



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 on the main conclusions and recommendations from the report of the Needs Assessment Mission to the Verkhovna Rada of

Ukraine by Pat Cox, President of the European Parliament 2002-2004

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 Plenkovi, 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 Plenkovi**

Venue: Press Briefing room (Anna Politkovskaya room), PHS 0 A 050

18.00 Cocktail hosted by Ryszard Czarnecki, Vice-President of the European Parliament, on

behalf of Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament

(upon

invitation) Venue: Yehudi Menuhin, PHS





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 (starting 11.30)

Venue: ASP 5G2

13.15 - 14.30

(upon invitation)

Lunch hosted by **Andrej Plenkovi**, 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 6B54

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

(in English only, without interpretation)

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 6B001

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





Wednesday 2 March

08.00 - 09.30 Meeting of the Enlarged Bureau of the EU-Ukraine Parliamentary

Association Committee

(upon

invitation)

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 Plenkovi**, 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**, First Deputy Head of the Secretariat of the Verkhovna Rada

Venue: PHS 3C050

End of the "Ukraine week"