

NON-PAPER

EU-Ukraine Sub-Committee on Economic and Other Sector Cooperation –
Cluster IV meeting on Science and Technology, Information Society, Audio-Visual
policy, Education, Training and Youth, Culture, Sport and Physical Activity

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COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Ukraine became an associated country to the EU program in research and innovation Horizon 2020 in March 2015. Horizon 2020 provides wide opportunities to the Ukrainian research institutions, universities, as well as small and medium enterprises and individual researchers to apply for competitive grants and use all the program instruments, which have not been available for Ukraine as a third country.

According to the last available data, Ukrainian entities and researchers submitted during 2014-2015 around 394 applications, 42 of which have been retained for funding with a total sum of 7 068 199 EUR. The general success rate of Ukraine in Horizon 2020 constitutes around 10.3%.

In order to provide effective communication of Horizon 2020 opportunities to the wider audience a network of National Contact Points has been established. The NCP network requires further strengthening and substantial enhancement of institutional capacity. In March 2016 the Ministry of Education and Science hosted a two-days training seminar for all the NCPs from the Eastern Partnership countries within the remit of the EaP Panel on Research and Innovation.

Ukraine continues to work on establishment of an efficacious institutional base for the implementation of Horizon 2020, and prepares a selection process for the future delegates from Ukraine to the Programme Committees. The development of the road map of Ukrainian participation in Horizon 2020 is being done jointly with the Support Group for Ukraine.

There is a progress in negotiations on the Ukraine's association to the EU Programme in research and training EURATOM. The Ukrainian side is on the final stage of completing its internal procedures that are necessary in order to sign the agreement. Ukrainian research institutions have taken part in 12 EURATOM projects during the FP7 with a total retained funding of more than 1 million EUR. Thus, association of Ukraine to EURATOM program might potentially yield substantial benefits to the Ukrainian nuclear research institutions.

Ukraine and the European Commission have started the peer review of the Ukrainian R&I system under the Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility (PSF). The review will be conducted within the three line identified by the Ukrainian side – optimization of available policy instruments to support the national research system; internationalization

of research and integration of Ukraine into the European Research Area; role of science in Ukrainian innovations development. The first kick off meeting was held in Brussels on 10 May 2016 with a participation of the Ministry of Education and Science management and the selected panel of European experts. The final report of the review is to be available in November 2016. The Ukrainian side will use the PSF audit for further development and implementation of the ERA integration road map.

The cooperation of the Ukrainian side with the Joint Research Centre has been also intensified. The National academy of sciences of Ukraine (NASU) will host an information day on the JRC activities in Kyiv in September 2016 and a respective agreement was reached by the NASU with the Director-General of JRC Vladimir Šucha. One of the important directions will be cooperation on design and implementation of Ukrainian research and innovation strategies for smart specialization (RIS3) and Ukrainian side would appreciate assistance of the EC on this topic.

In order to enhance the participation rate of the Ukrainian SMEs in Horizon 2020, as well as to present the available financial instruments to Ukrainian financial institutions and funds a dedicated information day «Supporting Innovation in Ukraine» is planned by the European Investment Bank and the Ministry of Education and Science in July 2014.

With an aim to launch a systemic reform of the R&D sector and facilitate its integration into the European Research Area the Ukrainian Parliament adopted a new Law “On Science and Scientific Activity” in November 2015. The new legislation stipulates the European integration as a strategic priority. It provides for democratization in science system management, reforms the funding system and introduces new grant-based funding mechanism.

INFORMATION SOCIETY

Pursuant to the provisions of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, the EU-Ukraine Association Agenda and with aim to implement i.a. Directives 2002/19/EC, 2002/20/EC, 2002/21/EC, 2002/22/EC of the European Parliament and the Council (as amended) a Draft Law of Ukraine “On Electronic Communications” has been registered in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (registration number 3549-1 of 11.12.2015), alongside others systemic legislative proposals.

The abovementioned draft law i.a. provides for: business entities’ informative registration approach; the abolition of activity licensing in the telecommunications area; the licensing of the numbering and radio frequency resources; NRA electronic form documents submission; improved control (supervision) of the electronic communications sector with view to crime prevention and the reduction of potential administrative pressure on business entities; the introduction of administrative and economic sanctions; the definition of ex-ante regulation and regulatory obligations that may be imposed on

providers with SMP, as well as the powers of the NRA for the imposition of mentioned obligations; the strengthening of the NRA's independence; terminology clarification.

The draft law has been designated as urgent by the President of Ukraine and is currently pending review by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian side will be grateful for further possible EU's assistance and supporting of Ukraine's legislative initiatives in the electronic communications area prepared in accordance with the best EU Information Society practices.

The National Commission for the State Regulation of Communications and Informatization (NCCIR), pursuant to the provisions of Article 72 of the Law of Ukraine "On Telecommunications", NCCIR main objectives under paragraph 4 of the NCCIR Regulation approved by the Presidential Decree of 23 November 2011 No. 1067/2011, as well as the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, has been actively conducting activities within the Eastern Partnership (EaP) Electronic Communications Regulators Network (the EaPeReg).

The aim of the EaPeReg is to provide a forum for regular exchange of information and experience on the electronic communications sector regulation, facilitating the approximation of national legislation with EU legislation, promoting best telecommunications markets regulatory and monitoring practices.

The EaPeReg is open for participation to any NRA of the EaP countries as well as the Body of European Regulators of Electronic Communications (BEREC) observers. The Memorandum of Understanding between the EaPeReg and BEREC that was signed in December 2014 is i.a. aimed at the development of broadband policy and strategy based on the best EU practice and recommendations, as well as the implementation of regulatory framework ensuring investment and growth in the telecoms markets of the EaPeReg countries.

According to the EaPeReg Work Plan for 2016, two plenary assemblies, four technical workshops on relevant topics (regulatory governance, new trends in competition regulation in the markets, consumer issues - empowerment and QoS from the point of view of consumers, international roaming, EaP Common Space and EU Model), a workshop on broadband, which is to be organized with the participation and assistance from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), as well as SEWG, BEWG and REWG meetings are scheduled this year.

The Ukrainian side has reliance in the European Union for the relevant EU bodies' further active participation in the EaPeReg activities that are aimed at greater approximation of EaP countries' institutions, legislation and practices with those of the EU.

Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 July 2014 on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market and repealing Directive 1999/93/EC will be implemented in the Law of

Ukraine on Electronic Trust Services. Draft law is submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in May 2016.

Upon its adoption the law will create legal framework for introducing in Ukraine of principles for providing electronic trust services based on the model of European Union.

Development and implementation of the Digital Agenda for Ukraine is one of the key points as a part of the Government action plan for 2016. Ukraine intends to discuss the key points of the Digital Agenda for Ukraine and the possibility to receive technical support from the EU side for its implementation.

Participation of Ukraine in European statistical indexes is important as it will help to define and analyse the level of innovations development in Ukraine, compare current state of innovations development in Ukraine with other European countries, define gaps and develop government policy in this sphere.

In 2016 Ukraine managed to collect necessary statistical information and initiated the process of joining the Innovation Scoreboard review. Ukraine expects to be included into the Innovation Scoreboard in 2016.

EU support of the initiative of Ukraine to join other European statistical indexes and consider the possibility to provide technical assistance to the State Statistical Service of Ukraine for the purpose of developing methodology and its adjusting to the EU standards will be appreciated.

Ukraine closely follows the development of the European Digital Single Market (EU DSM). The achievements in this promising area will open up a considerable potential for growth and innovation in the EU economy.

An initiative to establish an EU-Ukraine ‘common commercial area’ of mobile services with single lowered tariffs for roaming services between Ukraine and EU Member States will be regarded in Ukraine as an important achievement of Ukraine’s European choice, similar to the EU visa-free regime.

This initiative should be thoroughly explored from the commercial, technical and regulatory points of view in order to strike a balance between political objectives, expectations of the citizens and legitimate commercial interests of mobile network operators.

We expect that the achievements of EU DSM could also be shared with Ukraine in areas of ongoing reforms in the country, such as data protection, e-commerce, e-customs, e-logistics, Digital Transport Corridors.

On 27 August 2015, the official meeting between the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and the President of European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker was held. Pursuant to agreements reached within the framework of this meeting, on 19 November 2015 the Ukrainian delegation met with the Cabinets’ representatives of the Vice President of the European Commission for the Digital Single Market Andrus Ansip and

European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Günther Oettinger as well as the leading experts of the DG CONNECT. The delegation of Ukraine presented in detail the initiative on the establishment of a “common commercial area” providing for single tariffs for roaming services in the EU Member states and the EaP countries. The initiative is based on the Regulation (EU) No. 531/2012 on roaming on public mobile communications networks within the EU. Its main goal is to support the difference between domestic and roaming prices and thus supporting the competition on mobile roaming market and protecting consumers’ rights and interests.

Ukraine requests the EU to investigate the possibility of establishing a “common commercial area” of mobile services between EU and Ukraine with consideration for the Association Agreement and obligations under WTO.

AUDIO-VISUAL POLICY

The creation of the public radio and broadcasting system is one of the main Ukrainian priorities in the field of audio-visual policy. Under the Law of Ukraine "On Public Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine" the process of creating of the National Public Broadcasting Company is continuing.

The State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine provided the introduction (implementation) of the 1st stage of the reform: the reorganization of national broadcasting companies through their joining to the National Broadcasting Company of Ukraine.

The 2nd stage of reform is the transformation of the National Broadcasting Company of Ukraine into PJSC «National Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine» (hereinafter – NPBCU). The composition of the Supervisory Board of NPBCU was approved. Together with the members of the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting it creates the Charter of NPBCU.

On October 1, 2015 came into force the law «On Amendments to Several Laws of Ukraine on ensuring the Transparency of Media Ownership and Implementing the Principles of State Policy of Television and Radio Broadcasting». The Law requires the entities to disclose the information about their beneficial owners’ on their web-sites.

In accordance with Annex XXXVI to Chapter 15 «Audio-visual industry Policy» of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, Ukraine obligates to adapt the legislation according with EU legislation, namely to implement the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council 2007/65/EC and 2010/13/EU on audio-visual media services.

Today the draft of the Law "On audio-visual services" which agrees with the public authorities, NGOs and participants of the media market is ready. After agreeing it will be submitted to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

EDUCATION AND YOUTH

Ukrainian side is dedicated to the systemic long-term reforms in the education sphere that encompass all the levels of education. With substantial support from the EU countries and with the help of EU programs, like Erasmus+ and eTwinning, Ukrainian side is launching a reform in primary and secondary education, VET, and continues to implement the higher education reform.

A draft Law “On Education” has been finalized by the Ministry of Education and Science and sent to the Parliament. The framework document provides for a set up of a *New Ukrainian School*. Four main components of the mentioned concept entail:

- development and introduction of **new modern education standards** in secondary education that have a competence-based approach and provide for competences needed for a person in 21 century;
- revision of the **national curriculum according to new education standards**;
- introduction of the **teachers’ certification procedure and new certified programs for enhancement of professional qualification**. Such a voluntary certification is needed in order to motivate the teachers to develop professionally, as well as to provide for better compensation.
- Systemic de-bureaucratization of the education system management and introduction of transparent and effective governance system.

Ukrainian side works closely with several Member States on a matter of education standards development. There is a working discussion with the Support Group for Ukraine for setting up tailored TAIEX projects that would focus on specific aspects of implementation of the future Law “On Education”.

Ukraine has expressed its intent to participate in international assessment PISA 2018 that would help to assess the real situation in skills and knowledge in secondary school and get the comparable results.

The new draft Law “On Vocational Education” has been sent to the Parliament for consideration in May 2016. The new legislature was developed jointly with the European Training Foundation and includes substantial number of Torino process recommendations. The main principles of the VET system reform include:

- decentralization of professional education system;
- establishment of regional stakeholders boards;
- network optimization and introduction of region-led funding;
- development of modern professional education standards.

Ukraine continues to implement the higher education reform in line with the Bologna principles and along the recommendations of the European Higher Education Area. The reform is based on key principles:

- academic, organizational and financial autonomy of the universities;
- fully fledged tertiary system;
- introduction of credible external and internal quality assurance mechanisms;
- development of new higher education standards;
- facilitation of internationalization of HEIs, introduction of conducive condition for dynamic academic mobility of students and teachers;
- enhancement of research component in the universities.

The Ukrainian Government has approved a considerable number of bylaws in order to foster the higher education reform. The system of diploma recognition is substantially improved and liberalized with a simultaneous institutional capacity enhancement of the Ukrainian ENIC NARIC. New mechanisms of higher education funding have been developed by the Ministry of Education and Science in order to introduce performance-based funding. The Ministry started to develop new higher education standards according to the new list of fields of studies in line with the ISCED.

The capacity building projects within the Erasmus+ program have a substantial importance in the reform process, as well the Jean Monnet and individual mobility programs. Ukraine retains the leadership positions among the EaP countries in terms of number of approved Erasmus+ projects number. 275 credit mobility projects were established in 2015 and involve around 1300 participants from Ukraine. In 2015 10 new K2 Erasmus+ projects were approved for the Ukrainian universities with a total funding of around 8.5 million euros.

Ukrainian youth organizations take part in youth projects of the "Erasmus+" Program as partners of the organizations from the Program countries (EU member states, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Turkey, and Macedonia).

According to the statistical data for the period 2007-2015 Ukrainian youth organizations have participated actively in the youth projects of the "Erasmus+" Program.

Ukraine foresees as one of its objectives the development of youth mobility, facilitation of the participation of Ukrainian youth in international youth Programs, including youth projects of the "Erasmus+" Program.

Ukrainian officials constantly hold consultations with representatives of the European Commission on future cooperation perspectives concerning information sharing on opportunities that provides "Erasmus+" Program for Ukrainian youth; as well as on expanding of the realization possibilities of the Erasmus+ Program in Ukraine.

During the validity period of the EU Program "Youth in action" (2007-2013) so called 'multipliers' – representatives of the youth organizations in Ukraine, which on a competitive basis were selected to work in Program by European Commission, have

shared information about it in Ukraine. 6 official multipliers of the "Youth in action" Program have worked in Ukraine.

The commitments of the National "Erasmus+" office in Ukraine include activities directed to support, promote, monitor and share information on "Erasmus+" Program exclusively in higher education field. Currently the National "Erasmus+" office in Ukraine neither is promoting and sharing information on youth projects of the "Erasmus+" Program nor is authorized to perform these functions.

The functions of raising awareness regarding activity, possibilities and projects of the "Erasmus+" Program for youth were laid by European Commission on Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre SALTO EECA, which is located in Warsaw, Poland. SALTO EECA collaborates with Eastern Partnership states, including Ukraine on organization of the trainings and information days, however these events are hold rarely and do not cover youth from all regions of Ukraine.

There is a necessity of a more active work to be carried out by the European Commission on youth organizations' awareness concerning projects of the "Erasmus+" EU Program, especially among youth from the regions of Ukraine.

More active work of the European Commission, especially directed to the organization of the informational campaigns and establishment of the separate office or communication representatives in Ukraine, will increase the number of the Ukrainian participants in the "Erasmus+" Program substantially.

The State Program "Youth of Ukraine" for 2016-2020

The state social program "Youth of Ukraine" for 2016-2020 was elaborated in 2015, which defines the priorities of the state youth policy for the following 5 years. The Program was approved by the resolution 148 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 18 February 2016. In the process of program elaboration the results of sociologic survey "Youth of Ukraine 2015" were used. The Program became a product of Ministry of Youth and Sports' collaboration with young experts representing all regions of Ukraine. Youth was engaged in the work of the round tables, polls and discussions on defining the priorities for the next 5 years. Therefore, the most relevant issues of Ukrainian youth were managed to include to the program and provide financing from the state budget for it.

The Program contains 5 priorities:

1. **Building active citizenship and national-patriotic upbringing** – implementation of activities aimed to revive national-patriotic upbringing, assertion of citizenship awareness and active participation of young people.
2. **Young people's healthy lifestyle** – implementing measures aimed at promotion and affirmation of healthy and safe lifestyle and health culture among youth.

3. **Development of non-formal education** – implementing activities aimed at acquiring knowledge, skills and competencies by young people beyond the system of formal education, in particular by volunteering.
4. **Youth employment** – creating conditions and implementing measures to facilitate youth employment (providing primary and secondary employment and self-employment of young people).
5. **Youth housing** – creating conditions for providing young people with housing.
6. **Partnership support to young people from temporarily occupied territories and internally displaced persons** – implementing measures aimed at social assertion and support to young people among internally displaced persons.

CULTURAL POLICY

The **Long-term Strategy on Ukrainian Culture – Strategy of Reforms** was adopted on February 1, 2016 as a result of lengthy discussions held in professional and social circles, analytical assessments and recommendations of experts. The document outlines direction of efforts to ensure prominent place of culture in socio-economic development of Ukraine.

To implement reforms in culture a number of legislative initiatives was undertaken, namely:

- **the Law of Ukraine On Amendments to Some Legislative Acts of Ukraine to Implement Contractual Employment in Cultural Sphere and Competitive Selection of Heads of State and Municipal Cultural Institutions** – adopted on January 28, 2016 in order to refresh the top management of state and municipal cultural institutions in accordance to transparent competitive selection and implementation of contractual employment of artists;
- **the Strategy on Librarianship till 2025** developed jointly with Ukrainian Library Association and adopted on March, 23 2016 – aiming at analyzing the current situation in the sector and defining priorities for libraries in terms of quality changes with detailed directions, tasks and expected results; plans for short-term (2016-2017), medium (2018-2020) and long term (2021-2025) perspective;
- **the Regulations on the Supervisory Board of a National Cultural Institution Under the Jurisdiction of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine** was adopted (an advisory body to the Ministry of Culture for monitoring activities of a national cultural institution), which defines the legal status of the Supervisory Board, its organizational structure and mandate, rights and obligations of its members. The Board may also include representatives of institutions of civil society as well as prominent cultural actors etc.;
- **the Regulations on the Expert Council of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine for Selection Cultural and Artistic Projects that Receive State Financial Support** was

adopted in order to launch the procedure of transparent funding cultural and artistic events based on the experience of using competitive grants to support culture in some European countries (UK, France, Poland, Baltic countries);

- **a draft law On the Protection and Preservation of Immovable Cultural Heritage** was elaborated, which provides decentralization, deregulation, introduction of transparent administration procedures in the field of preservation of immovable cultural heritage, strengthening responsibility for damage or destruction of monuments, prohibiting of visual advertising on sites and significant restrictions for its installation within protected and historical areas, introduction of transparent electronic register of all sites and monuments of Ukraine;

- to create favorable conditions for ensuring successful operation activity and innovative development of museums and museology in general, creating a unified register of museums, regardless of their form of ownership, as well as museum pieces kept in museums of Ukraine, a **draft law On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Museums and Museology** was elaborated taking into account the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums;

- **two variants of draft law On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine On Export, Import and Return of Cultural Property** (one – by the Ministry of Culture, another – by independent experts) were elaborated in order to reduce administrative barriers to acquiring the right to export (temporary export) of cultural values from the territory of Ukraine; decentralization and unification of administrative services provided in the area is among the objects of the law as well;

- **a draft law On Intangible Cultural Heritage**, which regulates legal, organizational and social interactions in the field of intangible cultural heritage, is being in progress.

A number of legislative initiatives was undertaken to start new approaches in national memory policy, namely:

- **the Law of Ukraine On Access to the Archives of the Repressive Institutions of the Communist Totalitarian Regime of 1917-1991 years**, which opens files of communist crimes and massive human rights violations;

- **the Law of Ukraine On Perpetuation of Victory over Nazism in World War II (1939-1945)**, which returns true memory of the years of war and deprives the Soviet clichés;

- **the Law of Ukraine On the Legal Status and Honor the Memory of Participants of the Struggle for Independence of Ukraine in the XX century**;

- **the Law of Ukraine On the Condemnation of Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and Ban on Propaganda of Their Symbols**.

On January 15, 2016 after completion of the domestic procedures **Ukraine joined the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)**. It is assumed that the exchange of experiences, training of Ukrainian specialists in the field of protection and preservation of cultural heritage with the latest restoration technologies will improve the quality of preservation of the cultural heritage of Ukraine.

Currently, **the key short-term priorities for the Ministry are:**

1. **Implementation of new approaches to operation activity of local cultural institutions in the context of decentralization process.** To respond to the challenges associated with the process of decentralization (the threat of extinction of cultural institutions in small villages and towns) the Ministry of Culture will facilitated the modernization of cultural infrastructure in regions, ensuring transformation of cultural institutions into social institutions for cohesion of local communities.
2. **Creation of a comprehensive electronic records system of the cultural heritage of Ukraine.**
3. **Creation of Ukrainian Culture Fund** (*introduction of a transparent instrument of funding cultural initiatives and cultural projects on a competitive basis*) - will equalize access to resources, for budget and non-budget sector, and bridge the gap between them. The Ministry of Culture will be able to get rid of extrinsic functions of allocating funds between actors of cultural space.

CULTURAL COOPERATION

To implement the Agreement between the Government of Ukraine and the European Commission on Ukraine's participation in the Creative Europe program, the Ministry of Culture empowered the Ukrainian Center for Cultural Studies for practical realization of the Agreement. Thus, a separate structural unit in the framework of the Center was created in order to fulfill functions of the Creative Europe Desk in Ukraine. Currently, the open selection procedure of the CED's head is being carried out, information on which is available at official web sites of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Center for Cultural Studies.

In order to raise the awareness about the program the Ministry intends to hold 4 training seminars for potential participants of the program in Western, Eastern, Central and Southern Ukraine during 2016. The first event took place on March 23, 2016 in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk (Western Ukraine) with up to 120 participants. Among the key speakers for the seminar were the head of CED in the Republic of Lithuania Ms. E.Deltuvaite, the head of CED in the UK Mr. Ch.Jankowski, representatives of British Council and the EU - Eastern Partnership program Culture and Creativity. The video recording and presentation materials of the event as well as other useful materials about the Creative Europe program are available at web site of the Ministry of Culture.

The Council of Europe and the European Commission joint project The Community-led Urban Strategies in Historic Towns (COMUS project) is being implemented since 2015. The project aims to develop innovative models of urban planning, contributing to solution of practical problems in historic towns.

Practical realization of the COMUS project in Ukraine is carried out by the Ukrainian Center for Cultural Studies together with NGO Development Centre "Democracy through Culture". The Ministry of regional development, construction and communal services, the scientific institute on monuments preservation, and NGO "Association of Cities of Ukraine" are also involved in the projects activities.

There are three pilot towns in Ukraine: Zhovkva (Lviv reg.), Pryluky (Chernihiv reg.), and Lutsk (Volyn reg.), that can be a model for developing a successful policy of preservation and use of cultural and historical heritage at local, regional and national levels.

The international conference "Cultural heritage as the driving force of social and economic development of communities" was held on November 26-27, 2015 in the pilot city Zhovkva.

The third regional seminar for project cities of Ukraine, Georgia, Armenia, Moldova and Belarus is going to be held in June 2016 in Kyiv and Pryluky.

In accordance to the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation Relating to Cooperation in the Field of Culture signed by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine and the British Council such events were held together/with participation of the EU - Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Program:

- The Creative Europe Information Day (November, 19 2015) – participated by H.E. T.Navracsecs, Member of the Commission for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Mr. K.Bartak, Head Creative Europe Programme, Mr. S.Williams, the British Council Ukraine director, Ms.E.Deltuvaite, the CED head in the Republic of Lithuania, and more than 200 representatives of cultural and creative sectors.
- The Creative Europe training seminar (March, 23 2016, Ivano-Frankivsk).

The Ukrainian Center for Cultural Studies is selected to be the national partner to the EU - Eastern Partnership Culture and Creativity Program in implementing the UNESCO Culture for Development Indicators Project (CDIS) in Ukraine.

COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The Concept of the State social programme on the development of physical education and sport until 2020 was approved by the resolution 1320 of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of 09 December 2015.

The draft Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On approval of the State social programme on the development of physical education and sport until 2020" is now in the process of internal state approval.

The aim of the Program is assignment of the leading role to physical culture and sports in Ukraine as an important factor of healthy lifestyles, diseases prevention, formation of humanistic values, creating conditions for comprehensive harmonious human development, promotion the physical and spiritual human perfection, identifying reserve capacity of the organism, formation of patriotic feelings among citizens and positive image of Ukraine in the world community.

The National strategy on improving of physical activity in Ukraine for the period till 2025 "Physical activity - Healthy lifestyle - Healthy nation" was approved by the Decree of the President of Ukraine of 9 February 2016.

According to the paragraph 2 of this Decree the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine developed a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On approval of the Action plan for 2017 for implementation of the National Strategy of improving of physical activity in Ukraine for the period till 2025 "Physical activity - Healthy lifestyle - Healthy nation". The draft resolution is now in the process of internal state approval.

The key goal of the action plan is to implement the tasks, which were defined by the National strategy on improving of physical activity in Ukraine for the period till 2025 "Physical activity - Healthy lifestyle - Healthy nation" of the creation the conditions for society on improving of physical activity and healthy lifestyles for the formation of public health as the highest social value in the State.

Ukraine has acceded to all international instruments aimed at combating doping. The National anti-doping program is implemented by the National anti-doping center of Ukraine (NADO) and based on the principles set out in the WADA Code.

Recent achievements of Ukraine in the sphere of anti-doping activity in sport:

- National anti-doping center of Ukraine (NADO) has elaborated national Anti-Doping rules according to 2015 WADA Code; these rules came into force in September 2015 and were accepted by all national federations;
- a new draft law "On Anti-Doping Control in Sport" was elaborated and approved by WADA;
- Independent Anti-Doping Commission for Disciplinary issues as well as Anti-Doping Commission of Appeals were established.

On March 18th, 2016 Ukraine was recognized by WADA as a state, which has become a Code compliant party.

Currently the Ministry of Youth and Sports and NADO work on:

1) organization of the visits of WADA representatives (May 2016) and Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention monitoring mission (June 2016)\$

2) amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On anti-doping control in sport" dated 2001, subject to the provisions of international conventions and the principles set out in the Code of 2015;

3) expansion of the premises of the laboratory and NADO, staff increase of the laboratory;

4) separation of the laboratory from NADO.

On December 21, 2015 Ukraine signed the Council of Europe Convention on the Manipulation of Sports Competitions. Ukraine's accession to the Convention will contribute to the approximation of the sphere of physical culture and sports to European standards, in particular in relation to promotion of the principles of fair play and combating corruption at sports competitions.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports is now working on ratification of the Convention at the national level.