



National Youth
Council of
Ukraine

Statement of the National Youth Council of Ukraine on the Inter-factional association on youth issues in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the 9th convocation

The National Youth Council of Ukraine appeals to the parties and deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the 9th convocation with the proposal to create an Inter-factional Association on youth issues in the newly elected parliament. The Inter-factional Association should consolidate the efforts of MPs, who represent different political forces, to ensure the rights and empowerment of Ukrainian youth.

The main purpose of the Association should be to highlight the issues concerning the youth within the common social block. Due to the association of MPs, who are members of different committees, and representatives of different political forces, the Inter-factional Association on youth issues should become a cross-sectoral parliamentary platform for the promotion of youth-related bills. Establishment of a separate youth association can solve one of the main causes of ineffective state youth policy in Ukraine.

The National Youth Council of Ukraine calls on political parties to create youth organizations for a democratic mechanism of political lifting of young people and full participation of young people in legislative work as well as running in the next elections. We also invite you to the NYC Ukraine Pillar of Political Organizations to work together with social organizations on bills relevant to youth with the participation of international partners and international youth political organizations.

Considering the critical state of youth policy in Ukraine, as one of its primary tasks the Inter-factional Association should address the following unresolved issues in the legislation of Ukraine:

- Review the bills "[On promotion of social formation and development](#)", "[On social work with children and youth](#)", "[On youth and children public organizations](#)", as stipulated by the [Strategy for the development of the state youth policy for the period up to 2020](#);
- Develop, submit to the Parliament vote and approve the Law of Ukraine "On Youth", which will provide for a cross-sectoral approach and an annual report of the Government to the Verkhovna Rada and the President of Ukraine, on the state of youth in Ukraine;
- Create and approve the legislative framework, namely changes in the Budget Code of Ukraine to create the National [Erasmus+](#) Agency and integrate it with the national system of financing public youth organizations, which in turn should operate outside of the State Treasury, Amendments to [the Law of Ukraine "On the Accounting Chamber"](#) etc.;
- Introduce a [Youth Guarantee system](#), following the example of the European Union countries. Guaranteeing a paid internship for young professionals, tax incentives for employers to employ young people, align Laws of Ukraine in accordance with the Youth Guarantee System, which confirm the right of young people at the legislative level;

- Provide legislative conditions for becoming young entrepreneurs by simplifying business verification procedures, introducing a special loan system for youth entrepreneurship, creating online mechanisms for registering and running businesses, and providing state support for business incubators;
- Identify support for youth NGOs as a priority of the State Regional Development Fund in the process of decentralization and facilitate the election of youth to the governing bodies of municipalities, and ensure appropriate amendments in the Law of Ukraine "[On the State Budget of Ukraine for 2019](#)" in the following years;
- Establish a national action plan for the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and [UN Resolution 2250/2419 on Youth, Peace and Security](#), which can be a good tool for achieving peace and unity in Ukrainian society in all territories. Develop a support system for youth environmental initiatives and provide them with the right to monitor the implementation of the [Paris Agreement](#) on climate change prevention. Ensure equal access for young people to rights through support for programs which promote tolerance in society, regardless of language, gender or religion.
- Initiate amending of the Laws of Ukraine "[On political parties in Ukraine](#)", "[On amendments to some legislative acts of Ukraine due to the introduction of state funding of political parties in Ukraine](#)" and "[On civil associations](#)" and recommend political parties to establish political youth organizations for creating party means of social mobility and political education for youth through mechanisms of non-formal education.
- Review [the Housing Code of Ukraine](#) which is the basis for developing housing support programs for young people, and only then review the amount of funding for youth housing programs;
- Amend the Law of Ukraine "[On extracurricular education](#)" and include non-formal education in Ukraine with the principle of public procurement financing in public associations and business entities, as the main tool for work with children and young people beyond formal education. Introduce a lifelong learning approach and make appropriate changes to the Law of Ukraine "[On Vocational Education](#)". Develop amendments to the Law of Ukraine "[On Higher Education](#)", in the section of registration and financing of student self-government organizations. Introduce a system of financing and registration of independent, democratic organizations of school self-government, the Law of Ukraine "[On General Secondary Education](#)".

For a more effective work of the association, the National Youth Council of Ukraine calls on **all parliamentary factions and groups of all political forces that have been elected to the Verkhovna Rada to join the Inter-factional Association**. A more detailed justification for such approaches can be found in the [recommendations](#) of the National Youth Council of Ukraine to the Strategy of Youth Policy 2030. The recommendations were developed as a result of inclusive discussions with young people in 15 regions of Ukraine and with the support of Ukrainian and international experts.