



G7 AMBASSADORS' SUPPORT GROUP FOR UKRAINE PRIORITIES FOR 2024

In 2024, the G7 Ambassadors' Support Group intends to continue to support the Ukrainian Government and people's domestic reform efforts, especially in the fields of anti-corruption, justice system reform, decentralisation, and promotion of democracy and the rule of law, which are crucial for Ukraine's resilience, reconstruction, and recovery, and for pursuing its European path and integration into the Euro-Atlantic community;

The G7 Ambassadors' priorities for 2024 are for the first time adopted in the context of Ukraine's status as an EU enlargement country. The deepening of the EU - Ukraine relationship through the accession process will further reinforce the priorities as articulated in this document;

The G7 Ambassadors' Support Group reaffirms its appreciation for Ukraine's reforms and stresses the importance of their full implementation. This is in line with the 2015 Summit in Schloss Elmau, where G7 leaders tasked their Ambassadors in Kyiv to establish a Ukraine support group, aimed at advancing the reform process in Ukraine. Since its establishment, the G7 Ambassadors' Support Group has supported the reform process in Ukraine, working with the Ukrainian government, parliament, civil society, business, and experts, and the wider international community;

Since the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022, the G7 have firmly condemned the unjustifiable and illegal war of aggression by Russia against Ukraine and have provided diplomatic, military, financial, and humanitarian support for Ukraine's defence of its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognised borders and its efforts to secure a peaceful, prosperous and democratic future, and deter future Russian aggression;

The G7 continue, together with Ukraine to make every effort to reach a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace, in line with the UN Charter, as soon as possible. Such peace cannot be realised without the immediate, complete, and



unconditional withdrawal of Russia's troops and military equipment from the territory of Ukraine;

The G7 welcome and support the earnest efforts by Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in setting out basic principles in his Peace Formula in line with the UN Charter. Moreover, G7 Ambassadors intend to facilitate formalisation of the G7's enduring support to Ukraine through specific, bilateral, long-term security commitments and arrangements in line with the G7 Leaders' Joint Declaration of Support for Ukraine of 12 July 2023;

The G7 Ambassadors' Support Group for Ukraine, on behalf of the people of our countries, who are committed to defending the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty, freedom, democracy, the rule of law, and human rights, will continue to support Ukraine's reform process and bolster the resilience of the people of Ukraine.



ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

Firmly supporting Ukraine to secure its immediate and long-term macroeconomic stability, sustainable economic development and gender-sensitive and inclusive reconstruction and recovery under the Ukraine Plan, and to strengthen democratic institutions, rule of law, and anti-corruption measures, as Ukraine pursues its European path and integration into the Euro-Atlantic Community through a comprehensive set of reforms;

Supporting the work of the Multi-agency Donor Coordination Platform to promote strong donor coordination of resources aligned with Ukraine's priorities; and supporting sustainable, resilient, inclusive, gender-responsive, and green economic recovery based on Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound (SMART) goals;

Supporting Ukraine in enhancing the business climate to facilitate private sector investment, including through the implementation of relevant reforms and the development of war-risk insurance mechanisms;

Co-ordinating efforts to further support Ukrainian exports to the world, including in terms of trade facilitation measures (such as trade liberalisation or simplification of border formalities), and through improving logistics, e.g. by supporting the rehabilitation of damaged and destroyed infrastructure and investments in more efficient infrastructure to ensure the stable trade of grain and other goods;

Encouraging the strengthening of the corporate governance framework and efficiency of state-owned enterprises and banks in line with OECD guidelines;

Supporting the standing up of a Ukraine Defence Industry Supervisory Board that complies with OECD principles and includes participation by foreign defence experts. Encouraging the alignment of the Ukrainian Defence Industry's work with the country's most pressing needs, while fostering NATO standards of transparency, accountability, efficiency, and competition across the defence industrial sector. Supporting the institution of transparency procedures to avoid even the appearance of politicisation or corruption in defence production;

Fostering the reform of the State Customs Service and the State Tax Service - with a particular emphasis on competitive transparent selection of management, recertification of employees and annual external audit of efficiency - to ensure operational effectiveness and efficiency, financial stability and sustainable internal budget revenues;

Promoting the enhancement of the legal, regulatory, and supervisory framework for financial markets.



ADDRESSING ISSUES ARISING FROM THE FULL-SCALE INVASION BY RUSSIA

Facilitating and supporting the humanitarian response to Ukraine at all levels to support the civilian population as a foundation for recovery and reconstruction especially regarding energy infrastructure;

Cooperating with Ukraine to pursue justice and accountability for war crimes and other atrocities committed in Ukraine and supporting Ukraine to secure compensation for the damage and loss caused by Russia's illegal invasion, including from an environmental and ecological perspective, consistent with applicable international law;

Supporting Ukraine's efforts towards a just peace, the restoration of its territorial integrity, and defence of its sovereignty, and supporting Ukraine's efforts to engage the widest spectrum of countries through its Peace Formula;

Assisting Ukraine with the reintegration of the de-occupied territories and people affected by war (including but not limited to internally displaced persons, war veterans, deported children, and those abroad) through transparent procedures in line with the rule of law. This assistance includes a focus on mental health, especially of vulnerable groups;

Supporting social cohesion efforts for continued decentralisation and resilience against Russian destabilisation efforts;

Supporting Ukraine in upholding human rights and reinforcing the work of human rights defenders, including organisations promoting the rights of women and girls, and other vulnerable populations.



JUSTICE SECTOR REFORM

Building upon the Roadmap for Justice Reform, encouraging continued efforts to reform the judiciary as well as to prevent and combat corruption within the judicial system; fostering the integration of a gender perspective into justice reform measures, and the strengthening of judicial accountability by effectively restarting and implementing the High Council of Justice's judicial discipline function;

Supporting the restart of judicial selection and qualification assessment under the newly reformed High Qualification Commission of Judges (HQCJ), with meaningful Public Integrity Council involvement;

Encouraging the ongoing implementation of Constitutional Court (CCU) reform, supporting the activity of its Advisory Group of Experts and the vetting process of CCU judge candidates;

Supporting steps to establish a new administrative court in Kyiv to handle administrative disputes involving the central government agencies following a transparent and merit-based selection of its judges, including a credible check of their integrity and professional competence with the involvement of independent experts;

Supporting the introduction of transparent and merit-based selection of management-level prosecutors by amending the legal framework and taking the necessary institutional measures and strengthening the disciplinary system for prosecutors by improving the existing legal and institutional framework;

Supporting the establishment of the service of disciplinary inspectors following a transparent and meritocratic selection process and resumption of the handling of disciplinary proceedings against judges prioritising high-profile cases and cases nearing the statute of limitation;

Encouraging the strengthening of existing integrity tools, including the verification of judge integrity declarations, to address corruption risks in all Ukrainian courts, including the Supreme Court; supporting the renewal of the Supreme Court by further improving the selection of its judges through an open, competitive, and merit-based selection process, with mandatory integrity checks and a meaningful role for independent experts and civil society;

Encouraging advancement of legislation in support of high-quality, corruption-free and institutionally delineated legal education and law enforcement training; supporting a Law on the Bar aligned with the Constitution and applicable European standards, with transparent and accountable self-governance and disciplinary procedures.



LAW ENFORCEMENT

Supporting the ongoing reform of Ukrainian law-enforcement institutions guided by the Overarching Strategic Plan for Reform of the Entire Law Enforcement Sector (OAS) and in line with international standards, including enhanced cooperation and information exchange, modern training, and a more transparent process for appointing and vetting leadership positions;

Supporting the ongoing reform of the Office of the Prosecutor General and the State Bureau of Investigation as part of supporting effective cooperation between law-enforcement bodies as well as, whenever conditions allow, the Security Service of Ukraine;

Encouraging - when conditions permit, no later than the lifting of martial law - the reform and further restructuring of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), including reducing its mandate; the limiting of its law enforcement authorities, especially in the economic domain; the completing of ethical and professional attestations of those working in the SBU; the creation of a credible disciplinary committee; the enhancement of parliamentary and civilian oversight over the SBU, when relevant; in the short term, the restructuring of the process for requesting lawful intercept (wiretapping) and the allowing of other authorised institutions to conduct judicial intercept separate from SBU;

Encouraging further reform of the Economic Security Bureau of Ukraine (ESBU) with legislative provisions to strengthen its independence and operational effectiveness. Fostering an open, competitive, and merit-based selection for new leadership and mandatory re-attestation for ESBU personnel. Supporting the institution of a credible disciplinary committee and the replacement of staff who do not meet ethical and professional standards;

Supporting proper management of firearms widely distributed to the population during the war;

Fostering safe and secure interlinkages of information between the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine and border guard services of EU countries to increase efficiency of cross-border movements of people and commerce. Encouraging the modernisation of incident and traffic flow (people and commercial) reporting. Supporting improvements in the processes for reporting corruption, including the establishment of whistle-blowers protection within the service.



EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS

Supporting ongoing commitment to irreversible and sustainable decentralisation, strong local self-government, and inclusive engagement of municipalities and civil society in locally led recovery and reconstruction;

Encouraging further public administration reform, which is a pre-condition to good governance and effective recovery;

Supporting the implementation and further elaboration of an improved electoral code, planning ahead for a post-war context, and improved legislation on parliamentary rules and procedures and the financing of political parties, in line with the aim of enhancing a pluralistic and transparent political life in Ukraine;

Encouraging reforms to reduce excessive economic influence on politics (oligarchs), especially through strengthened anti-monopoly enforcement and demonopolisation, in line with best international standards, including by the proper functioning of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine (AMCU);

Advocating for improved participation in the policy making process for civil society, local governments and other stakeholders in an inclusive and gender sensitive manner;

Supporting the strengthening of pluralistic media freedom and independence, supporting high-quality, pluralistic and financially sustainable public broadcasting, and bolstering Ukraine's resilience to disinformation.

Encouraging the adoption of appropriate legislation to define requirements for information on restoration projects in order to reduce corruption and increase transparency in this field through digital platforms such as the DREAM system;

Advocating for enhanced capability of Ukrainian and international non-governmental organisations to independently report and advise on public policies, good governance and the fight against corruption.



THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Supporting advances in the effectiveness, independence, and integrity capacity of anti-corruption institutions, including the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU), the Specialised Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office (SAPO), and the National Agency on Corruption Prevention (NACP), through legislative improvements, appropriate staffing and by ensuring timely, transparent, and merit-based selection procedures for their leadership;

Encouraging the effective and trustworthy performance of the Asset Recovery and Management Agency (ARMA) by launching a reform of the Agency, including through the adoption of legislative changes providing for a transparent and merit-based selection procedure for the head of the Agency, independent external assessment of ARMA's effectiveness, and a transparent procedure for the management and sale of seized assets;

Supporting advances in the effectiveness of the management of seized and confiscated Russian and Russia-related assets; encouraging the adoption of necessary legislation on the criminalisation of sanction evasion;

Supporting the implementation of the State Anti-Corruption Program (with emphasis on the sectors important for post-war reconstruction, such as construction, infrastructure, economic regulation, customs, anti-monopoly policy, as well as justice);

Encouraging further improvements in the effectiveness, independence, integrity and capacity of NABU, SAPO, and the High Anti-Corruption Court (HACC), including through legislative improvements (e.g. in the Code of Civil Procedure), to allow for more efficient investigations, more personnel, and building a credible track record of prosecutions and convictions for high-level corruption;

Advocating for the objective, transparent, merit-based and timely selection of HACC judges with the meaningful participation and decisive role of the Public Council of International Experts in the process;

Supporting the strengthening of the mandated work of the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NACP), with a particular emphasis on ensuring independent, transparent, competitive, and timely selection of its new Head, in line with OECD standards; implementing the recommendations from the first external independent assessment of NACP;

Encouraging the launch of the first independent external assessment of NABU as provided for in law; supporting advances in NABU's ability to utilise autonomous wiretapping and access to high-quality, independent and impartial forensic examination;



Encouraging ongoing progress in reducing corruption and increasing transparency in public procurement, by supporting the expansion and systematisation of standardised procurement procedures and use of the Prozorro e-procurement platforms, and encouraging a reduction in non-competitive public procurement, ensuring transparent management and selling of seized assets through Prozorro Sale;

Fostering amendments to legislation to facilitate greater transparency and accountability during the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine through strengthening the independence and professionalism of the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine. Advocating for the open, competitive, merit-based, independent, transparent, and timely selection of ACU board members, including mandatory integrity checks. Encouraging the strengthening of ACU's mandate to audit local government bodies, state-owned enterprises, off-budget spending and public procurement activities.



REFORM OF THE ENERGY SECTOR AND TRANSITION TO GREEN ECONOMY

Supporting the implementation of energy sector reforms in line with the EU legislation and rules, including the application of the Rule of Law, that promote investment, de-monopolisation, and transparency, while ensuring the independence of energy and nuclear regulators;

Advocating for reforms and actions that support Ukraine's contribution to global action on climate change, including decarbonisation, clean energy development, a just transition away from fossil fuels, and towards greater energy efficiency;

Fostering advancement in new energy sectors, such as (green) low-carbon hydrogen technology and renewable energy, which strengthen energy independence and create new sources for energy exports;

Supporting Ukraine's capacity to plan, develop and operate a modernised power system, while improving operational and regulatory frameworks, including to align with the EU acquis;

Supporting Ukraine in its efforts to ensure nuclear and radiation safety and security, while effectively implementing its safeguards agreement and additional protocols.