EU4Ukraine Review

EU-Ukraine Cooperation Newsletter

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"Together We Bring Light!": the light bulb exchange campaign launched

On January 30, a campaign to exchange incandescent light bulbs for modern energy-saving ones was officially launched. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Economy, the Ministry of Digital Transformation, and Ukrposhta, Ukraine's national post, with the support of the European Union.

The EU will finance 30 million LED light bulbs. Each Ukrainian can exchange five incandescent bulbs for LED ones.

"By attacking Ukraine's energy system and deliberately targeting civilian infrastructure, Russia is trying to turn the cold winter into a weapon in the war against Ukrainians, to bring even more human suffering to the Ukrainian people; to deprive hospitals, emergency services and homes of electricity, heating and water," emphasized **Matti Maasikas, Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine** *(pictured),* at a press conference. *"These are war crimes that cannot go unpunished. Our task is also to minimize and overcome their consequences. I am convinced that this work has no trifles, and every light bulb that Ukrainians replace will also work for victory."*

According to NPC Ukrenergo, households consume 40-60% of energy. As reported by the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine, Ukrainians still use a lot of incandescent light bulbs, which, on average, consume almost eight times more electricity than modern LED bulbs. Experts estimate that by replacing old bulbs with energy-saving ones, Ukraine will save approximately 1 GW of electricity during peak loads and can reduce the electricity shortage significantly.

You can exchange old light bulbs for energy-saving ones in the Diia app. To do so:

- Log in to the app
- Select the section Services – Light Bulb Exchange
- Enter your contact phone number and the Ukrposhta office where you would like to exchange bulbs
- Choose the type and number of LED light bulbs you want to receive

You can also exchange bulbs at Ukrposhta offices without registration – in this case, bulbs are exchanged subject to availability.

More information:

Light bulb exchange guide – https://svitlo.diia.gov.ua

Campaign launch press release – https://bit.ly/3j9EziN

The EU military assistance exceeded €9 billion

"Ukraine provides us with a list of weapons it needs. Brussels coordinates its activities with member states to find the weapons and to compensate member states for them," explains **Matti Maasikas, Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine,** in a video shot about the EU's military assistance provided to Ukraine in 2022.

The video shot was launched as part of the "Together, we are Europe" campaign, which has been running for almost half a year and aims to show the scale and diversity of the European Union's support.

Both the EU, as an organization, and its member states provide military assistance to Ukraine. In 2022, they supported Ukraine for €9 billion, including €3.1 billion channeled by the EU through the European Peace Facility. On January 23, 2023, the EU Council approved the decision to provide another €500 million in this way.

Equally important is the humanitarian aid from the EU, which has exceeded €500 million since the beginning of the full-scale Russian invasion. For more information, watch another video.

"Without European assistance and a quick response to our requests, many more people would have been in despair at the beginning of the war," says **Yulia Savostina, a volunteer and co-founder of Made In Ukraine.** *"We received truckloads of food, hygiene items, baby formula, diapers, and medicines."*

In January, a mobile exhibition continued to present unique artworks created by nine Ukrainian illustrators on the EU's assistance to Ukraine and Ukrainians during the war, both in Ukraine and in EU member states. The exhibition has come to Odesa.

"Today, it is relentlessly and pointlessly subjected to Russia's shameful missile attacks. These attempts – we know it – will fail to break Odesa's spirit. We are deeply honored to open our mobile exhibition in that wonderful city ", said **Remi Duflot, Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine.**

After Odesa, the exhibition moves to Dnipro and will be open on January 30.

More information about the campaign: https://eu4ukraine.eu/together-we-are-europe-campaign-ua

"Ukraine is where I am": how displaced children discover Uman region

"The three hours spent in the park flew by in a flash. Our young participants got into a real fairy tale – while walking along the park alleys, they visited Ithaca, the Aegean Sea, the Minotaur labyrinth, the Anti-Circea island... "

This event took place in early January in the Sofiyivka Dendrological Park in Uman as part of the historical quest marathon "Ukraine is where I am," held by the youth organization Future Leaders of Ukraine with a grant from the EU-funded project "Civic Society for Democratization".

Since the first days of the war, Uman has become a hub city for IDPs. Many of them are young. Therefore, the organization created and conducted a series of exciting quests for IDPs aged 10-14.

"We want to help them overcome the negative consequences of the war, create conditions for socialization and adaptation in the new city, and help them easily learn the history of the Uman region," says **project manager Kateryna Nemyrovska.** *"Currently, there are 27 teenagers from Kherson, Kharkiv, Bakhmut, Kreminna, Kramatorsk, Sievierodonetsk, Melitopol, and Nova Kakhovka."*

With its rich and exciting history, Uman is an ideal location for such a project. Trainers chose the most significant events in Uman's history for their training sessions, quests, interactive tours, and master classes. Participants have already learned about Trypillian culture and Polish dynasties that lived in the Uman region in the 18th century. They visited the Sofiyivka Dendrological Park and learned about the Haidamak movement and the historical period of the Koliyivshchyna. Teenagers also attended pottery, glass painting, and embroidery classes.

The interactive tour around Sofiyivka based on ancient Greek myths mentioned above was one of the most exciting events for teenagers.

"We solved puzzles, fulfilled the tasks of our trainers and listened to the guide's stories. It was so exciting!" says 11-year-old **Tanya Yarova from Sievierodonetsk.** *"I have been living in Uman with my family for almost eight months. Although I miss my home city, I like being here. It was interesting to learn about the history of Uman, so I was so happy to join the project."*

Tanya liked the Trypillia Territory quest the most. It was a journey with a lot of communication. Thanks to the project, she has a new friend in Uman.

"Almost all project participants do not study in Uman educational institutions – they study online at schools in their hometowns," says **Kateryna Nemyrovska.** *"That's why the quest marathon helps them to meet new friends, communicate with them, and have fun together. It helps them to realize that they are not alone in Uman. They have support and encouragement here."*

More information: Future Leaders of Ukraine – https://www.facebook.com/flofuman

EU4PAR helps the government to explain the new law on administrative procedure

A woman applied to the Pension Fund of Ukraine for granting an old-age pension. However, the pension was not granted to her because she did not provide documents confirming the required length of service, and her work record book contained inaccuracies in the names of her employers.

This is a case that the EU4PAR Project analyzed in January on its Facebook page and Public Administration Reform page as part of its support provided to the Ministry of Justice and the CMU Secretariat in implementing a general administrative procedure. Every week, experts simulate various cases and how they should be addressed under the new Law "On Administrative Procedure," which will come into force on December 15, 2023.

According to the new law, the Pension Fund's refusal is unlawful in the case described above.
The administrative body did not collect the necessary evidence – documents and data. The new law requires the Fund to do this job.

"There is not as much time as it might seem at first glance before the law comes into force. During this time, the public administration and the parliament have to bring special legislation in line with the new law," says **Ugis Sics, EU4PAR Project Manager**. *"According to preliminary expert estimates, this includes at least 139 laws and even more other regulations. In addition, everyone involved in the system delivering administrative services must understand the principles of the new law and learn how to apply it. And aren't examples the best way to explain this? That is why we already share and explain vivid real-life cases every week using the principle of "before" and "after".*

The Law on Administrative Procedure should introduce common transparent rules of interaction between the state, citizens, and businesses instead of hundreds of current procedures in different administrative bodies. This will significantly simplify the provision of administrative services and bring Ukraine closer to EU standards – similar laws or legal traditions are in place in all EU member states and are part of a single European administrative space for citizens and businesses.

EU4PAR experts supported the government in drafting the law and now help with preparing for its entry into force.

"Our experts actively review legislation and determine the scope of necessary changes. Last year, the basic online course "General Administrative Procedure" became available. The Handbook for Public Servants has been developed and is now publicly available along with short- and long-term training programs for civil servants and local government officials, which can be accessed through the Knowledge Management Portal of the National Agency for Civil Service," adds Ugis Sics.

More information about the administrative reform – https://par.in.ua

EU4PAR Project – https://www.facebook.com/EU4PAR

Agriproduction

Like in the EU: a grant call of proposals for small agriproducers launched

Agricultural producers in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Zakarpattia, and Chernivtsi regions will get grants totaling $3 million from the project "Integrated, Competitive and Economically Rational Value Chains in Agriculture, Fishery and Forestry." This project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Launched before the war, the project had to adapt its activities to the new conditions after the Russian invasion. In March-May 2022, 6,000 families got assistance – they received vegetable seeds and seed potatoes.

A call for grant funding is now launched. The goal is to help farmers process their produce and, as a result, increase its added value. You can apply for the call through the State Agrarian Register. The project will provide grants of $10 thousand to private farms and individuals and $25 thousand to small and micro-producers. The grant program also covers berry and vegetable growers and aquaculture producers in Lviv region and producers of Hutsul sheep and cow cheese, Zakarpattia honey and wine.

"We will test an instrument used by 27 EU countries to pay subsidies and provide grant funding to their farmers. We are testing it through the State Agrarian Register, and this is also for the first time in Ukraine," explains **Hanna Antoniuk, Project Manager.** *"That's why the first call for proposals cannot cover a lot of participants and all regions. If we succeed, the next calls will cover more producers of different products in more regions."*

In January, the project held training sessions in the pilot regions for all target groups of producers. Experts explained how producers can apply for the program and what opportunities they can get.

A recent FAO survey on the impact of the war on agriculture and rural households showed that a quarter of Ukrainian producers have reduced their activities or stopped working. In addition to funding, farmers urgently need business development counseling and marketing information.

"The EU funds for this project aim to re-establish or reinforce pre-war level functionality of agricultural value chains. This is needed to meet the food requirements of local and displaced populations in the west of the country and address food insecurity elsewhere in the country in the immediate and short term," said **Christian Ben Hell, the Sector Manager for Agriculture at the EU Delegation to Ukraine.**

More information:

A story about the project on Suspilne TV channel – https://suspilne.media/358188-virobniki-guculskoi-brindzi-zmozut-otrimati-granti-vid-es

Press release - https://bit.ly/3XpZixh

Photo: Facebook page "Geographical Indications in Ukraine"

Help to citizens

Pereschepyne Administrative Service Center in Dnipropetrovsk region gets a 'mobile office'

In January, the Administrative Service Center (ASC) in Pereschepyne community, Dnipropetrovsk region, got a suitcase equipped with a laptop, scanner, printer, Wi-Fi router for Internet access, battery, payment terminal, webcam, and other items. The Center's staff call it a 'mobile office'.

The equipment was provided by the project "Strong Regions – Special Support Program for Ukraine," co-funded by the European Union and Germany and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH.

"A mobile office is a portable automated workstation for an administrator to provide the full range of administrative services at the place of citizens' residence," says **Olha Kuchyna, head of Pereschepyne ASC.** *"As a rule, this is very practical for people with limited mobility and residents of remote settlements who cannot always visit even the nearest ASC.*

The ASC in Pereschepyne community opened its doors several years ago with the support of another EU program – U-LEAD with Europe. In general, Pereschepyne actively works with international technical assistance projects.

"Thanks to cooperation with such a powerful partner as the project "Strong Regions – Special Support Program for Ukraine," our community got not only a portable workplace for the ASC administrator but also the necessary medical equipment, computer facilities, etc." says **Yaroslav Tsvirkun, mayor of Pereschepyne.** *"In total, in 2022, our community received material and technical assistance for about UAH 5 million from this project. This is a great support for our residents that really improves their lives, especially for the socially vulnerable people."*

In January, the Pereschepyne community got a Mobile Health Monitoring System consisting of a telemedicine monitor, a portable electrocardiograph, an infrared thermometer, a portable mobile biochemical analyzer and other equipment.

The €10 million project "Strong Regions – Special Support Program for Ukraine" supports local communities, particularly in eastern and southern Ukraine. It is part of the EU's efforts to build resilience to hybrid challenges and overcome the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

More information about the project:

Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine – https://bit.ly/40a3OSC

EU-UA integration portal – https://eu-ua.kmu.gov.ua/node/4098

Judiciary

The Pravo-Justice Project has published a collection of articles about the work of courts during the war

"The first hit to the court damaged the second floor and destroyed an office, corridor and courtroom. The roof and all the windows in the building were broken, but the first floor was still almost intact," recalls **Olha Luniova, Chairwoman of the Vuhledar City Court in Donetsk Region.**

Her memoirs become part of the 'Ukrainian Courts in Wartime' collection recently published by the EU project Pravo-Justice. It contains ten stories shared by judges, court administrators, and court staff. These stories are the first shocking moments of the war, evacuations, occupation, the work of judicial teams in hotspots, volunteering and mutual support, and e-justice in wartime.

"Despite the full-scale invasion, the judiciary in Ukraine has not stopped functioning for a single day. This became possible because of the efforts of many people – judges, court staff, judicial administration, court security service – who did their best to maintain access to justice for Ukrainian citizens," says **Anna Adamska-Gallant, a key international expert on the judiciary, the EU Project Pravo-Justice.** *"Our project decided to collect examples of this resilience and, through the prism of human stories, show how the judicial system managed to withstand."*

In this collection, Head of the Ivankiv District Court, Kyiv region, Tetiana Marchenko, shares her story about how the court staff passed on information about enemy's machinery movement. Tetiana Smishlyva, Head of the Luhansk District Administrative Court, describes how they set up electronic court proceedings after evacuating from Sievierodonetsk. Iryna Fetysova, Head of the Legal Support and Media Relations Section at the Sumy District Administrative Court, recalls court proceedings in March last year when the city was under semi-siege, and not all employees could get to court. Each of the ten dramatic stories consists of many smaller ones, vividly depicting the "extreme" martial law proceedings from different angles.

"The judicial system is primarily people who ensure the continuity of justice even under fire," says **Svitlana Maistruk, communications specialist and expert of the EU Project Pravo-Justice.** *"Therefore, the Pravo-Justice decided to show how it was possible to preserve the functionality of the judicial system in Ukraine after February 24 through the stories of those who were at the epicenter of the events and those who actively helped behind the scenes."*

The project also supported Ukrainian courts during the most challenging times. In particular, after the outbreak of the war, the project held a series of special workshops attended by approximately 200 judges and court staff. This was a valuable exchange of experience in a hitherto unknown situation where the usual standard solutions do not work. The project also provided the courts with personal protective equipment and radio communication facilities to improve the safety of court employees and visitors in emergency situations.

More information:

Collection 'Ukrainian Courts in Wartime' – https://bit.ly/40awhHY

Website of the Pravo-Justice Project – https://www.pravojustice.eu

Facebook page – https://www.facebook.com/Pravojusticeukraine

EU4PAR's photo: the building of Makariv District Court after the occupation

Opportunities

Calls for proposals held by EU Delegation to Ukraine

The call for Euroclub projects is ongoing. Projects can be aimed at highlighting thematic priorities, developing the Euroclubs network, celebrating thematic dates and weeks, and organizing contests "How I see European Ukraine".

Deadline: February 12, 2023

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3GOP3M7

EU Information Centers, higher education institutions and NGOs are invited to participate in the call for proposals for the EU Career Days 2023. At least 15 such events for students and youth of Ukraine are planned to be held during the year.

Deadline: February 15, 2023

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3XBM3JY

The call for proposals for EU Networks events is open to Team Europe Ukraine, the College of Europe Alumni Association, Young European Ambassadors, and EU Study Days Alumni. In 2023, seven events will get support to inform the public, media, authorities, and local governments about the EU's priority policy areas and cooperation with Ukraine.

Deadline: March 15, 2023

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3XlzG4R

Students of secondary schools, lyceums, and gymnasiums who receive secondary education (grades 9-11), full-time students doing their master's and bachelor's degree (last year) at Ukrainian universities and postgraduate students of any form of education can apply for the call for participation in EU Study Days (Euroschools) 2023.

Deadline: March 6, 2023

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3DpxuRP

Call for proposals held by the Civil Society for Democratization program

The EU-funded Civil Society for Democratization program is calling for proposals for grants to assist and support civil society organizations, volunteers and initiative groups.

The European School in Tbilisi (Georgia) announces a call for applications for the scholarship program for the academic year 2023/2024 with the support of the European Union and International Baccalaureate. Students from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia, who will be 16-17 years old as of September 1, 2023, are invited to apply.

Deadline: March 16, 2023

Read more at: https://eapeuropeanschool.eu/

Culture

The Creative Europe program is calling 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.

Deadline: February 21, 2023.

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3Poibhb

The Creative Europe program runs the calls for proposals "Audience Development and Film Education" which aims to promote European audiovisual works, especially those using digital technologies.

Deadline: March 30, 2023

Read more at: https://creativeeurope.in.ua/programs/89

Grants of up to €150 thousand can be awarded to European film festivals with at least 50% of supranational European films in their program. The annual activities of the festivals should be aimed at expanding the audience of all age groups, especially the young.

Deadline: March 9, 2023

Read more at: https://creativeeurope.in.ua/programs/91

Healthcare

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 call in the health sector.

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3GNFH39

Deadline: February 21, 2023

Read more at: https://bit.ly/3VwPnVN

Education

The Ghent University is now accepting applications from Ukrainian researchers and professionals who wish to expand their knowledge of EU law and policy. A module of the Jean Monnet Erasmus+ program "UGent Online Academy on EU Law and Policy for Ukrainian Teachers" has been specially developed for them. (Academy4UA).

Deadline: February 20, 2023

Read more at: https://academy4ua.eu

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

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