UKRAINE WEEK IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

VERKHOVNA RADA OF UKRAINE

European Parliament

High-level conference
European Parliament - Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
on capacity building for reform

Monday 29 February

From 14.30	**Registration of external participants** Venue: Info point of the European Parliament
15.00 – 16.00	**Advance briefing by Pat Cox on the main conclusions and recommendations from the report of the Needs Assessment Mission to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine** Venue: PHS 3C050
16.30 – 17.15	**Official opening of the conference** **Co-Chairs:** **Elmar Brok**, Chair of the EP Foreign Affairs Committee, Co-Chair of the EP Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group **Andrej Plenković**, Lead member on the EP parliamentary support and capacity-building programme for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Chair of the EP delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee **Keynote speeches:** **Martin Schulz**, President of the European Parliament **Volodymyr Groysman**, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine **Pat Cox**, President of the European Parliament 2002-2004 **Johannes Hahn**, EU Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations Venue: PHS 3C050
17.15 – 17.30	**Press point** by **Martin Schulz**, President of the European Parliament, and **Volodymyr Groysman**, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Venue: Press corner, 9th floor, PHS
17.30 – 18.00	**Press Conference** with the heads of political factions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, together with Andrej Plenković Venue: Press Briefing room (Anna Politkovskaya room), PHS 0 A 050

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18.00 –19.30 (upon invitation)	**Cocktail** hosted by Ryszard Czarnecki, Vice-President of the European Parliament, on behalf of Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament Venue: Yehudi Menuhin, PHS
19.30 – 21.30 (upon invitation)	**Screening of the 2016 Oscar nominee documentary "Winter on fire"** in cooperation with the Ukraine Mission and the United States Mission to the European Union Venue: Yehudi Menuhin, PHS

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Tuesday 1 March

09.00 – 11.00	**High-level discussions 1 and 2** (running in parallel) **1. Relations between the legislative and the executive** Venue: ASP 5G3 **2. Role of a Parliament in the budget cycle** Venue: ASP 5G2
11.15 – 13.15	**High-level discussions 3 and 4** (running in parallel) **3. Openness, transparency and accountability: the representation role of a Parliament** Venue: ASP 5G3 **4. Administrative reform of the Verkhovna Rada: the role of a strong and independent secretariat** Venue: ASP 5G2
13.15 - 14.30 (upon invitation)	**Lunch** hosted by Andrej Plenković, Lead member on the EP parliamentary support and capacity-building programme for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Chair of the EP delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee Venue: Members' Restaurant, ASP ground floor
14.30 – 15.30 (upon invitation)	**Joint political group leaders' meeting of the European Parliament and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine** hosted by Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament Venue: PHS 6 B54
14.30 – 15.30	**Debate on "Ethical standards for parliamentarians for greater public trust and accountability"** organised by Kaja Kallas (1st Vice-Chair of the EP delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee), in cooperation with the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and USAID RADA Programme Venue: ASP 5G1

15.30 – 17.30	**High-level discussions 5 and 6** (running in parallel) **5. The role of Parliament and Political Parties: towards a culture of dialogue, compromise and consensus building** Venue: PHS 6 B001 **6. Best practices on harmonisation of national legislation with EU acquis** (Thematic meeting of the Bureau of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee) Venue: ASP 5G3
17.30 – 19.00	**Debate on "Verkhovna Rada and civil society: collaboration for reforms in 2016"** organised by the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee in cooperation with the Ukrainian Think Tanks Liaison Office in Brussels and the European Endowment for Democracy Venue: ASP 5G3

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Wednesday 2 March

08.00 – 09.30 (upon invitation)	**Meeting of the Enlarged Bureau of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee** Venue: Members' Restaurant, Salon, ASP ground floor
10.30 – 12.00	**Official closing of the conference** **Co-Chairs:** **Pat Cox**, President of the European Parliament 2002-2004 **Volodymyr Groysman**, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine **Keynote speeches:** **Helga Schmid,** Deputy Secretary-General of the European External Action Service **Andrej Plenković,** Lead member on the EP parliamentary support and capacity-building programme for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Chair of the EP delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee **Ostap Semerak,** Chair of the Verkhovna Rada delegation to the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee **Signature of an "Administrative Cooperation Agreement" between the General Secretariat of the European Parliament and the Secretariat of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine** by **Klaus Welle**, Secretary-General of the European Parliament, and **Volodymyr Slyshynskyi**, Acting Secretary-General of the Verkhovna Rada Venue: PHS 3C050

End of the "Ukraine week"