

government, the police, courts and probation services, non-departmental public bodies and in the health, education, social and care services. The committee says that holders of public office should “exhibit these principles in their own behaviour and treat others with respect”. They should also “actively promote and robustly support the principles and challenge poor behaviour wherever it occurs” [2].

The rule of law is a durable system of laws, institutions, norms, and community commitment that delivers. **Just Law.** The law is clear, publicized, and stable and is applied evenly. It ensures human rights as well as property, contract, and procedural rights. **Open Government.** The processes by which the law is adopted, administered, adjudicated, and enforced are accessible, fair, and efficient. **Accessible and Impartial Justice.** Justice is delivered timely by competent, ethical, and independent representatives and neutrals who are accessible, have adequate resources, and reflect the makeup of the communities they serve. These four universal principles constitute a working definition of the rule of law. They were developed in accordance with internationally accepted standards and norms, and were tested and refined in consultation with a wide variety of experts worldwide.

The development of democracy determines the need for the development of the rule of law, and vice versa, since these concepts are interdependent.

In summary, for the development of a democratic state of Ukraine and for the purpose of integration into the EU, the government of our country must adhere to the following principles: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership.

#### **Reference:**

1. Universal declaration on democracy. URL: <http://archive.ipu.org/dem-e/standards.htm#universal> (data of access 15.10.2022)
2. Standards in public life and democratic process URL: <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/standards-in-public-life-and-the-democratic-process/> (data of access 15.10.2022)

**Карпенко Роман Валерійович**  
кандидат юридичних наук,  
доцент кафедри  
цивільно-правових дисциплін  
Дніпропетровського державного  
університету внутрішніх справ

## **GENDER EQUALITY IN UKRAINE: ANALYSIS OF LEGAL ACTS**

Over the past decades, the problem of gender equality has become a common place in public discourse and politics. Governments, business community, trade unions, public organizations from different countries make many efforts to overcome discriminatory stereotypes, which create obstacles for ensuring equal legal status of men and women, as well as equal opportunities for its realization in public life.

Ukraine belongs to the countries where significant changes are occurring in the understanding and legitimization of gender relations, constantly taking steps to introduce an institutional mechanism for ensuring gender equality. Despite this, de facto Ukrainian society remains unbalanced on this issue. There are still manifestations of gender discrimination

That is why this problem is relevant. Uncertainty of gender priorities and postponing the issues resolution of gender inequality to the background provoke negative consequences for all spheres of public life. These and other scientific developments necessitate the study of legal regulation of equal rights and opportunities of women and men in Ukraine, which may be carried out by analyzing and classifying normative legal acts on the state provision of equal rights and opportunities for women and men in Ukrainian society. In the context of such a study, it will also be useful to identify ways to improve the legal framework for ensuring this process.

Equality of rights means empowering men and women with legally equal rights in all spheres of life and providing them with legal conditions for equal enjoyment of their rights. However, equality of rights does not mean the actual ability to enjoy the rights and freedoms of a person irrespective of sex. This becomes possible due to the equality of opportunities provided by the system of equal means of distribution of values, eliminates discrimination on the basis of sex, and avoids any possibility of negative influence on the vital functions and expression of a person [ 1, p.420 ].

As part of our study, the concept of gender equality should be considered. Modern democracy has proclaimed the principle of equality of all before the law. The legal principle of equality means the absence of any restrictions on the rights of individuals and civil liberties. The category of gender equality involves a plurality of components, namely: - Equality of rights. This means that men and women are legally entitled to the same rights. - Equality of opportunity. Legislation not only declares, but also guarantees equal conditions for equal distribution, the use of political, economic, social and cultural values that exclude discrimination and restrictions of any gender that negatively affect livelihoods and self-expression. - Ensuring equal conditions for the realization of rights and opportunities. - «Gender symmetry». Creating an appropriate environment for implementing the principle of equal rights and opportunities by representatives of both sexes in practice [2, p. 468-469].

Thus, gender equality means equal opportunities for self-realization of women and men, guarantees respect for rights and freedoms, taking into consideration the peculiarities of the articles, mutual responsibilities and shared responsibility in the process of life activity.

Compliance with the term «parity democracy», which is actively used in the Ukrainian socio-humanitarian analysis, is the term «gender democracy». «Gender democracy» implies the assertion of the equality of rights, freedoms, responsibilities, compliance and chances of men and women in the life of society, the state and the self-development of one's own person. «Parity democracy» is a political and legal form of organization of social-sexual relations in a society in which women and men have equal legal and political status and are equally represented and carry out activities in gender-balanced bodies of power and administrative structures» [3, p. 153 ].

The European vector of development of our state involves fulfilling the basic EU documents on creation of conditions for gender parity. The fact is that European integration, in the broad sense of the essence of this process, means adapting to the norms of European legislation, increasing the competitiveness of the domestic market economy, as well as reforming and developing political institutions able to ensure the full functioning of a social-legal democratic state on the basis of civil society, its constructive dialogue and cooperation with political-power structures. It is aimed at adapting Ukraine to the modern European system through its gradual entry into the relevant structures of the EU.

In addition to the above-mentioned documents, the European Union has adopted a number of legal acts in the field of gender equality. In particular, the EU Action Plan on Gender Issues for 2016-2020. It is based on several important principles: - ensuring the physical and psychological integrity of girls and women; - promotion of social and economic rights, empowerment of girls and women; - strengthening the voice of girls and women; - a change in the institutional culture to more effectively fulfill the European Union's commitments [4].

In order to comply with international standards and ensure equality of rights among all citizens, Ukraine has adopted a number of legal acts that prohibit any discrimination and promote equality. The development of gender legislation in Ukraine is taking place at a rather rapid pace. Today the legal base on gender equality is gradually being reduced to international standards. Taking into consideration all of the foregoing, we can conclude that gender equality contributes to the formation of a new, contemporary ideology of equality and includes the following components: gender equality is seen as an integral part of all policies, programs and projects; the achievement of gender equality requires recognizing that the specific interests of women and men must be taken into account when formulating policies, implementing programs and projects; achieving gender equality means that equal rights and opportunities must be ensured regardless of gender; women's access to decision-making at all levels is central to achieving gender equality.

To achieve gender equality is important to ensure equal participation of men and women as equal entities in economic, social and cultural processes. Gender equality can be achieved through partnerships between women and men based on the principles of parity democracy.

### References

1. Гаман, Т.В., Курига, Т.В. 2011. "Гендерна паритетність в місцевих органах виконавчої влади", Університетські науков в місцевих органах виконавчої влади", Університетські наукові записки 2 (38). С. 417-424.
2. Крочук, М.І. 2011. "Гендерна рівність як складова загального принципу права", Науковий вісник Львівського державного університету внутрішніх справ. Серія юридична 4. С. 466-471.
3. Кобилянська, Л. 2005. 50/50: сучасне гендерне мислення: словник. Київ.: Видавець К.І.С.
4. План дій ЄС з гендерних питань на 2016 – 2020 роки. URL: <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/public-gender/minisite-gender-action-plan-2016-2020>