



CENTER FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Center for Civil Liberties
Annual report
of activities for the year 2014

Kyiv, February 2015

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1. 1. Introduction

Before Euromaidan, we had been working in the field of human rights for many years. Alongside the team at the Center for Civil Liberties, we monitored political persecutions of civil society, attempted to halt batches of legislative drafts flooding our parliament aimed at restricting human rights, founded the public observation group "OZON" to oversee police actions at peaceful assemblies, and conducted numerous educational initiatives for youth. I remember distinctly in mid-2013 feeling that despite all our efforts, however earnest, we not only couldn't stop the erosion of rights and freedoms but couldn't even slow the pace of authoritarian regime construction.

On Saturday, November 30, 2013, we were scheduled to host an event for our partners from the regions to develop a campaign to eliminate the police database disguised under the uninteresting name "Unified State Demographic Register". However, when participants gathered and learned about the brutal beating of students that had occurred just a few hours earlier, any discussion of a seminar was immediately put aside. Everyone was dismayed; some suggested heading to Maidan Square, where people were already gathering. But we proposed considering how we, as human rights defenders, could help in this situation.

Frankly, we already had similar experiences, albeit in other countries. We assisted the persecuted after crackdowns in Belarus, monitored court proceedings in the Bolotnaya case, and participated in human rights missions after the events in Zhanaozen. Therefore, we quickly decided to create a mechanism that would connect those in need of legal assistance with those willing to provide it free of charge. Thus, early in the morning of November 30, 2013, Euromaidan SOS was born.

Later, we calculated that in just a few months of round-the-clock work, we had received around 16,000 calls, our databases contained information on thousands of victims, and several hundred lawyers were taking requests around the clock nationwide. All of this became possible because many people joined us, a significant portion of whom had no prior experience in civil work. But during this dramatic time, they did not remain indifferent, and with a conscious desire of "I want to help," they began to defend persecuted protesters.

The work of Euromaidan SOS was grounded in principles of self-organization, solidarity, and responsibility, which manifested practically through effective initiatives and a personal commitment to their implementation. This ethos drove the continual expansion of our efforts. When the police began abducting people from hospitals, we printed thousands of business cards with our hotline numbers and labeled them as "dentist," spreading the call through social media. Those who responded distributed these cards across all medical facilities in the capital.

Today, Euromaidan SOS continues its work in occupied Crimea and in the ATO zone. Naturally, Ukrainian lawyers cannot be sent there anymore. However, sooner or later, Russia's armed aggression will end, and we will restore state sovereignty over the occupied territories. The question will then arise not only about rebuilding

infrastructure but also about restoring people's faith in justice. To achieve this, it's crucial to meticulously gather evidence of war crimes and politically motivated persecutions. Moreover, a series of actions to protect human rights, especially for those left face-to-face with the occupier, must and can be taken at the international and national levels right now.

Oleksandra Matviychuk is the coordinator of Euromaidan SOS and the chair of the board of the Center for Civil Liberties.



1. **1. The Center for Civil Liberties (CCL)** - a Ukrainian human rights NGO founded in 2007 with the aim of promoting and advancing the concepts of human rights, democracy, and solidarity in Ukraine and the OSCE region, in order to recognize and preserve the values of human dignity.

CCL:

- Leading actor in the civil sector in Ukraine.
- Influences the formation of public opinion and state policy.
- Promotes civic activism in Ukraine.
- Participates in international networks and solidarity actions to advance human rights in the OSCE region.

Our values:

- Respect for human dignity
- Freedom and human rights
- Rule of law
- Democracy
- Solidarity
- Non-partisanship
- Non-discrimination

Platforms:**Ukrainian:**

- Human Rights Agenda
- Coalition against Discrimination
- Coalition of NGOs "For Peace and Justice in Donbas"
- "Diversity Initiative"
- Resource Center for Assistance to Forced Displaced Persons
- National Platform of the Eastern Partnership

International:

- International Platform "Civil Solidarity"
- International Coalition "Human Rights Initiative Group in Crimea"

Advisory:

- Expert Council under the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights
- Expert Council under the Committee on Human Rights
- Expert Council under the Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Public Council under the Security Service of Ukraine

3. Euromaidan Events. Establishment and work of the human rights initiative Euromaidan SOS.

On November 21, 2013, in response to the Ukrainian government's decision to suspend preparations for signing the Association Agreement with the European Union, the first protesters began gathering on Maidan Nezalezhnosti (Independence Square).

During the night of November 30, an illegal dispersal of a peaceful demonstration and beating of students occurred at Euromaidan. Following these events, the protest gained a nationwide scale. The confrontation between citizens and the authorities lasted for three months and was marked by law enforcement abuses, curtailing of freedoms, and attempts to establish dictatorship. The protests, which took the form of rallies, demonstrations, student strikes, and government crackdowns, escalated into open confrontation, eventually evolving into the Revolution of Dignity.

The final and most dramatic stage of the revolution unfolded in Kyiv on February 18-20, where more than a hundred protesters were killed and several thousand injured.

The extensive volunteer resistance became the defining response of civil society to the government's attempts to halt European integration and impose dictatorship. Ordinary people united in hundreds of grassroots initiatives to collectively oppose the government's unlawful decisions.



Creation and operation of the human rights initiative Euromaidan SOS.

Euromaidan SOS is a self-organized community of human rights defenders, activists, lawyers, journalists, and concerned individuals across Ukraine and beyond, coordinated by the Center for Civil Liberties.

Euromaidan SOS emerged in response to the illegal dispersal of peaceful demonstrations and the beating of students on Independence Square overnight from November 29 to November 30, 2013. The main goal of the Euromaidan SOS initiative was to provide prompt and comprehensive assistance to those affected during the Euromaidan protests, not only in Kyiv but also in regions across Ukraine. The initiative gathered and analyzed information to protect peaceful protesters, provided temporary assessments of the situation, offered legal support to the victims, acted as a liaison between Euromaidan participants and pro-bono lawyers, and distributed various forms of aid to those affected by human rights violations.

Throughout Euromaidan, the initiative operated around the clock to provide legal assistance to persecuted protesters. Through the Euromaidan SOS hotline, hundreds of cases of beatings, torture, illegal arrests, disappearances, and deaths of Euromaidan participants in Kyiv and the regions were documented. Following the annexation of Crimea and the armed conflict in Donbas, Euromaidan SOS also began documenting war crimes and human rights violations in these volatile areas.

The main focus of Euromaidan SOS's work includes:

- Physical injuries caused by law enforcement actions restricting the freedom of peaceful assemblies.
- Illegal detentions of participants in peaceful gatherings.
- Protection of participants in peaceful assemblies in case of criminal or administrative proceedings.
- Cases of missing persons.
- Unlawful actions by traffic police (DAI) against participants of AutoMaidan.
- Identification of deceased individuals and communication with their relatives to provide further assistance.
- Documentation of human rights violations in occupied territories.
- Countering fake news and dissemination of Russian propaganda.
- Cooperation with other Euromaidan initiatives..

Here is the translation of the provided text:

Forms of Work:

- Since November 30, 2013, a round-the-clock "hotline" operated by Euromaidan SOS has been providing assistance to victims of human rights violations, handling over 70,000 calls and inquiries. It provided various forms of assistance in 3,000 cases, and in others, it offered informational support and resolved issues related to resource allocation and self-organization of the Maidan.

- Social Networks: Euromaidan SOS used social media platforms for information exchange, real-time updates, coordination of aid, and consultation through private messages/instant messaging on social media websites.
 - Euromaidan SOS on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EvromaidanSOS>
 - 95,000 likes and up to 30,000 discussions on the page per day.
 - Euromaidan SOS on X (formerly known as Twitter): <https://twitter.com/sosmaydan>
 - 30,000 followers.
- Volunteers of Euromaidan SOS: The initiative primarily relied on volunteers and was coordinated by the Center for Civil Liberties. At various times, it involved around 200 volunteers who performed tasks related to the focus of Euromaidan SOS's work, ranging from organizing legal assistance to coordinating the search for missing persons.
- Lawyers of Euromaidan SOS: Since its inception, Euromaidan SOS has provided professional legal assistance through lawyers to various categories of victims of human rights violations.
- Mobile Groups: Groups of activists were deployed to the most challenging areas such as Crimea, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Luhansk, etc., for on-site monitoring and coordination of assistance.
- Monitoring of court proceedings and peaceful assemblies in partnership with the civil initiative OZON, also coordinated by the Center for Civil Liberties.
- International Advocacy: Euromaidan SOS actively participates in highlighting human rights violations in Ukraine at the Council of Europe, UN, EU, OSCE/ODIHR, and the International Criminal Court. Euromaidan SOS uses the results of its documentation of mass human rights violations to hold perpetrators accountable at national and international levels.

Later on, the initiative began working on documenting human rights violations in Crimea and Donbas, initiated the campaign for the release of Ukrainian political prisoners **"Let My People Go,"** advocated for the ratification of the Rome Statute, and established the Euromaidan SOS Volunteer Award.



Information products.

Report "The Price of Freedom"

The Center for Civil Liberties, the initiative group "Euromaidan SOS," and the Civil Observation Group "OZON" were among the main contributors to the report "The Price of Freedom." The Coalition of Civil Society Organizations and Initiatives worked on documenting, legally assessing, and presenting materials aimed at overcoming impunity for human rights violations and crimes committed during the events known as "Euromaidan." The work on the report was closely coordinated with the Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Human Rights and the Public Commission on Investigation and Prevention of Human Rights Violations in Ukraine.

The foundation of the report's text consisted of materials prepared by participants of the civil coalition and submitted for study to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC).

The report can be found at: <https://ccl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/hr-2015-7.pdf>

The film "20. Twenty Testimonies of the Breakthrough Day of the Confrontation on Maidan," depicting the events of the morning of February 20 on Instytutska Street, was created through joint efforts of Euromaidan SOS, Ukrlife.tv, the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union, and numerous witnesses of the events on Maidan who captured this dramatic moment on their mobile devices. Link to the film: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vs_4skLIqns

A separate website has been created for the film, where you can view the full version of testimonies from each of the heroes who verbally reconstructed the events of that morning on February 20, 2014: <https://20film.wixsite.com/20film>



Campaign for the Release of Ukrainian Political Prisoners in the Russian Federation.

The campaign "Let My People Go" was initiated by "Euromaidan SOS" to protect all Ukrainians imprisoned for political reasons in Russia and occupied Crimea. Its goal is to secure the release of all individuals on the list and ensure the fundamental rights of Kremlin hostages, including freedom from torture, the right to access legal counsel, and the provision of medical assistance. Among the numerous fabricated criminal cases and gross human rights violations in Russia, these cases stand out for their clear political motivation and targeting

of Ukrainian citizens. The occupation war Russia wages in Crimea and Donbas also has its informational dimension. Detainees are labeled as "terrorists," "punishers," "saboteurs," "bandits," and "spies" to shape an image of an external enemy. This unites such diverse individuals as Lviv student Yuriy Yatsenko, Luhansk scrap metal collector Serhiy Litvinov, Crimean Tatar and deputy chairman of the Mejlis Akhtem Chygoz, and Kyiv historian Stanislav Klykh.

The campaign strives to ensure these prisoners receive effective legal defense while recognizing that their release is only possible through a political decision at the highest level under international pressure. The campaign is supported by a number of organizations in Ukraine and abroad, including the Center for Civil Liberties, People in Need, the Open Dialog Foundation, Euromaidan Press, Euromaidan Warsaw, the Crimean Tatar Resource Center, Docudays UA documentary film festival, the Platform of Cultural Initiatives "Isolation," the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union, the Kharkiv Human Rights Group, the Committee of Solidarity, as well as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Parliament's Commissioner for Human Rights.

More about the campaign can be found on the Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/letmypeoplegoukraine>



*Action on the birthday of illegally imprisoned Russian Federation citizen Oleksandr Kolchenko, Kyiv, December 2014



* Representative of CCF speaks out against the detention of Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia.
August 19, 2014



* Advocacy trip to the place of detention of Ukrainian pilot Nadiya Savchenko (July 2014, Russia).



Александр Кольченко

антифашист и участник протестов против аннексии Крыма, был арестован и этапирован в Москву в мае 2014 года.

Он немotивированно обвиняется в принадлежности к "Правому сектору" и подготовке террористического акта.

День рождения Саши - 26-го ноября

и в наших силах хотя бы этот день сделать для него более радостным, дав ему возможность почувствовать нашу поддержку!

Что нужно сделать?



Разместить на своей странице в Facebook, Vkontakte или в Instagram картинку с видом Крыма (например из нашего альбома) и хештегом **#freekoltchenko**, и обязательно написать под картинкой свои пожелания!

Все открытки с этим тегом мы соберем, распечатаем и передадим Саше к 26-ому в Лефортово!

Так же можно отправить обычную открытку по адресу:

111020, Россия, Москва, Лефортовский Вал, дом 5, п/я 201, Кольченко Александру Александровичу, 1989 г.р.,

она дойдет приблизительно через 2 недели после отправки.

Ведь это так просто - подарить человеку с помощью открытки теплые слова, когда он больше всего в них нуждается!



* Representatives of EuroMaidan SOS at the screening of the film "Our Hope", October 2014, Kyiv.

EuroMaidan SOS Volunteer Award

On November 30, 2014, the EuroMaidan SOS initiative first honored volunteers who "shoulder the burden" of supporting state institutions to popularize and support the volunteer movement in Ukraine.

In 2014, volunteers were recognized in ten categories. Among them were:

- "Human of Light" nomination: Viktor Gurnyak, photojournalist, volunteer, who died while evacuating wounded comrades. Valeriy Postolovskyi, psychologist, volunteer of the Psychological Service of Maidan, who "burned out" at work and passed away from a heart attack a few months after the Maidan events.
- "For a Worthy Deed" nomination: Andriy Kozinchuk, who worked on reviving military psychology in the ATO zone. Solomiya Bobrovska, a volunteer who collected information during the days of mass shootings on February 18-20 for the identification of the deceased.
- "For Public Service" nomination: Iryna Soloshenko, a medical volunteer of Maidan, who spent a long time (virtually "lived") at the Central Military Hospital in Kyiv.

- "For Humanity" nomination: Olena Honcharova, one of the founders of the "Station Kharkiv" group, who daily cared for hundreds of people from the ATO zone.



4. Documenting Human Rights Violations.

Throughout 2014, the documentation team of CCL recorded evidence of human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine and occupied Crimea, resulting from Russia's military aggression against Ukraine, starting early that year. Mobile monitoring and information-gathering groups were deployed for documentation purposes.

Documenting human rights violations is one of the core focuses of CCL's work and includes the following objectives:

- Gathering data on cases of human rights violations in Eastern Ukraine and Crimea to form a database of evidence.
- Raising awareness in Ukraine and internationally about the human rights situation in Eastern Ukraine and Crimea.
- Developing monitoring methods for human rights violations considering the specific conditions of armed conflict in Ukraine.
- Organizing a community of professional monitors and documenters in the field of human rights.

- Addressing legislative gaps identified during the documentation of human rights violations. This involves developing recommendations for improving legislation at national and international levels and advocating for these changes.

- Establishing a database for submitting information on international crimes to the International Criminal Court.

Throughout its activities, Euromaidan SOS issued informational bulletins highlighting major events related to human rights issues, particularly during the initial invasion of Crimea and events in Donbas. Additionally, other actions were taken in this direction, such as training on crime documentation and support for international judicial proceedings. The training took place on July 14-15, 2014, in Kyiv, organized jointly with the International Partnership for Human Rights in cooperation with the Civil Solidarity Platform.

Round tables and other events were also held to address pressing issues. For example, the round table "Rebirth of Liberated Cities: Human Rights Issues and Ways to Address Them" took place on August 19, 2014, in Kyiv.

On December 29, 2014, with active participation from CCL, a memorandum was signed to create a coalition of civil society organizations and initiatives called "Justice for Peace in Donbas." The coalition aims to coordinate efforts for documenting and investigating crimes during the armed conflict in Donbas, holding perpetrators accountable, and providing assistance to victims of these crimes.

5. The work of the civic observation group "OZON".

The civic observation group "OZON" was established in February 2013 with the goal of improving the situation regarding the freedom of peaceful assembly through monitoring peaceful gatherings in Ukraine. However, the events from November 2013 to February 2014 during the Revolution of Dignity revealed significant problems and, in some cases, exacerbated them in the work of the judicial system, law enforcement agencies, and local government bodies in Ukraine.



* Observers from OZON during the events of Euromaidan, winter 2014, Kyiv.

Court monitoring.

The situation with access to fair justice worsened despite efforts to reform the judicial system over the years of independence, as did the situation regarding the observance of other human rights in 2012-2014. The situation with access to fair justice worsened during the citizen protest that lasted in Ukraine from November 2013 to February 2014. Numerous complaints about violations of basic principles of fair justice flooded social media, the media, and were constantly reported by victims, suspects, and lawyers to the hotline "EuromaidanSOS" (<https://www.facebook.com/EuromaidanSOS>). Together with "Euromaidan SOS," it was decided to organize monitoring of court proceedings (administrative and related to the choice of preventive measures) in cases related to the civil protest, its participants, and suppressors.

Public observers from "OZON" conducted monitoring of court sessions. After the adoption and application of the so-called "laws on amnesty," criminal prosecutions of activists whose cases were monitored by "OZON" in December 2013 - February 2014 were terminated. Instead, activists attempted to restore violated rights in courts. Court proceedings also continue against officials responsible for violations during the Revolution of Dignity (Euromaidan) and other socially significant judicial processes that highlight the continuation of systemic problems in the administration of justice, such as ensuring the right to a public trial, jurisdictional rules, and others.

Key violations identified during monitoring, as well as recommendations for addressing such violations in the future, are detailed in the report: Report on the results of monitoring court hearings of cases involving civic activists and participants of Euromaidan (December 2013 - February 2014).

<https://ccl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/zvit-za-rezultatami-monitoringu-sudovogo-rozglyadu-sprav-shhodo-gromadskih-aktivistiv-ta-uchasnikiv-yevromajdanu-gruden-2013-lyutij-2014r.r..pdf>



Forum "Public Control: Oxygen of Democracy"

In 2014, the Public Observation Group "OZON" expanded its activities into three directions: monitoring the judicial system, law enforcement agencies, and local self-government bodies in the context of ensuring fundamental human rights such as the right to a fair trial, freedom of peaceful assembly, and access to public information.

On September 6-7, a forum titled "Public Control: Oxygen of Democracy" took place in Kyiv. This forum provided a platform for communication and engagement of activists in three areas:

- Local government
- Law enforcement agencies
- Courts

During the two days of the forum "Public Control: Oxygen of Democracy," participants alongside experts developed a "roadmap" aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of the police, courts, and local authorities, outlining which monitoring tools to apply for this purpose. After the forum, all participants received tasks to engage with the activities of the Public Observation Group "OZON." As a result, "OZON" branches were established in regions such as Kyiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Odesa, Donetsk, Kharkiv, and Lviv regions, operating according to the developed strategic plan, which includes systematic monitoring in three directions: judicial activities, law enforcement activities, and local self-government.

In addition, in 2014, the public observation group "OZON" continued monitoring peaceful assemblies. Specifically, on July 3, 2014, in collaboration with the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and the expert from the NGO "Center for Research of Law Enforcement Activities," training was conducted on how to monitor the freedom of peaceful assembly. This training was part of the preparation for monitoring the Equality March.

Furthermore, a representative of the Public Observation Group "OZON" shared the results and methods of their work during events such as the launch of the BDIP Report on monitoring the freedom of peaceful assembly in selected OSCE participating states, and during a roundtable dedicated to monitoring the freedom of assembly held in Vienna on December 17-18, 2014. As a result, the experience of "OZON" will be utilized in the work of observers in other countries.

6. International advocacy and solidarity.

International advocacy

The Center for Civil Liberties systematically works on addressing human rights violations by participating in international platforms and regularly informing the structures of the Council of Europe, the United Nations, and the OSCE about the human rights situation in Ukraine.

Throughout 2014, CCL participated in such events with corresponding speeches.

In March 2014, Oleksandra Dylemenchuk and Oleksandra Novichkova, director and manager of international programs at CCL, met with U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry. During the meeting, emphasis was placed on issues concerning internally displaced persons, impunity for those responsible for the mass shootings on Maidan, and the importance of reforming the law enforcement system.

The Center for Civil Liberties participated in an additional session on the human dimension focusing on "Prevention of Torture" at the OSCE (April 2014, Vienna). A special panel was organized to discuss the human rights situation and torture in Ukraine, during which Oleksandra Novichkova and Valeriya Rybak spoke on behalf of CCL. Recommendations were articulated to the OSCE and national governments, including:

- Assistance with transparent and independent investigations into human rights violations during Euromaidan.
- Presence of OSCE missions in eastern regions of Ukraine to prevent and deter human rights violations.
- Calls to engage civil society and initiatives in negotiations with the Ukrainian government, and independent and unbiased coverage of events in Ukraine, particularly in Crimea.



* June 26th Session of the UN Human Rights Council (Geneva).

From **June 10 to June 27**, the 26th session of the UN Human Rights Council took place in Geneva. During this session, Ukrainian human rights defenders addressed the international community to draw attention to the situation in Ukraine. On June 16, 2014, a side event was attended by over 50 diplomatic representatives accredited to the Geneva-based UN bodies, including representatives from European countries, the United States, Turkey, and Russia. Olena Matviychuk, representing the Center for Civil Liberties (IIFC), voiced demands and recommendations of Ukrainian human rights defenders addressed to Ukraine, Russia, UN member states, and the UN Human Rights Council. These included:

- Facilitating the activities of the UN monitoring mission in Ukraine and ensuring unhindered access for the mission throughout the country, including Crimea.
- Providing international legal assistance to Ukraine for the investigation and accountability of individuals responsible for mass human rights violations in Ukraine since November 2013.
- Providing technical assistance to Ukraine in establishing "peace corridors" for the evacuation of civilians from the area of the anti-terrorist operation to neighboring regions of Ukraine, and disseminating information about these opportunities among the civilian population.
- Not relying solely on information provided by Russian media in drawing conclusions.

Representative of the CCL, Alisa Novichkova, spoke at the event "Maidan: Ukraine 2014," which took place within the framework of the conference "Political Space of Ukraine: Conflicts and Restructuring," held on June 26-27, 2014, in Lyon, France. She discussed the human rights situation in Ukraine.

A series of events were organized and conducted during the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (Warsaw, Poland). In particular, on September 23, a review of Ukraine's obligations regarding the freedom of peaceful assembly was organized.



* Speech by O. Matviychuk during the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting in Warsaw, September 23, 2014

On October 2nd, the CCL organized a side-event titled "Who is Discriminated in Ukraine? Myths, Realities, Issues, and Solutions." Employees of IJFC also participated as speakers in several events organized by colleagues from partner organizations and the platform "Civil Solidarity."

On October 23, 2014, in New York, Olexandra Matviychuk of the CCL participated in an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council regarding the situation in Ukraine. At this specially organized event, human rights advocates discussed the overall situation in Ukraine and the widespread human rights violations occurring in the occupied territories — Crimea and the Donetsk region controlled by terrorists.

SAVE THE DATE

SIDE - EVENT

HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS IN UKRAINE AND BELARUS

October 23rd 2014 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Hotel ONE UN New York, 1 United Nations Plaza

WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF

Michel Forst, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders

Miklós Haraszti, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the human rights situation in Belarus

Tatsiana Reviaka, Human Rights Centre "Viasna" and Barys Zvozkau Belarusian Human Rights House

Oleksandra Matviychuk, Centre for Civil Liberties and EuroMaidan SOS

Vadym Pyvovarov, Association of Ukrainian Human Rights Monitors on Law-Enforcement

Organised by the Human Rights House Foundation (HRRHF), in cooperation with the Barys Zvozkau Belarusian Human Rights House, the Human Rights House Kiev, and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH). With the financial support of MFA Norway, Swiss FDFA, UNDP Ukraine and the International Partnership for Human Rights.



On October 23, 2014, in New York, Oleksandra Matviychuk of the Center for Civil Liberties (Центр Громадянських Свобод) participated in an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council regarding the situation in Ukraine. At this specially organized event, human rights advocates discussed the overall situation in Ukraine and the widespread human rights violations occurring in the occupied territories —Crimea and the Donetsk region controlled by terrorists.



* Parallel conference of civil society organizations in the OSCE region, Basel (Switzerland), December 2-4, 2014

The conference resulted in international organizations being informed about the steps taken by civil society and expressing their support in various circumstances, as well as participating in the election of the OSCE leadership on human rights issues.



* The Center for Civil Liberties welcomes Amnesty International Ukraine, with whom it always gladly cooperates on addressing the most challenging human rights issues. Kiev, May 28, 2014

On December 11, 2014, an event dedicated to Ukraine and the investigation of the "Euromaidan cases" at the International Criminal Court took place at the UN Security Council chamber. Concurrently, the annual session of states parties to the International Criminal Court was held, attended by ICC leadership. Representatives of the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) spoke about the Euromaidan protests, the human casualties, repression, and the bloodshed that marked the signing of the Association Agreement by Ukrainians. They also emphasized the necessity of ratifying the Rome Statute to address impunity in Crimea and Donbas. This event was made possible through the efforts of FIDH - International Federation for Human Rights, Coalition for the International Criminal Court, International Partnership for Human Rights (IPHR), and other international partners.



* In October 2014, Oleksandra Matviychuk met with the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

Monitoring missions.

In 2014, CCL continued to conduct monitoring missions in regions of the Eastern Partnership countries. Specifically, missions took place in Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Kazakhstan (August 20-29, 2014) and Azerbaijan (May 26-29, 2014). Throughout these missions, monitoring was conducted on the observance of basic human rights in the region. Key findings were included in the report on the state of human rights defenders.

During these missions, information was gathered and documented concerning specific situations affecting human rights defenders in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Azerbaijan. Individual support was provided upon request, particularly in Azerbaijan.

In Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, roundtable discussions and film screenings were organized on the changing role of human rights defenders during crises in human rights, such as the Euromaidan and the "Tulip Revolution."

The situation concerning Azerbaijani human rights defenders attracted heightened international attention. Changes in legislation regarding non-governmental organizations (NGOs), grants, and taxes led to pressure on many well-known NGOs and paralyzed their activities. In response, CCL organized a fact-finding monitoring trip. Issues identified were discussed with representatives of NGOs and journalists from the participating countries during a roundtable meeting held on August 5 at the office of the Human Rights Center of Azerbaijan (HRCA), a partner of CCL in the International Platform "Civil Solidarity." Recommendations for the

human rights community and international structures were prepared based on the findings of the trip and the round table discussion.



*On August 7, 2014, a protest action took place outside the Embassy of the Republic of Azerbaijan in protest against the persecution and oppression of civil society in Azerbaijan.

On July 29, in Moldova, a conference titled "Safe Internet Access as a Tool for Protecting Human Rights" was organized in partnership with Promo-LEX and "Mothers for Human Rights" (Moldova). The conference addressed several topics, including the role of social media in promoting human rights in Moldova and the Transnistrian region, opportunities and challenges of investigative journalism, and the role of state bodies and institutions of the Republic of Moldova in advancing internet security in the country.

The initiatives are aimed at supporting human rights and civil society movements in the region.

Kyiv Information Center

Throughout 2014, the Kyiv Information Center continued its operations in Kyiv with the aim of gathering information and providing urgent support to human rights defenders in danger. The center actively participated in advocating for political prisoners from Azerbaijan during 2013-2014. It also facilitated the signing of postcards for Belarusian political prisoners in 2014. A campaign was conducted to support persecuted Kyrgyz NGOs and lawyers from the organization "Bir Duino-Kyrgyzstan" starting from November 2014. Additionally, an annual solidarity campaign took place on August 4, 2014, in support of civil society in Belarus.



International Human Rights School (Kyiv, late April 2014) for leaders, activists, volunteers of human rights and civil society organizations, educators, journalists, and government officials involved in human rights protection from Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Russia, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Organized by the Center for Civil Liberties as part of the International School of Human Rights and Civil Actions, a joint initiative of several human rights organizations, including the Moscow Helsinki Group, International Youth Human Rights Movement, Free University, Center for Civil Liberties, and others.



* International Human Rights School, Kyiv, April 27, 2014

Basic Course on Human Rights: On July 26-27, 2014, a two-day educational seminar on the fundamentals of human rights took place in Kyiv. The event was aimed at activists of civil society and youth interested in joining the human rights movement. Throughout the seminar, all necessary materials and tools for activism in the field of human rights were provided. The event was attended by 25 activists from Ukraine and Belarus.

Conference "Advancing Peace and Strengthening Human Rights Protection in Regions with Frozen Conflicts": Held from November 1-4, 2014, in Bakuriani, Georgia. The conference focused on enhancing protection and security mechanisms for activists and human rights defenders in the South Caucasus, as well as aspects of peacebuilding.

Training on Organizing Protection and Security for Human Rights Defenders and Civil Activists: Conducted on June 13-15, 2014. Organized by the NGO "Center for Civil Liberties," international organization "PACT," and the international fund "Front Line Defenders." The training aimed to promote skills and knowledge dissemination and provide additional tools to address personal and organizational security issues through training and educational materials.

Conference "What Divides Europe? Introducing Traditional Values and Fundamental Rights": Held from October 13-18, 2014, in Georgia. Prepared by the Center for Civil Liberties in collaboration with the Centre for Interethnic Cooperation & Consultations, Georgia School Students Unions Alliance, World of Tolerance, Youth Center Jajce · FEMYSO, Minority Rights Group Europe, UNITED for Intercultural Action. Approximately 70 people participated in the conference. During the event, they deliberated on the importance of human identity, methods to break down barriers of distrust among people, fundamental human rights and "traditional values," successful practices of coexistence among social groups with different worldviews, tools to counteract xenophobia, and also developed information campaigns for International Day against Fascism and Antisemitism, European Week of Action against Racism, and International Refugee Day



*October 13-18, Georgia: Conference "What Divides Europe? Introducing Traditional Values and Fundamental Rights."

Organization of special events for local communities regarding the human rights situation in Ukraine and the region, including the annexation of Crimea, the war in Donbas, and other crises in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Turkmenistan, etc. These events involved video presentations and roundtable discussions. (Vienna, January 19-21; Prague, February 19-21; Geneva, March 7-12, 2014.)



*Training on human rights and civic interests protection featuring an expert from the Council of Europe and a prominent Russian human rights defender, Andrey Yurov. Representatives from four countries were present: Ukraine, Moldova, Russia, and Belarus. Kyiv, July 26-27, 2014.

On August 4, 2014, CCL organized a support action for civil society in Belarus near the place of Mikhail Zhyzneuski's death in Kyiv. Activists laid flowers, lit candles, and remembered the political prisoners who are still held in Belarusian prisons..

7. Education in human rights and non-discrimination

The Center for Civil Liberties has chosen an educational mission as one of the most important in its activities since its establishment. The Center aims to contribute to the development of a civil society where every member is a full-fledged, active, and informed citizen. The Center also works to expand the human rights community by involving volunteers in its activities and promoting civic activism through civil education tools.

One of the important directions is combating discrimination in Ukraine. In 2014, with our participation, the following events took place:

Round table "Protection from Discrimination in Ukraine: LGBT in the Legal Field", July 3, Kyiv. The event is dedicated to discussing legal mechanisms for protecting lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender people from discrimination. Organized jointly with "Gay Alliance Ukraine" and the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights.

Human Rights School "Human Rights in Defense of the LGBT Community", July 2-6, Kyiv. The school was held with the support of the Norwegian Helsinki Committee. Human rights training took place within the framework of the international LGBT forum-festival "KyivPride2014". The event was attended by 23 individuals, including representatives of the LGBT community and other concerned individuals who recognize the necessity of advocating for equality for all. Additionally, on July 3, ahead of Kyiv Pride 2014, training for peaceful assembly monitors was conducted.

On September 9-10, 2014, the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) organized the All-Ukrainian Forum: "Compass: New Directions and Tasks of Human Rights Education Involving Youth in Ukraine". The event was attended by over 80 participants, including representatives of youth organizations and international institutes.

As part of the forum, the Ukrainian-language edition of the "Compass" manual (a human rights education guide involving youth) was presented. It includes theoretical material on education in the field of human rights and practical exercises adapted for use without additional resources, addressing current challenges.



*September 9, Kyiv. All-Ukrainian Forum: "Compass: New Directions and Tasks of Human Rights Education Involving Youth in Ukraine"

September 14-15 (Lviv): Training on "Planning and Organizing Educational Events Considering the Needs of Target Audiences". Participants in the training included educators, advocates, and individuals planning to engage in human rights education.



*On September 14th in Lviv, participants attended the training "Planning and Organizing Educational Events Considering the Needs of Target Audiences".

On November 9-10 in Odesa, there was a training titled "Speak So I Can See You: Ways to Effectively Convey Information About Discrimination." Participants included civil activists and activists working on equality and non-discrimination issues, as well as representatives from socially vulnerable groups.



*November 9-10, Odessa: Training "Speak Up to Be Seen: Effective Ways to Communicate Information about Discrimination."

Additionally, on September 28, 2014, the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL), in collaboration with the Center for Civil Education "Almenda," organized a training session titled "Human Rights and Countering Aggressive Propaganda." The aim of the training was to provide basic information about human rights values and critical thinking skills when dealing with contemporary information.

8. Monitoring legislation and supporting reform implementation.

In 2014, the Center for Civil Liberties (ЦЛГ) continued its work in monitoring legislation in the field of human rights, which it had started in 2013. The events of the Maidan created a "window of opportunity" to bring systemic changes to human rights legislation. This also led to another significant area of activity - reforms.

To consolidate efforts with other organizations, the coalition of human rights organizations "Human Rights Agenda" was established, which also joined the human rights group of the Reanimation Package of Reforms.

The focus in 2014 was on:

- Amending the Constitution of Ukraine and ratifying the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court
- Adoption of legislation regulating the life and status of internally displaced persons in Ukraine
- Reform of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVS)
- Development of the National Human Rights Strategy
- Other legislative initiatives related to the protection of human rights and freedoms



* Kyiv, July 4, 2014. Press conference on the need to repeal the law on the Unified State Demographic Register



* Working meeting of the "Human Rights Agenda" platform

Campaign for the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

It is known that Ukraine signed the Rome Statute but did not ratify it due to a decision by the Constitutional Court initiated by Leonid Kuchma. Following the events of the Maidan, Ukraine appealed to the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate crimes against humanity committed from November 2013 to February 2014. Recognizing the importance of ratifying the Rome Statute, it became a priority for the Verkhovna Rada. Therefore, immediately after the end of the Revolution of Dignity, the Center for Civil Liberties (ЦЛГ) and EuroMaidan SOS, together with the human rights coalition PPD, launched an advocacy campaign.

In collaboration with MP Y. Derevyanko, draft law 4873 was developed and registered, which would allow Ukraine to ratify the Rome Statute on May 14, 2014. On June 14, 2014, a press briefing was held dedicated to the international investigation of crimes against protesters in Ukraine from November 21, 2013, to February 22, 2014. Among the participants were founders of the International Criminal Court and the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH).



On June 19, a press briefing was held in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine where singer Ruslana, Yuriy Derevyanko, Oleksandr Doniy, and Irina Muhina from the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) called for support of draft law 4873. Draft law 4873 is a necessary step to unlock the possibility of ratifying the Rome Statute in Ukraine, supported by 199 Members of Parliament. Additionally, parliamentary statement draft 4081a was registered, urging the International Criminal Court to extend its jurisdiction to Ukraine until the Rome Statute is ratified. This would enable the ICC to investigate crimes committed during the occupation of Crimea and the destabilization of the situation in Eastern Ukraine.

Despite these efforts, the agenda of the Verkhovna Rada from July 1-4 did not include the Rome Statute. In response, the Center for Civil Liberties, in partnership with PPD, organized a "fax storm" and Twitter storm. The Twitter storm aimed to garner support for the ratification of the International Criminal Court's Rome Statute. Twitter users posted messages with a common hashtag, tagging Members of Parliament who had not yet expressed their intention to ratify the international treaty. Activists also sent faxes to the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, Oleksandr Turchynov, urging him to include draft law 4873 on the agenda.



* Protest action at the doors of the parliamentary committees demanding the inclusion of a bill enabling the ratification of the Rome Statute into the agenda of the Verkhovna Rada session.

To achieve the goal of ratifying the Rome Statute, the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) secured the support of several international organizations. Throughout 2014, with the assistance of CCL, Ukraine was visited by a number of international organizations, including a special delegation from the International Criminal Court (ICC), which aimed to investigate the circumstances of mass crimes during the EuroMaidan protests.



* In the photo are Alex Prezanti, an expert from FIDH (International Federation for Human Rights), Oleksandra Matviychuk, coordinator of EuroMaidan SOS, lawyer Pavlo Dykan, and Liana Moroz, an expert from the International Renaissance Foundation. A special editorial group, supported by experts from FIDH, prepared the second submission to the ICC based on materials from various human rights organizations in Ukraine that collaborated to work with the ICC. Thanks to the efforts of these human rights organizations, the ICC prosecutor conducted an initial analysis of the situation long before any response from state authorities to his inquiry.

Campaign for the adoption of a bill on the protection of the rights of internally displaced persons in Ukraine.

Unfortunately, Ukraine struggled for over half a year without legislative resolution on the issue of internally displaced persons (IDPs). A bill, 4889-1, registered in parliament did not address the IDP issues. In response, organizations within the PPD platform, together with UNHCR and OSCE, initiated a bill genuinely aimed at protecting the rights and interests of IDPs. This bill, registered as №4490a-1 on August 28, 2014, received advocacy support and successfully passed. Despite significant resistance from the government, the bill was adopted by parliament on October 20, 2014, signed by the President of Ukraine, and came into effect.



*On October 6, 2014, a press conference was held to emphasize the importance of adopting a bill concerning the rights and responsibilities of internally displaced persons (IDPs).



*On October 7, 2014, there was a protest outside the parliament urging the necessity of adopting a bill for the protection of the rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs).

The reform of law enforcement agencies in Ukraine

The reform of law enforcement agencies is critical for Ukraine, where only 0.8% of citizens trust the police following the Euromaidan events. In 2013, the Ministry of Internal Affairs received approximately 195,000 complaints about unlawful actions by law enforcement officers.

The structure of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA) remains disproportionately large and inefficient, with very unsatisfactory working conditions for personnel. The MIA also maintains a non-transparent policy and a closed attitude towards the public. The police in Ukraine operate with a militarized model of behavior and require reform.

In 2014, a concept for reforming the internal affairs agencies of Ukraine was adopted, developed with active participation from experts of the Civil Oversight Platform. Experts from the Kharkiv Human Rights Group and the Center for Research on Law Enforcement Activities developed a strategy for the development of internal affairs agencies, which was approved by the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Development of a national human rights strategy.

By Presidential Decree № 811/2014 dated October 15, 2014, the development of the National Human Rights Strategy was announced in Ukraine. Representatives of the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) and the PPD actively participated in the strategy's development at the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, alongside representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Advisory Council at the Ministry of Justice, and international organizations.

Working subgroups, which included representatives from the PPD, focused on the following areas:

- Civil liberties and political rights;
- Social and economic rights;
- Vulnerable groups;
- Personal rights;
- Criminal justice;
- Right to fair trial: restoring trust in the judicial branch.

The draft strategy developed by these working groups formed the basis for the future National Human Rights Strategy.

Other issues that representatives of CCL worked on.

Additionally, CCL, together with a monitoring group that includes representatives of other human rights organizations, conducted monitoring and prepared a report on "The Effectiveness of the Secretariat of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. 2013."

EuroMaidan SOS prepared 7 QUESTIONS TO THE NEW PRESIDENT following Petro Poroshenko's election as President of Ukraine. "Human rights were essentially the main demand of the Maidan. This principle should become the basis for changes in the country. Any new reform idea or bill should be compared to it like a tuning fork," says Olesia Zhukovska, a medic from Maidan. "At this stage, the new president must guarantee our rights and freedoms, and most importantly, do everything to ensure that we have them not just on paper. It should start with holding accountable those responsible for the crimes committed during the Maidan."

мої 7

ЗАПИТАНЬ НОВОМУ ГАРАНТУ



Міліція на мітингах
НЕ розганяла
студентів



Журналістів НЕ били
за професійну
діяльність

Я ВИСТОЯВ
НА МАЙДАНІ,
ЩОБ...



Мене НЕ пересліду-
вали за активну
позицію



"Правоохоронному
беспределу" НЕ було
місця



Суди НЕ виконували
політичні замовлення



ПРЕЗИДЕНТЕ,
ЧИ ГАРАНТУЄТЕ
ВИ МЕНІ...

- СВОБОДУ СЛОВА?
- СВОБОДУ МИРНИХ ЗІБРАНЬ ТА ОБ'ЄДНАНЬ?
- СВОБОДУ ВІД ПОЛІТИЧНИХ ПЕРЕСЛІДУВАНЬ?
- ПРАВО НА ПРИВАТНІСТЬ?
- СВОБОДУ ВІД ТОРТУР?
- ПРАВО НА СПРАВЕДЛИВИЙ СУД?
- ЗАХИСТ ВІД ДИСКРИМІНАЦІЇ?

ЄВРОМАЙДАН SOS

ГРУПА З ПРАВ ЛЮДИНИ

Реанімаційний
пакет реформ

The team of the Center for Civil Liberties

The head of the organization is Oleksandra Matviychuk.



Coordinators of directions and projects:



Nazarii Boyarsky



Oleksandra Delemenchuk



Ksenia Shymanska



Valeriya Rybak



Oleksandra Romantsova



Maria Ivanik



Irina Mukhina



Maria Tomak



Novichkova Oleksandra-Alisa



Liubov Honcharova

CENTRAL STATE BUDGET FOR 2014 (IN HRYVNIAS)	
INCOME (GRANTS AND DONATIONS BY SOURCES)	
European Commission	466 536
European Endowment for Democracy	550 057
Council of Europe	126 448
National Endowment for Democracy	337 582
UNDP Ukraine	322 185
International Renaissance Foundation	325 000
Freedom House	220 059
People in Need	23 417
Netherlands Helsinki Committee	78 580
Norwegian Helsinki Committee	110 011
Front Line Defenders	150 055
Pact (USAID)	188 523
MATRA (Netherland MFA)	408 000
TOTAL INCOME	3 306 453
Expenses	
Business trips for employees and volunteers	444 652
Conferences, seminars, and other events	2 082 319
Communication products (websites, social media, videos, design, visualization)	438 790
Fees for experts, trainers, authors, and researchers	388 377
Publications	122 633
Translations	134 748
Subgrants and direct aid	595 364
Summary of direct expenses	4 206 883
Personnel (salaries, taxes, deductions)	2 959 162
Administrative expenses (rent, office expenses, communication, banking services, etc)	770 970
Equipment	75 991
Other expenses (audit, consulting, development, membership)	121 089
Summary of other expenses	3 927 212
TOTAL EXPENSES	8 134 095