

Environmental POLICY AND LAW

UA REVIEW

To receive Environmental Policy and Law by e-mail, send a message with the text
"get weeklyupdates" to office@rac.org.ua
Review's Archive: <http://www.rac.org.ua/en/review/ua-environmental-policy--law-review>
©Resource & Analysis Center "Society and Environment"



HIGHLIGHTS

SMALL STEPS TOWARDS AN AMBITIOUS GOAL

Our daily habits have significant impact on the environment, so we must be responsible. This is a translated main message of a new communication campaign "Your behaviors have more weight", implemented by the Ministry of Environment of Ukraine jointly with the Ministry of Information Policy and an EU project "Association4U". The campaign aims at supporting Environmental Strategy 2030, in particular its goal 1 "Establishing environmental values and foundations of sustainable consumption and production".

At the moment three animated videos were developed on water use, waste separation and decreasing consumption of single use plastic. These videos will be demonstrated as social ads on national and regional TV, cinemas, Intercity trains and in the Internet.

On the one hand, the recommendations the authors give are very simple and do not require significant efforts. On the other hand, a new demand generated by daily habits of citizens will promote more environmental services and infrastructure among the country. We can only support this campaign with a few numbers from our recent public opinion poll. Over 80% of the Ukrainians believe that global environmental disaster cannot be avoided without changing our attitudes towards the environment. Over 52% of Ukrainian citizens admit they are not making enough efforts to protect the environment, while one of the four respondents (25%) believe that environmental awareness is one of the main tools to tackle environmental problems.

MONITORING AIR POLLUTION: ARE EUROPEAN STANDARDS IMPLEMENTED?

In 2019 Ukraine should fully adapt its legislation to the Directive 2008/50/EU on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. For this reason, it is very good time for public consultations, which were launched recently to present and discuss draft legal acts developed to implement the provisions of the Directive 2008/50/EU.

While generally welcoming this initiative, we want to raise some concerns about it. The draft Order for carrying our state monitoring in the area of air protection includes provisions related not exclusively to air monitoring, but also air quality management. In particular, it provides for new mandates of public authorities regarding air quality management. Monitoring and management are clearly two distinct areas, so adapting national legislation to relevant provisions of the

directive should have taken the form of amending the Law of Ukraine "On air protection".

At the same time, some elements of the air monitoring are not properly dealt with by the draft proposal, in particular monitoring stations in the rural areas. The draft misleads as to the list of zones and agglomerations in Ukraine. The lists of zones is a mere reflection of the administrative regions in Ukraine, while agglomerations list includes only cities with population over 250,000 residents. The Directive 2008/50/EU defines "agglomeration" as zone that is a conurbation with a population in excess of 250 000 inhabitants but also may include zones with less population but classified on the basis of population density. For this reason, the proposed list of agglomerations is deficient.

NUMBER OF THE MONTH

1,600

goldfinches were saved from smugglers' attempt to transport them to Jordan

THE ASSOCIATION AGREEMENT AND CITIZENS OF UKRAINE: AIR POLLUTION

We continue our series of blitz-analytics related to the public opinion in Ukraine regarding key environmental pillars of the Association Agreement. This series of analytical materials is developed on the basis of a [study](#) of the attitudes of the Ukrainian citizens towards environment, carried out by the Resource and Analysis Center "Society and Environment" in 2018.

The Association Agreement foresees implementation of a number of EU environmental regulations and directives. All in all, 71% of the Ukrainians consider that EU legislation is necessary to protect the environment in Ukraine.

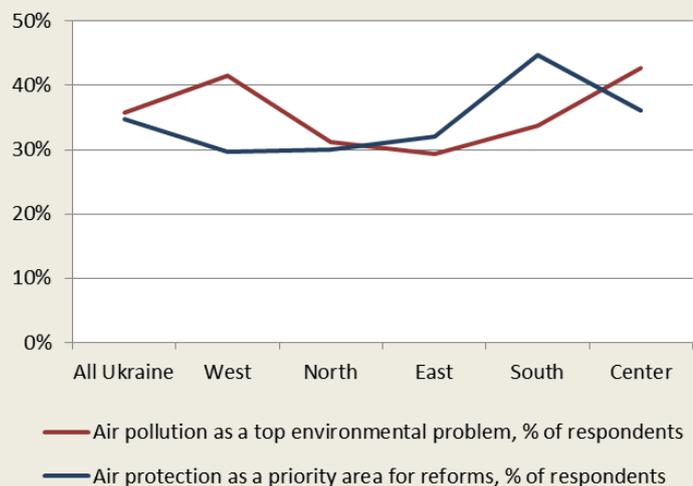
Annex XXX to the Association Agreement includes a subsection 'Air Quality' listing six EU directives in this area: Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe, Directive 2004/107/EC relating to arsenic, cadmium, mercury, nickel and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in ambient air, Directive 98/70/EC relating to the quality of petrol and diesel fuels, Directive 1999/32/EC on reduction of sulphur content of certain liquid fuels, Directive 94/63/EC on the control of volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions resulting from the storage of petrol and its distribution from terminals to service stations as amended by Regulation (EC) 1882/2003 and Directive 2004/42/EC on the limitation of emissions of volatile organic compounds due to the use of organic solvents in certain paints and varnishes and vehicle refinishing products.

For Ukrainian citizens air pollution is one of the three major environmental problems of the country (35,8% of respondents). This problem is most important to the residents of the Central and Western Ukraine (43% and 41% respectively). Surprisingly, the residents of the Eastern Ukraine are least concerned by this problem.

For Ukrainians the reform in the area of air pollution is only the 4th priority. It was supported by 35% of the respondents. This reform is particularly appealing to the residents of the Southern Ukraine (45%) who consider it to be the most important.

Currently the Government of Ukraine is focused on implementing the Directive 2008/50/EU EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe. Recently, the Ministry of Environment has released a draft new order for state monitoring of the air pollution.

Citizens' attitudes towards air pollution



RACSE, 2018.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I've come to Davos for my first morning speech. At the entrance, at the most visible place where everyone has a talk over a cup of coffee, there's a huge map of Mismanaged plastic waste – rating countries' incapacity to manage plastic waste. What I can tell you is we are the first in Europe."

Pavlo Klimkin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

EVENT OF THE MONTH

January 1, 2019

A European-like water monitoring system launched in Ukraine