



**ПОСТІЙНЕ ПРЕДСТАВНИЦТВО УКРАЇНИ
ПРИ ВІДДІЛЕННІ ООН ТА ІНШИХ
МІЖНАРОДНИХ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЯХ У
ЖЕНЕВІ**

**MISSION PERMANENTE DE L'UKRAINE
AUPRES DE L'OFFICE DES NATIONS
UNIES ET DES AUTRES ORGANISATIONS
INTERNATIONALES A GENEVE**

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The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and, referring to its letter of October 17, 2018, has the honour to transmit herewith the information prepared by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine in answer to the questionnaire regarding adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context.

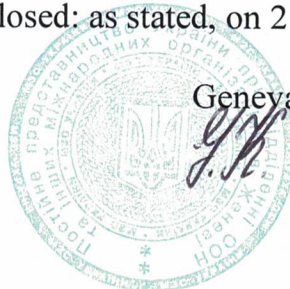
The Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosed: as stated, on 2 pages.

Geneva, November 23, 2018

**Office of the United Nations
High Commissioner for Human Rights**

Geneva



Questionnaire

Access to Justice for the Right to Housing

2.

i) In order to form a qualitatively new legal culture as a prerequisite for Ukraine's sustainable development, a Nationwide Legal Awareness Project "I HAVE A RIGHT" was initiated in 2017. It is being implemented by the Ministry of Justice (in particular by the Ministry's Directorate of Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness) in close cooperation with Coordinating Centre for Legal Aid Providing, free legal aid providers, local justice departments, legal clinics and with the support of international donors and partners. Thus, more than 50 thousand legal awareness events, e.g. lecture for school and university students, flashmobs, roundtables, conferences, seminars etc., were held in 2017-2018 in the course of the realization of the project. For the purpose of informing citizens about their rights and teaching how to protect them, more than 1,5 mln of "I Have a Right" booklets were distributed along with other informing materials, broadcasting of audio and video social advertisements on legal topics in media, public transport and public places was ensured.

In particular, in 2017-2018, "Right to subsidy" was designated as one of the priority directions of the information campaign. In this regard, MoJ together with the Ministry of Social Policy with support from the "International Renaissance Foundation" have designed a booklet "Do you know how to file a subsidy?", which in a simple manner elaborates on the procedure - algorithm of required steps and documents in order to obtain subsidy.

ii) Covering about 8 million people whose right to legal aid is constitutionally guaranteed (18% of the population), free legal aid system operates through the centers all around Ukraine. Increasing over the period of 2012-2016, their number has reached 551 in 2016. 5000 lawyers and 1600 attorneys selected on a competitive basis are engaged in providing legal aid.

The Law of Ukraine "On Free Legal Aid Provision", among other things, stipulates that all persons who are under the jurisdiction of Ukraine shall have the right to free primary legal aid. This includes providing legal information, consultations and explanations on legal issues, drafting requests, complaints and other legal documents (except for procedural documents) etc. The respective information, consultations and explanations may relate to the right to housing and shall be provided by state and local government authorities, free legal aid centers, the number of which has reached 551 in 2016, and other entities and institutions.

iii) The Law of Ukraine "On Free Legal Aid Provision" stipulates that certain vulnerable groups are entitled to free secondary legal aid. Among other things, this includes representation of the interests of individuals who belong to such vulnerable groups in courts, state agencies, local government bodies and other institutions.

The list of such vulnerable groups was significantly expanded during 2017-2018 to include children, internally displaced persons, victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence etc. Thus, the government takes steps to ensure access to justice for vulnerable groups including in the context of the right to housing.

iv) Armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, armed conflict, temporary occupation of the part of Ukrainian territory forced the population residing on the respective territories to protect their rights, in particular a right to housing, in courts.

With a view to facilitating access to justice for the referred persons, the Government took measures to entitle them to reliefs with regard to court fees for filling applications and motions, issuing documents by court, as well as for passing judicial decisions.

Thus, exemptions from paying of court fees during proceedings at all court instances apply to:

applicants – in fact-finding proceedings initiated due to armed aggression, armed conflict, temporary occupation of Ukraine, natural or man-made disasters which caused forced displacement from temporarily occupied parts of territories of Ukraine, death, injuries, captivity, illegal deprivation of liberty or abduction, as well as violation of right to ownership of movable and immovable property;

complainants – in claims against aggressor State - the Russian Federation - for compensation of material and/or moral damages caused by temporary occupation of parts of the territory of Ukraine, armed aggression, armed conflict which led to forced displacement from temporarily occupied parts of territories of Ukraine, death, injuries, captivity, illegal deprivation of liberty or abduction, as well as violation of right to ownership of movable and immovable property.

3. Academic courses, which cover various topics related to human rights, including the right to housing, are being taught in different higher education institutions in Ukraine as compulsory elements of legal education. Among such subjects are “National and international procedures for protection from discrimination and human rights abuses”, “Judicial practice of the European Court of Human Rights in cases against Ukraine” and others.