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Political party

THE SELF-GOVERNING STATE OF UKRAINE

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**Our ref. № 01-16\03-2020**

**Of March 16, 2020**

**British Ambassador to Ukraine**

**Ms. Melinda Simmons**

## PETITION

**Dear Madam Ambassador,**

**We, the citizens of Ukraine, the members of the political party “THE SELF-GOVERNING STATE OF UKRAINE” DECLARE herewith the mass infringement of the constitutional rights of the citizens in progress now in Ukraine, narrowing the democracy and, contrary to the Constitution of Ukraine stipulating the right of every citizen for free participation in elections to the legislative bodies of state and local government (Article 36 of the Constitution of Ukraine states: ... Citizens of Ukraine have right to gather freely in political parties to enjoy and protect their rights and freedoms, and to fulfill their political, economic, social, cultural, and other interests except for restrictions imposed by laws in favor of national security and public order, healthcare, or protection of rights and freedoms of people;**

- Political parties in Ukraine promote the formation and expression of the citizens' political will, take part in elections.). Nowadays, revolting is the fact of trying not only to deny the access of public non-parliament parties to the election process but also to apply a very doubtful provision of the article 24 of the said law, to destroy them completely by terminating their registration;

We, the political party “THE SELF-GOVERNING STATE OF UKRAINE” DECLARE herewith our vigorous protest against the actions of the newly-elected Ukrainian government and consider these actions to lead to **the complete demolition of competition in politics** and to be the direct threat to the democracy in Ukraine, an unvarnished infringement of our constitutional rights.

In January 2020, the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine started the process of the mass liquidation of non-parliament parties. Under the pressure of the Ministry of Justice, there are 45 people parties. Inter alia, the lawsuits were filed against the party “THE SELF-GOVERNING STATE OF UKRAINE” on annulation of its certificate of registration.

Having studied the content of the lawsuit by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine, we consider it as unsubstantiated, and the arguments provided therein as contradictive and incompliant with the state of the case and not constitutional concerning the following:

The provision of the Article 24, in its part on a party's failure to suggest its candidate for the elections of the President of Ukraine and the public deputies of Ukraine during ten



years, does not comply with articles 36, 37 of the Constitution of Ukraine and articles 1, 3, 5, 12 of the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties in Ukraine", and is discriminative.

We would like also to pay your attention to article 49 of the Law of Ukraine "On Monetary Deposits". We consider the rule on the size of the deposit for participation in elections as ANTICONSTITUTIONAL, as it equals two million five hundred thousand UAH (90 000\$) for president and over four million one hundred thousand UAH for parliament election. Such amounts are unsustainable for people's parties to discriminate against them and make it impossible for them to take part in the competition.

It's worth comparing the deposits in Ukraine and other European countries. Thus, a candidate for the title of Federal President of Austria pays a deposit of 4 070\$, a potential President of France pays 2000€, while Georgia and Poland do not have a monetary deposit at all. In turn, the candidates have to collect the votes of their fellow citizens. In such a manner, people, not money resolve on the presence of a politician in voting lists.

Why in Ukraine the deposits are higher than in our neighbors? Why from year to year elected become oligarchs, for whom the title is a next way of enriching themselves? Isn't it direct discrimination of those who could represent people? Is it fair to liquidate a working party due to the lack of financing?

All demands listed above are direct infringement to article 36 of the Constitution of Ukraine. These anticonstitutional acts lead to the liquidation of our party, and later it shall result in complete demolishing of all people's parties and to grabbing power in Ukraine.

Considering the mentioned above, we ask to appeal to the President of Ukraine as a Guarantor of Constitution of Ukraine, the deputies of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine with a letter of demand as follows:

1. To revise part 1 of article 24 of the Law of Ukraine "On Political Parties of Ukraine" and to remove the anticonstitutional provision of liquidation of a party "due to failure to suggest its candidate for the elections of the President of Ukraine and the public deputies of Ukraine during ten years";
2. To suspend the liquidation of extra-parliament parties and termination of registration thereof, until amending the laws properly;
3. To promote the reduction of the amount of the deposits due from political parties for the elections of all levels.

**Chairperson of the political party**  
**"THE SELF-GOVERNING STATE OF UKRAINE"**



**Viktor Bychykhin**