



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY
AND RULE OF LAW

2020



Annual Report



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"Stability, flexibility and adaptability", Olesia Kholopik

For sixteen years now, we, the CEDEM team (Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law), have been analyzing the current problems of Ukraine, advocating for important laws and steadily following the path of addressing the burning social issues of our state

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in 2020, we were forced to adjust the plans outlined by our team at the end of 2019, and we managed not only to successfully implement current campaigns and projects, but also to start new ones, especially at the regional level. We are steadily moving forward, flexibly adapting our algorithms.

Despite the new challenges of 2020, CEDEM continued to fulfill its **mission** – to promote the development of a society of active and responsible citizens. How exactly did we manage to maintain the high pace of activity that our team took in previous years? I will give you **three main reference points** that we focused on and that we implemented: stability, flexibility and adaptability.

CEDEM became one of the first NGOs to switch to Zoom and start performing all activities online.

Traditionally, pursuing its mission, the CEDEM team has focused its work on three areas: rule of law, independent media and civil society.

Now we can confidently say that the 2020 crisis has become an opportunity for our organization. Opportunity to learn to work effectively in the "new reality": to test out the system of internal and external communication, to improve the tools for coordination with partners and the team, to use digital tools as much as possible, in particular for training and arranging events, etc. I am grateful to our partners, program managers, communication team, leaders, consultants, interns and everyone who helped to fulfill the CEDEM mission – for their support, cooperation and active citizenship.

We have achieved remarkable results together, which I invite you to see for yourself by looking through this report.



**Gratefully, Olesia Kholopik,
Director of the Centre for
Democracy and Rule of Law**



CENTRE FOR DEMOCRACY
AND RULE OF LAW

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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 sustainable development of society and covers almost all aspects of life of the citizens: from personal security, freedom of speech and assembly to the effective fight against corruption.

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

Elections

The goal is to ensure that informed voters make informed choices, and election campaigns follow transparent and clear rules

Elections

In 2020, regular local elections was held, where citizens elected local counselors, village heads and city mayors

We closely monitored the election campaign, our experts prepared materials on the most pressing election issues

The local elections 2020 was special because it was held under the new Electoral Code, with different electoral systems (both single-member and proportional systems), and voting had to be organized and held during the quarantine.

Given the introduction of the new rules right before the elections, our experts focused on awareness raising campaigns. We have prepared a number of practical materials and articles for voters, election commission members, candidates and journalists.

More than 50,000 users viewed CEDEM election materials on our website. In addition, CEDEM experts provided legal advice on the practical application of election law.

"Local Elections 2020" Course

We have developed an online course useful for voters, candidates, election commission members, observers and journalists. More than **300 students** had the opportunity to take the course and find out:

- > Who and how can vote in elections;
- > What rights the voter has and what to do in case of their violation;
- > Who can be a candidate and how to register;
- > How the media work in local elections and much more.

Awareness Raising Campaign

CEDEM has prepared a number of **infographics** to provide voters with relevant and necessary information about the 2020 local election: **fast facts**.

With the help of infographics, our experts explained to the voters who will elect and who will be elected in the 2020 local election, how to change the electoral address and fill in the ballot, what the 2020 local election calendar is, how election commissions work and how to appeal against the violations of voting rights.

Who will vote and who will be elected in the local elections 2020? (Ukr)





Access to public information

For nine years in a row, we have been monitoring the proper implementation of the Law of Ukraine on Access to Public Information, which was drafted by CEDEM experts, and helping to exercise the right to access information in practice

Access to public information

Advocacy campaign for the Tromso Convention ratification

In 2020, CEDEM further launched an advocacy campaign to support the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents (Tromso Convention), which Ukraine signed in 2018

CEDEM experts, together with the Council on Freedom of Speech under the President of Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Information and Humanitarian Policy, facilitated the registration of Draft Law No. 0032 on the document ratification. On May 20, 2020, **thanks to the activities of CEDEM**, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine finally ratified the Convention! 305 MPs voted for this decision.

This document sets minimum standards for freedom of information protection and establishes the first international mechanisms for monitoring access to public information. It is thanks to Ukraine the tenth ratification, that on December 1, 2020, Tromso Convention entered into force for all parties.

In addition, **CEDEM has begun overseeing the implementation** of Tromso Convention. At the end of 2020, CEDEM held an expert discussion "Tromso Convention: monitoring and control over exercising the right of access". The participants of the discussion concluded that the next steps should be harmonization of the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information" with the provisions of the Convention, monitoring of websites of state and local governments of Ukraine, Ukraine's participation in international bodies, and strengthening the Commissioner's powers in the sphere of access to public information.

➤ **This will be our next step.**

Online learning

CEDEM further educates journalists, activists and information managers through an online course on access to public information.

Consulting

Our experts provided **more than 100 consultations** on access to information to the representatives of NGOs, government officials and citizens.

Victory in the European Court of Human Rights

This year, CEDEM has successfully defended the right of Ukrainians to access public information and won the **Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law v. Ukraine** case

On March 26, 2020, the European Court of Human Rights ruled that the refusal of the Central Election Commission of Ukraine to provide autobiographies of candidates for the parliamentary elections violated Article 10 of the Convention.

CEDEM requested this public information on the eve of the 2014 parliamentary election.

➤ **The case passed all levels of the Ukrainian judicial system and in 2020 CEDEM won it in the ECHR.**

Training for the judges of administrative courts

Training on "Judicial Protection of the Right to Access Public Information"

CEDEM held a training on "Judicial Protection of the Right to Access Public Information" for 47 judges of cassation courts, courts of appeal and district administrative courts, who hear cases on access to public information and restore violated citizens' rights to information, as well as lawyers who help protect such rights.

➤ **At the training, 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 managers determine whether to provide information with limited access or not.**

The participants also learned about the main procedural issues of the following cases: determination of jurisdiction, rules of consideration in general and simplified proceedings, etc.

CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!

CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!

launched in 2016, it is a long-term public control campaign aimed at making the society more active in order to clear off unscrupulous judges from the judiciary and to establish a fair trial in Ukraine.

2020 was a landmark year for the CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! campaign team as well.

Despite the pandemic and quarantine restrictions, **this year we:**

Completed the analysis of the integrity of all current judges of Ukraine

We analyzed more than

5000

current judges and formed their profiles in the online database of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!

In December 2020, our team presented this database, which is open to all citizens; it is updated and supplemented with new data on a regular basis.

The uniqueness of the database of profiles of all judges of Ukraine is that one website analyzes information about judges from official governmental sources and websites of proven media. The database was the result of four years of analytical work of the CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! campaign team.



Website of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! offers general information about judges, including their careers, family ties, property declarations, high-profile cases, and disciplinary action against judges.

In addition, according to the methodology of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary!, **each judge's profile** was generated taking into account the public assessment of integrity according to the following criteria: non-involvement in corruption or criminal offenses, non-involvement in making dubious decisions, compliance of the lifestyle with the declared income and transparency of wealth, non-involvement in human rights violations, compliance with professional ethics.

Information from the profile database of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! can be used by lawyers, human rights defenders, investigative journalists, judges and anyone interested in clearing the judiciary of dishonest judges.

A public debate on remote justice has begun

95 participants

Given the challenges facing the judiciary due to quarantine restrictions, the campaign team held a series of online discussions on May 12-13, 2020, "Remote Justice – Ukrainian Realities. The Future is Today", which was joined by 95 participants

Our experts also prepared **18 analytical materials** on the problems and challenges of the judicial system of Ukraine, including the notorious decision of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, investigations against judges of the District Administrative Court of Kyiv, self-defense cases, reform of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

We held 17 presentations of judges' profiles in the regions

3 offline and 14 online

In each of the **17 regions**, the team of CHESNO. Filter the Judiciary! presented the results of a public inspection of judges in the region for compliance with the criteria of integrity. We also trained local journalists and activists to search for information about judges and to check their integrity.

The Convenient Court Project was also continued in 2020

We presented the results of the project to the judiciary with the support of the USAID New Justice Program at the conference "Model Solutions for Courts: Best European and Ukrainian Practices". This event took place on February 20, 2020 in Kharkiv with the support of the EU Pravo-Justice Project. The presentation aroused great interest among judges and court staff.



On September 24, 2020, the Council of Judges of Ukraine by its **decision approved the use** of mock-ups of information materials developed as part of the Convenient Court Project to be placed on information stands in court premises and court websites throughout Ukraine. Relevant materials for use in courts can be found on the official website of the Judiciary of Ukraine: Convenient Court Project for the Citizens.



Research of Justice needs of small and medium-sized business in Ukraine

CEDEM seeks to identify the legal problems and needs of Ukrainian small and medium-sized businesses. Understanding them will allow for effective reforms in areas that hinder the development of entrepreneurship

From November 2019 to August 2020, CEDEM in partnership with the Hague Institute for Innovation of Law ([HiIL](#)), within the [EU Project "PRAVO-Justice"](#), with the financial support of the European Union, implemented the project "Study of legal needs of small and medium-sized businesses in Ukraine". To implement the project, the research agency Info Sapiens conducted [two stages of research](#).

At the first (qualitative) stage, researchers held 24 in-depth interviews with small and medium-sized business (SMEs) representatives who had legal problems over the past two years. In the second (quantitative) stage, 815 SME representatives were interviewed by telephone. The basis for this was a questionnaire prepared based on the results of in-depth interviews.

Among the problem groups, the first place in terms of prevalence was taken by the group "Disputes with business partners and customers" during both stages of the survey. At the same time, entrepreneurs emphasized problems with real estate, raiding and disputes with the tax authorities as the most serious in terms of the degree of negative impact on business.

In addition to these problems, during both stages, an extremely low level of implementation of decisions adopted as a result of solving the problem was revealed by the experts. Almost half (49%) of respondents said that the decision based on the results of the problem consideration was not implemented, and another 12% reported that the decision was implemented to a small extent. Moreover, 72% of entrepreneurs said that despite having a solution to the problem, they failed to get the reimbursement of losses or the reimbursed amount was very small.

Therefore, the study helped to identify a burning problem with the implementation of any decisions in Ukraine, which in most cases does not allow the injured party to restore their rights.


The detailed results of the study can be found at the [link](#)





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Independent Media Direction



Independent media development

CEDEM is working to develop high-quality and impartial media that provide honest and balanced information to citizens and **without which democracy could not exist**

Independent media development

Advocacy for the draft law on media



CEDEM further advocates the adoption of a key document for the media sector – the Law "On Media"

On July 2, 2020, the parliament registered an improved **draft law No. 2693-d on media**, co-authored by Igor Rozkladai, CEDEM's chief expert on media law. This draft law is designed to regulate the entire media industry and is a step towards harmonizing Ukrainian legislation with the EU law.

Collaboration with Facebook

In early 2020, CEDEM media experts developed recommendations for the social media Facebook to prevent the spread of illegal content.

In the guidelines, we outlined a number of contradictory aspects of the Ukrainian reality: Russian aggression, the problem of disinformation and black PR, and offered options to counter them.

In addition, **CEDEM is developing a strategy to protect against disinformation** by discussing it with fact-checking organizations. Thus, in December 2020, CEDEM experts held an expert online discussion "Disinformation Barometer: What Should Be the Pressure of the Law?"

Analytics

CEDEM media experts analyze current issues of media legislation, copyright and Internet regulation.

During 2020, analysts were trained on disinformation, media reforms, copyright protection, the problem of extremist content online and much more.

Consulting

One of our constant key tasks is to analyze and clarify legal issues in the media field

This year, CEDEM experts informed 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.

8

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

12

analytical materials
on media law, copyright
and online regulation

>100

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

Public Broadcasting Support

CEDEM further supports the activities of UA:PBC and responds to external and internal changes. Our experts advise the UA:PBC governing bodies and journalists on legal issues on a regular basis

In addition, CEDEM advocates for adequate funding of UA:PBC. We stressed its importance for the independent and high-quality work of the broadcaster and helped unblock UA:PBC's bank accounts in June 2020. Thanks to CEDEM's advocacy in 2021, UA:PBC will receive UAH 1.87 billion, which is 82% of what is guaranteed by law. This is a significant increase in funding compared to previous years, but still not full funding.

The experts also advocated for the independence of the Supervisory Board of UA: PBC and participated in the development of **Draft Law No. 4413**, which changes the procedure for forming the council.

Media education

Media education is an important part of CEDEM's activities since its establishment. We regularly organize educational courses in media law for journalists, students, teachers and active citizens

Media education

XVI International Media Law Summer School

Since 2005, we have held the International Media Law Summer School every year – an intensive training course on the legal and practical aspects of media regulation for lawyers and journalists

The themes of the School are both the "eternal issues" of media law and modern challenges, including freedom of speech in online media and social media. Ukrainian and foreign experts-practitioners teach at the School.

XVI Summer School

24 participants

Young lawyers and journalists from different regions of Ukraine

30 lectures and practical classes

from Ukrainian and international experts

1 simulation of the court session,

the topic of which was the expression of views on the Internet, and the parties were the participants of the School



Trainings for journalists

One of the key topics for the media in 2020 was the local elections, so CEDEM conducted 7 trainings for journalists of the UA:PBC's branches in the regions

Our experts helped the UA:PBC team to improve their knowledge of the election process under the new rules and other media issues in order to cover the election process in an impartial and balanced manner.

6

online trainings
for UA:PBC's branches in Vinnytsia, Chernivtsi, Zaporizhzhia, Donbas, Kherson and Mykolaiv

1

offline training
Chernihiv

89

participants
members of the UA:PBC team, including journalists, editors, analysts, producers and other professionals

Educational online game

In 2020, CEDEM developed an educational online game "Survive on the Internet - mission (im)possible"

It helps users to check their level of media literacy and knowledge of the Internet environment in the form of games. Players will be able to find out why content is blocked online, who is responsible for it, and learn more about privacy, hate speech, copyright, and political advertising.

During the year,

>27 000

Internet users
took part in the online game



Independent Media Council (IMC)

The IMC is a public monitoring and advisory self-regulation body in the media sphere, which includes 15 authoritative, impartial media experts.

The IMC founders are the Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law together with partner organizations

Independent Media Council

In 2020, CEDEM continued to partially perform the functions of the IMC secretariat

The Independent Media Council considers disputes on its own initiative or on complaints or statements concerning:

- > violations of journalistic ethics;
- > non-compliance with media legislation and international standards of media coverage.

We responded to complaints, prepared conclusions and recommendations.

Topics of the IMC's findings and recommendations include portrayal of sexual violence in the media, hate speech against military personnel, biased coverage of Western grants, fact-checking, and accusations of Nazism.

During this year, the IMC raised many topical issues in its statements and positions:

- > **the threat of "cultural default"** due to the Ministry of Culture budget slashing
- > TV lessons for schoolchildren on Viktor Medvedchuk's **pro-Russian** TV channels
- > adoption of the **draft law on media**
- > court judgment **"Vasyl Stus case"**
- > **coverage** of events related to epidemics, natural disasters and other threats to human life and health
- > **inadmissibility** of publishing personal data in the media that make it possible to identify patients with COVID-19 without their consent

11

cases

about violations in the information space

2

events

Media and COVID-19:
how Ukrainian editorial boards survived 5 months in a pandemic

Media self-regulation
during the 2020 local elections

2020 for IMC

7

opinions

one of which **formed the basis** of the decision of the National Council on Television and Radio Broadcasting: the TV channel was fined for hate speech against anti-terrorist operation participants

8

recommendations

to journalists on media coverage standards, as well as the second **collection of conclusions and guidelines**

Independent media council

The IMC won the lawsuit

The IMC **won** the case on the claim of Yevhen Chervonenko for violation of the right to honor, dignity and business reputation, where he demanded to refute inaccurate information in the decision of the IMC.

The IMC supported UA:PBC

- it **appealed** to the newly elected government to stop blocking the activities of the Public Broadcasting Company
- it supported **the call** of NGOs to stop political attacks on the independent Public Broadcaster and to ensure its proper funding
- it signed a **Memorandum of Cooperation** with the Public Broadcaster

The IMC appealed to Facebook

In late 2020, the IMC, together with CEDEM, sent **an intervention** to the Facebook Supervisory Board to consider and moderate complaints about hate speech in international and non-international armed conflicts.



<http://mediarada.org.ua/>



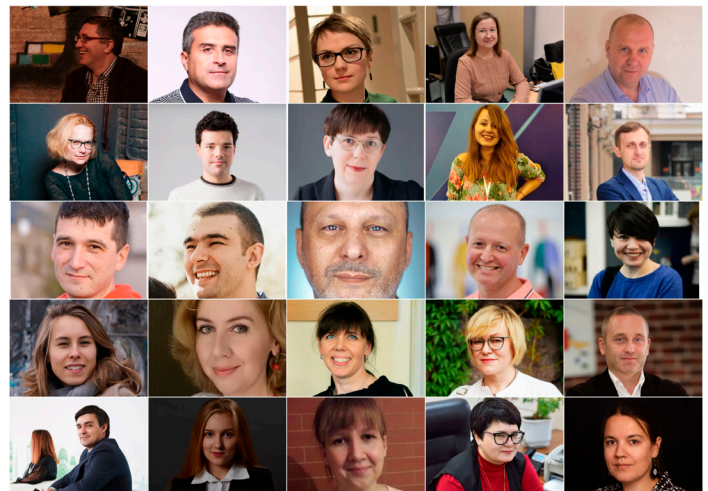
IMC is now on **Facebook!**



*Antonina Cherevko,
Chairman of the
Independent Media Council*

"IMC opinions based on the national and international legal and ethical standards, best practices and researches, as well as the many years of professional experience members of the IMC and the founding organizations, which are undoubtedly one of the leaders of Ukrainian civil society.

We hope to be a source of expert opinion and professional advice on complex and ambiguous topics for the media".





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Civil Society Direction

**CEDEM works to strengthen
a democratic society in Ukraine**

Within the direction, our organization works on projects and initiatives aimed at increasing the self-reliance of the public sector in Ukraine, as well as promoting active and responsible participation of Ukrainians in such socially important areas as health, public safety and more

Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity

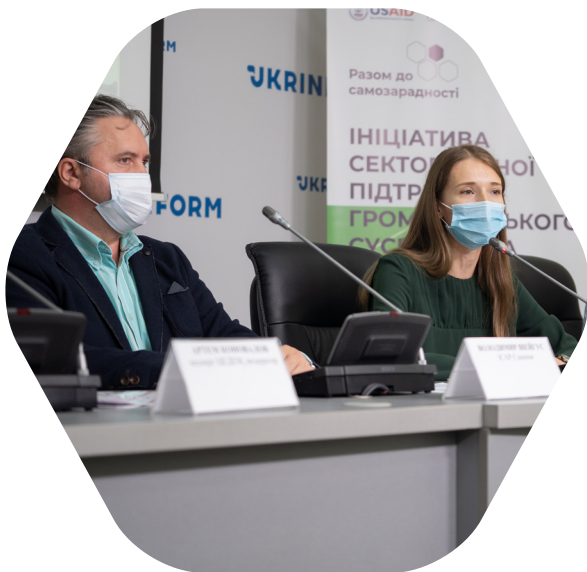
During 2020, the CEDEM team worked on the project **Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity**. The project is implemented by the Initiative Center to Support Social Action “Ednannia” in a consortium with the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR) and the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law.

Together with its partners, CEDEM continues to implement the project’s goal – to improve the operating environment for civil society and strengthen the institutional capacities of the civil society organizations (CSOs) in order to advance the self-reliance of the civic sector in Ukraine

Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity

Within the project during 2020, we implemented **several large-scale activities:**

- ensured the development of the **Legal Reforms Roadmap** for Civil Society, a large analytical and policy document on the priorities of legal reforms for civil society for the coming years, and created a concept for the implementation of the Percentage Tax Designations in Ukraine
- conducted **the first Mentoring Program in Ukraine** to strengthen the advocacy capacity of newly established civil society organizations from different regions of Ukraine
- organized **a number of other activities**, meetings, discussions and **trainings** within the project



Legal Reforms Roadmap for Civil Society in Ukraine was developed from March to August by **more than 250 experts from 150 civil society organizations**, international organizations and businesses with the participation of government officials.

Legal Reforms Roadmap is an analytical, visionary and policy document that outlines the civil sector's vision of reform priorities and improves the legal environment for civil society organizations of Ukraine for 2021-2025. Therefore, in September 2020, the civil society of Ukraine received a guideline for creating a favorable legal and administrative environment.

At the end of 2020, CEDEM took the following step: we started coordinating the creation and operation of the **Platform for Legal Reforms for CSOs**. As part thereof, all interested civil society organizations can get together and jointly advocate for the changes proposed in the Map of changes for civil society.



Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity

The first Mentoring Program in Ukraine

The first **Mentoring Program** to strengthen the advocacy capacity of newly established CSOs **has already been successfully completed by 15 mentees** – young organizations from different parts of Ukraine (30 participants).

Under the mentorship of **15 permanent mentoring organizations**, during April–September 2020, they developed and began implementing advocacy plans to address their concerns in local communities. And the mentees strengthened their organizational capacity and increased their learning competencies.

In November 2020, CEDEM began **enrolling participants** for the Second Mentoring Program, which will be implemented in 2021.



Percentage Tax Designations

An important area of work for us was also the intensification of the topic of **introducing** the Percentage Tax Designations in Ukraine and creating its concept. The Percentage Tax Designations is an opportunity for citizens to financially support non-profit organizations when they get the right to use a certain percentage of already paid personal income tax (PIT) in favor of the selected organization.

More than 40 civil society experts joined in creating the concept and further work on the 2020 the Percentage Tax Designations. In 2021, CEDEM will continue to conduct an advocacy campaign to introduce the Percentage Tax Designations in Ukraine.



As part of this large-scale project, at the end of 2020 CEDEM organized a competition **"Civil Society and Government – Best Practices for Cooperation"** together with the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine and the Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

This project was designed to highlight the history of joint work of civil society organizations and authorities.



The Collection of Successful Practices of Cooperation between CSOs and authorities includes

102 stories of joint activities

The project is implemented with the sincere support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).





Open University of Reforms

The Open University of Reforms (OUR) is an educational project for young change implementers, aimed at supporting active youth seeking to learn more about reforms, gain practical experience and join in reforming the country

Open University of Reforms

The first enrollment to the Open University of Reforms was held in 2015. Since then, OUR enrolls students twice a year.

The three months of lectures cover most of the reforms that are implemented during the study period and practical knowledge of current changes. OUR consists of three blocks: curriculum (lectures on reforms, webinars on skills needed for future reformers); implementation of projects and internships by the project teams.

60

graduates

in 2020

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 11th enrollment was held online for the first time.

The 12th OUR enrollment (the second enrollment in 2020) became all-Ukrainian: thanks to the virtual format, participants from different regions were able to join.

The OUR team organized almost **±80** lectures and webinars for the participants

In the course of their study, OUR members implemented

8

projects

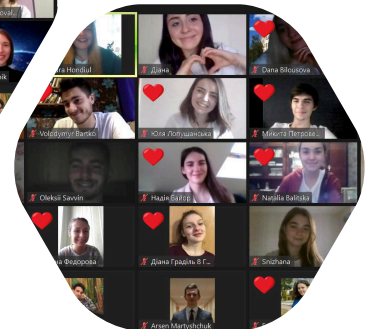
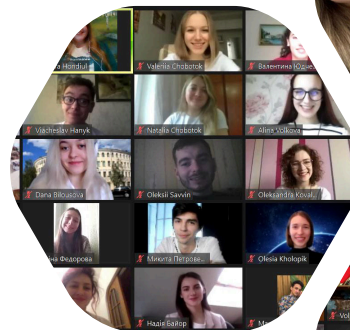
- > "School for Reformers"
- > "We are Reforms"
- > "Identity"
- > "NotAFact"
- > "Crisis Remedies"
- > "SELF-HACKATHON"
- > "State"
- > "#couch_reforms"
- > "Just Do It"

30

participants

All 30 participants of the OUR 12 had internships in civil society organizations and government agencies

For some of them, it became an opportunity to get a job, and the organizations got proactive young workers. Several teams decided to continue working together to develop their own reform projects.



We were looking for new solutions for the new conditions and learned to have the courage to be ambitious!



"For Safe Roads" Campaign

In 2020, the **"For Safe Roads" Campaign** continued to work to reduce mortality and injuries on Ukrainian roads through advocacy for changes in state policy in the field of road safety

"For Safe Roads" Campaign

Key campaign areas:

- launch of a system of automatic photo-video recording of traffic violations
- increase in fines for speeding and ignoring seat belts
- decrease in distraction to use mobile phones and devices while driving

Launch of a system of automatic photo-video recording of traffic violations

For four years, the campaign, together with its partners, advocated the launch of such a system. As of June 1, 2020, speeding is recorded automatically. It is speeding that causes the most accidents. Therefore, the launch and operation of cameras will encourage drivers to follow traffic rules that will save both their and their passengers' lives.

Increase in fines for ignoring seat belts and speeding and amending traffic rules

At present, Draft Laws No. 2695 and No. 2696, which, in particular, increase fines for ignoring seat belts and speeding, are awaiting the second reading in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. According to forecasts, they should be adopted in 2021, and we are confident that toughening the responsibility for such violations will save thousands of lives of Ukrainians.

Since 2019, the campaign has also advocated the abolition of exceptions to the rules for the use of seat belts: for example, for taxi drivers and passengers and driving instructors. In November, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine ordered them to fasten their seatbelts. Special conditions for some road users are unjustified, as seat belts reduce the risk of serious injury or death in an accident by almost 50%.

With the adoption of this resolution, we expect the level of seat belt use in Ukraine to increase.

Awareness Raising Activities of the Campaign

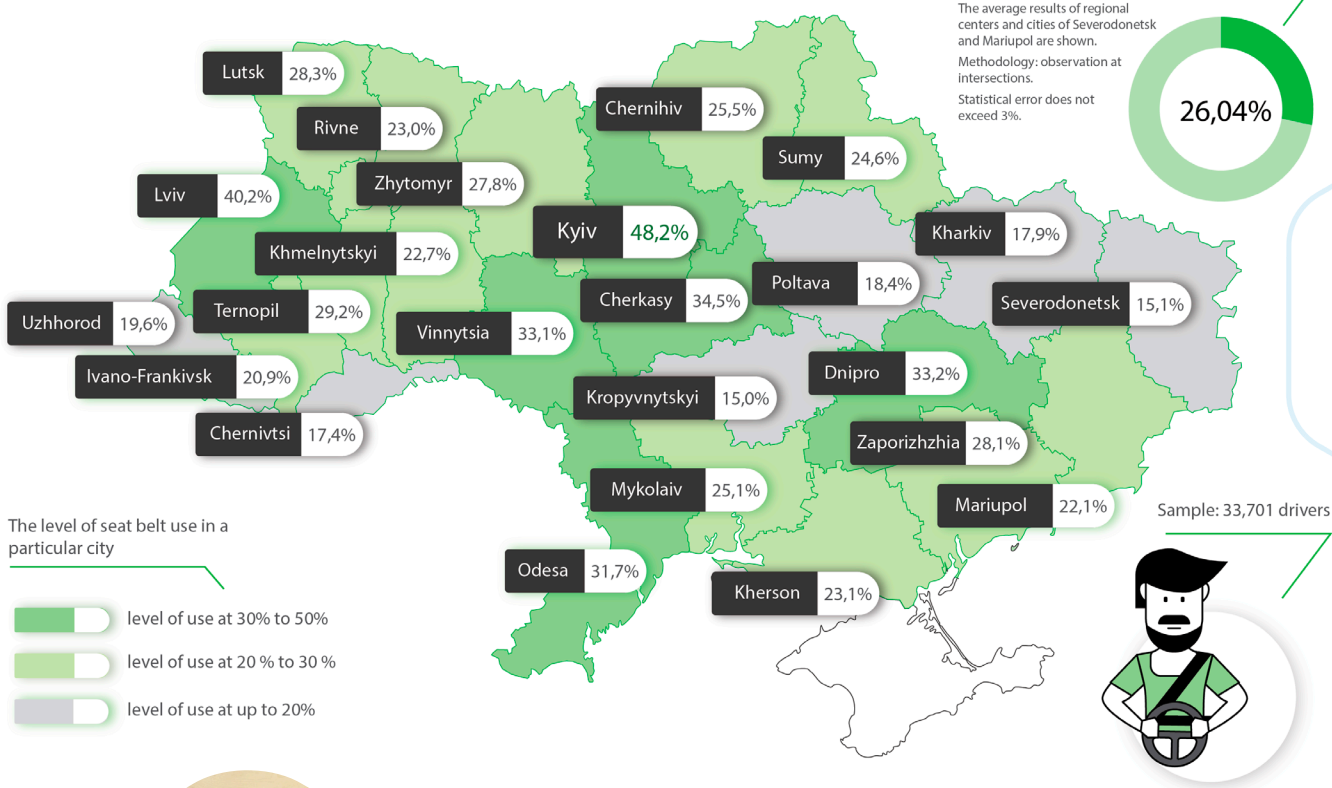
The Campaign's analysts have prepared a number of analytical and infographic materials on risk factors, such as **speeding and mobile phone use while driving in Europe and Ukraine**.

In addition, in 2020 we launched a series of online discussions **"Road Safety Talks"**, where together with independent experts, officials and law enforcement officers we discussed the most pressing issues in the field of road safety.



"For Safe Roads" Campaign

The level of seat belt use among drivers in the cities of Ukraine in 2020



Research into the level of the seat belt use in Ukraine

Every year, starting in 2017, CEDEM experts together with Vision Zero NGO conduct a monitoring study to determine the percentage of drivers in Ukraine who fasten their seat belts. This year, the average level of seat belt use in Ukraine was 26%, which, given the statistical error, differs little from the 2019 results.



Smoke Free Kyiv

CEDEM supports a healthy lifestyle and has been fighting tobacco smoking in Ukraine since 2010 implementing Smoke Free Kyiv Project in collaboration with the Coalition of NGOs and initiatives "For Smoke-Free Ukraine"

Smoke Free Kyiv

In 2020, we worked with our partners from NGO "Life" on a comprehensive anti-tobacco draft law aimed at reducing the negative impact and health consequences of smoking

With the active participation of CEDEM lawyers, the working group of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Public Health, Medical Assistance and Medical Insurance prepared and registered **Draft Law No. 4358** "On Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Public Health Protection Against Tobacco Harm", which is a revised version of the Draft Law No. 2813.

The draft law brings the Ukrainian legislation in line with the provisions of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the provisions of Directive 2014/40/EU.

Its key positions include:

- ban on advertising all tobacco products online
- introduction of health warning labels for the electronic cigarette packages, heated liquid and tobacco product packages
- increase in medical warnings on packages taking from 50 to 65% of the space of a package with the images of consequences of smoking on both sides, which will change annually
- ban on the sale of flavored cigarettes, including liquids for electronic cigarettes
- ban on advertising display of all tobacco products and their substitutes in shop windows
- empowering local councils to identify additional smoke-free places

The document is a logical continuation of the systematic work carried out by CEDEM and its partners from NGO "Life" with the parliament on the implementation of the best international standards in the field of combating tobacco use and reducing their harmful effects on public health, that of especially children and youth.

Currently, **the Draft No. 4358 is put on the agenda of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**, we are waiting for its consideration in the first reading.



Public Ceremony

In 2020, CEDEM traditionally became a co-organizer of the Golden Braid Tobacco Lobbying Public Ceremony, initiated by the NGO "Life". This year's anti-award was given to parliamentarians and executive officials who lobbied for tobacco companies.

Support anti-tobacco initiatives

We also advocated for and supported anti-tobacco initiatives. CEDEM lawyers prepared four analytical materials. A number of public events, press conferences and meetings with MPs, officials and representatives of NGOs were held together with our partners from the NGO "Life".

Advocacy Training Projects

The Centre for Democracy and Rule of Law is active in advocating for decisions that are important to society. In addition to promoting and implementing changes in CEDEM's activities, we also provide support to other organizations and activists whose work is related to advocacy.

Therefore, we support civil society organizations that address pressing issues in their communities and regions, as well as implement training projects for activists who are working or are just starting their careers in the field of advocacy

Development of coalitions of civil society organizations in the regions

During the first half of 2020, CEDEM successfully completed the project "Coalition of Civil Society Organizations of Polissia - Synergy and Influence", which was implemented in Zhytomyr and Lutsk. **More than 20 NGOs** in these cities have joined two coalitions with the support of CEDEM.

The project aimed to **strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to jointly address the problems of their city's community**. To this end, organizations have developed policies and advocated for their implementation at the local government level through appropriate decisions.

Throughout the project, CEDEM provided **advice** on coalition building and legal support to activists in Zhytomyr and Lutsk.

19

webinars

in the field of communication and organizational development for the coalition members



Advocacy School

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

In 2020, CEDEM hosted the fifth School, but it was held online for the first time. The participants were **25 representatives of public initiatives** from different parts of Ukraine. During training, the lecturers shared their experience on how to go from problem identification to successful change implementation.

The trainers not only told the participants about the theoretical principles of the advocacy process, but also helped to consolidate the acquired knowledge through practical tasks. For example, on defining the problem and purpose of advocacy, building strategy, working with stakeholders, and communicating change.

Key results of the coalitions

- an agreement was reached with the city authorities of Lutsk on the launch of the information campaign "Made in Lutsk": information labels will appear in the city's retail chains next to locally produced goods, and thematic fairs will be held for local producers
- a division will be set up under the Lutsk City Council's Education Department to introduce IT technologies in the city's schools
- they have developed information materials, which Lutskvodokanal will place on the back of water bills
- regulations "On the establishment of a permanent working group to identify and eliminate sources of air pollution in the city of Lutsk" were developed. Activists presented their concept to local authorities with the participation of the Director of the Department of Ecology and the Head of the State Ecological Inspection of Volyn Region and received approval for implementation
- comments on the public health program of Zhytomyr Region for the next three years have been developed
- recommendations included in the Memorandum of Cooperation between the National Police and Zhytomyr ATC have been developed. They include the ability to engage other institutions and organizations of any form of ownership as a third party
- as part of 19 webinars, activists of Zhytomyr and Volyn Regions raised awareness of organizational development and communication

School of communication in advocacy

It is important for civil society organizations and their successful work to promote and highlight changes in the information space. Therefore, as part of the project "Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity", on September 23-25, 2020, CEDEM held the **School of Communication in Advocacy**, which was attended by **31 communicators** working in the public sector.

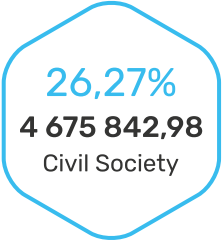
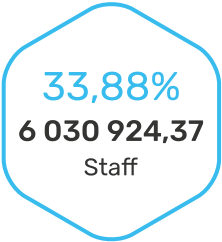
In three days, the students of the School learned how to develop and implement communication strategies, work in the digital sphere, build relationships with the media and the authorities, and find their audience. Such skills will help them in advocacy, because in order to achieve change, they need to be communicated to society.

The structure of income in 2020

"The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in all material aspects in accordance with the terms of the Agreement", audit company UHY Prostor LLC

Донор	Received (UAH)	Percentage of earnings (%)
Initiative Center to Support Social Action "Ednannia" – United States Agency for International Development	5 830 579,39	30,69
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)	5 210 261,72	27,42
Internews Network – United States Agency for International Development	5 053 236,85	26,60
EU Project Pravo-Justice	1 474 595,86	7,76
Tobacco-Free Kids Action Fund	1 404 450,09	7,39
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	25 963,50	0,14
	18 999 087,41	100

CEDEM expenditures



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AND RULE OF LAW**

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