

News bulletin

of the Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement

July-September 2013

Civil campaigns

Youth and human rights defenders announced the start of the civil campaign "Know who protects you!"

Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement (hereinafter - Association UMDPL) together with the All-Ukrainian Youth NGO "Foundation of Regional Initiatives" announced the start of the civil campaign "Know who protects you" which is aimed at introducing amendments to the legislation of Ukraine obliging every police officer to carry a personal badge. Badges are to solve the problem of police officers anonymity. The practice of personalized police instead of anonymous law enforcement officers is widely spread in many countries and allows to bring an identified police officer to justice in case of his violating human rights.

The initiators of the campaign call for all interested stakeholders to support and get engaged in the discussion of the amendments to the legislation. They also hope for understanding and cooperation with the leadership of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine that is preparing the reform of police.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Civil society addressed to the Minister of Internal Affairs with an open letter concerning the necessity of police identification

The initiators of the civil campaign "Know who protects you" addressed to the Minister of Internal Affairs Mr. Vitalii Zakharchenko with an open letter concerning the necessity of introduction of personalized lapel badges for every police officer. In their letter civil activists and human rights defenders have made a proposal to the leadership of the Ministry to initiate an open dialogue with civil society concerning the elaboration of the unified system of identification of law enforcement officers.

"Ukraine took up a range of international obligations concerning the human rights and freedoms observance by law enforcement authorities. The international documents provide for the basic principles of law enforcement agencies work, particularly that the officers of such agencies should be easily identifiable and every officer shall carry personal responsibility for his or her actions, nonfeasance, orders given" – states the open letter.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

No anonymous police officers on the streets: activists will check whether it is possible to identify a police officer during the civil monitoring of police

From 23 September to 5 October activists were talking to police officers on the streets. During the regular All-Ukrainian campaign of civil monitoring of police "Police under control" volunteers from different regions of Ukraine checked whether the police officers protecting the civil order observe the law. Ordinary citizens inspected police officers according to the specially elaborated procedure – whether they introduce themselves, whether they show their IDs when asked to do so and whether they have a personal badge on their uniform.

The results of the All-Ukrainian monitoring will be analyzed by the experts and submitted first of all to the leadership of MIA. Activists expect the ministry to take concrete steps to stop the practice of the anonymous police on the streets.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

International activity

A visit of the Ukrainian NPM representatives to Spain



The Executive Director of the Association UMDPL took part in the study visit at the invitation of the head of NPM in Spain

On 9-10 September 2013 at the invitation of the Head of Ombudsman's Office – Head of the NPM of the Kingdom of Spain Ms. Karmen Komasa-Mata Mira with the support of OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, the delegation of Ukrainian NPM comprising of Mr. Yuriy Bielousov – the Representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights – Head of NPM Department, Mr. Stanislav Shevchuk, Head of the "Rule of Law" Program of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, Ms. Ivana Djima, National Adviser, OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine; Mr. Denis Kobzin, Director of KHISR, Ms. Svitlana Sherban, KHISR researcher, Mr. Andriy Chernousov, the leading KHISR expert and Mr. Vadim Pyvovarov, Executive Director of Association UMDPL came to Madrid with a study visit.

As a result of this visit it was agreed to continue exchanging experience in the sphere of monitoring of places of detention, improvement of detention conditions and cooperation with other state agencies.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)



*NGOs meeting
in Tbilisi*



*Visit to the Center of Administrative
Services Provision in Tbilisi*

Representatives of Association UMDPL took part in the meeting of grantee organizations of the European Commission Program "Strengthening the capacity of NGO within the framework of Eastern Partnership"

On 5-6 September in Tbilisi, Georgia, took place a meeting of the grantee organizations of the European Commission Program "Strengthening the capacity of NGOs within the framework of Eastern Partnership (EaS)" organized in cooperation with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (Germany)

and the Transtec Corporation (Belgium). Among the participants of the meeting were around 100 civil society organizations representatives from EaS countries: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Armenia, Moldova, Ukraine as well as the representatives of NGOs of Austria, Malta, Lithuania, Kyrgyzstan etc. Association UMDPL together with a partner organization Kharkiv Institute for Social Researches (KHISR) presented the provisional results of the project "Reform of the administrative services provision by the internal affairs authorities

in Ukraine" in the course of which 3000 respondents in 10 regions of Ukraine were questioned within the period from June to August 2013. During numerous working group meetings the participants actively exchanged their experiences in the sphere of civil society development and strengthening the influence of nongovernmental stakeholders on state policy. One of the main tasks was to create the platform for networking among civil society organizations of EaS countries.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

The Representative of Association UMDPL took part in the study visit at the invitation of the Ombudsman of Denmark

On 24-28 September 2013 at the invitation of the Danish Parliamentary Ombudsman with the support of the Penal Reform International took place a study visit of the Ukrainian NPM. Among the members of the delegation were the representatives of the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human rights as well as the representatives of civil society including Mr. Vadim Pyvovarov – Director of the Association UMDPL. In the course of the visit members of the delegation had a chance to learn in detail the mechanism of NPM functioning that is organized according to the "Ombudsman+" model but has certain peculiarities. Thus, the Parliamentary Ombudsman is designated to function as NPM however with an obligation to include two more institutions in the work of the NPM: a state one – Danish Institute for Human Rights and an NGO "Dignity" dealing with rehabilitation issues of torture and cruel treatment victims. Visits to places of detention (there are more than 2000 of places of detention in the Kingdom of Denmark) are usually carried out together with the representatives of all three organizations.

Members of the delegation had also a possibility to visit the open type prison for those convicted for less than 5 years together with PTDC section. The prison had a surprisingly different approach to correction of convicts which is based on the principal of minimal interference and maximum conformity with usual conditions a person lives in every day.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)



*During the visit to the Office
of Danish Ombudsman*

International activity of the Association: the example of Moldova

The practical guidebook on police monitoring was published in Moldova by the human rights organization Promo-Lex. The latter was carrying out the police monitoring campaign in Moldova within the framework of the international campaign of police monitoring initiated by the Association UMDPL. The Practical Guidebook is comprised of two parts – results of "Watching over the Police" campaign and proposals on how to monitor the work of police officers who stay directly in contact with people.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Awareness raising activity

Civil monitors of places of detention were trained in Ivano-Frankivsk city

A special training on monitoring places of detention in law enforcement took place in Ivano-Frankivsk city from 1 to 3 September within the framework of national preventive mechanism (NPM) work. The NPM "Ombudsman+" model foresees that civil society takes part in the visits to places of detention together with the representatives of the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights. That is why, the aim of the training was to teach the representatives of NGOs the basics of NPM functioning and peculiarities of the process of human rights violations detection in the activity of law enforcement authorities. The training was organized by the Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law Enforcement (Association UMDPL) together with the Association of Independent Monitors of Places of detention (AIM) and the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights with the support of the Network of Open Society Foundations.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

During the training for monitors of places of detention, Ivano-Frankivsk city



In the course of educational summer camps Association UMDPL trained youth how to speak with police

One of the most vulnerable groups suffering from the unlawful actions of police officers is students and youth. Schools and universities, unfortunately, rarely teach how to protect own rights. This is why the Association UMDPL continues its awareness raising work with youth. This summer the experts of Association organized educational master-classes "You

and Police" where they told how one can protect him- or herself from the unlawful actions of law enforcement authorities. It was done during the educational summer camps organized by the youth organization "Foundation of Regional Initiatives" (FRI). FRI educational and motivational camps gathered more than 500 people in different regions of Ukraine. Priority educational topics during these summer camps were human rights and cooperation with authorities and police. Trainings

for participants of summer camps were organized within the framework of Association UMDPL and FRI Partnership and their participants had a possibility to learn the most common conflict situations arising when talking to police. The Association experts gave advices on how to avoid the negative consequences and problems and explained how to appeal against the actions of law enforcement officers and renew violated rights.

[Читати більше.](#)



During the youth "You and Police" master-class in Kyiv region

At the end of September trainings on the basics of how to behave with police continued in Kiev

Association UMDPL continues teaching the basics of how to behave with police – how to protect oneself from police arbitrariness, ways to solve conflicts that arise when talking to police, where to appeal against the unlawful actions of law enforcement officers. At the end of September there were two lectures, the first one within the framework of libertarian pedagogy school "Free school" in Kiev, and the other one within the framework of cooperation with youth organization "Foundation of Regional Initiatives" in Lviv at "FRI law school".

[Read more in Ukrainian](#)

Awareness raising activity

Educational lecture "How to protect oneself from the arbitrariness of law enforcement authorities?" took place in Dnipropetrovsk

An educational lecture for youth, during which its participants learned about the rights they have when in contact with police, took place on 11 August in Dnipro-

petrovsk city. Experts of the Association UMDPL told the participants about their rights and duties of police officers, main rules of talking with police officers, the order of appeal against the unlawful actions (or inaction) of police, gave advices on photo and video fixation of unlawful

actions of law enforcement officers. The lecture took place within the framework of the All-Ukrainian educational campaign "Strengthening the potential of youth to protect themselves from arbitrariness of law enforcement authorities".

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Cooperation with authorities

During the Conference "Deprived of Liberty does not mean "Deprived of Rights", Kyiv



Yuriy Bielousov: "The network of regional coordinators of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights will be expanded"

The results of the work of the regional coordinators for public relations (PR) of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights were presented during the press-conference "Deprived of Liberty" doesn't mean "deprived of rights" that took place on 12 September 2013 in the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights.

It was in the first half of 2013 that the regional coordinators for PR made 50 visits to places of detention in Kherson, Cherkassy, Rivno and Zaporizhzhia regions. The aim of such monitoring visits was to prevent cruel treatment of people detained there. The legal basis for such an activity was the law, adopted with an active support of civil society, № 5409-VI of 2 October 2012 which gave the representatives of the Commissioner and civil society the right to visit places of detention on an ad-hoc basis. However, the sphere of activity of regional coordinators is much wider.

As of now, there is information that the Commissioner considers the possibility to expand the network of regional coordinators so to ensure their presence in every region of Ukraine.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Mental healthcare institutions in Ivano-Frankivsk region were monitored

The representatives of the Department for National Preventive Mechanism of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights together with the Regional Coordinator of the Commissioner on Public Relations in Ivano-Frankivsk region, member of Association UMDPL Mr. Vasyl Kostiv and the representative of the "All-Ukrainian Union "Holos" NGO Mr. Rostislav Hudzinskii made a monitoring visit to the Ivano-Frankivsk regional psycho neurological hospital №3 and regional psychiatric hospital №2.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Awareness raising activity

Monitoring group from the Office of the Ombudsman visited Kyiv special reception center for administratively arrested

Admin arrested in a special detention center for persons subjected to administrative arrest of DG of MIA of Ukraine in Kiev have no complaints about the conditions of detention, and in their free time voluntarily help the administration to improve the territory, gather apples in the courtyard of the institution. This is what the members of the monitoring group of the Department for National Preventive Mechanism of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and representatives of civil society were informed of by the detainees serving administrative arrest. A regular ad-hoc monitoring visit to the special reception center for administratively arrested was made on 25 July by the representatives of the Ombudsman's Office together with the representatives of Association UMDPL.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Other news



The new Head of the Association UMDPL Board – Mr. Taras Hataliak

Association UMDPL welcomes the new Head of the Board!

On 12 September in Kiev took place a regular general meeting of the Association UMDPL. Representatives from 17 regions of Ukraine took part in the meeting.

During the meeting members of the Organization chose Mr. Taras Hataliak, the Head of the Lviv Branch, as the new Head of the Association UMDPL Board. Taras is one of the founders of the Organization, he has an immense work experience in the sphere of civil control over the activity of state authorities including law enforcement authorities. During 2008-2010 he worked as an Assistant to the Minister of Internal Affairs on human rights observance. Being already in the position of the Head of the Board of the organization, Taras pointed out that for such yet young however quite successful and well-known organization it is very important that all its members and volunteers continue working together to reach the common aim.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

The strategy of legal aid provision was discussed

Members of the Association UMDPL Mr. Yuriy Chumak and Ms. Natalia Kozarenko took part in the meeting of Legal information and consultancy centers Coordinators.

The event was organized in Kiev in order to discuss the strategy of further development of the Centers network – within the framework of realization of the “Strengthening of legal possibilities of poor categories of population” initiative of the “Rule of Law” Program of the International Renaissance Foundation.

[Read more in Ukrainian](#)



Analytics, useful material

Analysis of the police practice on roma population

Within the framework of the “Monitoring the observance of Roma rights in the activity of law enforcement authorities” carried out by the representatives of NGOs with the support of “Roma Ukraine” Program of the International Renaissance Foundation, Association UMDPL addressed requests for information to the MIA and a range of Regional departments of the Ministry. Readers are welcomed to see the results of the received replies analysis.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)



Events announcements



Association UMDPL continues to run the competition of creative works "Police under Control" and presents provisional results of the competition

More than a month ago was opened the third competition of creative works on the police topic that Association UMDPL runs annually. Organizers and participants of the competition have a rather complicated task – to turn attention to the problem of observance of human rights by internal affairs authorities as well as to show to the law enforcement officers which flaws of their work the society is most worried about and promote the improvement of the situation.

All information about the competition can be found on the [web-site](#) of the Association.

Photos and videos can be found at the Facebook page of the Association.

[Read more in Ukrainian.](#)

Experts of the Association UMDPL will run a series of master-classes "You & Police" during the travelling human rights documentary film festival Docudays UA



Awareness raising events "You & Police" are aimed at a wide target audience however for youth and representatives of vulnerable groups who very often become the victims of the unlawful actions of police officers it would be more interesting. During the lectures participants will learn from the experts how to behave themselves when in contact with the police in order to lessen violations of their rights by law enforcement officers and when the unlawful actions could not be avoided – how to renew the violated rights.

Follow the announcements on master-classes in different cities of Ukraine on the Association UMDPL website.

Association UMDPL will conduct training on monitoring of administrative services provision

On 8-10 and 22-24 November 2013 Association UMDPL will conduct seminars on monitoring administrative services provision. Activists interested in improvement of the administrative services provision system, particularly those of MIA and State Migration Service will be invited to take part in the training. Participants of the training will learn peculiarities of the legal basis for administrative services provision, discuss problems in this sphere with experts and will plan an All-Ukrainian monitoring of the services provision quality.

For more detailed information about seminars please follow the announcements on the Association UMDPL [website](#).

An International Conference "Development of the National Preventive Mechanism in Ukraine: achievements and development prospective" will take place on 2 December

On 2 December 2013 Association UMDPL will hold an International Conference "Development of the National Preventive Mechanism in Ukraine: achievements and development

prospective", that will be organized in Kiev with the support of Penal Reform International. During the Conference presented will be the results of work of NPM in Ukraine from time of its establishment. It is also planned to discuss existing problems on the way of its establishment with the stakeholders of the mechanism as well as to discuss the world experience in this sphere. Invited to take part in the Conference are all interested experts and activists of Ukraine and other countries.

For more detailed information about the conference please follow the announcements on the Association UMDPL website.



Photo: undp.org.ua

On 13-14 December in Kiev there will be a conference dedicated to the problems of administrative services provision in Ukraine

There will be a conference in Kiev dedicated to the existing problems in the system of administrative services provision in Ukraine. Among the participants of the conference will be the leading experts on administrative services, representatives of civil organizations and initiatives as well as the representatives of state authorities dealing with administrative services provision. During the conference there will also be a presentation of the research of the administrative services provision system in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Migration Service.

For more detailed information about the Conference please follow the announcements on the Association UMDPL website.

Activity of the Association UMDPL is supported by:

International Renaissance Foundation and other institutions of the Open Society Foundation network; Penal Reform International (Great Britain); National Endowment for Democracy (NED) (USA); Embassy of the Great Britain in Ukraine; Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Ukraine; UNDP in Ukraine; Council of Europe and European Council; Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

