the DEC. 2. Write a statement to internal affairs agencies. Revealing facts lowering the ballot in the ballot box for the voter by another person in an amount that exceeds 10% of the number of voters who received ballots at a polling station, suggests the recognition of the polling station invalid.
10.	Filling the protocol of vote counting at PS pencil, as well as corrected, leading to improperly installed or announcement of the results	candidate, trusted persons, official observers	act of infringement, material of photo/video shoot, copy of the protocol with corrections	1. Apply to law enforcement authorities to initiate criminal proceedings. 2 Apply the DEC to hold a recount of votes in a polling station.

PS* LEC local election commission – ДВК (дільнична виборча комісія)
DEC district election commission – ОВК (окружна виборча комісія)
В 10 пункте PS – Polling Station – ВД (виборча дільниця)

Read and translate the following text

Ukraine: a unitary state, republic, democracy

The main component of the constitutional system is the political system, that is the organization (construction) and the activities of the state.

The political system is considered constitutional, official and legitimate when it is secured by the Constitution and actually exists. It is usually fully determined by the constitution of the state and often guaranteed by it, however, is one of the most difficult constitutional institutions and has the largest public importance.

The political system of Ukraine in content and form is a multifaceted phenomenon, encompassing structural (organizational) and functional foundations of the state, especially the political, economic, social and cultural ones. Each of the foundations of the state system is formed by the corresponding mechanism and function of the state.

The current political system of Ukraine has many features:

- The Ukrainian state and the state system of Ukraine are in a transitional condition, they are at the stage of emerging;
- Political system in Ukraine establishes a national state;
- The Ukrainian state, as confirmed by the process of state building in Ukraine, is developing as a European country that has the essential features of most countries.

Ukraine since independence is an important international factor that influences other states and international organizations and is influenced by them. The constitution of each country defines, regulates, establishes and protects the basics of the state system, its basic principles.

These are the basics of the system provided for by the Constitution and enshrined fundamental principles of (construction) and the state and its key institutions and government bodies, the main functions of the state, other elements (attributes) of the state.

Basic principles of the state system define the essence of the state, its type, place and role in society.

In accordance with Articles 1, 2, 5 of the Constitution of Ukraine these are the main principles of a such state system:

- The sovereignty and independence of the state;
- Democratic state;
- Social state;
- The principle of the rule of law;
- Unitary (unity, catholicity) of the state;
- Republican form of government.

Sovereignty of the state means its autonomy and independence of other states in the exercise of his functions within the states and in relations with other states.

Consequently, it is about two aspects of sovereignty - internal and external.

The sovereignty of the state does not mean the right of a state to carry out some actions on the international arena while ignoring the interests of other states, it is always somewhat limited. There cannot be an absolute, unlimited sovereignty which would have the right to arbitrariness in international relations. Implementation of "absolute sovereignty" contraindicates the world community, because it may lead to severe consequences - military clashes, significant material and human losses.

The internal aspect of sovereignty is manifested in its full independence for the formation of the socio-political organization of the society. State sovereignty means supremacy, independence, integrity, universality and uniqueness of the state power, i.e. the state of an organized public-political power. As an attribute of the state, it is one of the principles of government. The bearer of sovereignty and the only source of power in Ukraine is its people. Only they can determine and change the constitutional order. Sovereignty allows the state to define and carry out both domestic and foreign policy with the help of the governmental institutions.

State Sovereignty of Ukraine has the following characteristic properties:

- Constitutive nature of government;
- Territorial integrity;
- Single constitutional space;
- Legitimacy of the state power;

- Single citizenship;
- Public ownership, common monetary system;
- National Armed Forces who guard the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine;
- International legal personality;
- The official status of the national language;
- Availability of state symbols: State Flag of Ukraine, State Emblem of Ukraine, the State Anthem of Ukraine;
- Availability of the capital of Ukraine.

With the sovereignty of the state derives its independence, only a sovereign state can be independent and have the right to decide its internal and external affairs without interference from any other country.

Democracy implies the creation in the state of the most favorable conditions for broad and meaningful participation of its citizens in the management of affairs of state and society, ensuring diversity of political and cultural life.

Democratic state has the following main features:

- Ensures consistent implementation of the principle of democracy (through democratic election system);
- Has developed a system of rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen;
- Operates on the principle of separation of powers involving a democratic mechanism to solve the contradictions between different branches of government;
- Guarantees and ensures the democratic status of local governments.

Proclamation of Ukraine as a social state means its orientation and activities to implement a comprehensive and effective social policies to ensure real human and civil rights, work safety and health, establishing a guaranteed minimum wage, state support of the family, motherhood, fathers, children, disabled and elderly people, the development of social services, the establishment of state pensions and benefits.

The welfare state has the following features:

- Recognizes a human as the highest social value;

- Legal methods ensure the implementation of the principle of social justice;
- Supports the development of the social activity of the population;
- Perform socially oriented policies: together with a social protection of the population that need such protection it promotes development of various types of legal social activity (including entrepreneurship);
- Provides in the current legislation an effective system of state social services that need to provide social protection, and grants these services a priority status within the state apparatus.

A rule-of-law state ensures the rule of law, and the activities of the state, its agencies and officials are realized on the basis and within the limits specified by the law, in which not only a person is responsible to the state for their actions, but the government is actually responsible for its activities and their consequences.

Rule of law has the following main features:

- Enshrining in the Constitution the principle of the rule of law;
- At the constitutional level provides an effective mechanism for compulsory practical protection of the rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen;
- Ensures implementation in the state of all the rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen, enshrined in the ratified international treaties.

The principle of a unitary state means its unity, unity in the political, economic, social, cultural (spiritual) and other aspects. The focal point of the unity of the state is its territorial unity.

"Ukraine is a unitary state" - stated in Article 2 of the Constitution of Ukraine. Unitary state - a form of state and sometimes national polity based on the rule of a single state authority over administrative-territorial units to which it is divided. In other words, is a unitary state, no part of which has the status of separate state.

Ukraine Constitution clearly stipulates that Ukraine is a republic (Article 5), that is definitely proclaimed the establishment in Ukraine of a republican form of government.

Historical experience shows that there are several types of a republican rule, the most common of which are parliamentary, presidential and semi-or presidential-

parliamentary, republic. They differ primarily by the role played in the political life of the community by head of state - the president, and the distribution of responsibilities and competences between the president and the government.

So if in the Constitution of Ukraine the form of government in Ukraine is recorded as a unitary state, the type of Republican rule is not defined. In view of the concept and detailed analysis of the constitutional powers of the President of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine one can conclude that Ukraine is a semi-presidential republic.

The three branches of government: legislative, executive, judicial

Constitution of Ukraine (Article 6) establishes the principle of separation of powers between the legislature, executive and judiciary as one of the guiding principles of the constitutional order. This means that, firstly, some independence of each authority is fixed, and secondly, their competence is clearly divided and thirdly, each authority has the ability to oppose its opinion to the decision of another body, while controlling its actions.

Based on the principle of separation of powers into legislative, executive and judicial branches, which is enshrined in the "general principles" of the Constitution of Ukraine, the only legislative body in this country is the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Article 75). That is why the Parliament should not be regarded as a superior authority in relation to other national authorities (President, Cabinet of Ministers, the Constitutional and Supreme Courts) and local governments. The Constitution does not establish a principle of unity of representative bodies and other councils are not defined as state agencies, as well as local authorities. Therefore, the effect of the the Verkhovna Rada on the activities of other state and local governments can be done only through the adoption of laws that are binding on the territory of Ukraine by all subjects without exception.

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consists of one chamber. This same structure is used in the parliaments of many countries, such as Bulgaria, Greece, Lithuania, etc. But there are parliaments with more complex structure. Thus, the parliaments of Russia, France, the U.S. and many other countries are composed of two chambers; the Parliament of South Africa previously consisted of three, and the parliament of the former Yugoslavia of six chambers.

Executive Branch - a branch of the government that aims to enforce laws and regulations. The highest authority in the executive branch is the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. In its actions it is guided by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine and acts of the President of Ukraine. Moreover, one of the main functions of the Cabinet of Ministers is the enforcement of the laws of Ukraine (including the Constitution) and the acts of the President of Ukraine, the systematic enforcement of other executive bodies at all levels and applying appropriate measures to eliminate the violations. This function determines the nature and character of the powers of the Cabinet of Ministers, the law compliance of its decisions, that is their decisions on the basis of and for the implementation of the Constitution, laws, decrees of the President of Ukraine.

The judiciary administers justice. It is guided only by the law. Influencing judges is strictly prohibited by Article 126 of the Constitution of Ukraine. According to the Constitution of Ukraine the system of judicial authorities includes the courts of general jurisdiction (Article 125) and the Constitutional Court of Ukraine (Article 147).

A special place in the system of government is the President of Ukraine. He embodies state power in general, and not any one its branches, which determines the status of the President in the political life of the society. President as head of the state is also the highest official in the state, he shall have the authority to act on its behalf in the internal life of the country and in the international relations. In practice, this means that the President, in any case, does not require any additional verification of his authority, because he is the head of a sovereign state. Accordingly, the President is the supreme arbiter in relations between the branches of government. In the

Constitution, section V is dedicated to the President, the section consists of eleven articles that establish the procedure for electing the President of Ukraine and the basis of its relations with other parts of the state mechanism. A special type of government that do not belong to any of the branches of government are prosecutors. Prosecution of Ukraine constitutes a unified system, which consists of the General Prosecutor, prosecutors of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol (as regional), urban district, inter-district, other equivalent prosecutors and military prosecutors. Unity of the system is provided by that subordinate prosecutors subordinate to the higher prosecutors, and all prosecutors – to Prosecutor General of Ukraine. Prosecutors operate as an independent centralized state agency under coordinated regulations.

Constitution that: defines the powers of each branch, ensures the functioning of the state; describes and guarantees the rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen

Adopted on the fifth session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, June 28, 1996, the Constitution of Ukraine was the most important historical event in the life of the Ukrainian people after the proclamation of Ukraine's independence on August 24, 1991 and approval on December 1, 1990 by popular vote for the Act of Independence of Ukraine. Thus, the process of formation of Ukraine as a sovereign state, which has its own Fundamental Law.

First, the Constitution indicates achieving a state of stability in the society. After all, this process is usually predetermined by the transition of the society from one qualitative state to another, particularly as it occurs in Ukraine - the result of changes in the social order was the formation of civil society and democratic social state of law.

This, so to speak, historical background of the Constitution does not exhaust all the arguments about its importance as a fundamental law. The most important

argument is the actual content of the Constitution, the relevant provisions and the norms enshrined in it.

Yes, the Constitution of Ukraine establishes the basis of its social and political system, determines the areas of state and society, the foundations of the organization and functioning of the state bodies and local authorities, establishes the constitutional guarantees of rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen, and directs the development of national and local forms of democracy.

The Constitution of Ukraine is a significant social value to humans, state and society in general. Thanks to it, private property rights are guaranteed, legal guarantees of rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen are proclaimed, separation of powers is constitutionally established. The Constitution of Ukraine in 1996 based on the priority of human rights, enshrines the supremacy of the Constitution and the direct effect of its regulations, rule of law, the principle of democracy, ideological, economic and political diversity. Analysis of the Constitution from the standpoint of the "human dimension" suggests that it fully meets the high standards of modern democratic constitution.

In a democratic, social state of law, which under the Constitution of Ukraine is the basis for its existence and actions of relations in the promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, positive activities of state and self-governing structures in this area, as well as all other identified Constitution of Ukraine public relations aimed at further development of democratic society and political system of Ukraine.

For the people of Ukraine the Constitution is the fundamental law of the state, a document which should serve the basis of the national legislation, since it has a higher legal force, all other regulations must comply with the provisions of the Constitution. An important feature of the Constitution of Ukraine should be a high degree of stability of the basic law. A special procedure for amending the constitution is provided, different from the procedure of changes and additions to the ordinary laws and the creation of the legal protection of the Constitution, which prevents the coexistence in one circle of the Constitution and legal acts that contradict it.

On June 28, 1996 the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on behalf of the Ukrainian people adopted the Constitution of Ukraine, which can be defined as the Fundamental Law of Ukraine, which establishes the state structure, the principles of the constitutional order, the basis of the legal status of human and civil divisions, basic organization and functioning of public authorities and local government. Let's consider the Constitution of Ukraine in terms of its functionality:

- The Constitution is the fundamental law of the state, the basis of the national legal system;
- The Constitution proclaims democracy, the directions of the development of the state and society;
- Sets out the basic political and legal institutions of the state and society, defines the legal status of foundations, system and structure of government;
- Stimulates the development of public relations, contains programmatic provisions, is the basis to stimulate progressive political and legal processes of the state;
- The Basic Law is aimed at stabilizing the socio-economic processes;
- By constitutional norms the boundaries of the state authorities are defined, usurpation and the monopolization of power by certain structures is prevented.

The main principles of the Constitution of Ukraine are: democracy, the priority of human and civil rights, separation of powers, social, democratic and constitutional state, sovereignty, equality of citizens before the court and the law.

It is believed that the Constitution strengthened the legal basis of an independent Ukraine, its sovereignty and territorial integrity and was a major step in ensuring the rights and freedoms of a human and a citizen, helped to further increase the international prestige of Ukraine in the world.

According to the constitution, the Fundamental Law Day - June 28 is a public holiday and is celebrated as the Constitution Day of Ukraine.

Ukraine and European Union

Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe. It is the second biggest European country after Russia. Ukrainian closest international relations are explained by its geographical location and history. So, international relations with European Union have a very strong base.

The emergence of an independent Ukraine is one of the most important geopolitical events resulting from the collapse of the Soviet Union. With a population of 52 million people, Ukraine was too populous and territorially too large and centrally located to be ignored. Its stability and prosperity have a direct bearing on regional security and more broadly, on European security.

Ukraine has always been seen as an important but uneasy to deal with political partner of the European Union. According to observers this is due to such factors as unwillingness of the EU to expand to the post-Soviet space, poor performance of Ukrainian economy, lack of democracy (during the 1990s) or internal instability (following the Orange revolution). Also, some experts notice the importance of the Russian factor in Ukraine-EU relations.

Ukraine's desire to join the European institutions dates back to 1994 when the government declared that integration to the EU is the main foreign policy objective. In reality, little was done since Kiev had to take into account Russia, which remained its major trade partner and natural gas and fossil energy supplier.

The political dialogue between the EU and Ukraine started in 1994 when the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) was signed. That document was focused on economic and social issues as well as on the necessity of improving public government and guaranteeing free press and civil rights. The framework set for political discussions was modest: yearly meeting between EU Troika and Ukrainian leadership and some inter ministerial consultations. The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement of 1994 entered into force in 1998 and expired in 2008. None of top level meetings brought major changes to a reserved EU approach. Leaders focused chiefly on economic transition and human rights records as well as on issues connected to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and its containment.

In 2002, EU Enlargement Commissioner Günter Verheugen said that "a European perspective" for Ukraine does not necessarily mean membership within 10 to 20 years; however, it is a possibility.

Relations between Ukraine and the European Union were first established in December 1991, when Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, holding the presidency of the EU at that time, officially recognized Ukrainian independence on behalf of the European Union.

The policy of Ukraine aiming to develop the Ukraine-EU relations is based on the Law of Ukraine dating from the 1st of July 2010 "On the Foundations of Internal and Foreign Policy". According to Article 11 of this Law, one of the key elements of Ukrainian external policy is "ensuring the integration of Ukraine into the European political, economic and legal area in order to obtain the EU membership".

Together with this, the intention of Ukraine to develop the relations with the EU based on the principles of integration was announced long time before. In the Decision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (the Parliament of Ukraine) adopted on the 2nd of July 1993 "On the Key Directions of the Foreign Policy of Ukraine", Ukraine declared its European integration aspirations for the first time. The document indicated that "the priority of Ukrainian foreign policy is Ukrainian membership in the European Communities, as long as it does not harm its national interests. In order to maintain stable relations with the EU, Ukraine shall conclude an Partnership and Cooperation Agreement, the implementation of which shall become the first step towards its association and, later, full membership in this organization".

Henceforth, the Ukrainian strategic policy as to the European integration was confirmed and developed in the Strategy of Ukrainian Integration to the EU, approved by the Decree of the President of Ukraine on the 11th of June 1998, and in the Programme of Ukrainian Integration to the EU, approved by the Decree of the President of Ukraine on the 14th of September 2000. In particular, the Strategy announced that full membership in the EU was a long-term strategic aim of the European integration of Ukraine.

The support of the EU integration course is also traditionally granted at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine level. For instance, the corresponding provisions are contained in the Decision of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on parliamentary hearings on the cooperation of Ukraine and the EU, approved on the 28th of November 2002; in the Declaration of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine from the 22nd of February 2007 concerning the beginning of negotiations on the new agreement between Ukraine and the EU as well as the Decree of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine from the 19th of May 2011 concerning recommendations of parliamentary hearings on state of affairs and perspectives of economic relations development between Ukraine and the EU and Ukraine and the Customs Union.

During the last few years, the European Union considered Ukraine as the country of primary importance in the framework of the European Neighborhood Policy, launched in 2004. The basic principles of the ENP stated the deepening of political cooperation and economic integration between the EU and its partner countries. This policy was extended to countries of East Europe, South Caucasus and South Mediterranean, thus unifying the EU approaches towards the development of relations with countries of the specified regions. Taking into consideration the lack of membership perspectives in the ENP, Ukraine declared on the political level that such a policy was inadmissible and did not reflect its European aspirations.

Current legal basis of the Ukraine-EU relations is laid down by the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) from the 14th of June 1994 (came into force on the 1st of March 1998), which initiated the cooperation on broad range of political, economic, trade, and humanitarian issues. The conclusion of the PCA allowed to establish a regular bilateral dialogue between Ukraine and the EU on political and sectoral levels, to introduce trade regulations based on the principles of GATT/WTO, to determine the priorities of Ukrainian legislation adaptation to the European norms and standards (*acquis communautaire*) in main sectors of the Ukrainian economy. 7 priorities are listed in the PCA, such as: energy, trade and investments, justice and home affairs, adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to that of the EU, environment

protection, transport, border cooperation, cooperation in areas of science, technology and space.

Based on the PCA, the political dialogue between Ukraine and the EU is developing into annual meetings (Ukraine-EU Summits) with the participation of the President of Ukraine, the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission; meetings of the Cooperation Council with the participation of the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the High Representative of the EU for Foreign and Security Policy and the Minister of foreign affairs of the country holding the rotating presidency of the EU; Committee and sectoral subcommittees responsible for cooperation between Ukraine and the EU; Parliamentary Cooperation Committee; political dialogue meetings of foreign affairs ministers; sector dialogues meetings; regular meetings on the working group level. Every year exchange visits on the highest and high levels take place.

During the 1990s, [Germany](#), the [Netherlands](#) and [Italy](#) remained major trading partners of Ukraine. According to [Eurostat](#), between 2000 and 2007 EU trade in goods with Ukraine more than tripled in value: exports rose from 5.5 bn [Euro](#) to 22.4 bn, while imports increased from 4.8 bn Euro to 12.4 bn. Nevertheless, this increase didn't make Ukraine one of the EU's major trading partners. In 2007, Ukraine accounted for only 2% of EU exports and a mere 1% of European Union imports which is toward the bottom of the EU's top 20 trading partners (16th).

According to the European commission paper, trade with Ukraine is dominated by manufactured goods. Nearly half of the EU exports to Ukraine in 2007 were machinery and vehicles and a further quarter were other manufactured articles. A quite similar structure can be seen in imports: unspecified manufactured articles accounted for two fifths followed by a crude metal for a further fifth. At the more detailed level, the main EU exports to Ukraine in 2007 were medicine, motor vehicles and mobile phones, while the main imports were iron and steel products, as well as sunflower seed oil, ferro-nickel, iron ores and oil.

Among the EU27 Members States, [Germany](#) (5.9 bn Euro or 26% of EU exports) was the largest exporter, followed by [Poland](#) (4.1 bn or 18%). [Italy](#) (2.4 bn

or 19%) was the largest importer followed by [Bulgaria](#) (1.6 bn or 13%) and Germany (1.3 bn or 11%).

The largest surpluses in trade with Ukraine in 2007 were observed in [Germany](#) (+ 4.6 bn Euro) and [Poland](#) (+2.8 bn Euro) while [Bulgaria](#) scored the highest deficit (-1.4 bn Euro).

The EU has negotiated a deep and comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA). The negotiations were launched in 2008 and they have now been concluded.

The DCFTA will be part of a future Association Agreement, which will replace the present Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Ukraine (which dates from 1998). The initialing of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement took place in Brussels in March 2012, except for the DCFTA which was initialed on 19th July.

Since the entire Agreement has now been initialed, the next step will be the signature of the Agreement by the Council when the conditions are met.

The EU is Ukraine's most important commercial partner and accounts for about one third of Ukraine's external trade.

Ukraine's primary exports to the EU are iron, steel, mining products, agricultural products, and machinery.

EU exports to Ukraine are dominated by machinery, transport equipment, chemicals, and agricultural products.

The EU believes that closer economic integration - in the overall context of a political association – can be a key factor in economic growth for Ukraine.

Following Ukraine's WTO membership in 2008, the EU and Ukraine immediately launched negotiations for an agreement on a deep and comprehensive free trade area.

The future Free Trade Agreement between the EU and Ukraine will cover all trade-related areas (including services, intellectual property rights, customs, public procurement, energy-related issues, competition, et cetera) and also tackling the so-

called "beyond the border" obstacles through deep regulatory approximation with the [trade-related EU](#) acquis.

The free trade area between the EU and Ukraine is designed to deepen Ukraine's access to the European market and to encourage further European investment in Ukraine.

European Commission assistance to Ukraine mainly takes the form of Annual [Action Programmes](#) under the [European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument](#) (ENPI). Other funding sources are the [Instrument for Nuclear Safety Cooperation](#) (INSC) or the [thematic assistance programmes](#), concentrating for example on human rights or civil society.

The principal objective of cooperation between the EU and Ukraine is to develop an increasingly close relationship, going beyond past levels of cooperation to gradual economic integration and deeper political cooperation. EU assistance will therefore aim at supporting Ukraine's ambitious reform agenda on the basis of the objectives defined in the [Partnership and Cooperation Agreement](#) (PCA) and the EU-Ukraine [Action Plan](#).

EU assistance focuses in particular on support for democratic development and good governance, for regulatory reform and administrative capacity building and for infrastructure development. Another priority is [nuclear safety](#).

The Ukrainian government's own reform strategies are assisted in various sectors identified in the [National Indicative Programme](#) for Ukraine 2007-2010.

The main assistance programmes focus on support to the implementation of Ukraine's energy strategy (ENPI Annual Action Programmes [2007](#) and [2008](#)).

[The Ukrainian-European Policy and Legal Advice Centre](#) (UEPLAC) is a key project. It supports the process of legal approximation that will help Ukraine integrate into European structures. In addition, the Commission is funding Ukraine's National Coordination Unit (NCU). A dedicated [project](#) supports implementation of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement ([PCA](#)).

Commission assistance also targets sustainable regional development. As regional governments and municipalities are often the ones providing public services,

they are well-placed to effect practical change on the ground. The Commission is helping Ukraine to formulate a national policy on sustainable development and to set up a regional fund to ensure investment. Several municipalities are already supported through a dedicated [project](#).

The Commission provides support to economic reforms in Ukraine through the Blue Ribbon Analytical and Advisory [Centre](#), which aims at mobilizing a wide range of national and international partners in supporting market-oriented reforms and human development in Ukraine.

Assistance in favour of economic development also includes support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SME).

The Project "[Support to Secondary Healthcare Reform in Ukraine](#)" has started in 2007 and runs until December 2009. It contributes to the establishment of an effective, cost-efficient and equitable health care system in Ukraine.

Young drug users are supported through a specific [project](#).

Furthermore, the Commission supports projects in favour of Civil Society, one example is the [Consumer Society and Citizen Networks Project](#).

In order to develop local conditions, the EC funds a [project](#) which aims to support local communities all over the Ukrainian territory in improving basic municipal infrastructure through social mobilisation, capacity building and small scale community-led initiatives.

Funding has also been provided for Ukraine's participation in the EU's [TEMPUS](#) programme for co-operation in higher education. Ukrainians will also be able to take part in the [Erasmus Mundus External Co-operation Window](#) for mobility of students and academic staff.

A project called [International Co-operation in Criminal Matters in Ukraine](#) aims to enhance the capacities of Ukrainian judicial bodies and law enforcement agencies so they can co-operate more efficiently with their international counterparts – particularly with the EU. [The Project against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Ukraine](#) supports the key institutions and aims to develop better organisational and technical infrastructure.

Another initiative for combating crime is the [EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine](#) (EUBAM). The mission provides on-the-job training and advice to Moldovan and Ukrainian officials which will help them improve transparency on the border and deter and detect criminal activity such as smuggling and illegal migration. In addition, the EC contributes to a specific [project](#) to strengthen the capacities of Ukrainian authorities to detect counterfeit travel documents.

The EC also finances a [project](#) offering a long-term perspective against trafficking in human beings in Moldova and Ukraine by addressing gaps in the current implementation of National Action Plans against Human Trafficking.

To prevent drug abuse and fight against drug trafficking in Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova, the European Commission funds the [BUMAD](#) programme.

The EC also supports the [fight against corruption](#), which enhances good governance.

In February 2008 a [project](#) started to support the management of migration in Ukraine.

The [project](#) “Sustainable Integrated Land Use of the Eurasian Steppe” operates in Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, and in the Russian Federation. The main task is to support steppe conservation and restoration of the steppe ecosystem.

Also in the domain of environment protection, the [project](#) "Environmental collaboration for the Black Sea" contributes to the sustainable development of the Black Sea Basin, mainly through prevention and reduction of pollution.

In order to significantly reduce incidences of HIV/STI and form safe behaviour among the personnel of the uniformed services in Ukraine, the EU has committed €2,5 million for a [project](#) (2005-2008) aiming to support the development of effective mechanisms for comprehensive HIV/STI prevention measures.

I believe Ukraine's future belongs in Europe. While our historical connection to Russia will continue to be very important, the key to prosperity for our people and the development of our natural and human resources lies in a deeper and more developed integration with Europe and the West.

I see vast potential for Ukraine to play a prosperous role in the European economy. Not only does my country boast an educated labor force and a rich foundation in science and technology, but we also serve as a bridge connecting European, Russian and Asian markets. With a territory larger than France, one that is home to a third of the world's most fertile soil, Ukraine has often been referred to as the "breadbasket of Europe."

We also value innovation. Our current exploration of shale and offshore reserves will diversify energy supplies and help avert future crises. Our strong economic ties with the EU will only increase after we finalize an Association Agreement later this year—a springboard to future EU membership.

Ukraine's partnership with the West extends beyond economic and strategic interests. It also includes a shared culture of values and a commitment to democracy, human rights and international peace. Ukrainian decision last year to remove weapons-grade uranium from our nuclear reactors despite resulting economic hardships shows that Ukraine is serious about global security, and that we are a reliable pillar of stability in Europe's eastern neighborhood. I would be remiss if I did not mention our shared joy in friendly sporting competition, as demonstrated by Ukraine's co-hosting of next year's European Football Championships along with our Polish friends.

Looking closer to home, we must focus on improving relations with our Russian neighbors. For too long, Ukraine's energy security has been blighted by an unpredictable diplomatic relationship with Russia. It is time to move on and look to the future—putting regional peace ahead of past mistakes. Ukraine, Russia and the whole of Europe will benefit if this is achieved.

Yet our progress has been far from smooth. As our country seeks to escape from an economic crisis that has strangled a generation, we have had to implement tough economic measures to secure International Monetary Fund support that has safeguarded Ukraine's economic development. Ukraine's current pension reform plan (including raising the retirement age for women to 60 from 55) is similar to the controversial measures being undertaken by all governments across Europe to

achieve economic and fiscal discipline. However difficult it may be, reforms like this are finally starting to structure Ukraine's economy on par with EU standards.

There is more work to be done in our transformation. Replacing the remnants of Soviet corruption with transparency across all areas—including government administration, business and the judiciary—remains a challenge. No person should be immune from the consequences of his actions regardless of political standing or social stature. Without accountability, Ukraine's transformation will be unattainable. Without the rule of law, Ukrainian citizens will have their daily lives complicated.

In this climate of global uncertainty and competing geostrategic interests, the connections between Europe and Ukraine are all the more important. Ukraine needs Europe. Just as important, Europe cannot afford to leave Ukraine behind.

In the next 10 years of independence, it is our hope to see Ukraine reunited with its European family. We cannot achieve this goal alone, and we are calling on our European friends to support our efforts. Our future depends on forging close ties with the EU and eventually becoming a full-fledged member. As we remember our humble beginnings, let us look forward to the next 20 years. In a period that will have many challenges, we hope to stand firmly by the EU's side, leaving the next generation of Ukrainians a legacy of stability as part of a united European community.

Read and translate the following text

Ukraine and European Union



Ukraine is a very young country. However, this country attracts investors and tourists. We want to highlight the most interesting facts and areas of its life. This report consists of 5 parts, that present the country in different aspects. They are: [geographical position of Ukraine](#); history of the country; [traditions in Ukraine](#), [heir similarity to the ones of countries in central and eastern Europe](#); Euro 2012; [sightseeing, tourist and cultural peculiarities](#).

1. Geographical position of Ukraine

Ukraine is located in eastern Europe, the second largest country on the continent after Russia. The capital is Kiev (Kyiv), located on the Dnieper River in north-central Ukraine.

Ukraine is bordered by Belarus to the north, Russia to the east, the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea to the south, Moldova and Romania to the southwest, and Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland to the west. In the far southeast, Ukraine is separated from Russia by the Kerch Strait, which connects the Sea of Azov to the Black Sea.

Ukraine occupies the southwestern portion of the Russian Plain (East European Plain). The country consists almost entirely of level plains at an average elevation of 574 feet (175 meters) above sea level. Mountainous areas such as the Ukrainian Carpathians and Crimean Mountains occur only on the country's borders and account for barely 5 percent of its area. The Ukrainian landscape nevertheless has some diversity: its plains are broken by highlands—running in a continuous belt from northwest to southeast—as well as by lowlands.

The rolling plain of the Dnieper Upland, which lies between the middle reaches of the Dnieper (Dnipro) and Southern Buh (Pivdennyi Buh, or the Boh) rivers in west-central Ukraine, is the largest highland area; it is dissected by many river valleys, ravines, and gorges, some more than 1,000 feet (300 meters) deep. On the west the Dnieper Upland is abutted by the rugged Volyn-Podilsk Upland, which rises to 1,545 feet (471 meters) at its highest point, Mount Kamula. West of the Volyn-Podilsk Upland, in extreme western Ukraine, the parallel ranges of the Carpathian Mountains—one of the most picturesque areas in the country—extend for more than 150 miles (240 km). The mountains range in height from about 2,000 feet (600 meters) to about 6,500 feet (2,000 meters), rising to 6,762 feet (2,061 meters) at Mount Hoverla, the highest point in the country. The northeastern and southeastern portions of Ukraine are occupied by low uplands rarely reaching an elevation of 1,000 feet (300 meters).

Among the country's lowlands are the Pripet Marshes (Polissya), which lie in the northern part of Ukraine and are crossed by numerous river valleys. In east-central Ukraine is the Dnieper Lowland, which is flat in the west and gently rolling in the east. To the south, another lowland extends along the shores of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov; its level surface, broken only by low rises and shallow depressions, slopes gradually toward the Black Sea. The shores of the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov are characterized by narrow, sandy spits of land that jut out into the water; one of these, the Arabat Spit, is about 70 miles (113 km) long but averages less than 5 miles (8 km) in width.

The southern lowland continues in the Crimean Peninsula as the North Crimean Lowland. The peninsula—a large protrusion into the Black Sea—is connected to the mainland by the Perekop Isthmus. The Crimean Mountains form the southern coast of the peninsula. Mount Roman-Kosh, at 5,069 feet (1,545 metres), is the mountains' highest point.

Almost all the major rivers in Ukraine flow northwest to southeast through the plains to empty into the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. The Dnieper River, with its hydroelectric dams, huge reservoirs, and many tributaries, dominates the entire central part of Ukraine. Of the total course of the Dnieper, 609 miles (980 km) are in Ukraine, making it by far the longest river in the country, of which it drains more than half. Like the Dnieper, the Southern Buh, with its major tributary, the Inhul, flows into the Black Sea. To the west and southwest, partly draining Ukrainian territory, the Dniester (Dnistro) also flows into the Black Sea; among its numerous tributaries, the largest in Ukraine are the Stryy and the Zbruch. The middle course of the Donets River, a tributary of the Don, flows through southeastern Ukraine and is an important source of water for the Donets Basin (Donbas). The Danube River flows along the southwestern frontier of Ukraine. Marshland, covering almost 3 percent of Ukraine, is found primarily in the northern river valleys and in the lower reaches of the Dnieper, Danube, and other rivers.

2. History of the country

A fully independent Ukraine emerged only late in the 20th century, after long periods of successive domination by Poland-Lithuania, Russia, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (U.S.S.R.). Ukraine had experienced a brief period of independence in 1918–20, but portions of western Ukraine were ruled by Poland, Romania, and Czechoslovakia in the period between the two World Wars, and Ukraine thereafter became part of the Soviet Union as the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (S.S.R.). When the Soviet Union began to unravel in 1990–91, the legislature of the Ukrainian S.S.R. declared sovereignty (July 16, 1990) and then outright independence (Aug. 24, 1991), a move that was confirmed by popular approval in a plebiscite (Dec. 1, 1991). With the dissolution of the U.S.S.R. in December 1991, Ukraine gained full independence. The country changed its official name to Ukraine, and it helped to found the Commonwealth of A significant minority of the population of Ukraine are Russians or use Russian as their first language. Russian influence is particularly strong in the industrialized east, as well as in Crimea, an autonomous republic on the Black Sea which was part of Russia until 1954. The Russian Black Sea Fleet is based there.

Crimea is also the homeland of the Crimean Tatars whom Stalin accused of collaborating with the Nazis and deported to Central Asia in 1944. More than 250,000 have returned since the late 1980s.

Remembering the millions who died in Ukraine's Stalin-era Great Famine

In 1932-1933 Stalin's programme of enforced agricultural collectivization brought famine and death to millions in Ukraine, the bread basket of the USSR. Not until its twilight years did the Soviet Union acknowledge the extent of the suffering.

News of another Soviet-era calamity, the 1986 accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, rang alarm bells around the world immediately. About 8% of Ukraine's territory was contaminated as were large areas in neighbouring Belarus. Millions have suffered as a result. Independent States (CIS), an association of countries that were formerly republics of the Soviet Union.

The first president after independence, former Communist Party official Leonid Kravchuk, presided over a period of economic decline and runaway inflation. His successor, Leonid Kuchma, oversaw steady economic recovery, but was accused of conceding too much to Russian economic interests.

Opposition to Mr Kuchma grew, further fed by discontent at controls on media freedom, manipulation of the political system and cronyism.

The authorities' attempt to rig the 2004 presidential elections led to the "Orange Revolution", with reference to the colour of the main opposition movement.

Mr Yanukovych was declared the winner of the second round of voting in the 2010 presidential election, with a 3.48% lead over Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

3. Traditions in Ukraine. Their similarity to the ones of countries in central and eastern Europe.

Ukraine has been developing its own original culture since very early times of its history. There were periods when Ukrainian culture experienced considerable influences of other cultures such as those of Byzantium and of the Vikings (in the medieval times of Kyivan Rus), but basically it preserved its general original quality. The Old Ukrainian language was used as Latin of Eastern Europe for a period of time.

Though oral literature existed in the very early periods of Ukraine's history, written elite literature began to develop from the end of the 10th century. After the adoption of Christianity which gave a big boost for the development of culture in general. The churches of Kyiv - and their number - caused admiration of foreign travellers visiting the city in the 11th and 12th centuries. The eleventh-century Grand Duke Yarsolav the Wise founded a library which became one of the biggest in Europe, and promoted the institution of schools, including those for girls. In later centuries, literacy was widely spread in Ukraine.

In spite of a turbulent and dramatic history, Ukraine has preserved a cultural constant from the early times of its existence. Book printing began in Ukraine in the 16th century and the first establishment of higher learning - the first not only in Ukraine but in the whole of Eastern Europe - Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, sprang up in the early 17th century.

Notwithstanding its colonial status, Ukraine had a wide spectrum of art and literature which entered a phase of stepped-up development in the 18th century. Poetic and prose works written by Taras Shevchenko, the most revered cultural figure of Ukraine, Ivan Kotlyarevsky, Lesya Ukrayinka, Ivan Franko, Mykhaylo Kotsyubynsky and other authors of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, were a worthy contribution to world literature.

Folk music, and later symphonic and opera music were and are among Ukraine's cultural strengths.

Ukrainian national traditions, customs, and oral folk literature reflect Old Ukrainian pre-Christian, and Christian cultures. The rituals derive from the folk calendar, religious celebrations like Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide, Ivana Kupala (St.John's Eve), New Year, and the autumn folk festivals dedicated to the end of the agricultural work.

Ukrainians have typical wedding habits, family traditions connected with crafts and jobs (the first day of sowing, beginning of the harvest), along with traditional symbols (straw *didukh*, decorated *pysanka* Easter eggs), holy water, and traditional dishes like *kutia* (boiled wheat with honey and poppy seed), *paskha* Easter bread, *varenyky* (something like ravioli), and pancakes. The rituals include folk dances, carols, fortune-telling, and blessing with water.

Holidays were celebrated during periods of transition from one type of agricultural activity to another. Easter, for example, is a spring holiday. Spring is a time of ploughing and sowing in the fields, a time of warmth and rebirth after a cold, hungry winter. In pagan times Ukrainians believed that the gods died and were reborn every year. An example of a pagan ritual is the dyeing of eggs.

To the Christian Ascension Day (the 40th day after Easter) Ukrainians added a pre-Christian tradition of going to the field to inspect the progress of the wheat.

The Trinity is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter in summer. Traditionally, people decorated their homes with green tree branches and fragrant herbs. Another summer holiday full of magic and ritual is known as Saint Kupala (July 7). During the day everyone has to be at least immersed in water. This was the last holiday before the harvest.

August 2nd is known as St. Illia Day which marked the beginning of autumn. People say - "Until dinner it's summer, after dinner it's autumn". On the 19th of August known as Saviour Day vegetables, fruit, mushrooms and honey were blessed. Weddings usually took place in the middle of October. A unique feature of Ukrainian Christmas festivities is the Vertep or puppet theatre. Young people would get together; dress as angels, kings, Herod, animals. They walk from house to house singing Koliadky, greeting everyone with the holiday.

Folk music in Ukraine reflects the gains and traditions of the Kyivan Rus'. These were mainly ritual songs sung a cappella. Historical songs (dumy) and kobza-playing appeared as typical Ukrainian folk genres in the sixteenth century. The Hlukhin School of singing and Kyiv-Mohyla Academy was the core of musical education from the seventeenth to early nineteenth century's. Ukrainian choral music reached its peak owing to the works of Dmytro Bortniansky, Maksym Berezovsky, and Artemi Vedel.

Independence has encouraged the development of all musical directions: Ukrainian song is being restored; there are musical genres in popular music: Cossak songs and song poetry, Polissia magic pop, and Kolomiya rap. Numerous new festivals and competitions have sprung up and the most popular are the Tavriya Games. Opera art festivals, international organ and piano music festivals have become a tradition.

Those traditions, customs and cultural heritage are similar to many countries of eastern and central Europe. That is connected not only with history, but also with its geographical position.

4. Euro 2012

The 2012 UEFA European Football Championship, commonly referred to as Euro 2012, was the 14th European Championship for national football teams organized by UEFA. The final tournament was hosted for the first time by Poland and Ukraine, between 8 June and 1 July 2012, after their bid was chosen by UEFA's Executive Committee in 2007. Euro 2012 set the record for both the highest aggregate attendance (1,440,896) and the highest average attendance per game (46,481) under the 16-team format (since 1996).

The final tournament featured 16 nations, the last European Championship to do so; from Euro 2016 onward, there will be 24 finalists. Qualification was contested by 51 nations between August 2010 and November 2011 to determine the remaining 14 finalists. The tournament was played across eight venues, four in each host country, five of which were newly built for the tournament. Aside from venues, the host nations have also invested heavily in improving infrastructure, such as railways and roads, at UEFA's request.

The tournament opened with a 1–1 draw between Poland and Greece at the National Stadium in Warsaw on 8 June 2012. The final match took place 23 days later on 1 July 2012 at the Olympic Stadium in Kiev, where Spain defended their title with a 4–0 win over Italy. Spain became the first team to win two consecutive European Championships, and the first international team to win three straight major tournament titles (Euro 2008, 2010 World Cup and Euro 2012). Since Spain had already gained entry to the 2013 Confederations Cup by winning the 2010 World Cup, the runners-up Italy qualified.

Euro 2012 was the second consecutive European Championship (after Euro 2008 held in Austria and Switzerland) in which neither of the hosts emerged from the group stage, as both Poland and Ukraine were eliminated.

After Poland and Ukraine were chosen by a vote of the UEFA Executive Committee as host countries for Euro 2012, several issues arose, which jeopardized the Polish/Ukrainian host status.

In Ukraine there were financial difficulties related to stadium and infrastructure renovation related to the economic crisis. In Poland, issues arose related to corruption within the Polish Football Association. In April 2009 however, the president of UEFA, Michel Platini announced that all was on track and that he saw no major problems. After a UEFA delegation visited Ukraine in September 2011, he stated the country was "virtually ready for Euro 2012".

Especially in the UK, there were allegations of racism in football in both host countries. The main cause of discussion was the BBC current affairs programme Panorama, entitled Euro 2012: Stadiums of Hate, which included recent footage of supporters chanting various anti-Semitic slogans and displays of white power symbols and banners in Poland, plus Nazi salutes and the beating of South Asians in Ukraine. The documentary was first echoed in much of the British press, but was then attacked for being one-sided and unethical: critics included other British media outlets; anti-racism campaigners, black and Jewish community leaders in Poland; Polish and Ukrainian politicians and journalists; England fans visiting the host nations and Gary Lineker.

In response to Yulia Tymoshenko's hunger strike and her mistreatment in a Ukrainian prison some European politicians and governments announced that they would boycott the matches in Ukraine.

Ukraine came under criticism from animal welfare organizations for killing stray cats and dogs in order to prepare for Euro 2012. Ukrainian Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources and Minister Of The Environment promised to take action to prevent killing animals but it still remains unclear how these measures will be enforced. The ministry's comments also suggested this would only be a temporary measure, drawing further criticism.

Bomb explosions took place in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine, on 27 April 2012 and were described as a terrorist attack that may jeopardise the organisation of the tournament in Ukraine.

Other minor important issues were associated with FEMEN's group protests against prostitution and sex tourism in Ukraine, and enormous increases in hotel prices by many hoteliers in the country.

But nevertheless Euro 2012 was a remarkable event, which drew attention and also made positive impressions.

5. Sightseeing. Tourist and cultural peculiarities.

Ukraine tourism is one of the fastest growing branches of the national economy. During the period of the Soviet Union, tourism was not even a branch of the State economy. It was just a neglected part of "the sphere of services".

For a considerable length of time, foreign tourists were allowed to come to officially designated "open" cities only. Practically no soviet citizens were allowed to travel abroad.

Today the Ukraine tourism industry confidently has entered the world tourist market. Tourism in Ukraine has been recognized and is an important economic factor. There is a good reason for this change.

Daily profit from one foreign tourist in Ukraine equals income from exporting nine tons of Ukrainian coal. A tourist sector of the economy serves as a major source of currency for 38% of countries in the world. It's all a matter of priorities and one that many countries in the world choose to emphasize.

In the present day we can see that things are beginning to change in the Ukraine's tourist industry. The Cabinet of Ministers and the President, adopted several important decrees on tourism, "The Program of Development of Tourism up to the year 2010" has already been launched. In October 1997, Ukraine became a Full Member of the World Tourism Organization (WTO).

What makes Tourism in Ukraine attractive? There are many features that are advantageous to the development of Ukraine tourism:

- Over 500 cities of Ukraine were founded more than 900 years ago, also 4,500 villages of Ukraine are more than 300 years old.

- More than 150-thousand monuments of culture, history, and archeology reflect the remarkable history of the Ukrainian people. 80 % of the monuments of Kyivan Rus epoch (IX - XII centuries) are concentrated in the territory of Ukraine.

- The excavations of ancient towns in Tira, Olviya, Chersonese, Panticapea dating from the 5th century B.C. as well as the magnificent fortresses built in the 14th-15th centuries by Italians from Genoa, are located in Crimea.

- More than 600 museums introduce the most outstanding facts and personalities of Ukrainian history and culture.

- Ukraine has excellent and diverse geography, climatic conditions, and scenic nature. Ukraine tourism operators consider the Black Sea and the Crimea as an ideal place for mountaineering, mountain bicycling, rock climbing and diving. The Carpathian mountains are a traditional place for skiing, mountaineering and kayaking.

- Many regions of Ukraine have saved their ethnic originality. Tourists therefore have a great opportunity to get acquainted with national culture, songs, dances, and meals.

There are 150,000 monuments of culture, history, archaeology, citybuilding, architecture, palaces and park building art, as well as 300 museums in Ukraine. Seven national historical and cultural preserves have been created. More values are the monuments of Kyivan Rus (IX - XII centuries) epoch - 80 % of the monuments of this period are concentrated on the territory of Ukraine. The most remarkable monuments are the Kyievo-Pecherska Lavra (Kyivan Cave Monastery), the St. Sophia's Cathedral and the historical center of Lviv city. They have been entered into the List of the World Heritage of UNESCO. Very rich historical and cultural heritage is represented by St.Andrew`s and St.Cyryl`s Church in Kyiv, historical monuments, and the cultural heritage of Zaporizhzhya Cossacks. Also there are monuments about the days of the national liberation struggle of Ukrainian people in 1648 – 1654 and World War II. There are architectural and house-holding museums under open sky in Kyiv, Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky, Lviv, Uzhgorod, Chernivtsi, Galych, art galleries in Kyiv, Odesa, Feodosiya, Lviv, Kharkiv etc. Tourists are very interested in architectural monuments of

various epochs and styles: monuments of defensive architecture - fortresses in Lutsk, Medzhybizh, Kamyanets-Podilsky, Khotyn, Bilgorod-Dnistrovsky, Uzhgorod, Mukacheve; palace complexes in Crimea, in Lviv and Chernigiv regions; monuments of wooden worship and civil architecture in the Carpathians.

Today many old cathedrals and churches are under restoration: the Cathedral of St. Michael's Monastery of the Golden Domes in Kyiv, Uspensky Cathedral in Kyiv-Pecherska Lavra (Monastery of the Caves). There are over 20,000 architectural monuments in Ukraine and the most famous of them are included in the UNESCO World Heritage list. Important events in recent years has been the renewal of the memory of Ukrainian historical figures: the erection of monuments in honor of Princess Olha, Prince Volodymyr the Great, Taras Shevchenko, Mykhailo Hrushevsky, memorials to victims of Stalinist 1930s-1940s repression, and victims of famine of 1930s.

Kamyanets-Podilsky and Khotyn fortresses. These fortresses are no doubt on the first place of 7 wonders of Ukraine. Kamyanets-Podilsky town has the fortification system that is unique all over the Europe and Khotyn fortress was the center of numerous wars and fights.

Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra is a unique monastic complex, included by the UNESCO into the list of the monuments of the world-wide significance. The complex consists of two parts: the above-ground (religious constructions complex) and underground (caves).

The famous St. Sophia Cathedral is the principal temple of Kyiv Rus, founded by Yaroslav Mudry (Yaroslav The Wise), which survived the centuries and extant to our days. Presently this complex is included into the world heritage protected by the UNESCO.

Adventurous trip to Hoverla mountain will not leave any tourist indifferent as this is the highest mountain in Ukraine. An additional excursion can be made to the Prut River waterfall, one of the Danube tributaries, situated to the south of the main trail.

The most popular and famous castle in Lviv region is Olesko. From a distance we can see the powerful defensive building on the picturesque hill in Olesko, which walls are formed of the cut stone blocks, they "remember" a lot of invasions of polyglot invaders.

Palanok castle in Mukachevo. This castle is the most precious historical finding of Transcarpathians dated back to XV - XVI centuries. It has not been conquered through its all history because of its location on 68 meter high volcanic hill. The founding cornerstone for the castle was laid sometime in the 14th century.

Pochaiv Lavra. It is the most sacred eastern orthodox holy place in Volyn and the second-important one after Kiev-Pechersk Lavra in Ukraine. The most precious acquisition of this holly complex is a wonder-working icon of the Blessed Virgin that has a gift of miraculous healing.

Rynok Square - the centre of the Lviv historical-architectural preserve - is a grand essembly. It is dated back to the 14th century and is formed by a complex of 44 buildings, different in style and period. Many of them bear traces of Renaissance, baroque, Empire and modern styles.

Shevchenkivskyi Park is an open air Lviv museum of folk architecture and life with the collection of farmsteads, windmills, churches and schools of 17-18th century from all regions of Ukraine. It is situated in Shevchenkivskyi Hai (forest) - one of most picturesque sites of Lviv.

Zhovkva is the only remnant in Ukraine example of Renaissance "ideal" city-citadel. The place of interest in Krehiv is a wooden church (built in 1724) with an interesting iconostasis, and a wooden bell tower near it which saved the lines of defensive architecture.

The tourist potential is steadily increasing. The number of foreign tourists increased 16 times since 1992. The number of Ukrainian tourists increased by 2.5 (4.6 million tourists), excursionists by 5 (10 million). About 3.5 million Ukrainian citizens have visited foreign countries as tourists. Today, we can receive up to 20 thousand foreign tourists daily, it means that 7-10 million of foreign tourists can visit Ukraine annually.

Conclusion

To sum up the achievements of Ukraine during the last years the following facts may be considered.

In 2011 Ukraine took positive steps to secure deeper long-term future relations with the EU, and to confirm the European vector of its foreign policy, by working intensively to finalize the negotiations of the Association Agreement, which closed in December.

Ukraine is located in eastern Europe, the second largest country on the continent after Russia. The capital is Kyiv, located on the Dnieper River in north-central Ukraine.

Ukraine is bordered by Belarus to the north, Russia to the east, the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea to the south, Moldova and Romania to the southwest, and Hungary, Slovakia, and Poland to the west.

The territory of Ukraine was a key center of East Slavic culture in the Middle Ages, before being divided between a variety of powers. However, the history of Ukraine dates back many thousands of years. The territory has been settled continuously since at least 5000 BC. Ukraine has a great history of struggling for independence. During the times of becoming an independent country, Ukraine has gained its rich culture. The most important fact is that the country overcame obstacles in the way of development and now is a developed, independent state, which is represented by wonderful people who live in it.

Traditions, customs and cultural heritage are similar to many countries of eastern and central Europe. That is connected not only with history, but also with its geographical position.

The culture of Ukraine is unique and diverse, but over the years it has been influenced by its eastern and western neighbours, which is reflected in its architecture, music and art. Folk culture is fundamental and basic for the Ukrainian national culture.

Ukrainians are rightly proud that Ukraine was chosen to hold the final games of the UEFA EURO 2012 games jointly with Poland. This event offered a unique opportunity not only to show the whole world what we have achieved in the arts, the sciences, education, and sports, and to demonstrate the high quality of our hospitality. This was another opportunity to show the international community that the basic philosophical principle driving our country is openness to cooperation and partnership.

Ukraine is among the Top 3 most attractive tourist countries in the world according to the guide Lonely Planet. The publication, which is owned by BBC Worldwide, has submitted a list of 10 countries to be visited in 2012. The corresponding poll was conducted among the most famous tourist experts. Lonely Planet described Ukraine as “the greatest riddle of Europe”.

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