

**Role of the VRU in the process of European integration of Ukraine.**  
**Basics of the negotiation process with the EU: practical aspects**

**Workshop**  
**20-21 September, 2024**

The purpose of the workshop is to enhance the capacity of members of the Ukrainian parliament in the negotiation processes critical for Ukraine's EU integration. By focusing on improving parliamentarians' understanding of the legislative process, this event aims to equip MPs with the tools needed to navigate the complexities of EU accession, particularly in areas like budgeting, legislative reform, and oversight. The workshop will be led by two experts from Serbia and Slovenia, who will share best practices based on their countries' accession experiences.

By strengthening the parliament's capacity to meet EU standards, this workshop contributes to ensuring that the VRU is well-prepared to manage pre-accession assistance and meet the rigorous requirements of EU membership. The event will also promote inter-institutional cooperation, helping MPs, VRU staff, and relevant stakeholders develop a unified approach to EU integration challenges.

The event is aimed at:

1. Enhancing Negotiation Skills for EU Integration in members of the Ukrainian parliament
2. Providing in-depth knowledge on aligning Ukrainian legislation with the EU acquis, focusing on legislative reforms, policy harmonization, and institutional adaptation.
3. Improving Capacity for Parliamentary Reform and Oversight.
4. Facilitating Peer Learning and Best Practice Exchange.

Experts:

**Primož Vehar** – Slovenia, former senior official in the Government Office for Legislation and former secretary of the EU Affairs Committee in the Parliament.

**Vladimir Medjak** – Serbia, former chief lawyer of the Serbian negotiating team.

**Iryna Domnenko** – Trainer, USAID Rada: Next Generation Program

## AGENDA

| Day 1         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| 13:30 - 14:00 | Registration and welcome coffee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 14:00 - 14:20 | <p>Opening of the worksop, welcome words, definition of expectations</p> <p><b>Oleksandr Kornienko</b>, First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (online)</p> <p><b>Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze</b>, Head of the Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Ukraine's EU Integration</p> <p><b>Mårten Ehnberg</b>, Chief of Party, USAID Rada Next Generation Program</p>                      |
| 14:20 - 15:30 | <p>Session 1 - EU institutions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- who is who in EU</li> <li>- who are we negotiating with</li> </ul> <p>Role of the Commission</p> <p>Role of the Council</p> <p>Role of the European Parliament</p>                                                                                                                                                                |
| 15:30 - 16:00 | Coffee break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 16:00 - 17:30 | <p>Session 2 - Steps in accession negotiations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What negotiations are all about – the principles</li> <li>- Steps during the EU accession negotiations</li> <li>- Intergovernmental conferences (IGCs') and EU Negotiation framework</li> <li>- The (new) Methodology of accession negotiations</li> <li>- Benchmarks – types, requirements, monitoring</li> </ul> |
| 17:30 - 18:00 | Summary of the day, discussion, questions and answers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 18:00 – 19:00 | Dinner                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

## Day 2

|               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| 08:00 - 09:30 | Breakfast                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 9:30 - 11:00  | <p>Session 3 – Documents in accession negotiations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Screening reports</li> <li>- Benchmarks – substance, Road maps</li> <li>- Negotiation positions of UA</li> <li>- Transitional arrangements</li> <li>- Role of the National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 11:00 - 11:15 | Coffee break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 11:15 - 12:45 | <p>Session 4 – Harmonization of legislation as a key requirement in the accession negotiations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is harmonisation all about</li> <li>- Types and levels of approximation</li> <li>- Methods of approximation (basic)</li> <li>- Practical tips “do’s” and “don’t’s”</li> </ul> <p>Session 5 – Parliament’s role before and after accession to EU</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Legislative role</li> <li>- Oversight role</li> <li>- Parliamentary diplomacy</li> </ul> <p>Post accession role of the Parliament of an EU member state</p> |
| 12:45 - 13:00 | Break                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 13:00 - 14:00 | <p>Session 6 – Constitutional challenges of the process of EU accession</p> <p>Possible Constitutional issues arising out of the EU accession and needs for changing the Constitution during the accession</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 14:00 - 14:15 | Summary of the day, discussion, questions and answers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 14:15 – 15:15 | Lunch                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 15:30         | Transfer to Kyiv                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |