EU4Ukraine Review

EU-Ukraine Cooperation Newsletter

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MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

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"Together, we are Europe": the exposition of illustrations moved from Khmelnytskyi to Uzhhorod

Photo: Exposition of illustrations in Khmelnytskyi

"The exposition is perfectly located here, in the city center. People pass by and see what the EU countries do for Ukraine. It’s very cool."

This is what a resident of Khmelnytskyi says about the mobile exposition of original Ukrainian artworks illustrating the European Union's assistance to Ukraine and Ukrainians, commenting on the event for local television.

The exposition is part of the all-Ukrainian communication campaign "Together, we are Europe". Before Khmelnytskyi, the artworks were exhibited in Kyiv, Lviv, and Rivne. In mid-December, the baton was taken up by Uzhhorod, which will host the exposition until January 9.

> *"I am moved to see our exposition in yet another Ukrainian city, this time Uzhhorod. Uzhhorod is among the western Ukrainian cities which have opened their doors to people fleeing parts of Ukraine that are closer to Russia and Belarus",* said **Ambassador Matti Maasikas, Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine,** *“But make no mistake: the region is not safe from Russian missiles and from the impact on the attacks against critical civilian infrastructure which constitute a war crime.”*

The communication campaign "Together, we are Europe" was launched in August to to show Ukrainians how large and diverse the European Union's support is and to reassure them that the EU will continue to stand side by side with Ukraine.

In December, in addition to the mobile exposition, the campaign continued its activities on television.

In particular, the campaign has launched a series of video shots with well-known Ukrainian experts commenting on the importance of EU assistance.

> *"Without external support, in particular from the European Union, the Ukrainian economy would hardly survive, and society would be under the greatest blow one can imagine",* says **economist Serhiy Fursa** in the first video.

He explains that the Ukrainian budget is now spent on defense, while the assistance of the EU and other partners helps to maintain the pre-war level of social standards, pay pensions and salaries, and finance education and medicine.

The "Together, we are Europe" campaign is implemented by Ecorys as part of the EU Project "Communicating EU for Ukrainians" (CEU4U).

More recent videos from the campaign:

Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine Matti Maasikas speaking about assistance to the Armed Forces of Ukraine on Suspilne.Resistance:
https://eu4ukraine.eu/media-ua/allies–series–within–suspilne–resistance–tv–project–episode–6–ua.html

On EU temporary protection provided by the EU to Ukrainians in the Member States and humanitarian assistance in Ukraine at the National Telemarathon United News:
https://eu4ukraine.eu/media–ua/the–eu–supports–ukrainian–citizens–in–difficult–times–ua.html

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PROJECT NEWS

The popular call for grants for CSOs is closing. The new one is ahead

Photo: Charitable Foundation STOPRAK

More than 50 civil society organizations have received grants from the EU4CSOs Emergency Actions subgrant competition, which ran from June to December this year. In turn, thanks to EU funds, CSOs supported people facing difficult situations due to the war.

Launched in June this year, the subgrant competition became extremely popular – 760+ applications were submitted by November 30 for grants from EUR 8,000 to 10,000 per project.

The competition is directly held by the charitable organization Network of 100 Percent of Life Rivne. **Project manager Hanna Kotenko** notes the high level of CSOs' social responsibility.

> *"Even those CSOs that had previously been engaged in advocacy, human rights protection, or cultural projects joined in helping the civilian population"*, she says, *"On the morning of February 24, they became volunteers and started organizing evacuations, raising funds and providing humanitarian assistance."*

In this call, CSOs' grant proposals mostly focused on providing psychological and material assistance, developing the volunteer movement and supporting volunteers, ensuring community access to clean water, and evacuating people.

> *"Organizations do know the needs of their target groups and are committed to supporting their communities"*, sums up Hanna Kotenko, *"Thanks to their activity, the European Union's assistance also reaches people in the frontline regions and quickly gets the de-occupied territories."*

Lutsk Charitable Foundation STOPRAK received a grant to implement the project "Assistance to Women with Cancer in Providing Access to Vital Medicines During Wartime".

"Many girls and women diagnosed with breast cancer have to take hormone antagonists and drugs to treat bone metastases every day for a long time or need lifelong therapy", explains **Maria Adamchuk-Korotytska, the head of the Foundation,** *"Suspension of therapy can lead to cancer recurrence or progression of metastases in the body. Before the war, the drugs were purchased for public funds and given to such women for free. Now, this is not the case and, according to doctors, the problem won't be solved soon."*

Therefore, the subgrant was used to purchase and distribute the necessary drugs primarily to IDPs, the poor, as well as women and girls living in rural areas. In total, the project helped 140 people.

December 29 will be the final deadline for submitting applications for subgrants from the EU4CSOs Emergency Actions Project in 2022. But there is good news – the new call for proposals will be launched in May 2023.

More information about the project:

https://eu4csos.org/eu4csos

https://www.facebook.com/EU4CSOs

About sex during the war and missile defense: Dovidka.Info explains

Photo: a fragment from the video about air defense

Pour rice or buckwheat with cold water for a few hours. Then drain the water and add salt, pepper, and spices to taste. Pour boiling water over it and enjoy a delicious nutritious meal in a few minutes.

This is one of the tips shared by chef Iliya Ulyanov in the video "What to get at hand not to stay hungry under any conditions?" published in December by the Dovidka.Info project. This is an EU initiative implemented in cooperation with the Center for Strategic Communications and Information Security at the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine.

The video shots help Ukrainians adapt to the realities of war, overcome new challenges, and better understand security issues.

"Our team is journalists with extensive experience. They have a base of proven specialists", says **project manager Alisa Malytska,** *"We are also constantly expanding this base. We offer viewers to become our experts if they are professionals in certain issues."*

By the end of the year, the project has released more than 50 videos with three video shots uploaded every week.

One of the most popular is a video with advice from language blogger Andriy Shymanovskyi on how to switch to Ukrainian – it has got more than 80K views so far. The blogger explains how to dare to start speaking Ukrainian, what is the difference between a mixture of Russian and Ukrainian and a dialect, and how to adjust organs of speech to Ukrainian.

Not always videos on Dovidka.Info are easy to make.

One of the most challenging was shooting a video about the work of the Ukrainian air defense system. A lot of issues were explained by the head of the public relations service of the Air Force Command of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Yuriy Ihnat. In particular, he told about what determines the duration of air alerts, why they have become longer lately, how defenders detect and hit targets and how every Ukrainian can help the Air Force.

"We have made a lot of efforts to make this video as informative and useful as possible. After all, people often think up something on their own about the defense of the sky and, as a result, have unnecessary fears. Or vice versa, they don't take it seriously", says Alisa Malytska, *"So the team had to first understand all the aspects of this topic in every detail to be able to properly illustrate the video."*

The project encourages viewers to join the discussion of the videos in the comments and suggest topics for the next videos.

"It's interesting and important for us to respond to the audience's needs. These are often contrasting. People are interested in how to prepare for probably the hardest winter and, at the same time, how to keep fit", says the project manager, *"Or is there sex during the war, and what is it like? Yes, people are interested in these things too. And we have expert advice for them as well."*

More information:

Website of the Delegation of the EU to Ukraine: https://bit.ly/3HPZbWX

Website of Dovidka.Info: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sseR–aeE3F4

EU4SaferFood helped a college that survived the occupation

Photo: Facebook page of Nemishayeve Vocational College

The village of Nemishayeve is located in Bucha district of Kyiv region, between the towns of Bucha and Borodyanka. In March, the village fully experienced the horrors of the Russian occupation. In particular, the local Nemishayeve Vocational College of the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine was severely damaged.

College employees recall how tanks knocked out the gates of the institution and broke into its territory, how classrooms were robbed. Occupants shot and broke the doors in the classrooms, took and destroyed equipment.

Nevertheless, in autumn, more than 500 new students entered the educational institution. **Director of the College Volodymyr Alyokhin** says that this is also thanks to donor assistance in restoring the lost equipment so that the College can provide quality education again.

In particular, the EU-funded project EU4SaferFood (Improvement of Legislation, Control and Awareness in Food Safety, Animal Health and Welfare in Ukraine) helped the College. The project provided much-needed training equipment for the Department of Livestock Production and Processing Technology, especially for the laboratory destroyed by the occupiers, such as an ultrasonic milk analyzer, a counter of somatic cells in milk, a mastitis detector, a flask heater, and other devices.

"We are especially grateful for the butter-making machine", Volodymyr Alyokhin says, *"We contribute a lot to the practical work of students, teach them what to do with the milk. And when they make dairy products with their own hands on the provided equipment, they learn how to add value to processed raw materials. This is very important."*

The director emphasized this during the webinar "Development of trade with higher added value in the organic and dairy sectors of Ukraine" organized in December by the EU4SaferFood Project in cooperation with the Swiss-Ukrainian Programme "Development of Higher Value Added Trade in the Organic and Dairy Sectors of Ukraine". Students and teachers were familiarized with national laws and EU regulations in this field.

"Food safety begins in colleges and universities by ensuring the possibility for students to gain practical knowledge on real equipment for milk control", says **Boris Antunović, EU4SaferFood Team Leader,** *"Together with the Swiss project, we want to ensure that Ukrainian children and citizens consume safe dairy products according to the European standards during these hard war circumstances."*

More information about the project: https://www.facebook.com/eu4saferfood

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EU4DigitalUA promotes the European integration of electronic trust services

Photo: EU4DigitalUA

In early December, the Verkhovna Rada adopted a draft law on mutual recognition of qualified electronic trust services and implementation of EU legislation in the field of electronic identification.

This law brings certain trust services in line with the EU regulations, corrects terminological inaccuracies, and establishes the responsibility of entities, the conformity assessment procedure and the procedure for interaction between supervisory authorities.

It is important that Ukraine will now recognize the EU qualified electronic signature (QES) - even before the agreement on mutual recognition of trust services is made. In particular, this will allow Ukrainians to use QES to sign contracts with private entities from the European Union. Preparations are underway to recognize the Ukrainian qualified electronic signature by the EU.

"The adoption of the draft law was preceded by a long expert and technical work. Ensuring the compliance of Ukrainian legislation with EU regulations is always a challenge, especially in such a specific area as trust services", said **Oleh Burba, Component Leader at EU4DigitalUA responsible for interoperability and digital government infrastructure.**

It was EU4DigitalUA's international and national experts who assessed the compliance of Ukrainian legislation with the requirements of eIDAS – the EU regulation on electronic identification and trust services for e-transactions in the European single market. Their findings underlie the recommendations for the draft law.

At the same time, EU4DigitalUA has been working on the implementation of international electronic signature algorithms in Ukraine, in particular ECDSA. This is a necessary technological prerequisite for integration with the EU in the field of trust services.

"Businesses will be able to use ECDSA e-signatures, for example, when making contracts with foreign partners", said **EU4DigitalUA expert Oleksandr Kozlov,** *"The Ukrainian government has recently launched a pilot project on mutual recognition of electronic trust services between Ukraine and the EU, which regulates certain technological requirements for e-signatures based on international algorithms. Such signatures are expected to be widely used in practice soon."*

Ukraine is currently implementing the EU recommendations for countries wishing to achieve mutual recognition of electronic trust services. In October, the Ukrainian QES was successfully tested to enable its verification on the EU open portal. The EU itself is preparing an update of the eIDAS regulation. The revised regulation should enable mutual recognition of trust services with third countries in practice. Ukraine may well be among the first to achieve this.

More information about the project:

https://eu4digitalua.eu

https://www.facebook.com/eu4digitalua

Not just a competition: students conducted searches and defended a corruption whistleblower

Photo: UNDP

"Incredible organization of the competition, cool speakers with practical experience giving thorough training and master classes, prosecutors and detectives among the judges! All this is perfectly combined into one event that I'll remember for the rest of my life!"

These are the emotions of **Viktoria Voitenko, a student at Poltava Law Institute** of Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University. Her AC Team won the All-Ukrainian Anti-Corruption Moot Court 2.0 in December. The prize for Viktoria and Dmytro Petrenko, Viktoria Oleg and Kateryna Yukhymenko will be a two-week internship at the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU).

The competition was organized by the NABU and National Agency on Corruption Prevention (NACP) with the assistance of the United Nations Development Programme, financial support from the EU and support from the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative (EAUCI).

The participants were law students from all regions of Ukraine, except Crimea. The first, written stage, was attended by 107 teams from 52 higher education institutions. The top 10 were invited to Kyiv for three days for oral rounds of the competition. They conducted a search and a court hearing to appeal against the illegal dismissal of a corruption whistleblower. Then two finalist teams held a moot court debate. The final day of the competition took place at the NABU premises.

"This event is not only about a student competition, but mainly about the rule of law, justice and building a better society after Ukraine's victory", says **EUACI Head of Mission Allan Pagh Kristensen,** *" Ukrainian youth are the brain power of the future Ukraine and responsible for the future development of the society. We appreciate our partners the NABU and NACP working with the youth and their best experts are sharing their knowledge and experience with the students ".*

The EU Anti-Corruption Initiative supported this competition last year too. In 2022, EUACI was involved in all stages of preparation, selecting teams and inviting judges, and took part in the moot court.

"Our support for the students of the All-Ukrainian Moot Court 2.0 will continue", says **Yana Ryzak, EUACI Communications Expert,** *"The winners will have internships at NABU, and members of the second and third teams will have internships at the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative office and will join the online part of the NABU Anti-Corruption School, a project also supported by EUACI.*

More information about the project: https://euaci.eu/ua

Opportunities

Culture

A call for proposals for grants for the translation, promotion and distribution of fiction, as well as for activities aimed at supporting the sale of translation rights in Europe and beyond, is underway as part of the Creative Europe Programme.
Deadline: **February 21, 2023.**

More information: https://bit.ly/3Poibhb

Education

The College of Europe continues to accept applications for scholarships to study and obtain a master's degree for the academic year 2023/24. Scholarships cover the cost of tuition, accommodation, meals, and relocation.
Deadline: **January 18, 2023**

More information: https://bit.ly/3GxgvQ0

Youth

Girls aged 14-16 can take part in the Girls Leadership Academy 3.0. This is a project implemented by the NGO Women's League under the EU4Youth Alumni Network Programme with the support of the EU and assistance of the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine.
Deadline: **January 15, 2023**

More information: https://bit.ly/3FBlflq

Public health

Scientific, academic and training institutions, educational and research institutes, hospitals, expert networks, private organizations, public authorities and civil society organizations, patient organizations and others can apply for EU4Health small grants in the field of health.
Deadline: **21 February 2023**

More information: https://bit.ly/3VwPnVN