

WHY DO CITIZENS NEED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW ?¹

Administrative law regulates relations between citizens and executive authorities (local self-government bodies). Citizens are constantly facing administrative law, not even paying attention to it.

While traveling on any form of transport, applying for an administrative service, obtaining education or moving on the sidewalks of the city – you are explicitly or potentially interacting with the authorities and adhering to certain rules that are established by the norms of administrative law.

Examples:

☀ *the driver and other road users must respect the traffic rules, which are a form of administrative law;*

☀ *in administrative service center, individuals register their permanent residence;*

☀ *in accordance with the rules of administrative law, the person may be imposed with administrative sanctions in the form of fines for the late declaration submission.*

It is difficult to find a situation in which a citizen would not be faced with administrative law.

The main tasks of administrative law are to ensure the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of citizens, as well as the public interest of the state and society as a whole.

The Constitution of Ukraine provides for the rights and freedoms of citizens whose protection falls on the shoulders of public administration. Every day, thousands of officials from the Prime Minister to the village head and the police officer are engaged in such activities.

In accordance with principles of the rule of law, public administration bodies must ensure the protection of the rights and freedoms of citizens. After all, a citizen is a client, and a government is a service, which has only three main tasks: 1) help when it is needed; 2) do not interfere if not required; 3) distinguish first from the second.

However, officials are inclined to abuse power (corruption), work for their own or their leaders' interest.

Accordingly, citizens should know their constitutional rights and fight for them, since any government is prone to abuse.

In general, administrative law enables citizens to:

- 1) receive administrative services;
- 2) stay safe while being in public;
- 3) move in reliable transport;
- 4) safely work, study and rest;
- 5) freely travel outside Ukraine and turn back;
- 6) engage in business and public activity;
- 7) receive protection and assistance from the state (local self-government bodies);

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8) in case of violation of rights, freedoms or legitimate interests, lodge a complaint to the administrative bodies or a claim of restitution to the administrative court and demand restoration through a legitimate public protest: holding pickets, rallies, demonstrations, and organizing the "Maidan".

Therefore, knowledge of administrative law enables citizens to obtain administrative services, control public administration for it to serve faithfully, protect violated rights, freedoms and legitimate interests by way of complaints to the administrative bodies, motions to the administrative courts or by holding public protest.



Knowledge of administrative law is a kind of legal umbrella that enables citizens to receive assistance (protection) from public administration bodies.

KEY MESSAGES PROMOTED BY PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYI ON THE REFORM OF UKRAINE FOR THE WELL-BEING OF CITIZENS ²

One of the positive features of our president is that he says little. However, when it comes to speaking, he does it briefly and clearly. In support of this claim, on July 3, 2019, while in Canada, he delivered a speech: "A citizen is a client, a government is a service" in which he disclosed main activities of his team. Here are some key messages of his speech:

**The highest value is a person. A man is above all !
Not "a man for the state". But "the state for a man" !
A citizen is a client, a government is a service .**

The government has only three main tasks:

- 1) help when it is needed;*
- 2) do not interfere if not required;*
- 3) distinguish first from the second..*

The Head of State called the key tasks:

- 1) the victory over corruption and the creation of independent courts;
- 2) the digitalization of processes;
- 3) implementation of "A state in a smartphone";
- 4) overcoming monopolies, fighting raids and smuggling;
- 5) protection of property rights;
- 6) improvement of the country's credit rating and large-scale investment attraction.

The aim is to improve the living standards of Ukrainian citizens.

Although there is nothing new in the outlined priorities of reforms in terms of the philosophy of law and the theory of modern administrative law. We have repeatedly shared these ideas on our website. However, how fair and considered it is in a concise format! Undoubtedly, our president shares these values, and from our point of view, he is determined to put them into practice.

² A citizen is a client, a government is a service. President in Canada outlined the priorities of reforms in Ukraine. <https://www.president.gov.ua/news/gromadyanin-kliiyent-vlada-servis-prezident-u-kanadi-nazvav-p-56169>;

Nobody expected this after the elections - Zelensky's speech amazed everyone!
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-O_Ick8hKtI