



OPEN
PARLIAMENT
UKRAINE



VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE

OPEN PARLIAMENT ACTION PLAN FOR UKRAINE



Contributions:

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in cooperation with lead international and Ukrainian non-governmental organizations and experts, in particular the signatories of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness from the civil society side:

Transparency International Ukraine

The Civil Network "Opora"

Civic movement "Chesno"

Centre for Political Studies and Analysis

NGO Media Law Institute

This publication was produced under the framework of the Democratization, Human Rights and Civil Society Development Project, implemented by UNDP Ukraine with financial support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark in 2013-2016.

Opinions, conclusions or recommendations are those of the authors and compilers of this publication and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, United Nations Development Programme or other UN agencies.



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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The global Open Parliament initiative functions under the umbrella of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) to induce parliamentary processes that are inclusive and transparent and disseminate the best practices thereof. The activities of participating countries are based in particular on the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness. More than 160 PMOs that scrutinise parliamentary activities (parliamentary monitoring organisations or PMOs) from 82 countries are currently its signatories. However less than a dozen parliaments around the world have come to cooperate with PMOs in developing their joint action plans.

For Ukraine, the Open Parliament initiative has become a long-awaited opportunity to connect the expectations of civil society for more legislative responsiveness with the commitments for reform by the new Parliament's Administration and Members of Parliament – on both political and practical levels. Thus, by signing the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Ukraine is officially joining the global movement to enhance transparency of representative legislative bodies and aiming to ensure readiness of Parliament to invite citizens into decision-making, make legislative processes clearer and easier to understand and provide more tools for interaction. To attain this, the Open Parliament initiative encourages increased transparency and accountability and public participation through the use of more innovations and modern technology.

Ukrainian PMOs, in cooperation with Parliament, (the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine or VRU) and with the support of UNDP's "Democratisation, Human Rights and Civil Society Development Programme", funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, developed this Open Parliament Action Plan for Ukraine. The document comprises 20 commitments between Parliament and civil society, which will be implemented with the support of UNDP Ukraine, USAID, Eastern Europe Foundation, and other partners. Its adoption makes Ukraine a pioneer among OGP participating countries, which have developed their action plans for not only government, but the parliamentary component as well.

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

1.1. FULL ACCESS TO INFORMATION ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT AND THEIR ASSISTANTS

CURRENT STATUS:

Regarding each member of the Ukrainian Parliament, citizens can review a summary reference (constituency, party, faction, number in the list, date of becoming a member of Parliament (MP), date of birth, occupation at the time of election), information on the MP's votes (period to be selected), the MP's electronic and written registration (period to be selected), attending plenary sessions according to electronic and written registration (<http://itd.rada.gov.ua/mps/info/page/17976>), the MP's written registration (period to be selected), the MP's faction switching, positions held during the convocation, history of speeches made at plenary sessions and their topics, the MP's parliamentary inquiries, legislative activity (bills, in which the MP acted as a law-maker and the list of amendment tables, for which proposals were submitted), MPs' declarations of income, property and financial liabilities and information on the MP's assistants and consultants. Based on MPs' request, their personal pages on the parliamentary website provide links to personal websites and social media (28 MPs currently use this instrument) and link to external sources (used by 44 MPs), addresses and phone numbers of MPs' reception offices.

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

The parliaments of countries with a developed democratic system ensure a high transparency level of information about MPs by publishing data regarding their activities on their personal websites (e.g. Canada, Australia). Such websites contain information on an MP's biography, news about his/her activities, provide an opportunity to ask questions or become a volunteer in the MP's activities (e.g. www.markadler.ca, <http://davidanderson.ca/>, http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/). In this respect, pursuant to the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness it would be necessary to make comprehensive amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Status of Members of the Ukrainian Parliament", "On Access to Public Information". In particular, but not exclusively, to supplement Section 3 of the Law "On the Status of Members of the Ukrainian Parliament" with the list of data that is mandatory for publishing on MPs' pages. Such information includes the following:

- **For MPs:** complete CV (autobiography, submitted to the Central Election Commission during elections), declarations (submitted according to anti-corruption legislation¹), electoral programme in the case of deputies elected in single-mandate constituencies and party programme if elected deputy in the party lists, information on the MPs' activities apart from decision-making and the work in his/her electoral district (duration, meetings, outcome), information about the MPs' work in the committees (including the attendance and voting details), information on reception offices (address, responsible officer, contacts), working hours, contact with the electorate (ability to address an MP online on his/her web page on the Ukrainian Parliament's website), information about

¹ After the launch of the Unified State Register of declarations of persons authorised to perform state or local government functions, it may be possible to create a link to the page of an MP on the website of the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption, where the Register will be made public.

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the findings of investigations regarding an MP, links to MPs' personal websites, profiles in social networks; declaration of a conflict of interests (also in 1.7) and violations of ethical norms by an MP (also in 1.7).

- **For MPs' assistants and consultants:** information about all MPs' assistants, including those who work on a voluntary basis in accordance with Decree No. 77 of the Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament dated 29 January 2015 "On Issues Highlighting the Activities of Parliamentary Committees of Ukraine and Members of the Ukrainian Parliament", their CVs and spheres of competence.

All information should be published in compliance with the law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection".

In addition, Parliament's Administrative Office shall be responsible for the administration and population of an MP's page immediately after their election. At later stages, the administrative aspect should lie with the MP and/or her/his assistant and consultant. Also, the structure of a personal page must be uniform and identical for all MPs. The data published in other parts of the website should be automatically visible on the MP's page to avoid duplication of work. In order to inform voters about MPs' work it is likewise necessary to introduce compulsory publication of MPs' reports on the results of each parliamentary session, including the financial costs of parliamentary activity – on their official pages (Parliament's official web-site). All documents should be published in the open data format and formats accessible to search engines.

Provision should also be made for a mechanism for the simple and accessible search of MPs according to districts, for example by address.

COMMITMENT		
1.1. Full access to information about members of the Ukrainian Parliament and their assistants		
Lead implementing agency	Computer Systems Department of the Ukrainian Parliament Members of Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NAPC) (in publishing the declarations of MPs)
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora" NGO Media Law Institute
Current situation	Legislative level	Legislation does not define what information on MPs is required for publishing on Parliament's website.

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Current situation	Implementation	<p>Citizens can review summary information (constituency, party, faction, number in the list, date when they became a member of Parliament (MP), date of birth, occupation at the time of election), information on the MP's votes (period to be selected), the MP's electronic registration (period to be selected), the MP's written registration (period to be selected), the MP's faction switching, positions held during the convocation, history of speeches made, parliamentary inquiries, legislative activity (bills, in which the MP acted as a law-maker and a list of amendment tables, for which proposals were submitted), MPs' declarations of income.</p> <p>Neither an extensive CV nor an MP's election programme is available. No information is available on an MP's activity outside Parliament and in the electoral district. No information is available about an MP's assistants and consultants (e.g. CV) etc. No contact option is available and no information regarding the reception office or meeting hours is specified, or about pages in social networks.</p>			
Main Objective	Keep voters informed on the activities of MPs (i.e. anything listed in the description of commitment), provide them with comprehensive information on MPs and their assistants and facilitate their contact with the public.				
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation	
	✓		✓	✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:		
1. Order by the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and enactment of Bill No. 1591	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
2. Development of a platform for full-featured web pages of MPs	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
Indicator	The information platform functions properly, all information is published, and provision is made for a mechanism for the simple and accessible search of MPs according to districts. MPs report on the performance of their parliamentary duties, as well as the use of funds.				
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016				
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, MPs and their assistants and consultants do not provide the required information.				

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1.2. PUBLICITY OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES OF MPS

A parliamentary inquiry is an inquiry from a member(s) of Parliament or a committee of the Ukrainian Parliament, submitted at a session of the Ukrainian Parliament to the President of Ukraine, agencies of the Ukrainian Parliament, the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers, heads of other governmental agencies and local governments and to the directors of enterprises, institutions and organisations located in Ukraine, regardless of their subordination and form of ownership, to give an official response on matters within their competence.

CURRENT STATUS:

Since 20 October 2015, citizens of Ukraine have access to the following information on MPs' web pages: number of parliamentary inquiries (PI), recipients thereof, full text of the PI (the scanned copy of which is not recognised by search engines) and its status (if there is a response; text of the response is not available). However, it does not specify the PIs, for which the examination term has been violated. With this amount of information, it is possible to draw conclusions on the activity of an MP but not on the effectiveness of the inquiries submitted by him/her. Therefore, the full text of a parliamentary inquiry, the full text of the response thereto and the outcome of such PI need to be published in the open data format and formats accessible to search engines. Legislative mechanisms for regulation of specific aspects of this type of information disclosure should be elaborated with the participation of PMOs.

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

Bill No. 1591 "On amendments to some laws of Ukraine to ensure openness and access to information on the activities of the Ukrainian Parliament, its Committees and Members of the Ukrainian Parliament" provides for the following amendments to the Rules of Procedure of the Ukrainian Parliament: the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament shall ensure that the full text of a parliamentary inquiry is published on the Parliament's official website within three days after the brief content thereof has been announced. The Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament shall ensure that the full text of the response to a parliamentary inquiry is published on Parliament's official website within five working days after its receipt. These changes are proposed to be added by this bill or an alternative bill. Detailed legislative regulation of publishing of such information should be envisaged. In particular, information from the inquiries should take into account legislation on access to public information and its restrictions.

COMMITMENT	
1.2. Publicity of parliamentary inquiries of MPs	
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament
Partners:	Government agencies / officials
	Civic / Private Sector

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Current situation	Legislative level	The legislation does not provide for parliamentary inquiries, responses thereto and the examination results for such inquiries to be published, but there is a public statement of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada dated 22 September 2015, stating that all parliamentary inquiries shall be posted on the Parliament's website and be in the public domain.			
	Implementation	Since 20 October 2015, citizens of Ukraine have access to the following information on the MPs' web pages: number of parliamentary inquiries made by an MP; recipients thereof; full text of the parliamentary inquiry (the scanned copy of which is not recognised by search engines) and its status (if there is a response; text of the response is not available). However, it does not specify the PI, for which the examination term has been violated.			
Main Objective		Ensure public disclosure of the full texts of parliamentary inquiries and responses thereto, the examination results thereof and information on violated deadlines for examination of parliamentary inquiries by addressees thereof, taking into account provisions of the Law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection", in a format that is accessible for search engines and the open data format.			
Compliance with OGP values		Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
		✓			✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Enactment of Bill No. 1591.		new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016	
2. Setting up the technical capability		new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016	
3. Information campaign		new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016	
Indicator		Full texts of parliamentary inquiries and responses thereto are published on the web page of each MP, in a format that is open to search engines.			
Implementation deadline		4th quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions		Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not use the data.			

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1.3. PUBLICITY OF WRITTEN PARLIAMENTARY APPEALS OF MPS

A parliamentary appeal is a written proposal by an MP addressed to the governmental authorities and local governments and officials, directors of enterprises, institutions and organisations, civic associations, to carry out certain actions, provide an official explanation or detail the position on issues within their competence.

CURRENT STATUS:

The legislation does not provide for the parliamentary appeals, responses thereto and the examination results for such appeals to be published. Still, in September 2015 the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada announced publishing all parliamentary appeals on the Parliament's website and in the public domain.

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

The Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament shall ensure registration of appeals and also possibility of publication of parliamentary appeals of MPs and responses thereto on web-pages of MPs on the Parliament's official website. Their public disclosure shall be taking into account provisions of the Law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection" (deleting personal data of individuals who applied to an MP, or referred to in the appeal, when it is not about officers and officials) and in Open Data formats that are accessible for search engines.

It is recommended to make MPs and their assistants responsible for administration of the process of appeals publication and to inscribe the appropriate duty in the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. The current document management system of the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament is also should be improved.

COMMITMENT		
1.3. Publicity of written parliamentary appeals of MPs		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora"
Current situation	Legislative level	Legislation does not provide for parliamentary appeals, responses thereto and the examination results for such appeals to be published, but there is a public statement of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada dated 22 September 2015 and a written request to the members of Ukrainian Parliament No. 01-2/246 (258750), stating that all parliamentary appeals shall be posted on Parliament's website and be in the public domain.

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Current situation	Implementation	Neither parliamentary appeals nor responses thereto are published on web resources of the Ukrainian Parliament in any way.			
Main Objective	Ensure public disclosure of the full texts of parliamentary appeals and responses thereto and the examination results thereof, as well as information on violated deadlines for examination of parliamentary appeals by addressees thereof, in view of the Law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection" and in a format open to search engines.				
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation	
	✓			✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:		
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016		
2. Setting up the technical capability	new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
Indicator	Full texts of parliamentary appeals and responses thereto are published on the web page of each MP in the open data format and formats accessible for search engines.				
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016				
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not use the data.				

1.4. ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON THE WORK OF THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES OF UKRAINE

CURRENT STATUS:

The major part of expert elaboration of legislation rests with the committees of the Ukrainian Parliament. In accordance with the effective laws, namely the Law of Ukraine "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees", the committees are entitled to disseminate in due course the information about their activities, through their web pages on the official website of the Ukrainian Parliament, on the Internet, on the parliamentary "Rada" TV channel and through other media. Given the legislative and control functions of the committees and, therefore, the need for openness in their activities, first of all, the right of the committees to disseminate information on their activities must be replaced by a corresponding obligation; accordingly, the Law of Ukraine "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees" must be

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amended as proposed by Bill No. 1591 “On amendments to some laws of Ukraine to ensure openness and access to information on the activities of the Ukrainian Parliament, its Committees and Members of Ukrainian Parliament.”

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

Attention should be also paid to the fact that Order No. 699 of the Chairman of Ukrainian Parliament “On Web Resources of the Ukrainian Parliament” dated 19 May 2015 (hereinafter referred to as the Order) is not fulfilled, while it envisages quite a comprehensive list of data about the activities of the Ukrainian Parliament Committees to be made public. Thus, in accordance with Clause 15 of the Order, the basic information resources of the website of a Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee shall contain:

- information about the composition and structure of a committee, the secretariat of the committee;
- information on committees’ activities (committee sessions, hearings, round tables and other events within a committee);
- draft schedule of committee sessions, drawn up by the committee chairperson;
- schedule of committee sessions for two weeks, approved at a committee session;
- changes to the schedule of the committee sessions (to be posted at least four days before the session – in between plenary sessions of the Verkhovna Rada and at least 24 hours before the session – during a plenary period);
- minutes, transcript and audio recording of a committee session (to be posted within five working days after the session was held and in case of draft codes and bills that contain more than 100 articles and paragraphs – no later than two days before consideration of the corresponding bill at a plenary session of the Verkhovna Rada);
- acts adopted by a committee (to be posted within three working days);
- minutes and transcripts of committee’s hearings (to be normally posted within 10 days, but no later than 20 days from the hearing date);
- details about law-making activity: bills that are under consideration of the committee and have been submitted for discussion, status of bills;
- opinions, resolutions, clarifications, committees’ plans and reports;
- information on interaction and contact with committees;
- photo and audio materials illustrating committees’ work.

Committees’ web-pages should also contain:

- internet-broadcasting of committee sessions, while videos are to be stored and made available for review on the websites of committees or other public resources. When posting videos to other public resources, committee websites shall have a link to specific committee meetings;
- registration procedure for civil society representatives to participate in public meetings of committees.

The abovementioned list is indicated in the Law of Ukraine “On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees” as information that must be published on websites of Parliament’s committees.

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In addition, it is necessary to develop mechanisms for MPs' registration to participate in committee meetings in order to ensure personified voting of MPs not only at plenary sessions, but also at committee meetings.

ACCESS TO COMMITTEE SESSIONS:

- **regarding journalists:** in Bill No. 1591 "On amendments to some laws of Ukraine to ensure openness and access to information on the activities of the Ukrainian Parliament, its Committees and Members of the Ukrainian Parliament", including the provision stating that, at committee's public sessions, media and journalists shall have the right to audio and video recording and shooting, broadcasting the session on radio, TV and the Internet. The committee's chairperson shall announce the audio and video recording and shooting, broadcasting the session on radio, TV and web prior to discussion of the agenda items;
- **regarding civil society representatives:** to establish a clear procedure for registration of civil society representatives (also for citizens who represent PMOs) to participate in committees' public meetings through committee websites and to reflect the procedure on committee websites.

The Law "On Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine" should identify a comprehensive list of grounds for holding closed committee meetings.

In addition, sections and interfaces of the websites of the committees should be unified in order to facilitate the use of Parliament's web resources.

COMMITMENT		
1.4. Access to information on the work of the parliamentary committees of Ukraine		
Lead implementing agency		Chairpersons of parliamentary committees Secretariats of parliamentary committees
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	The State Agency for e-government
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora"
Current situation	Legislative level	Publicity for the activities of the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees is regulated and stipulated by Law of Ukraine "On Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine" and Order No. 699 of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada "On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine" dated 19 May 2015.

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Current situation	Implementation	Parliamentary committees either fail to fulfil or fulfil only partially the Order No. 699 of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada “On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” dated 19 May 2015, not least because of the lack of a legally enforceable obligation.			
Main Objective	Keep citizens fully informed on the activities of the Ukrainian Parliament Committees and ensure their direct access to committee sessions. All information about the VRU committees shall be accessible in open data formats and enable search via search engines.				
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation	
	✓	✓		✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:		
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada (in addition to the existing one). Enactment of Bill No. 1591	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016		
2. Setting up the technical capability	new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
Indicator	All Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees properly inform the public on all issues specified in the description. The procedure of public access to open committee sessions has been established. Committee sessions are broadcast online through the committees’ websites.				
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016				
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of a legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, the chairpersons of committees fail to fulfil the commitment.				

1.5. ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON THE ACTIVITIES OF TEMPORARY INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEES AND TEMPORARY SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT

CURRENT STATUS:

The Law of Ukraine “On temporary investigative committees, special temporary investigative committee and temporary special committees of the Ukrainian Parliament” was declared unconstitutional pursuant to Resolution No. 20-rp/2009 of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine dated 10 September 2009. Thus, at the beginning of 2016 there is

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no current special law to regulate their activities and, on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, citizens of Ukraine can only find information pertaining to investigative and special committees and their composition.

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

For temporary investigative committees: it should be stated that publication of information about the activities of investigative committees must be ensured, except in cases where such information could lead to human rights violations or is secret or protected by law. Thus, the chairperson or a deputy chairperson of the investigative committee shall inform the public on the committee's activities and report on achieving its objective; information on the findings of the investigation conducted by the investigative committee shall be published on the website of the Ukrainian Parliament. If such information could lead to a violation of human rights, is secret or protected by law, the chairperson or a deputy chairperson of the investigative committee shall publish on the Parliament's website the reasons for non-disclosure of such information.

Pursuant to Clause 19 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, records of the committee, including documents drawn up and received, witness testimonies at public hearings, minutes and records of the committee shall be made public immediately.

For temporary special committees: a special committee is established by the Ukrainian Parliament for preparation and preliminary consideration of issues, as well as for the preparation and finalisation of draft laws and other acts of the Ukrainian Parliament according to the general principles as the main committee. Therefore, information on the activities of special committees should be provided in a similar way as for the committees.

Thus, mandatory publication of such information shall be provided by law on the activities of temporary special and investigative committees.

COMMITMENT		
1.5. Access to information on the activities of temporary investigative committees and temporary special committees of the Ukrainian Parliament		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Chairpersons of temporary investigative and special committees, relevant secretariats	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora"

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Current situation	Legislative level	The Law of Ukraine “On temporary investigative committees, special temporary investigative committee and temporary special committees of the Ukrainian Parliament” was declared unconstitutional pursuant to Resolution No. 20-rp/2009 of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine dated 10 September 2009. The activities thereof are regulated by the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.			
	Implementation	Temporary investigative committees and temporary special committees have been set up by the Ukrainian Parliament; the only information that can be found on the Ukrainian Parliament’s web resources pertains to their list and members.			
Main Objective		Ensure the fullest possible public disclosure of the activities of temporary investigative committees and temporary special committees. All information about the VRU committees shall be accessible in open data formats and enable search via search engines.			
Compliance with OGP values		Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
		✓			✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Development of a legislative act		new	3rd quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2017	
2. Setting up the technical capability		new	1st quarter of 2017	1st quarter of 2017	
3. Information campaign		new	3rd quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2017	
Indicator		The general public can learn about the activities of temporary investigative committees and temporary special committees on the web resources of the Ukrainian Parliament			
Implementation deadline		1st quarter of 2017			
Risks and assumptions		Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens will use but not handle the data.			

1.6. INFORMATION ABOUT DRAFT BILLS

CURRENT STATUS:

The Parliament website provides information on the registered draft laws (bills), namely the number and date of registration thereof, the session of registration, inclusion in the agenda, subjects with the right of legislative initiative, initiators of the bill, main and other committees that are finalising it. Citizens can also find the text of a bill, sup-

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porting documents (information memorandum, comparative table) and documents related to the finalisation of the bill (opinions of the main committee and expert departments). Information on adoption and history of consideration of a bill is also provided, but often this information may be missing or inaccurate. There is also information on which committees, along with the main one, have finalised the bill, when it was submitted for their consideration and returned with an opinion. However, the tests of opinions are not presented in the “draft bill datasheet” section, although the committee websites do publish such opinions.

INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED:

Opinions made by the all committees that have finalised a bill must be linked to the draft bill datasheet.

The text of a bill and all supporting documents must be published on the Ukrainian Parliament website no later than fourteen days prior to consideration. Urgent draft bills must be brought to the MPs for review no later than two days prior to consideration thereof and shall be also immediately published on the Parliament website.

The online datasheet of a bill shall be filled in and contain all documents under Article 97 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada, accessible in open data formats and for search via search engines.

In order to increase civic participation in the legislative process, amendments and suggested alterations shall be included in the initial draft bill or law that has already been in force, in visible form, so that one may understand in real-time mode, which provision was offered initially and which is proposed to replace it, or which provision is effective and which is proposed; in a word, to show the original text and amendments thereto simultaneously. This will enable any interested person to track in a timely manner the transformation of amendments to a law or a new bill from the first to the final readings.

COMMITMENT 1.6. Bill Cards Information	
Lead implementing agency	The Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Secretariats of the Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Registration unit of the Department for Bill Enactment and Work with Committees and Parliamentary Factions under the Main Organisational Department Unit for finalisation and issue of legislative acts of the Main Documentary Support Department

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Partners:	Government agencies / officials		
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora"	
Current situation	Legislative level	The completeness of a bill datasheet is stipulated under Article 97 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada, but no requirements are available for filling in a draft bill datasheet online.	
	Implementation	A draft bill datasheet is not completed under Article 97 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada. If one opens a legislative act, it is impossible to see whether any draft bills on making amendments thereto have been submitted.	
Main Objective		Ensure the provision of full information about draft bills accessible in open data format and formats accessible for search engines on the VRU website.	
Compliance with OGP values	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
	✓	✓	✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	Новий/запущений процес	Час початку	Час завершення
1. Amendments to the Rules of Procedure of VRU	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
2. Setting up the technical capability	new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
Indicator	All information about a draft bill is published on the VRU website, shall be accessible in open data formats and enable search via search engines. If a legislative act is opened on the Parliament website, it is clear if there are any bills submitted in relation to an act already in force.		
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016		
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens will not use or handle the data.		

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

1.7. DATA DISCLOSURE ON UNETHICAL BEHAVIOR AND POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Under Provision 25 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Parliament shall enact clearly defined rules to ensure disclosure of information necessary to protect against actual or perceived conflicts of interest and ethical violations, including relevant information about members' interactions with lobbyists and pressure groups. Parliament shall also make public information on the final results of any judicial or parliamentary investigations into charges of unethical behavior, conflicts of interest or corruption.

Considering the requirements of the Declaration and effective legislation of Ukraine, namely Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption", Ukraine's Parliament shall take measures aimed at openness, corruption prevention, avoidance of the performance of duties under the conflict of interest circumstances and elimination of breaches of ethical rules.

As regards corruption prevention: under the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption" (Article 19), the Secretariat of Parliament is required to adopt the Anti-Corruption Program through its confirmation by the Secretariat Chief and its further validation by the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption. This Anti-Corruption Program should include:

- definition of the general principles for the prevention and fight against corruption in the respective area, means of their implementation and ways for the anti-corruption strategy and state anti-corruption programme to be implemented;
- an assessment of corruption risks for Parliament and their outcomes that are favorable to it;
- activities aimed at eliminating corruption risks, individuals responsible for their implementation, deadlines and required resources;
- training and events dedicated to the spread of information on anti-corruption programmes;
- monitoring procedures, evaluation of the implementation and periodic review of programmes;
- other activities aimed at preventing corruption and corruption-related law violations.

As to avoidance of duty performance under a conflict of interests: under the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption" MPs of Ukraine shall take action to prevent real and potential conflicts of interests, inform not later than the next working day from the moment the individual discovered a real or potential conflict of interests, refrain from performing duties under a real conflict of interests and take actions to regulate real or potential conflicts of interests. To implement this provision of the law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption", Parliament shall develop and adopt a disclosure form for an MP's potential or real conflict of interest, as well as the mechanisms by which such a disclosure should be reported. The corresponding statements should be published on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada and on the MP's pages.

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

The Article 31 of Rules and Procedures of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine envisage a mechanism to declare a conflict of interest. By that end, an MP can partake in plenary sessions should he or she publicly declared his or her conflict of interest at the respective session considering that issue. Responses to declarations should also be published at the official web-site of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and MPs' pages.

As to the avoidance of violation of ethical behavior rules: Chapter 9 of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Regulations provides for compliance with norms of ethics and discipline during the plenary sessions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. However, considering the narrowed scope of Chapter 9 provisions and the recent update of anti-corruption legislative requirements, a Code of Ethics for MPs should be adopted along with responsibility for its violation. This Code shall be adopted on the basis of the Law of Ukraine "On Prevention of Corruption" that serves as the legal basis for codes or standards of professional ethics. Violations of ethical rules, if any, shall be displayed on the MP's webpage. The Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada should determine the mechanism of internal control of MPs' compliance with ethical restrictions and legislation for preventing corruption and determine the Parliamentary Committee or another special agency to consider violations by and sanctions against the MP.

The implementation of point 1.7 of the Plan, pursuant to the Law of Ukraine "On prevention of corruption" should be realised taking into account the status of Parliament, as a collective legislative body.

COMMITMENT		
1.7. Data Disclosure on Unethical Behavior and Potential Conflicts of Interest		
Lead implementing agency	The Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Procedural committee of the Ukrainian Parliament VRU Committee on Preventing and Combating Corruption	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	National Agency for Prevention of Corruption
	Civic / Private Sector	Transparency International Ukraine "Chesno" movement
Current situation	Legislative level	The anti-corruption programme of the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament, the mechanism and the form for disclosure of a conflict of interests and a legal act that comprehensively regulates the rules of ethical conduct of MPs have not been adopted
	Implementation	No implementation
Main Objective	To ensure transparency, to prevent corruption, to ensure MPs do not perform their duties in the event of a conflict of interests and to avoid violation of the rules of ethical conduct	

1. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓		✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Approval of Anti-corruption programme, approval of form of disclosure on a conflict of interests, development and adoption of the the Code of ethics for MPs	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016	
2. Information campaign	new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016	
Indicator	The anti-corruption programme is approved by NAPC The form of disclosure on a conflict of interests and the mechanism for applying the procedure are approved A Code of Ethics for MPs is adopted			
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions	Delay in the elaboration of documents			

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

2.1. ONLINE DISCUSSION OF BILLS

According to Clause 18 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness entitled “Civic participation in legislation development,” bills should be made public after their introduction. Understanding the public need to be fully informed about draft bills introduced and to contribute to consideration thereof, Parliament should provide public access to the preparatory analysis and general information, in order to facilitate public understanding of the political debate on the bill introduced.

CURRENT STATUS:

Currently, the public is properly informed on legislative initiatives but this process requires further improvement (for more detail, please see 1.6.). At a time when parliaments of developed countries are moving towards the closest possible cooperation with the public, there is a need for more open and transparent legislative processes provided by Parliament. Therefore, in order to increase the level of civic participation, it is important that citizens can comment on the draft bills. This will encourage public disclosure of bills and the quality of legislative development.

As an example, the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies (Câmara dos Deputados) has provided an opportunity for citizens to comment on draft bills and check whether their proposals have been considered, by means of innovative technologies, social media and E-democracy tools.

Currently, Ukraine has no legislation that would enable citizens to use these tools, but the first attempts have been made to introduce the actual option for citizens to comment on draft bills. Thus, the website of the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee on European Integration has a section entitled “Bills submitted for discussion”, where the citizens of Ukraine can comment on a bill after indicating their surname, name and patronymic. However, the option to track if a person’s comment has been considered is not available. For more details please go to: http://comeuroint.rada.gov.ua/news/legislative/legislative_discussion/72522.html.

NECESSARY FOR CIVIC PARTICIPATION:

The Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada should be amended, and the following rights of citizens of Ukraine should be guaranteed:

- to comment on the provisions of bills and bills by and large on parliamentary committee websites in the section “Bills for public discussion”;
- to comment on the provisions of bills and bills by and large on the pages of the datasheets thereof;
- to track results of public discussion of the bill and consideration of comments that have been provided.

In addition, the comparative table of the bill, prepared to be processed by committees (Article 91 of the Rules of Procedure of VRU), needs to be supplemented with the field “Results of public discussion of the bill”.

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

Commenting of bills or their provisions shall be open and interactive, so that it would be possible to review who is commenting what on the Parliament website. To avoid abuse by the public, authorisation for citizens should be provided on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. Thus, when commenting, the real name of the person will be seen. An example is a bill's page on the Open Parliament Canada website, where comments, remarks and suggestions of individuals and deputies can be viewed: <https://openparliament.ca/bills/41-2/C-518/>. For the efficiency of this process and relevance of citizens' suggestions, it is advisable to have a guideline on the Parliament website with terms governing the submission of proposals between readings.

The details of the commenting mechanism of bills and their provisions shall be agreed with monitoring PMOs.

The respective innovations should be envisaged in amendments to the Rules and Procedures of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

COMMITMENT					
2.1. Online discussion of bills					
Lead implementing agency		Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Committee on Rules of Procedure and Arrangement of Work of the Verkhovna Rada Secretariats of committees			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	The State Agency for E-Government Chairpersons and secretaries of the VRU Committees			
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora" Centre for Policy Studies and Analysis			
Current situation	Legislative level	The option of commenting on bills is not regulated in any way at the legislative level.			
	Implementation	There is a technical possibility to comment on the bills, as the website of the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee on European Integration has a section entitled "Bills submitted for discussion", where citizens of Ukraine can comment on a bill after indicating their surname, name and patronymic. However it is unclear where the comments come and how it is possible to track them.			
Main Objective		Provide an opportunity to comment on the bills that are under consideration in the committees through their websites. To provide an option to track if a comment has been considered.			
Compliance with OGP values		Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
		✓	✓		✓

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
1. Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees", the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada	new	3rd quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016
2. Setting up the technical capability of commenting and tracking	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016
3. Information campaign	new	3rd quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2017
Indicator	A website of each Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee has a section entitled "Bills submitted for discussion", where citizens of Ukraine can comment on all bills after indicating their surname, name and patronymic and track whether their comments have been considered. A separate field "Results of public discussion of the bill" is added to the comparative table for each bill.		
Implementation deadline	3rd quarter of 2017		
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, the committees disregard the citizens' comments.		

2.2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY AND COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND PUBLIC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Pursuant to Clause 5 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness entitled "Civic participation in legislation development", the Parliament must involve citizens and civil society in parliamentary and decision-making processes on a non-discriminatory basis, in order to effectively represent the interests of citizens.

CURRENT STATUS:

The Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada and the Law of Ukraine "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees" enshrine the principles of transparency and openness in the work of Parliament and its working bodies. However, no legislative act expressly provides for the possibility and mechanism for participation of civil society (also those citizens who represent PMOs) in the parliamentary committee sessions, the parliamentary and committee hearings.

- **For parliamentary hearings:** According to the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada, the following persons are invited to participate in the parliamentary hearings at the Ukrainian Parliament: representatives of public authorities, local governments, political parties, other civic associations, academic institutions, members of the

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

public, who have expressed their willingness to participate and have submitted an application to the committee arranging the hearings no less than five days before the hearing.

- **For committee sessions and committee hearings:** The Law of Ukraine “On Parliamentary Committees”, in its articles 29 and 48, envisages the possibility to invite citizens or representatives of CSOs to participate in committee hearings and sessions respectively, but does not provide for civic participation in committee hearings and sessions. In practice, some parliamentary committees involve public representatives to participate in their work. However, no mechanism to ensure such participation is envisaged by the legislation of Ukraine.

NECESSARY FOR CIVIC PARTICIPATION:

In order to ensure compliance with the statutory principles of transparency and openness of the Ukrainian Parliament and with the principles of the Declaration of Parliamentary Openness, it is required to finalise the legislation in this respect by amending the Law of Ukraine “On Committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” and the Rules of Procedure of VRU, and provide a clear mechanism for civic participation in the meetings of committees, parliamentary and committee hearings.

Since the decision to hold parliamentary or committee hearings is made no later than 30 days before the event, it is appropriate to stipulate that no later than 21 days prior to the hearing, a notice shall be published on the website of the corresponding committee in the “Schedule of parliamentary/committee hearings” section. The information on upcoming committee sessions must appear on the website of the respective committee in the “Schedule of the committee sessions” section, prior to the next parliamentary session. Online registration of citizens with a reasonable deadline for registration and subsequent confirmation of their participation no later than 3 days prior to the event shall be ensured for each of the events. Elaborate an electronic registration form for citizens to participate in public meetings of committees, with the date and time of the meeting selectable through the calendar. Provide citizens participating in committee meetings with guest badges. Elaborate an online committee participation mechanism for citizens and for participation via social media.

It is also advisable to make provision for online broadcasting of parliamentary and committee hearings, committee sessions via the website of the Ukrainian Parliament and its committees.

COMMITMENT	
2.2. Civic participation in parliamentary and committee hearings and public committee meetings	
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Committee on Rules of Procedure and Arrangement of Work of the Verkhovna Rada Heads of parliamentary committees Secretariats of parliamentary committees

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

Partners:	Government agencies / officials			
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora"		
Current situation	Legislative level	The possibility of civic participation in the sessions of committees and committee hearings is neither prohibited nor provided for. The possibility of civic participation in parliamentary hearings is provided for but needs improvement.		
	Implementation	Despite the absence of legislative regulation, the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees are open for participation of citizens in their sessions and committee hearings, citizens take part in these processes, however the mechanism for civic participation is not clear.		
Main Objective		Enable civic participation in sessions of the Committees, parliamentary and committee hearings, by means of a simple and transparent mechanism.		
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
1. Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Ukrainian Parliamentary Committees", the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada		new	3rd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
2. Setting up the technical capability and mechanisms		new	3rd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
3. Information campaign		new	3rd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
Indicator		<p>Web pages of each Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee contain subsections entitled "Schedule of parliamentary/committee hearings" and, "Schedule of committee sessions", where citizens can look up the schedule of events listed above, their main topics and, optionally, register for participation. An electronic form of registration (recording) has been developed for citizens to participate in public meetings of committees with selectable date and time of the meeting through the calendar.</p> <p>Provision has been made for a procedure for issuing guest badges to citizens who are participating in committee meetings. A mechanism for online participation of citizens in committee meetings, committee hearings and parliament hearings has been elaborated. Video-broadcasting of has been organised.</p>		
Implementation deadline		4th quarter of 2016		
Risks and assumptions		Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not make active use of this option.		

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

2.3. PHYSICAL ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

Ensure implementation of paragraph 4, Part 1, Article 14 of the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”, under which the holders of public information are required to designate special venues for requestors to work with the documents or copies thereof and grant requestors the right to make extracts, take photographs, copies and scan copies, make records using any data carriers etc.

COMMITMENT				
2.3. Public access to public information				
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada)			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials			
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network “Opora”		
Current situation	Legislative level	Paragraph 4, Part 1, Article 14 of the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”		
	Implementation	Not implemented.		
Main Objective	Provide opportunity for the requestors of public information to work with documents or copies thereof and enforce the requestors’ right to make extracts, take photographs, copies and scan copies, make records using any data carriers, etc.			
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Designation of a special venue	new	1st quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2016	
Indicator	A designated special venue in the Parliament, where public information requestors may view documents or copies thereof, make extracts, take photographs, copies and scan copies, make records using any data carriers etc.			
Implementation deadline	1st quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not make active use of this option.			

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

2.4. RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE ACTIVITIES OF PARLIAMENT AND ITS ROLE IN INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY

COMMITMENT				
2.4. Raising public awareness of the activities of Parliament and its role in institutional development of the country				
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada)			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials			
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network "Opora" "Chesno" movement		
Current situation	Legislative level	There is no specialised legislative act on redesigning the Parliament premises.		
	Implementation	Implemented by informing the public through the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine by publishing weekly digests, providing opportunities to attend plenary sessions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine etc.		
Main Objective	Provide ways to improve public awareness of the activities of Parliament and parliamentary processes			
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada	new	3rd quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2017	
2. Setting up the technical capability of equipment	new	4th quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2017	
Indicator	The mechanism for familiarising citizens with decision-making procedures of Parliament (including but not limited to online tours, explaining the key stages of decision-making, infographics for bills passage procedure, etc.) has been introduced.			
Implementation deadline	1st quarter of 2017			
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existing legal framework and platforms, citizens do not actively make use of this opportunity.			

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

2.5. ACCESS TO PARLIAMENT BASED ON THE UNIVERSAL DESIGN PRINCIPLE

Pursuant to Clause 28 “Provision of physical access” of the Declaration of Parliament Openness, all citizens should have the right to physical access to Parliament and its plenary sessions, with the exception of restrictions for reasons of public safety or space constraints. This Clause includes unhindered access to the premises of the Ukrainian Parliament for all groups of people, regardless of their capabilities.

Thus, the premises of the Ukrainian Parliament should be adapted for everyone’s use, taking into account the availability of the environment for everyone, providing equal facilities for all users to avoid isolation of certain social groups. The design should be useful and easy to perceive and use by people with different capabilities. In addition, the following principles must be complied with: flexibility in use, simple and convenient use, perception of information regardless of the sensory capabilities of users, error tolerance, low physical effort applied, availability of the required size and space to approach the entrance and for various manipulations, regardless of the user’s anthropometric characteristics, condition and mobility. See more about the universal design and its application at: <http://www.ud.org.ua/>.

COMMITMENT					
2.5. Access to Parliament based on the universal design principle					
Lead implementing agency		Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) Committee on Rules of Procedure and Arrangement of Work of the Verkhovna Rada			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials				
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network “Opora”			
Current situation	Legislative level	There is no specialised legislative act on redesigning the Parliament premises.			
	Implementation	The Parliament premises do not comply with the principles of universal design, thus hindering access to certain groups of citizens.			
Main Objective		Ensure access of citizens regardless of their capabilities			
Compliance with OGP values		Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
			✓		✓

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada	new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016
2. Setting up the technical capability of equipment	new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2017
Indicator	The Parliament premises comply with the principles of universal design and are accessible to all social groups regardless of their capabilities		
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2017		
Risks and assumptions	Insufficient funding.		

2.6. DEVELOPING AND INTRODUCING PARLIAMENT'S MEDIA-STRATEGY

Pursuant to the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Parliament has to provide access to information about its activities by different means, including direct observation, printed media, radio and television, Internet and mobile devices.

During implementation of the current Action Plan, a large volume of information shall be published on the Parliament website and citizens shall be provided with useful tools to participate in the parliamentary processes. For effective use of such mechanisms, it is of crucial importance to communicate to active citizens the new possibilities for interaction via a variety of convenient means. Taking into account the need for better informing of citizens about the work of Parliament and its results, the opportunities of the Open Parliament Initiative and for increasing the level of public trust in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, it is necessary to develop and introduce a media strategy for the Ukrainian Parliament.

Such a media strategy could include the following:

- Social media use (facebook, twitter);
- Conducting press-conferences and creating a press-centre for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;
- Disseminating information about new instruments of Open Parliament on a sub-national level through a network of civic activists;
- Communicating main news of the Parliament via brief and dynamic videos (e.g. those of the European Parliament), with the participation of MPs;
- Developing and using questionnaires for the most significant issues, priority draft bills on Parliament's agenda etc;
- Educative events in Kyiv and other cities for civic activists (on ways to use parliamentary appeals and requests, the right of the public to participate in open committee meetings of Parliament, the right to com-

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

ment on draft bills, how to use a special place at VRU where the requestors of public information could familiarise themselves with documents, copy and save them, on the availability of certain data on the Parliament website and so on);

- Training and seminars for journalists.

It is also important to pay separate attention to reforming VRU printed publications. The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine publishes the newspaper “Holos Ukrainy” (The Voice of Ukraine), the journal “Viche” (Council) and the periodical “Vidomosti Verkhovnoii Rady Ukrainy” (News of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine). Also, the Parliament has its own TV channel “Rada”. The role of these media is to report about the work of the legislative body.

On 1 January 2016, the Law of Ukraine “On Reforming the State and Municipal Print Mass Media” came into force. The law envisages that state and other authorities should withdraw from the founders of printed media. Under this legislation, the Ukrainian Parliament should take action to reform the newspaper “Holos Ukrainy” and the journal “Viche”.

COMMITMENT				
2.6. Developing and introducing Parliament’s media strategy				
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Head of Parliament			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials			
	Civic / Private Sector	NGO Media Law Institute		
Current situation	Legislative level	There is no regulation or other legal acts for the current commitment. The Law of Ukraine “On the reform of state and municipal printed media” is only partially related.		
	Implementation	Parliament does not currently have a media strategy.		
Main Objective	Ensure proactive informing of wider audience about the Parliament’s activities and possibilities provided under the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness.			
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓

2. CIVIC PARTICIPATION IN PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES

Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
1. Elaboration of a media strategy, which would include informing a wide audience through social networks, the Parliament press center and other tools	new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2017
2. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2017
Indicator	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament, together with monitoring PMOs, have developed a clear media strategy. New reporting tools (in particular, social media instruments) are used in addition to the existing ones.		
Implementation deadline	2nd quarter of 2017		
Risks and assumptions	The Strategy has been developed but its implementation is limited due to insufficient funding.		

3. PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF PARLIAMENT

3.1. PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT AS THE MAIN BUDGET HOLDER

Pursuant to Clause 23 of the Declaration for Parliamentary Openness, Parliament shall provide the public with comprehensive, detailed and easy-to-understand information about the national budget and public spending, including the past, current and planned income and expenses.

CURRENT STATUS:

As of today, in accordance with the Declaration, information on the national budget is available on the Parliament website in the Legislation section. Citizens of Ukraine can read the Law of Ukraine “On State Budget” and annexes thereto as Excel tables, i.e. data on State Budget of Ukraine revenues for the relevant year, financing of the State Budget of Ukraine for the relevant year, distribution of State Budget of Ukraine expenditures for the relevant year, repayment of loans to the State Budget of Ukraine and distribution of loans from the State Budget of Ukraine in the relevant year, distribution of State Budget of Ukraine expenditures for the relevant year for centralised events between administrative territorial units, intergovernmental budget transfers, allocation of State Budget of Ukraine expenditures for the relevant year for administration of justice in the context of local courts and courts of appeal and a list of loans raised by the state to the Special Fund of the State Budget of Ukraine from foreign states, banks and international financial organisations, for implementation of investment programmes (projects).

In its “Information” Section, the website of the Ukrainian Parliament contains data on economic and financial activities of Parliament in the form of plans (budget requests, datasheets of budget programmes), reports (report on implementation of the datasheet of a budget programme), government procurement (annual plans for public procurement and announcements of public tenders) and information on reimbursement of housing rent to members of Ukrainian Parliament. This information and the form of its presentation (copies of documents in PDF format) is too complicated to understand or be read by search engines, process and generate analysis.

ACTIONS TO IMPROVE REPORTING:

Clause 23 of the Declaration also states that Parliament must publish information on Parliament’s own budget, including information on its utilisation, proposals and contracts. This information should be published in full, using the appropriate classification, along with conclusions written in accessible language, explanations or reports that will help improve public understanding.

Therefore, it is necessary to ensure the publication of a detailed cost estimate for the exercise of powers of the Ukrainian Parliament (in addition to the extract from the state budget) in the form of a table in an Open Data format, as well as a report of its performance.

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Thus, it is necessary to amend Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, as suggested by Bill No. 1591, according to which Parliament’s estimates for the next year shall be approved by Parliament during the adoption of the draft State Budget for the next year in the second reading, based on conclusions of the committees which consider the issues of regulations and budget. The Administrative Office of Parliament publishes Parliament’s estimates on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada within three days after its approval.

The Administrative Office of Parliament ensures publication of the draft estimate of the Verkhovna Rada for the next year on the official website of the Verkhovna Rada not later than 20 working days prior to consideration for subsequent adoption.

Additionally, the Declaration requirements can be implemented through proper implementation of Article 28 of the Budgetary Code of Ukraine. Under this Article the main budget holders and, thus, the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament, provide for the public presentation and publication of information on the budget by the budget programmes and indicators and budget assignments as required in the form established by the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine, by 15 March of the year following the reporting year. Moreover, they are also obliged to publish specifications of budgetary programmes for the current budget period (including changes to these specifications) on their official websites within three days from the date of approval of these documents and reports on the implementation of budget programmes three days after the submission of reports to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine (local financial authorities).

Such information should be disclosed in compliance with the Law of Ukraine “On access to public information” as regards access to information in the form of Open Data.

COMMITMENT 3.1. Public accountability of the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament as the main budget holder		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network “Opora” Transparency International Ukraine Centre for Political Studies and Analysis
Current situation	Legislative level	The budget legislation of Ukraine establishes the principle of publicity and transparency, according to which the public should be kept informed on the preparation and performance of the state budget.

3. PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF PARLIAMENT

Current situation	Implementation	Most data on the state budget and its items can be found, but the information is presented in a format that is difficult to be processed.			
Main Objective		Ensure all opportunities for the citizens to get full information about the Parliament's budget and the budget performance report.			
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation	
	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada		new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016	
2. Setting up the technical capability		new	2nd quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016	
3. Information campaign		new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016	
Indicator		The Ukrainian Parliament website publishes the detailed budget of the Verkhovna Rada and the financial report for the previous year, in an accessible form, with charts and statistics, detailed information on government procurement, including the names of suppliers. Information about the budget has a clear and understandable form and is prepared using modern technologies (visualisations, infographics etc).			
Implementation deadline		May 2016			
Risks and assumptions		Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, the Administrative Office does not fulfil the requirement to publish information.			

3.2. PUBLICATION OF THE INFORMATION ON USE OF UKRAINIAN STATE BUDGET FUNDS

The Law of Ukraine "On the Openness of Public Funds Disposal" obliges the managers of the State Budget of Ukraine to provide data on how and for what purpose the funds of the State Budget have been used. Therefore, for further publication institutions authorised to maintain the activities of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall prepare reports that contain information on:

- the manager of State Budget funds (name, identification code of the legal entity, location, first and last name of the head);

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- chief manager of State Budget funds (name, identification code of the legal entity, location, first and last name of the head);
- amounts of budget appropriations and/or budget assignments for the corresponding budget period – overall and for budgetary programmes;
- the volume of budget expenditures and loans granted from the budget for the accounting period – overall and for budgetary programmes;
- information on contracts concluded during the accounting period (subject of the contract, contract performer (identification code of the legal entity, location), contract price, the unit price (if any), the amount of purchased goods and/or services, the procurement procedure or justification of its absence with a reference, payments under the contract for the reporting period and the effective term of the contract);
- information on the state of performance of contracts concluded during previous accounting periods with all supplements that constitute their integral part (subject of the contract, contract performer (identification code of the legal entity, location), contract price, the unit price (if any), the amount of purchased goods and/or services, the procurement procedure or justification of its absence with a reference, payments under the contract for the reporting period and the effective term of the contract), sanctions for contract breaches, if any, and acts of contract performance, if any);
- number of business trips, including specification of the number of foreign business trips, total expenses for business trips, including specification of the expenses on foreign travel.

Thus, the information referred to in this paragraph shall be published on the State web portal for use of public funds on a quarterly basis, not later than 35 days after the end of the quarter and stored in free access for three years from the date of publication.

Therefore, a subsection “Budgetary Funds Disposal” shall be created in the “Information” section on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. In this subsection, a comprehensive list of institutions authorised to maintain the activities of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine shall be published, with a link to the State web portal.

The information should be accessible for search engines and be prepared in open data formats. It should be clearly structured and easy to search.

COMMITMENT		
3.2. Publication of the information on use of funds of the State Budget of Ukraine		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Computer Systems Department	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	

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	Civic / Private Sector	Centre for Political Studies and Analysis		
Current situation	Legislative level	Law of Ukraine "On the Openness of Public Funds Disposal" obliges the managers of the State Budget of Ukraine to provide data on use of State Budget funds.		
	Implementation	In spite of the fact that the Law of Ukraine "On the Openness of Public Funds Disposal" has come into force, the State web portal of public finance works in test mode and State funds managers, including the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament, have not yet filled in all the necessary data.		
Main Objective		To enable citizens to monitor the transactions, agreements and reports of State budget funds managers in support of Parliament.		
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓	✓	✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:
1. Order of VRU Head for the implementation of Law "On the Openness of Public Funds Disposal"		new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016
2. Technical issues		new	2nd quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016
3. Information campaign		new	2nd quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
Indicator		Citizens are enabled to monitor the transactions, agreements and reports of State budget funds managers in support of Parliament.		
Implementation deadline		4th quarter of 2016		
Risks and assumptions		The Administrative Office of Parliament does not perform the obligations on data publication		

3.3. IDENTIFICATION OF PMOS FOR MONITORING THE ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND HOLDING QUARTERLY MEETINGS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF PARLIAMENT

Under Clause 7 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Parliament should recognise the rights and responsibilities of civil society, the media and the public in monitoring the work of Parliament and its members. Parliament

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shall join the discussions with the public and civil society organisations that monitor Parliament’s work, so as to promote its efficiency and reduce interference in access to information on Parliament’s work.

Therefore, non-government organisations need to be identified to monitor the Implementation Plan realisation and to ensure quarterly meetings are held with them. Holding quarterly meetings with representatives of non-government organisations that have joined the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness is a step to improve the interaction of the Ukrainian Parliament with the public and, at the same time, it gives civil society organisations the opportunity to monitor Parliament’s adherence to the principles of openness, civic participation, public accountability and innovation, as well as the assumed commitments for implementation thereof. In addition, these measures will contribute to elaboration of common decisions and further development of the open parliamentary system in Ukraine.

Appeals and decisions taken as a result of discussions and meetings of monitoring PMOs shall be necessarily considered by the relevant authorities. PMOs receive full assistance and support in their activities to monitor the realisation of the Implementation Plan. They may equally initiate additional meetings and discussions, propose amendments to the Action Plan to engage international experts and so on. To this end, the Head of the Verkhovna Rada should order the creation of an Open Parliament Steering Committee to include representatives of monitoring PMOs and representatives of Parliament on an equal footing.

COMMITMENT		
3.3. Identification of parliamentary monitoring organisations for monitoring Action Plan implementation and holding quarterly meetings with Parliament		
Lead implementing agency		Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	Transparency International Ukraine The Civil Network “Opora” “Chesno” civic movement Centre for Political Studies and Analysis NGO Media Law Institute
Current situation	Legislative level	No legal regulation
	Implementation	Not currently implemented
Main Objective		Ensure the meeting of Parliament with civil society monitors on a session basis.

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Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Order of the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada	new	1st quarter of 2016	1st quarter of 2016	
Indicator	Parliament and monitoring PMOs meet to discuss the progress of implementation of commitments and the development of new solutions.			
Implementation deadline	1st quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, the commitment is not fulfilled.			

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4.1. ENSURING EASE OF USE, REFERENCE AND DATA PROCESSING ON THE WEB RESOURCES OF THE UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT

Parliament shall ensure the ease of search for information on Parliament’s activities, as required by the public, by creating databases that allow simple and advanced search through the use of appropriate metadata. Information should be available at a permanent location, such as a web address with a permanent URL. Information on Parliament’s activities should be concluded and released in an open and structured format, accessible to search engines, such as XML, CSV or JSON that are machine-readable, so that the citizens, civil society, the private sector and Government could use and analyse the information on Parliament’s work. In addition, the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine should be adapted for viewing via and full operation on mobile platforms.

In December 2015, the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament presented a beta version of an Open Data portal for Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine – <http://data.rada.gov.ua/open>. However, the datasets that are published there require extension and the functional capability of the portal needs improvement.

In addition, the website of the Verkhovna Rada should contain a simple and detailed explanation of how and where to find information and how to work with data.

COMMITMENT		
4.1. Ensuring ease of use, reference and data processing on the web resources of the Ukrainian Parliament		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network “Opora”
Current situation	Legislative level	The Order of the Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament “On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine” does not regulate this issue.
	Implementation	The Administrative Office of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine does not disclose the data contained in the “Information” section, in particular, in the subsection titled “Economic and financial activities”, in a convenient structured format that would be accessible to search engines. Instead, only PDF documents are available for use, along with other documents in the same format, amending the previous ones, which makes it impossible to read the latest information without comparing it with other documents. Moreover, all the documents for review need to be downloaded.

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Main Objective	Ensure public access to the most complete and constantly updated information, including the latest amendments, in a format that may be viewed and processed by a PC on the Parliament website, with no need to download such a file.			
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	✓	✓		✓
Ключові дії для виконання зобов'язання	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Making amendments to the Order of the Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament "On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine"	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016	
2. Setting up the technical capability	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016	
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	3rd quarter of 2016	
Indicator	Data on all sections is published in a structured format accessible for search engines. The performance of Parliament's Open Data portal is tailored and improved.			
Implementation deadline	3rd quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not use the data.			

4.2. STRENGTHENING BILATERAL CIVIC COMMUNICATION THROUGH FEEDBACK, QUESTIONNAIRES AND INDIVIDUAL ELECTRONIC APPEALS AND PETITIONS

According to Clause 44 of the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Parliament must endeavour to use interactive technologies to strengthen the ability of citizens to provide significant contributions to the legislation and parliamentary activity and facilitate communication with members of Parliament or Parliament employees. Thus, web pages of members of Ukrainian Parliament should contain a field for communication with voters (additionally with an indicator in Clause 1.1. of the Plan), the home page of the Ukrainian Parliament should contain interactive polls as regards the level of Parliament's openness, whether it is reasonable to enact the most important regulations and other topical issues (proposed by the main monitors of Plan implementation) and provide citizens with an opportunity to address e-petitions under Article 23-1 of the Law of Ukraine "On Public Appeals". In particular, with regard

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to the amendments introduced by the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On Public Appeals’ as regards E-appeals and E-petitions”, in the course of collecting signatures in support of e-petitions, the Ukrainian Parliament should provide:

- free-of-charge access and use of the information and telecommunication system, through which the signatures are collected;
- electronic registration of citizens for signing the petition;
- preventing the automatic input of information, including signing e-petitions, without a citizen’s participation;
- recording the date and time of publication and signing of the e-petition by a citizen.
- a trial version of the e-petitions instrument is available at the VRU website:
<https://itd.rada.gov.ua/petitions/List?aname=published>.

As for individual public electronic appeals, the online submission option via the Internet and means of electronic communication must be ensured in accordance with Article 5 of the Law of Ukraine “On Public Appeals”, with regard to the amendments introduced by the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On Public Appeals’ in Part of E-appeals and E-petitions”.

In addition, it is recommended to create applications for mobile phones to engage with Parliament and participate in parliamentary processes, to provide users with a technical opportunity to create their own cabinet (e.g. on the website of the Australian Parliament users can work with data and information they need, create lasting polls to monitor public opinion etc.).

COMMITMENT		
4.2. Strengthening bilateral civic communication through feedback, questionnaires and individual electronic appeals and petitions		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	The State Agency for E-Government
	Civic / Private Sector	The Civil Network “Opora” Transparency International Ukraine
Current situation	Legislative level	Article 5, 23-1 of the Law of Ukraine “On Public Appeals”, with regard to the amendments introduced by the Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine ‘On Public Appeals’ as regards E-appeals and E-petitions”, regulates the issues of submitting electronic petitions and electronic appeals. Chapter 36-1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine regulates special aspects of the consideration of innovative and supported e-petitions by Parliament.

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Current situation	Implementation	The option for submission of individual electronic appeals and electronic petitions has not been implemented. The web portal of the Ukrainian Parliament does not contain any polls or interactive technology.			
Main Objective	Provide a possibility for citizens to submit individual electronic appeals and electronic petitions using the web resources of the Ukrainian Parliament. Place on polls Parliament's homepage covering the most important issues under consideration by Parliament.				
Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation	
	✓	✓		✓	
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:		
1. Making amendments to the Order of the Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament "On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine" in terms of polls, as proposed by the Monitors	new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016		
2. Setting up the technical capability for submission of e-petitions/ individual e-appeals and posting of polls	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016		
Indicator	Citizens can submit individual e-appeals and e-petitions via the website of the Ukrainian Parliament. The website of the Ukrainian Parliament contains polls of citizens.				
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016				
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not use these tools.				

4.3. ESTABLISHING REFERENCES TO OTHER INFORMATION PLATFORMS THAT CONTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT PARLIAMENT'S ACTIVITIES

According to the Declaration on Parliamentary Openness, Parliament must improve the opportunities for public search of information on the Parliament's activities by providing links and references to other additional information related to

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a given issue. Thus, in addition to increasing the total number of cross-links on the web resources of the Ukrainian Parliament, links to other resources that contain or may contain useful information on Parliament's activities should be provided in the relevant sections. Thus, for example, to avoid overloading the system and information duplication, income declarations of MPs can be placed on the web portal of the Unified State Register of Income Declarations, which will be maintained by the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption. Similarly, if the General Affairs Department of the Ukrainian Parliament switches to the system of electronic public procurement, the information on public procurement, except plans and announcements, can be displayed on the prozorro.org website. At the same time, it is advisable to place links to such sources, as well as links to other sources that may be of interest to citizens for analysis of Parliament's work (e.g.: <http://e-data.gov.ua/>, <http://data.gov.ua/>, rada.oporaua.org, <http://radaprogram.org/>, <http://groups.chesno.org/>) on the website of the Ukrainian Parliament in a separate section "Useful links".

COMMITMENT					
4.3. Establishing references to other information platforms that contain information about Parliament's activities					
Lead implementing agency		Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament			
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	National Agency for Prevention of Corruption, Ministry of Economy			
	Civic / Private Sector	"Chesno" civic movement The Civil Network "Opora" Transparency International Ukraine Centre for Political Studies and Analysis			
Current situation	Legislative level	Not regulated			
	Implementation	The Ukrainian Parliament's website contains links only to other governmental authorities			
Main Objective		Enable citizens to learn information about Parliament in an integrated manner, without duplicating the information already published or being published on a regular basis by other initiatives.			
Compliance with OGP values		Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
		✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment		New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Making amendments to the Order by the Chairman of the Ukrainian Parliament "On Web Resources of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine" by adding specific cross-links		new	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016	

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2. Setting up the technical capability	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
3. Information campaign	new	1st quarter of 2016	4th quarter of 2016
Indicator	The website of the Ukrainian Parliament provides links to web resources of other governmental authorities and web resources of civic initiatives that complement the information published on the Parliament website.		
Implementation deadline	4th quarter of 2016		
Risks and assumptions	Despite the existence of the legislative environment and a platform for information disclosure, citizens do not use these tools.		

4.4. PROVIDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO DATA SETS IN THE FORM OF OPEN DATA ON PARLIAMENT'S WEB-RESOURCES

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 835 of 21 October 2015 "On approval of the Regulation on Data Sets to be Published in the Form of Open Data" establishes the obligation of the Ukrainian Parliament to provide public access and timely updates of data sets on its official web-resources within six months. Thus, by April 2016 the Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament must publish its datasets in formats provided by the Regulation:

- Guide of companies, enterprises (institutions) and organisations of the administrator and its lower organisations, including their phone numbers and addresses
- Staff schedule of the administrator
- Report on use of budget funds (for administrators using the budget funds), particularly, for individual budget programmes
- Standards approved by the administrator of information
- Lists of national standards, which, in the event of their voluntary application, present evidence of compliance of products with the requirements of technical regulations
- Reports on inspections and other control measures undertaken by the administrator
- Annual procurement plans
- Accounting system of documents of the administrator under the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information"
- Register (list) of the open datasets
- Lists of administrative services, information cards of the administrative services and application forms required for applying for the provision of the administrative services
- Information on treasury bills for payment for administrative services
- Administrative data collected (processed) by the information administrator

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- Legal acts to be disclosed pursuant to the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”
- Financial statements of the economic entities in the public sector of the economy, which are within the scope of management of the information administrator
- Legal framework of Ukraine (Database “Legislation of Ukraine”)
- Information on consideration of the agenda of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
- Information on the bills registered in Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

To ensure access to public information, it is also encouraged to provide access to those data sets that are not included in the list specified by the Regulation, unless otherwise provided by the Law of Ukraine “On Access to Public Information”. This especially applies to information of considerable public interest (high frequency of questioning, reflecting results of public opinion polls, etc.). Since any information about the activities of Parliament is of considerable public interest, all the data published on Parliament’s website shall also be published as Open Data. To enable this, a separate “Open Data” section should be created on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The “Open data by default” principle should also be provided during the design and creation of new information systems on Parliament’s website.

COMMITMENT		
4.4. Providing public access to data sets in the form of Open Data on Parliament’s web-resources		
Lead implementing agency	Administrative Office of the Ukrainian Parliament	
Partners:	Government agencies / officials	
	Civic / Private Sector	“Chesno” civic movement Transparency International Ukraine The Civil Network “Opora” Centre for Political Studies and Analysis
Current situation	Legislative level	The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine No. 835 of 21 October 2015 “On approval of the Regulation on Data Sets to be Published in the Form of Open Data” establishes the obligation of the Ukrainian Parliament to provide access and timely updates of data sets on its official web-resources within six months.
	Implementation	Web-resources of the Ukrainian Parliament have the necessary datasets, but the latter are still unavailable for public access.
Main Objective	Provide access to public information in machine-readable formats.	

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Compliance with OGP values	Access to information	Civic participation	Public accountability	Technology and Innovation
	✓	✓		✓
Key actions to fulfil the commitment	New / running process	Launch time:	Completion time:	
1. Publication of datasets	running	1st quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016	
2. Information campaign	new	2nd quarter of 2016	2nd quarter of 2016	
Indicator	All datasets envisaged by the related Regulation are published on the website of the Ukrainian Parliament in Open Data formats			
Implementation deadline	2nd quarter of 2016			
Risks and assumptions	Lack of public understanding of the instrument			

