

ICPS newsletter[®]

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An invitation to develop a new foreign policy strategy for Ukraine

The International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS), one of Ukraine's leading think-tanks, is in the process of putting together a new foreign policy strategy for Ukraine. This strategic document will be submitted to the future President of Ukraine after the election in January 2010. In developing this new foreign policy for Ukraine, we want to consider the interests and needs of all representatives of civil society in Ukraine

To do so, we invite you and your organization to participate in a series of unique video consultations that will take place:

18 December 2009, 10:00-13:00
Moskovskiy Prospekt 75, Kharkiv
Kharkiv Regional Institute of Public Administration, NAPA

21 December 2009, 13:00-16:00
vul. Pymonenka 13A, Kyiv
International Centre for Policy Studies

The format of these consultations will be through video-conferencing on the premises of the National Academy of Public Administration in most of the cities, involving well-known activists in politics and education, business leaders, senior government officials, and representatives of community organizations. The working group drafting the foreign policy strategy will be on the Kyiv premises of the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) and will interact through a tele-bridge. The moderator of these discussions will be Ms. Aliona Hetmanchuk, a former editor-in-chief of *Glavred*, an internet publication, currently director of the Institute of World Policy and one of this project's coordinators.

The goal of these consultations is to engage the public in the formulation of their country's strategic priorities for the

next five years in eight foreign policy areas in the attached document. We invite you to tell us how international relations affect your business or profession and how changes to these relations might be better for your interests. We would also like to hear what kind of impact the country's current foreign policy has had on your activities and needs.

If you would like to, you can prepare a brief written statement that presents your views on Ukraine's role and interests in the eight areas to be studied. Your contribution will be taken into account by our analysts when they prepare their final report for this project. The more feedback we receive, the more objectively we will be able to present public opinion.

We hope that you will be able to take part in this exceptional event, as there are few opportunities to involve the non-state sector in developing foreign policy programs for Ukraine. ■

Consultations have already taken place in Dnipropetrovsk, L'viv and Odesa. We will inform you of the results in upcoming issues of the ICPS Newsletter and on the ICPS website.

To confirm your presence, contact ICPS's public events manager Anna Karnaukh by phone at (38044) 484-4410 or via e-mail at anna.karnaukh@icps.kiev.ua.

CEB capacity to enact EU-Ukraine Association Agreement assessed

On 7 December, the European and Euroatlantic Integration Coordination Bureau and the International Centre for Policy Studies jointly held a roundtable on the topic, "Assessing the capacity of central executive bodies (CEBs) to enact the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement." During this event preliminary results of a functional review of central executive bodies regarding their readiness to organize the undertaking of Ukraine's commitments in its Association Agreement with the European Union.

Based on European practice, a list of functions has been drawn up whose high-caliber execution is a necessary condition for the successful enactment of the Association Agreement in Ukraine. Capacity to execute these functions was assessed in nine CEBs and in the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. The study included analysis of the normative base and the actual way that these functions are currently being executed—among others by polling these bodies. The data collected has made it possible to determine where capacity needs to be built in each of these executive bodies.

This event was held as part of the "Preparing Ukraine's Government to Implement the Association Agreement: Analytical and methodological support" project, with the support of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA).

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Articles may be reprinted with ICPS consent.

The International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS) is a leading independent think-tank in Ukraine. ICPS was established at the initiative of the Open Society Institute in 1994. ICPS's mission is to support the further democratization and modernization of Ukraine through proactive, consistent Europeanization.

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