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Ukraine's Constitution of 1996 with Amendments through 2014

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Preamble

• Source of constitutional authority
• God or other deities
• Motives for writing constitution
• Right to self determination

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, on behalf of the Ukrainian people - citizens of Ukraine of all nationalities,

expressing the sovereign will of the people,

based on the centuries-old history of Ukrainian state-building and on the right to self-determination realised by the Ukrainian nation, all the Ukrainian people,

providing for the guarantee of human rights and freedoms and of the worthy conditions of human life,

caring for the strengthening of civil harmony on Ukrainian soil,

striving to develop and strengthen a democratic, social, law-based state,

aware of our responsibility before God, our own conscience, past, present and future generations,

guided by the Act of Declaration of the Independence of Ukraine of 24 August 1991, approved by the national vote of 1 December 1991,

adopts this Constitution — the Fundamental Law of Ukraine.

Chapter I: General Principles

Article 1

Ukraine is a sovereign and independent, democratic, social, law-based state.

Article 2

The sovereignty of Ukraine extends throughout its entire territory.

Ukraine is a unitary state.

The territory of Ukraine within its present border is indivisible and inviolable.

Article 3

• Human dignity

The human being, his or her life and health, honour and dignity, inviolability and security are recognised in Ukraine as the highest social value.

Human rights and freedoms and their guarantees determine the essence and orientation of the activity of the State. The State is answerable to the individual for its activity. To affirm and ensure human rights and freedoms is the main duty of the State.

Article 4

• Requirements for birthright citizenship
• Conditions for revoking citizenship
• Requirements for naturalization

There is single citizenship in Ukraine. The grounds for the acquisition and termination of Ukrainian citizenship are determined by law.

Article 5

• Type of government envisioned

Ukraine is a republic.

The people are the bearers of sovereignty and the only source of power in Ukraine. The people exercise power directly and through bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government.

The right to determine and change the constitutional order in Ukraine belongs exclusively to the people and shall not be usurped by the State, its bodies or officials.

No one shall usurp state power.

Article 6

State power in Ukraine is exercised on the principles of its division into legislative, executive and judicial power.

Bodies of legislative, executive and judicial power exercise their authority within the limits established by this Constitution and in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.

Article 7

In Ukraine, local self-government is recognised and guaranteed.

Article 8

In Ukraine, the principle of the rule of law is recognised and effective.

The Constitution of Ukraine has the highest legal force. Laws and other normative legal acts are adopted on the basis of the Constitution of Ukraine and shall conform to it.

The norms of the Constitution of Ukraine are norms of direct effect. Appeals to the court in defence of the constitutional rights and freedoms of the individual and citizen directly on the grounds of the Constitution of Ukraine are guaranteed.

• International law
• Treaty ratification
• Legal status of treaties

Article 9

International treaties that are in force, agreed to be binding by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, are part of the national legislation of Ukraine.

The conclusion of international treaties that contravene the Constitution of Ukraine is possible only after introducing relevant amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine.

• Official or national languages
• Protection of language use

Article 10

The state language of Ukraine is the Ukrainian language.

The State ensures the comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of social life throughout the entire territory of Ukraine.

In Ukraine, the free development, use and protection of Russian, and other languages of national minorities of Ukraine, is guaranteed.

The State promotes the learning of languages of international communication.

The use of languages in Ukraine is guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine and is determined by law.

• Right to culture
• Integration of ethnic communities

Article 11

The State promotes the consolidation and development of the Ukrainian nation, of its historical consciousness, traditions and culture, and also the development of the ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious identity of all indigenous peoples and national minorities of Ukraine.

• Right to culture

Article 12

Ukraine provides for the satisfaction of national and cultural, and linguistic needs of Ukrainians residing beyond the borders of the State.

Article 13

• Ownership of natural resources

The land, its mineral wealth, atmosphere, water and other natural resources within the territory of Ukraine, the natural resources of its continental shelf, and the exclusive (maritime) economic zone, are objects of the right of property of the Ukrainian people. Ownership rights on behalf of the Ukrainian people are exercised by bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government within the limits determined by this Constitution.

Every citizen has the right to utilise the natural objects of the people's right of property in accordance with the law.

Property entails responsibility. Property shall not be used to the detriment of the person and society.

The State ensures the protection of the rights of all subjects of the right of property and economic management, and the social orientation of the economy. All subjects of the right of property are equal before the law.

• Right to own property

Article 14

Land is the fundamental national wealth that is under special state protection.

The right of property to land is guaranteed. This right is acquired and realised by citizens, legal persons and the State, exclusively in accordance with the law.

Article 15

Social life in Ukraine is based on the principles of political, economic and ideological diversity.

No ideology shall be recognised by the State as mandatory.

• Freedom of press

Censorship is prohibited.

The State guarantees freedom of political activity not prohibited by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

• Protection of environment

Article 16

To ensure ecological safety and to maintain the ecological balance on the territory of Ukraine, to overcome the consequences of the Chornobyl catastrophe - a catastrophe of global scale, and to preserve the gene pool of the Ukrainian people, is the duty of the State.

Article 17

To protect the sovereignty and territorial indivisibility of Ukraine, and to ensure its economic and informational security are the most important functions of the State and a matter of concern for all the Ukrainian people.

The defence of Ukraine and the protection of its sovereignty, territorial indivisibility and inviolability, are entrusted to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Ensuring state security and protecting the state border of Ukraine are entrusted to the respective military formations and law enforcement bodies of the State, whose organisation and operational procedure are determined by law.

The Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations shall not be used by anyone to restrict the rights and freedoms of citizens or with the intent to overthrow the constitutional order, subvert the bodies of power or obstruct their activity.

The State ensures the social protection of citizens of Ukraine who serve in the Armed Forces of Ukraine and in other military formations as well as of members of their families.

The creation and operation of any armed formations not envisaged by law are prohibited on the territory of Ukraine.

The location of foreign military bases shall not be permitted on the territory of Ukraine.

• Customary international law
• International law

Article 18

The foreign political activity of Ukraine is aimed at ensuring its national interests and security by maintaining peaceful and mutually beneficial co-operation with members of the international community, according to generally acknowledged principles and norms of international law.

Article 19

The legal order in Ukraine is based on the principles according to which no one shall be forced to do what is not envisaged by legislation.

• Duty to obey the constitution

Bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government and their officials are obliged to act only on the grounds, within the limits of authority, and in the manner envisaged by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Article 20

• National flag

The state symbols of Ukraine are the State Flag of Ukraine, the State Coat of Arms of Ukraine and the State Anthem of Ukraine.

• National flag

The State Flag of Ukraine is a banner of two equally-sized horizontal bands of blue and yellow.

• Supermajority required for legislation

The Great State Coat of Arms of Ukraine shall be established with the consideration of the Small State Coat of Arms of Ukraine and the Coat of Arms of the Zaporozhian Host, by the law adopted by no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The main element of the Great State Coat of Arms of Ukraine is the Emblem of the Royal State of Volodymyr the Great (the Small State Coat of Arms of Ukraine).

• National anthem
• Supermajority required for legislation

The State Anthem of Ukraine is the national anthem set to the music of M. Verbytskyi, with words that are confirmed by the law adopted by no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Supermajority required for legislation

The description of the state symbols of Ukraine and the procedure for their use shall be established by the law adopted by no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• National capital

The capital of Ukraine is the City of Kyiv.

Chapter II: Human and Citizens' Rights, Freedoms and Duties

Article 21

• Human dignity

All people are free and equal in their dignity and rights.

• Inalienable rights

Human rights and freedoms are inalienable and inviolable.

Article 22

Human and citizens' rights and freedoms affirmed by this Constitution are not exhaustive.

Constitutional rights and freedoms are guaranteed and shall not be abolished.

The content and scope of existing rights and freedoms shall not be diminished in the adoption of new laws or in the amendment of laws that are in force.

• Right to development of personality

Article 23

Every person has the right to free development of his or her personality if the rights and freedoms of other persons are not violated thereby, and has duties before the society in which the free and comprehensive development of his or her personality is ensured.

• General guarantee of equality

Article 24

Citizens have equal constitutional rights and freedoms and are equal before the law.

• Equality regardless of gender
• Equality regardless of skin color
• Equality regardless of creed or belief
• Equality regardless of social status
• Equality regardless of financial status
• Equality regardless of political party
• Equality regardless of race
• Equality regardless of language
• Equality regardless of religion

There shall be no privileges or restrictions based on race, colour of skin, political, religious and other beliefs, sex, ethnic and social origin, property status, place of residence, linguistic or other characteristics.

• Right to culture
• Equality regardless of gender

Equality of the rights of women and men is ensured: by providing women with opportunities equal to those of men, in public and political, and cultural activity, in obtaining education and in professional training, in work and its remuneration; by special measures for the protection of work and health of women; by establishing pension privileges, by creating conditions that allow women to combine work and motherhood; by legal protection, material and moral support of motherhood and childhood, including the provision of paid leaves and other privileges to pregnant women and mothers.

Article 25

• Right to renounce citizenship

A citizen of Ukraine shall not be deprived of citizenship and of the right to change citizenship.

A citizen of Ukraine shall not be expelled from Ukraine or surrendered to another state.

Ukraine guarantees care and protection to its citizens who are beyond its borders.

Article 26

• International law

Foreigners and stateless persons who are in Ukraine on legal grounds enjoy the same rights and freedoms and also bear the same duties as citizens of Ukraine, with the exceptions established by the Constitution, laws or international treaties of Ukraine.

• Protection of stateless persons

Foreigners and stateless persons may be granted asylum by the procedure established by law.

Article 27

• Right to life

• Inalienable rights

Every person has the inalienable right to life.

No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of life. The duty of the State is to protect human life.

Everyone has the right to protect his or her life and health, the lives and health of other persons against unlawful encroachments.

Article 28

• Human dignity

Everyone has the right to respect of his or her dignity.

• Prohibition of cruel treatment
• Prohibition of torture

No one shall be subjected to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment that violates his or her dignity.

• Reference to science

No person shall be subjected to medical, scientific or other experiments without his or her free consent.

Article 29

• Protection from unjustified restraint

Every person has the right to freedom and personal inviolability.

No one shall be arrested or held in custody other than pursuant to a substantiated court decision and only on the grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by law.

In the event of an urgent necessity to prevent or stop a crime, bodies authorised by law may hold a person in custody as a temporary preventive measure, the reasonable grounds for which shall be verified by a court within seventy-two hours. The detained person shall be released immediately, if he or she has not been provided, within seventy-two hours from the moment of detention, with a substantiated court decision in regard to the holding in custody.

• Right to counsel

Everyone arrested or detained shall be informed without delay of the reasons for his or her arrest or detention, apprised of his or her rights, and from the moment of detention shall be given the opportunity to personally defend himself or herself, or to have the legal assistance of a defender.

Everyone detained has the right to challenge his or her detention in court at any time.

Relatives of an arrested or detained person shall be informed immediately of his or her arrest or detention.

• Regulation of evidence collection
• Right to privacy

Article 30

Everyone is guaranteed the inviolability of his or her dwelling place.

Entry into a dwelling place or other possessions of a person, and the examination or search thereof, shall not be permitted, other than pursuant to a substantiated court decision.

In urgent cases related to the preservation of human life and property or to the direct pursuit of persons suspected of committing a crime, another procedure established by law is possible for entry into a dwelling place or other possessions of a person, and for the examination and search thereof.

• Regulation of evidence collection
• Right to privacy
• Telecommunications

Article 31

Everyone is guaranteed privacy of mail, telephone conversations, telegraph and other correspondence. Exceptions shall be established only by a court in cases envisaged by law, with the purpose of preventing crime or ascertaining the truth in the course of the investigation of a criminal case, if it is not possible to obtain information by other means.

Article 32

• Right to privacy

No one shall be subject to interference in his or her personal and family life, except in cases envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine.

The collection, storage, use and dissemination of confidential information about a person without his or her consent shall not be permitted, except in cases determined by law, and only in the interests of national security, economic welfare and human rights.

• Right to information

Every citizen has the right to examine information about himself or herself, that is not a state secret or other secret protected by law, at the bodies of state power, bodies of local self-government, institutions and organisations.

• Right to protect one's reputation

Everyone is guaranteed judicial protection of the right to rectify incorrect information about himself or herself and members of his or her family, and of the right to demand that any type of information be expunged, and also the right to compensation for material and moral damages inflicted by the collection, storage, use and dissemination of such incorrect information.

• Freedom of movement
• Restrictions on entry or exit

Article 33

Everyone who is legally present on the territory of Ukraine is guaranteed freedom of movement, free choice of place of residence, and the right to freely leave the territory of Ukraine, with the exception of restrictions established by law.

A citizen of Ukraine may not be deprived of the right to return to Ukraine at any time.

• Freedom of expression
• Freedom of opinion/thought/conscience

Article 34

Everyone is guaranteed the right to freedom of thought and speech, and to the free expression of his or her views and beliefs.

• Freedom of press

Everyone has the right to freely collect, store, use and disseminate information by oral, written or other means of his or her choice.

The exercise of these rights may be restricted by law in the interests of national security, territorial indivisibility or public order, with the purpose of preventing disturbances or crimes, protecting the health of the population, the reputation or rights of other persons, preventing the publication of information received confidentially, or supporting the authority and impartiality of justice.

• Freedom of religion

Article 35

Everyone has the right to freedom of personal philosophy and religion. This right includes the freedom to profess or not to profess any religion, to perform alone or collectively and without constraint religious rites and ceremonial rituals, and to conduct religious activity.

The exercise of this right may be restricted by law only in the interests of protecting public order, the health and morality of the population, or protecting the rights and freedoms of other persons.

• Official religion
• Separation of church and state

The Church and religious organisations in Ukraine are separated from the State, and the school - from the Church. No religion shall be recognised by the State as mandatory.

• Right to conscientious objection

No one shall be relieved of his or her duties before the State or refuse to perform the laws for reasons of religious beliefs. In the event that the performance of military duty is contrary to the religious beliefs of a citizen, the performance of this duty shall be replaced by alternative (nonmilitary) service.

• Freedom of association

Article 36

• Right to form political parties

Citizens of Ukraine have the right to freedom of association in political parties and public organisations for the exercise and protection of their rights and freedoms and for the satisfaction of their political, economic, social, cultural and other interests, with the exception of restrictions established by law in the interests of national security and public order, the protection of the health of the population or the protection of rights and freedoms of other persons.

• Restrictions on political parties

Political parties in Ukraine promote the formation and expression of the political will of citizens, and participate in elections. Only citizens of Ukraine may be members of political parties. Restrictions on membership in political parties are established exclusively by this Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

• Right to join trade unions

Citizens have the right to take part in trade unions with the purpose of protecting their labour and socio-economic rights and interests. Trade unions are public organisations that unite citizens bound by common interests that accord with the nature of their professional activity. Trade unions are formed without prior permission on the basis of the free choice of their members. All trade unions have equal rights. Restrictions on membership in trade unions are established exclusively by this Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

No one may be forced to join any association of citizens or be restricted in his or her rights for belonging or not belonging to political parties or public organisations.

All associations of citizens are equal before the law.

• Restrictions on political parties

Article 37

• Prohibited political parties

The establishment and activity of political parties and public associations are prohibited if their programme goals or actions are aimed at the liquidation of the independence of Ukraine, the change of the constitutional order by violent means, the violation of the sovereignty and territorial indivisibility of the State, the undermining of its security, the unlawful seizure of state power, the propaganda of war and of violence, the incitement of inter-ethnic, racial, or religious enmity, and the encroachments on human rights and freedoms and the health of the population.

Political parties and public associations shall not have paramilitary formations.

The creation and activity of organisational structures of political parties shall not be permitted within bodies of executive and judicial power and executive bodies of local self-government, in military formations, and also in state enterprises, educational establishments and other state institutions and organisations.

The prohibition of the activity of associations of citizens is exercised only through judicial procedure.

Article 38

• Referenda

Citizens have the right to participate in the administration of state affairs, in All-Ukrainian and local referendums, to freely elect and to be elected to bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government.

• Civil service recruitment

Citizens enjoy the equal right of access to the civil service and to service in bodies of local self-government.

• Freedom of assembly

Article 39

Citizens have the right to assemble peacefully without arms and to hold meetings, rallies, processions and demonstrations, upon notifying in advance the bodies of executive power or bodies of local self-government.

Restrictions on the exercise of this right may be established by a court in accordance with the law and only in the interests of national security and public order, with the purpose of preventing disturbances or crimes, protecting the health of the population, or protecting the rights and freedoms of other persons.

• Right of petition

Article 40

Everyone has the right to file individual or collective petitions, or to personally appeal to bodies of state power, bodies of local self-government, and to the officials and officers of these bodies, that are obliged to consider the petitions and to provide a substantiated reply within the term established by law.

• Right to own property

Article 41

• Provisions for intellectual property

Everyone has the right to own, use and dispose of his or her property, and the results of his or her intellectual and creative activity.

The right of private property is acquired by the procedure determined by law.

In order to satisfy their needs, citizens may use the objects of the right of state and communal property in accordance with the law.

• Inalienable rights

No one shall be unlawfully deprived of the right of property. The right of private property is inviolable.

• Emergency provisions
• Protection from expropriation

The expropriation of objects of the right of private property may be applied only as an exception for reasons of social necessity, on the grounds of and by the procedure established by law, and on the condition of advance and complete compensation of their value. The expropriation of such objects with subsequent complete compensation of their value is permitted only under conditions of martial law or a state of emergency.

Confiscation of property may be applied only pursuant to a court decision, in the cases, in the extent and by the procedure established by law.

The use of property shall not cause harm to the rights, freedoms and dignity of citizens, the interests of society, aggravate the ecological situation and the natural qualities of land.

Article 42

• Right to establish a business

Everyone has the right to entrepreneurial activity that is not prohibited by law.

• Outside professions of legislators

The entrepreneurial activity of deputies, officials and officers of bodies of state power and of bodies of local self-government is restricted by law.

• Right to competitive marketplace

The State ensures the protection of competition in entrepreneurial activity. The abuse of a monopolistic position in the market, the unlawful restriction of competition, and unfair competition, shall not be permitted. The types and limits of monopolies are determined by law.

• Protection of consumers

The State protects the rights of consumers, exercises control over the quality and safety of products and of all types of services and work, and promotes the activity of public consumer associations.

Article 43

• Right to choose occupation
• Right to work

Everyone has the right to labour, including the possibility to earn one's living by labour that he or she freely chooses or to which he or she freely agrees.

• Right to work

The State creates conditions for citizens to fully realise their right to labour, guarantees equal opportunities in the choice of profession and of types of labour activity, implements programmes of vocational education, training and retraining of personnel according to the needs of society.

• Prohibition of slavery

The use of forced labour is prohibited. Military or alternative (non-military) service, and also work or service carried out by a person in compliance with a verdict or other court decision, or in accordance with the laws on martial law or on a state of emergency, are not considered to be forced labour.

• Right to equal pay for work
• Right to safe work environment
• Right to reasonable standard of living

Everyone has the right to proper, safe and healthy work conditions, and to remuneration no less than the minimum wage as determined by law.

• Limits on employment of children

The employment of women and minors for work that is hazardous to their health, is prohibited.

Citizens are guaranteed protection from unlawful dismissal.

The right to timely payment for labour is protected by law.

Article 44

• Right to strike

Those who are employed have the right to strike for the protection of their economic and social interests.

The procedure for exercising the right to strike is established by law, taking into account the necessity to ensure national security, health protection, and rights and freedoms of other persons.

No one shall be forced to participate or not to participate in a strike.

The prohibition of a strike is possible only on the basis of the law.

• Right to rest and leisure

Article 45

Everyone who is employed has the right to rest.

This right is ensured by providing weekly rest days and also paid annual vacation, by establishing a shorter working day for certain professions and industries, and reduced working hours at night.

The maximum number of working hours, the minimum duration of rest and of paid annual vacation, days off and holidays as well as other conditions for exercising this right, are determined by law.

• State support for the elderly
• State support for the unemployed
• State support for the disabled

Article 46

Citizens have the right to social protection that includes the right to provision in cases of complete, partial or temporary disability, the loss of the principal wage-earner, unemployment due to circumstances beyond their control and also in old age, and in other cases established by law.

This right is guaranteed by general mandatory state social insurance on account of the insurance payments of citizens, enterprises, institutions and organisations, and also from budgetary and other sources of social security; by the establishment of a network of state, communal and private institutions to care for persons incapable of work.

• Right to reasonable standard of living

Pensions and other types of social payments and assistance that are the principal sources of subsistence, shall ensure a standard of living not lower than the minimum living standard established by law.

• Right to shelter

Article 47

Everyone has the right to housing. The State creates conditions that enable every citizen to build, purchase as property, or to rent housing.

Citizens in need of social protection are provided with housing by the State and bodies of local self-government, free of charge or at a price affordable for them, in accordance with the law.

No one shall be forcibly deprived of housing other than on the basis of the law pursuant to a court decision.

• Right to reasonable standard of living

Article 48

Everyone has the right to a standard of living sufficient for himself or herself and his or her family that includes adequate nutrition, clothing and housing.

• Right to health care

Article 49

Everyone has the right to health protection, medical care and medical insurance.

Health protection is ensured through state funding of the relevant socio-economic, medical and sanitary, health improvement and prophylactic programmes.

The State creates conditions for effective medical service accessible to all citizens. State and communal health protection institutions provide medical care free of charge; the existing network of such institutions shall not be reduced. The State

promotes the development of medical institutions of all forms of ownership.

The State provides for the development of physical culture and sports, and ensures sanitary-epidemic welfare.

• Protection of environment

Article 50

Everyone has the right to an environment that is safe for life and health, and to compensation for damages inflicted through the violation of this right.

Everyone is guaranteed the right of free access to information about the environmental situation, the quality of food and consumer goods, and also the right to disseminate such information. No one shall make such information secret.

Article 51

• Provision for matrimonial equality

Marriage is based on the free consent of a woman and a man. Each of the spouses has equal rights and duties in the marriage and family.

Parents are obliged to support their children until they attain the age of majority. Adult children are obliged to care for their parents who are incapable of work.

• Rights of children
• Right to found a family

The family, childhood, motherhood and fatherhood are under the protection of the State.

• Rights of children

Article 52

Children are equal in their rights regardless of their origin and whether they are born in or out of wedlock.

Any violence against a child, or his or her exploitation, shall be prosecuted by law.

• State support for children

The maintenance and upbringing of orphans and children deprived of parental care is entrusted to the State. The State encourages and supports charitable activity in regard to children.

Article 53

Everyone has the right to education.

• Compulsory education

Complete general secondary education is compulsory.

• Free education

The State ensures accessible and free pre-school, complete general secondary, vocational and higher education in state and communal educational establishments; the development of preschool, complete general secondary, extra-curricular, vocational, higher and post-graduate education, various forms of instruction; the provision of state scholarships and privileges to pupils and students.

• Access to higher education
• Free education

Citizens have the right to obtain free higher education in state and communal educational establishments on a competitive basis.

• Protection of language use

Citizens who belong to national minorities are guaranteed in accordance with the law the right to receive instruction in their native language, or to study their native language in state and communal educational establishments and through national cultural societies.

Article 54

• Reference to art
• Provisions for intellectual property
• Reference to science

Citizens are guaranteed the freedom of literary, artistic, scientific and technical creativity, protection of intellectual property, their copyrights, moral and material interests that arise with regard to various types of intellectual activity.

• Provisions for intellectual property

Every citizen has the right to the results of his or her intellectual, creative activity; no one shall use or distribute them without his or her consent, with the exceptions established by law.

• Reference to science

The State promotes the development of science and the establishment of scientific relations of Ukraine with the world community.

• Right to culture

Cultural heritage is protected by law.

• Right to culture

The State ensures the preservation of historical monuments and other objects of cultural value, and takes measures to return to Ukraine the cultural treasures of the nation, that are located beyond its borders.

Article 55

Human and citizens' rights and freedoms are protected by the court.

Everyone is guaranteed the right to challenge in court the decisions, actions or omission of bodies of state power, bodies of local self-government, officials and officers.

• Ombudsman

Everyone has the right to appeal for the protection of his or her rights to the Authorised Human Rights Representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• International organizations

After exhausting all domestic legal remedies, everyone has the right to appeal for the protection of his or her rights and freedoms to the relevant international judicial institutions or to the relevant bodies of international organisations of which Ukraine is a member or participant.

Everyone has the right to protect his or her rights and freedoms from violations and illegal encroachments by any means not prohibited by law.

• Ultra-vires administrative actions

Article 56

Everyone has the right to compensation, at the expense of the State or bodies of local self-government, for material and moral damages inflicted by unlawful decisions, actions or omission of bodies of state power, bodies of local self-government, their officials and officers during the exercise of their authority.

Article 57

Everyone is guaranteed the right to know his or her rights and duties.

Laws and other normative legal acts that determine the rights and duties of citizens shall be brought to the notice of the population by the procedure established by law.

Laws and other normative legal acts that determine the rights and duties of citizens, but that are not brought to the notice of the population by the procedure established by law, are not in force.

Article 58

• Protection from ex post facto laws

Laws and other normative legal acts have no retroactive force, except in cases where they mitigate or annul the responsibility of a person.

• Principle of no punishment without law

No one shall bear responsibility for acts that, at the time they were committed, were not deemed by law to be an offence.

• Right to counsel

Article 59

Everyone has the right to legal assistance. Such assistance is provided free of charge in cases envisaged by law. Everyone is free to choose the defender of his or her rights.

In Ukraine, the advocacy acts to ensure the right to a defence against accusation and to provide legal assistance in deciding cases in courts and other state bodies.

Article 60

No one is obliged to execute rulings or orders that are manifestly criminal.

For the issuance or execution of a manifestly criminal ruling or order, legal liability arises.

Article 61

• Prohibition of double jeopardy

For one and the same offence, no one shall be brought twice to legal liability of the same type.

The legal liability of a person is of an individual character.

Article 62

• Presumption of innocence in trials

A person is presumed innocent of committing a crime and shall not be subjected to criminal punishment until his or her guilt is proved through legal procedure and established by a court verdict of guilty.

No one is obliged to prove his or her innocence of committing a crime.

• Regulation of evidence collection

An accusation shall not be based on illegally obtained evidence as well as on assumptions. All doubts in regard to the proof of guilt of a person are interpreted in his or her favour.

• Protection from false imprisonment

In the event that a court verdict is revoked as unjust, the State compensates the material and moral damages inflicted by the groundless conviction.

Article 63

• Protection from self-incrimination

A person shall not bear responsibility for refusing to testify or to explain anything about himself or herself, members of his or her family or close relatives in the degree determined by law.

A suspect, an accused, or a defendant has the right to a defence.

A convicted person enjoys all human and citizens' rights, with the exception of restrictions determined by law and established by a court verdict.

• Emergency provisions

Article 64

Constitutional human and citizens' rights and freedoms shall not be restricted, except in cases envisaged by the Constitution of Ukraine.

Under conditions of martial law or a state of emergency, specific restrictions on rights and freedoms may be established with the indication of the period of effectiveness of these restrictions. The rights and freedoms envisaged in Articles 24, 25, 2 7, 28, 29, 40, 47, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62 and 63 of this Constitution shall not be restricted.

Article 65

Defence of the Motherland, of the independence and territorial indivisibility of Ukraine, and respect for its state symbols, are the duties of citizens of Ukraine.

• Duty to serve in the military

Citizens perform military service in accordance with the law.

• Protection of environment

Article 66

Everyone is obliged not to harm nature, cultural heritage and to compensate for any damage he or she inflicted.

Article 67

• Duty to pay taxes

Everyone is obliged to pay taxes and levies in accordance with the procedure and in the extent established by law.

All citizens annually file declarations with the tax inspection at their place of residence, on their property status and income for the previous year, by the procedure established by law.

• Duty to obey the constitution
• Binding effect of const rights

Article 68

Everyone is obliged to strictly abide by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, and not to encroach upon the rights and freedoms, honour and dignity of other persons.

Ignorance of the law shall not exempt from legal liability.

Chapter III: Elections; Referendum

Article 69

The expression of the will of the people is exercised through elections, referendum and other forms of direct democracy.

• Referenda
• Restrictions on voting

Article 70

Citizens of Ukraine who have attained the age of eighteen on the day elections and referendums are held, have the right to vote at the elections and referendums.

Citizens deemed by a court to be incompetent do not have the right to vote.

Article 71

• Secret ballot
• Claim of universal suffrage

Elections to bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government are free and are held on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot.

Voters are guaranteed the free expression of their will.

• Referenda

Article 72

An All-Ukrainian referendum is designated by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine or by the President of Ukraine, in accordance with their authority established by this Constitution.

An All-Ukrainian referendum is called on popular initiative on the request of no less than three million citizens of Ukraine who have the right to vote, on the condition that the signatures in favour of designating the referendum have been collected in no less than two-thirds of the oblasts, with no less than 100 000 signatures in each oblast.

• Accession of territory
• Referenda
• Secession of territory

Article 73

Issues of altering the territory of Ukraine are resolved exclusively by an All-Ukrainian referendum.

Article 74

A referendum shall not be permitted in regard to draft laws on issues of taxes, the budget and amnesty.

Chapter IV: Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

• Structure of legislative chamber(s)

Article 75

The sole body of legislative power in Ukraine is the Parliament — the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 76

• Secret ballot
• Size of first chamber
• First chamber selection
• Term length for first chamber
• Claim of universal suffrage

The constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine consists of 450 National Deputies of Ukraine who are elected for a five-year term on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot.

• Minimum age for first chamber
• Eligibility for first chamber

A citizen of Ukraine who has attained the age of twenty-one on the day of elections, has the right to vote, and has resided on the territory of Ukraine for the past five years, may be a National Deputy of Ukraine.

• Eligibility for first chamber

A citizen who has a criminal record for committing an intentional crime shall not be elected to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine if the record is not cancelled and erased by the procedure established by law.

The authority of National Deputies of Ukraine is determined by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

The term of office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is five years.

• Scheduling of elections

Article 77

Regular elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine take place on the last Sunday of October of the fifth year of the term of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Special elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are designated by the President of Ukraine and are held within sixty days from the day of the publication of the

decision on the pre-term termination of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The procedure for conducting elections of National Deputies of Ukraine is established by law.

Article 78

National Deputies of Ukraine exercise their authority on a permanent basis.

• Outside professions of legislators
• Reference to science

National Deputies of Ukraine shall not have another representative mandate, be in the civil service, hold any other paid offices, carry out other gainful or entreprenurial activity (with the exception of teaching, scientific, and creative activities), or be a member of the governing body or supervisory council of an enterprise or a profit-seeking organization.

• Outside professions of legislators

Requirements concerning the incompatibility of the mandate of the deputy with other types of activity are established by law.

Where there emerge circumstances infringing requirements concerning the incompatibility of the deputy's mandate with other types of activity, the National Deputy of Ukraine shall within twenty days from the date of the emergence of such circumstances discontinue such activity or lodge a personal application for divesting of National Deputy authority.

• Oaths to abide by constitution

Article 79

Before assuming office, National Deputies of Ukraine take the following oath before the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine:

"I swear allegiance to Ukraine. I commit myself with all my deeds to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, to provide for the good of the Motherland and for the welfare of the Ukrainian people.

I swear to abide by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, to carry out my duties in the interests of all compatriots."

The oath is read by the eldest National Deputy of Ukraine before the opening of the first session of the newly-elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, after which the deputies affirm the oath with their signatures below its text.

The refusal to take the oath results in the loss of the mandate of the deputy.

The authority of National Deputies of Ukraine commences from the moment of the taking of the oath.

• Immunity of legislators

Article 80

National Deputies of Ukraine are guaranteed parliamentary immunity.

National Deputies of Ukraine are not legally liable for the results of voting or for statements made in Parliament and in its bodies, with the exception of liability for insult or defamation.

National Deputies of Ukraine shall not be held criminally liable, detained or arrested without the consent of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Removal of individual legislators

Article 81

The authority of National Deputies of Ukraine terminates simultaneously with the termination of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The authority of a National Deputy of Ukraine terminates prior to the expiration of the term in the event of:

1. his or her resignation through a personal statement;
2. a guilty verdict against him or her entering into legal force;
3. a court declaring him or her incompetent or missing;
4. termination of his or her citizenship or his or her departure from Ukraine for permanent residence abroad;
5. his or her failure, within twenty days from the date of the emergence of circumstances leading to the infringement of requirements concerning the incompatibility of the deputy's mandate with other types of activity, to remove such circumstances;
6. his or her failure, as having been elected from a political party (an electoral bloc of political parties), to join the parliamentary faction representing the same political party (the same electoral bloc of political parties) or his or her exit from such a faction;
7. his or her death.

The pre-term termination of the authority of a National Deputy of Ukraine shall also be caused by the early termination, under the Constitution of Ukraine, of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, with such termination of the Deputy's authority taking effect on the date when the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of a new convocation opens its first meeting.

A decision on pre-term termination of the authority of a National Deputy of Ukraine on grounds referred to in subparagraphs (1), (4) of the second paragraph of this Article shall be made by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, while the ground referred to in subparagraph (5) of the second paragraph of this Article shall be a matter to be decided by court.

Where a guilty verdict against a National Deputy of Ukraine becomes legally effective or where a court declares a National Deputy of Ukraine incompetent or missing, his or her powers terminate on the date when the court decision becomes legally effective, while in the event of the Deputy's death - on the date of his or her death as certified by the relevant document.

Where a National Deputy of Ukraine, as having been elected from a political party (an electoral bloc of political parties), fails to join the parliamentary faction representing the same political party (the same electoral bloc of political parties) or exits from such a faction, the highest steering body of the respective political party (electoral bloc of political parties) shall decide to terminate early his or her authority on the basis of a law, with the termination taking effect on the date of such a decision.

Article 82

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine works in sessions.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is competent on the condition that no less than two-thirds of its constitutional composition has been elected.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine assembles for its first session no later than on the thirtieth day after the official announcement of the election results.

The first meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is opened by the eldest National Deputy of Ukraine.

Article 83

• Length of legislative sessions

Regular sessions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine commence on the first Tuesday of February and on the first Tuesday of September each year.

• Extraordinary legislative sessions

Special sessions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, with the stipulation of their agenda, are convoked by the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, on the demand of no fewer National Deputies of Ukraine than one-third of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, or on the demand of the President of Ukraine.

• Emergency provisions

In the event that the President of Ukraine declares, by proclaiming a decree, martial law or a state of emergency upon the whole territory of Ukraine or in some areas of the State, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall assemble within two days without convocation.

• Emergency provisions

In the event that the term of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine expires while martial law or a state of emergency is in effect, its authority is extended until the day of the first meeting of the first session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine , elected after the cancellation of martial law or of the state of emergency.

Rules on the conduct of work of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be laid down in the Constitution of Ukraine and the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

According to election results and on the basis of a common ground achieved between various political positions, a coalition of parliamentary factions shall be formed in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to include a majority of National Deputies of Ukraine within the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

A coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be formed within a month from the date of the first meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to be held following regular or special elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, or within a month from the date when activities of a coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine terminated.

• Cabinet selection
• Head of government selection

A coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine submits to the President of Ukraine, in accordance with this Constitution, proposals concerning a candidature for the office of the Prime Minister of Ukraine and also, in accordance with this Constitution, submits proposals concerning candidatures for the membership of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Framework for forming, organising, and terminating activities of a coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be established by the Constitution of Ukraine and the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

A parliamentary faction in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine whose members make up a majority of National Deputies of Ukraine within the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall enjoy the same rights under this Constitution as a coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 84

Meetings of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are conducted openly. A closed meeting is conducted on the decision of the majority of the constitutional composition of the

• Public or private sessions

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Decisions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine are adopted exclusively at its plenary meetings by voting.

Voting at the meetings of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is performed by a National Deputy of Ukraine in person.

Article 85

The authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine comprises:

1. introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine within the limits and by the procedure envisaged by Chapter XIII of this Constitution;

• Referenda

2. designating an All-Ukrainian referendum on issues determined by Article 73 of this Constitution;

3. adopting laws;

• Budget bills

4. approving the State Budget of Ukraine and introducing amendments to it; controlling the implementation of the State Budget of Ukraine and adopting decisions in regard to the report on its implementation;

5. determining the principles of domestic and foreign policy;

• Economic plans
• Protection of environment
• Reference to science

6. approving national programmes of economic, scientific and technical, social, national and cultural development, and the protection of the environment;

7. designating elections of the President of Ukraine within the terms envisaged by this Constitution;

• Legislative oversight of the executive

8. hearing annual and special messages of the President of Ukraine on the domestic and foreign situation of Ukraine;

• Designation of commander in chief
• Power to declare/approve war

9. declaring war upon the submission of the President of Ukraine and concluding peace, approving the decision of the President of Ukraine on the use of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations in the event of armed aggression against Ukraine;

10. removing the President of Ukraine from office in accordance with the special procedure (impeachment) established by Article 111 of this Constitution;

11. considering and adopting the decision in regard to the approval of the Programme of Activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;

• Cabinet removal
• Cabinet selection
• Head of government removal
• Head of government selection
• Media commission
• Radio
• Telecommunications
• Television

12. appointing to office - upon the submission by the President of Ukraine - the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the Minister of Defence of Ukraine, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; appointing to office - upon the submission by the Prime Minister of Ukraine - other members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Chairman of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine, the Chairman of the State Committee on Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine, and the Chairman of the State Property Fund of Ukraine; dismissing from office the officials mentioned above; deciding on the resignation of the Prime Minister of Ukraine and of members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;

12-1. appointing to office and dismissing from office - upon the submission by the President of Ukraine - the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine;

• Legislative oversight of the executive

13. exercising control over the activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in accordance with this Constitution and law;

• International organizations

14. confirming decisions on granting loans and economic aid by Ukraine to foreign states and international organisations and also decisions on Ukraine receiving loans not envisaged by the State Budget of Ukraine from foreign states, banks and international financial organisations, exercising control over their use;

15. adopting the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

16. appointing to office and dismissing from office the Chairman and other members of the Chamber of Accounting;

• Ombudsman

17. appointing to office and dismissing from office the Authorised Human Rights Representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine; hearing his or her annual reports on the situation of the observance and protection of human rights and freedoms in Ukraine;

• Central bank

18. appointing to office and dismissing from office the Chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine on the submission of the President of Ukraine;

• Central bank

19. appointing and dismissing one-half of the composition of the Council of the National Bank of Ukraine;

• Media commission
• Radio
• Telecommunications
• Television

20. appointing one-half of the composition of the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting;

• Electoral commission

21. appointing to office and terminating the authority of the members of the Central Electoral Commission on the submission of the President of Ukraine;

22. confirming the general structure and numerical strength, and defining the functions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Security Service of Ukraine and other military formations created in accordance with the laws of Ukraine, and also the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine;

• Designation of commander in chief

23. approving decisions on providing military assistance to other states, on sending units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine to another state, or on admitting units of armed forces of other states on to the territory of Ukraine;

24. establishing national symbols of Ukraine;

• Attorney general

25. granting consent for the appointment to office or dismissing from office by the President of Ukraine of the Procurator General of Ukraine; declaring no confidence in the Procurator General of Ukraine that has the result of his or her resignation from office;

• Constitutional court removal
• Constitutional court selection

26. appointing and dismissing one-third of the composition of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine;

27. electing judges for permanent terms;

28. terminating prior to the expiration of the term of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, based on the opinion of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine that the Constitution of Ukraine or the laws of Ukraine have been violated by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; designating special elections to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

29. establishing and abolishing districts, establishing and altering the boundaries of districts and cities, assigning inhabited localities to the category of cities, naming and renaming inhabited localities and districts;

30. designating regular and special elections to bodies of local self-government;

• Emergency provisions

31. confirming, within two days from the moment of the address by the President of Ukraine, decrees on the introduction of martial law or of a state of emergency in Ukraine or in its particular areas, on total or partial mobilisation, and on the announcement of particular areas as zones of an ecological emergency situation;

• International law
• Treaty ratification

32. granting consent to the binding character of international treaties of Ukraine within the term established by law, and denouncing international treaties of Ukraine;

33. exercising parliamentary control within the limits determined by this Constitution;

34. adopting decisions on forwarding an inquiry to the President of Ukraine on the demand of a National Deputy of Ukraine, a group of National Deputies or a Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, previously supported by no less than one-third of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

35. appointing to office and dismissing from office the Head of Staff of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine; approving the budget of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the structure of its staff;

• Protection from expropriation

36. confirming the list of objects of the right of state property that are not subject to privatisation; determining the legal principles for the expropriation of objects of the right of private property;

• Federal review of subnational legislation

37. approving by law the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and amendments thereto.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine exercises other powers ascribed to its competence in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine.

• Legislative oversight of the executive

Article 86

At a session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, a National Deputy of Ukraine has the right to present an inquiry to the bodies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, chief officers of other bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government, and also to the chief executives of enterprises, institutions and organisations located on the territory of Ukraine, irrespective of their subordination and forms of ownership.

Chief officers of bodies of state power and bodies of local self-government, chief executives of enterprises, institutions and organisations are obliged to notify a National Deputy of Ukraine of the results of the consideration of his or her inquiry.

• Cabinet removal
• Head of government removal

Article 87

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, on the proposal of the President of Ukraine or no fewer National Deputies of Ukraine than one-third of its constitutional composition, may consider the issue of responsibility of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and adopt a resolution of no confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine by the majority of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The issue of responsibility of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall not be considered by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine more than once during one regular session, and also within one year after the approval of the Programme of Activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine or during the last session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Leader of first chamber

Article 88

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine elects from among its members the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the First Deputy Chairman and the Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and recalls them from these offices.

The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine:

1. presides at meetings of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

2. organises work of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and co-ordinates activities of its bodies;

3. signs acts adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

4. represents the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in relations with other bodies of state power of Ukraine and with the bodies of power of other states;

5. organises the work of the staff of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine exercises authority envisaged by this Constitution, by the procedure established by the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Legislative committees

Article 89

To perform the work of legislative drafting, to prepare and conduct the preliminary consideration of issues ascribed to its authority as well as to exercise control functions according to the Constitution of Ukraine the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine establishes from National Deputies of Ukraine Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and elects Chairmen to these Committees, their First Deputies, Deputies and Secretaries.

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, within the limits of its authority, may establish temporary special commissions for the preparation and the preliminary consideration of issues.

To investigate issues of public interest, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine establishes temporary investigatory commissions, if no less than one-third of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has voted in favour thereof.

The conclusions and proposals of temporary investigatory commissions are not decisive for investigation and court.

The organisation and operational procedure of Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and also its temporary special and temporary investigatory commissions, are established by law.

• Dismissal of the legislature

Article 90

The authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is terminated on the day of the opening of the first meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of a new convocation.

The President of Ukraine may terminate the authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine prior to the expiration of term, if:

1. there is a failure to form within one month a coalition of parliamentary factions in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as provided for in Article 83 of this Constitution;

2. there is a failure, within sixty days following the resignation of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, to form the personal composition of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;

3. the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine fails, within thirty days of a single regular session, to commence its plenary meetings.

The early termination of powers of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be decided by the President of Ukraine following relevant consultations with the Chairman and Deputy Chairmen of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and with Chairmen of Verkhovna Rada parliamentary factions.

The authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, that is elected at special elections conducted after the pre-term termination by the President of Ukraine of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the previous convocation, shall not be terminate d within one year from the day of its election.

The authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall not be terminated during the last six months of the term of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine or President of Ukraine.

Article 91

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopts laws, resolutions and other acts by the majority of its constitutional composition, except in cases envisaged by this Constitution.

Article 92

The following are determined exclusively by the laws of Ukraine:

1. human and citizens' rights and freedoms, the guarantees of these rights and freedoms; the main duties of the citizen;

• Requirements for birthright citizenship

2. citizenship, the legal personality of citizens, the status of foreigners and stateless persons;

3. the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities;

4. the procedure for the use of languages;

5. the principles of the use of natural resources, the exclusive (maritime) economic zone and the continental shelf, the exploration of outer space, the organisation and operation of power supply systems, transportation and communications;

6. the fundamentals of social protection, the forms and types of pension provision; the principles of the regulation of labour and employment, marriage, family, the protection of childhood, motherhood and fatherhood; upbringing, education, culture and health care; ecological safety;

7. the legal regime of property;

8. the legal principles and guarantees of entrepreneurship; the rules of competition and the norms of antimonopoly regulation;

9. the principles of foreign relations, foreign economic activity and customs;

10. the principles of the regulation of demographic and migration processes;

11. the principles of the establishment and activity of political parties, other associations of citizens, and the mass media;

12. the organisation and activity of bodies of executive power, the fundamentals of civil service, the organisation of state statistics and informatics;

13. the territorial structure of Ukraine;

14. the judicial system, judicial proceedings, the status of judges, the principles of judicial expertise, the organisation and operation of the procuracy, the bodies of inquiry and investigation, the notary, the bodies and institutions for the execution of punishments; the fundamentals of the organisation and activity of the advocacy;

15. the principles of local self-government;

16. the status of the capital of Ukraine; the special status of other cities;

17. the fundamentals of national security, the organisation of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and ensuring public order;

18. the legal regime of the state border;

19. the legal regime of martial law and a state of emergency, zones of an ecological emergency situation;

• Referenda

20. the organisation and procedure for conducting elections and referendums;

21. the organisation and operational procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the status of National Deputies of Ukraine;

22. the principles of civil legal liability; acts that are crimes, administrative or disciplinary offences, and liability for them.

The following are established exclusively by the laws of Ukraine:

1. the State Budget of Ukraine and the budgetary system of Ukraine; the system of taxation, taxes and levies; the principles of the formation and operation of financial, monetary, credit and investment markets; the status of the national currency and also the status of foreign currencies on the territory of Ukraine; the procedure for the formation and payment of state domestic and foreign debt; the procedure for the issuance and circulation of state securities, their types and forms;

2. the procedure for deploying units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine to other states; the procedure for admitting and the terms for stationing units of armed forces of other states on the territory of Ukraine;

3. units of weight, measure and time; the procedure for establishing state standards;

4. the procedure for the use and protection of state symbols;

5. state awards;

6. military ranks, diplomatic and other special ranks;

7. state holidays;

8. the procedure for the establishment and functioning of free and other special zones that have an economic and migration regime different from the general regime.

Amnesty is declared by the law of Ukraine.

Article 93

• Initiation of general legislation

The right of legislative initiative in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine belongs to the President of Ukraine, the National Deputies of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Draft laws defined by the President of Ukraine as not postponable, are considered out of turn by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 94

• Approval of general legislation
• Veto override procedure

The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine signs a law and forwards it without delay to the President of Ukraine.

Within fifteen days of the receipt of a law, the President of Ukraine signs it, accepting it for execution, and officially promulgates it, or returns it to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with substantiated and formulated proposals for repeat consideration.

In the event that the President of Ukraine has not returned a law for repeat consideration within the established term, the law is deemed to be approved by the President of Ukraine and shall be signed and officially promulgated.

Where a law, during its repeat consideration, is again adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by no less than two-thirds of its constitutional composition, the President of Ukraine is obliged to sign and to officially promulgate it within ten days. In the event that the President of Ukraine does not sign such a law, it shall be without delay promulgated officially by the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and published under his or her signature.

A law enters into force in ten days from the day of its official promulgation, unless otherwise envisaged by the law itself, but not prior to the day of its publication.

Article 95

• Mentions of social class

The budgetary system of Ukraine is built on the principles of just and impartial distribution of social wealth among citizens and territorial communities.

Any state expenditures for the needs of the entire society, the extent and purposes of these expenditures, are determined exclusively by the law on the State Budget of Ukraine.

• Balanced budget

The State aspires to a balanced budget of Ukraine.

Regular reports on revenues and expenditures of the State Budget of Ukraine shall be made public.

• Budget bills

Article 96

The State Budget of Ukraine is annually approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for the period from 1 January to 31 December, and under special circumstances for a different period.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine submits the draft law on the State Budget of Ukraine for the following year to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no later than on 15 September of each year.

The report on the course of the implementation of the State Budget of Ukraine in the current year is submitted together with the draft law.

Article 97

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine submits the report on the implementation of the State Budget of Ukraine to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in accordance with the law.

The submitted report shall be made public.

Article 98

The Chamber of Accounting exercises control over State Budget revenues and the use of State Budget funds on behalf of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The organisation, authority and operational procedure of the Chamber of Accounting shall be determined by law.

• Central bank

Article 99

The monetary unit of Ukraine is the hryvnia.

To ensure the stability of the monetary unit is the major function of the central bank of the State - the National Bank of Ukraine.

• Central bank

Article 100

The Council of the National Bank of Ukraine elaborates the basic principles of monetary and credit policy and exercises control over its execution.

The legal status of the Council of the National Bank of Ukraine is determined by law.

• Ombudsman

Article 101

The Authorised Human Rights Representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine exercises parliamentary control over the observance of constitutional human and citizens' rights and freedoms.

Chapter V: President of Ukraine

• Name/structure of executive(s)

Article 102

The President of Ukraine is the Head of State and acts in its name.

The President of Ukraine is the guarantor of state sovereignty and territorial indivisibility of Ukraine, the observance of the Constitution of Ukraine and human and citizens' rights and freedoms.

Article 103

• Secret ballot
• Head of state selection
• Head of state term length
• Claim of universal suffrage

The President of Ukraine is elected by the citizens of Ukraine for a five-year term, on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot.

• Minimum age of head of state
• Eligibility for head of state

A citizen of Ukraine who has attained the age of thirty-five, has the right to vote, has resided in Ukraine for the past ten years prior to the day of elections, and has command of the state language, may be elected as the President of Ukraine.

• Head of state term limits

One and the same person shall not be the President of Ukraine for more than two consecutive terms.

The President of Ukraine shall not have another representative mandate, hold office in bodies of state power or in associations of citizens, and also perform any other paid or entrepreneurial activity, or be a member of an administrative body or board of supervisors of an enterprise that is aimed at making profit.

• Scheduling of elections
• Head of state replacement

Regular elections of the President of Ukraine are held on the last Sunday of March of the fifth year of the term of authority of the President of Ukraine. In the event of pre-term termination of authority of the President of Ukraine, elections of the President of Ukraine are held within ninety days from the date of termination of the authority.

• Head of state selection

The procedure for conducting elections of the President of Ukraine is established by law.

Article 104

• Oaths to abide by constitution

The newly-elected President of Ukraine assumes office no later than in thirty days after the official announcement of the election results, from the moment of taking the oath to the people at a ceremonial meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine administers the oath to the President of Ukraine.

The President of Ukraine takes the following oath:

"I, (name and surname), elected by the will of the people as the President of Ukraine, assuming this high office, do solemnly swear allegiance to Ukraine. I pledge with all my undertakings to protect the sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, to provide for the good of the Motherland and the welfare of the Ukrainian people, to protect the rights and freedoms of citizens, to abide by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, to exercise my duties in the interests of all compatriots, and to enhance the prestige of Ukraine in the world."

The President of Ukraine, elected by special elections, takes the oath within five days after the official announcement of the election results.

Article 105

• Head of state immunity

The President of Ukraine enjoys the right of immunity during the term of authority.

Persons guilty of offending the honour and dignity of the President of Ukraine are brought to responsibility on the basis of the law.

The title of President of Ukraine is protected by law and is reserved for the President for life, unless the President of Ukraine has been removed from office by the procedure of impeachment.

• Head of state powers

Article 106

The President of Ukraine:

1. ensures state independence, national security and the legal succession of the state;

• Legislative oversight of the executive

2. addresses the people with messages and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with annual and special messages on the domestic and foreign situation of Ukraine;

• Foreign affairs representative
• International law
• Treaty ratification

3. represents the state in international relations, administers the foreign political activity of the State, conducts negotiations and concludes international treaties of Ukraine;

4. adopts decisions on the recognition of foreign states;

• International organizations

5. appoints and dismisses heads of diplomatic missions of Ukraine to other states and to international organisations; accepts credentials and letters of recall of diplomatic representatives of foreign states;

• Referenda

6. designates an All-Ukrainian referendum regarding amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine in accordance with Article 156 of this Constitution, proclaims an All-Ukrainian referendum on popular initiative;

7. designates special elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine within the terms established by this Constitution;

• Dismissal of the legislature

8. terminates the authority of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in cases specified by this Constitution;

• Head of government selection

9. puts forward, upon the proposal by the parliamentary coalition formed in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as provided for by Article 83 of the Constitution of Ukraine, the submission on the appointment by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the Prime Minister of Ukraine, no later than fifteen days after the receipt of such a proposal;

• Cabinet selection

10. puts forward to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine the submission on the appointment of the Minister of Defence of Ukraine and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine;

• Attorney general

11. appoints to office and dismisses from office the Procurator General of Ukraine, with the consent of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

• Central bank

12. appoints and dismisses one-half of the composition of the Council of the National Bank of Ukraine;

• Media commission
• Radio
• Telecommunications
• Television

13. appoints and dismisses one-half of the composition of the National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting;

14. puts forward to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine the submission on the appointment to office and dismissal from office of the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine;

15. suspends the operation of acts by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on grounds of their inconsistency with this Constitution and challenges concurrently the constitutionality of such acts before the Constitutional Court of Ukraine;

• Federal review of subnational legislation

16. revokes acts of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

• Designation of commander in chief
• Selection of active-duty commanders

17. is the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine; appoints to office and dismisses from office the high command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations; administers in the spheres of national security and defence of the State;

• Advisory bodies to the head of state

18. heads the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine;

• Power to declare/approve war

19. puts forward to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine the submission on the declaration of a state of war, and, in case of armed aggression against Ukraine, adopts a decision on the use of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other military formations established in accordance with laws of Ukraine;

• Emergency provisions

20. adopts a decision in accordance with the law on the general or partial mobilisation and the introduction of martial law in Ukraine or in its particular areas, in the event of a threat of aggression, danger to the state independence of Ukraine;

• Emergency provisions

21. adopts a decision, in the event of necessity, on the introduction of a state of emergency in Ukraine or in its particular areas, and also in the event of necessity, declares certain areas of Ukraine as zones of an ecological emergency situation — with subsequent confirmation of these decisions by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

• Constitutional court removal
• Constitutional court selection

22. appoints and dismisses one-third of the composition to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine;

23. establishes courts by the procedure determined by law;

24. confers high military ranks, high diplomatic and other high special ranks and class orders;

25. confers state awards; establishes presidential distinctions and confers them;

• Protection of stateless persons
• Requirements for birthright citizenship
• Conditions for revoking citizenship

26. adopts decisions on the acceptance for citizenship of Ukraine and the termination of citizenship of Ukraine, and on the granting of asylum in Ukraine;

• Power to pardon

27. grants pardons;

• Advisory bodies to the head of state

28. creates, within the limits of the funds envisaged in the State Budget of Ukraine, consultative, advisory and other subsidiary bodies and services for the exercise of his or her authority;

29. signs laws adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

• Approval of general legislation

30. has the right to veto laws adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (except for laws on amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine) with their subsequent return for repeat consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

31. exercises other powers determined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

The President of Ukraine shall not transfer his or her powers to other persons or bodies.

• Head of state decree power

The President of Ukraine, on the basis and for the execution of the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, issues decrees and directives that are mandatory for execution on the territory of Ukraine.

• Emergency provisions

Acts of the President of Ukraine, issued within the limits of authority as envisaged in subparagraphs 5, 18, 21, and 23 of this Article, are co-signed by the Prime Minister of Ukraine and the Minister responsible for the act and its execution.

• Advisory bodies to the head of state

Article 107

The Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine is the co-ordinating body to the President of Ukraine on issues of national security and defence.

The Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine co-ordinates and controls the activity of bodies of executive power in the sphere of national security and defence.

The President of Ukraine is the Chairman of the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine.

The President of Ukraine forms the personal composition of the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine.

The Prime Minister of Ukraine, the Minister of Defence of Ukraine, the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine, the Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, are ex officio members of the Council of Nation al Security and Defence of Ukraine.

The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine may take part in the meetings of the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine.

• Head of state decree power

Decisions of the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine are put into effect by decrees of the President of Ukraine.

The competence and functions of the Council of National Security and Defence of Ukraine are determined by law.

Article 108

The President of Ukraine exercises his or her powers until the assumption of office by the newly-elected President of Ukraine.

The powers of the President of Ukraine terminate prior to the expiration of term in cases of:

1. resignation;
2. inability to exercise his or her powers for reasons of health;
3. removal from office by the procedure of impeachment;
4. death.

• Head of state removal

Article 109

The resignation of the President of Ukraine enters into force from the moment he or she personally announces the statement of resignation at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Supreme court powers

Article 110

The inability of the President of Ukraine to exercise his or her powers for reasons of health shall be determined at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and confirmed by a decision adopted by the majority of its constitutional composition on the basis of a petition of the Supreme Court of Ukraine – on the appeal of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and a medical opinion.

• Head of state removal
• Supreme court powers

Article 111

The President of Ukraine may be removed from office by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by the procedure of impeachment, in the event that he or she commits state treason or other crime.

The issue of the removal of the President of Ukraine from office by the procedure of impeachment is initiated by the majority of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

To conduct the investigation, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine establishes a special temporary investigatory commission whose composition includes a special procurator and special investigators.

The conclusions and proposals of the temporary investigatory commission are considered at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

For cause, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, by no less than two-thirds of its constitutional composition, adopts a decision on the accusation of the President of Ukraine.

The decision on the removal of the President of Ukraine from office by the procedure of impeachment is adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by no less than three-quarters of its constitutional composition, after the review of the case by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine and the receipt of its opinion on the observance of the constitutional procedure of investigation and consideration of the case of impeachment, and the receipt of the opinion of the Supreme Court of Ukraine to the effect that the acts, of which the President of Ukraine is accused, contain elements of state treason or other crime.

• Head of state replacement

Article 112

In the event of the pre-term termination of authority of the President of Ukraine in accordance with Articles 108, 109, 110 and 111 of this Constitution, the execution of duties of the President of Ukraine, for the period pending the elections and the assumption of office of the new President of Ukraine, is vested in the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. The Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, for the period of executing the duties of the President of Ukraine, shall not exercise the powers envisaged by subparagraphs 2, 6, 8, 10-13, 22, 24, 25, 27 and 28 of Article 106 of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Chapter VI: Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine; Other Bodies of Executive Power

• Establishment of cabinet/ministers

Article 113

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is the highest body in the system of bodies of executive power.

• Legislative oversight of the executive

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is responsible to the President of Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and is under the control of and accountable to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine within the limits envisaged in the Constitution of Ukraine.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is guided in its activity by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine and by the acts of the President of Ukraine and resolutions made by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in accordance with the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Article 114

• Deputy executive
• Name/structure of executive(s)

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is composed of the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the First Vice Prime Minister, Vice Prime Ministers and Ministers.

• Head of government selection

The Prime Minister of Ukraine is appointed by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine upon the submission by the President of Ukraine.

• Head of government selection

The name of a candidate for the office of the Prime Minister of Ukraine is put forward by the President of Ukraine upon the proposal by the parliamentary coalition formed in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine as provided for in Article 83 of the Constitution of Ukraine or by a parliamentary faction whose National Deputies of Ukraine make up a majority of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Cabinet selection

The Minister of Defence of Ukraine and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine are appointed by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine upon the submission by the President of Ukraine; the other members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine are appointed by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine upon the submission by the Prime Minister of Ukraine.

• Head of government powers

The Prime Minister of Ukraine manages the work of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and directs it for the implementation of the Programme of Activity of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 115

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine divests itself of its powers before the newly elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The Prime Minister of Ukraine, other members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, have the right to announce their resignation to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Cabinet removal
• Head of government removal
• Head of government replacement

The resignation of the Prime Minister of Ukraine or the adoption by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of a resolution of no confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall result in the resignation of the entire Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. In such cases, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall form a new Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine within the terms and under the procedure provided for by this Constitution.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine that has divested itself of its powers before the newly elected Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine or whose resignation has been accepted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall continue to exercise its powers until the newly formed Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine starts its work.

• Powers of cabinet

Article 116

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine:

1. ensures the state sovereignty and economic independence of Ukraine, the implementation of domestic and foreign policy of the State, the execution of the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, and the acts of the President of Ukraine;

2. takes measures to ensure human and citizens' rights and freedoms;

• Protection of environment
• Reference to science

3. ensures the implementation of financial, pricing, investment and taxation policy; the policy in the spheres of labour and employment of the population, social security, education, science and culture, environmental protection, ecological safety and the utilisation of nature;

• Reference to science

4. elaborates and implements national programmes of economic, scientific and technical, and social and cultural development of Ukraine;

5. ensures equal conditions of development of all forms of ownership; administers the management of objects of state property in accordance with the law;

• Budget bills

6. elaborates the draft law on the State Budget of Ukraine and ensures the implementation of the State Budget of Ukraine approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and submits a report on its implementation to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

7. takes measures to ensure the defence capability and national security of Ukraine, public order and to combat crime;

8. organises and ensures the implementation of the foreign economic activity of Ukraine, and the operation of customs;

9. directs and co-ordinates the operation of ministries and other bodies of executive power;

9-1. sets up, re-organises, and liquidates, in accordance with law, ministries and other central bodies of executive power, acting therewith within the limits of funds allocated for the maintenance of bodies of executive power;

9-2. appoints to office and dismisses from office, upon the submission by the Prime Minister of Ukraine, the heads of central bodies of executive power who are not members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;

10. exercises other powers determined by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Article 117

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, within the limits of its competence, issues resolutions and orders that are mandatory for execution.

Acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine are signed by the Prime Minister of Ukraine.

Normative legal acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, ministries and other central bodies of executive power, are subject to registration through the procedure established by law.

• Subsidiary unit government

Article 118

The executive power in oblasts, districts, and in the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol is exercised by local state administrations.

Particular aspects of the exercise of executive power in the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol are determined by special laws of Ukraine.

The composition of local state administrations is formed by heads of local state administrations.

Heads of local state administrations are appointed to office and dismissed from office by the President of Ukraine upon the submission of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

In the exercise of their duties, the heads of local state administrations are responsible to the President of Ukraine and to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and are accountable to and under the control of bodies of executive power of a higher level.

Local state administrations are accountable to and under the control of councils in the part of the authority delegated to them by the respective district or oblast councils.

Local state administrations are accountable to and under the control of the bodies of executive power of a higher level.

• National vs subnational laws

Decisions of the heads of local state administrations that contravene the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, other acts of legislation of Ukraine, may be revoked by the President of Ukraine or by the head of the local state administration of a higher level, in accordance with the law.

An oblast or district council may express no confidence in the head of the respective local state administration, on which grounds the President of Ukraine adopts a decision and provides a substantiated reply.

If two-thirds of the deputies of the composition of the respective council express no confidence in the head of a district or oblast state administration, the President of Ukraine adopts a decision on the resignation of the head of the local state administration.

• Subsidiary unit government

Article 119

Local state administrations on their respective territory ensure:

1. the execution of the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine, acts of the President of Ukraine, acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and other bodies of executive power;

2. legality and legal order; the observance of laws and freedoms of citizens;

• Right to culture
• Protection of environment

3. the implementation of national and regional programmes for socio-economic and cultural development, programmes for environmental protection, and also — in places of compact residence of indigenous peoples and national minorities — programmes for their national and cultural development;

4. the preparation and implementation of respective oblast and district budgets;

5. the report on the implementation of respective budgets and programmes;

6. interaction with bodies of local self-government;

7. the realisation of other powers vested by the state and also delegated by the respective councils.

Article 120

• Reference to science

Members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and chief officers of central and local bodies of executive power do not have the right to combine their official activity with other work (except for teaching, scientific and creative activity outside of working hours), or to be members of a governing body or supervisory council of an enterprise or profit-seeking organisation.

The organisation, authority and operational procedure of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and other central and local bodies of executive power, are determined by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Chapter VII: Procuracy

• Attorney general

Article 121

The Procuracy of Ukraine constitutes a unified system that is entrusted with:

1. prosecution in court on behalf of the State;
2. representation of the interests of a citizen or of the State in court in cases determined by law;
3. supervision of the observance of laws by bodies that conduct detective and search activity, inquiry and pre-trial investigation;
4. supervision of the observance of laws in the execution of judicial decisions in criminal cases, and also in the application of other measures of coercion related to the restraint of personal liberty of citizens.
5. supervision over the respect for human and citizens' rights and freedoms and over how laws governing such issues are observed by bodies of executive power, bodies of local self- government and by their officials and officers.

• Attorney general

Article 122

The Procuracy of Ukraine is headed by the Procurator General of Ukraine, who is appointed to office and dismissed from office, with the consent of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, by the President of Ukraine. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine may express no confidence in the Procurator General of Ukraine that results in his or her resignation from office.

The term of authority of the Procurator General of Ukraine is five years.

• Attorney general

Article 123

The organisation and operational procedure for the bodies of the Procuracy of Ukraine are determined by law.

Chapter VIII: Justice

Article 124

Justice in Ukraine is administered exclusively by the courts. The delegation of the functions of the courts, and also the appropriation of these functions by other bodies or officials, shall not be permitted.

The jurisdiction of the courts extends to all legal relations that arise in the State.

• Establishment of constitutional court

Judicial proceedings are performed by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine and courts of general jurisdiction.

• Jury trials required

The people directly participate in the administration of justice through people's assessors and jurors.

Judicial decisions are adopted by the courts in the name of Ukraine and are mandatory for execution throughout the entire territory of Ukraine.

• Structure of the courts

Article 125

In Ukraine, the system of courts of general jurisdiction is formed in accordance with the territorial principle and the principle of specialisation.

The Supreme Court of Ukraine is highest judicial body in the system of courts of general jurisdiction.

The respective high courts are the highest judicial bodies of specialised courts.

Courts of appeal and local courts operate in accordance with the law.

The creation of extraordinary and special courts shall not be permitted.

Article 126

• Judicial independence

The independence and immunity of judges are guaranteed by the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Influencing judges in any manner is prohibited.

A judge shall not be detained or arrested without the consent of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, until a verdict of guilty is rendered by a court.

Judges hold office for permanent terms, except judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, and judges appointed to the office of judge for the first time.

• Constitutional court removal
• Supreme/ordinary court judge removal

A judge is dismissed from office by the body that elected or appointed him or her in the event of:

1. the expiration of the term for which he or she was elected or appointed;

• Mandatory retirement age for judges

2. the judge's attainment of the age of sixty-five;
3. the impossibility to exercise his or her authority for reasons of health;
4. the violation by the judge of requirements concerning incompatibility;
5. the breach of oath by the judge;
6. the entry into legal force of a verdict of guilty against him or her;
7. the termination of his or her citizenship;
8. the declaration that he or she is missing, or the pronouncement that he or she is dead;
9. the submission by the judge of a statement of resignation or of voluntary dismissal from office.

The authority of the judge terminates in the event of his or her death.

The State ensures the personal security of judges and their families.

Article 127

• Jury trials required

Justice is administered by professional judges and, in cases determined by law, people's assessors and jurors.

Professional judges shall not belong to political parties and trade unions, take part in any political activity, hold a representative mandate, occupy any other paid positions, perform other remunerated work except scholarly, teaching and creative activity.

• Minimum age of supreme court judges
• Eligibility for supreme court judges
• Supreme court selection
• Minimum age of ordinary court judges
• Eligibility for ordinary court judges
• Ordinary court selection

A citizen of Ukraine, not younger than the age of twenty-five, who has a higher legal education and has work experience in the sphere of law for no less than three years, has resided in Ukraine for no less than ten years and has command of the state language, may be recommended for the office of judge by the Qualification Commission of Judges.

Persons with professional training in issues of jurisdiction of specialised courts may be judges of these courts. These judges administer justice only as members of a collegium of judges.

Additional requirements for certain categories of judges in terms of experience, age and their professional level are established by law.

Protection of the professional interests of judges is exercised by the procedure established by law.

• Supreme court selection

Article 128

• Supreme court term length
• Ordinary court selection
• Ordinary court term length

The first appointment of a professional judge to office for a five-year term is made by the President of Ukraine. All other judges, except the judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, are elected by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for permanent terms by the procedure established by law.

• Supreme/ordinary court judge removal

The Chairman of the Supreme Court of Ukraine is elected to office and dismissed from office by the Plenary Assembly of the Supreme Court of Ukraine by secret ballot, by the procedure established by law.

Article 129

• Judicial independence

In the administration of justice, judges are independent and subject only to the law.

• Jury trials required

Judicial proceedings are conducted by a single judge, by a panel of judges, or by a court of the jury.

• Right to fair trial

The main principles of judicial proceedings are:

1. legality;
2. equality before the law and the court of all participants in a trial;
3. ensuring that the guilt is proved;
4. adversarial procedure and freedom of the parties to present their evidence to the court and to prove the weight of evidence before the court;
5. prosecution by the procurator in court on behalf of the State;

6. ensuring the right of an accused person to a defence;

• Right to public trial

7. openness of a trial and its complete recording by technical means;

• Right to appeal judicial decisions

8. ensuring complaint of a court decision by appeal and cassation, except in cases established by law;

9. the mandatory nature of court decisions.

The law may also determine other principles of judicial proceedings in courts of specific judicial jurisdiction.

Persons guilty of contempt of court or of showing disrespect toward the judge are brought to legal liability.

Article 130

The State ensures funding and proper conditions for the operation of courts and the activity of judges. Expenditures for the maintenance of courts are allocated separately in the State Budget of Ukraine.

Judges' self-management operates to resolve issues of the internal affairs of courts.

• Establishment of judicial council

Article 131

The High Council of Justice operates in Ukraine, whose competence comprises:

1. forwarding submissions on the appointment of judges to office or on their dismissal from office;

2. adopting decisions in regard to the violation by judges and procurators of the requirements concerning incompatibility;

3. exercising disciplinary procedure in regard to judges of the Supreme Court of Ukraine and judges of high specialised courts, and the consideration of complaints regarding decisions on bringing to disciplinary liability judges of courts of appeal an d local courts, and also procurators.

The High Council of Justice consists of twenty members. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the President of Ukraine, the Congress of Judges of Ukraine, the Congress of Advocates of Ukraine, and the Congress of Representatives of Higher Legal Educational Establishments and Scientific Institutions, each appoint three members to the High Council of Justice, and the All-Ukrainian Conference of Employees of the Procuracy — two members of the High Council of Justice.

The Chairman of the Supreme Court of Ukraine, the Minister of Justice of Ukraine and the Procurator General of Ukraine are ex officio members of the High Council of Justice.

Chapter IX: Territorial Structure of Ukraine

Article 132

The territorial structure of Ukraine is based on the principles of unity and indivisibility of the state territory, the combination of centralisation and decentralisation in the exercise of state power, and the balanced socio-economic development of regions that takes into account their historical, economic, ecological, geographical and demographic characteristics, and ethnic and cultural traditions.

Article 133

The system of the administrative and territorial structure of Ukraine is composed of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, oblasts, districts, cities, city districts, settlements and villages.

Ukraine is composed of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, Vinnytsia Oblast, Volyn Oblast, Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, Donetsk Oblast, Zhytomyr Oblast, Zakarpattia Oblast, Zaporizhia Oblast, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, Kyiv Oblast, Kirovohrad Oblast, Luhansk Oblast, Lviv Oblast, Mykolaiv Oblast, Odesa Oblast, Poltava Oblast, Rivne Oblast, Sumy Oblast, Ternopil Oblast, Kharkiv Oblast, Kherson Oblast, Khmelnytskyi Oblast, Cherkasy Oblast, Chernivtsi Oblast and Chernihiv Oblast, and the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol.

The Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol have special status that is determined by the laws of Ukraine.

Chapter X: Autonomous Republic of Crimea

Article 134

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea is an inseparable constituent part of Ukraine and decides on the issues ascribed to its competence within the limits of authority determined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

• Subsidiary unit government

Article 135

• Federal review of subnational legislation

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea has the Constitution of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea that is adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by no less than one-half of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• National vs subnational laws

Normative legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and decisions of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall not contradict the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine and are adopted in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the laws of Ukraine, acts of the President of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and for their execution.

• Subsidiary unit government

Article 136

The Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea is the representative body of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea which deputies are elected on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot. The term of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea which deputies are elected on regular elections is five years. Termination of authority of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea shall lead to termination of authority of its deputies.

The regular elections of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea take place on the last Sunday of October of the fifth year of the authority of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea elected on regular elections.

The Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea adopts decisions and resolutions that are mandatory for execution in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea is the government of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea. The Head of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea is appointed to office and dismissed from office by the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with the consent of the President of Ukraine.

The authority, the procedure for the formation and operation of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, are determined by the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, and by normative legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on issues ascribed to its competence.

• Structure of the courts

In the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, justice is administered by courts that belong to the unified system of courts of Ukraine.

• Federal review of subnational legislation

Article 137

The Autonomous Republic of Crimea exercises normative regulation on the following issues:

1. agriculture and forestry;
2. land reclamation and mining;
3. public works, crafts and trades; charity;
4. city construction and housing management;
5. tourism, hotel business, fairs;
6. museums, libraries, theatres, other cultural establishments, historical and cultural preserves;
7. public transportation, roadways, water supply;
8. hunting and fishing;
9. sanitary and hospital services.

For reasons of nonconformity of normative legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine, the President of Ukraine may suspend these normative legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea with a simultaneous appeal to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine in regard to their constitutionality.

• Subsidiary unit government

Article 138

The competence of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea comprises:

1. designating elections of deputies to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, approving the composition of the electoral commission of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

2. organising and conducting local referendums;

3. managing property that belongs to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

4. elaborating, approving and implementing the budget of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea on the basis of the uniform tax and budget policy of Ukraine;

• Protection of environment

5. elaborating, approving and realising programmes of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea for socio-economic and cultural development, the rational utilisation of nature, and environmental protection in accordance with national programmes;

6. recognising the status of localities as resorts; establishing zones for the sanitary protection of resorts;

7. participating in ensuring the rights and freedoms of citizens, national harmony, the promotion of the protection of legal order and public security;

• Right to culture

8. ensuring the operation and development of the state language and national languages and cultures in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea; protection and use of historical monuments;

9. participating in the development and realisation of state programmes for the return of deported peoples;

10. initiating the introduction of a state of emergency and the establishment of zones of an ecological emergency situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea or in its particular areas.

Other powers may also be delegated to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the laws of Ukraine.

Article 139

The Representative Office of the President of Ukraine, whose status is determined by the law of Ukraine, operates in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

Chapter XI: Local Self-Government

Article 140

• Municipal government
• Subsidiary unit government

Local self-government is the right of a territorial community — residents of a village or a voluntary association of residents of several villages into one village community, residents of a settlement, and of a city — to independently resolve issues of local character within the limits of the Constitution and the laws of Ukraine.

Particular aspects of the exercise of local self-government in the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol are determined by special laws of Ukraine.

Local self-government is exercised by a territorial community by the procedure established by law, both directly and through bodies of local self-government: village, settlement and city councils, and their executive bodies.

District and oblast councils are bodies of local self-government that represent the common interests of territorial communities of villages, settlements and cities.

The issue of organisation of the administration of city districts lies within the competence of city councils.

Village, settlement and city councils may permit, upon the initiative of residents, the creation of house, street, block and other bodies of popular self-organisation, and to assign them part of their own competence, finances and property.

Article 141

• Municipal government
• Subsidiary unit government

A village, settlement, city, district, oblast council is composed of deputies elected by residents of a village, settlement, city, district, oblast on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot. The term of authority of a village, settlement, city, district, oblast council which deputies are elected on regular elections is five years. Termination of authority of a village, settlement, city, district, oblast council shall lead to termination of authority of deputies of the respective council.

Territorial communities elect on the basis of universal, equal and direct suffrage, by secret ballot, the head of village, settlement, city, respectively, who leads the executive body of the council and presides at its meetings. The term of authority of the head of village, settlement, city elected on regular elections is five years.

Regular elections of a village, settlement, city, district, oblast council, the heads of village, settlement, city take place on the last Sunday of October of the fifth year of the authority of the respective council or the respective head elected on regular elections.

The status of heads, deputies and executive bodies of a council and their authority, the procedure for their establishment, reorganisation and liquidation, are determined by law.

The chairman of a district council and the chairman of an oblast council are elected by the respective council and lead the executive staff of the council.

Article 142

• Municipal government
• Subsidiary unit government

The material and financial basis for local self-government is movable and immovable property, revenues of local budgets, other funds, land, natural resources owned by territorial communities of villages, settlements, cities, city districts, and also objects of their common property that are managed by district and oblast councils.

On the basis of agreement, territorial communities of villages, settlements and cities may join objects of communal property as well as budget funds, to implement joint projects or to jointly finance (maintain) communal enterprises, organisations and establishments, and create appropriate bodies and services for this purpose.

The State participates in the formation of revenues of the budget of local self-government and financially supports local self-government. Expenditures of bodies of local self-government, that arise from the decisions of bodies of state power, are compensated by the state.

Article 143

• Municipal government

Territorial communities of a village, settlement and city, directly or through the bodies of local self-government established by them, manage the property that is in communal ownership; approve programmes of socio-economic and cultural development, and control their implementation; approve budgets of the respective administrative and territorial units, and control their implementation; establish local taxes and levies in accordance with the law; ensure the holding of local referendums and the implementation of their results; establish, reorganise and liquidate communal enterprises, organisations and institutions, and also exercise control over their activity; resolve other issues of local importance ascribed to their competence by law.

• Subsidiary unit government

Oblast and district councils approve programmes for socio-economic and cultural development of the respective oblasts and districts, and control their implementation; approve district and oblast budgets that are formed from the funds of the state budget for their appropriate distribution among territorial communities or for the implementation of joint projects, and from the funds drawn on the basis of agreement from local budgets for the realisation of joint socioeconomic and cultural programmes, and control their implementation; resolve other issues ascribed to their competence by law.

• Municipal government
• Subsidiary unit government

Certain powers of bodies of executive power may be assigned by law to bodies of local self-government. The State finances the exercise of these powers from the State Budget of Ukraine in full or through the allocation of certain national taxes to the local budget, by the procedure established by law, transfers the relevant objects of state property to bodies of local self-government.

Bodies of local self-government, on issues of their exercise of powers of bodies of executive power, are under the control of the respective bodies of executive power.

Article 144

Bodies of local self-government, within the limits of authority determined by law, adopt decisions that are mandatory for execution throughout the respective territory.

• Federal review of subnational legislation
• National vs subnational laws

Decisions of bodies of local self-government, for reasons of nonconformity with the Constitution or the laws of Ukraine, are suspended by the procedure established by law with a simultaneous appeal to a court.

Article 145

The rights of local self-government are protected by judicial procedure.

Article 146

Other issues of the organisation of local self-government, the formation, operation and responsibility of the bodies of local self-government, are determined by law.

Chapter XII: Constitutional Court of Ukraine

• Establishment of constitutional court

Article 147

The Constitutional Court of Ukraine is the sole body of constitutional jurisdiction in Ukraine.

• Constitutional interpretation

The Constitutional Court of Ukraine decides on issues of conformity of laws and other legal acts with the Constitution of Ukraine and provides the official interpretation of the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine.

Article 148

The Constitutional Court of Ukraine is composed of eighteen judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

• Constitutional court selection

The President of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and the Congress of Judges of Ukraine each appoint six judges to the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

• Min age of const court judges
• Eligibility for const court judges

A citizen of Ukraine who has attained the age of forty on the day of appointment, has a higher legal education and professional experience of no less than ten years, has resided in Ukraine for the last twenty years, and has command of the state language, may be a judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

• Constitutional court term limits
• Constitutional court term length

A judge of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine is appointed for nine years without the right of appointment to a repeat term.

The Chairman of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine is elected by secret ballot only for one three-year term at a special plenary meeting of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine from among the judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

• Constitutional court removal

Article 149

Judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine are subject to the guarantees of independence and immunity and to the grounds for dismissal from office envisaged by Article 126 of this Constitution, and the requirements concerning incompatibility as determined in Article 127, paragraph two of this Constitution.

• Constitutional interpretation
• Constitutionality of legislation

Article 150

The authority of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine comprises:

• Ombudsman

1. deciding on issues of conformity with the Constitution of Ukraine (constitutionality) of the following:

    - laws and other legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;
    - acts of the President of Ukraine;
    - acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine;
    - legal acts of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

These issues are considered on the appeals of: the President of Ukraine; no less than forty-five National Deputies of Ukraine; the Supreme Court of Ukraine; the Authorised Human Rights Representative of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine; the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;

2. the official interpretation of the Constitution of Ukraine and the laws of Ukraine;

On issues envisaged by this Article, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine adopts decisions that are mandatory for execution throughout the territory of Ukraine, that are final and shall not be appealed.

Article 151

• Constitutional court powers
• Legal status of treaties

The Constitutional Court of Ukraine, on the appeal of the President of Ukraine or the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, provides opinions on the conformity with the Constitution of Ukraine of international treaties of Ukraine that are in force, or the international treaties submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for granting agreement on their binding nature.

On the appeal of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine provides an opinion on the observance of the constitutional procedure of investigation and consideration of the case of removing the President of Ukraine from office by the procedure of impeachment.

Article 152

• Constitutionality of legislation

Laws and other legal acts, by the decision of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, are deemed to be unconstitutional, in whole or in part, in the event that they do not conform to the Constitution of Ukraine, or if there was a violation of the procedure established by the Constitution of Ukraine for their review, adoption or their entry into force.

Laws and other legal acts, or their separate provisions, that are deemed to be unconstitutional, lose legal force from the day the Constitutional Court of Ukraine adopts the decision on their unconstitutionality.

Material or moral damages, inflicted on physical and legal persons by the acts or actions deemed to be unconstitutional, are compensated by the State by the procedure established by law.

Article 153

The procedure for the organisation and operation of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, and the procedure for its review of cases, are determined by law.

Chapter XIII: Introducing Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine

• Constitution amendment procedure

Article 154

A draft law on introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine may be submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, by the President of Ukraine, or by no fewer National Deputies of Ukraine than one-third of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

• Constitution amendment procedure

Article 155

A draft law on introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine, with the exception of Chapter I - "General Principles," Chapter III - "Elections; Referendum," and Chapter XIII - "Introducing Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine," previously adopted by the majority of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, is deemed to be adopted, if at the next regular session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine have voted in favour thereof.

• Constitution amendment procedure

Article 156

• Referenda

A draft law on introducing amendments to Chapter I - "General Principles," Chapter III - "Elections. Referendum," and Chapter XIII - "Introducing Amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine," is submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by the President of Ukraine, or by no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and on the condition that it is adopted by no less than two-thirds of the constitutional composition of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and is approved by an All-Ukrainian referendum designated by the President of Ukraine.

The repeat submission of a draft law on introducing amendments to Chapters I, III and XIII of this Constitution on one and the same issue is possible only to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the next convocation.

Article 157

• Unamendable provisions

The Constitution of Ukraine shall not be amended, if the amendments foresee the abolition or restriction of human and citizens' rights and freedoms, or if they are oriented toward the liquidation of the independence or violation of the territorial indivisibility of Ukraine.

• Emergency provisions

The Constitution of Ukraine shall not be amended in conditions of martial law or a state of emergency.

• Constitution amendment procedure

Article 158

The draft law on introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine, considered by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and not adopted, may be submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine no sooner than one year from the day of the adoption of the decision on this draft law.

Within the term of its authority, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall not amend twice the same provisions of the Constitution.

Article 159

A draft law on introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine is considered by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine upon the availability of an opinion of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine on the conformity of the draft law with the requirements of Articles 157 and 158 of this Constitution.

Chapter XIV: Final Provisions

Article 160

The Constitution of Ukraine enters into force from the day of its adoption.

Article 161

The day of adoption of the Constitution of Ukraine is a national holiday - the Day of the Constitution of Ukraine.

Chapter XV: Transitional Provisions

1. Laws and other normative acts, adopted prior to this Constitution entering into force, are in force in the part that does not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine.
2. After the adoption of the Constitution of Ukraine, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine exercises the authority envisaged by this Constitution.

   Regular elections to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be held in March 1998.
3. Regular elections of the President of Ukraine shall be held on the last Sunday of October 1999.
4. The President of Ukraine, within three years after the Constitution of Ukraine enters into force, has the right to issue decrees approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and signed by the Prime-Minister of Ukraine on economic issues not regulated by laws, with simultaneous submission of the respective draft law to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, by the procedure established by Article 93 of this Constitution.

   Such a decree of the President of Ukraine takes effect, if within thirty calendar days from the day of submission of the draft law (except the days between sessions), the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine does not adopt the law or does not reject the submitted draft law by the majority of its constitutional composition, and is effective until a law adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on these issues enters into force.
5. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is formed in accordance with this Constitution within three months after its entry into force.
6. The Constitutional Court of Ukraine is formed in accordance with this Constitution, within three months after its entry into force. Prior to the creation of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, the interpretation of laws is performed by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

7. Heads of local state administrations, upon entry of this Constitution into force, acquire the status of heads of local state administrations in accordance with Article 118 of this Constitution, and after the election of chairmen of the respective councils, tender resignations from office of the chairmen of these councils.
8. Village, settlement and city councils and the chairmen of these councils, upon entry of this Constitution of Ukraine into force, exercise the authority as determined by it, until the election of the new composition of these councils in March 1998.

   District and oblast councils, elected prior to the entry of this Constitution into force, exercise the authority as determined by it, until the formation of the new composition of these councils in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine.

   City district councils and their chairmen, upon entry of this Constitution into force, exercise their authority in accordance with the law.
9. The procuracy continues to exercise, in accordance with the laws in force, the function of supervision over the observance and application of laws and the function of preliminary investigation, until the laws regulating the activity of state bodies in regard to the control over the observance of laws are put into force, and until the system of pre-trial investigation is formed and the laws regulating its operation are put into effect.
10. Prior to the adoption of laws determining the particular aspects of the exercise of executive power in the Cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol in accordance with Article 118 of this Constitution, the executive power in these cities is exercised by the respective city administrations.
11. Article 99, paragraph one of this Constitution shall enter into force after the introduction of the national monetary unit — the hryvnia.
12. The Supreme Court of Ukraine and the High Court of Arbitration of Ukraine exercise their authority in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine that is in force, until the formation in Ukraine of a system of courts of general jurisdiction, in accordance with Article 125 of this Constitution, but for no more than five years.

    Judges of all courts in Ukraine, elected or appointed prior to the day of entry of this Constitution into force, continue to exercise their authority in accordance with the legislation in force, until the expiration of the term for which they were elected or appointed.

    Judges whose authority has terminated on the day this Constitution enters into force, continue to exercise their authority for the period of one year.
13. The current procedure for arrest, holding in custody and detention of persons suspected of committing a crime, and also for the examination and search of a dwelling place or other possessions of a person, is preserved for five years after this Constitution enters into force.

• International law

14. The use of existing military bases on the territory of Ukraine for the temporary stationing of foreign military formations is possible on the terms of lease, by the procedure determined by the international treaties of Ukraine ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.
15. Regular elections of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine after restoration of provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine in the wording of June 28, 1996 upon the Decision of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine dated September 30, 2010 No. 20-rp/2010 in the case on observance of the procedure of introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine are held on the last Sunday of October of 2012.

16. Regular elections of the President of Ukraine after restoration of the provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine in the wording of June 28, 1996 upon the Decision of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine dated September 30, 2010 No. 20-rp/2010 in the case on observance of the procedure of introducing amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine are held on the last Sunday of March of 2015.

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