

1. If a state authority, local self-government body or other public authority authorised to protect these interests in disputed legal relations fails to do so or does so improperly.

2. If there is no body or authority competent to protect the state interests in disputed legal relations.

When filing a lawsuit, appeal or cassation appeal, the prosecutor is obliged to substantiate and provide evidence of the existence of grounds for representing the state's interests in court [3].

**Conclusion.** Article 128 of the CPC of Ukraine defines the grounds and procedure for filing a civil action in criminal proceedings. Prosecutors may bring claims in state interests or on behalf of citizens unable to protect their rights due to minority or incapacity. Since "state interests" is an evaluative concept, the prosecutor must justify the claim based on legislation. Court practice allows prosecutors to represent the state if no competent authority exists or if an authorized body fails to act. In all cases, the prosecutor must provide evidence supporting the need for legal representation.

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## THE ADOPTION, CONTENT, AND HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE “ACT OF DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF UKRAINE”

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In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Soviet Union was falling apart, leading to big political changes in Eastern Europe. Ukraine, one of the largest Soviet republics, saw a growing movement pushing for independence. This paper analyses the key events that led to independence, the adoption of the Independence Act, and the nationwide vote that confirmed Ukraine's new status.

By the late 1980s, the Soviet Union was struggling with serious political and economic problems. Leader Mikhail Gorbachev introduced reforms called perestroika (restructuring) and glasnost (openness), but those changes weakened the Soviet government's control. Many Ukrainians were unhappy with Moscow's rule and wanted more freedom.

In 1989, the People's Movement of Ukraine (Rukh) became an important political group fighting for national independence, democracy, and cultural revival. Other democratic and nationalist groups also helped organize protests and gain public support for Ukraine's sovereignty.

On July 16, 1990, Ukraine's Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) passed the Declaration of State Sovereignty. This document stated that Ukraine had the right to decide its own future, control its economy, and make its own laws, which would be more important than Soviet rules. That was an important step toward full independence.

On August 24, 1991, after a failed attempt by Soviet hardliners to take power in Moscow, Ukraine's parliament passed the Act of Independence. Leaders feared that the Soviet Union might try to take control again, so they acted quickly to protect Ukraine's freedom.

The Act of Independence officially declared Ukraine a free and democratic country. It stated that the Soviet rule was over and that only Ukrainian laws would be in force.

Several key politicians, including Leonid Kravchuk and Vyacheslav Chornovil, played important roles in pushing for independence. Both nationalist and moderate politicians supported the decision, understanding that Ukraine needed to govern itself.

To confirm this decision, Ukraine held a nationwide vote (referendum) on December 1, 1991. The government organized the vote to show that most Ukrainians truly wanted independence.

The results were clear: 90.32% of voters supported independence, with 84.18% of all eligible citizens taking part. Even regions that were historically more pro-Soviet voted in favor. That showed national unity and a strong desire for sovereignty.

After the vote, major world powers quickly recognized Ukraine as an independent country. The United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom were among the first to do so. On December 8, 1991, Ukraine, along with Russia and Belarus, signed the Belovezh Accords, officially declaring the end of the Soviet Union.

Ukraine's independence happened due to both internal political efforts and global changes. The adoption of the Act of Independence and the December 1, 1991 referendum showed that Ukrainians were ready to build their own democratic country. The recognition of Ukraine by other nations confirmed its status as a new independent state, starting a new chapter in its history.

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