

(Germany and Austria-Hungary) were trying to maintain their influence, while the Allied Powers (Entente) were at the peak of their power. Ukraine, situated between major forces, was in a unreliable position. Germany and Austria-Hungary, which had occupied Ukraine under the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, played a decisive role in forming the country's foreign policy. At the same time, the Entente remained hostile to the Hetmanate, considering it a German ally. Additionally, Russia wanted to return Ukraine, while Poland and the Don Cossacks had their territorial ambitions in the region. This geopolitical situation forced Skoropadskyi to adopt a cautious foreign policy.

Foreign Policy was paid great attention. The primary goal of Skoropadskyi's foreign policy was securing international recognition and military guarantees for Ukraine's sovereignty. His diplomatic efforts were directed toward the following key areas:

1) **relations with the Central Powers** - Germany and Austria-Hungary were the main foreign supporters of the Hetmanate, providing military and economic aid in exchange for political loyalty;

2) **cooperation with the Entente** - despite Ukraine's association with the Central Powers, Skoropadskyi attempted to begin the dialogue with Britain, France, and the United States;

3) **policy toward Soviet Russia** - the Hetman's government maintained a defense against the Bolsheviks, in order to prevent the Soviet expansion into Ukraine.

Thus, the historical background of Skoropadskyi's foreign policy demonstrates the challenges he faced in navigating Ukraine through a rapidly changing international environment. His reliance on the Central Powers significantly influenced the fate of the Ukrainian State.

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ORGANIZATIONAL AND LEGAL FORMS OF LEGAL ENTITIES

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A legal entity is an organisation that is created and registered in accordance with the law procedure. It is an abstract construct, therefore it requires a definition of its essence. There are many theories of the essence of legal entities, but only the most common ones are reviewed here.

The first group of theories denies the existence of a legal entity as such. For example, **the theory of fiction**, according to which the corporation exists only in human imagination, is devoid of free will, and only its members have such free will in acting. The next theory is **the theory of the personified goal**. According to it, it is considered that a legal entity is created for the management of property as a personified purpose. That is, a legal entity is a continuing state of property management.

The second group of theories admits the reality of the existence of legal entities. These include **the realistic theory**, which assumes the existence of a legal entity as a special subject of law. **The theory of the subject of law** states that without a collective and people there is no legal entity.

I am a supporter of the theory of fiction, because I consider that a legal entity is a fictional construct, and its members act in its interests.

In legal literature, all legal entities are divided into two large groups: private and public. However, in the Ukrainian legislation the lawmaker has not defined specific characteristics by which these two organisational and legal forms should be distinguished. It is important to distinguish between legal entities of Private Law and Public Law, as they have different legal regulations and legal status. Scientists suggest paying attention to the following aspects: 1) whose interest is being provided; 2) who owns the property; 3) who is responsible for the obligations of legal entities; 4) what kind of features are characteristic to legal regulation?

Such an approach at the scientific level allows us to formally distinguish between legal entities of Private and Public Law, but legally there is a gap in the legislation anyway.

As of April 1, 2024, there are 1503782 legal entities in Ukraine. During the first quarter of 2024, 8212 legal entities were registered. Such statistics indicate the popularity of creating legal entities among the Ukrainian population and, accordingly, require precise legislative regulation, without gaps in it.

Due to the research, that is constantly being updated, understanding legal entities becomes easier. It is necessary to popularize this topic and study it from new perspectives, in order to implement a proper legal regulation of legal entities functioning.

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