

REGULATORY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN UKRAINE: DEVELOPMENT AND HARMONIZATION WITH EU DIRECTIVES

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Abstract. *The article analyzes the development of the regulatory and legal framework for public procurement in Ukraine. The legislation of Ukraine on the regulation of public procurement at different stages of development is characterized. The article examines innovations in legislative acts and their impact on the transparency and efficiency of public procurement. Particular attention is paid to the need to adapt and harmonize Ukrainian legislation in the field of public procurement with the relevant European Union Directives.*

Keywords: *public procurement, procurement procedures, centralized purchasing organizations, ProZorro electronic system, tender documentation*

The article analyzes the development of the regulatory and legal framework for public procurement in Ukraine. The legislation of Ukraine on the regulation of public procurement at different stages of development is characterized. The article examines innovations in legislative acts and their impact on the transparency and efficiency of public procurement. Particular attention is paid to the need to adapt and harmonize Ukrainian legislation in the field of public procurement with the relevant European Union Directives.

The sphere of public procurement has gone through a considerable path of formation, transformation and development. However, despite the successes achieved, the public procurement system in Ukraine still faces a number of problems and challenges that require further scientific understanding and finding ways to solve them.

Since 2015, Ukraine has been undergoing a public procurement reform, as well as a phased alignment of Ukrainian legislation with the European Union *acquis* in order to implement the Association Agreement between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States, on the other hand.

The goal of public procurement reform is to increase the transparency, competitiveness, and professionalism of procurement, as well as to gradually bring Ukraine's public procurement system into line with European Union standards.

The strategic objectives of the public procurement reform are:

– harmonization of Ukrainian legislation in the field of public procurement with the

relevant requirements of EU directives and the WTO Agreement on Government Procurement;

- creation and development of an electronic procurement system taking into account EU requirements and standards, best international practices;
- development of a system of professional training for public procurement specialists and professionalization in the field of public procurement;
- international cooperation in the field of public procurement and improving the image of Ukraine in the international arena as a state with a modern public procurement system.

In 2016, the Law of Ukraine “On Public Procurement” was adopted, which ensured the beginning of the transfer of procurement in Ukraine to an electronic format through the electronic procurement system Prozorro. The introduction of electronic procurement contributed to increasing the transparency of the procurement process and expanded the opportunities for businesses to participate in public procurement.

With the introduction of martial law in Ukraine, the regulatory and legal framework of public procurement is also undergoing changes. 2024 became a vivid example that even in the conditions of a grueling war, Ukraine is able to effectively carry out public procurement reform. And it is this reform that paves the way for Ukraine to integrate with Europe.

The priority for the coming years should be the continuation of the procurement reform, further harmonization of procurement legislation, public-private partnerships and concessions with the EU acquis, improvement of monitoring, control and procurement oversight mechanisms, which will contribute to the formation of a sustainable and effective public procurement system in Ukraine. Improving the legal framework of the public procurement system should be based on two fundamental prerequisites - compliance with EU law and best procurement practices taking into account the needs of the country's reconstruction.

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