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## LAW OF UKRAINE

### On Public Associations

This Law determines the legal and organizational principles of exercising freedom of association, a right guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine and such international agreements as have been approved by the Verkhovna Rada as binding for Ukraine, as well as the procedures of establishing and registering public associations, their functioning and termination.

#### Section I. General Provisions

##### Article 1. Definition of a Public Association

1. A public association is a voluntary association of physical persons and/or legal entities under private law for the purpose of exercising and protecting rights and freedoms and satisfying public, among them economic, social, cultural, environmental, and other interests.

2. As far as its organizational and legal form is concerned, a public association is established as a public organization or a public union.

3. A public organization is a public association the founders and members (participants) of which are physical persons.

4. A public union is a public association the founders of which are legal entities under private law and whose members (participants) may be legal entities under private law and/or physical persons.

5. A public association may conduct its activity with or without the legal entity status. A public association with the legal entity status is a non-entrepreneurial (non-commercial) company for which making profit is not the main purpose.

##### Article 2. Scope of this Law

1. This law shall extend to social relations in the sphere of establishing and registering public associations in Ukraine, their functioning and termination.

2. This law shall not extend to social relations in the sphere of establishing and registering, as well as the functioning and termination, of the following:

- 1) political parties;
- 2) religious organizations;

3) non-entrepreneurial companies established by acts of bodies of state power, other government bodies, bodies of power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies;

4) associations of local self-government bodies and their voluntary unions;

5) self-regulating organizations and organizations exercising self-governance on a professional basis; and

6) non-entrepreneurial companies (other than public associations) established under other laws.

3. Individual aspects of regulation of social relations in the sphere of establishing and registering certain types of public associations in Ukraine, their functioning and termination may be determined by other laws.

4. Nongovernmental organizations of other countries and international nongovernmental organizations (hereinafter, foreign nongovernmental organizations) shall operate in the territory of Ukraine in accordance with this and other Ukrainian laws and international agreements of Ukraine that have been approved by the Verkhovna Rada as binding for Ukraine.

### Article 3. Principles of the Establishment and Operation of Public Associations

1. Public associations shall be established and operate on the following principles:

1) voluntary participation;

2) self-governance;

3) free choice of the territory of operation;

4) equality before the law;

5) absence of any property interest on the part of their members (participants); and

6) transparency, openness and publicity.

2. Voluntary participation means the right of a person to freely participate or not participate in a public association, including establishing or joining such an association or terminating his/her membership (participation) in it.

3. Self-governance is the right of members (participants) in a public association independently to manage its activity in accordance with its statutory purpose (goals) and determine directions of such activity, as well as noninterference of the bodies of state power, other government bodies, bodies of power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies into the activity of the public association, except for instances provided for by the law.

4. Free choice of the territory of operation is the right of a public association independently to determine the territory of its activity, except for instances provided for by the law.

5. Equality before the law means that public associations are equal in their rights and duties under the law with due regard to the organizational and legal form, type and/or status of such associations.

6. Absence of property interest means that members (participants) of the public association have no right to any part of the public association's property and are not liable for its obligations. The public association's income or property (assets) are not subject to distribution among its members (participants) and may not be used for the benefit of any individual member (participant) of the public association or its officers (except for their remuneration and deductions for social measures).

7. Transparency and openness mean that all members (participants) of the public association are entitled to free access to information about its activity, including the decisions made by the public association and its past activities; it is a duty of the public association to ensure such access. Publicity means that public associations shall inform the public about their purpose (goals) and activity.

#### Article 4. Limitations on the Establishment and Operation of Public Associations

1. The establishment and operation of public associations shall be prohibited if their purpose (goals) or actions are directed at liquidating the independence of Ukraine, the change of the constitutional order by violent means, violation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity, undermining its security, unlawful seizure of state power, propaganda of war and violence, incitement of interethnic, racial or religious enmity, or encroachments on human rights and freedoms or the health of the population.

2. Public associations shall not have any paramilitary formations.

3. Other limitations on the right to freedom of association, including the establishment and operation of public associations, may not be instituted other than by law in the interest of national security and public order, protection of the health of the population or defense of rights and freedoms of other people.

4. Public associations shall not be granted government authority except for instances provided for by the law.

#### Article 5. Guarantees of the Right to Freedom of Association

1. No person may be forced to join any public association. A person's affiliation or non-affiliation with a public association may not be good and valid reason for bodies of state power, other government bodies, bodies of power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, or local self-government bodies to limit his/her rights and freedoms or grant him/her any benefits or advantages.

2. Every person shall have the right voluntarily to terminate their membership (participation) in a public association at any time in the manner provided for by the charter.

3. It shall be prohibited, except for instances provided for by the law, to require that information regarding a person's membership (participation) in a public association be indicated, unless such a requirement is related to the

realization by that person of his/her rights as a person who has the right to represent or is a member (participant) of that public association.

#### Article 6. Public Associations' Joint Realization of Their Purpose (Goals)

1. Public associations shall have the right to realize their purpose (goals) through entering, on a voluntary basis, into cooperation and/or mutual assistance agreements or establishing public unions in accordance with this Law, as well as in any other manner not prohibited by the law.

2. Public associations may engage in cooperation with foreign nongovernmental organizations and international governmental organizations in keeping with the laws of Ukraine and such international agreements of Ukraine as have been approved by the Verkhovna Rada as binding for Ukraine.

#### Section II. Establishment and Registration of a Public Association

##### Article 7. Founders of a Public Association

1. The founders of a public organization may be citizens of Ukraine, foreigners and persons without citizenship who are staying in Ukraine on lawful grounds and have attained 18 years of age or, in the case of a youth and children's public organization, 14 years of age.

2. The founders of a public organization may be legal entities under private law, including public associations with the legal entity status. Political parties or legal entities regarding which a termination decision has been made or which are in the process of termination may not be founders of a public association.

3. The number of founders of a public association may not be less than two persons.

4. The founders of a public organization may not be legal entities under private law the only founder of which is one and the same person.

5. A legal entity under private law may not be founder of a public union if that legal entity's founder (or owner of a significant part thereof) is on the list of persons connected with any terrorist activity or has had international sanctions applied against him/her.

6. A person judged incompetent by a court of law may not be a public association founder.

7. The powers of a founder of a public association shall terminate after the decision to register the public association is made or the notice about its establishment is accepted in accordance with the procedure established by this Law.

*Note:* For purposes of this Law, "significant part" is understood as direct or indirect, independent or joint (with other persons) ownership of ten (10) or more percent of the authorized (aggregate) capital or voting rights in accordance with their shareholding, or, regardless of formal ownership, as ability to have significant influence on the management or operation of that legal entity.

## Article 8. Members (Participants) of a Public Association

1. Members (participants) of a public organization – except for a youth and children’s public organization – may be persons qualifying under part one of Article 7 of this Law and who have attained 14 years of age. The qualifying age of members of a youth or children’s organization shall be determined by its charter within the limits provided for by the law.

2. Members (participants) of a public organization may be legal entities under private law, including public associations with the legal entity status, and physical persons who have attained 18 years of age and are not judged incompetent by a court of law.

## Article 9. Establishment of a Public Association

1. A public association shall be established at the constituent meeting of its founders and documented by a protocol.

2. The protocol of the constituent meeting of a public association shall contain information about:

- 1) date and place of the constituent meeting;
- 2) the persons who took part in the constituent meeting (in accordance with part eleven of this Article);
- 3) the decision to establish the public association indicating the purpose (goal) of its activity;
- 4) the decision to adopt the name and, if available, the abbreviated name of the public association;
- 5) the decision to adopt the charter of the public association;
- 6) the decision to establish (elect) the chief executive and the governing bodies of the public association in accordance with the approved charter;
- 7) the decision to determine the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in its legal relations with the State and other persons, and perform acts on behalf of the public association without need for further authorization (hereinafter, the persons authorized to represent the public association), – for a public association intending to operate without the legal entity status, if the establishment (election) of governing bodies is not provided for by the decision to establish that association; and
- 8) the decision to determine the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in performing acts related to its registration, – for a public association intending to operate as a legal entity.

3. A legal entity under private law takes part in establishing a public association via its chief executive or other authorized representative acting on the basis of a power of attorney entitling him or her to perform legal acts needed to establish a public union.

4. In the case of a public association intending to operate without the legal entity status, decisions provided for by items 5 and 6 of part two of this Article

shall be adopted if the decision to establish that association provides for a charter and/or the establishment (election) of governing bodies of the association.

5. The protocol of the constituent meeting may include information about other decisions adopted by that meeting regarding the establishment and/or operation of the public association.

6. A person may be elected chief executive or a member of the governing body of the public association, or appointed the public association's authorized representative for performing legal acts needed for its registration, or its authorized representative provided he or she gives their personal consent thereto.

7. The protocol of the constituent meeting shall be signed by the chair and the secretary of the meeting.

8. Public associations are registered or make public their establishment in accordance with the procedure provided for by this Law within 60 days from the date of the constituent meeting.

9. It is prohibited to act on behalf of a public association which has not been registered or whose notice of establishment has not been accepted in accordance with the procedure established by this Law, except for the purposes of registering that association or submitting the notice of its establishment.

10. Requirements under this Article shall also extend to decisions regarding the establishment of a new public association that may be adopted in connection with the reorganization of a public association.

11. The protocol of the constituent meeting of a public association shall also include, as its part and parcel, a register of persons who took part in the meeting, indicating the following obligatory information:

1) for physical persons: full name (surname, given name, and patronymic) and the date of birth, and for foreigners and persons without citizenship, also the data of their national passport or other qualifying document. The person shall certify such information with his/her personal signature;

2) for legal entities: full name, identification code, legal address, and the full name (surname, given name, and patronymic) of the person authorized to take part in the meeting. The person authorized to take part in the meeting shall certify such information with his/her personal signature.

#### Article 10. Name of a Public Association

1. The name of a public association shall be determined by a decision of the constituent meeting at the time of its establishment.

2. The name of a public association consists of two parts, generic and personal. The generic part denotes the organizational and legal form of the public association ("public organization," "public union").

3. The name of a public association shall be in the state language. A public association may also indicate its personal name, alongside the state language, in a foreign language or that of an ethnic minority.

4. The personal name of a public association may not be identical with those of other registered public associations or those public associations whose

establishment notice was accepted in accordance with the procedure determined by this Law.

5. The personal name of a public association may not contain:

1) the name of a body of state power, body of power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, a local self-government body, or a constituent part of their names (such as ministry, agency, inspection, committee, administration, prosecutor's office, or court);

2) the personal name of a public association whose activity has been prohibited by a court of law (for three years from the date the relevant court decision took effect); and

3) other elements the use of which is restricted by law.

6. The personal name of a public association may not contain the words "state" or "communal" or their derivatives. The personal name of a learning establishment, institution or organization may be used as part of that of a public association only with consent of that establishment, institution or organization.

It is prohibited to use historical state names the list of which is determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

7. The personal name of a public association may contain information about the public association's status ("children's," "youth," "all-Ukraine") and type ("environmental," "advocacy" and the like).

8. The personal name of a public association may contain the name (pseudonym) of a person on the condition that that person or his/her heirs give their prior written consent certified in accordance with established procedure, unless otherwise provided for by the law.

9. A public association shall have the right to use its name from the moment of its registration or its establishment notice is accepted in accordance with the procedure established by this Law. The use of a public association's name by physical persons and legal entities which do not belong to that public association, without its consent and for purposes unrelated to its activity shall be prohibited.

10. A public association may also have an abbreviated name as determined by its constituent meeting or its higher governing body such as congress, conference, general meeting and the like (hereinafter, the higher governing body).

11. The name of a public association may be changed at a meeting of its higher governing body in accordance with the requirements of this Law and the association's charter (if available).

## Article 11. Charter of a Public Association

1. The charter of a public association shall contain information about:

1) the full and, if available, abbreviated name of the public association;

2) its purpose (goals) and directions of activity;

3) the procedure of acquiring and terminating membership (participation) in the public association, the rights and duties of its members (participants);

4) the powers of the chief executive, the higher governing body and other governing bodies (hereinafter, governing bodies) of the public association, the

procedure of the formation and change of their composition, the term of office and the procedure of appointing the person authorized to represent the public association, and his/her replacement (for public associations without the legal entity status);

5) the frequency of meetings and the decision-making procedure used by the public association's governing bodies, using, in part, means of communication;

6) reporting to members (participants) – procedure used by the public association's governing bodies;

7) procedures of complaining against decisions, actions or inaction by the public association's governing bodies and of examining such complaints;

8) sources and the procedure of use of funds and other property of a public association;

9) the procedure of establishing, operation and terminating the operation of detached units of a public association (if established by a public association intending to operate with the legal entity status);

10) the procedure for amending the charter; and

11) the procedure for adopting the decision on voluntary dissolution or reorganization of a public association, as well as on the use of its funds and other property remaining after voluntary dissolution: for a public association intending to operate with the legal entity status.

2. The charter of a public association may provide for additional provisions on the establishment, operation and voluntary dissolution or reorganization of the public association that do not conflict with the law.

3. The charter of a public association intending to operate without the legal entity status (if the decision to establish it provides for such a charter) may not contain provisions under items 5-8 of part one of this Article.

## Article 12. Registration of a Public Association

1. A public association intending to operate on the basis of the legal entity status shall be subject to registration in accordance with the procedure determined by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs with due account of the specific features provided for by this Law.

2. A public association shall be registered free of charge by local executive bodies responsible for the registration of public associations under applicable law (hereinafter, authorized body for registration matters).

3. To register a public association, its chief executive or the person or persons entitled to represent that public association in performing legal acts needed for its registration, shall submit or mail an application in accordance with the form approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine to the local authorized body for registration matters within 60 days from the establishment of the public association, with the following documents attached:

1) a copy of the constituent meeting protocol executed in keeping with the requirements of parts 2, 5 and 7 of Article 9 of this Law;

2) two copies of the association's charter;  
3) information about the governing bodies of the public association indicating the full name (surname, given name, and patronymic, if applicable) and date of birth of the chief executive and members of other governing bodies, the contact number of the telephone and other means of communication, as well as the required information about the person or persons entitled to represent the public association for the purpose of its registration, with that person's written consent attached as provided for by part six of Article 9 of this Law, if that person was not present at the constituent meeting; and

4) a filled-out registration card for the state registration of that legal entity.

4. The application and documents referred to in items 3 and 4 of part three of this Article shall be signed by the chief executive or the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in performing registration acts. The authenticity of the person's signature on the registration application shall be notarized.

5. In addition to documents referred to by part three of this Article, it is required for the registration of a public association to submit documents containing information about the ownership structure of the founders – legal entities and physical persons – who own a significant share in those legal entities.

6. If the founder or founders of a public association is a foreign legal entity, then in addition to the documents provided for by part three there shall be submitted a duly notarized document supporting that foreign legal entity's registration in the country it is based – an excerpt from the commercial, banking or court register that meets the requirements of the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs.

7. The documents which under this law are hereunder submitted or mailed to the authorized body for registration matters shall be in the state language.

8. If such documents are not submitted or mailed for the purpose of registering the public association within 60 days from its establishment, such public association shall be regarded as one that was not established.

9. Based on the submitted documents, the authorized body for registration matters shall make, within seven days from their receipt, its decision to register or refuse to register the public association, or return the documents for correction, or shelve them without examining the substance.

10. Refusal to register a public association is allowed for one or all of the following reasons:

1) the charter and the decisions reflected in the protocol on the establishment of the public association contain provisions which conflict with the Constitution of Ukraine and Article 4 of this Law;

2) the requirements by the public association 7 and 10 of this Law are violated.

11. In absence of grounds for a refusal to register a public association as provided for by part ten of this Article, or for returning such documents for correction as is provided for by part fourteen hereof, or for shelving them without examining the substance in accordance with part seventeen hereof, the authorized

body for registration matters shall do the following within the deadlines determined by part nine hereof:

1) make its decision, in the form of an order, to register the public association;

2) enter information about the newly registered public association in the Register of Public Associations and see to it that information about the registered public association as a legal entity is entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs;

3) issue (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) a certificate of registration of a public association as a public organization or public union in keeping with the form established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (hereinafter, certificate of registration), an excerpt from the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs (hereinafter, excerpt from the Integrated State register) and one copy of the charter with a mark indicating the fact of registration to the chief executive or the person or persons who are entitled to represent the public association in performing registration acts.

12. Given grounds for a refusal to register a public association as provided for by part ten of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall make the decision, in the form of an order, to refuse registration, within the deadlines determined by part nine hereof. A substantiated legal examination opinion containing exhaustive reasons for refusal shall be attached as part and parcel of such decision.

13. A copy of the decision provided for by part twelve of this Article shall be issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the chief executive or the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in performing registration acts, not later than the next day after the decision is made. If the decision is made to refuse registration for reasons provided for by item 2 of part ten of this Article, a copy of the decision shall be mailed, together with one copy of the charter and the documents which were submitted for registration purposes (except for those with which fault was found).

14. Within the deadlines determined by part nine 9 hereof, the authorized body for registration matters shall make its decision, in the form of an order, to return documents for correction if there are one or all of the following reasons:

1) the documents do not meet the requirements by the public association 8, 9, 11 of this Law;

2) provisions were found in the charter of the public association that conflict with this Law (except Article 4) and other laws of Ukraine;

3) the established procedure of establishing a public association as a legal entity was violated:

a) the law restricts the holding of relevant offices for the persons indicated as the chief executive or officers of other governing bodies of the public association;

б) the information indicated in the registration card for the state registration of a public association as a legal entity is at variance with the documents submitted for the registration of the public association.

15. The legal examination opinion attached as part and parcel of the decision shall contain exhaustive and reasoned (with references to relevant provisions of the laws of Ukraine) critical remarks about the submitted documents.

16. If the decision is made to return the submitted documents to the public association for correction, a copy of the decision shall be issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the chief executive or the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in performing registration acts, not later than the next day after the decision was made, together with one copy of the charter and the documents which were submitted for registration (except for those with which fault was found).

17. The authorized body for registration matters may make the decision to disregard documents without examination of substance for one or all of the following reasons:

- 1) the documents were not submitted in full;
- 2) there was a deficiency of information in the submitted documents that could not be removed without making the decision to disregard the documents without examination of substance;
- 3) the documents were submitted by a person who was not duly authorized to do so;
- 4) the documents were submitted in violation of the deadlines for submitting documents for the registration of the public association;
- 5) the public association did not submit corrected documents to the authorized body for registration matters within the deadlines provided for by part nineteen of this Article.

18. Within the deadlines determined by part nine hereof, the authorized body for registration matters shall issue (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) a copy of the decision in the form of an order to disregard the documents without examination of substance, as well as one copy of the charter, and the documents which were submitted for the registration of the public association to the chief executive or the person or persons entitled to represent the public association in performing registration acts.

19. Within six months from the day of receipt of a copy of the decision to deny the registration of the public association for reasons provided for by item 2 of part 10 of this Article, or return the documents for correction, or disregard them without examination of substance, the public association may remove the defects and submit the documents to the authorized body for registration matters in keeping with the procedure provided for by this Article. If provisions are found in the public association's charter that conflict with this Law and other laws of Ukraine (except for cases stipulated by item 1 of part ten of this Article), then the decision to make amendments to the charter of the public association shall be made in accordance with the procedure established by Article 9 of this Law.

20. Within five business days from the date the documents were submitted after removing defects, the authorized body for registration matters shall make the decision to register the public association and perform other acts provided for by part eleven of this Article.

21. A public association shall not be deemed registered if it fails to submit its documents after removing defects to the authorized body for registration matter in accordance with the procedure established by this Article within six months from the date of receipt of a copy of the decision to refuse to register the public association for reasons provided for by item 2 of part 10 of this Article, or to return the documents for correction, or to disregard them without examination of substance.

22. Decisions, actions or inaction made (performed) under this Article by the authorized body for registration matters may be appealed to a court of law in keeping with the procedure provided for by the Code of Administrative Court Procedure of Ukraine.

### Article 13. Detached Units of the Public Association

1. A public association with the legal entity status may have detached units established by decision of the relevant governing body of the public association in accordance with its charter.

2. Detached units of a public association are not legal entities.

3. The public association shall submit information about such established detached units to the authorized body for registration matters in the area it is based.

4. The information shall be submitted in the form of a registration card containing the following:

1) the public association's identification code as a legal entity; 2) full name of the detached unit;

3) the location of the detached unit;

4) full name (surname, given name, and patronymic) of the chief executive of the detached unit, and his/her taxpayer's registration number; and

5) the location of the registration file of the public association.

Attached to the registration card for the establishment of the detached unit shall be the decision of the governing body of the public association to establish the detached unit. The form of the registration card for the establishment of the detached unit of the public association is determined by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine.

5. Within three business days, the authorized body for registration matters to which documents on the establishment of the detached unit of a public association were submitted shall enter information about that detached unit in the Register of Public Associations and see to it that relevant information about that detached unit is entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, or make the decision to refuse to enter information about the detached unit in the Register of Public Associations. A copy of the decision shall be issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the public association not later than the next day after the decision was made.

6. The authorized body for registration matters to which documents on the establishment of the detached unit of a public association were submitted shall make the decision to refuse to enter information about that detached unit in the

Register of Public Associations in the event of failure to submit the documents provided for by part four of this Article, errors in the registration card for the establishment of the detached unit of the public association, or if the decision on the establishment of the detached unit was made by other than the duly authorized governing body of the public association.

7. A public association shall submit a notice on the closing down of its detached unit to the authorized body for registration matters of the area the association is based, in accordance with the form approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine .

Article 14. Acceptance of a Notice on Amendments to the Charter, Changes in the Composition of the Governing Bodies, Change of the Person or Persons Entitled to Represent the Public Association, or the Change of Address of the Public Association

1. Changes in the information about a public association as a legal entity in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs shall be made in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs with due account of the specific features provided for by this Law.

2. A public association shall notify the authorized body for registration matters keeping the registration file of the public association (hereinafter, the registration file) or the notice about the establishment of the public association, about amendments to the charter, changes in the composition of the governing bodies, change of the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, or the change of address of the public association.

3. A registered public association shall change the charter of the public association, the composition of the governing bodies, or the address of the public association in accordance with the procedure determined by its charter and with due account of the provisions of this Law.

4. To enter changes in the composition of its governing bodies, a registered public association shall submit (or mail) the following documents:

- 1) a request of no particular form;
- 2) a filled-out registration card about entering changes in the information about the legal entity in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs;
- 3) a copy, certified by the public association's seal or notarized, of the original decision of its higher governing body to replace listed persons, made in accordance with the charter of that public association and executed in keeping with items 1, 2, 6, 8 of part two of Article 9 of this Law, and/or a copy of the original (or a notarized copy) of the instruction on their appointment;
- 4) a copy, certified by the public association's seal or notarized, of the original protocol of its governing body meeting at which, in accordance with the

charter, it was decided to call a meeting of the higher governing body, if the changes were made by the higher governing body; and

5) information about the governing bodies.

The documents referred to in items 1, 2 and 5 of this part of the Article shall be signed by the chief executive of the public association.

5. To enter changes regarding its address, a registered public association shall submit (or mail) the following documents:

1) a request of no particular form;

2) a filled-out registration card about entering changes in the information about the legal entity in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs; and

3) certificate of registration (or its duplicate copy).

The documents referred to in items 1 and 2 of this part of the Article shall be signed by the chief executive of the public association.

6. To notify about amendments to the charter, a registered public association shall submit (or mail) the following documents:

1) a request of no particular form;

2) a filled-out registration card about entering changes in the information about the legal entity in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs;

3) a copy of the original decision (or a notarized copy) of the higher governing body of the public association to enter amendments to the charter, made in accordance with the procedure determined by the charter of the public association and executed in keeping with part two of Article 9 of this Law;

4) a copy, certified by the public association's seal or notarized, of the original protocol of its governing body meeting at which, in accordance with the charter, it was decided to call a meeting of the higher governing body;

5) two copies of the charter with the amendments incorporated;

6) a copy of the original (a duplicate copy) of the charter and the certificate of registration or its duplicate copy.

The documents referred to in items 1 and 2 of this part of the Article shall be signed by the chief executive of the public association.

7. In the notice about the change of the person or persons entitled to represent it, a public association established without the legal entity status shall indicate information about the person to the extent stipulated by item 3 of part three of Article 12 of this Law.

8. It is prohibited to demand that the public association submit any other documents about changes in the composition of the governing bodies, the change of the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, or the change of its address, or changes in its charter.

9. Within five business days from the receipt of the documents referred to in parts four-seven of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall make one of the following decisions:

1) on the acceptance of the notice on amendments to the charter, changes in the composition of the governing bodies, change of the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, the change of address of the public association;

2) on the refusal to accept the notice on amendments to the charter or changes in the composition of the governing bodies, in the event of violation of the charter of the public association;

3) on the refusal to accept the notice on amendments to the charter, if there are grounds provided for by part ten of Article 12 of this Law (other than violations of the requirements of Article 7 of this Law);

4) on sending a legal examination opinion, if there are grounds provided for by item 1, 2 (other than noncompliance with the requirements by the public association 8, 9 of this Law) and 3 of part fourteen of Article 12 of this Law;

5) on disregarding the documents without examination of substance, if there are grounds provided for by items 3-5 of part seventeen of Article 12 of this Law.

10. In the event of the decision stipulated by item 1 of part nine of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall:

1) enter information on the changes in the composition of the governing bodies, the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, the change of the address and amendments to the charter in the Register of Public Associations and see to it that information about the aforementioned changes regarding public associations with the legal entity status are entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs;

2) issue (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) the certificate of registration, an excerpt from the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, and one copy of the charter with the mark that the notice on amendments to the charter was accepted to the public association – in the event of the change of the name, or the purpose, or the address of the public association; or

3) issue (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) an excerpt from the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs to the public association, in the event of changes in the composition of the public association's governing bodies.

11. After information on the change of address of the public association is entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, the registration file of that public association shall be transferred to the authorized body for registration matters at the address of the public association.

12. In the event any of the decisions provided for by items 2-4 of part nine of this Article are made, the authorized body for registration matters shall return one copy of the charter with the amendments incorporated as well as the submitted documents (except for those with which fault was found) to the public association concurrently with mailing a copy of the relevant decision.

13. In the event the decision provided for by item 5 of part nine of this Article is made, the authorized body for registration matters shall return all submitted documents to the public association concurrently with mailing a copy of the relevant decision.

14. Bringing documents on the public association's changes in its charter or the composition of its governing bodies into line with the requirements of this Law shall take place in accordance with the procedure provided by part nineteen of Article 12 of this Law and the public association's charter.

15. In the event any of the decisions provided for by items 2-5 of part nine of this Article are made, the composition of the governing bodies and the charter of the public association shall remain as they were before the relevant changes were made. If the documents submitted by the public association contain a resignation of the chief executive or a member of the governing body, the authorized body for registration matters shall enter relevant information in the Register of Public Associations irrespective of whether the decision provided for by items 2, 5 of part nine of this Article is made.

16. For accepting a notice on amendments to the charter of a public association, a fee is charged in the amount determined by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs for the state registration of changes in the constituent documents of a legal entity.

#### Article 15. The Issue of a Duplicate Original Certificate of Registration of a Public Association and/or Its Charter

1. In the event of loss of the original certificate of registration or charter of a public association, its chief executive shall submit (or mail) a request about the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter to the authorized body for registration matters with the following documents attached:

1) a document in support of the payment for publishing, in a specialized printed organ of the mass media, a notice on the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter, in the amount determined by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs; and

2) a certificate from the relevant internal affairs department regarding the registration of the report on the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter.

2. Within three business days from the date of receipt of the documents referred to in part one of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall make, in the form of an order, one of the following decisions:

1) to issue a duplicate of the original certificate of registration and/or charter;

2) to disregard the request about the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter without examination of substance.

3. The authorized body for registration matters shall decide to disregard a request about the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter without examination of substance on one or all of the following grounds:

1) the documents referred to in part one of this Article are not attached to the request;

2) the request is signed by a person who is not authorized to represent the public association;

3) if the authorized body for registration matters has received a court decision to disallow the replacement and issue of a duplicate original certificate of registration and/or charter.

4. Within deadlines provided for by part two of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall mail (issue) a copy of the decision to disregard the relevant request without examination of substance to the public association together with the documents which were submitted for the issue of a duplicate original certificate of registration and/or charter. The relevant opinion which is attached to the decision as its part and parcel shall contain exhaustive and reasoned grounds for the decision.

5. In absence of grounds to disregard a request about the loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter without examination of substance, the authorized body for registration matters shall:

1) record the fact of loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter in the Register of Public Associations;

2) see to it that the fact of loss of the original certificate of registration and/or charter is recorded in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs; and

3) execute and issue (or mail) a duplicate of the original certificate of registration and/or charter.

6. For issuing a duplicate of the original certificate of registration and/or charter of a public association, a fee is charged in the amount determined by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs for the issue of a duplicate original of constituent documents or amendments thereto certified by the State Registrar.

#### Article 16. Notice about the Establishment of a Public Association

1. A public association intending to operate without the legal entity status shall notify the authorized body for registration matters about its establishment within sixty days from its establishment.

2. For a notice about the establishment of the public association, its founders or the person or persons entitled to represent it shall submit or mail their request in accordance with the form approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine to the authorized body for registration matters in the area the public association is based, attaching the following documents:

1) an original copy, or a notarized copy of the protocol of the constituent meeting executed in keeping with the requirements of parts two, four and eight of Article 9 of this Law;

2) information about the public association's founders indicating the full name (surname, given name, and patronymic, if applicable), date of birth, and residence address, and if it is a legal entity under private law, its name, address and identification code;

3) information about the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, indicating the full name (surname, given name, and patronymic, if

applicable), date of birth, contact number of the telephone and other means of communication, attaching that person's consent thereto in writing as stipulated by part six of Article 9 of this Law.

The request shall be signed by the founders of the public association or the person or persons entitled to represent the public association, the authenticity of their signatures being certified by a notary.

3. In absence of grounds provided for by item 1 of part ten of Article 12 of this Law and consistency of the submitted documents with the requirements of Article 7-10 of this Law, the authorized body for registration matters shall make the decision to accept the written notice and enter information about the public association in the Register of Public Associations within five business days from the receipt of the documents provided for by part two of this Article. A copy of the decision to accept the written notice shall be issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the founders of the public association or the person or persons entitled to represent it, not later than the next day after the decision was made.

4. In presence of grounds provided for by item 1 of part ten of Article 12 of this Law, in the event of inconsistency of the submitted documents to the requirements of Articles 7-10 of this Law, the authorized body for registration matters shall decide, within the deadlines provided for by part three of this Article, to decline the notice about the establishment of the public association, which decision must be motivated and contain exhaustive reasons for not accepting the notice. A copy of the said decision shall be issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the founders of the public association or the person or persons entitled to represent it, not later than the next day after the decision was made.

5. If the public association has removed inconsistencies with the requirements of Article 7-10 of this Law in the submitted documents, the authorized body for registration matters shall decide to accept the notice about the establishment of the public association and perform other acts provided for by part three of this Article within three business days from the receipt of the documents by which such inconsistencies are removed.

6. The public association shall notify the authorized body for registration matters about the change of its name, purpose (goals) and the person or persons entitled to represent it within one month from the date such changes were adopted in accordance with the procedure provided for by Article 14 of this Law.

7. Decisions, actions or inaction made (performed) under this Article by the authorized body for registration matters may be appealed to a court of law in keeping with the procedure provided for by the Code of Administrative Court Procedure of Ukraine.

8. To obtain the legal entity status, a public association operating without it may, by decision of its higher governing body, apply for it in accordance with the procedure provided for by Article 12 of this Law.

## Article 17. Register of Public Associations

1. To maintain records of public associations and ensure general access to information about public associations, the authorized body for registration matters shall keep the Register of Public Associations.

2. Information on public associations is entered in the Register of Public Associations by the authorized body for registration matters in accordance with the data in the documents submitted by public associations in accordance with the procedure provided for by Articles 12, 13, 14, 16, 19 of this Law. Processing of personal data referred to in item 3 of part three of Article 12, items 2, 3 of part two of Article 16 of this Law, and the publication in the Register of Public Associations of information about persons elected to the public association's governing bodies, or the person entitled to represent the public association, are the responsibility of the authorized body for registration matters in accordance with legislation in the sphere of personal data protection.

3. Basic information of the Register of Public Associations is open to free access on the official website of the authorized body for registration matters.

4. To exercise the right of access to information of the Register of Public Associations, users may search for, view, copy and print such information.

5. The procedure of maintaining the Register of Public Associations is determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

#### Article 18. Symbols of a Public Association

1. A public association with the legal entity status may have its own symbols (emblem or other identification mark, or flag), which is approved in accordance with its charter and is subject to registration in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

2. The symbols of a public association shall not reproduce:

- 1) the state symbols of Ukraine;
- 2) other official symbols or signs used by bodies of state power, bodies of power in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, state and other awards, stamps and other insignia of such bodies;
- 3) state emblems, flags or official names of other states;
- 4) registered symbols of other public associations;
- 5) the name or representation of a physical person without the written consent of such person or his/her heirs certified in accordance with established procedure, unless otherwise provided for by the law; and
- 6) other symbols and signs the use of which is restricted by the law.

3. Information about the duly registered symbols of a public association shall be open to the general public.

4. For the registration of the symbols, or the replacement of the certificate of registration of the symbols due to damage, or the issue of a duplicate original certificate of registration of the symbols of a public association due to their loss, payment is made in the amount determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, which may not exceed ten untaxed minimum incomes of citizens.

5. A public association shall be entitled to use its own symbols from the moment of their registration. It is prohibited for physical persons and legal entities to use registered symbols of a public association without its consent and for purposes unrelated to its activity.

6. To indicate a public association in its information/presentation materials, a public association which does not have registered symbols of its own may use images that meet the requirements of part two of this Article.

#### Article 19. All-Ukraine Status of a Public Association

1. A duly registered public association may have the all-Ukraine status provided it has detached units in the majority of administrative-territorial units referred to in part two of Article 133 of the Constitution of Ukraine and if that public association has confirmed this status in accordance with the procedure established by this Law. Specific laws may provide for other requirements for the confirmation of the all-Ukraine status by certain types of public associations.

2. Confirmation of the all-Ukraine status and renunciation of such status are a voluntary option.

3. To confirm its all-Ukraine status, a public association shall apply to the authorized body for registration matters in accordance with the form established by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine.

4. Within seven business days from the receipt of the application, the authorized body for registration matters shall make its decision to confirm the all-Ukraine status of the public association or refuse to confirm it based on the results of its examination of the Register of Public Associations for consistency of the association's detached units with the requirements of part one of this Article. A copy of the decision is issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the public association not later than the next day after the decision is made.

5. If the decision to confirm the all-Ukraine status is made, the authorized body for registration matters shall make a relevant entry in the Register of Public Associations within the deadlines determined by part six of this Article.

6. To relinquish its all-Ukraine status, a public association shall apply to the authorized body for registration matters in accordance with the form established by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine. Within five business days from receipt of the application, the authorized body for registration matters shall make a relevant entry in the Register of Public Associations.

7. Information about the all-Ukraine status of public associations shall be annually verified by the authorized body for registration matters based on the data in the registration card of confirmation of data on a legal entity, the form of which is approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine.

8. If the authorized body for registration matters determines that a public association which has confirmed its all-Ukraine status has fewer detached units than is stipulated by part one of this Article, it shall issue (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) a written notice of grounds for loss of that

status to that public association and make an entry on such notification in the Register of Public Associations.

9. If in 60 days from the receipt of the written notice under part eight of this Article the number of the public association's detached units according to the Register of Public Associations does not meet the requirements of part one of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters makes the decision to the effect that the public association has lost its all-Ukraine status and makes a relevant entry in the Register. A copy of the decision is issued (or mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the public association not later than the next day after the decision was made.

## Article 20. Accreditation of a Detached Unit of a Foreign Nongovernmental Organization

1. The accreditation in Ukraine of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization is the responsibility of the authorized body for registration matters. A detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization is accredited in Ukraine without the legal entity status.

2. To accredit a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization in Ukraine, the organization or its authorized person shall submit (or mail by registered letter with a notification of receipt) the following to the authorized body for registration matters:

1) registration application in accordance with the form approved by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine;

2) a copy of the document from a competent body in the foreign country that confirms the registration of the foreign nongovernmental organization;

3) copies of the constituent documents of the foreign nongovernmental organization;

4) a decision of the organization's authorized body to establish its detached unit and appoint its chief executive;

5) two copies of the charter (by-laws) of the detached unit (if the charter or by-laws are provided for by the decision to establish a detached unit);

6) a power of attorney in the name of the chief executive of the detached unit executed in accordance with the law of the country in which the power of attorney was given;

7) a document in support of the payment of the accreditation fee in the amount of twenty untaxed minimum incomes of citizens (except for foreign nongovernmental organizations exempt from accreditation payment under international agreements approved by the Verkhovna Rada as binding for Ukraine).

3. Documents referred to items 2-6 of part two of this Article shall be translated into the state language and legalized in accordance with Ukrainian law and with due account of the procedure provided for by the legislation of the country of the foreign nongovernmental organization.

4. An application for the accreditation in Ukraine of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization shall be considered within twenty business days from its receipt provided all necessary documents are available.

5. Based on the results of the consideration, the authorized body for registration matters decides to accredit the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization in Ukraine or deny accreditation or disregard the documents without examination.

6. In absence of grounds to deny accreditation provided for by part seven of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters, within the deadlines stipulated by part four of this Article, shall:

1) make the decision on the accreditation of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization;

2) enter information about the accredited detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization and the organization itself in the Register of Public Associations;

3) issue a certificate of accreditation in accordance with the form approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and if the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization has a charter (by-laws), one copy of the charter (by-laws) with a mark confirming its accreditation.

7. If the charter (by-laws) of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization or its constituent documents conflict with the Constitution of Ukraine or applicable laws of Ukraine, the authorized body for registration matters, within the deadlines stipulated by part four of this Article, shall make the decision to deny the accreditation of such detached unit. A copy of the decision to deny accreditation shall be mailed to the applicant by registered letter with a notification of receipt not later than the next day after the decision was made.

8. If the submitted documents do not meet the requirements of parts two and three of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters, within the deadlines stipulated by part four of this Article, shall make the decision to disregard the document without consideration and send the applicant a copy of that decision together with the documents submitted for the registration.

9. If changes are made to the charter (by-laws) of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization, or its chief executive or representative is replaced, or the term of powers of the latter extended, the foreign nongovernmental organization or a person authorized by it shall inform the authorized body for registration matters about it in writing within twenty days from such changes are made or such term of powers is extended. In the event of changes to the charter of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization, its accreditation may be denied on grounds determined by part seven of this Article. A copy of the decision to deny acceptance of the notice about changes to the charter is sent to the applicant by registered letter with a notification of receipt not later than the next day after the decision was made.

### Section III. The Rights and Duties of Public Associations

## Article 21. The Rights of Public Associations

1. To realize its purpose (goals), a public association shall have the right to:
  - 1) freely disseminate information about its activity, promote its purpose (goals);
  - 2) address bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officers and employees with proposals (criticism), requests (petitions), and complaints in accordance with established procedure;
  - 3) obtain, in accordance with established procedure, public information at the disposal of the authorities and other public information holders;
  - 4) take part, in accordance with established procedure, in the drafting of normative legal documents of the bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies that are related to the sphere of activity of the public association and important issues of state and public life;
  - 5) hold peaceful gatherings; and
  - 6) exercise other rights not prohibited by the law.
2. A public association with the legal entity status shall the right:
  - 1) to be a participant in civil-law relations, acquire property and non-property rights in accordance with the law;
  - 2) to conduct, in accordance with the law, entrepreneurial activity directly, if this is provided for by its charter, or via legal entities (companies, enterprises) created in accordance with the established procedure, if such activity is in line with the purpose (goals) of the public association and promotes their realization. Information about the conduct of entrepreneurial activity by the public association shall be entered in the Register of Public Associations;
  - 3) to found mass media organs for the realization of its statutory purpose (goals);
  - 4) to take part in the implementation of state regulatory policy in accordance with the Law of Ukraine On the Principles of State Regulatory Policy in the Sphere of Economic Activity;
  - 5) to take part, in accordance with established procedure, in the work of consultative, advisory and other auxiliary organs established by bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies for consultations with public associations and prepare recommendations related to the sphere of their activity.
3. A public association with the legal entity status and a legal entity (company, enterprise) established by it may be a public contractor, in accordance with the law.

## Article 22. Principles of Interaction of Public Associations with Bodies of State Power, the Bodies of Power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and Local Self-government Bodies

1. The State shall ensure that the rights of public associations are observed.
2. Interference of bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officers and employees into the activity of public associations, as well as interference of public associations into the activity of bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, their officers and employees is not allowed, except for instances provided for by the law.
3. Bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies may engage public associations in the design and implementation of state policy and the solution of local problems, in part, by means of consultations with public associations on important issues of state and public life, the development of draft normative legal documents, and the establishment of consultative, advisory and other auxiliary organs under bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, in the work of which representatives of public associations will be taking part.
4. The holding, in accordance with established procedure, of consultations with public associations about draft normative legal documents related to the legal status, activity and funding of public associations shall be obligatory.
5. State control and oversight of the observance of the law by public associations shall be the responsibility of executive and local self-government bodies in accordance with established procedure.

#### Article 23. Financial Support and Reporting

1. Public associations with the legal entity status are entitled to receiving financial support from the State Budget of Ukraine and local budgets in accordance with the law.
2. Public associations receiving financial support the State Budget of Ukraine and local budgets shall submit and publish reports on the use of such funds for designated purposes in accordance with the law.
3. A public association with the legal entity status and any legal entities (companies, enterprises) established by it shall keep accounting records and make financial and statistical reports, be registered with state taxation service bodies and make obligatory payments to the budget in accordance with the law. Any benefits, including taxation benefits, may be granted to public associations and legal entities (companies, enterprises) established by them on grounds and in accordance with the procedure established by the law.

#### Article 24. Property of a Public Association

1. To realize its statutory purpose (goals), a public association with the legal entity status shall have the right to own, use and dispose of funds and other

property which, in accordance with the law, may be transferred to it by its members (participants) or the State, acquired as membership fees, donated by citizens, enterprises, establishments and organizations, acquired as a result of its own entrepreneurial activity or that of the legal entities (companies, enterprises) established by it, as well as property acquired with its own funds, temporarily transferred for use (except for management), or on other grounds not prohibited by the law.

2. The ownership rights of a public association with the legal entity status are realized by its higher governing body in accordance with the procedure established by the law and the public association's charter. Individual functions related to property management may, by decision of the higher governing body of the public association, be delegated to its duly established governing bodies, legal entities (companies, enterprises), or detached units of such associations, or delegated to public unions established by such public associations.

3. In the event of the public association's voluntary dissolution, its property and funds after satisfying creditors' demands shall be transferred, by decision of that association, to other public association(s), or, if such decision is not adopted, shall be added to the state or local budget in accordance with the law.

4. In the event of the public association's reorganization, its property, assets and liabilities shall be transferred to its legal successor.

#### Section IV. Specific Aspects of Termination of Public Associations

##### Article 25. Methods of Terminating a Public Association's

Activity 1. The activity of a public association may be terminated:

1) by decision of the public association, adopted by its higher governing body, or by voluntary dissolution, or by reorganization by means of acceding to another public association of the same status;

2) by court decision on the prohibition (enforced disbandment) of the public association.

2. The termination of a public association with the legal entity status entails the termination of that legal entity in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, with due account of the specific aspects provided for by this Law.

3. If the value of the property of a public association with the legal entity status, which directly engages in entrepreneurial activity and regarding which a liquidation decision was made, is insufficient to satisfy creditors' demands, the liquidator (liquidation committee) shall file a bankruptcy petition against that public association to a commercial court in accordance with the Law of Ukraine On Restoring a Debtor's Solvency or Recognizing It Bankrupt.

##### Article 26. Voluntary Termination of a Public Association's Activity

1. A public association is entitled to make the decision on terminating its activity (voluntary dissolution) at any time.

2. The activity of a public association without the legal entity status is deemed terminated from the date of the receipt by the authorized body for registration matters of a notice about such a decision from the person entitled to represent that association. Based on the notice, the authorized body for registration matters enters information about the association's termination of activity to the Register of Public Associations.

3. The decision about voluntary dissolution is adopted in accordance with the procedure established by the public association's charter. The higher governing body, which made the decision, shall establish a liquidation committee or instruct a governing body to exercise the powers of a liquidation committee until the termination of the public association as a legal entity is completed, and adopt a decision about the use of funds and property of the public association after its liquidation in accordance with the charter.

4. The public association submits (mails) its decision on voluntary dissolution of the public association to the authorized body for registration matters, attaching the following:

1) an original of the certificate of registration of the public association (or its duplicate copy);

2) an original of the charter of the public association (or its duplicate copy);

3) a registration card for state registration of the termination of a legal entity.

5. Within ten business days from the date of receipt of the documents referred to in part four of this Article, the authorized body for registration matters shall make the decision to recognize or refuse to recognize the public association's decision on voluntary dissolution.

6. If based on the results of the consideration of the documents referred to in part four of this Article it is established that there are no violations of the requirements of this Law, the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, and the charter of the public association, the authorized body for registration matters shall see to it that a relevant entry is made in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs and make an entry about the aforementioned decision of the public association in the Register of Public Associations.

7. If based on the results of the consideration of the documents referred to in part four of this Article it is established that there exist violations of requirements of this Law, the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, and the charter of the public association, the authorized body for registration matters shall make its decision in the form of an order to refuse to recognize the public association's decision on voluntary dissolution. A substantiated opinion containing exhaustive reasons for refusal shall be attached as part and parcel of such decision. A copy of said decision shall be issued (mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the public association not later than the next day after the decision was made.

8. The termination of the public association as a legal entity begins and the liquidation committee acquires its powers from the date an entry about the public association's decision on its voluntary dissolution is entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs.

9. From the date an entry about the public association's decision on its voluntary dissolution is entered in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons, the public association cannot cancel that decision.

10. Refusal to recognize a public association's decision on its voluntary dissolution renders that decision ineffective.

11. The termination of a public union shall not entail that of the legal entities – its members.

#### Article 27. Reorganization of a Public Association

1. A public association with the legal entity status may reorganize by acceding to another public association of the same status. Reorganization shall take place on the basis of the public association's decision to terminate its activity and accede to another association, and the decision of the other association to give consent to such accession.

2. If a public organization or public union joins a public union, this shall not be a case of reorganization and shall not entail termination of the public association's activity.

3. A reorganized public association notifies the authorized body for registration matters about its decision to reorganize by accession, attaching the following:

- 1) the decisions referred to in part one of this Article;
- 2) the documents of the acceding public association referred to in part four of Article 26 of this Law;
- 3) the documents of the public association being acceded to, referred to in Article 14 of this Law, if the public association changes its charter and/or name as a result of the accession.

4. If based on the results of the consideration of the documents referred to in part three of this Article it is established that there are no violations of the requirements of this Law, the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, and the charters of the public associations, the authorized body for registration matters shall see to it that relevant entries are made in the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs and make an entry about the public associations' decisions referred to in part one of this Article in the Register of Public Associations.

5. If based on the results of the consideration of the documents referred to in part three of this Article it is established that there exist violations of requirements of this Law, the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, and the charters of the public associations, the authorized body for registration matters shall make its decision in the form of an

order to refuse to recognize the public association's decision on reorganization. A substantiated opinion containing exhaustive reasons for refusal shall be attached as part and parcel of such decision. A copy of said decision shall be issued (mailed by registered letter with a notification of receipt) to the public association not later than the next day after the decision was made.

6. The termination of the public association begins from the date the authorized body for registration matters performs acts referred to in part four of this Article. From that time on, the governing body of the public association may only exercise the powers of a reorganization committee if such powers were granted to it by the higher governing body of the public association.

7. From the date the authorized body for registration matters accepts the decision referred to in part four of this Article, the decisions on the reorganization of the public association cannot be cancelled by the respective associations.

8. Refusal to recognize the decision on the reorganization of the public renders the said decision ineffective and, as a result, the public associations continue with their independent operation.

#### Article 28. Prohibition of a Public Association

1. A public association may be prohibited by a court of law at the suit by the authorized body for registration matters if indications of the violation by the public association of the requirements of articles 36, 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine and/or Article 4 of this Law have been found. The prohibition of the public association entails its termination in accordance with the procedure established by this Law and its removal from the Register of Public Associations.

2. The case of prohibition of a public association shall be considered in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Code of Administrative Court Procedure of Ukraine.

3. If the decision about the prohibition of the public association is made, its property, funds and other assets shall be transferred to the state budget by decision of the court.

4. In pursuance of the court decision to prohibit the public association, the authorized body for registration matters makes an appropriate entry in the Register of Public Associations. Termination of the activity of the public association in respect of which the prohibition decision was made shall take place in accordance with the procedure determined by Article 29 of this Law.

5. Other grounds for the prohibition of the activity of a public association than those referred to in part one of this Article are not allowed.

#### Article 29. Procedure of Termination of a Public Association

1. Termination of a public association shall include:

- 1) termination of any internal activity of the public association; and
- 2) termination of the public association as a legal entity.

2. Termination of the activity of a public association begins from the day stipulated by part eight of Article 26, part six of Article 27 of this Law, from the day the court decision on the prohibition of that public association takes effect. Membership (participation) in such public association terminates from that date as well.

3. Termination of the internal activity of the public association, including the transfer of its documents to appropriate archive centers, shall take place within 60 days from the date referred to in part two of this Article. During that time, all management of the public association's current activities, aimed at terminating its operation, shall be the responsibility of the public association's governing body. After the said activity is finished, the governing body of the public association shall cease its work (with the exception of the liquidation/reorganization committee powers it was granted).

4. A public association cannot stop or cancel its termination as a legal entity after the day referred to in part two of this Article.

5. If a court of law makes the decision to terminate the legal entity of the public association for reasons provided for by the Law of Ukraine On State Registration of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs, the public association within six months notifies the authorized body for registration matters in no particular form about its continuation of activity without the legal entity status and provides information about the person or persons authorized to represent the public association to the extent provided for by item 3 of part two of Article 16 of this Law.

6. If the authorized body for registration matters does not receive a notice from the public association about its continuation of activity without the legal status, it shall make an entry in the Register of Public Associations about the termination of activity of the public association.

### Article 30. Termination of a Detached Unit of a Foreign Nongovernmental Organization

1. The activity of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization shall be terminated on the following grounds:

1) decision of the foreign nongovernmental organization, the detached unit of which is accredited in Ukraine;

2) decision by the authorized body for registration matters in the event of expiry of the power of attorney given the chief executive of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization, executed in accordance with the law of the country in which the power of attorney was given; or

3) the decision of the court to prohibit the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization.

2. The authorized body for registration matters shall make in the Register of Public Associations an entry about the termination of the detached unit of the foreign nongovernmental organization based on the written notice from the foreign nongovernmental organization within three business days from its receipt.

3. The authorized body for registration matters makes an entry about the termination of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization in the Register of Public Associations if the power of authority is not extended or re-issued for a new term within 30 days from the date the previous term expired.

4. The activity of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization may be prohibited by a court of law if that detached unit violates provisions of Articles 36, 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine, Article 4 of this Law, or provisions of the laws instituting restrictions on the establishment and activity of public associations in the interest of national security and public order, the protection of health of the population or protection of rights and freedoms of other people, at the suit of the authorized body for registration matters.

5. The case of prohibition of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization shall be considered in accordance with the procedure provided for by the Code of Administrative Court Procedure of Ukraine.

6. If the accreditation of a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization is terminated, the authorized body for registration matters shall make the decision to cancel the relevant entry in the Register of Public Associations.

#### Article 31. Liability for Violation of the Law

1. Officers of the bodies of state power, the bodies of power of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, and local self-government bodies, citizens, foreigners, and persons without citizenship shall be liable for violating the legislation on public associations in accordance with the procedure established by the law.

2. Public associations and detached units of foreign nongovernmental organizations shall be liable for violating the law to the extent provided for by this and other laws of Ukraine.

3. Participation in the activity of a public association or a detached unit of a foreign nongovernmental organization whose activity has been prohibited by a court of law entails administrative responsibility if the law does not provide for other legal liability.

#### Section V. Concluding and Transitional Provisions

1. This Law takes effect on the following day after its publication date and is put into force from January 1, 2013.

2. The following shall lose effect from the date this Law is put into force:

The Law of Ukraine On Citizens Associations (*Verkhovna Rada Gazette*, 1992, # 34, p. 504; 1993, # 46, p. 427; 1998, # 10, p. 36; 1999, # 26, p. 220; 2001, # 9, p. 38, # 44, p. 232; 2003, # 27, p. 209, # 30, p. 247; 2005, # 11, p. 205, # 51, p. 550; 2006, # 26, p. 215; 2008, # 25, p. 240; 2009, # 32 – 33, p. 485; 2010, # 37, p. 496; 2011, # 6, p. 41);

The Resolution of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine On the Procedure of Putting in Force of the Law of Ukraine On Citizens Association (*Verkhovna Rada Gazette*, 1992, # 34, p. 505).

3. The rights and duties established by the laws of Ukraine for public organizations shall extend to all public associations.

4. Public organizations and their unions (amalgamations, associations and other types of public organizations), legalized by registering or sending a notice of establishment at the date this Law was put into force, shall not require re-registration or a new submission of documents for the notice, respectively. The charters (by-laws) of public organizations or unions of public organizations shall be harmonized with this Law within five years from the date it is put into force. Amendments to the charter (by-laws), related to the putting of this Law into force, shall be registered without payment for registration acts within five years from the date this Law is put into force.

5. Requirements of Article 10 of this Law do not extend to public organizations and their unions (amalgamations, associations and other types of public organizations), which at the date this Law was put into force were legalized by:

1) registration – prior to the adoption by such organizations or unions of decisions regarding their change of name; or

2) sending a notice of establishment – prior to the adoption by such organizations or unions of decisions regarding their change of name or their registration as legal entities.

6. In applying the provision of part four of Article 10 of this Law regarding the requirement that the personal name of the public association differ from those of other public associations, the personal names of those public associations are taken into account which informed appropriate authorities about their existence or entered changes to their names after this Law was put into force, and of all registered public associations.

7. All-Ukraine and international public associations registered by the date this Law was put into force shall be deemed public organizations which have confirmed their all-Ukraine status. Local chapters of such public organizations may be regarded, for the purposes of parts seven-nine of Article 19 of this Law, as their detached units during the term provided for by item 8 of this section.

8. The legal status of local chapters of those public organizations which were operating on the legal entity basis at the date this Law was put into force shall be brought into line with this Law within five years from the date it was put into force. A decision to terminate such chapters as legal entities is made by the higher governing body of the public organization. The relevant public organization is legal successor to the property, assets and liabilities of such chapters.

9. From the date this Law is put into force, the unions of public organizations (amalgamations, associations and other types of public organizations) which were legalized by the date this Law was put into force shall be regarded as public unions established pursuant to this Law and which retain all

the rights and obligations they had at the date this Law was put into force provided such rights and obligations do not conflict with this Law.

10. For two years from the date this Law is put into force, public organizations and their unions (amalgamations, associations and other types of public organizations), except for public organizations and unions registered with the executive bodies of village, settlement and town councils, have the right to request the executive body which was in the process of registering them before this Law was put into force that their files be transferred to the authorized body for registration matters in the area they are based so that appropriate registration acts could be performed. The registration file shall be transferred to the relevant executive body within three business days from the receipt of the application. After a two years' term, the executive bodies which registered public organizations and unions before this Law was put into force shall see to it that the registration files of the public organizations and unions are sent to authorized bodies for registration matters in the areas they are based.

11. Public organizations and their unions (amalgamations, associations and other types of public organizations), legalized by the date this Law was put into force, shall submit (or mail) documents needed for the performance of registrations acts to the authorized body for registration matters in the area they are based. The deadline for consideration of the notice of changes to the charter, in the composition of the governing bodies or in the address of the public organizations and unions referred to in this item shall be extended to allow for the mailing time. For the purpose of forming registration files of public organizations and unions registered with the executive bodies of village, settlement and town councils, documents shall be submitted together with copies of their charters (by-laws) and certificates of registration of the public organization or union, with the seal of such organization or union affixed.

12. The executive bodies of village, settlement and town councils, which exercised their delegated powers to register public organizations, shall ensure, by the date this Law is put into force, the transfer of all information about public organizations registered (legalized) by relevant executive bodies by the date this Law is put into force to the authorized body for registration matters, together with information regarding any registration acts they will have performed from the date this Law takes effect to the date it is put into force. In the event of inconsistency between the information supplied by the executive bodies of village, settlement and town councils and that presented by public organizations and unions under item 11 hereof, the authorized body for registration matters shall consider the information supplied by the executive bodies of village, settlement and town councils.

13. Public organizations legalized by sending a notice of establishment by the date this Law is put into force shall appoint, within six months from the date this Law is put into force, a person or persons authorized to represent them, in keeping with part six of Article 9 of this Law, and submit the information about that person or those persons that is required by item 3 of part two of Article 16 of this Law to the authorized body for registration matters.

14. To ensure proper conditions for the implementation of this Law, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

1) prepare and submit, within six months from the date this Law takes effect, proposals on changes to the laws of Ukraine in connection with the adoption of this Law to the Verkhovna Rada for consideration;

2) take measures to bring normative legal documents into line with this Law and ensure that they take effect concurrently with the putting of this Law into force, by means of:

a) bringing its normative legal documents into line with this Law and adopting normative legal documents provided for by this Law;

b) ensuring that ministries and other Cabinet-level departments bring their normative legal documents into line with this Law and normative legal documents provided for by this Law;

c) determining the procedure of maintaining the Register of Public Associations and exchanging new information between the Register and the Integrated State Register of Legal Entities and Physical Persons – Entrepreneurs;

3) ensure, by the date this Law is put into force, that the Register of Public Associations functions on the basis of the Integrated Register of Public Groupings; and

4) take other measures for the implementation of this Law.