



10 young Crimeans currently serving internships in departments and permanent commissions of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea met on November 15 with USAID Mission Director for Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova Mr. Jed Barton during his visit to Simferopol.

After a brief introduction Mr. Barton shared his impressions of his two-day visit in Crimea during which time he visited USAID projects in Evpatoria and Simferopol.

During an open dialog, the interns asked questions not only about Mr. Barton's work in USAID but also solicited his opinion on current events in Ukraine as well as about his personal opinion on different issues. For example, one intern was interested about Mr. Barton's point of view on children's education.

Mr. Barton was also interested in finding out more about the interests and aspirations of the interns regarding their participation in this internship and about experience that they receive and about their plans and goals for the next 10 years.

The interns hoped that Mr. Barton might return to Simferopol in May when they will mark the successful completion of the program.

This is the third year of internships in the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of

Crimea within the framework of its cooperative project with the USAID Parliamentary Development Project (PDP II).



After meeting with the Interns, Mr. Barton paid a courtesy visit to the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea meeting with Deputy Speaker Hrihoriy Ioffe, Chair of the Commission on Rules and Organization of the Work of the VR ARC Konstantyn Bakharyev and Deputy Head of the Secretariat Oleksandr Ovdienko.