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**Ukraine National Initiatives to Enhance Reforms Activity
of the USAID Civic Oversight Project**

Annual Performance Report

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Submitted by Pact, Inc.

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I. Executive Summary

Under Ukraine National Initiatives to Enhance Reforms (UNITER) project, Pact continues to support civil society in Ukraine with the goal **to increase citizen support for and participation in specific civil society activities**. Pact's activities lie within the larger USAID Civic Oversight Project that includes other activities aimed to improve organizational capacity of Ukrainian CSOs, establish favorable legislative environment for civil society sector as whole.

The objectives of UNITER include:

- **Objective 1: Effective, broad-based monitoring and advocacy campaigns implemented** – Pact works towards two broader themes of relevant policy areas important for Ukraine's path towards democratic development, social cohesion and economic modernization. These themes are:
 - Theme 1: European standards and values: The activities under this theme focus on promoting principles and values of respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights including the rights of persons belonging to minorities. The special focus under this theme is given to the support of people with disabilities.
 - Theme 2: Governmental accountability and anti-corruption: Uniter supported coalitions and partners address governmental accountability and anti-corruption at all levels of government, working to engage citizens throughout Ukraine in issues of national, sub-national and local governmental accountability and anti-corruption. Additionally under this theme Pact support civic initiatives to ensure inclusive constitutional reform process.
- **Objective 2: CSO Constituencies Expanded** – Pact emphasize the importance of reaching out to citizens, identifying citizen needs, educating citizenry and consulting on priorities, seeking citizen input and support, engaging in CSO advocacy efforts and representing citizen interests vis-a-vis local and national authorities.
- **Objective 3: Media Engagement and ICT Usage by CSOs Improved** – Pact sub-awards strengthen coalition and CSOs' ability to communicate more effectively with citizens and the media.
- **Special Objective: Sustainability Roadmap** – Pact will identify and cultivate an organization(s)/mechanisms to coordinate, facilitate and convene other organizations around issue-based initiatives, and build its capacity to administer advocacy and monitoring sub-grants to organizations that collaborate on issue-based initiatives.

II. Political Context

After the series of Euromaidan protests, the revolution in which the demonstrations ultimately culminated in, and upon concluding two pre-term elections, the new Ukrainian political leadership enjoyed high public support to introduce the long-overdue structural reforms in all segments of society. Facing however one of the most severe political and economic crisis since its independence, Ukrainians today are losing patience: they expect a lot faster pace of perceptible changes to happen. The majority of Ukrainians have not experienced any positive effect of reforms¹ and only about a quarter of Ukrainians notice some reforms having been implemented². Ukrainians want to see more rapid and experience more tangible results in the fight against corruption, reform of the judiciary, prosecution and police, pension and health care reforms.

At the same time, Ukrainians are not very well informed about government actions in any reform area and do not trust the kind of information that is provided by the government. Albeit an army of domestic and local pundits monitor from pointblank range now every step of the government, few have so far gave high ratings to the government's reform and reform communication ratings. In the experts' assessment, reforms are lagging behind in the areas of governance and decentralization but more progress has been achieved in improving public finance, energy and banking sector. Significant improvements have been seen in anti-corruption legislation according to these observers, but with the weak law-enforcement system, the implementation of such reforms is under threat.³ The IMF notes that Ukraine's economy remains fragile, but in its report it concludes that Ukrainian authorities have made a progress in implementation of economic program and calls for more in regards of corruption, improvement of business climate and reform of state-owned enterprises. Indeed, Ukraine made almost a miracle despite the poor economic situation and state debt: it managed to avoid an total collapse so far. State default that hung over the country in the past year, have not happened.

While all the assessments highlight some progress, most of the changes described are happening on a higher, abstract level, which is beyond citizens' interest and control. The reform process is far too intangible. Perhaps the most perceptible change the average Ukrainian notices is the recent introduction of the new patrol police. With the launch of the new police in Kyiv and further rollout of the reform in 23 large cities, many Ukrainians feel this as a milestone towards improvement of their well-being. The level of trust towards this newly created institution is significantly higher than other similar existing agencies⁴. The Ukrainian society badly needs louder, distinctive and positive signs of changes in the country that would be seen as fair and irreversible. The few widely promoted arrest cases of MPs or attempts to limiting the influence of oligarchs are not enough, for they target mostly political competitors of the President and thus seen more as political maneuvering, not genuine steps towards an accountable and transparent government.

In addition to the lack of visible changes, the new elite's parliamentary majority is shrinking creating a less conducive environment for deep-seated transformations of public institutions and behaviors. There is a growing concern about the ability of the Parliament, Cabinet and President working in tandem to deliver further reforms. Facing internal conflicts and

¹ Results of the polling conducted by Pact on citizens awareness of civil society and their opinion about reforms. The field work happened in April 2015 http://uniter.org.ua/upload/files/PDF_files/Pact_survey_April2015_public.pdf

² <http://dif.org.ua/ua/publications/press-relizy/reformi-v-ukselennja.htm>

³ <http://voxukraine.org/2015/09/14/all-you-need-to-know-about-ukrainian-reforms-in-6-minute-explainer-video/>

⁴ Corruption Perception and Experiences, Public opinion poll conducted by Pact in September 2015.

disagreements, the coalition could collapse in the coming months, which would lead to another pre-term Parliamentary election and put reforms implementation under threat. While remembering the disappointments of the post-Orange period, Ukrainians are inevitably compare the situation with the situation in 2006-2007 when due to internal conflicts the coalition was dissolved and the pre-term Parliamentary election resulted in the return of the Viktor Yanukovich as Prime Minister.

The Government's lack of communication and genuine public engagement on the legislative changes lead to increased dissatisfaction with the outcome of the process. In order to be able to assess their readiness to suffer losses as a result of reforms, Ukrainians say they would want to know in more depth what the end goal of reforms was. , They have strong opinions on the issues if asked, but by and large they prefer to remain disengaged in the reform process. The low level of participatory political culture, absence of effective civic education, strong opinions and increased violence in daily life, is a dangerous blend that allows for easy manipulation of public perceptions and paves the way for populists to re-emerge.⁵ Yet another pre-term parliamentary election is an undesirable scenario that could not only halt the reform processes, but bring also more instability to the already precarious crisis situation in Ukrainian.

The general awareness of citizens about human rights and their treatment of LGBTI issues is only one but robust indicator of how Ukrainians transform to European values and standards in their daily life. While many consider Euromaidan as the revolution for human rights and dignity, there is no large support for universal human rights. The events of the Kyiv and Odessa Pride in 2015, shows the dominance of the more traditional values in Ukrainian society. The majority of the population yet lack the signs of tolerance, recognition of and support to marginalized groups. Contrary to the universality of human rights, Ukrainians prefer to exclude certain groups from the right to peaceful public assembly. Further development in this area will be critical for distinguishing Ukrainian society from the post-soviet mentality and demonstrating that Ukraine's polity truly belongs to Europe.

State of civil society flash report

The Euromaidan movement and those unforgettable events that followed suit are crucial points in Ukraine's development generally as a whole, and in specific to civic engagement. Since the very first day of Euromaidan, civil society is the country's main engine driving it further towards Europe-oriented reforms. It enjoys nowadays elevated trust from the sides of both government and public, and thus experience increased reliance from both segments to lean in towards the expected rapid transformation of the country.

During the Euromaidan period and its an immediate aftermath, Ukrainian civil society demonstrated its strength of organizing, engaging and mobilizing social forces that push to replace inert, defunct and corrupt state institutions and with fresh, untainted and progressive ones. Ukrainian volunteer groups continue providing services to IDPs, military and others who suffered as result of the violent conflict of the country's East, while Ukrainian state institutions are still in the process of reforming to be more effective in these functions. Crucial legislative changes are happening day by day with civil society organizations' and experts' input. Their seamless implementation is under constant monitoring and pressure from civil society. Groups like the Reanimation Package of Reforms go even a step further (or rather, ahead) by setting the legislative agenda, providing specific policy prescriptions and draft laws, engaging in public

⁵ http://uniter.org.ua/data/block/uniter_gfk_poll_brief_political_attitudes_and_citizens_engagement.pdf

advocacy for important reforms, working closely with the National Council for Reforms, and assessing the progress of each reforms.

There is also growing public trust and support of the civil society. Volunteer movements lead the rankings as the most trusted in Ukraine, but the overall trust level towards civil society is, too, growing with time. Ukrainians acknowledge that civil society as one of the main driving force of reforms along with the president, government and political majority in the parliament⁶. But despite the growing support and trust to civil society, civic engagement remains low. Over half of the population report that they have contributed funding to volunteers movement, the army, but very few are ready to take more active role in reforms. Anti-corruption reform is the top priority for citizens, but only 1% of the surveyed population has ever reported on corruption either publicly or anonymously.

Being the watchdog over the Ukrainian government and pushing reforms further, civil society is often critically assess the country's progress in development. These negative voices are contributing to overall negative public attitude towards reforms and could lead to further skepticism and disillusionment with the achievements of Euromaidan. Keeping the optimism and belief in positive changes are critical for engaging citizens but civil society's traditional juxtaposition vis-à-vis incumbent governments is a limiting factor. Positive messaging cannot come primarily from civil society circles. Rather, it is the government that should step up its strategic communication as the number one priority for continuing reforms in the country. While there is a role of NGOs in civic education of citizens, government cannot rely on civil society to be a mouthpiece for their activities. Civil society organizations should strike a balance between their direct engagement of communicating reforms and engagement with citizens in demanding changes. Such balancing act requires finessed analytical skills, ability to maintain public integrity and technical authority, adapting to a rapidly transforming political-economic environment and influence upwards (i.e., provide policy advice to decision-makers), downwards (i.e., by garnering strong public constituencies), as well as horizontally (i.e., epistemically with peer organizations and collaborators.)

III. UNITER Major highlights:

Reanimation Package of Reforms: Pact continued its support to Reanimation Package of Reforms that is now a key platform for reform coordination and advocacy. Formed during Euromaidan it focuses its work on transforming protest energies into constructive dialogue on reforms. Before election RPR has developed a Reforms Roadmap for the new Parliament and signed memorandum of cooperation with major parties and individual majoritarian candidates. During the course of the year the RPR has advocated for 54 laws to be approved in the parliament. Among the most known are the package of laws in anti-corruption, access to public information, decentralization and others. RPR also advocated against 8 draft laws that they saw as a threat to democratic principles in the area of education, anti-corruption, law enforcement and media. RPR continue monitor the implementation of Reforms Roadmap and plans to launch Civic Reform Index as a visual online tool for assessment of the progress.

European Values and Standards: Pact supported Institute of World Policies that is working on building support for EU integration in Ukraine and abroad. IWP held public debates with the key decision makers in Berlin on reform process in Ukraine as well as invited opinion-leaders from Europe for a closed briefing with the key decision-makers here. IWP has also conducted

⁶ http://dif.org.ua/modules/pages/files/1441792027_3687.pdf

the public opinion poll on Ukraine in the most populated countries of EU and have found that only 1% of the respondents think that Ukraine should not be allowed to join EU and 30% support European integration of Ukraine. Influencing public opinion in EU countries is key for influencing the decision makers of EU member states.

Transparency and accountability: Among many initiatives of Center UA, the NGO had launched the Stronger Communities of Donetsk region movement. The movement aims to raise the new cohort of activists in the Donetsk region that will be more actively engaged in the local decision-making and control the accountability of the locally elected officials. In the framework of this campaign Center UA has built a network of local activists, trained them and conducted advocacy campaigns for openness of the local budget and decision making of the local council. Additionally, Center UA have organized the Donbas Civil Society Forum in Slovyansk where 400 participants discussed the agenda for development of the region. The Roadmap for Donbas Development was presented in Kyiv to key decision-makers.

Inclusiveness and marginalized groups: Pact has supported the organization of the KyivPride Festival in 2015. While being attacked by the nationalist radical groups the festival have attracted a lot of media attention to the state of human rights in Ukraine. After the Festival, Pact together with USAID have coordinated the out brief of donors and organizers discussing the future steps for promotion of the LGBTI rights in Ukraine. In addition, Pact works closely with the Fulcrum organization that aims to promote the LGBTI rights and promote tolerance in Ukraine.

Civic education: To promote civic education and build constituency for civil society activities Pact supports Hromadske TV and production of the “Uteodyn z Maiklom Schurom”. Targeting the Ukrainian speakers and youth the show have provided the alternative sarcastic view on the events in Ukraine and invited various experts and NGO representative to talk on the important issues that are missing from the mainstream media. For example, one of the show featured the debate between LGBTI activist and representative of the nationalist movement discussing their positions on the human rights. The show has also featured RPR experts and other civil society leaders.

Citizens engagement: To promote citizens engagement in the civil society activities Pact held the festival of the social initiatives “uCRZYans” in Zaporizhzhya. Through interactive stands of social projects, their creative presentations and lectures on the festival Pact together with partners promoted active participation in civic life. Sixteen local and national initiatives, including Pact’s long-term partners such as Centre UA, Reanimation Package of Reforms, Vilna Hata presented their activities and achievements to about 1 000 citizens, helping them to identify local problems, concerns and ways to overcome them. The event was the first festival that presented social initiatives to the wide public in Zaporizhzhya and in the future Pact plans to roll out such festivals in other parts of the country.

Capacity building: Pact supported all grantees in their efforts to reach out to larger constituencies. In particular, Pact invited Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) that supports constitutional processes around the world to help RPR constitutional group with the design of the citizens engagement campaign. Pact also partnered with the Sunlight Foundation that helped local NGOs in adjusting their ICT tools for better citizens engagement and outreach. On a daily basis, Pact mentors partners on their strategies for outreach and better communication.

IV. Activities description

Objective 1: Effective, broad-based monitoring and advocacy campaigns implemented.

Pact strengthens CSOs' role in advocating for citizen interests and monitoring government transparency and accountability under Objective 1. Pact supported partners in their activities of civic monitoring and citizen engagement in watchdog initiatives at the national and local levels as well as promotion of EU values and standards and increasing civic education during and after pre-term Parliamentary election.

Theme 1: European standards and values:

To ensure Ukraine's democratic transition Pact supports organizations that promote European standards and values in Ukraine and support further European integration of Ukraine. The pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality are key European values that Ukrainians are adopting, as they are choosing European vector of development. Pact support under this theme includes 1) advocacy for further integration of Ukraine through informing key stakeholders and addressing concerns of EU and Ukraine citizens in regards of this process; 2) promotion of inclusive society through supporting marginalized groups advocacy efforts including groups such as people with disabilities, LGBTI, women, etc.

Activity 1.1.1.a: European Standards and Values Advocacy and Monitoring:

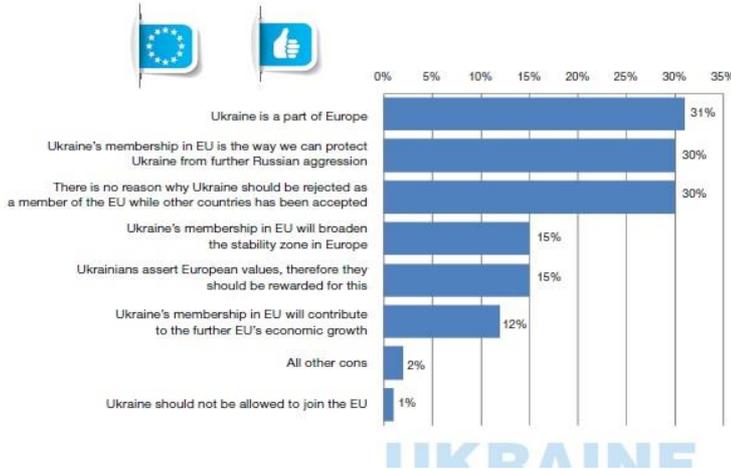
Pact supports civil society organizations working on increasing demand for EU values and integration including organizations like *Institute of World Policy*. In 2015, IWP has launched a project "New European Policy: Filling Awareness Gap". The project's goal is two-fold: to raise awareness of Ukrainians about advantages of the European integration reforms, and at the same time, strengthen awareness in the EU Member States about Ukraine's transformation. In April, IWP has organized a visit to Kyiv of the key European opinion leaders, who are specializing on Ukrainian policy. During the visit 27 European thought leaders met with the Ukrainian political leaders, members of parliament, leading Ukrainian political scientists and experts, regional leaders of public opinion from Donetsk, Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, representatives of the civil society initiative Reanimation Reform Package, and others. Following the events participants published [articles](#), [interviews](#) and [opinion pieces](#) about Ukraine and its European present and future. All the participants got a unique opportunity to get the objective information about the current Ukrainian issues from the first hand and to share it through various media channels, which became an effective tool in fighting the anti-Ukrainian propaganda in Europe.

On May 12, 2015 IWP in partnership with Ministry of Foreign Affairs held the annual conference dedicated to the anniversary of the Association Agreement with European Union. The conference brought together diplomats, politicians, researchers, public activists and journalists who are engaged in the process of European integration of Ukraine. The event was attended by Pavlo Klimkin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Jan Tombinski, Head of the EU Delegation to Ukraine, Iryna Herashchenko, Member of the Parliament, Chairman of the Committee on Issues of European



Integration, Simon Smith, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Great Britain to Ukraine, among other high level guests.

4 THE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF UKRAINE'S FUTURE MEMBERSHIP IN THE EU



In July IWP has presented the [results of the opinion poll](#) on Ukraine's European aspirations conducted in six most populated EU countries Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Poland. This is the first survey ever conducted allowing to understand stereotypes spread in Europe with regards to Ukraine. In particular, the citizens of these EU states were asked to name three main associations with Ukraine and to list the arguments in favor and against Ukraine's membership in the EU. The survey helps to identify problems in the EU-Ukraine relations

and highlight concerns of ordinary Europeans. While the study finds that Europeans have mostly negative associations about Ukraine, only 1% of respondents think that Ukraine should not be allowed to join EU. On the contrary, 30% of respondents think that Ukraine should be provided the EU membership perspective, but for this Ukrainians should eliminate corruption and oligarchy.

In September, IWP has held a public debates in Berlin that focused on assessing reform process in Ukraine. The debates were hosted by DGAP, a Berlin-based think tank and hosted Dmytro, Shymkiv, Deputy Head of Presidential Administration of Ukraine, and Oksana Nechyporenko, RPR representative. Participants have discussed the political, economic and social model for development of Ukraine and current state of reforms. The discussion focused on main drivers and barriers for reform progress and aid that Ukraine need for the implementation of them.

To promote European values in Ukraine, Pact supports *All-Ukrainian NGO Fulcrum* in conducting a broad-based advocacy campaign on the issues of LGBT rights. The campaign is aimed at overcoming widespread homophobia and hate speech among the general population by reducing the levels of homophobia in society, increasing tolerance towards minorities' and increasing awareness of LGBT issues. With the help of Pro-Mova consulting organization, Pact is assisting Fulcrum in developing the communication strategy for advocacy for LGBTI rights. Additionally, Fulcrum works closely with the organization TEGO that united parents of the LGBTI people who are strong advocates for the rights of their kids. On September 15, Fulcrum has launched a first magazine on the LGBTI rights called PrideUkraine. The organization plans to distribute the magazine widely to attract people to the issue of human rights.





In May-June, Pact provided support to the organizers of the KyivPride2015 Forum. KyivPride is the largest annual event focusing on the rights of LGBT people. This year the KyivPride Festival included a series of open events for activists, members of the LGBT community and the general public, including workshops, round tables, lectures and panel discussions. KyivPride has attracted attention of the general public to the rights of LGBT, engaging members of the community in public discussions and joint activities to advocate for legislative changes that ensure equal rights of LGBTI in Ukraine. This year the organizers of the KyivPride2015 ensured wide media coverage focusing attention of the public on importance of tolerance and universal human rights. The security threats caused by activists of the far-right groups led to even more attention to the Pride and to the issues of tolerance. Using this momentum, LGBTI community has organized OdessaPride where Pact has supported the development a video about event.

In order to build a strong support for LGBTI community, Pact is leading the donor coordination which allows open discussion on the state of the affairs in this sector. Pact produced a brief analytical paper on the state of affairs in the sphere of LGBT rights, the state of NGOs and the key needs for development of the sector. The paper stressed lack of cooperation among LGBT NGOs, low capacity for advocacy work and stressed the need for more consistent public outreach and advocacy activities with engagement of different stakeholders outside of the LGBT community. During the donor meeting, these issues were raised and ideas on what donors could do were shared, including better coordination among donors and encouragement of NGOs towards coalition building.

Sub-Theme: support for people with disabilities:

Activity 1.1.2.a: Disability Advocacy Plan:

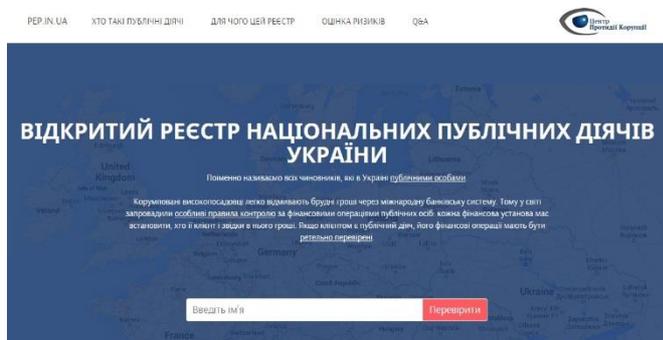
Pact has developed a Disability Advocacy Plan that provided overview of the situation with rights of people with disabilities in Ukraine and outlines key developmental achievements and gaps. The plan also provides recommendations for the most efficient and effective strategies of supporting civil society work.

Theme 2: Governmental accountability and anti-corruption:

Anti-corruption Action Center advocates for adoption of legislation that closes key corruption loopholes in public procurement and reduces corruption in Ukraine through increased accountability of law enforcers. In October 2014, AntAC jointly with partners from anti-corruption NGOs successfully completed a year-long advocacy campaign by adopting a number of anti-corruption legislation including Law of Ukraine #[5114](#), that regulates creation of a public Registry of beneficial owners and Law #[1698-VII](#), that aimed at launching National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NAB). AntAC now is focused on providing civic oversight on the implementation of the approved legislation, eliminating corruption risks in their implementation and promotion of new anti-corruption tools among journalists, civil society activists and experts.

AntAC has conducted oversight of the launch of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NAB), focusing on the process of selection of the Director of NAB and the announcement of the results of the open competition. The NGO has identified numerous attempts to intervene in or disrupt the competitive selection of NAB's Director and successfully advocated for amendments to the legislation on National anti-corruption Bureau, which improved the process of NAB operations

and regulations. Three members of AntAC [were elected](#) to key posts of the NAB's Council of Public Oversight - Vitaliy Shabunin, the Head of the Board of AntAC; Daryna Kalenyuk, AntAC's Executive Director; and Oleksandra Ustinova, an AntAC Board Member, were all selected in the June 5th election, and furthermore, in the council's [first meeting](#), Shabunin was named the leader of the board, Ustinova was designated Secretary of the Commission, and Kalenyuk was made a delegate to the commission selecting leaders and investigators for the Anticorruption Bureau.



With the newly adopted changes to the law of Ukraine “On preventing and combating corruption and money laundering crimes”, the list of **PEPs** (public figures) was expanded. Therefore, AntAC experts have started a new wave of information requests and MP's appeals to gather and process information on new PEPs. As of today AntAc's database of PEP's consists of 4420 individuals and 1524 legal entities

(including governmental authorities and state-owned companies). It is expected that the database of PEPs will be officially launched in the beginning of October, as for now [a server version functions](#).

In the reporting period, AntAC continued its advocacy campaign on the bill [№2423](#) and reached success in July 2015. The bill improves the work of **registry of owners** of immovable property and expands the list of property which will appear in the public registry. For instance, new options in the registry will include:

- Opportunity to find the information not only on the basis of object but on the basis of owner of the property (individual or legal entity);
- Online cadastral map will reveal information on the owners of land pieces;
- Access to the registry of movable property (cars) will be opened. One will be able to search for information in this registry on the basis of owners, too.

The bill allows anyone to get information about apartments, houses, plots or vehicles that belong to any other person for a small fee. However, the law protects the personal data of citizens, since it keeps the information on the exact addresses or vehicle numbers closed.

AntAC in partnership with Ukrainska Pravda and General Prosecutor's Office have held the [Second International Conference on Assets Recovery](#). The event took place on April 27-28, 2015 and aimed to continue a public expert dialogue launched in 2014 on legislative regulation, use of new instruments and institutions to effectively search, arrest, return and manage corrupt assets in Ukraine. Over 200 participants representing international experts, European anti-corruption agencies, senior judges and prosecutors, investigators and prosecutors have attended the conference. Following the conference and its workshops, AntAC and General Prosecutor Office of Ukraine plan a joint memo with recommendations for changes in the legislation, rules, and regulations of law



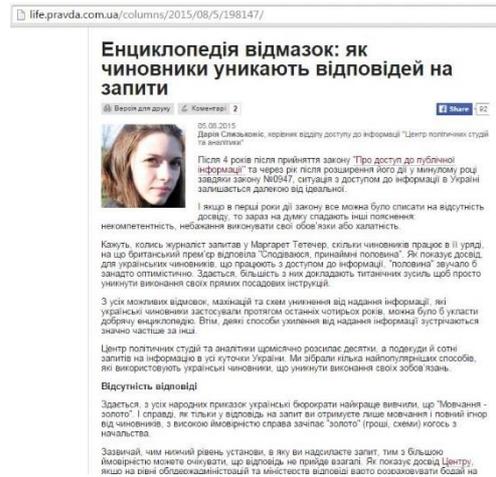
enforcement and other government bodies to help speed up the assets recovery and make the process more effective.

Area 1 Support for Anti-corruption Reform:

Activity 1.2.1.a Sub-awards for Anti-corruption Advocacy and Monitoring:

In December 2014, Pact has issued call for applications to support civil society initiatives aiming to increase public accountability and transparency. Organizations, that are proven champions of the anti-corruption reform, were invited to apply within this call. In consultation with USAID and independent experts, Pact has awarded four sub-awards from this pool.

Centre for Political Studies and Analysis (CPSA) is coordinating a coalition for civic oversight on the implementation of the anti-corruption legislation in Odesa, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsa and Chernihiv oblast. On 13 May, 2015, CPSA held a two-day workshop in Kyiv for the participants of the coalition training them on the methodology of the analysis of the local government procedures and compliance with the requirements of the new anti-corruption legislation of Ukraine. During the workshop, participants shared their previous experience on monitoring of the local government, discussed implementation of the advocacy campaign to implement the new anti-corruption legislation and defining algorithm of analysing regulations of local governments. Based on the developed methodology since May 2013 members of the coalition have sent the requests to the local authorities in five oblast. The received data was analysed and individual proposals for implementation of the anti-corruption legislation on the local level were developed.



During September CPSA held regional press-conferences and public actions to draw attention to the issues compliance of the local self-government procedures with anti-corruption legislation requirements. CPSA is also signing Memorandums of cooperation with the political parties and individual candidates that are running on the local election in October 2015. The parties and candidates that signed those Memorandums are committing themselves to improve the compliance of the local procedures after election.

In August CPSA has created a video and produced leaflets to inform citizens on how to control the local self-government bodies activities on violation of procedures and non-compliance to national legislation. Materials and videos are aimed at mobilize citizens in the regions to use their rights and actively engage in civic and political activity at the local level.



On May 2015, **Transparency International Ukraine** became a member of the coalition 'Initiative 11' that includes Ukrainian League of Lawyers for Combating Corruption, Media Law Institute, CenterUA, Anti-Corruption Action Center

and Blueprint for Free Speech. The coalition is advocating for the whistleblower protection

law. The coalition will develop a draft law, advocate for its approval and will raise public awareness of the critical need to protect government and corporate whistleblowers from retaliation and threats.

On July 2015, a visual information campaign has started with the placement of billboards depicting Ukrainian money bills with portraits of famous Ukrainians such as Taras Shevchenko, Lesia Ukrainka and Hryhoryi Skovoroda. The Campaign slogan "They would not keep silent" reminds that it's shameful phenomenon to keep silent and support corruption. TI Ukraine has placed 180 billboards and 400 city-lights in major Ukrainian cities.

Posters are also attracting citizens to report about corruption on the online resource anticorruption.in.ua. From the start of the campaign, TI Ukraine has received more than 50 reports from potential whistleblowers. The organization's lawyers provided answers, comments and advices to all reports. Whistleblowers used both the site www.anticorruption.in.ua and resources on www.xabardocs.org using an optional highly-secure channel that provided security for whistleblowers. Over 30% of reported cases are concerning education, 10% are about land appropriation, 10% corruption in judicial and law enforcement and 10% is petty corruption in health care. Moreover, 5% of whistleblowers provided inside information about corruption abuses by government ministries, and another 5% reported information about crimes of state



and private enterprises. Messages about various crimes that are not considered as corrupt by the legal definition amounted to another 30%. TI Ukraine has sent an appeal to the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Education and Science, indicating particular educational establishments and asking to investigate the revealed facts and inform the public about the results.

The first corruption whistleblower cases were presented at the press-conference held on July 9. In September, in the framework of the campaign TI Ukraine started screening videos on whistleblowing in the movie theater during pre-views. The videos explaining the whistleblowing legislation and process is aimed to educate youth population that is going to the movie theaters in 11 major cities including Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Kryvyi Rih, Zhytomyr, Zaporizhzhia, Khmelnytsky, Cherkasy, Rivne, and Odesa and will cover near 440 000 viewers.

NGO 'Nashi Groshi' works on development and support of network of public finances monitors and anti-corruption activists in Southern and Eastern regions of Ukraine. Nashi Groshi has a coordinator in Kharkiv, Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhya, Kirovograd and Kherson oblast. The selected coordinators were trained in collection and analysis of relevant public finance data, engaging local media, communication to local decision makers, activists and other stakeholders, engagement of the law enforcement into disclosure of corruption cases.

With the start of the monitoring campaigns in the regions, Nashy Groshi constantly updates their page covering regional news in regards of public finance. The regional monitoring has identified four corruption schemes working in the regions:

1. Illegal land appropriation in Kharkiv: The cooperatives activities are still regulated by the old legislation adopted during the Soviet-era that allows free allocation of the land plots to

their members. While monitoring local open sources, Nashy Groshy revealed a number of fake cooperatives in Kharkiv that are affiliated with the local officials. The cooperatives have received a free appropriation of the land in Kharkiv oblast.

2. Procurement of medical equipment in local hospital of Zaporizhzhya: there were number of violations identified in the procurement that then were addressed through appeal to prosecutor office.
3. Land privatization in Kherson: During the monitoring activists have identified an attempt to privatize illegally the central park of Kherson. The attempt was prevented, as the media and civic pressure forced members of the City Councils to vote against the appropriation.
4. Loan to Vodokanal in Kramatorsk: During monitoring of the Kramatorsk City Council decisions activists have found that Kramatorsk Vodokanal was planning to take a loan from Pryvat bank without going through public procurement process. After comparing the bank fees, activists found that Pryvat Bank offers one of the highest rates that are not competitive on the market. The activists are raising awareness through media about the issue and planning to put additional pressure for the decision not to be approved in the City Council.

In August 2015 *Media Law Institute* (MLI) has launched a Regional Lab for Active Citizens aiming to enhance capacities of regional activists in revealing corruption and achieving greater transparency and accountability of Ukraine's government and public service, targeting 15 small Ukrainian towns in different localities with the focus on pro-active citizens. In December 2015, MLI will train activists under the project, who will become local driving force to tackle corruption, as they will be equipped with practical tools and knowledge. These activists will become a national network for combating corruption on national and local levels and will be the trainers for at least 500 local activists. MLI is developing detailed training schedule and the selection criteria for potential Lab's participants. MLI works closely with the Reanimation Package of Reforms and in particular, anti-corruption group, and cooperates with Center UA, CPSA, AntAC and Blueprint for Free Speech.

Activity 1.2.1.b Sub-award to conduct national anti-corruption household survey:

Pact works with Kyiv International Institute of Sociology on conducting the survey on the Corruption Perception and Experiences in Ukraine. In June-July, Pact together with KIIS has facilitated review of the survey methodology. While aiming to leave most of the questions similar to the previous polling conducted in 2011, the methodology had to be adjusted to account for recent changes. The survey methodology and sampling had to be reviewed as unlike in previous years KIIS could not conduct polling in Crimea and uncontrolled territories of Donbas. Additionally, the sampling has to be adjusted and weighted with the latest internal migration trends in uncontrolled territories. The questionnaire was also reviewed to include the changes that happened in legislation with the recent reforms efforts and now for example include measurement of trust and perception in regards of the new police, National Anticorruption Bureau, etc. Pact has also expanded the section that is testing the motivation of the citizens to engage in corruption fight. Pact plans as a result of the poll to find the most appropriate messages that civil society can use for campaigning on citizens engagement in anti-corruption reform. Pact has received the first report with data tables and is now working closely with KIIS on production of the full report of the survey and further analysis of the data.

Activity 1.2.1.c: Workshops for targeted technical training to sub-recipients:

Within the reporting period, Pact engaged with the Sunlight Foundation that is a leader in using various ICT tools for improvement of the transparency and access to public information. While focusing mainly on the US Domestic policy issues, Sunlight Foundation is providing consultation and mentoring to organizations across the globe in improving their capacity for

monitoring government activity and promoting accountability internationally. Sunlight Foundation has provided training and mentoring to Pact's partners in ICT tools use, reviewing the current activities of the partners, providing recommendations for improvement and working individually with organizations on design of the strategy for improvement. Sunlight Foundation worked closely with the AntAc, Center UA, TI Ukraine and Reanimation Package of Reforms. At the end of June, Sunlight Foundation conducted skype interviews with the selected groups to help better understand the organizations' respective missions, current projects and assess their capacity. In July, Sunlight Foundation traveled to Kiev to conduct workshops and consultations on how to improve existing projects as well as brainstorm on how to integrate some of the strategies discussed into viable online tools that will be used by partners. After the workshop, Sunlight Foundation provided individual recommendations to each organization on how further strengthen organizational capacities in ICT.

Area 2 Support for Constitutional Reform:

Activity 1.2.2.b: Workshops for targeted technical training to sub-recipients:

Within the reporting period, Pact signed a contract with the Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA) to provide technical assistance to PACT's partners in direct citizens' engagement into the constitutional process. IDEA (<http://www.idea.int/>) is an intergovernmental organization headquartered in Sweden that supports sustainable democracy worldwide. In August two experts from IDEA visited Kyiv for an initial assessment meetings with NGOs involved into the constitutional reform process, members of the Constitutional Commission of Ukraine and held Skype calls with regional journalists. Based on the results of the meetings IDEA designed the training course tailored for Pact partners building around needs and capacity of the participants, reviewed PACT partners' plans and strategies for civic awareness campaigns.



In September IDEA experts conducted a 4-day training course, in which they brought together 10 representatives of different CSOs. Participants of the training represented RPR coalition, members of the new initiative Constitutional Convent and other organizations that applied for the joint call for application of Pact and USAID/FAIR project. During the training sessions, participants had an opportunity to learn about constitutional processes in other countries including Tunisia, Scotland and Iceland. The representative of Tunisian NGO Al Bawsala, Ons Ben Abdelkarim, shared the experience how to create institutionalized channels to influence and oversee decision makers' actions, how to coordinate among activists and how to use a momentum after revolution to bring change. Thorvaldur Gylfason, the representative from the Iceland Constitutional Assembly, presented Iceland case emphasizing special attention to the popular constitution making and the use of the social media in consultation process with citizens. Robin McAlpine from Common Weal have presented their campaigning techniques in Scotland. Additionally, IDEA trainers have talked about issue mapping process and IDEA assessment tool that allows to define specific questions that would be the most relevant for citizens engagement. Participants were asked to identify the different roles citizens and civil society groups can play in constitution building processes. Working in small groups, participants completed stakeholder analysis looking into their respective interests in political change and how they might influence the process. IDEA experts assisted NGOs in designing

their activities in regards of citizens' outreach, use the most effective tools for citizens' engagement including ICT, facilitation formats, media strategies.

Area 3 Elections⁷

Activity 1.2.3.a: Elections Sub-awards:

During Parliamentary elections in October 2014, Pact has supported 16 organizations, selected through the CFA that aimed at increasing citizen activism and informed voter engagement in the electoral process, and building citizens demand for fair and transparent elections. The supported initiatives included the national initiatives such as Democratic Initiatives Foundation and Exit-poll, as well as local organizations. Part of the support under this competition went to the support of the regional network of CHESNO that helped CHESNO to spread their messages in the regions and



have special local focus in communities of Sumy, Chernivtsi and Ivano-Frankivsk. Other local projects were focused mainly on the Southern and Eastern parts of the country to mobilize voters and inform their choice. Additionally, Pact has supported its long-term partners that are facilitating national level coalitions during and after the election period. Among these organizations are Center UA to manage CHESNO campaign, Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR) to support Reanimation Package of Reforms activities and Hromadske TV with “Educational Civic-Political Weekly TV Show/UT-1 with Michael Shchur” Project.

In line with decentralization processes and with the purpose of increasing transparency and accountability of local government before and after local elections in October 2015, **Centre UA** is implementing the project “*Accountable Local Councils*”. The main activities of this Project concentrate on three interconnected components: CHESNO campaign, Strong Communities of Donetsk Region and Access to Truth campaign. In order to raise awareness on transparency and accountability in the local government, CHESNO movement has started all-Ukrainian tour “Honest Spring - Responsible Autumn”. During this regional tour CHESNO spoke people revealed the facts of non-attendance of sessions and commissions and involvement in corruption of members of local city and district councils. CHESNO expert team reviewed over 1 300 potential candidates for local elections in 10 cities - Khmelnytsky, Ternopil, Kyrovograd, Chernovcy, Sumy, Vinnytsya, Kharkiv, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Chernihiv - and identified 300 potential candidates-violators. Through active voter education and mobilization as well as direct work with the candidates and parties, CHESNO contributes to the informed voters' choices and urges political parties to exclude from their parties list regular violators of the local council's procedures.

CHESNO is working closely with the Anticorruption Action Center in developing the database of the corruption investigations conducted by journalists. The database that now includes over 100 cases with 700 people engaged will serve as a tool for verifying the local election

⁷ Elections is neither subtheme, nor area according to the USAID documents. It is now classified as Area 3 for the purposes of consistency in the implementation plan's structure.

candidates and raising public awareness on the candidate's background. Centre UA continues their work with the online platform Access to Truth. In September, Center UA launched new web-site with more user-friendly interface and new tools. Since April 2015, the number of web-site unique visitors has reached 34 000 and 1488 information requests are sent through the web-site.

The Strong Communities of Donetsk Region initiative is working on promotion of transparency and accountability in the region. In the framework of this initiative activists sent nine appeals to city councils of Slovyansk, Kramatorsk, Krasnoarmiysk, Dymytriv, Dobropillia, Artemivsk, Krasnyi Lyman, Druzhkivka and Kostiantynivka to encourage authorities to open local budgets, regulations, and bios of council members. Four councils of Slovyansk, Artemivsk, Krasnyi Lyman and Kostiantynivka have opened their documents on citizens appeals.

On July 5, Center UA has conducted the Civil Society Forum "Donbas - Ukraine. Setting Agenda". The forum gathered more than 300 participants from Kyiv, Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Representatives of ministries, MPs and representatives of the Donetsk regional administration took part in the forum. The Forum became a unique platform for open discussion regarding Donbas future, including the issue of local elections, business development in the region, decentralization and IDPs issues. As a result of the Forum the *Roadmap for Donbass Development* was designed and presented in Kyiv. To continue the dialogue on Donbas issues, Center UA has initiated the round table discussion on the the new law on local elections and necessity of local elections in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as a guarantee of basic human rights, has continued during the round table at the end of July, 2015.

Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR) and Centre UA are coordinating the work of the *Reanimation Package of Reforms*, overseeing advocacy and communication components of RPR's activities. Overall goal of RPR is to re-focus protest energy of Euromaidan into constructive process of reforms and expedite implementation of the key reform areas. In order to increase political support of the reforms agenda, before Parliamentary election in 2014, RPR signed memorandums with eight political parties and 72 single mandate district candidates that participated in Parliamentary election. Five out of eight parties and 21 out of 72 candidates that signed memorandum got into the Parliament and formed the Coalition. Many of the RPR Reforms Roadmap priorities were reflected in the extended Coalition Agreement that guided further legislative initiatives in the Parliament. As of September 2015, RPR advocacy campaigns resulted in the adoption of [54 laws](#) (including changes to laws) in the area of anti-corruption, access to public information, political finance, decentralization, police reform and others. Through media campaign and direct advocacy actions RPR has prevented the introduction of the 8 non-democratic draft laws on education, anti-corruption, law enforcement, deregulation and media.

ЕПОХА РЕФОРМАЦІЇ		Реанімаційний пакет реформ
 КАТЕРИНА КОВАЛЕНКО СПЕЦПРОЕКТ	29 червня 2015	Віктор Таран: «Кожен зможе дивитися, як органи влади розпоряджаються коштами»
 КАТЕРИНА КОВАЛЕНКО СПЕЦПРОЕКТ	24 червня 2015	Любов Акулєнко: «Держава не може тягнути бізнес за вухо»
 КАТЕРИНА КОВАЛЕНКО СПЕЦПРОЕКТ	22 червня 2015	Борис Мелишев: «Змінити назву, форму і навіть людей мало – треба міняти цінності поліції»

After Parliamentary election RPR conducted a national forum "100 Days of Reforms" involving over 200 prominent civil society activists, newly elected MPs, new members of the Cabinet of

Ministers and international community. The forum focused on assessment of the progress on reforms and outlined further priorities for reforms implementation.

RPR is also working on regional outreach organizing presentations in 25 cities, giving over 70



interviews for local media channels, attending 19 universities and involving over 4 000 participants into regional discussion of reform process. The regional tour also allowed to expand the database of activists to over 3 000 people now, who are engaged in the reform promotion. To ensure better representation of various points of views in the policy development RPR has launched an Open Expert Discussions of the prepared draft laws. RPR

held seven open expert discussions, where draft laws were discussed with MPs, members of the government, members of President's administration, NGOs, business and independent experts. The first [expert discussion](#) was held in regards to the draft law **“On Environmental Impact Assessment”** on April 2nd 2015 in Aarhus Information-Training Center in Kyiv. To establish the legal and organizational basis of environmental impact assessments, and fulfilment by Ukraine of international obligations on public participation in the process of making ecologically important decisions, Interdepartmental Task Force of the Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of Ukraine, RPR experts prepared the draft law "On Environmental Impact Assessment". An expert discussion attended about 50 participants and around 100 amendments from the public, international experts, deputies and representatives of business were made to the bill. The draft law passed the Parliament Committee hearings and now RPR advocates for its inclusion to the parliamentary voting agenda.

Further public discussions have discussed the following issues:

- Public discussion of the **Reform of the Government and central executive bodies as a precondition for reforms** on April 2, 2015.
- Round table discussion on the implementation of **electronic petitions** in Ukraine was held on April 6, 2015. On 9th of April the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the law on e-petitions, that RPR's working group “E-Democracy” was working for more than half a year.
- Discussion of the bills (#2562, #2567) **in the area of the Ministry of Internal Affairs** on May 7th. After the discussion, representatives of the Ministry withdraw their draft law “On the internal affairs” taking into account the critical comments of experts, in particular, on presumption of innocence.
- New draft law **“On the Capital of Ukraine – Kyiv”** was discussed with the experts and deputies on May 12. The discussion participants initiated the working group at the Kyiv City Council that finalized a number of issues in the draft and the bill was registered in parliament.
- On May 26th RPR organized an open public discussion of the draft law regarding **the right of prisoners for legal sentence**. After discussion the bill passed the Parliament Committee hearings and awaits the second reading.

- Expert discussion of the draft law “**On Youth**” held on September 18th together with the deputy Ivan Krulko (who will introduce the bill in Parliament). Activists and MPs agreed on a number of issues. It is expected that the bill will be registered in October.

Center UA is responsible for RPR communication strategy, assists coalition in organization of the direct action events, constant presence in media and major political talk shows, and reach out to larger audiences. As part of the communication strategy, RPR is partnering with the Paltfor.ma internet media that is targeting active people interested in the civic activities and reform processes in Ukraine. Under this partnership, 20 interviews with RPR experts have been published at the media platform attracting about 3 000 people to each article.

In the run off to the local election in October 2015, Pact has [announced the Call for Applications](#) and selected four grantees. At the begging of September 2015 **Donetsk Regional Organization of All-Ukrainian Public Organization**



“Committee of Voters of Ukraine” has started

informational campaign “Elections-Democracy-Ukraine” for citizens of Donetsk (Mariupol, Volodarske, Krasnoarmiysk, Dobropillya, Artemivsk, Kramatorsk, Slovyansk) and Luhansk regions (Severodonetsk, Lysichansk, Starobelsk, Svatove, Bilokurakine and Novoposkov). In order to develop democratic consciousness of the population of these regions the NGO initiated an extensive public awareness information campaign about electoral process and demonstration of its importance for a stable and peaceful development of Donbass and Ukraine as a whole. The NGO will issue local newspaper in the beginning of October, place city big boards, produce social videos and various motivators for citizens to encourage them to vote during the local elections.



NGO “Public Service of Legal Assistance” work on the project that encourages conscious voters’ choice in Luhansk Oblast (Severodonetsk, Lysychansk, Rubizhne, Kremenna, Popasna, Svatove and Starobilsk) and Donetsk Oblast (Slovyansk, Kramatorsk, Drujkivka). Within the informational and educational campaign “Your Voice Is

Decisive!” at least 500 000 residents of the 12 largest cities will receive voter mobilization messages to participate in 2015 local elections and will be provided with information about candidates for deputies and mayors within their communities and informed about their rights during the local elections. Eight mobile groups will provide legal assistance to citizens; distribute informational materials and record violations during the elections. Local press center “Elections Online” will be established in Severodonetsk with the mission to monitor and

inform the media about the progress of elections during the "Election Day". The press center will be established in cooperation with branches of OPORA, CHESNO, and DZVIN organizations based in Luhansk and Donetsk oblast.

NGO “Committee of the Future. Solidarity and Responsibility” is implementing the project “YOUth vote” in Melitopol, Zaporozhzhya Oblast, aiming to increase the level of civil and political participation of local youth. The NGO conducts creative and broad informational campaign, which includes placement of billboards, spreading social videos, organizing contests and public events. As part of the civic engagement, the NGO organized a bike ride on 27-28th of September, with the help 200 bikers they attracted citizen’s attention to upcoming local elections. To educate youth on election processes the NGO will launch a TV program “Thoughts Aloud” on MTV-plus channel, where they will discuss the importance of political and electoral activity and consciousness of young people.



With involvement of CHESNO and experts from the Reanimation Package of Reforms **NGO “Lab for Democratic Transformations”** is conducting a broad informational campaign that will cover at least 700,000 voters in regional centers of Chernivtsi (Vyzhnytsia, Hertsa, Hlyboka, Zastavna, Kelmentsi, Kitsman, Novoselytsia, Putyla, Sokyriany, Storozhynets and Khotyn). The organization will distribute leaflets “The Traffic Light for Candidates’ Promises”, newsletters, anti-bribery stickers and short videos with candidates’ reports. It will also sign at least 30 memorandums of integrity and accountability with local candidates, collect deputy's reports and create an Interactive Map of Challenges and Opportunities for Chernivtsi.

Objective 2: CSO Constituencies Expanded

Activity 2.1: Sub-grant to support civic education:

To support civic education of citizens’ Pact supported HromadskeTV production of 35 episodes of the humorous TV show with Michael Schur, the popular character played by journalist Roman Vintoniv. *UT-1 with Maikl Schur* is a satirical digest of critical news through the means of humor, irony and sarcasm that discusses everyday news and politics. Through this diaspora man image the character appeals to the average Ukrainian with national sentiment and encourages them to think critically about the political events and media coverage of them. The show also brings civic education messages, promoting awareness about civil society and bringing discourse on the hot topics into society’s agenda. The Show was aired on the First National TV Channel and since its first episode on October 2014 has become one of the most popular shows there. Since March 2015 it also aired on national [TV channel 24](#) which helped reaching out to wider audiences. Overall, Schur’s Show has managed to achieve the following numeric results:

- 7 341 572 - People watched at least one of broadcasts
- 150 000 - YouTube views of every episode in average
- 160 000 - YouTube followers

- 80 000 - Facebook followers
- 140 000 - Twitter followers



In order to contribute to the critical thinking of Ukrainians as well as their political education one of the elements of the Show is interviews with various politicians, activists and opinion leaders including such initiatives as Reanimation Package of Reforms and NGO Tochka Opory. As an example, in one of the interviews there was a public [discussion](#) between far-right activist Dmytro Riznychenko and LGBT activist Bogdan Globa. This became an example of new type of media, the one that tolerates people with totally different perceptions and beliefs.

Michael Shchur is one of the most popular Facebook users. According to [Watcher rating](#) his page is on the 21 place. As the Show ended in July 2015, the journalist [Roman Vintoniv](#) (Michael Schur), was mobilized to the Ukrainian army and through social media is now raising the issues of military service and organization of the army service from the inside.

Hromadske TV has teamed up with the NGO Centre UA to pilot a new program related to decentralization and reforms promotion and education in Ukraine. In a simple and catchy manner, the program will explain the ongoing process of reforms, essence of legislation changes and how it will influence local communities. The program will include visually clear and comprehensive info-graphics, deep analytical reports from the fields combined with interviews and thoughts of experts. The first pilot is to be aired at the beginning of October 2015.

Activity 2.2: Strategic polling:

Pact has conducted public opinion polls in April 2015 that included questions on citizens' engagement and activism, civic awareness of the civil society organizations and brands and people opinion on them. Pact encourages its partners to use public opinion polls as the way to learn more about citizens' priorities and receive feedback about the issues that they advocate for. The results of the polling is analyzed and presented to Pact partners, international community, and government representatives. In June, Pact held a separate discussion with representatives of RPR members, Center UA, Center for Political Studies and Analysis, Transparency International, Hromadske TV and others on the results of the polling. Pact has facilitated two discussions on what the low level of awareness of NGOs means for partners, whose interests they are representing in policy process, what legitimize NGOs voice and how citizens support can help move the reform process in Ukraine. The data from the poll draw attention of the civil society to the more strategic use of this tool in their programming. For the next polling that is planned in October 2015, Pact has facilitated greater input from partners in the questionnaire design.

Activity 2.3: Technical Assistance – Mentoring:

Pact staff mentor its partners and connects various stakeholders and initiatives to achieve synergies within the civil society. On Sunday, 27th of September, Pact together with partners organised in Zaporizhzhya an [open-air festival of social initiatives “uCRAZYans”](#). The festival aimed to increase citizen engagement, responsibility and social activism as such.

Through interactive stands of social projects, their creative presentations and lectures on the festival Pact together with partners promoted active participation in civic life. Sixteen local and national initiatives, including Pact's long-term partners such as Centre UA, Reanimation Package of Reforms, Vilna Hata presented their activities and achievements to **about 1 000**



citizens, helping them to identify local problems, concerns and ways to overcome them. Initiatives encouraged locals to join either existing projects, such as Zaporizhian Urban-Cinema, Perspektivy NGO or by implementing own ideas. For example, **NGO Free People Employment Center** and **Urban-Cinema** created walls where locals wrote city problems, such as passivism, apathy, ecological problems and suggested solutions how to change the situation – like more sport competitions, dog walking areas, bike roads and promotion of personal responsibilities.

[Hromadske Zaporizhzhya](#) and [local newspapers](#) highlighted the event interviewing participants: “This is the first time in Zaporizhzhya we are having event of such kind. We had many festivals, but they were more consumer-oriented, like festivals of beer, food or music. This is actually the first time we meet social initiatives and enter their World”, says participant of uCRAZYans. Especially attractive to

locals was the lectures space, where 10 speakers of different levels shared their experience of creating a social project, pinpointing challenges one faces being a social activist and explaining how Zaporizhians can join their projects. The public lectures allowed citizens to learn more about various ways how each can take more conscious actions to change their life. **NGO Cleaner Universities**, that fights corruption in universities, for example, made contacts with students from local universities, “...and they promised us to send prices for grades, that simple are posted in uni's corridors”, points out Mariia, one of the initiator of Cleaner Universities”. **Centre UA** reported that the event gave them a chance to talk with citizens and go out of their regular circle of activists and experts: “It is important to communicate with citizens and hear what problems, issues they raise, what from our activities they can and cannot grasp”.



Through technical and financial assistance to **NGO Garage Gang** and **Greencubator** Pact promoted constituency support and engagement of the civil society activities. Tesla Camp 2015, organized by Greencubator on September 26-27th, is a conference of green energy initiatives that attracted at least 200 participants from all over Ukraine interested in innovations in energy sector. The participants of the event had an opportunity to learn about NGOs that

work in the energy sector in Ukraine including initiatives such as OPORA, RPR, Big Idea, Vilna Hata, Teplycyia, EcoIs.me, uMuni and others. The role of civil society was underpinned during the discussion of Andrey Zinchenko, the main expert of RPR working group on energy, about the reforms in this area pushed by the RPR community.

NGO Garage Gang within the frame of the 3-year program City Code held the first art-hackathon “Cultural City Code” in Kyiv on June 19-20 and in Dnipropetrovsk on 12-13 September. Around 60 citizens in Kyiv and around 50 citizens in Dnipropetrovsk city participated in a two-day event featuring civil society activism around art, technology, innovations, culture and city. The event included lectures, discussion panels and prototyping sessions on Art and Technology, History and Innovation, Culture and Data, Game and the City. After the discussion participants formed the project teams, and three best project ideas were selected by the jury to be rewarded with the creative vouchers. The vouchers aim to amplify the core competences of the teams such as capacity for cooperation of multidisciplinary teams. Experts from civil society organization and representatives of business will mentor the winners on further amplification of their projects.

Among the few other initiatives that Pact launched to encourage better citizens outreach and engagement are the following:

- Pact involvement with both Sunlight Foundation and IDEA were mainly focused on constituency expansion and citizens engagement as the overarching goal for their assistance. Sunlight Foundation helped organizations to think broader of their ICT tools as a way to engage not only experts and journalists but broader citizenry. Similarly, IDEA training forced partners to think of how to engage citizens in the constitutional reform and what would be the better way to reach out to them.
- A special attention is given by Pact staff to increase legitimacy of the initiatives like RPR. To achieve this Pact has provided recommendations for the regional tour strategies as well as connected them with other sectoral groups that have deeper roots with citizens, including LGBTI groups, Garage Gang and others. On the regional level, Pact connected RPR with local initiatives and activists such as Vilna Hata, CIFRA and NGO “Our Happy Life”.
- Pact invites its partners to engage with UNITER supported program on Hromadske TV and in order to promote their activities and engage larger citizenry. The partnership has resulted in interviews of the following RPR experts for the TV Show: the judge, [Mykailo Zhernakov](#), explained main points of the reform in judicial system; [Yuliya Drohovos](#), discussed the tax reform; reform in education system discussed with [Zoya Zvyniatskivska](#); [Yevhen Hlibovytskyi](#) presented some ideas of so-called Nestor group of intellectuals on Ukraine's future in strategic perspective.

Objective 3: Media Engagement and ICT Usage by CSOs Improved

Activity 3.1: Incorporating media and ICT tools in sub-grants:

Pact encourages all its grantees to use media and new technologies in their advocacy and monitoring campaigns. Within the reporting period, the following grantees have developed and/or used ICT tools in their activities:

- RPR has developed and launched the online tool “ReformoMetr” - a special civic tool of monitoring and control for reforms implementation process by Ukrainian Parliament. It is based on the promises of MPs noted in the Coalition agreement and Road Map of Reforms of RPR;
- UIIP has conducted the comparative analysis of political parties promises and platforms and launched a site called Vyboromat that helped voters to define the party that closely

matches their policy preferences. While many parties remain populist in their promises the Vyboramat has tried to put them on the traditional scales on particular policy issues.

- In order to build citizens demand for fair and transparent elections election grantee NGO Youth Corporation started a campaign “voting from mobile”. About 19 000 people participated in “voting from mobile”;
- Centre UA has launched an updated web-platform Access to Truth to promote transparency and accountability of local authorities through the greater use of the law on access to public information;
- AntAC PEP database - research and reporting initiative aimed at investigating the role of the MPs and senior state officials – politically exposed persons – in corrupt schemes of state money laundering. The developed database will be launched in October and will be publically available for all.
- With engagement of Sunlight Foundation Pact partners were able to review their strategies in the use of ICT. AntAC and Center UA are now developing their joint tool that will be a database on corruption investigations that will be used by the civic activists as for verification of the candidates to the local elections.

All grantees of Pact are present in online media and are actively engaged in strategic communication on their activities on TV. Pact’s partners are encouraged to use mainstream media and participate in various TV programs (including local channels) in order to reach out widest audience. For initiatives like RPR social media has become one of the major tools for engaging citizens and governmental officials in public discussions. [RPR Facebook page](#) has more than 30 000 followers, [Twitter account](#) has about 4 000 and very influential followers include twitter accounts of MPs, President's Administration and different ministers.

Activity 3.2. Technical Assistance – Mentoring:

Pact is committed to provide technical assistance to Ukrainian NGOs so that they would improve their usage of ICT tools and expand their constituencies. Within the reporting period Pact engaged with the Sunlight Foundation to provide technical capacity building to Pact’s current partners - Centre UA, AntAC, RPR, TI Ukraine. With the help of the training and coaching provided by Sunlight Foundation, Ukrainian NGOs improved their current programs as well as developed new ICT tools that allow better campaigning, use of open data and policy analysis to make government more accountable and transparent. Again, IDEA has also helped RPR coalition in developing campaign and messages on the issues of constitutional reform.

In order to promote reforms among citizens and explain complicated expert language of reforms, Pact has facilitated partnership between Reanimation Package of Reforms and internet platform Platfor.ma. The series of articles [“The Era of Reforms”](#) is featured in Platfor.ma web site that helps simplify communication on the complicated reforms processes.

Special Objective: Sustainability Roadmap

Activity 3.1.1.a: Sustainability Roadmap:

Pact has issued the request for proposals for the feasibility study about developing local mechanism(s) for effective civil society advocacy support. To design the Sustainability Roadmap, Pact aims to conduct a feasibility study that will look into existing local mechanisms for support of advocacy, assess their strength and weaknesses, and suggest ways forward in regards of this objective. In the competitive process, Pact has selected the international consultant who will provide review of the international lessons of sustainability mechanisms, assess strength and weaknesses of existing Ukrainian organizations and coalitions and assess the feasibility of establishing new or supporting existing mechanisms. Pact expects the roadmap to be finished by December 2015.

V. Other Activities

Monitoring and evaluation

Pact, in the past fiscal year, at the findings and recommendations of an OIG audit and an external evaluation, has undertaken a thorough revision of its monitoring and evaluation efforts. In FY15 Pact has conducted the Data Quality Assessment on all civic project oversight indicators. Pact has conducted DQA on the sub-grantees managed by Pact. The Data Quality Assessment Report is in annex to this report.

Gender

In 2015 Pact has implemented the following activities to address gender issues in its programming:

- Gender considerations were integrated in various clauses of the Project Application Form, as well as a separate clause on gender was added to the form. Starting in 2015 all grantees of the UNITER project must include gender analysis and specific activities on gender in their project proposal.
- Pact has conducted Gender Assessment of its key partners in September 2014 and repeated the assessment in 2015. The results of the gender assessment for 2015 are attached to this report. The Gender Assessment looked into how gender is integrated in organization's work and included such categories as political will, accountability, organizational culture and technical capacity of organization's members in gender issues.
- In September 2015, Pact has conducted Community of Practice on the Gender Mainstreaming in the work of NGOs. During the workshop, partners presented how they integrate gender in their activities as well as learned about the best practices in their areas, and looked at the data that is available from various sources on research of gender in Ukraine.
- In 2014-2015 Pact supported Women's Consortium of Ukraine in conducting gender monitoring of parliamentary elections. Results of the monitoring were presented in five regions of Ukraine and are available on the website: <http://goo.gl/YV5HPY>
- In its annual public opinion survey, Pact disaggregates data by sex and conducts a gender analysis of polling results. The results are widely disseminated among partners and used during the planning of the Pact's program activities and approaches.
- Pact partners are now also incorporating gender analysis in their program. In particular, anti-corruption grantees are planning to integrate gender in the following way:
 - Center for Political Studies and Analysis (CPSA) will analyze the rules and procedures of local self-government bodies in 5 regions (Odesa, Zaporizhzhya, Ivano-Frankivsk, Vinnytsya, Chernihiv) to ensure that they include: provisions that reflect the state gender policy; commitment to gender equality in authority (in the distribution of posts of heads of departments, heads of commissions, etc.); of provisions governing free and easy access to the authority of women with children; commitment to gender balance in the coverage of Deputies/local government employees in the public media; provisions on compliance with gender equality in the calculation of salaries and bonuses
 - Center UA is going to support women's participation in activism and local politics through targeted education and communication campaign in the framework of CHESNO campaign;
 - All partners plan to ensure gender balance in attracting experts to conduct workshops;
 - Nashi Groshy plans to involve women's NGOs as partners in the anticorruption activities to increase their capacity and integrate them in the larger network of civil society groups working to combat corruption;

- Transparency International in the framework of their campaign to support whistleblowers will use information about the uncovered corruption schemes to analyze the role of women in corruption, proving or disproving the following hypotheses: *women are less corrupt than men*, and *promotion of women in public administration can be an effective anti-corruption strategy*. The data might serve as a starting point and baseline for broader public discussion of the genders aspect of good governance and corruption in Ukraine. The research is also aimed at generating a wealth of policy-relevant insights that advance understanding of the interplay between corruption and gender. In particular, it is planned to analyze two roles women play in schemes of corruption: "a public servant" and "a beneficiary". A number of analytical materials with monitoring results will be prepared and shared publicly, bringing the a gender issue into national anti-corruption agenda and helping NGOs to advocate more successfully for gender equality in public and corporate governance.

Coordination

Pact continues to coordinate effectively with other USG projects and implementers in Ukraine including NDI, IRI, IFES, the FAIR projects, the new RADA (Parliamentary development) program, and others. Pact also works in close collaboration with non-US government donors including International Renaissance Foundation, Sweden, Canada, the EU Delegation and EU projects implemented in Ukraine. Besides regular donor coordination, Pact conducted the following activities:

- Pact has announced a joint call for application together with the FAIR project aiming to find civil society group that would inform citizens on constitutional reform development.
- Together with IFES Pact has organized a conference on the results of election campaign. The round table held on November 21st covered the lessons learned in regards of the election observation and also assessed the results of the reforms in regards of reform implementation.
- Pact lead the donor coordination effort on the RPR. Being a large network of NGOs and one of the key platform for promotion of reforms RPR receives a lot of attention from various donors. Pact took additional effort to assist RPR in linking their working groups with particular donors, establishing regular communication with international community and improve coordination of donors on funding RPR activities.
- Together with other donors, Pact has funded National Exit Poll. Pact lead the donor coordination effort on the basket funding for this important activity that provided a way to validate the official election results.
- Pact has launced the donor coordination working group on LGBTI issues. The first meeting was held in April, where Pact presented its assessment of the sector and also invited Pro.Mova group to present their vision on the development of the communication strategy for the campaign that will change attitude of Ukrainians towards LGBTI issues. Together with USAID, Pact has also organized the donor coordination after the KyivPride 2015, to hear out brief from organizing committee and international stakeholders and plan future coordination.
- To align its approach and funding Pact invited experts of other funding agencies and implementers, namely UNDP, IRF, OECD, FMI to the selection board on the anti-corruption CFA. The contribution of other donors in the process has helped to select the best projects out of the received application and ensure that there is no double funding of their projects.