

2) carrying out preparatory actions (requesting and obtaining all necessary documents, resolving the issue of attracting witnesses, the need to attract an expert or appraiser, etc.);

3) description of inherited property;

4) protection and storage of the described hereditary property.

The protection of the inherited property lasts until the end of the period established for the acceptance of the inheritance, or the entry into force of the court's decision to recognize the inheritance as dead .

The protection of the inherited property may continue after the expiration of six months from the day of the opening of the inheritance, if the notary receives a statement of consent to accept the inheritance from persons for whom the right of inheritance arises in the case of non-acceptance of the inheritance by other heirs, on the basis of the third part of Article 1270 of the Civil Code of Ukraine and if there are less than three months left before the expiration of the statutory six-month period for acceptance of inheritance.

Expenses for the protection of inherited property are reimbursed by the heirs in accordance with their share in the inheritance and in the case that the inheritance is recognized as dead by the local authorities which exercise the right of ownership the inheritance that has been recognized as dead [3].

Conclusion. To sum up, the notary occupies a prominent place in the protection of the inherited property from the abuse of third parties and the protection of the rights of the heirs. They must ensure the transfer of objects of inheritance from the testator to the heirs in their original state.

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UNION OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL REPUBLIC AND THE WESTERN UKRAINIAN NATIONAL REPUBLIC INTO A SINGLE, UNITED UKRAINIAN STATE

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The unification of the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) and the Western Ukrainian People's Republic (WUNR) in 1919 was a significant event in the

Ukrainian history. The Act of Unification, proclaimed on January 22, 1919, in Kyiv, symbolized a strong desire, formed during centuries, to unite all the Ukrainian lands into a single independent Ukrainian State [6].

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the Ukrainian lands were divided between two empires: Russia controlled the eastern and central parts, while Austria-Hungary ruled over Halychyna, Bukovyna, and Zakarpattya. Both imperial governments limited attempts of the Ukrainians` to form their own state. Nevertheless, political movements for national rights and autonomy arose within both empires. In the Russian Empire, the Ukrainian parties such as the Revolutionary Ukrainian Party, the Ukrainian Social Democratic Workers' Party and others promoted the idea of being a part of the federation with Russia, while only Mykola Mihnovskyy and his followers developed the idea of an independent Ukrainian Republic. In the Ukrainian lands of Austria-Hungary Empire, that pressure was not so intense as in the eastern Ukraine, therefore organizations such as the Rusko-Ukrainian radical party were formed much earlier [3, p. 136-146].

The collapse of both empires during and after the First World War created an opportunity for the Ukrainians to establish their own state. The Ukrainian People's Republic was formed in 1917 after the fall of the Russian monarchy headed by the Ukrainian Central Council (UCC). By January 1918, it had declared full independence by IV Statute of the Central Council. Meanwhile, in the west, the Ukrainian leaders took advantage of Austria-Hungary's collapse to proclaim the establishment of the Western Ukrainian People's Republic (WUNR) in November 1918. However, from the very beginning, the WUNR faced military aggression from Poland, that wanted to take control over Eastern Halychyna. And the UNR was dealing, firstly, with the Red Army, which also intended to get the Ukrainian territory back. After hetman Pavlo Skoropadskiy's uprising, the UCC was overthrown and hetman's government was established. Hetman Pavlo Skoropadskiy's administration and regime fell too. It was caused by a new uprising led by Directory of the UNR (Symon Petliura and Volodymyr Vynnychenko). Thus, the UNR was ready to fight for a unified state [1, p. 11].

At the beginning of their activity two Ukrainian states knew that their aim was not only the establishment, but also the unification into a single state. So, the UNR and WUNR initiated negotiations for the unification. On December 1, 1918, representatives of both governments signed an agreement in Fastiv, which established the conditions for the future union [5, p. 118]. The Directory of the UNR, led by Symon Petliura and Volodymyr Vynnychenko, and the Ukrainian National Council of WUNR, led by Yevhen Petrushevich, signed the agreement. On January 22, 1919, in a grand ceremony in Kyiv's Sofia Square, the Act of Unification was proclaimed, declaring the two republics as a single, indivisible Ukrainian state [1, p. 267].

That event was of great historic significance. It was a turning point in modern history. Although the WUNR was officially renamed into the Western Oblast of the Ukrainian People's Republic and saved its autonomy, political tension between the two governments was constantly increasing. The main reason of those disputes was in different views on the UNR's policy. Besides, the WUNR

politicians had more experience in establishment and development of government and foreign diplomacy, while the UNR leaders made too many mistakes, and the most important one was the absence of a powerful army. One more problem was the lack of unity among the leaders of both governments [4, p.36].

One of the greatest challenges and main reasons of the destruction of the UNR was the ongoing war at all the fronts. The UNR government faced aggression from the Red Army in the north and east, Denikin's White Army with the Antanta support attacked in the south, and the Polish forces were in the west. At the same time, diplomatic efforts to gain international recognition at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919 failed. Western powers, particularly France and Britain, prioritized their alliances with Poland and saw independent Ukraine as an obstacle to their geopolitical interests. The inability of the Ukrainian delegation to present a unified position weakened their case on the international stage [2, p. 223].

By the end of 1919, the unification actually was lost. Ideas of two governments were completely different: policy of the UNR was based on socialist views on the further development. Meanwhile, the WUNR leaders were concentrated on the united independent state, so, first steps to unification were made by the WUNR. Symon Petliura, in attempt to save the UNR, signed a secret alliance with Poland in April 1920, agreeing to give away the Western Ukrainian lands in exchange for the Polish military support against the Red Army. That decision led to deep disputes among the Ukrainians, especially the WUNR politicians were disappointed with the betrayal of the eastern brothers. By 1921, both the UNR and WUNR ceased to exist as independent states, because of the traitorous pact of Poland with V. Lenin. Ukraine was once again divided, with its western lands under the Polish control and the rest under that of the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic [3, p. 399].

Although the Act of Unification failed to create a lasting Ukrainian state, its significance remains undeniable. It marked a powerful statement of national unity and demonstrated the shared idea of the Ukrainians to live in a single state. Despite its short-lived success, the idea of the Ukrainian independence and territorial unity continued to inspire future generations. Today, the legacy of the 1919 unification serves as a reminder of the challenges and sacrifices involved in the struggle for independence. It stresses the importance of political unity, strong governance, and strategic international alliances. The concept of territorial unity remains relevant in modern Ukraine, particularly in the context of the current full-scale russian-Ukrainian war [2, 450].

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GUARANTEE AS A FORM OF SECURING THE FULFILMENT OF AN OBLIGATION

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Guarantee is one of the main forms of securing the fulfilment of an obligation, along with forfeit, suretyship, pledge, lien, deposit and other ways established by a contract or law. Guarantee is an important legal tool in civil law. It helps make sure that a person or company follows through with their commitments by providing extra assurance. Guarantees play a key role in legal relationships, building trust and reducing risks when one party might not fulfill their obligations.

In the Ukrainian civil law, a guarantee is a commitment given by a guarantor such as a bank to pay a creditor a certain amount if the debtor fails to fulfill their contractual obligations. Unlike suretyship, a guarantee creates an independent obligation of the guarantor, meaning that the guarantor must fulfill the guarantee regardless of the debtor's performance.

The use of guarantees requires a clear understanding of when they apply and what limits exist. The Ukrainian civil law, particularly the Civil Code of Ukraine, sets specific rules on how guarantees work. These rules follow international legal standards to make sure guarantees are effective and fair.

The regulation of guarantees in Ukraine depends on the following factors: national laws, economic conditions, and legal traditions. Since financial security in contracts is becoming more and more important, studying guarantees has gained attention among legal researchers. Many Ukrainian legal scholars (O. Dibrova, V. Spasibo-Fateeva, and A. Vlasov) have examined the role of guarantees in civil law. Other experts (M. Kravchuk, R. Stefanchuk, O. Yavorska, V. Reznichenko) have analyzed how guarantees are used in business contracts, financial deals, and legal enforcement.

National laws on guarantees are essential for keeping the legal system stable and protecting the rights of those involved in contracts. The Civil Code of Ukraine includes key points about guarantees, namely: 1) their nature and purpose –