

24 July 2023

## **Independent commission assesses the NACP's performance in 2020-2021 as “not ineffective” in first-ever audit**

Based on the Law of Ukraine “On Corruption Prevention” and the formula stipulated by the Government-approved Methodology and Assessment Criteria, the Commission concluded that **the activity of the National Agency on Corruption Prevention during the assessment period (2020-2021) was not ineffective.**

On July 24, the international commission of independent experts finalized its assessment of the NACP's performance in the period 2020-2021 and unanimously approved the corresponding report. The Commission notes that, due to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, the assessment process was suspended in February 2022. Yet despite challenges of the ongoing war, it was reinstated in June 2022.

The report will be made public on a [special section of the Cabinet of Ministers' website.](#)

The report evaluates the NACP under nine areas (Evaluation Objects) and 237 criteria. It finds that the NACP complied with 148 (72%) out of 206 criteria taken into consideration (other criteria were not considered in the calculation because the Commission did not receive sufficient information to reach a conclusion or because the NACP could not implement these criteria due to external factors). The NACP did not comply with 58 criteria (28%). The report provides 120 recommendations, including 46 high-priority recommendations, for the NACP to improve its effectiveness further. The final report comprises almost 200 pages.

The Commission concludes that the NACP satisfactorily performed most of its tasks. It was able, in particular, to correct many of the deficiencies which resulted in the disbandment of the NACP's previous composition. The Commission also notes that in 2020-2021 the COVID-19 pandemic and the suspension of several powers within its mandate by decisions of external actors (namely, Constitutional Court of Ukraine) affected the agency's work. However, the Commission highlights that in several aspects, the NACP failed to deliver high-quality results. This was attributed mainly to the insufficient level of transparency in its work and serious mistakes in the approach taken in developing legal acts regulating the work of the NACP staff in key areas. Deficiencies in the organizational structure and staffing decisions and operation of the internal control function were also contributing factors. These and other issues are explained in the report.

The Commission also notes that this was the first assessment of this kind. Even though the methodology, criteria, and formula for the assessment were not conducive to a speedy evaluation process and experience gained in this process should be reviewed to streamline future assessments.

The Commission members are grateful to the NACP staff for their cooperation during the assessment process, to the civil society organizations for their involvement, and to other stakeholders for completing the questionnaire and meeting with the commissioners for interviews. The Commission is also grateful to the Cabinet of Ministers' Secretariat for its organizational and technical support to the assessment process.

The Commission consisted of three international experts appointed by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, based on the proposals of international anti-corruption technical assistance projects: Joseph Gangloff (USA), Diana Kurpniece (Latvia), and Laura Stefan (Romania). Members of the Commission were assisted by the Secretariat: Oleksandr Kalitenko, Oksana Nesterenko, Kateryna Ryzhenko, Yuliia Zaltsberh, Dmytro Kotlyar, and Yuliia Sergiiko. Technical assistance to the assessment process was provided by the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative and the USAID-funded Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions (SACCI) program.