

NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY OF UKRAINE

1. INITIAL PROVISIONS

Since independence Ukraine has built its own national security system on the basis of universally recognized norms of international law. That allowed Ukraine to establish its European civilizational identity and to launch a complicated and controversial process of the society and state transformation, including the national security system.

While inefficient socio-political and socio-economic models of state development prevented Ukraine from becoming a real European democratic state, Ukraine in spite of a declared multi-vector foreign policy maintained unreasonable economic, energy, defence industry and information dependence on Russia. Corruption penetrated the whole system of public administration and distorted its fundamentals and mechanisms.

The Dignity Revolution of 2014 targeted against an imposed from outside attempt to revise the European civilization choice opened up new opportunities for Ukraine to implement radical reforms of public institutions, renovation of the government, and total revision of relations between citizens, public and state.

Russian Federation having violated fundamental principles of international law, bilateral agreements, fundamentals of good neighbourhood and partnership occupied a part of Ukrainian territory – Autonomous Republic of Crimea and city of Sevastopol, and launched an aggression against Ukraine with the aim of preserving political and economic dependence of our state upon Russia. Russia is attempting to undermine unity of the democratic world which is supportive of Ukrainian people in their struggle for freedom, self-determination of civilizational development and European values; to demonstrate ineffectiveness of existing system of international security and revise the world order which was formed up upon the end of the WWII.

In a situation of radically changed external and internal security environment Ukraine needs a new model of national security which is required by the National Security Strategy of Ukraine (hereinafter – the Strategy).

By implementing that strategy Ukraine will defend by all available means its fundamental values defined in the Constitution and Laws of Ukraine – independence, territorial integrity and state sovereignty, freedom, democracy, human rights and rule of law, welfare, peace and security.

2. AIMS OF THE STRATEGY

The key aims of the strategy are as follows:

Minimization of threats to state sovereignty, creation of conditions for restoration of territorial integrity of Ukraine within internationally recognized borders;

to secure European future of Ukraine by means of its democratic development and a new quality of economic and human development.

In order to reach these aims it is necessary:

to strengthen Ukrainian democracy by organizing effective defence and security sector, which will make possible stable socio-political and socio-economic development of Ukraine;

to have a new foreign policy global posture in view of instability of the global security system.

The strategy is targeted at implementation by 2020 of the identified list of the national security policy priorities aimed at protection and realization of Ukraine's national interests. The Strategy will be revised depending on changes in the security environment and improved the state's capabilities.

3. CURRENT THREATS TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY OF UKRAINE

3.1. Violation of the territorial integrity

Temporary occupation by Russia of some part of Ukraine's territory (Autonomous Republic of Crimea, city of Sevastopol) and keeping under control separatist movements and terrorist groups which it manages in some areas of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts undermine political, economic and social stability in the state, lead to disconnections between regions of Ukraine, huge human life

losses, hundreds of thousands refugees, large scale violations of human rights and freedoms on temporarily occupied and uncontrolled territories of the state. The rights of indigenous people of Crimea – Crimean Tatars – are threatened.

Violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine aggravates other threats to its sovereignty and puts obstacles on the way of normal functioning of Ukrainian state within internationally recognized borders.

3.2. Military presence of Russian Federation in Crimea and in the East of Ukraine and build-up up military forces along the border of Ukraine

Building up military formations of Russian Federation on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, use of this territory by Russian special services for reconnaissance and sabotage against Ukrainian state, also aimed at provoking extremist and separatist activities in other regions of Ukraine, destabilizes socio-political situation in in Ukraine and enhances a risk of increasing scope of Russian aggression.

Direct participation of Russian Federation in the armed conflict on the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts, and military support to separatists create a real threat of escalating the armed conflict and make it extremely difficult to resolve by way of negotiations.

Russian military buildup on the territories neighbouring to Ukraine (Transdnistria, Belarus) and along the whole Eastern border of Ukraine raises the level of military threat to our country. Intensified militarization of Baltic-Black Sea area substantially complicates the military-political situation around the Ukrainian borders.

3.3. Waging a hybrid war by Russian Federation against Ukraine

Ukraine is subjected to a comprehensive pressure exercised by Russian Federation which consists of orchestrated use of political, economic, energy, information and military tools. The strategic objective of this pressure is to block European integration of Ukraine, deplete its economic and military resources, destabilize socio-political situation and on the basis of that to fully subordinate policy of Ukrainian state to the interests of the Russian Federation leadership and even stimulate the fall of the Ukrainian state.

3.4. Absence of reliable external security guarantees for Ukraine.

Ukraine is not a member of any international systems of collective security and according to the non-block policy declared in 2010 has to support its national security and defence by own means.

Universal international legal formulae of security which are stipulated in the UN Charter, 1975 Helsinki Final Act and external guarantees of Ukraine's security according to the Budapest Memorandum appeared to be ineffective and leading international security organizations could not find in their inventories proper mechanisms to stop Russian aggression. All that revealed weakness of the international security system and ineffectiveness of international security institutions (UN, OSCE) which does not allow Ukraine to count on existing within its framework international legal mechanisms to protect national interests of the state.

On the background of deep internal crisis in Ukraine this situation substantially increases threats to its national security.

3.5. Terrorism, separatism

Russian occupation of the AR of Crimea and maintaining Russian control over some *Rayons (districts)* of Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts by military force has created fertile grounds for terrorist operations and separatist movements. Active use of well-equipped and trained by Russia terrorist groups with the aim of realization of its aggressive plans and support rendered by Russia to the quasi-state terrorist creations in those Oblasts pose a threat of growing scope and spilling of terrorist activities over other Ukrainian regions.

3.6. Corruption and inefficient system of Public Administration

The widely spread corruption has led to the de-facto subordination of public authorities to corporate and personal interests of the former leadership of the state, and in some cases to the interests of foreign states. Embezzlement of public funds reached a threatening scope. Multiple chaotic transformations disorganized the operations of public bodies. The practice of appointing to office on the basis of political loyalty and corruption "rationale" led to critical loss of professionalism in public service.

Weakening of public institutions favours growth of crime in the country, energizes trans-border organized crime groups on its territory which poses a serious threat to the national security of Ukraine.

All that taken together created favourable conditions for interfering into Ukraine's affairs.

3.7. Inefficiency of National Security System of Ukraine

The system of National Security of Ukraine was not prepared to resist effectively Russian armed aggression in its new format. The major reasons for that were: public authorities and security and defence agencies were not prepared to counteract contemporary military threats; low level of professionalism among the leaders of the public entities belonging to the system; lack of proper interaction and coordination between executive authorities and local self-governments, and security and defence structures; the legal framework which regulates actions of actors engaged into national security does not correspond to specific features of current aggression; inadequate quality and level of resources' allocated to the components of the system.

The formation of the security and defence sector, which is the major component of the system of national security, has not yet been completed and it is not ready to operate as a single functional structure. Most weapons, military and special equipment are obsolete both morally and physically. The system of control over security and defence structures, their intelligence, counterintelligence and logistical support do not meet the requirements of contemporary military conflicts.

Such a state of the National Security system does not allow to guarantee the reliable protection of national interests, sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of Ukraine's borders when aggressor uses various capabilities, actively uses separatist movements, mercenaries, terrorists etc.

3.8. Economic crisis, dropping down living standards of population

Low-tech, oligarchic model of economic development of Ukraine, distorted economic policy aimed at pocketing public resources, excessive dependence of the national economy on external markets all that taken together created preconditions for a deep economic crisis.

Unemployment, poverty, and social injustice provoke protests in the society and are utilized by external and internal forces for socio-economic and political destabilization in Ukraine. The armed conflict on the territory of the state, risks of further escalation of political, economic and information warfare against Ukraine pose a critical threat to its economic security and complicate restoration of economic growth and trust of foreign investors.

3.9. Energy security threats

Low level of inclusion of own energy resources into the energy balance of Ukraine, ineffective policy of energy efficiency, distorted market mechanisms of pricing in energy sector, low level of diversification of oil, natural gas, nuclear fuel and technologies supply lead to political and economic dependence of Russian Federation which is making use of energy as an instrument to exercise political pressure on Ukraine.

The further Russian military aggression against Ukraine and resulting ruining of Ukrainian energy infrastructure, depletion of its internal resources and raw materials reserves, blocked supply of energy from the East have really threatened a stable operations of fuel and energy sector.

Lack of a clear-cut state system of energy security, vaguely defined powers and responsibilities of economic entities and government authorities complicate response to emergency situations and threaten energy supply for national economy and society in general.

Uncompleted reforms in the energy sector, technical deterioration of fuel and energy facilities coupled with high level of energy consumption in Ukrainian economy aggravate low competitiveness of Ukrainian produce. Further preservation of this state of affairs in energy sector poses a number of threats to the national security.

3.10. Information threats

Targeted information warfare waged against Ukraine by Russian TV and other means of propaganda poses a vital threat to the national interests of Ukraine both on its own territory and abroad. Creating a distorted picture of the world Russian Mass Media, Internet included, have been ruining any prospects of good neighbourly relations between Ukrainian and Russian peoples, mongering ethnic, race, religious, and social hatred, propagating war and spreading the cult of violence, attempting to undermine socio-political and socio-economic stability.

Russian special services continue running dangerous special information operations against Ukraine. Acute threats of systemic cyber-attacks against critical information infrastructure remain topical, which may endanger human lives, put obstacles of the way of public services and create financial and economic problems of the national scale.

3.11. Threats of man-made and environmental character

Excessive anthropogenic impact and high level of technological load on the territory of Ukraine, substantial level of wear and tear of critical infrastructure, in particular communal utilities, global climate changes, low efficiency of life support systems increase the risk of emergency situations of natural and man-made character, spread of epidemics of dangerous contractual diseases.

Absence of effective environmental monitoring system puts at risk an ability of the state to manage environmental protection and make rational use of natural resources.

A dangerous trend of accumulation of substantial amounts of industrial and household wastes coupled with low level of their recycling, processing and disposal remains topical.

As a consequence of military actions in the East of Ukraine a risk of ruining highly hazardous facilities is growing, which may lead to extremely negative impact on the environment. Disruptions of critical infrastructure operations may lead to social, economic and financial instabilities and undermine ability of the State to manage crisis situations.

4. PRIORITIES OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY OF UKRAINE

4.1. Reforming the Public Administration system

The precondition for further development of the country is an urgent reorientation of the Public Administration system towards unconditional adherence to the rule of law principles, equality of every citizen before the Law and transparency of government. In order to reach these objectives it is necessary:

To clean the government decisively of corrupt bureaucrats, agents of foreign states and non-professionals;

To reorganize radically the apparatus of the State; reform the institute of Public Service, set up effective public administration bodies, to form a corps of highly qualified, patriotically minded public servants, to reform accordingly the system of personnel training and retraining, introduce modern ethical norms of public servants, military personnel, law enforcement officers behaviour, develop a new security culture;

To reasonably decentralize state functions and budget resources, strengthen financial positions of local self-governments;

To focus operations of executive authorities, local self-government bodies, procuracy and courts on the tasks of effective protection of rights, freedoms and legal interests of citizens as well as national security of Ukraine;

To guarantee open and transparent functioning of public authorities, in particular by means of an e-government.

Implementation of principal and consistent anticorruption policy is an urgent task. Its priorities are to upgrade the procedure of integrity check and monitoring of the lifestyle of public servants, support to the work of the National Anticorruption Bureau and National Agency for Corruption Prevention, active cooperation with international anticorruption organizations, in particular with the Group of Council of Europe States against Corruption (*GRECO*).

4.2. Development of an efficient security and defence sector

Development of an efficient security and defence sector of Ukraine is a key task for a new model of national security formation.

It has to combine on a functional basis military formations, law enforcement and intelligence bodies and special state services and agencies engaged into the protection of national interests from external and internal threats using weapons, special means or legitimate force within the limits of powers granted to them.

In order to fulfil the security and defence tasks the actors of the security sector of Ukraine interact, according to defined procedures, with other public authorities, NGOs and associations, enterprises and institutions, including defence industry.

Fulfilment of the above mentioned task must allow for:

Efficient response to contemporary comprehensive challenges and threats to the national security of Ukraine;

Rational utilization of potential capabilities of the security and defence sector actors to defend national interests;

Coordination of concepts (programs) of reforming and development of those entities;

Efficient management of security and defence sector and interagency interaction in peace time, in crisis and special periods;

Targeted and pragmatic approach to identifying amounts of financial, material and technical resources needed for efficient functioning, preparation and use of the security and defence sector actors.

For efficient functioning of the security and defence sector it is necessary to:

Create a system of strategic forecasting planning in order to react properly to existing and potential national security threats, identify a set of political, military, economic, social, information and other measures to prevent national security threats, neutralize them and counteract in a comprehensive manner;

Conduct professionalization of the security and defence sector, raise the level of professionalism of personnel, and create an integrated system of personnel training;

Upgrade a system of democratic civilian control over the security and defence sector of Ukraine.

4.3. Upgrading defence capability of the state

The nature of contemporary threats to the national security of Ukraine dictates an urgent need to prepare the state, its economy and society to defence and repelling of armed aggression, to upgrade the defence capability of the state as one of the most important priorities of the national security policy.

The major tasks in this area are as follows:

Reforming of the mobilization preparation and mobilization system in Ukraine in view of the specific features of contemporary military conflicts;

Revision and legislative defining of fundamentals of territorial defence of the state;

Active utilization of bilateral and multilateral cooperation mechanisms with partner-states, first of all towards development of military and military and technical cooperation including receiving military assistance from them;

Restructuring and proactive development of Ukraine's defence industry, optimization of its production facilities, implementation of import substitution policy and setting up domestic production of critical components and materials,

deepening military and technical cooperation with the leading global economies, first of all with the EU and NATO member-states;

Introduction and development of a system of military and patriotic education, introduction of primary military training programs at secondary schools.

The priority task is to reform Ukrainian Armed Forces in order to reach a new quality level – efficient, mobile, and armed with modern weapons and military equipment, capable of defending the State. The reform of the Ukrainian Armed Forces should:

Expand their functions and tasks, review the structure, and increase the number of personnel, arm with modern weapons and military equipment; Provide for priority development of Special Operations Forces of Ukrainian AF as the most efficient their component under current circumstances;

Reorganize material, technical and medical support to the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Bring the size of emergency supply stocks in line with real needs;

Upgrade military personnel policy, raise prestige of the military service, and improve financial and housing conditions of military personnel and their family members;

Implement European norms and principles into training and operations of Ukrainian Armed Forces; reach maximum level of their interoperability with NATO Allies armed forces;

Upgrade legislation and adopt new defence planning document taking into account current military challenges and threats to national interests.

4.4. Reform of law enforcement bodies, special services and intelligence bodies

The reform of law enforcement bodies, special services and intelligence bodies is aimed at making them efficient in line with the European norms and on the basis of principles of statehood, patriotism, competence, demilitarization, coordination, effective interaction, clear division of tasks and avoiding dubbing in functions and introduction of a new type of civilian-military relations.

The priority tasks are to reform the Ministry of Interior of Ukraine, Security Service of Ukraine, State Border Service of Ukraine, National Guard and intelligence bodies as well as setting up a State Bureau of Investigations.

Reform of the Interior Ministry. Reform of the IM requires deep systemic transformations targeted at relieving it from irrelevant controlling and permitting functions.

To this end the Ministry will be transformed from the “militia ministry” to a civilian institution, a central executive authority which shall formulate and implement a public policy in the areas of law enforcement, protection of the state borders, territorial defence, migrations, and civil protection. The functions of combating crime and protection of public order will be given to the **National Police** which is going to be created within the IM framework. Local self-government bodies will have a right to set up their own municipal police at their own expense in order to protect public order and handle administrative cases within their remit.

Security Service Reform in Ukraine. The reform is aimed at relieving this authority from irrelevant law enforcement and investigating functions and transforming it into a special counterintelligence body responsible for national security; protection of Constitution, territorial integrity, economic, research and development and defence capabilities from special services of other countries; and combating terrorism.

Reform of the State Border Service. The reform will be aimed at strengthening capability of this service to protect and guarantee inviolability of the state borders and sovereign rights of Ukraine within its exclusive (maritime) economic zone by way of setting up mobile mechanized units and formation of a full-scale mobile rapid reaction unit. As a result of the reform it is supposed to have a Border Police (within the framework of the IM) responsible for policy implementation in the area of comprehensive border management, its reliable protection, especially in view of a new character of aggression under current circumstances.

An important direction of work is the development of the **National Guard of Ukraine** as an independent military formation with both functions of law enforcement authority and military body able to take part in repelling armed aggression against Ukraine, protection and defence of the state border and protection of public safety.

The major tasks related to the Ukrainian National Guard development are:

To bring its structure, functions and operations in line with the standards of leading democracies bearing in mind domestic peculiarities and specificity of state functions in the current situation of enhanced risks and threats;

To develop and implement into practice a system of planning and control of military forces and units, structures of law enforcement and other state bodies which in case of emergency shall be engaged into protection of the constitutional order in Ukraine and its integrity from any attempts to change them by force.

Reform of the intelligence bodies of Ukraine. The reform is aimed at priority development of Ukrainian intelligence capabilities on the basis of coordinated operations of intelligence bodies focused on detection, prevention and neutralization of external threats to the national security.

The reform envisages adoption of the National Intelligence Programme aimed at fulfilling strategic tasks of consolidation intelligence bodies, focusing their major efforts on key spheres and directions of national security, division of tasks between all intelligence bodies of the country, defining the procedure of their interaction, enhancing technical capabilities of intelligence community through pooling, unification and upgrading existing intelligence capabilities.

Separate measures are planned to transform other actors, which will be engaged into the national security protection.

4.5. Restoration of territorial integrity of the state

Restoration of the territorial integrity of Ukrainian state, rule of law on the whole territory, reintegration of the temporarily occupied and uncontrolled territories are the major priorities of the national security policy. Their realization requires creation of the favourable political preconditions which can be reached by peaceful means based on the principles of International Law: political dialogue, search for acceptable options of providing local self-government bodies and regional authorities with additional powers; guaranteed protection of civil, political, economic, social, religious and cultural rights of all ethnic groups residing on the territory of Ukraine.

4.6. European Union integration

Ukraine regards integration into political and economic structures of the European Union as a key priority of its foreign and domestic policy. Ukraine shares values and aims with the EU and is based on the premise that the EU membership will give it an important guarantee of democratic political

development, economic welfare and higher level of security. The membership of Ukraine in the EU will promote confidence and security in the regions of Eastern Europe and Black Sea Basin by expanding the zone of European stability and trade further to the east of the continent.

The Association Agreement between Ukraine and EU signed on 27 June 2014 together with Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area promote further development of bilateral relations on the grounds of political association and economic integration. The objectives of association include enhanced political dialogue on a broad range of foreign policy and security issues, gradual convergence in the area of foreign and security policy, including Common Security and Defence Policy, visa-free regime, gradual integration of Ukraine's economy into the EU internal market, harmonization of Ukrainian legislation with the EU *Aquis Communautaire* and creation of a uniform with EU regulatory space in most sectors of economic and social life of Ukraine. The "Eastern Partnership" initiative in the framework of which Ukraine has been cooperating with the EU since May 2009 gives additional opportunities for multilateral format cooperation with the EU in order to reach those objectives.

Association Agreement and measures on its implementation approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine will serve as a strategic bearing for systemic political and socio-economic reforms in Ukraine and a large-scale adaptation of Ukrainian legislation to the EU norms and rules. The priority task up to 2020 is to create key preconditions which would allow accession of Ukraine to the EU.

4.7. Creation of an efficient system of national security guarantees

Non-block policy, which in 2010 was defined by Ukraine as an imperative of its foreign policy and military doctrine, did not bring reliable security guarantees and did not protect territorial integrity of the country in a situation of external aggression. Ukraine is building a new national security system, which in the medium term will be based upon own means, and reserves a right to choose independently a way of guaranteeing state sovereignty and territorial integrity.

External security will be guaranteed by setting up a network of ally relations both with individual states (by way of concluding agreements on mutual defence or military assistance) and with international security organizations (through participation in collective security mechanisms).

Ukraine will also support initiatives on concluding a universal international treaty on security guarantees, first of all for non-nuclear states, which would

contain a clear-cut list of obligations taken by the signatories in case of its violation, in particular regarding sanctions against a violating country.

4.8. Distinctive Partnership with NATO

Ukraine approaches to the development of distinctive partnership with NATO on the basis of the Charter on Distinctive Partnership signed on 9 July 1997, 2002 NATO-Ukraine Action Plan and Annual national Programmes of NATO-Ukraine cooperation, as to the priority of its security policy. Cooperation with NATO promotes democratic values in Ukraine, helps to form a stable security environment both within and around of the country; it is an important instrument of supporting reforms in Ukrainian security and defence sector and provides for joint response to contemporary security challenges and threats.

Based on a long-term objective of joining general European security system, the core of which is NATO, Ukraine will deepen cooperation with NATO along the following lines: interaction in the framework of short and medium term activities aimed at enhancing Ukraine's defence capabilities; Comprehensive Security and Defence Sector Review, reorganizing the Military Organization of the State into the Security and Defence sector and its development as a wholesome system; assistance in setting up an efficient mechanism of response to emergencies in Ukraine; participation in NATO-led peace-support operations; combating terrorism; implementation of principles of the NATO Integrity Building Initiative for defence and security institutions and reduction of corruption risks, and recommendations of the group of states against corruption (GRECO); interaction in the areas of energy security, science and technology as well as environmental protection.

The priority task is to reach by 2020 full compatibility of the security and defence sector of Ukraine with relevant forces of NATO allies.

4.9. Foreign policy priorities of Ukraine

4.9.1 Strategic partnership with the United States of America. Ukraine is regarding development and deepening of the strategic partnership with the United States on the basis of the 19 December 2008 Strategic Partnership Charter Ukraine-USA as one of the major foreign policy priorities.

The United States are a guarantor of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and actively support its democratic aspirations and a course to European integration. The US assistance is very instrumental in strengthening

democracy and rule of law, counteracting corruption and implementing judiciary reform in Ukraine. It promotes market relations in Ukrainian economy and its adaptation to the global markets standards, enhancing defence capabilities and implementation of defence reform in Ukraine, helps to strengthen its energy and nuclear security, research and development.

Ukraine proceeds from a need to expand cooperation with the USA both within 6 inter-sector mechanisms of Ukrainian-American Strategic Partnership Commission, and beyond, including on the issue of trade liberalization; setting up a high level control mechanism in the framework of the Commission; launching a bilateral dialogue on establishing ally relations between Ukraine and the USA.

The priority tasks up to 2020 are to conclude agreements between Ukraine and the USA on Free Trade Area and on Joint Defence.

4.9.2. Strategic Partnership with Poland. Ukraine views Poland as one of the most important international partners. The strategic partnership between Ukraine and Poland is based on good neighbourhood relations and common national interests in many areas which are the result of deep historical and cultural ties between Ukrainian and Polish nations.

Ukraine proceeds from a need to deepen strategic partnership promulgated in the Treaty on Good Neighbourhood, Friendly Relations and Cooperation of 18 May 1992 and Joint Declaration of the Presidents of Ukraine and Republic of Poland of 25 June 1996, and expansion of cooperation in the security area including a possibility to establish a relations of allies. The priority task up to 2020 is to conclude an agreement on military assistance between Ukraine and Poland.

4.9.3. Privileged partnership. Ukraine will seek to develop privileged partnership relations with the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Japan, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Sweden, Rumania, Slovakia, and Moldova – the countries which Ukraine regards as her allies on the international stage.

Ukraine regards deepening bilateral relations, expansion of cooperation with these countries in all areas and at all levels as an important direction of its foreign policy. It considers a possibility of granting them a number of preferences including those of economic and trade nature and proceeds from a need to expand cooperation with them in the security area with a possibility to conclude military assistance agreements with them.

4.9.4. Partnerships with Germany and France

Development of partnerships with Germany and France – influential EU and NATO member-states which render Ukraine a substantial assistance in order to speed up democratic reforms and speedy implementation of the Association Agreement with the EU – is one of the most important foreign policy priorities for Ukraine. Ukraine will deepen its cooperation with these states in bilateral and multilateral formats with the aim of bringing relations with them at the level of strategic partnership in the future.

4.9.5. Relations with Russian Federation

Aggression of Russian Federation against Ukraine has ruined strategic partnership relations which since independence had always been one of the cornerstones of Ukraine's foreign policy, and led to rapid wrapping up of trade, economic and humanitarian ties.

Ukraine seeks to develop cooperation with Russia on the principles of good neighbourhood, equality and mutual respect, including respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

Ukraine is ready for active political dialogue with Russian Federation, deeper trade and economic and socio-cultural relations and mutually beneficial cooperation in various spheres under condition that Russia in its relations with Ukraine comes back to international legal field, withdraws its military forces from Ukrainian territories occupied by it, and compensates losses caused and upon restoration of territorial integrity of Ukraine.

4.9.6. Cooperation in the region of Central and Eastern Europe

Ukraine is looking at Central and Eastern Europe as the area of its priority interests.

Cooperation with the countries of the region, overwhelming majority of which are EU and NATO members, in bilateral and multilateral formats is making a stabilizing impact on political and economic situation in Ukraine, improving its security environment and helping to strengthen its national security.

Realization of the Association Agreement of Ukraine with the EU will promote further deepening cooperative ties and security relations between the countries of the region and Ukraine, it will create conditions for quicker integration of Ukraine into the area of stability and security formed by the EU and NATO. European integration experience of the countries of the region is important for Ukraine because it can help Ukraine to speed up processes of the Association

Agreement implementation and create preconditions for the EU membership. The support which they render to democratic reforms in Ukraine is also very valuable.

Additional opportunities for that come with Ukraine's involvement into the sub-regional cooperation in well-established formats (Visegrad Group, Council of Baltic Sea Countries) as well as with creation of new formats with their participation (such as Ukraine-Poland-Lithuania, Ukraine-Romania-Moldova, East-European-Nordic Partnership).

Visegrad Group. Ukraine views expansion of cooperation with the Visegrad Group countries (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary) as an important foreign policy direction in the context of strengthening stability and security in the region of Central Europe. Ukraine intends to join the Visegrad Group in the future and will deepen its cooperation with this group in the 4+1 format in political, security, military, energy, and socio-cultural areas as well as in the area of trans-border cooperation and development of Euro-regional cooperation.

Baltic countries. Ukraine regards Baltic countries (Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia) as important partners in Central and Eastern Europe. Ukraine will deepen its cooperation with them on the bilateral level and in multilateral formats (in the frameworks of Baltic Assembly, Council of the Baltic Sea Countries, Nordic-Baltic Initiative, Ukraine-Poland-Lithuania format) as well as interaction with them in the framework of the European structures and international organizations. Ukraine regards development of the security cooperation with the Baltic states in a broader format which includes Poland and Nordic countries (Sweden, Norway and Denmark) as the promising one.

Partnership with Romania is regarded by Ukraine as an important foreign policy direction which has a prospect of becoming a strategic one. Ukraine will deepen the security dialogue with Rumania, giving priority to military cooperation, regional stability (including settlement of the Transdnistria conflict), energy security and counteracting trans-border threats.

4.9.7. Cooperation in the Black sea region

Ukraine views the Black sea region, alongside with the Central and Eastern Europe, as the zone of its priority interests.

Cooperation with the countries of the region most of which are the EU and NATO members or closely cooperate with them, notably in the framework of the

EU Eastern Partnership Initiative and individual partnership programs with NATO, strengthens Ukraine's position as an influential regional actor, increases its weight of the transit country along the lines from South to North and from East to West, and helps its to engage into implementation of promising regional projects, first of all in the energy area, transport and communications.

The powerful destabilizing factor of regional security is an aggressive foreign policy of Russia who is seeking to expand the sphere of its influence in the region and to this end is mongering regional conflicts and is putting comprehensive pressure on Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova putting obstacles on their way to the European integration.

Based on the principle of indivisibility of security Ukraine is interested in expansion of the European institutional, political, economic and security area to the Black sea region countries, which will help to stabilize the situation in the region, help regional countries more efficiently resist destructive influence of transnational threats, create favourable conditions for the development and deepening international cooperation and implementation of integration projects, fuller utilization of the region's potential in energy, transportation and communications.

Ukraine proceeds from the need to set up a system of the Black sea security as an important element of the European security and will participate in the regional efforts aimed at reliable regional stability and security, including resolution of regional conflicts.

Partnership with Moldova, Georgia and Azerbaijan. GUAM. Ukraine regards partnership with Georgia and Moldova as an important foreign policy direction in the context of strengthening integration ties and increasing security cooperation in the Black sea region. Ukraine is interested in creating jointly with Georgia and Moldova a European integration format for coordination of efforts aimed at implementation of association agreements with the EU and formulation of a common agenda in the framework of the Eastern Partnership initiative. Ukraine believes that cooperation in such a format can also add a new quality to the GUUAM security activities, having set up a new framework for the dialogue on strengthening regional stability and security with Azerbaijan participation.

Ukraine regards Azerbaijan as an important partner in the region proceeding from the high level of bilateral political dialogue, important contribution of this country into the Ukraine's energy security, and solidarity position of both countries

with regards resolution of frozen conflicts on the post-soviet territories. Ukraine is interested in broadening bilateral interaction in security, military, and military and technical cooperation as well as implementation of joint energy projects.

Partnership with Turkey. Ukraine regards Turkey as an important partner in the Black sea region relations with which have a strategic character in the context of Ukraine's energy security. Ukraine is interested in the development of multi-dimensional cooperation with this country giving priority to interaction on issues of security, deepening trade and economic cooperation, implementation of joint energy and transportation projects, development of military, and military and technical cooperation.

Regional cooperation mechanisms. Ukraine takes an active part in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation organization (BSEC) and in the initiatives promoting peace and stability in the Black sea basin – in the Black sea group of naval cooperation (BLACKSEAFOR) and in the framework of the “Document on confidence and security building measures in naval area in the Black sea“(CSBM). Participating in these important regional cooperation mechanisms Ukraine makes its contribution into the Black sea regional security, strengthening confidence between the regional states and upgrading cooperation in such areas as trade, economy, communications, IT, transport, tourism, and infrastructure development.

4.9.8. Cooperation on the post-Soviet territories

Ukraine regards relations with the post-Soviet countries as an important direction of realizations its foreign policy and economic interests.

Cooperation in the framework of the CIS. Ukraine, having reserved the status of a CIS founding state, continues its participation in the Commonwealth in a capacity of an observer. Ukraine independently defines directions and forms of its participation in the Commonwealth following the principle of the interested parties' format, and in the context of the further development of cooperation in the CIS framework it proceeds from the priority of trade and economic ties preservation with the post-Soviet countries and free-trade area without exclusions and limitations.

Ukraine will continue multilateral cooperation in the framework of the CIS Free Trade Area Treaty (FTA) of 18 October 2011 in Research & Development, innovative, energy areas as well as along the social and humanitarian lines.

Ukraine will resist the RF intentions to substitute the CIS format, FTA included, with the format of Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) and thus to complicate Ukraine's trade and economic relations on the post-Soviet territories.

Partnerships with Belarus and Kazakhstan. The systemic crisis in Ukrainian-Russian relations enhances importance of Ukraine's partnership and cooperation with other CIS countries in a bilateral format – first of all with Belarus and Kazakhstan as the priority partners on the post-Soviet territories. Ukraine will intensify political interaction with these states; it will be looking for an algorithm of setting up new conditions for bilateral trade and economic cooperation in view of their membership in the EAEU.

4.9.9. Creation and development of a network of prospective partnerships with the countries – new centres of global and regional influence is an important foreign policy task of Ukraine. This partnership is to be oriented towards pragmatic results first and foremost in economic, energy, and military and technical areas, attraction of high-tech and investments into a real sector of Ukrainian economy, increase of Ukrainian export, and implementation of joint infrastructure projects.

In view of the prospects of Asia-Pacific region as an important and growing political and economic centre of influence Ukraine regards the People's Republic of China as a strategic trade and economic partner in the region. Ukraine proceeds from a need to deepen partnership relations with the PRC on the basis of the Friendship and Partnership Treaty between Ukraine and PRC of 5 December 2013 and the Ukraine-PRC Strategic Partnership Relations Development Program for 2014-2018.

At the same time Ukraine gives a priority to the development of relations with another influential country of the region – **Japan**, which is providing Ukraine with a valuable political support and substantial help in order to speed up democratic reforms. Ukraine will deepen its cooperation with this state in bilateral and multilateral formats with the aim of bringing relations up to the level of global (strategic) partnership. Enhancing partnerships with other countries of the region – Australia, Republic of Korea and ACEAN countries is also promising.

4.9.10. Multilateral cooperation fora

Cooperation in multilateral formats in frameworks of global and regional international organizations is an important priority of foreign and security policy of Ukraine.

United Nations Organization (UN). Ukraine believes that the United Nations Organization (UN) has to increase its role in strengthening international peace and security, and resolution of international conflicts in just and fair way. Russian aggression against Ukraine has demonstrated limited capacity of the UN and brought about a need to reform its institutions, in particular, UN Security Council. Ukraine will support initiatives aimed at putting limits to the veto right of its permanent members in order to provide a timely and relevant response to the facts of violation of the UN Charter and other norms of international law.

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Ukraine views the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) as an important regional collective security organization which alongside with NATO plays an important role in strengthening peace and stability in Europe and in a broader Euro-Atlantic region. Ukraine proceeds from a need to raise OSCE efficiency and radical revision of mechanisms and criteria of the organization work in the framework of its military and political component. In the context of the OSCE reform Ukraine is supporting disclaiming the consensus principle of adoption binding decisions aimed at supporting regional stability in case of its violation as well as clearer regulations for peacekeeping missions under the OSCE aegis.

Ukraine believes that the Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) Treaty should remain a cornerstone of security and strategic stability on the European continent. Ukraine stands for setting up in the CFE framework of more effective verification mechanisms of arms control which would allow, in case of need, to have a tougher influence on the offender including through the use of legitimate sanctions.

Cooperation in the framework of the Council of Europe. Ukraine regards cooperation in the framework of the Council of Europe as an important direction of its foreign and domestic policy in the context of implementation of European values, standards and norms into political, legal, social and humanitarian spheres of life of Ukrainian state. Ukraine will continue implementing the Council of Europe recommendations concerning further development of democracy, improving operations of public institutions and local self-government, rule of law and strengthening mechanisms of human and national minorities' rights protection.

4.10. Reaching a new quality of economic growth and European living standards

The major reference point of economic reforms implementation by 2020 is approximation of living conditions of people to the European standards and reaching economic criteria needed for Ukraine's EU accession which requires new quality of economic growth. To that end, the state must target its efforts first of all at:

Modernization of economy in line with the Plan of the President of Ukraine Strategy – 2020 in order to move it to the innovative model of development by means of expansion of the high-tech sector of economy;

Setting up favourable conditions for business and efficient stimuli to work decently, in particular through curbing corruption, deregulation, and entrepreneurship and investment promotion;

Expansion and diversification of markets for Ukrainian produce, including by means of concluding and implementation of Free Trade Agreements;

Setting up conditions for accession to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development;

Attraction of foreign direct investment as an instrument in support of the national security;

Enhancing resilience against external negative influence;

High quality and accessible health care including prevention; new quality of education services;

Efficient social protection of vulnerable people including participants of the antiterrorist operation in the East of Ukraine.

Ukraine's economic policy must be aimed at making economy ready to repel armed aggression and mobilize resources for prevention and neutralization of threats to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

4.11. Energy security policy

Ukraine's energy security policy is aimed at reduced dependence on external supply of energy, reliable energy supply, increased energy efficiency, full use of energy resources and transit capacity of energy sector, integration of united energy infrastructure of Ukraine into the European energy security system.

The priorities of the energy security policy are as follows: broadening the inventory of utilized own energy resources, diversification of sources and routes of

energy supply; implementation of energy saving technologies; making transparent energy markets and completion in them; development of nuclear power in view of the priority tasks in the area of nuclear and radiation safety; formation of the system of the country's energy security and guaranteed satisfaction of energy needs of the national economy and society both under normal conditions and in case of emergency.

Ukraine will take all necessary measures to overcome dependence on the Russian Federation monopoly in energy sources and energy technologies supply.

4.12. Information security policy

The priority directions of Ukraine's information security policy are:

Counteracting the sabotage propaganda and special information operations of foreign countries against Ukraine, prevention of attempts to manipulate public opinion by way of spreading untruthful, partial or biased information, promotion of national identity development;

Setting up a cybersecurity system including coordination of efforts in that area, countering cyberterrorism, protection against cyberattacks on the critical infrastructure, notably in military, energy, transportation, telecommunications and banking spheres;

Protection of state information resources, e-government systems, technical and cryptographic information protection taking into account NATO and EU member-states best practices;

Reforming the system of state secrets protection and other restricted access information in line with the EU and NATO standards;

Raising public awareness with the help of relevant educational programs.

Another priority is the implementation of international practice of cybersecurity, notably making use of the national 24/7 contact point for combating IT crimes of the G-7 under advisory and financial support rendered to Ukraine by NATO and EU.

4.13. Environmental and technogenic safety policy

The priorities for the state environmental and technogenic safety policy are:

To set up a system of control for critical national infrastructure;

To set up an efficient system of environmental monitoring;

Preservation of natural ecosystems, maintaining of their integrity and life-supporting functions for the balanced development;

Preservation of resources, balanced management of natural resources;

Implementation of measures aimed at environmental pollution reduction, control over the sources of air, surface and underground waters pollution, reduction of the level of soil pollution and restoration of soil fertility;

Cleaning of territories from industrial and household waste;

Overcoming consequences of the Chernobyl NPP disaster;

Gradual approximation of Ukrainian legislation to the EU standards of environmental protection as is required by the Association Agreement.

With the aim of environmental and technogenic safety Ukraine will deepen its regional and international cooperation in this area, including with the UN, EU and NATO.

Ukraine will take necessary measures for biosafety, prevention of hazardous infectious human and animal diseases spread, will support international efforts in this area.

5. FINAL PROVISIONS

The National Security Strategy of Ukraine is a binding document and serves as a foundation for drafting specific programs along the lines of the state's national security policy components.

The guiding documents regarding national security in the areas identified in Article 7 of the Law of Ukraine On the Fundamentals of the National security of Ukraine are to be drafted by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, other participants of implementation of the Strategy and submitted for consideration of the National Defence and Security Council of Ukraine.

Measures aimed at implementation of the Strategy are to be identified by the participants responsible for the national security of Ukraine according to the Law of Ukraine On Fundamentals of National Security of Ukraine.

Coordination and control over the Strategy implementation shall be done by the President of Ukraine and National Defence and Security Council of Ukraine within the limits of their powers.

The National Defence and Security Council staff shall monitor the Strategy implementation and make annual report on the state of the national security of Ukraine.

Scientific and methodological support to the annual report on the state of the national security of Ukraine shall be rendered by the National Institute of Strategic Studies.