



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT  
Directorate F – Green Diplomacy & Multilateralism  
ENV.F.2 – Regional & Bilateral Environmental Cooperation

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Dear Mr Gavrilyuk, dear Ms Malkova,

On behalf of President von der Leyen I would like to thank you for your letter of 21 June in which you raise the important issue of transposing and implementing the EU environmental acquis in Ukraine, in particular in the light of the acknowledgment of Ukrainian aspirations to join the European Union by granting Ukraine a candidate status.

We attach great importance to environmental reforms in Ukraine. Moreover, that environmental governance issues are linked to the overall pace of crucial reforms in the area of rule of law and fight against corruption

The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement of 2014 remains the main platform for cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union. Within this political and economic association, Ukraine committed to approximate its legislation and standards in all areas to these of the European Union. The EU, in turn, committed to assist Ukraine in this endeavour. Ukraine has been supported by large-scale financial and technical assistance provided by the EU and other multilateral and bilateral partners.

The EU-Ukraine Association Agreement strengthened cooperation in a number of sectors, including environment. Implementation of Chapter 30 on Environment, where the main legal acts of a horizontal nature and those on waste, water, nature, industrial emissions and air quality are listed, is crucial to meet enlargement criteria in the field of environment.

One of the most essential issues is the environmental rule of law, which is indispensable for effective implementation and enforcement of environmental legislation. Here, continued and systemic efforts will be needed to ensure implementation and enforcement of environmental legislation. Development of the administrative capacity to implement and ensure irreversibility of reforms is needed, as well as launching of further key reforms.

I agree that strengthening of Ukraine's efforts to implement the Association Agreement in the field of environment are needed. Accelerated adoption by Ukraine of legislation in the field of environment and climate, notably in key areas, such as nature protection, waste management, including prevention of waste, air quality, and the reduction of industrial and greenhouse gasses emissions (including emissions trading system), and increased capacity for implementation and enforcement of environmental and climate legislation will be crucial to progress

Ukrainian civil society has a key role to play in the process of bringing Ukraine closer to the European Union. I would like to thank you for all the endeavours that you make in this regard.

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

Davor PERCAN  
Head of Unit