



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY
AND RULE OF LAW

2019

Annual Report





CONTENTS



2019

Foreword by Taras Shevchenko 4

Rule of Law 6

Elections 8

CHESNO Movement 9

Access to Public Information 10

CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! 12

Independent Media 13

Independent Media Development 14

Media Education 16

Independent Media Council 17

Safe and Responsible Use of Freedom of Speech
on the Internet 18

Civil Society 19

Reanimation Package of Reforms 20

Open University of Reforms 22

Smoke Free Kyiv 23

'For Safe Roads' Campaign 24

Civil Society Development 26

Advocacy School 27

Communication School 27

Development of CSO Coalitions in the Regions 28

Financial Report 29

OUR MISSION IS TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SOCIETY OF ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS



Taras Shevchenko

Director of the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law

For the past 15 years, we have been guided by very clear values – being proactive, responsible, productive and unbiased.

Every year, we take responsibility before society for analyzing the current problems of our country, we advocate for important laws and achieve results.

In 2019, we continued to implement the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law mission in ongoing and new activities that have become a platform for training civic activists to establish coalitions of NGOs in the regions of Ukraine. We not only did the plans of our ambitious team come true this year, but they also exceeded our expectations. It happened thanks to the full commitment to working together.

In a year of change and major political events, we succeeded in launching new projects and building partnerships to strengthen the role of civil society in Ukraine.

Our activities have focused on three areas:

- ✓ Rule of Law
- ✓ Independent Media
- ✓ Civil Society

As 2019 can be referred to as the election year in Ukraine, the focus of our attention was the independent and unbiased media as well as the task of enhancing the role of the presidential candidates' debate and the professional training of journalists in election coverage.

The new President and Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine have opened a "window of opportunity" for media reform. Therefore, our experts joined the development and discussion of the draft law on media, which covers not only classic media, but also online platforms. And the Centre's proposals for political debate have been incorporated into the existing Electoral Code of Ukraine.

Our team is actively responding to the current demands, thus in 2019 **we organized the first Open University of Reforms for the assistants to the MPs of the 9th convocation**. Participants in the project were 45 assistants to the MPs from the factions of Servants of the People, Voice, Fatherland, European Solidarity and For the Future. The educational initiative itself is a continuation of the Open University of Reforms, an educational project that had the 10th admission this year.

Moreover, this year we institutionalized the Reanimation Package of Reforms. In late 2019, RPR began to function as an independent institution, which strengthened the association's ability to advance current reforms for the state.

The first School of Communication for NGOs started in the autumn. We received a lot of applications and incredible involvement on the part of the sector. For us, this is a testament to the fact that public sector communication training is really in high demand.

In 2019, one of the biggest challenges for the Centre and CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! was the analysis of all candidates for the position of a judge of the High Anticorruption Court. Our team submitted their monitoring results to the Public Council of International Experts and the High Qualification Commission. All information from the materials submitted by CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! was considered at their joint meetings.

At the end of the year, we also launched a new large-scale initiative that we will work on over the next five years. CEDEM, in a consortium with the Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" and the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research, won a grant competition of the United States Agency for International Development and launched the project "Ukrainian Civil Society Sectoral Support Initiative".

» Our main goal is to help the Ukrainian public sector become strong and cohesive.

In 2020, CEDEM will continue to promote the ideas of responsible activism and further develop a society of honest citizens who are ready to assume the responsibility to implement change.

I want to thank the team, our partners and like-minded people for all the results we achieved together in 2019.

RULE OF LAW DIRECTION

Rule of Law is a fundamental principle for every independent democracy.

The Rule of Law principle serves as the basis for the sustainable development of society and covers almost all aspects of Ukrainians' lives: from personal security, freedom of speech and assembly to the effective fight against corruption.



RULE OF LAW

Within the Rule of Law Direction, experts of the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law research state policy on access to public information, judicial and electoral reform, analyze the international experience and prepare practical recommendations to address problem issues, in particular by amending the existing legislation.

» The goal is to adopt effective government decisions aimed at solving society's problems.

WE HAVE PREPARED

6

info posters

9

auxiliary
info posters

4

materials with
additional useful
information

9

samples of
procedural
documents

In 2019, the Centre's experts developed 40 policy papers, which are available on our website. CEDEM's analytical materials also published by leading media in Ukraine.



Nadia Shuvar

head of Rule of Law Department

The CEDEM's team also **implemented the Convenient Court Project**. In cooperation with the Council of Judges of Ukraine, we have developed standardized information materials to be placed in the court buildings. Those materials will help citizens to better understand court procedures and exercise their procedural rights.

In late 2019, CEDEM, in partnership with The Hague Institute for Innovation of Law, launched the **project "Study of the Legal Needs of Small and Medium-Sized Businesses"**. Its goal is to determine the legal needs of small and medium-sized businesses and develop guidelines to reduce legal barriers to its development, as small and medium-sized businesses account for 73.5% of employment and 61.8% of all products sold in Ukraine.

ELECTIONS

» The goal is to ensure that informed voters make an informed choice, and election campaigns are holding based on transparent and clear rules.

2019 was full of events in the election sphere within the Rule of Law Direction. The long-awaited Electoral Code of Ukraine was finally adopted. We have closely monitored the electoral reform process; our experts prepared materials on the most relevant election issues.

To ensure the voters' right to information, CEDEM has prepared proposals to the Electoral Code of Ukraine. The main goal was to ensure, at the legislative level, the openness of information, which is often undisclosed - information about the sponsor, the organization or person who paid for the poll. The Centre's proposals were taken into account, and **as of January 1, 2020, all sociological centers obliged to publish data on who ordered the opinion polls on election issues.** Previously, various ratings of the parties and candidates have been actively publishing in the media, online resources and social media without specifying information about those who paid for such opinion polls, which deprived voters of the right to make an informed choice.

Our experts worked on developing proposals to the by-laws as well. For example, the Central Election Commission took into account the CEDEM's proposal to grant voters the right to apply for a temporary change of polling place through their authorized representatives. Such changes have been included in resolution "Procedure for Temporarily Changing a Voter's Voting Place Without Change in the Electoral Address", provide voters additional tools to exercise their right to vote without being tied to the place of registration.

CEDEM also advocates for reducing the cost of election campaigns in Ukraine, which are currently more expensive than European ones. **We have developed recommendations for legislative changes** in the regulation of deposit issues at the parliamentary and presidential elections, and reimbursement of campaign expenses to parties.

In 2019, the Centre's experts held educational lectures on electoral reform and legislative regulation of election campaigns for students and journalists.

In addition, we prepared a number of infographics that provided voters with relevant and necessary information during two election campaigns in 2019 and in general about the electoral reform in Ukraine. For example, **"TOP-10 facts about TV debates" infographic became viral, it was instantly shared by more than 30 online resources.**

OTHER CEDEM'S INFOGRAPHICS:

"District election commissions: how they are formed and how much DEC members earn" <https://cutt.ly/crxqF3z>

"Calendar of early parliamentary elections 2019" <https://cutt.ly/RrxqFvB>

"Early elections to the Verkhovna Rada: how to change voting location?" <https://cutt.ly/rxxqD4t>

"The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the 9th convocation: events calendar" <https://cutt.ly/yxxqDT3>

"Instructions on filling in the ballots: CEDEM has prepared an instruction for voters" <https://cutt.ly/JrxqDJE>

"Should the state reimburse parties for their campaign expenses in the media?" <https://cutt.ly/WrxqS5K>

"The President signs the Law on Impeachment" <https://cutt.ly/orxqGNT>

"Top 10 Facts about the Electoral Code of Ukraine" <https://cutt.ly/2rxqDaw>

CHESNO MOVEMENT



» The goal is to stimulate transparency, accountability and openness of government officials, to support the demand for quality policy among citizens.

IN 2019, THE CENTRE'S LAWYERS



analyzed
11 materials



provided
42 consultations

CEDEM, together with Centre UA, is the initiator of the eCHESNO Civil Movement, an independent initiative established in 2011 to improve the quality of Ukrainian policy.

We provide methodological and legal support for the Movement's activities, in particular ensure legal analysis of materials on the politicians and officials that CHESNO Civil Movement is preparing.

ACCESS TO PUBLIC INFORMATION

CEDEM experts are co-authors of the Law on Access to Public Information, adopted in 2011 and recognized as one of the 10 best laws in the world in this field. We have been monitoring its proper implementation for eight years running.

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN FOR THE TROMSO CONVENTION RATIFICATION

In 2019, CEDEM continued the **advocacy campaign to support the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents (Tromso Convention)**, which Ukraine signed in 2018. The Convention is the first international instrument in the field of access to public information that will be binding on countries that have ratified it as soon as it enters into force.

During the year, the Centre's experts were disseminating analytical materials and articles in which they drew attention to the need for ratification this international document and the benefits our country will receive. As a result, thanks to the CEDEM's activities, at the end of the year, the Minister of Justice of Ukraine signed and sent a package of documents to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine with relevant recommendations for the further Convention ratification.

In late 2019, CEDEM held an expert meeting with the participation of the Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine Valeriia Kolomiets, at which was agreed to consolidate the efforts of the public sector on the issue of the importance of Convention ratification. The Centre, in conjunction with its partners, issued an open statement calling on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine to submit the necessary documents to the President as soon as possible. **Due to CEDEM's initiative, the Council for Freedom of Speech and Protection of Journalists under the President of Ukraine decided to support the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents.**

TRAINING FOR THE JUDGES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COURTS AND LAWYERS

CEDEM, in conjunction with the Supreme Court, conducted three trainings on "Judicial protection of the right of access to public information" for the judges of cassation courts, courts of appeal and administrative courts of appeal, that hear cases on access to public information and restore violated citizens' rights to information, as well as lawyers who help protect such rights. **83 people** took part in the trainings.

At the trainings, we focused on the most complex provisions of the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information", in particular, the use of the "three-part test" – an algorithm by which information holders determine whether to provide information with limited access or not. Participants have also learned about the main procedural issues of such cases as the definition of jurisdiction, the rules of case hearings within general and simplified proceedings, etc.

NETWORK OF DEFENDERS OF THE RIGHT TO ACCESS INFORMATION

The network of defenders of the right to access information, coordinated by CEDEM, has expanded to 211 participants from all over Ukraine. It is **an informal association of lawyers, journalists and civil society activists** created to increase the level of knowledge and share experience. The Centre's experts constantly inform the members of the Network about all legislative changes and novelties on access to public information.

CONSULTING AND STRATEGIC LITIGATION



More than 100 consultations on access to information were provided for the activists, government officials, and citizens.



2 court cases on violation of the right to access information were won with the support of the Fund for the Protection of the Right to Information, coordinated by CEDEM. Due to the court's decision, inquirers will get requested information on salaries of the employees of the Central Office of the National Bank of Ukraine and on air emissions and filters installed on the pipes of certain DTEK power units in Dnipro.



The Fund supported 1 court case concerning the appeal against the refusal of one police department to provide information that was of significant public interest before elections, namely information on criminal proceedings initiated against particular MP candidate.

ONLINE CLAIMS DESIGNER



80 claims have already been created through the CEDEM's online designer. It helps citizens to write a claim on their own, without any special knowledge, to challenge illegal refusal to provide information as per request in court.

CHESNO. FILTER THE JUDICIARY!

CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! is a long-term public control campaign of CEDEM within CHESNO Movement aimed at making the society more active in order to clear off unscrupulous judges from the judiciary and establish a fair trial in Ukraine.

In 2019, we held a large-scale forum with the participation of government officials, the judiciary and NGO representatives, where discussed the results of our three years work, the implementation of judicial reform and its prospects.

In 2019, the High Anti-Corruption Court began its work. CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! not only analyzed all candidates for this court, but also promptly prepared and published the profiles of HACC judges. **Our team analyzed the candidates for the High Council of Justice and the High Qualification Commission of Judges, advocating for the non-appointment of those who violated the integrity criteria.**

In the same year, we launched a special project "Judges on Trial", where you can see the cases of judges accused of committing corruption offenses in an interactive form in real time.

FOR THREE YEARS OF OUR ACTIVITIES WE:

Filled the database with another **2,000 profiles of judges**, now amounting to about **3,500** profiles

Organized **47 trainings** throughout Ukraine for more than **1,000 participants**

Analyzed **156 candidates** for the HACC

Held **7 direct action** campaigns

Presented **profiles of judges of the first instance** of Kharkiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhia, and Odesa regions

Analyzed **968 candidates** for the Supreme Court

750

references in the media

650

publications on the website of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!

8 200

followers on Facebook

150

judges exercised their right of reply

500 000

site visitors

INDEPENDENT MEDIA DIRECTION



INDEPENDENT MEDIA DEVELOPMENT



Igor Rozkladai

chief expert on media law

Until 2016, the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law was referred to as the Media Law Institute and specialized in the media. Expanding our horizons, we continue to develop independent media. After all, the state cannot exist without high-quality and impartial media that provide honest and balanced information to citizens.

In 2019, we focused on advocacy for legislative changes and building a dialogue with the media, Parliament and state institutions, as the change of government opened a “**window of opportunity**” for the media reform.

For example, Ihor Rozkladai, CEDEM's chief media expert, co-authored a comprehensive draft law “On Media” that regulates the entire industry. In addition, the **proposals of the Centre's experts** on political debates were **included in the Electoral Code of Ukraine**, which has already entered into force.

Prior to that, during the elections of the President and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, CEDEM joined the Media for Conscious Choice movement, which brought the media together for the sake of fair election. Back in September, Taras Shevchenko, CEDEM director, was elected to the Council on Freedom of Speech and the Protection of Journalists, created under the President of Ukraine.

One of our key tasks is to analyze and clarify legal issues in the media field. In 2019, the Centre's experts continued to inform the public about draft laws and changes in the media sphere of Ukraine, as well as the important practice of the European Court of Human Rights. Our media lawyers provided targeted legal advice to journalists, media workers and government officials.

CEDEM continues to **support the activities of Public Service Broadcasting** and responds to external and internal changes. Our experts advise its governing bodies and journalists on legal issues on a regular basis. In addition, the Centre continued to advocate for adequate funding for UA:PBC, emphasizing its importance for ensuring the independence and high quality of the broadcaster's activities.

14

consultations on topical issues in the relevant section on the CEDEM website

≈ 100

targeted media law consultations for journalists, lawyers, students, media workers and government officials

9

reviews of recent ECHR judgments on freedom of expression and privacy

DISCUSSIONS:

“Deoligarchization of the media: how do we ensure the independence of the media from their owners?”

“Transparency of media funding: to be or not to be”

“Price of the Public Service Broadcasting: more than a line in the state budget”



MEDIA EDUCATION

Media education is an important part of CEDEM's activities since its establishment. **We hold training courses in media law** for journalists, students, teachers, and active citizens on a regular basis, we also organize student competitions and other activities.

In 2019, the Centre held four online courses on copyright, access to public information, media law and the work of the media in the field of justice. **67 journalists, activists and officials have completed distance learning course, with another 85 are passing it now.**

As the Presidential and Verkhovna Rada elections took place in Ukraine in 2019, CEDEM organized two interactive trainings for journalists, at which 45 participants expanded their knowledge on election, media regulation during this period and analyzed typical election violations.

INTERNATIONAL MEDIA LAW SUMMER SCHOOL

Since 2005, every year we hold the International Media Law Summer School – **a three-week intensive training course on the legal and practical aspects of media regulation.**

19 lawyers and journalists from Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Kyrgyzstan and Russia took part in the 15th Summer School in 2019 in Kyiv. They passed a comprehensive training course held by Ukrainian and foreign experts covering media law issues lawyers faced in practice. Participants also tried themselves in a moot court on freedom of expression on the Internet.

+ **2 trainings** for journalists + **a seminar** for teachers

+ Summer School 2019 — **19 participants**

+ Total participants since 2005 — **338**

OXFORD

In December, CEDEM, in partnership with the University of Oxford and the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, held the fourth **regional round of Price Media Law Moot Court Competition** for the countries of Northeastern Europe.

Moot Courts are model court hearings on a media topic: for example, freedom of speech on the Internet and personal data protection. Teams of law students take part in them. Players prepare written arguments (based on legislation and case law), as well as appear before judges and argue with their opponents. Competitions in Ukraine are qualifying for the international round, which is held every spring at the University of Oxford. In 2019, teams from Ukraine, Belarus and Poland competed for this right.

The winner of the regional Moot Court round was the team from the Belarusian State University. Teams from NaUKMA and Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National University also got the opportunity to go to Oxford in 2020.

In addition, in 2019, the Centre provided financial support to the winners of the 2018 qualifying round - students of the Kyiv Taras Shevchenko National University - for a trip to Oxford. As a result, in the international round, NaUKMA students, who also passed the Kyiv stage, won second place among 35 teams from around the world.

CEDEM experts also joined the competition in Oxford. The Centre's Director Taras Shevchenko and the chief media expert Ihor Rozkladai were the judges, and Alina Pravdychenko, the head of the Independent Media Direction, was both an arbitrator and participant in the competition organization.

INDEPENDENT MEDIA COUNCIL

The Independent Media Council (IMC) is a public monitoring and advisory self-regulatory body in the media sphere. The IMC consists of 15 authoritative impartial media experts. The founders are the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law together with partner organizations.

The IMC reviews disputable situations regarding compliance with media law, international media standards, and violations of journalistic ethics. In particular, in 2019, the IMC members prepared expert opinions on compliance with the law during elections, abuse of freedom of speech and hate speech on a number of TV channels, as well as analyzed compliance with the standards in the hosted shows and communication with the guests, which formats are currently popular in news broadcasting. CEDEM acts as the IMC Secretariat. We accept complaints, handle them and prepare draft opinions for consideration by board members.

The IMC's opinions serve as the basis for the decisions of the National Council on Television and Radio Broadcasting on violating channels. After all, in its assessments, the Independent Media Council is guided by the legislation of Ukraine, decisions of international organizations on media activities, journalistic standards and ethics.

In addition to public monitoring, the IMC provides recommendations for improving the media sphere. In 2019, the IMC members prepared recommendations to strengthen the information role of Public Service Broadcasting. In addition guidelines on how to work during elections and how to write about energy sector were developed for journalists as these issues are often used for manipulation. The IMC also helps the journalistic community to build a mechanism for self-regulation. To this end, in 2019 we held two thematic discussions with journalists, medical experts and government officials.

» One of the key tasks of the IMC is to resolve disputes and conflicts in the media sphere at the request of both individuals and authorities.

In 2019, CEDEM and IMC won a case against politician Andrii Lesyk, who accused the IMC of defamation for evaluating his statements in one of the opinions.

IN 2019, THE IMC:

considered 16 cases

of violations in the information space

issued 6 opinions

2 of which formed the basis of the decisions of the National Council on Television and Radio Broadcasting

held 2 events

- "Regulation/self regulation of media activities during elections"
- "Self-regulation in the media"

issued 3 guidelines

- "Tips on writing about the energy market without any errors and manipulations"
- "Strengthening and further development of the information role of Public Service Broadcasting"
- "On the activities of the media during the presidential election"

SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH ON THE INTERNET

In 2019, CEDEM launched a new project that covers social networks - platforms where Ukrainians not only communicate with friends, but also find out the news and opinions of others, and thus form public opinion and political views.

Early in the year, we became a Facebook trusted partner. CEDEM experts cooperate with Facebook in resolving the issue of blocking content and users in Ukraine, regional features of the content in the Ukrainian segment of the social media.

During the project, the Centre's team established communication among the representatives of government agencies, the public sector, businesses, journalists and social media administrations in order to ensure understanding and define common positions.

In December, CEDEM held a public forum **"The main challenges of freedom of speech online: Ukrainian and global context"**. As a result, experts noted that Ukraine can interact with Internet giants, for example, to counter disinformation and propaganda generated by the aggressor country. The Centre also launched a public discussion on the unjustified blocking of Facebook pages of Ukrainian users.

CEDEM has launched long-term projects that will be presented in 2020. Our media lawyers have developed Guidelines for Facebook, which will help social media to counter threats in the Ukraine and at the same time will not restrict users' right to freedom of speech.

Another tool is **an educational online game "Survive online: mission (im)possible"**, which helps to learn about the rules of behavior on (both social media policy and legal provisions) and learn how to avoid threats and manipulation. After all, safe and responsible use of the Internet depends on the users' media literacy.

» The aim of the project is to encourage the administration of social networks to take into account Ukrainian realities and challenges, to help users raise awareness of social media and to develop an effective online regulatory mechanism.



CIVIL SOCIETY DIRECTION

The Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law promotes the development of a society of active and responsible citizens and works to strengthen democratic society in Ukraine. We create a platform for learning, networking, and bringing community activists together for powerful projects implementation. Within the direction, our organization contributes to strengthening democratic society in Ukraine and works on projects aimed at increasing the personal responsibility of citizens in the field of health and public safety.



REANIMATION PACKAGE OF REFORMS

Reanimation Package of Reforms (RRP) is the largest association of NGOs that has been working for five years to promote and monitor the implementation of reforms in Ukraine.

RPR as an informal public platform was established jointly with the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law and other NGOs and a number of experts after the Revolution of Dignity.

In 2019, CEDEM continued to provide financial and organizational support to RPR. In March 2019, the coalition celebrated its fifth anniversary, and in May, an independent legal entity **was registered - Public Association "Reanimation Package of Reforms Coalition"**.

The plan of its transformation into the public association was proposed and developed by CEDEM experts. The association avoids political bias and affiliation with businesses, and is open to cooperation and new members. As in previous years, in 2019, the activities of the RPR Secretariat were mainly funded by a grant administered by CEDEM.



Olesia Kholopik

deputy director,
head of Civil Society Department

During the 2019 election period, RPR held a public debate between presidential candidates on the reform agenda in Ukraine, and advocated for changes to the Electoral Code of Ukraine, in particular, the “Roadmap of Reforms” served as the basis of the election program of presidential and parliamentary candidates.

An important event of the year was the third **Intergovernmental Ukraine Reform Conference** with the participation of President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyi and Prime Minister of Canada Justin Trudeau in Toronto. Taras Shevchenko, CEDEM’s Director and co-chair of the RPR Board, delivered the speech at the conference as a reform expert.

RPR'S PERFORMANCE IN 2019:



association of NGOs
registered



RPR Secretariat prepared
and disseminated
28 statements



137 publications and
broadcasts of RPR
experts in the media



4 laws advocated



4 forums organized



43 public events held

OPEN UNIVERSITY OF REFORMS

Open University of Reforms (OUR) is an educational project for young people who want to learn more about reforms and take part in their implementation. OUR aims to create a community of active young reformers who will change the country for the better.

THE CURRICULUM OF ONE OUR COHORT:



In 2019, within the project, **OUR for assistants to MPs was launched**. For four weeks, 46 assistants to the MPs of the current convocation attended evening lectures held by public sector experts, as well as expanded their professional circle of contacts. The project participants had a unique opportunity to get a broad overview of Ukrainian reforms, consider alternative approaches within one reform and discuss them with their colleagues.

OUR IN 2019:

- + **113 graduates-reformers**, each of whom listened to an average of 100 hours of lectures, had at least 100 hours of internship at NGOs and became part of a project team that implemented their own idea
- + **two enrollments of the project** (OUR 9 and OUR 10)
- + **special project** (OUR for assistants of MPs)
- + **573 applications** for participation
- + **cooperation with 28 NGOs**
- + **78 speakers**
- + **4 field trips**
- + **6 projects of participants**

Projects implemented by OUR students in 2019:

- ✔ **"Not an Eco Event"** is an event that aims to change people's behavior to a more environmentally friendly one through short lectures, interactives and communication with like-minded people. Event Partners: "OZERO", "Ucycle" and "IZONE"
- ✔ **#ЛюдиРеформ (#ReformPeople)** is a media project that tells the story of reformers who change the country every day, however, are not widely known
- ✔ **"Betrayal or Victory?!"** is a board game where you play on the side of the authorities, the media, civil society or the opposition, participants implement reforms and realize in practice how difficult it is
- ✔ **"Reform Recipes"** is a media project that provides concise and real information about reforms, presented as the food recipes
- ✔ **"DoZmin"** is a community formed as a readers' club, where public figures, civil servants of various levels and politicians hold a moderated intellectual dialogue on the basis of a book offered for reading
- ✔ **#ЩоПоРеформах (#What'sUpWithReforms)** is an interactive website where you can find the most common questions and answers about the four reforms

SMOKE FREE KYIV

Throughout the year, we advocated for amendments to Ukrainian legislation aimed at public health protection from the effects of cigarette smoke. And with the new convocation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, CEDEM joined the development of the Anti-Tobacco [Draft Law No. 2813](#).

This draft law is based on the practice and guidelines of the World Health Organization, the European Union and the United Nations. Key changes include clear regulation of the sales conditions, smoking and content of new smoking devices (e.g. e-cigarettes) along with conventional ones. It also bans tobacco advertising on the Internet and cigarette demonstration in shop windows that encourage people to start smoking.

The authors propose to introduce a single standard for cigarette packaging: the same color with large images of diseases caused by smoking.

This draft law is based on the draft law No. 4030a, which was also developed with the participation of CEDEM and was withdrawn due to the early parliamentary elections. The document is currently being drafted by the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Nation Health, Medical Care and Health Insurance.

In 2019, CEDEM co-organized the Golden Braid Tobacco Lobbying Public Ceremony. As part of the initiative, MPs of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine who lobbied the interests of tobacco companies received the anti-award. The event in the format of a performance served an advocacy purpose.

In support of anti-tobacco initiatives, the Centre conducted analytical studies on the prevalence of smoking and the enforcement of anti-tobacco legislation.



CAMPAIGN "FOR SAFE ROADS"

In 2019, CEDEM continued to implement awareness-raising campaigns aimed at promoting the use of seat belts among drivers and passengers. The Centre has been working in this area since 2016, implementing the "For Safe Roads" campaign.

We develop and advocate for the adoption of draft laws aimed at reducing traffic fatality rates, we also hold awareness-raising and social campaigns in support of road traffic safety.

ADVOCACY AREAS:



Increase of fines for ignoring seat belts



Decrease of excess speed



Introduction of Automatic Traffic Violation Recording and Reporting System



Decrease the distraction on mobile phones and other devices while driving

INCREASE OF FINES FOR IGNORING SEAT BELTS

In March 2019, CEDEM initiated the registration of a draft law which increase fines for ignoring seat belts from **51 to 510 UAH**. The relevant parliamentary committee support the document in April, however, due to the political crisis and early parliamentary elections it was not approved. In December 2019, a new, this time a comprehensive draft law on road traffic safety was registered, and NGOs are advocating its adoption. At the initiative of the Centre, a provision on a 510 UAH fine was included in the draft law.

RESEARCHING THE RATE OF THE SEAT BELT USE IN UKRAINE

Every year, CEDEM experts together with Vision Zero NGO study the percentage of Ukrainian drivers who use seat belts. In 2019, the average rate in regional centers was 24.4%. Compared to 2018, the result has hardly changed, as there have been no significant changes in the legislative regulation of this issue during the year.

SOCIAL CAMPAIGNS

In January 2019, we launched an outdoor social advertising campaign "**Fasten your seat belts, otherwise it will be too late!**". 47 billboards were placed in Kyiv and a number of regional centers.

The Belt or Autopsy information campaign was launched in May. Social advertising was placed on **180 billboards** throughout Ukraine and gained wide publicity in the media and social networks: **9,700 reposts** of social advertising on Facebook, **60 references** to the information campaign in the media, **five stories on central and regional TV channels**. The information campaign was developed within the For Safe Roads campaign in cooperation with Agama Communications with the support of the Ministry of Information Policy of Ukraine.

In addition, for the advocacy purpose, before the start of the Global Road Safety Week, our team presented '**Burnt Candle**' installation on the stairs of the Ukrainian House. 300 candles represented the number of people who die on the roads every month. Each candle symbolizes one life that ended prematurely due to an accident, and the height is a symbol of age: the taller the candle, the younger the person was and the longer they could have lived.

In December, together with **Uber**, we launched an initiative to raise awareness of the importance of seat belts. In particular, CEDEM developed raising awareness materials that were emailed to **Uber** drivers and passengers. Also, we launched a series of workshops for Uber partner drivers in Kyiv to improve their driving skills.



CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

In 2019, CEDEM launched a 5-year project “Ukrainian Civil Society Sectoral Support Initiative” in consortium with the Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" and Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research.

In the coming years, we are going to improve the civil society environment and strengthen the institutional capacity of civil society organizations to enhance the self-sufficiency of the public sector. In particular, through joint expert efforts, we have begun work on a mechanism

for introducing **percentage philanthropy - the opportunity for the citizens to transfer a certain percentage of their own paid taxes to a charity or NGO they want to support.**

Also, together with its partners, CEDEM began working on **a Legal Reforms Roadmap for Civil Society**, an analytical and vision document dedicated to reforming and improving the legal environment for civil society organizations. We are planning to present the final document in 2020.



ADVOCACY SCHOOL

Advocacy School is an educational project of the Centre for persons with active citizenship, representatives of NGOs and movements who have basic experience in advocacy and are interested in deepening their knowledge and further work in advocacy.

In 2019, CEDEM held **two enrollments** to the Advocacy School in which **43 civic activists and practicing advocates participated**. During training, the lecturers shared their experience beginning with problem identification and ending to successful change implementation.

The trainers not only taught the participants the theoretical foundations of the advocacy process, but also practice the gained knowledge through such tasks as defining the problem and purpose of advocacy campaign, building a strategy, working with stakeholders, communicating change.

Currently, the graduates of the Advocacy School successfully implement the acquired skills in their professional activities.

COMMUNICATION SCHOOL

Communication School is a free intensive training course for communication experts who work or want to work in the public sector, seeking to enhance their knowledge and skills in building long-term communication strategies and implementing successful communication campaigns.

In November 2019, CEDEM held the first Communication School, which was attended by 24 people out of more than 130 applicants. The training course lasted three days and included lectures and practical tasks. The lecturers of the Communication School included leading experts in the field of communications in the NGO sector, heads of communications agencies, independent consultants, heads of communications departments of large organizations, foundations, government agencies and political parties.

THE STUDENTS LEARNED HOW TO:



Develop a map of target audiences



Communicate strategically



Get out of crisis situations



Write quality and interesting texts



Develop media strategies, define communication goals



Work with central, regional and foreign media



Work with digital tools, etc.

DEVELOPMENT OF CSO COALITIONS IN THE REGIONS

In December 2019, CEDEM launched a new project **“Coalition of Polissia Civil Society Organizations - Synergy and Influence”**, which is being implemented in the cities of Zhytomyr and Lutsk. Its goal is to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to jointly participate in addressing current problems of their city through the development of policies and advocacy for their implementation through the adoption of relevant draft decisions by local authorities during 2020. Key expected results: adoption of at least two policies for two cities,

developed by coalitions to address local issues, by local councils.

As of the late 2019, we held two presentations of the project in the regions with the participation of more than 40 representatives of local CSOs, who expressed a desire to form coalitions and identified current community issues. The project will last for six months, during which CEDEM will support and coordinate its activities in the cities of Zhytomyr and Lutsk.



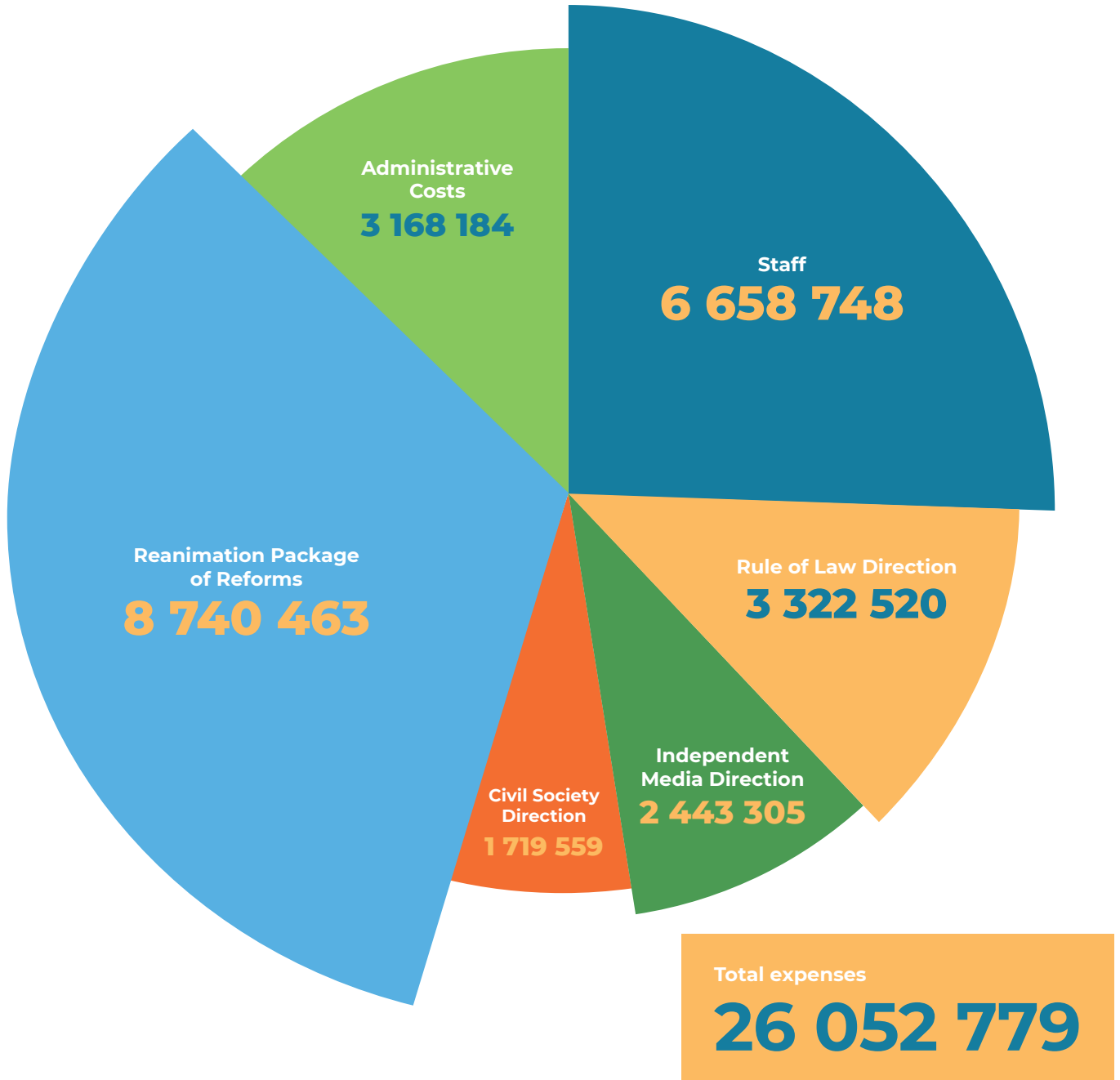
FINANCIAL REPORT

"Financial statements of the NGO Centre for Democracy and the Rule of Law **are reflected reliably**, in all material respects, on the financial condition of the NGO as of December 31, 2019, its financial performance for the year," the audit company "Financial Agency".

THE STRUCTURE OF INCOME IN 2019:

Donor	Received (UAH)	%
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	15 574 132,24	66,72
Internews Network — United States Agency for International Development	2 921 499,64	12,51
European Commission	1 494 035,39	6,40
Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" — United States Agency for International Development	1 262 159,45	5,41
Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund	1 013 643,00	4,34
United Nations Development Program (UNDP)	622 915,96	2,67
Chemonics International Inc. — United States Agency for International Development	404 299,50	1,73
CFC Big Ideas — Uber Ukraine	50 000,00	0,21
TOTAL	23 342 685,18	100%

CEDEM EXPENDITURES (UAH)





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