

NON-PAPER

EU-Ukraine Sub-Committee on Economic and Other Sector Cooperation –
Cluster 6 meeting on Employment, Social Policy, Equal Rights
and Public Health
Kyiv, 10 June 2016

COOPERATION ON EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Socio-economic situation (employment and unemployment, solving the issue of wages arrears, informal economy, combating poverty)

The Ukrainian economy operates with low support from both external (weak demand for domestic products from the EU trading partners, unfavourable foreign economic situation as regards pricing, accompanied by sharp fluctuations in world prices for key commodity markets for domestic exports) and domestic demand (difficult financial situation in the country in corporate, banking, budget and households sectors) under the influence of enforcement by the Russian Federation of restrictive measures against Ukraine.

Notwithstanding the difficult economic conditions, the industrial sector shows positive signs, particularly in industry, which in January-April demonstrates production growth at 3.7%.

Through the introduction of specific Government action to tackle current problems and restore economic growth, some steps have been made towards reforming business deregulation, improving business climate, investment, improving management of the public sector and its optimization, providing the adaptation of national legislation to EU legislation in the area of technical regulation.

The difficult financial situation of enterprises limits the ability of domestic producers to raise the income from labour and results in the reduced demand for labour. This is compounded by increasing internal migration of refugees from unstable regions, which affects the level of employment.

The Government of Ukraine is implementing a series of measures to encourage productive labour, full employment, stimulate job creation, business development, increase wages and social security of the population.

Gradual implementation of reforms, stabilization of economic situation, gradual recovery of industrial activity, adaptation of economic agents to existing conditions of operation and shifting to new markets contribute to the

improvement in the labour market.

The unemployment rate as defined by the ILO methodology fell to 9.1% in 2015 against 9.3% in 2014, the employment rate increased to 56.7% versus 56.6%, respectively.

Compared to the 2014, wages nominally increased in 2015 by 20.5% and amounted to 4195 UAH, in January-March - by 27% to 4618 UAH, partly facilitated by government regulation of social standards (minimum wage in this period increased by 13.1%). Against the background of slowing inflationary pressures reduction in real (inflation-adjusted) average monthly wage is observed - by 13.3% in January-March 2016 compared with the corresponding period in 2015 amounting to 6.8%. At the same time, the reduction in the rate of Single Social Contribution contributes to the reduction of the burden on wages and revision of it by employers to a certain extent.

Preparation for the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU: institutional aspects and mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of Chapter 21 and Annex XL Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU

For the purpose of effective implementation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine by Order of 03.02.2015 №102 approved the Action Plan of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine to implement the Action Plan for the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU. The Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine by Order of 03.02.2015 №102 approved the Expert Advisory Group on its implementation. The Expert Advisory Group meets quarterly to discuss the status of the planned measures for the implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, and to design and introduce the necessary changes that will meet the contemporary reality and challenges.

On the official website of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine a separate section "European Integration" was created which is permanently updated on the measures taken by the Ministry to implement the Agreement. The reporting information can be found at: http://www.mlsp.gov.ua/labour/control/uk/publish/category?cat_id=168553

Preparation for the approximation of the legislation of Ukraine to the legislation of the EU in the areas of health and labour safety, and working conditions (Annex XL Agreement)

Reform of the Labour Code

On November 25, 2015, the Law of Ukraine №785-VIII "On Amendments to the Labour Code of Ukraine Concerning the Harmonization of Legislation in the Sphere of Combating Discrimination with the European Union" came into force. The Law contains a provision which prohibits any discrimination in the workplace, particularly with regard to violation of the principle of equal rights and opportunities, direct or indirect restriction of the rights of employees based on gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or other factors not related to the nature of the work or its conditions.

State Labour Service Reform: combating informal employment, violations of working, health and safety conditions in the workplace

Pursuant to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on 10.09.2014 № 442 the State Labour Service of Ukraine was established by merging the State Service of Mining Supervision and Industrial Safety and State Labour Inspectorate of Ukraine.

In order to radically reform the system of labour safety management in Ukraine, to improve its efficiency, to form a modern, safe and healthy working environment, minimize the social and economic impact of injuries, the State Labour Service drafted the Concept of Reforming the System of Labour Protection in Ukraine, which is based on permanent monitoring by an employer of occupational hazards that must be based on the general principles of prevention:

- identifying risks;
- avoiding risks;
- risk assessment, which cannot be eliminated;
- counter the risks at their source (elimination or weakening of industrial hazards);
- adapting the work to the individual capabilities of employees;
- adaptation to technical progress;
- developing a clear and coherent risk prevention policy;
- priority of collective over individual protection;
- appropriate coaching of staff.

ASSOCIATION AGENDA IMPLEMENTATION

Social dialog: National Tripartite Social and Economic Council (TSEC)

In order to conduct social dialog National Tripartite Social and Economic Council was established. For the last period (2015 – beginning 2016) were held 3 meetings of National Council and 6 meetings of its Presidia. During the meetings the main attention was paid to the issues of tax reform, health care system reforming, utility tariff setting, gas and energy prices and minimization measures of its impact on people and business, state and perspectives of social and economic development of Ukraine in connection with introduced reforms.

For the efficiency increasing of the National Council, its activity support between the meetings as well as for the preliminary consideration of all issues included to its agenda were established 4 permanent committees consisting from its members.

On the 19th of February 2016 the Declaration to the Day of Social Equity was approved by National Council, on the 7th of April 2016 the Memorandum of Understanding concerning implementation of the ILO Decent Work Country Programme for Ukraine for period of 2016-2019 was signed.

One of the main cooperation forms remains a collective bargaining agreement regulation of the social and economic relations. After the one and a half year break Parties renewed negotiations on concluding a new General Agreement. During this period were held 25 meetings of working groups and 8 meetings of the Joint Working Commission. The elaborated General Agreement draft includes 251 provisions agreed by Parties.

In order to finalize the settlement of all contradictions in positions of the Parties remained were held 4 meetings of Party coordinators with the agenda of minimum wage rate issues, salary of the first wage group of the unified wage tariff system and reduction of the monetary difference between these rates.

3 provisions of the draft General Agreement for 2016-2017 are still to be approved and then Parties may have to decide on its signing.

According to the State Statistic Service as of the 31st of December 2015, 69 602 the collective bargaining agreements were concluded and registered in Ukraine. Mentioned agreements covered 6343, 3 thousands of employees and 77, 3 % of the regular employees accounting quantity.

Employment Policy: updated information on main employment challenges and carrying out reforms

Reform of State Employment Service

First step for today is reforming of the employment system, as economic crisis and war conflict impact in the East of Ukraine resulted in 2015 the escalation of labour market intension and reduction of employment on about 2 million persons comparing with 2014.

Main trends of employment during the last two years demonstrated prominent decline approximately in all characteristics compared to previous year, first of all, decrease of labour force demand and increase of mass dismissals of enterprise employees.

One of the main steps taken by Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine on the way of overcoming the crisis was launching the reform of the employment policy and implementation of a new approach to the employment service work with the unemployed.

Ministry elaborated a draft Law “On Amendments to the Legislative Acts of Ukraine concerning Reforming of State Management in the Sphere Social Insurance against Unemployment” for modernization of state employment service and establishment a National Agency of People Employment on the basis of existing state employment service.

The National Agency will be render a complex agent services (to people and employers) on the basis of monitoring and risk assessment in the labour market. New mechanism and employment promotion measures elaborated according to the European experience namely Federal Employment Agency of Germany, Public Employment Service of Austria, Employment Service of France and Lithuanian Labour Exchange.

Further development of employment services will include 3 new instruments and services, as follows:

1. Establishment of National Agency consulting centres to support entrepreneurial initiatives of unemployed who have received financial support to start their own business by advising, assisting in the planning and the conduct of business activities.
2. Providing the ability to receive information and counselling, vocational guidance services, to find work in the service departments, as well as on-line, including electronic classrooms to work with employers and the unemployed. There are inexpensive tools for contributors and quite mobile and easy job

and labour force search.

3. Introducing individual support for certain categories of unemployed persons in employment and within 6 months of employment to improve their integration in the labour market by providing information, counselling, career guidance services; rehabilitation and activities with psychosocial support.

During August - September 2015 a series of public events aimed at discussing the Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on the Reform of Public Administration in the sphere of Employment and Social Insurance against Unemployment" with the public, social dialogue parties, international organizations. During September 2015 - January 2016 suggestions and comments were received from all interested central executive bodies, social dialogue parties, and public organizations of people with disability, scientific institutions, UNDP, and ILO. The draft law is currently being finalized with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine.

The adoption and implementation of the draft law should lead to a fundamental change in the work approach of employment services to unemployed; increase the employment and the coverage of active employment measures, the transformation of the employment service from the agent to the influential player on the labour market.

Without waiting for adoption of the draft law, the work on optimizing the structure of employment services has already started. Thus the main task is to leave service units at a basic level to provide quality services and expanding the range of services that will be provided by the State Employment Service.

As of January 1, 2016, 19 unemployed claimed for one vacancy (as of January 1, 2015 – 14 persons; as of January 1, 2014 – 10 persons). During 2013-2014 there was a dramatic decline in employment in the whole Ukraine from 60.2% (in 2013) to 56.6% (in 2014) and unemployment growth from 7.3% (in 2013) to 9.3% (in 2014).

In 2015 compared with 2014 year the situation stabilized, and even experienced a slight improvement of basic parameters that characterize the labour market.

The employment rate of the population as a whole increased from 56.6% (in 2014) to 56.7% (in 2015) and the unemployment rate fell from 9.3% (in 2014) to 9.1% (in 2015).

444.7 thousand of unemployed were employed in 2015 (in 2014 - 494.6 thousand), including:

- by paying a lump sum of unemployment benefits for one's own business - 15.4 thousand persons (in 2014 - 18.2 thousand), including 2.5 thousand that are not competitive in the labour market;
- by employer compensation expenses in the amount of a single contribution - 14.0 thousand persons, including 4.7 thousand that are not enough competitive in the labour market.

The number of employed by dint of employment service among rural residents in 2015 amounted to 187.7 thousand persons, of whom 3.4 thousand started their own businesses through a lump sum of unemployment benefits.

178.9 thousand unemployed people received vocational training in 2015 (in 2014 - 202.2 thousand), including 47.3 thousand that are not competitive in the labour market. The level of employment after vocational training was 94%. 2.7 thousand people received the voucher.

A number of employees, warned about the planned mass release in I quarter 2016 compared to the same period last year, increased by almost one and a half times and reached 117 thousand persons.

As of April 1, 2016 there were 467.5 thousand unemployed, 376.8 thousand received unemployment benefit, the average size of which amounted to 1566 UAH, the number of vacancies amounted to 49.9 thousand, that is 11.2 % less compared with the corresponding period last year. On one vacancy claimed 9 unemployed

Reform of the Vocational Education and Training System

Today the Law of Ukraine "On Employment of population" provides the mechanisms aimed at improving professional standards, including vocational training, retraining and advanced training, providing information and counselling and career guidance services, including defined components of continuing vocational education of the population.

The system of confirmation of informal study results was introduced to increase the competitiveness of the persons who received the profession through informal learning. A person, who as a result of informal learning, self-education, practical experience, has gotten the profession, has the opportunity to confirm their qualifications and receive the document of defined form for assignment working skills. The basic regulations required for the implementation and effective functioning of the confirmation of the results of informal learning has been approved.

Vulnerable groups

The State Employment Service provides the system activity to promote integration into social and working life of people with disability and ensure their rights.

All employment centers provide easily accessible information and services of the Service. A special information corners for people with disability, containing regulations documents, address and background information on social protection and rehabilitation, training and employment opportunities; equipped with special places for individual work, including free internet access for job searching. To enhance targeted, individual work the separate specialist was provided in every employment centre to serve persons with disabilities.

It should be underlined that during recent years the activity of people with disability to find works gradually increasing. In particular, in January-April, 2016 26.8 thousand of unemployed people with disability have used the services - nearly 3% more than last year. After employment centres recommendation more than 3.9 thousand people was employed.

Social policy: an update on main social challenges and the implementation of reforms

The reform of the pension system

The Ministry of Social Policy takes the measures to create fair social pension system and preconditions for introduction of accumulation system of compulsory state pension insurance. In this regard, Ministry has submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine the draft Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine on Introduction of Accumulation System of Compulsory State Pension Insurance and Common Principles of Calculating Pensions" (reg. № 4608). The draft Law introduces to implemented measures for improving the solidarity system by:

- exemption from unusual expenses;
- fixing the wages rate for pensions at the level of the average salary for 2013, 2014 and 2015, which will reduce the gap in the size of pensions, which are designed in different years;
- providing pensions to citizens who left for permanent residence abroad to countries that have not signed international treaties.

The draft Law introduces common principles for calculating pensions, and makes changes to:

- implementation of pensions for persons employed in jobs on the list of № 1 and the list of № 2 or in positions that are entitled to a pension for seniority, as well as civil servants and similar positions through accumulative professional pension program of accumulative system of pension insurance;
- introduction the accumulative pension system from July 1, 2017.

Reform of social assistance (social benefits), the subsidies system associated with the increase of utilities tariffs

The subsidies program remains as the main mechanism for social protection in terms of raising prices and utilities tariffs and guarantees stability indigent costs of municipal services regardless of changes in the cost of services.

Through the Program of housing subsidies the state compensates the families the cost of housing and communal services within the standards of service consumption exceeding the amount of obligatory payment.

In heating season 2015/2016 subsidy received about 5.5 million households, almost 5 times more than in the previous heating season.

The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 27.04.2016 № 319 made changes to the procedure of granting the subsidies that are worked out on the basis of the heating period to improve the efficiency of housing subsidies.

The Law of Ukraine "On Amendments and Ceasing Invalid some Legislative Acts of Ukraine" of 28.12.2014 № 76-VIII introduced a targeted approach to providing benefits to certain categories of beneficiaries from 07.01.2015 on social grounds. Benefits are provided if the size of the average amount of total family income per person for the previous six months does not exceed the income that entitles person to tax social benefits (in 2016 - 1 930 UAH).

The above rule applies when providing privilege for paying housing and communal services, communication services, the acquisition of solid fuel, liquefied natural gas (war veterans, victims of Nazi persecution, large families, children of war, retired from the number of police and civil protection, pensioners among the medical, pharmaceutical, teachers and workers of culture and libraries in rural areas, etc.).

It remains the same procedure for the provision of privilege for such people as disabled veterans, combatants, persons affected by the Chernobyl

disaster (1 and 2 categories), military veterans and police, their widows, rehabilitated persons, persons disabled in military service.

The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 04.06.2015 № 389 has approved the procedure for granting privileges to certain categories of citizens on the basis of the average amount of total family income per person for recipient exceeds the amount of income that gives the right to social tax privilege, the department for social protection in written form informs recipients that they have no right to privilege and can apply for a housing subsidy.

Social adaptation and reintegration of internally displaced persons

As of May 26, 2016 - 1 787 019 internally displaced persons (1 447 762 families) were registered. The most displaced persons are concentrated in the Donetsk region – 724.5 thousand, Luhansk region – 267 thousand, Zaporizhia region – 126.7 thousand, Kharkiv region – 199 thousand, Dnipropetrovsk region – 73.5 thousand, the city of Kyiv – 136 thousand. Among the total number of internally displaced persons are 980.6 thousand pensioners, 71.8 thousand persons with disability and 233 thousand children.

With the purpose of social support for internally displaced families (persons) the Government adopted a Resolution “On providing a monthly targeted assistance to internally displaced persons to cover living expenses, including housing and communal services payment” (of October 1, 2014 № 505).

Monthly targeted assistance to cover living expenses is allocated for a family and paid to one of its members subject to the written consent of arbitrary form of cash benefits to that person from other members of the family. As of May 26, 2016 – 854.8 thousand families requested a monthly targeted assistance, of which 798 families obtained such assistance.

The bodies of the Pension Fund of Ukraine is providing by a simplified procedure the transfer of pension payments at a new place of residence of persons who moved from the Donetsk and Luhansk regions to other regions of Ukraine.

Transfer of pension payments is provided at the request of citizens to request the pension case, upon presentation of a passport or other identity document.

According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of November 7, 2014 № 595 pension and other social payments of all budgets and funds of mandatory state social insurance are paid during the term of validity of the registration certificate of internally displaced persons.

As of May 26, 2016 the number of persons who applied to the bodies of the Pension Fund of Ukraine for pension payments at a new place of residence and were registered in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of October 1, 2014 № 509 make 1 028 929 persons.

During the period from 1 October 2014 to 26 May 2016 - 57 519 internally displaced persons (who had a certificate of internally displaced person) applied to the State Employment Service for assistance in employment, among them: 47 310 persons obtained unemployed status, 16 776 persons (including on their own) were employed.

Strategy to overcome poverty

Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of March 16, 2016 № 161 “On Approval of the Strategy for Overcoming Poverty” was adopted. The Strategy aims at gradual reduction of poverty, social exclusion and introduction of new mechanisms of its prevention in Ukraine. The Strategy is expected to be implemented till 2020.

The main strategic directions aimed at increasing access to productive employment, promoting the growth of incomes from employment and benefits in the public social security system for ensuring conditions for decent work; ensuring public access to social services regardless of place of residence, minimizing the risks of social exclusion of the rural population; combating social exclusion and poverty risk minimization of the most vulnerable groups; preventing poverty and avoiding the appearance of chronic poverty centres and social exclusion among internally displaced persons.

With the purpose of implementing the Strategy to overcome poverty a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine “On Approval of the Action Plan for 2016 – 2017 on Implementation of the Strategy for Overcoming Poverty” was elaborated and sent by the Ministry of social policy to the line ministries for consideration. Now this draft act is being completed taking into account the given proposals and comments.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Reform

The draft Concept of health financing was developed by Ministry of Health of Ukraine. The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine № 1024 "On approval of provision of inpatient hospital beds per 10,000 population" (to replace the resolution on June 28, 1997 № 640) was adopted on November 25, 2015 to ensure rational use of budgetary assignation and available resources.

Completed conditions of preparation and signed the Loan Agreement between Ukraine and the IBRD on March 19, 2015 № 8475-UA, which entered into force on June 15, 2015. Within the framework of the Agreement is being implemented an investment project "Improving Health in the Service of the People". Under the project has been started implementation of e-health system.

Ministry of Health in cooperation with executive bodies, international and national experts, takes measures to create conditions for the implementation of state compulsory social health insurance, continues creation of a unified register of patients, implementation of new effective approaches of funding and payment (DRG), approval of the cost determination methods of medical services, optimize hospital beds and more.

Subsector strategies for the pharmaceutical sector, including regulatory framework and public procurement

Ministry of Health analyzed regulations that should be implemented to EU law in the sphere of medicines and sent a request to the Mission of European Commission to Ukraine to provide technical and expert assistance in auditing legislation of Ukraine, for harmonization with the legislation of the EU.

European Commission allocated grant (Assessment of the Ukrainian regulations and administrative management of the pharmaceutical sector Lot 8, Request for Services 2015/364797 - Version 1) to analyze the legislation of Ukraine in the sphere of medicines to provide recommendations for deregulation in this sphere and assessment of depth in implementation of EU legislation with national law.

According to schedule audit of national law report is expected in mid-2016.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT AND UKRAINE LEGISLATIVE APPROXIMATION TO EU LAW IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Creation of the National Centre for Public Health

The Order of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine on September 18, 2015 № 604 established the Centre for Public Health.

Prevention and Control of infectious diseases: EU evaluation and next steps

Ministry of Health of Ukraine started implementation of recommendations made by experts from the European Centre for Disease Control with involvement of representatives of WHO and supported by the European Commission report on the evaluation of prevention system and response to infectious diseases in Ukraine (2015).

Ministry of Health developed and approved the following orders that provide implementation of the next EU regulations:

- Commission Decision № 2000/96/EC on December 22, 1999 on the infectious diseases that have progressively covered by the Community network under Decision 2119/98/EC of the European Parliament and the Council
- Commission Decision №2002/253/EC on March19, 2002 on case identification used that are used to inform about infectious diseases the Community, established according to the Decision of the European Parliament and Council Directive 2119/98/EC.

According the adoption of these orders, Ukraine may be involved to the network of EU epidemiological surveillance and provide the relevant information.

A poliomyelitis outbreak in Ukraine 2016

According the international classification defined by the WHO in Ukraine was a poliomyelitis outbreak caused by circulating polio virus type 1. Virus circulation was confirmed by a reference-laboratory WHO and CDC (Atlanta, USA).

According to international practices and recommendations on response to the poliomyelitis outbreak, was decided to hold 3 additional rounds of a poliomyelitis vaccination in Ukraine.

To evaluate the quality of a country taken measures in response to the poliomyelitis outbreak the monitoring group involving representatives of

WHO, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), CDC (USA), the European Certification Committee for Polio Eradication was in the Ukraine. There were two evaluations according to the 3-month and 6-month operation. In April, the mission acknowledged that the spread of polio virus type 1 in Ukraine stopped.

Blood safety system: EU assessment and next steps

Ukraine brings its legislation and practice to the principles of the EU acquis step by step, in particular in the field of blood. Within 3 years from the date of entry into force of this Agreement shall be accomplished adaptation of directives: Directive № 2002/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of January 27, 2003, Commission Directive number 2004/33/EC of March 22, 2004, Commission Directive number 2005/62/EC of September 30, 2005, Commission Directive number 2005/61/EC of September 30, 2005.

Was done the Assessment of institutions of Blood Service of Ukraine by experts of the European Commission (EC) which results the report and practical recommendations for the development of Blood Service in Ukraine (previous conclusions and recommendations – September 2015, the final report (Technical Report Following the Assessment Mission on Blood Services in Ukraine) – November 25, 2015).

In order to implement the Association Agreement and the implementation of the recommendations following steps were done:

- A coordination expert working group on the development of Blood Service (CEWG) which examines current issues of functioning of Blood Service and develops measures for implementation in the work of Blood Services of European and international best standards and practices (order of the Ministry of Health on September 21, 2015 № 610).
- CEWG developed and published for public discussion draft National Strategy for Development of Blood Services. Finalizing, presentation, review and discussion of strategy planned as part of the expert mission of the European Commission (TAIEX) on June 07 – 09, 2016.
- Draft projects on establishment of Blood Service and Blood Bank, the national leadership of the clinical use of medications and components of blood are under development. The question related to the problems of processing donor plasma on medications has been discussed.

Non-infectious diseases

The Ministry of Health developed a National Action Plan for the implementation of the program and the EU “European Health Strategy – 2020” on non-infectious diseases for the period till 2020”. The draft document was discussed with the public, the scientific community and international organizations.

A draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers on approval of the National Action Plan, which has been agreed with all state regional administrations (25), the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, 10 central executive bodies, except the Ministry of Finance is drafted. So, the approval of the National Action Plan remains open and requires approval of the Ministry of Finance and is on the agenda of the Ministry as such that allow systematically implement measures for the prevention of non-infectious diseases on the principle of “health in all policies”.

The fight against tobacco

A number of measures were provided by Ukraine for implementation of Articles WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) into national legislation.

The Law of Ukraine “On Amendments to some Laws of Ukraine Concerning Improvement of Certain Provisions Include Limiting Smoking Tobacco Products” June 13, 2012 № 4844-VI, which contains a list of places where smoking will be prohibited fully or partially.

On September 16, 2012 entered a complete prohibition on advertising, sponsorship and promotion of tobacco products. Effective methods are the price and tax measures.

Ukraine approximates its legislation and practice to the EU acquis principles in the field of tobacco. Registered in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine the draft law №2820 offers full implementation of the conditions specified in the Annex to the Agreement XLI (list of EU Directives), in particular to implement in Ukraine the provisions of Directive №2003/33/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of May 26, 2003 “On approaching legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions of the Member states on advertising and sponsorship of tobacco products” and Directive 2014/40/EC “On the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member states concerning the manufacture, presentation and sale of tobacco and related products and repealing Directive 2001/37/EC”.

The Protocol on the Elimination of illegal trade in tobacco products was adopted on November 2012 on The 5th Conference of the Parties of the Framework Convention of the World Health Organization on Tobacco Control with representatives of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine and Ministry of Economic Development of Ukraine.

Nowadays the Protocol on the Elimination of illegal trade in tobacco products is in the process of ratification (now passed the procedure of official translation of the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine and agrees with the central authorities).