

СЕКЦІЯ №1

Міський та регіональний розвиток у системі державного управління та місцевого самоврядування

ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATE OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN UKRAINE AND DIRECTIONS OF ITS REFORM

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Ukraine has an administrative-territorial system that was formed during the Soviet Union time and is a consequence of the old administrative-command system and does not meet modern requirements for building a democratic state.

The Ukrainian structure of administrative-territorial organization lags behind modern models of territorial management of the countries of Europe which carried out these changes in the late 80's and early 90's of last century.

Based on the new challenges facing Ukrainian society and the result of the democratic transformation of the Ukrainian state, the need to reform its administrative and territorial structure is one of the key reforms that need to be implemented in the coming years.

This reform is necessary primarily to increase the efficiency of the public administration system through tools to enhance the socio-economic potential of territorial communities.

The reform of the administrative-territorial system in Ukraine has been discussed for a long time, almost since the beginning of independence. In the scientific aspect, M. Dolishniy, M. Dnistriansky and other scientists who have made significant work on decentralization and public administration have dealt with this issue at different times. The first attempts at reform took place after Viktor Yushchenko's team came to power, but these efforts came to fruition in 2014. For the successful implementation of domestic reform, it is also necessary to use the experience of countries that have reformed the administrative-territorial system, successfully changed the system of local self-government, and demonstrated in results in progress in socio-economic development. The example of Poland, which is mentally closest to Ukraine and at the beginning of socio-political transformation faced similar problems to domestic ones: the decline of the economy, high levels of corruption, etc. Taking into account the Polish experience, we should not blindly copy it and impose it on the Ukrainian realities, but only highlight the necessary and useful things that will help us to restructure the system of administrative-territorial organization and local self-government.

Today, according to the Constitution of Ukraine, Ukraine is a unitary state which includes 24 regions, 1 autonomous republic (temporarily occupied by the Autonomous Republic of Crimea) and two cities with special status - Kyiv and Sevastopol.

Given the need to strengthen the capacity of self-governing capacity of administrative-territorial units at the primary level, I consider it is necessary to reorganize at this level by consolidating such units.

Tasks of administrative-territorial reform, formulated in the provisions of the Concept of reforming local self-government and territorial organization of power in Ukraine, approved by the order of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine from 01.04.2014 № 333-r. It aims to form effective local self-government and territorial government to create and maintain a full living environment for citizens, provide high quality and affordable public services, establish institutions of direct democracy, meet the interests of citizens in all spheres of life in the territory, harmonize the interests of state and local communities.

According to the Concept, administrative-territorial units of the basic level in the system of administrative-territorial organization of Ukraine are considered territorial communities: rural, settlement, urban. Reforming the administrative-territorial system at the basic level is seen in the creation of more self-governing administrative-territorial units with higher economic and socio-demographic potential by merging the existing village, town, city councils, increasing their budget capacity and functional independence. Positive in the approved conceptual principles of local self-government reform in Ukraine is the expected sequence of its implementation. Changes are expected in stages from bottom to top, which should be considered positive.

The main innovations of the proposed program of decentralization of power are: the establishment of a three-layer system of administrative-territorial organization of Ukraine - region, district, community with the ubiquity of local self-government; transfer of executive functions from local state administrations to executive bodies of councils of the appropriate level; distribution of powers between local self-government bodies on the principle of subsidiarity and endowment of communities with the widest possible range of powers; clear provision of the powers of local self-government bodies with the necessary financial resources, including through their participation in national taxes; the liquidation of state administrations and creation instead of state representations with only control - supervisory and coordination, instead of executive functions.

The basic principles of local reform self-government and territorial organization of power installed:

1. determination of reasonable principles of activity local governments and executive authorities capable of providing accessible and quality services to citizens;
2. creation of reliable material, financial and organizational conditions to ensure direct and delegated interests of citizens by bodies self - government (the right of local communities to organization and holding of a local referendum);

3. distribution of powers in the local system self-government and executive authorities on at all levels of the administrative - territorial system on the principles of subsidiarity and decentralization authorities;

4. creation of a mechanism of state control over the implementation of decisions by local authorities self-government in accordance with the Constitution and laws

5. to involve the population in direct action as much as possible government and decision-making at the level settlements, villages, communities, etc.

Analyzing all the data and taking into account the stages already passed in changing the administrative-territorial structure of the state and the system of local self-government, there are hopes for positive changes in the near future, including improving production efficiency and social standards of Ukrainians. The reform of the local self-government system will promote the realization of public interests and the proper protection of the rights, freedoms and interests of Ukrainian citizens.

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