

STATE AND LEGAL DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE IN 1991-1996

OLEKSANDR DRABYK, student

YURIY V. OLIYNYK, Associate Professor, PhD in Law, Scientific Adviser

ALLA I. RADU, Associate Professor, PhD in Philology, Language Adviser

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv

After Ukraine declared independence in 1991, the country faced significant political and socio-economic challenges. The collapse of the Soviet Union led to an economic crisis characterized by hyperinflation, decline of the industrial production, and the lack of stable financial policy and reliable fiscal institutions. Politically Ukraine had to transit from a Soviet-style governance system to an independent democratic state. The absence of a clear political structure and the struggle between different political forces contributed to the instability in the society. At the same time, the Ukrainian people experienced a rise of national consciousness, which played a crucial role in shaping the country's legal and political framework.

The legal foundations of Ukraine's independence were laid by two key documents: the Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine (July 16, 1990) and the Act of Declaration of Independence (August 24, 1991). The Declaration established Ukraine's aspirations for full sovereignty, economic independence, and political self-determination. The Act of Independence, confirmed by the national referendum on December 1, 1991, solidified Ukraine's status as a fully independent state and set the stage for the development of a national legal system.

In the early years of independence, Ukraine worked to establish a functional government structure. The separation of powers was introduced, leading to the formation of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. The Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) became the main legislative body, while the President of Ukraine assumed the role of the head of the state. The Cabinet of Ministers was responsible for executive functions, and the judiciary was gradually reformed to align with democratic principles.

The legal system of Ukraine underwent substantial development in the first years of independence. New laws were enacted to regulate political, economic, and social life, ensuring the transition from the Soviet norms to a national legal framework. Key legislative reforms included the adoption of laws on citizenship, property rights, and privatization. Additionally, Ukraine sought to align its legal system with the European and international standards to facilitate its integration into the global community.

The process of drafting Ukraine's Constitution began immediately after independence but faced numerous political and ideological disputes. Various drafts were proposed, reflecting different visions for the country's governance structure. Extensive discussions took place within the government and among the public, emphasizing the need for a balance between presidential and parliamentary powers. The process was marked by intense negotiations and political confrontations, delaying the final adoption of the Constitution.

On June 28, 1996, the Verkhovna Rada adopted the Constitution of Ukraine, marking a significant milestone in the country's state-building process. The Constitution established Ukraine as a sovereign, democratic, and legal state, defining the principles of human rights, the rule of law, and the separation of powers. It provided a stable legal foundation for further political and economic development, ensuring the protection of citizens' rights and freedoms. The adoption of the Constitution was a crucial step in consolidating Ukraine's independence and strengthening its legal and governmental institutions.

The period from 1991 to 1996 became an important time of considerable transformation in Ukraine's history, characterized by political, economic, and legal changes that shaped the country's modern governance structure. The transition from a Soviet republic to an independent nation required significant efforts in state-building, legislative reforms, and constitutional development. The adoption of the 1996 Constitution was a defining moment in Ukraine's path toward democracy, stability, and legal order. Despite challenges, these foundational years established the framework for Ukraine's long-term development as a sovereign state.

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MIGRATION AS A MANIFESTATION OF FREEDOM: CHALLENGES OF MODERNITY

MAKSYM DUBANYCH, PhD student

ANASTASIIA M. MERNYK, Associate Professor, Doctor of Science in Law,
Scientific Adviser

OLENA P. LYSYTSKA, PhD in Philology, Associate Professor, Language Adviser
Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University

Migration has long been a fundamental expression of human freedom, enabling individuals to seek better opportunities, escape conflict, and pursue personal aspirations. However, in the modern world, migration is accompanied by numerous challenges, including legal, social, and economic barriers. This paper explores migration as a manifestation of freedom, focusing on the challenges that arise in the context of globalization, state sovereignty, and human rights (Castles, 2000).

The study aims to analyze the balance between the freedom of movement and the need for state regulation, as well as the impact of migration on democratic