



LAW OF UKRAINE

On Public Associations

**(The Official Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (BVR), 2013,
No. 1, Art. 1)**

{For amendments to the Law, refer to Law
[No. 5026-VI of 22 June 2012](#), BVR, 2013, No. 22, Article 216}

{As amended in accordance with the Laws
[No. 406-VII of 04 July 2013](#), BVR, 2014, No. 20-21, Art. 712
[No. 721-VII of 16 January 2014](#), BVR, 2014, No. 22, Art. 801 - became
invalid on the basis of Law No. [732-VII of 28 January 2014](#), BVR, 2014, No.
22, Art.811

[No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#), BVR, 2014, No. 17, Art. 593

[No. 1593-VII of 04 July 2014](#), BVR, 2014, No. 36, Art. 1186

[No. 1702-VII of 14 October 2014](#), BVR, 2014, No. 50-51, Art. 2057

[No. 317-VIII of 09 April 2015](#), BVR, 2015, No. 26, Art. 219

[No. 319-VIII of 09 April 2015](#), BVR, 2015, No. 25, Art. 192

[No. 475-VIII of 21 May 2015](#), BVR, 2015, No. 30, Art. 285

[No. 766-VIII of 10 November 2015](#), BVR, 2015, No. 52, Art. 482

[No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#), BVR, 2016, No. 2, Art. 17

[No. 1666-VIII of 06 October 2016](#), BVR, 2016, No. 47, Art. 800

[No. 1982-VIII of 23 March 2017](#), BVR, 2017, No. 18, Art. 222

[No. 2415-VIII of 15 May 2018](#), BVR, 2018, No. 32, Art. 242

[No. 361-IX of 06 December 2019](#), BVR, 2020, No. 25, Art. 171

[No. 440-IX of 14 January 2020](#), BVR, 2020, No. 28, Art. 188}

This Law shall define the legal and organisational principles of exercising the right to freedom of association guaranteed by the [Constitution of Ukraine](#) and international treaties of Ukraine, the binding nature of which was approved by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the procedure for establishing, registration, operation and termination of public associations.

Section I
GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1. The concept of a public association

1. A public association means a voluntary association of individuals and/or legal entities of private law for the exercise and protection of rights and freedoms, satisfaction of public, in particular economic, social, cultural, environmental, and other interests.

2. According to its organisational and legal form, a public association shall be formed as a public organisation or public union.

3. A public organisation means a public association, the founders and members (participants) of which are individuals.

4. A public union means a public association, the founders of which are legal entities under private law, and its members (participants) may be private legal entities and individuals.

5. A public association can carry out activities with or without the status of a legal entity. A public association with the legal entity status is a non-entrepreneurial company, the main purpose of which is not to make a profit.

{Part 6 of Article 1 has been deleted under Law [No. 767-VII dated 23 February 2014](#)}

Article 2. Scope of the Law

1. This Law shall be applied to public relations in the field of establishing, registration, operation and termination of public associations in Ukraine.

2. This Law shall not be applied to public relations in the field of establishing, registration, activity and termination of:

1) political parties;

2) religious organisations;

3) non-entrepreneurial companies established by acts of government authorities, other state bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local governments;

4) associations of local self-government authorities and their voluntary associations;

5) self-regulatory organisations, organisations that exercise professional self-government;

6) non-entrepreneurial companies (which are not public associations) formed on the basis of other laws.

3. The specifics of regulating public relations in the field of establishing, registration, activity and termination of certain types of public associations can be determined by other laws.

4. Non-governmental organisations of foreign countries, international non-governmental organisations (hereinafter referred to as foreign non-governmental organisations) shall operate in the territory of Ukraine in accordance with this Law and other laws of Ukraine, international treaties of Ukraine, the consent to the statutory requirement for which was granted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 3. Principles of public associations establishment and operation

1. Public associations shall be established and operated on the following principles:

- 1) voluntary nature;
- 2) self-government;
- 3) free choice of the territory for operation;
- 4) equality before the law;
- 5) no property interest of their members (participants);
- 6) transparency, openness and publicity.

2. Voluntariness implies the right of a person to freely participate or not participate in a public association, including in its establishment, joining such an association or termination of membership (participation) in it.

3. Self-government provides for the right of members (participants) of a public association to independently manage the operations of a public association in accordance with its purpose (aims), determine the directions of activity, as well as non-interference of government authorities, other state bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities in the activities of a public association, except in cases defined by law.

{As for amendments to Part 3 of Article 3 refer to the Law [No. 5026-VI dated 22 June 2012](#)}

4. Free choice of the territory for operation provides for the right of public associations to independently determine the territory for their activities, except in cases determined by law.

5. Equality before the law provides that public associations are equal in their rights and obligations under the law, taking into account the organisational and legal form, type and/or status of such an association.

6. No interest in property implies that members (participants) of a public association do not have the right to a share of the property of a public association and are not liable for its obligations. Income or property (assets) of a public association are not subject to distribution among its members (participants) and cannot be used for the benefit of any individual member (participant) of a public association, its officials (except for their remuneration and deductions for social measures).

For public associations with the status of a collective management organisation in accordance with the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On Effective Management of Property Rights of Copyright Holders in the Field of Copyright and (or) Related Rights”, no property interest of their members provides for the payments in favour of members (copyright holders) after the distribution of rights income by the collective management organisation.

{Part 6, Article 3 has been supplemented with paragraph 2 under Law [No. 2415-VIII of 15 May 2018](#)}

7. Transparency, openness implies the right of all members (participants) of a public association to have free access to information about its activities, including decisions and measures taken by the public association, as well as the obligation of the public association to provide such access. Publicity means that public associations inform the public about their purpose (aims) and operations.

Article 4. Restrictions on the public associations establishment and operation

1. Establishment and operations of public associations, the purpose (aims) or actions of which are aimed at eliminating the independence of Ukraine, changing the constitutional order by force, violating the state sovereignty and territorial integrity, erosion of its security, illegally seizing state power, propaganda of war, violence, inciting interethnic, racial, religious hatred, encroachment on human rights and freedoms, public health, propaganda of communist and/or National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes and their symbols, are prohibited.

{Part 1 of Article 4 as amended by Law [No. 721-VII of 16 January 2014](#) - has ceased to be in force under Law [No. 732-VII of 28 January 2014](#); as amended by Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#), [No. 317-VIII of 09 April 2015](#)}

2. Public associations can not include paramilitary units.

3. Other restrictions on the right to freedom of association, including the public associations establishment and operation, can be applied exclusively by law in the interests of national security and public order, protection of public health or protection of rights and freedoms of others.

4. Public associations shall not be granted powers, except in cases stipulated by law.

Article 5. Guarantees of the right to freedom of association

1. No one shall be forced to join any public association. Belonging or non-belonging to a public association shall not be grounds for restricting the rights and freedoms of a person or for granting any privileges and benefits by government authorities, other state bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government authorities.

2. Every person has the right to voluntarily terminate membership (participation) in a public association at any time by submitting an application to the relevant statutory

bodies of the public association. Membership in a public association is terminated from the date of submission of such an application and does not require additional decisions. From the same day, the stay of a public association member in any elected positions in the public association shall be terminated.

The first paragraph of this Part shall not be applied to members of a public association elected to the positions of a Head or a Deputy Head of a public association. Membership of the mentioned Head or Deputy Head in the public association is terminated from the day following the day of election of a new Head or a Deputy Head.

{Part 2 of Article 5 has been supplemented with paragraph 2 under Law [No. 1666-VIII of 06 October 2016](#)}

{Part 2 of Article 5 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

3. Requirement to provide information about the membership (participation) of a person in a public association, if such a requirement is not related to the rights exercise by a person as by a person who has the right to represent a public association, or as a member (participant) of a public association, is not allowed, except in cases defined by law.

Article 6. Joint implementation by public associations of their purpose (aims)

1. Public associations have the right to implement their purpose (aims) by entering into cooperation agreements and/or mutual assistance among themselves on a voluntary basis, establishing public unions in accordance with this Law, as well as in any other way not prohibited by law.

2. Public associations can cooperate with foreign non-governmental organisations and international governmental organisations in compliance with the Laws of Ukraine and international treaties of Ukraine, the consent to be bound by which was granted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Section II

ESTABLISHMENT AND REGISTRATION OF A PUBLIC ASSOCIATION

Article 7. Public association founders

1. Founders of a public organisation can be citizens of Ukraine, foreigners and stateless persons who are legally in Ukraine and have reached the age of 18; and founders of a youth and children's public organisation shall be those who have reached 14 years.

2. Founders of a public union can be private legal entities, including public associations with the legal entity status. Founders of a public union can not be political parties, as well as legal entities in respect of which a decision has been made to terminate them or which are in the process of termination.

3. The number of founders of a public association can not be less than two people.

4. Founders of a public union can not be private legal persons whose sole founder is the same person.

5. A founder of a public union can not be a private legal entity if the founder (owner of a significant participation) of this legal entity is included in the list of persons associated with the implementation of terrorist activities, or against whom international sanctions have been applied.

6. A founder of a public organisation can not be a person who is declared legally incompetent by a court.

7. Powers of the public association founder end after the state registration of the public association in accordance with the procedure established by law.

{Part 7 of Article 7 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Note. Substantial participation in this Law shall be understood as direct and indirect, independent or jointly with other persons ownership of 10 or more percent of the authorized (pooled) capital or votes on acquired shares (stakes) of a legal entity, or regardless of formal ownership, the possibility of significant influence on the management or activities of the legal entity.

Article 8. Public association members (participants)

1. Except for youth and children's organisations, public organisation members (participants) can be persons defined by [Part one, Article 7](#) of this Law who have reached the age of 14. The age of members of a youth or children's organisation is determined by its charter within the limits established by law.

2. Members (participants) of a public union can be private legal entities, including public associations with the legal entity status, individuals who have reached the age of 18 and are not recognised as legally incompetent by a court.

Article 9. Public association establishment and registration

{Title of Article 9 as revised by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

1. A Public association is formed at the founding meeting of its founders and is drawn up in minutes.

2. The minutes of the founding meeting of a public association shall contain information about:

1) founding meeting date and place;

2) persons who participated in the founding meeting (in accordance with Part 11 of this Article);

3) decision on the establishment of a public association with an indication of the purpose (aims) of its operations;

4) decision to determine the name and, if any, the abbreviated name of the public association;

5) decision on approval of the public association charter;

6) decisions on the formation (election) of the head, management bodies of a public association in accordance with the approved charter;

7) decision to determine a person (s) who has (have) the right to represent a public association in legal relations with the state and other persons and to perform actions on behalf of a public association without additional authority (hereinafter – the person authorised to represent a public association) - for a public association that intends to run operations without the legal entity status, if the formation (election) of management bodies is not provided for by a decision on the establishment of such an association;

8) decision on determining the person (s) who has (have) the right to represent a public association for registration actions – for a public association that intends to run operations with the legal entity status.

3. A private legal entity participates in the establishment of a public union through its Head or other authorised representative acting on the basis of a power of attorney to take actions to create a public union.

4. In the case of establishing a public association that intends to operate without the legal entity status, the decisions provided for in Paragraphs 5 and 6, Part 2 of this Article are made if the Charter and/or the formation (election) of management bodies is provided for by the decision on the establishment of such an association.

5. The minutes of the founding meeting can also contain information about other decisions taken at this meeting regarding the establishment and/or operations of a public association.

6. A person can be elected as a Head, elected to the managing body of a public association, determined by the person who has the right to represent the public association for registration actions, or determined by the person authorised to represent the public association, subject to his/her personal consent.

7. The minutes of the founding meeting shall be signed by the Meeting Chairman and Secretary.

8. A public association that intends to run operations with or without the legal entity status is subject to state registration in accordance with the procedure established by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”, within 60 days from the date of the founding meeting.

In case of failure to submit (failure to send) documents for registration of a public association within 60 days from the date of establishment, such a public association is not considered established.

{Part 8 of Article 9 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

9. Actions on behalf of an unregistered public association, except for actions related to the registration of such an association, are prohibited.

{Part 9 of Article 9 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

10. Requirements of this Article shall also be applied to decisions on the creation of a new public association, that are made in connection with the reorganisation of a public association.

11. The Register of persons who participated in the founding meeting is an integral part of the founding meeting minutes and shall contain information on:

1) in relation to individuals – person's surname, first name and patronymic, date of birth, and for foreigners and stateless persons also the data of the national passport or the document that replaces it. Data about a person shall be certified by his/her personal signature;

2) in relation to legal entities – full name, identification code, legal address, surname, first name and patronymic of the person authorized to participate in the founding meeting. This data is certified by the signature of the person authorised to participate in the founding meeting.

12. A public association informs about amendments to the public association charter, changes in the composition of the public association managing bodies, changes in the person (s) authorised to represent the public association, changes in the location of the public association within 60 days from the date of making the relevant decision.

{Article 9 has been supplemented with part 12 under Law [No.835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

13. In order to obtain the legal entity status, a public association operating without the legal entity status, by a decision of the supreme management body, can apply for registration in accordance with the procedure established by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

{Article 9 has been supplemented with Part 12 under Law [No.835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 10. Public association name

1. Name of a public association shall be determined by a decision of the founding meeting at the time of its establishing.

2. Public association name shall consist of two parts – general and proper names. The general name indicates the organisational and legal form of a public association (“public organisation”, “public union”).

{Part 2 of Article 10 as amended by Law [No. 721-VII of 16 January 2014](#) – has ceased to be in force under Law [No. 732-VII of 28 January 2014](#); as amended by Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#)}

3. Public association name should be stated in the state language. In addition to the state language, a public association can also state its own name in the foreign language, or in the national minority language.

4. Proper name of a public association shall not be identical to the proper names of other registered public associations.

{Part 4 of Article 10 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

5. Proper name of a public association shall not contain:

1) name of the government authority, authority of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authority, constituting the names of these bodies (ministry, agency, service, inspection, committee, administration, prosecutor's office, court);

2) proper name of the public association, the operations of which are prohibited by court (within three years after the entry into force of the relevant court decision);

3) other designations, the use of which is restricted by law.

6. Proper name of a public association shall not contain the words “state”, “communal” and their derivatives. Proper name of an educational institution, agency or organisation included in the proper name of a public association can only be used with the consent of the corresponding educational institution, agency or organisation.

In the proper name of a public association, it is prohibited to use historical state names, the list of which is established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

7. Proper name of a public association can contain information about the public association status (“children's”, “youth”, “all-Ukrainian”) and/or about its type (“environmental”, “human rights”, etc.).

{Part 7 of Article 7 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

8. Proper name of a public association can contain the name (pseudonym) of an individual subject to the written consent of this person or his/her heirs, certified in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, unless otherwise provided by law.

9. A public association has the right to use its name from the moment of registration. It is prohibited to use the name of a public association by natural and legal persons who do not belong to this public association without the consent of such a public association for purposes not related to the operations of this public association.

{Part 9 of Article 10 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

10. A public association can also have an abbreviated name, which is determined by the decision of its founding meeting or the supreme management body – congress, conference, general meeting, etc. (hereinafter referred to as the supreme management body).

{Part 10 of Article 5 as amended by Law [No. 721-VII of 16 January 2014](#) – has ceased to be in force under Law [No. 732-VII of 28 January 2014](#); as amended by Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#)}

11. Name of a public association can be changed at a meeting of the supreme management body of such an association in compliance with the requirements of this Law and the association's charter (if any).

Article 11. Public association charter

1. The public association charter shall contain information on:

1) public association name and abbreviated name, if any;

2) purpose (aims) and directions of its operation;

3) procedure for acquiring and terminating membership (participation) in a public association, the rights and obligations of its members (participants);

4) powers of the Head, supreme managing body, other managing bodies (hereinafter referred to as the managing bodies) of the public association, the procedure for their formation and changing composition, term of office, as well as the procedure for determining the person authorised to represent the public association and his/her replacing (for public associations without legal entity status);

5) frequency of meetings and the procedure for making decisions by the managing bodies of the public association, including through the use of communication means;

6) procedure for reporting by the managing bodies of the public association to its members (participants)

7) procedure for appealing decisions, actions, inaction of the managing bodies of the public association and for considering complaints;

8) sources of income and the procedure for using funds and other property of the public association;

9) procedure for the creation, operation and termination of operations of separate subdivisions of a public association (in the case of their creation by a public association that intends to run operations with the legal entity status);

10) procedure for amending the Charter;

11) procedure for making a decision on the self-dissolution or reorganisation of a Public Association, as well as on the use of its funds and other property remaining after self-dissolution – for a public association that intends to run its operations with the legal entity status.

2. The charter of a public association can provide for additional provisions on the establishment, operation and dissolution or reorganisation of a public association, which do not contradict the law.

3. The charter of a public association that intends to run its operations without the legal entity status (if the charter of such an association is provided for by the decision on its creation) can not contain the provisions stipulated by Paragraphs 5-8, Part 1 of this Article.

{Article 12 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 13. Separate subdivisions of a public association

1. A public association with the legal entity status can have separate subdivisions formed by the decision of the relevant managing body of the public association in accordance with the charter according to the procedure prescribed by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

{Part 1 of Article 13 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

2. Separate subdivisions of a public association are not legal entities, except for the cases provided by this Law.

Separate subdivisions of a public association are created and run their operations on the basis of the public association charter.

Separate subdivisions of a public association with the legal entity status can have their own regulation, if this is provided for by the public association charter. The regulation on a separate subdivision of a public association contains information on the separate subdivision name, name of the managing (and, if required, supervisory) bodies, procedure for election (appointment), term of office, a list of powers of the managing (and, if required, supervisory) bodies. The regulation on a separate subdivision of a public association shall not contradict the laws and the public association charter.

{Part 2 of Article 13 as revised by Law [No. 1593-VII of 04 July 2014](#)}

{Part 3 of Article 13 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 4 of Article 13 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 5 of Article 13 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 6 of Article 13 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 7 of Article 13 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Article 14 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Article 15 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Article 16 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Article 17 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 18. Public association symbols

1. A public association with the legal entity status can have its own symbols (emblem, flag), which is subject to registration in accordance with the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

2. Public association symbols should not reproduce:

1) state symbols of Ukraine;

2) other official symbols or signs used by state bodies, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and local self-government authorities, state and other awards, seals and other distinctive signs of these bodies;

3) state emblems, flags or official names of other states;

4) name or representation of an individual without the written consent of such a person or his/her heirs, certified in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, unless otherwise provided for by law;

5) other symbols and signs, the use of which is restricted by law.

3. Public association symbols shall be different from the representation of the already registered symbols of another public association.

4. public association symbols shall be approved by the authorised statutory body of a public association in accordance with the procedure established by its charter.

The decision on the approval of symbols shall contain: type of symbols, their image and description. Description of symbols shall contain information about the colours, scales and proportions of the symbols' elements. Symbols representation shall contain full or abbreviated name of a public association.

6. A public association has the right to use its own symbols from the date of its registration. The use of the registered symbols of a public association by individuals and legal entities without the consent of such association and for purposes not related to the activities of such public association is prohibited.

{Article 18 as amended by Law [No. 317-VIII of 09 April 2015](#); as revised by the Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 19. All-Ukrainian status of a public association

1. A public association registered in accordance with the procedure established by law can have an all-Ukrainian status if it has separate subdivisions in most of the administrative-territorial units specified in [Part 2 of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine](#), and if such a public association has confirmed such status in accordance with

the procedure prescribed by [law Of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

{Part 1 of Article 19 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

2. Confirmation of the all-Ukrainian status of a public association and waiver of such status are voluntary.

3. Information on the all-Ukrainian status of a public association shall be checked annually by the authorised body for registration in accordance with the information of the Unified State Register of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations.

{Part 3 of Article 19 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 4 of Article 19 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 5 of Article 19 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 6 of Article 19 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 7 of Article 19 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 8 of Article 19 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 9 of Article 19 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 20. Accreditation of a separate unit of a foreign non-governmental organisation

1. A separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation shall be accredited in Ukraine without granting the legal entity status in accordance with the procedure established by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

2. Actions of a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation shall be terminated on the basis of:

1) decision of a foreign non-governmental organisation, a separate subdivision of which is accredited in Ukraine;

2) decision of the authorised body for registration in case of expiration of the power of attorney addressed to the Head of a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation, executed in accordance with the legislation of the state in which the power of attorney was issued;

3) judgment banning a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation.

3. The actions of a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation can be prohibited by court if such a separate subdivision violates the provisions of [Articles 36,37](#) of the Constitution of Ukraine, Article 4 of this Law, provisions of other laws that establish restraints on the creation and operation of public associations in the interests of national security and public order, protection of public health or protection of the rights and freedoms of other people.

4. The case on the prohibition of a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation is considered in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the [Code of Administrative Procedure of Ukraine](#).

{Article 20 as amended by Law [No. 767-VIII of 23 4](#); as revised by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Section III

RIGHTS AND ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC ASSOCIATIONS

Article 21. Rights of public associations

1. In order to achieve its purpose (aims), a public association has the right to:

1) freely disseminate information about its operations, promote its purpose (aims);

{Clause 1, Part 1 of Article 21 as amended by Law [No. 721-VII dated 16 January 2014](#), became invalid under the law [No. 732-VII dated 28 January 2014](#); as amended by Law [No. 767-VII dated 23 February 2014](#)}

2) apply, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, to government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, their officials with proposals (comments), statements (petitions), complaints;

3) receive, in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law, public information in the possession of public bodies, other public information managers;

4) participate in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law in the development of draft regulations issued by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities and relating to the scope of public association and important issues of state and public life;

5) hold peaceful assemblies;

6) exercise other rights that are not prohibited by law.

2. A public association with the legal entity status has the right to:

1) be a participant in civil law relations, acquire property and non-property rights in accordance with the law;

2) in accordance with the law run entrepreneurial operation directly, if it is provided for by the public association Charter, or through legal entities (societies, enterprises) created in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law, if such activity corresponds to the purpose (goals) of the public association and contributes to its achievement. Information on the implementation of entrepreneurial operations by a public association is included in the Unified State Register of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations;

{Clause 2, Part 2 of Article 21 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

3) establish mass media in order to achieve its statutory purpose (aims);

4) participate in the implementation of state regulatory policy in accordance with the [Law of Ukraine “On the Fundamentals of the State Regulatory Policy in the Field of Economic Activity”](#);

5) in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law participate in the work of advisory, consultative and other subsidiary institutions established by government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities to consult with public associations and elaborate recommendations on issues related to their field of operation.

3. A public association with the legal entity status, a legal entity (society, enterprise) created by it can be an executor of a state order in accordance with the law.

Article 22. Principles of interaction of public associations with government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities

1. The state ensures the observance of the rights of public associations.

2. Interference of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, their officials and officers in the operations of public associations, as well as interference of public associations in the operations of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, and their officials and officers is not allowed, except in cases provided by law.

3. Government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities can involve public associations in the process of developing and implementing state policy, resolving issues of local importance, in particular, by consulting public associations on important issues of state and public life, developing relevant drafts of regulatory acts; formation of consultative, advisory and other subsidiary bodies under government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, in the activities of which the representatives of public associations take part.

4. In accordance with the procedure prescribed by law exercising consultations with public associations on draft regulations concerning the legal status of public associations, their funding and operations, are mandatory.

5. State supervision and control over the observance of the law by public associations are carried out by executive authorities, local self-government authorities in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law.

Article 23. Financial support and reporting of public associations

1. Public associations with the legal entity status have the right to financial support at the expense of the State Budget of Ukraine, local budgets in accordance with the law.

2. Public associations that receive financial support from the State Budget of Ukraine, local budgets, are obliged to submit and publish reports on the intended use of these funds in accordance with the law.

3. A Public association with the legal entity status, legal entities (companies, enterprises) created by it are obliged to keep accounting, financial and statistical reporting, be registered with tax authorities and pay mandatory payments to the budget in accordance with the law. Public associations and legal entities (companies, enterprises) created by them are granted benefits, including tax benefits on the grounds and in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law.

{Part 3 of Article 23 as amended by Laws [No. 406-VII of 04 July 2013](#), [No. 440-IX of 14 January 2020](#)}

{Part 4 of Article 23 has been deleted under Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#)}

{Part 5 of Article 23 has been deleted under Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#)}

{Part 6 of Article 23 has been deleted under Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#)}

7. Public associations are obliged to:

1) keep documents of title, documents that contain information about the operations that were carried out for the purposes (aims) and objectives; store and regularly update information sufficient for identification in accordance with the requirements of the law of the ultimate beneficial owners (controllers), founders, managers, members of managing bodies and trustees of a public association, as well as provide it to the state registrar in cases and to the extent provided by law. This information cannot be classified as information with limited access;

{Clause 1, Part 7 of Article 23 as amended by Laws [No. 475-VIII of 21 May 2015](#), [No. 361-IX of 06 December 2019](#)}

2) prepare annual financial statements indicating a detailed analysis of income and expenses;

3) carry out control measures to ensure that absolutely all funds are credited and spent in accordance with the procedure that is consistent with the goals and objectives of the declared operations of the public association;

4) ensure the maintenance of accounting and storage of all the required accounting documents for domestic and international transactions, as well as the information specified in Clauses 1 and 2 of this Part for at least five years, and present them to the competent state authorities upon a request, as well as in other cases provided for by law.

{Article 23 has been supplemented with Part 7 under Law [No. 1702-VII of 14 October 2014](#)}

Article 24. Public association property

1. A public association with the legal entity status, in order to perform its statutory purpose (aims), has the right to own, use and dispose of funds and other property, which, in accordance with the law, was transferred to such public association by its members (participants) or by the state, acquired as membership fees, donated by citizens, enterprises, institutions and organisations, acquired as a result of the entrepreneurial operation of such an association, entrepreneurial activity of legal entities (companies, enterprises) created by it, as well as property acquired at one's own expense, temporarily provided for use (except for orders) or on other grounds not prohibited by law.

2. The right of ownership of a public association with the legal entity status shall be exercised by its supreme management body in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law and with the public association charter. Separate functions of property management by decision of the supreme management body of a public association can be assigned to bodies, legal entities (companies, enterprises) created by it in accordance with the charter, separate subdivisions of such associations, or transferred to public unions formed by these public associations.

3. In the event of dissolution of a public association, after meeting the creditors' requirements, its property and funds are transferred, by decision of such an association, for statutory or charitable purposes to another (several other) public association, and if such a decision is not made, they are credited to the state or local budget in accordance with the law.

4. In case of reorganisation of a public association, its property, assets and liabilities shall be transferred to the legal successor.

Section IV

CONSIDERATIONS OF PUBLIC ASSOCIATION TERMINATION

Article 25. Methods for terminating the operation of a public association

1. Public association operation shall be terminated:

1) by the decision of a public association, made by the supreme managing body of the public association, according to the procedure prescribed by the Charter, by self-dissolution or reorganisation;

{Clause 1, Part 1 of Article 25 as amended by Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

2) by a court decision on the prohibition (forced dissolution) of a public association.

2. Operation of a public association shall be terminated in accordance with a procedure determined by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

{Part 2 of Article 25 as worded in Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

3. If the value of the property of a public association with the legal entity status, which directly runs entrepreneurial operations and in respect of which a decision on liquidation has been made, is insufficient to meet the requirements of creditors, the liquidator (liquidation commission) is obliged to apply to the economic court with an application to initiate a bankruptcy case of such public association in accordance with the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On Restoring the Debtor's Solvency or Declaring him Bankrupt”.

Article 26. Voluntary termination of a public association

1. A public association has the right to make a decision on termination of its operation (self-dissolution) at any time.

{Part 2 of Article 26 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

3. Decision on self-dissolution of a public association shall be made according to the procedure prescribed by the charter of this association. The supreme managing body that made the decision to dissolve the public association creates a liquidation commission or instructs the managing body to exercise the powers of the liquidation commission to terminate the public association as a legal entity, and also makes decisions on the use of funds and property of the public association after its liquidation in accordance with the charter.

{Part 4 of Article 26 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 5 of Article 26 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 6 of Article 26 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 7 of Article 26 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 8 of Article 26 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 9 of Article 26 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 10 of Article 26 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

11. Termination of the operation of a Public Union does not have the consequence of termination of legal entities – members of this union.

{Article 27 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 28. Prohibition of a public association

1. A public association can be prohibited by a court on the claim of an authorised body for registration in case of revealing signs of violation by the public association of the requirements of [Articles 36, 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine](#), [Article 4](#) of this Law. Prohibition of a public association entails the termination of its activities according to a procedure prescribed by the [Law of Ukraine](#) “On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Organisations”.

{Part 1 of Article 28 as amended by Law [No. 721-VII of 16 January 2014](#) - has ceased to be in force under Law [No. 732-VII of 28 January 2014](#); as amended by Law [No. 767-VII of 23 February 2014](#), [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

2. The case of prohibition of a public association shall be considered in accordance with the procedure established by the [Code of Administrative Procedure of Ukraine](#).

3. In the event that a decision is taken to prohibit a public association, property, funds and other assets of the public association shall be transferred to the state budget by a court decision.

{Part 4 of Article 28 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

5. Other grounds for prohibiting the operations of a public association, other than those indicated in Part 1 of this Article, are not allowed.

Article 29. Procedure for terminating a public association

1. Termination of a public association includes:

- 1) termination of internal organisational operation of a public association;
- 2) termination of a public association as a legal entity.

{Part 2 of Article 29 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 3 of Article 29 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 4 of Article 29 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 5 of Article 29 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Part 6 of Article 29 has been deleted on the basis of Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

{Article 30 has been deleted under Law [No. 835-VIII of 26 November 2015](#)}

Article 31. Liability for violations of the law

1. In case of violation of the legislation on public associations, officials of government authorities, authorities of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, local self-government authorities, citizens, foreigners, stateless persons shall be held liable in accordance with a procedure prescribed by law.

2. Public associations, separate subdivisions of foreign non-governmental organisations shall bear responsibility for violation of the law provided for by this and other laws of Ukraine.

3. Participation in the operations of a public association by a separate subdivision of a foreign non-governmental organisation, the operations of which are prohibited by court, entails administrative liability, unless another type of legal liability is provided for by law.

Section V

FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. The present Law shall enter into force as of the day following the day of its publication and shall be effective as of 1 January 2013.

2. To recognise as invalid from the date of entry into force of this Law:

[Law of Ukraine “On Association of Citizens”](#) (The Official Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 1992, No. 34, Art. 504; 1993, No. 46, Art. 427; 1998, No. 10, Art. 36; 1999, No. 26, Art. 220; 2001, No. 9, Art. 38, No. 44, Art. 232; 2003, No. 27, Art. 209, No. 30, Art. 247; 2005, No. 11, Art. 205, No. 51, Art. 550; 2006, No. 26, Art. 215; 2008, No. 25, Art. 240; 2009, No. 32-33, Art. 485; 2010, No. 37, Art. 496; 2011, No. 6, Art. 41);

[Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “On the Procedure for Enactment of the Law of Ukraine “On the Association of Citizens”](#) (The Official Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 1992, No. 34, Art. 505).

3. Rights and obligations established by the laws of Ukraine for public organisations shall be applied to all public associations.

4. Public organisations, their unions (associations, other associations of public organisations), legalised on the day this Law enters into force by registration or

notification of the establishment, do not, respectively, require re-registration or re-submission of documents for communication. Charters (regulations) of public organisations, unions of public organisations shall be brought into line with this Law within five years from the date of its entry into force. Amendments to the charter (regulation) related to the entry into force of this law are registered without charging a fee for registration actions within five years from the date of entry into force of this Law.

5. The requirements of [Article 10](#) of this Law do not apply to public organisations, their unions (associations, other associations of public organisations) legalised on the day this Law enters into force by:

1) registration – until such organisations and unions make decisions to change their name;

2) notification of establishment – until such organisations, unions make decisions on changing their name or on their registration as legal entities.

6. When applying the provision of [Part 4, Article 10](#) of this Law regarding the requirement to distinguish one's own public association from the proper names of other public associations, the proper names of public associations that have announced their founding or have made changes in the name from the date of entry of this Law into force, and all registered public associations are taken into account.

7. All-Ukrainian and international public organisations registered on the day of entry into force of this Law shall be considered public organisations that have confirmed their all-Ukrainian status. Local branches of such public organisations may be considered for the purposes of [Parts 7 -9 of Article 19 of](#) this Law as their separate subdivisions.

{Clause 7, Section V as amended by Law [No. 1593-VII of 04 July 2014](#)}

8. Local branches of all-Ukrainian (international) public organisations that operated with the legal entity status on the day of entry into force of this Law shall retain the legal entity status after the entry into force of this Law by the decision of the supreme management body of the all-Ukrainian (international) public organisation.

Charters (regulations) of local branches of all-Ukrainian (international) organisations that acted with the legal entity status on the day this law enters into force shall be brought into compliance with this Law within five years from the date of its enactment.

Decisions on changes in the composition of managing bodies, charters (regulations) and location of local branches of all-Ukrainian (international) public organisations, as well as decisions on termination of local branches of all-Ukrainian (international) public organisations are made in accordance with the procedure prescribed by this Law for public associations.

The Relevant body that keeps the registration file of the local branch on the day this law comes into force is the authorised body for the registration of local branches of all-Ukrainian (international) organisations, which acted with the legal entity status on the day this law came into force.

If the supreme management body of an all-Ukrainian (international) public organisation decides to terminate its local branches as legal entities, the legal successor of the property, assets and liabilities of such branches is the corresponding public organisation.

{Clause 8 of Section V as amended by Law [No. 1593-VII of 04 July 2014](#)}

9. From the date of entry into force of this Law, unions of public organisations (unions, associations, other associations of public organisations) legalised on the day of entry into force of this Law shall be recognised as public unions formed on the basis of this Law, whose all rights and obligations, which they had on the day of the entry into force of this law, are preserved if they do not contradict this Law.

10. Public organisations, their unions (unions, associations, other associations of public organisations), except for public organisations and unions registered by the executive bodies of village, settlement, city councils, have the right, within two years from the date of entry of this Law into force, to apply to the body that carried out their registration before the day this Law came into force, with a statement on the transfer of their cases to the authorised body for registration at the place of their location in order to carry out registration actions. Such case shall be transferred to the relevant body within three working days from the date of the application receipt. After the expiration of the two-year period, the bodies that registered public organisations and unions before the entry into force of this Law shall ensure the transfer of registration cases of public organisations and unions to the authorised bodies for registration at the location of public organisations and unions.

11. Public organisations, their unions (unions, associations, other associations of public organisations) legalised on the day of entry into force of this Law shall submit (send by mail) documents for registration actions to the authorised body for registration at their location. The term for consideration of a notice of changes to the charter, a change in the composition of managing bodies, a change in the location of public organisations and unions specified in this paragraph is extended by the time the registration files of public organisations and unions are sent. For the formation of registration files of public organisations and unions registered by the executive bodies of village, settlement, city councils, the documents shall be submitted together with copies of the charters (regulations) and registration certificates of public organisations, unions.

{Clause 11, Section V as amended by Law [No. 1982-VIII of 23 March 2017](#)}

12. The executive bodies of village, settlement, city councils, which exercised delegated powers to register public organisations, prior to the day this Law enters into force, shall ensure the transfer of information on public organisations registered

(legalised) by the relevant executive bodies to the authorised body on the day this Law enters into force, and on registration actions to be performed by the relevant executive bodies from its effective date. In case of disagreement between the information provided by the executive bodies of village, settlement, city councils and the information provided by public organisations and unions in accordance with Paragraph 11 of this Section, the authorised body for registration shall take into account the information provided by the executive bodies of village, settlement, city councils.

13. Public organisations legalised on the day of entry into force of this Law by notification of establishment, within six months from the date of entry into force of this Law shall determine the person (persons) authorised to represent a public association, subject to the requirements of [Part 6 of Article 9](#) of this Law and submit information on this person (persons), provided for in [Clause 3, Part 2 of Article 16](#) of this Law, to the authorised body for registration.

14. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine in order to create appropriate conditions for the implementation of this Law shall:

1) within six months from the date of entry into force of this Law prepare and submit to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine proposals for amendments to the legislative acts of Ukraine in connection with the adoption of this Law;

2) take measures to bring the by-laws into compliance with this Law, ensuring that they come into force simultaneously with the entry into force of the Law, by:

1) harmonisation of its regulatory acts with this Law, adoption of regulatory acts provided for by this Law;

b) ensuring that the regulatory acts of ministries and other central executive bodies are brought into line with this Law and their adoption of the regulatory acts provided for by this Law;

c) determination of the [procedure for maintaining the Register of public associations and the exchange of information between this Register and the Unified State Register of Legal Entities and Individual Entrepreneurs](#);

3) ensure the functioning of the Register of public associations on the basis of the Unified Register of Public Organisations at the time of entry into force of this Law;

4) take other measures to implement this Law.

President of Ukraine	V. YANUKOVYCH
City of Kyiv 22 March 2012 No. 4572-VI	