



EU-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE Remote Meeting 10 November 2021 (Brussels/Kyiv)

STATEMENT by the Co-Chairs

The EU-Ukraine Parliamentary Association Committee (PAC) held its 12th meeting on 10 November 2021, co-chaired by Vadym Halaichuk on behalf of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and by Witold Waszczykowski on behalf of the European Parliament.

Members discussed the recent developments in Ukraine and EU-Ukraine relations, the recent bilateral summit of 12 October, and exchanged views on the priorities for future developments with representatives of the Ukrainian government, experts from research institutes, the European External Action Service and the European Commission.

EU-Ukraine relations and their parliamentary dimension, including the state of play of the implementation of the Association Agreement and Ukraine's reform agenda

Members reiterated the pro-European strategic course of Ukraine enshrined in the Constitution and welcomed the concrete deliverables of the 23rd EU-Ukraine Summit, notably on the signing of the Common Aviation Area Agreement and on Ukraine's participation in the Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Framework Programme and the Euratom Research and Training Programme (2021-2025) as well as Creative Europe Programme (2021-2027). Members also acknowledged the continued talks on the Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products (ACAA), the intensifying dialogue on the European Green Deal as well as on energy partnership, cyber security and security dimension of AA as crucial areas of cooperation in the near future.

Members underlined the implementation of the Association Agreement (AA)/Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA) as the key vehicle for reform and welcomed substantial progress in several areas. They emphasised the continued and thorough review of the AA and DCFTA, which should focus not only on the adoption of necessary legislation but also on effective implementation and enforcement through efficient institutions.

The PAC welcomed recently enacted legislation in Ukraine allowing for closer economic integration with the EU and its internal market. Members also recognised the significant potential to intensify sectoral cooperation in priority areas, such as the digital economy, energy and climate change and welcome in particular Ukraine's ambitions to align itself with the EU's digital single market and European Green Deal objectives and policies.



Further credible efforts are needed on judiciary reform and completing the anti-corruption architecture to guarantee the functioning of independent, effective and adequately resourced institutions.

Energy security and building a strong energy partnership

Members discussed the current acute energy crisis focusing on both energy security as well as price hikes that are affecting Ukraine, the Eastern Partnership region and the EU. They agreed that Russia's calculated actions to use energy supplies as part of a hybrid attack against Ukraine need to be addressed. The imperative to strengthen cooperation is stronger than ever and the current crisis is an opportunity to foster further cooperation and build a long-term and strategic energy partnership in the spirit of the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding. They welcomed the launching of a High Level Energy Dialogue.

The participants discussed the mutual benefits of upgraded infrastructure and further new connections between the EU and Ukraine and urged moving towards compatibility and integrated markets, notably by joining and synchronizing Ukraine's electricity transmission system with that of the EU at the earliest possible date in 2023. They also encouraged the completion of the remaining necessary regulatory adjustments and reforms.

Members acknowledged Ukraine's declared commitments and potential to play a significant and active part in the European Green Deal, through decarbonising its economy and boosting energy efficiency and by fulfilling its potential for the future development and supply of renewable sources of energy. Members also underlined the challenges to be addressed in the context of the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism.