

Flash Report

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Judicial Reform in Ukraine



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The Ukrainian Parliament passed legislation to reform the judicial system in Ukraine

On 2nd June 2016 the Ukrainian Parliament adopted a new law designed to reform the Judicial System and modify the status of judges (hereinafter – “the Law”) The Parliament also passed relevant amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine.

The new Law and amendments to the Constitution introduce the following changes:

- elimination of the highest courts (i.e. court of the third instances);
- establishment of the Highest Court on Intellectual Property Issues and the Highest Special Anti-Corruption Court;
- changes to the Supreme Court of Ukraine that will consist of the Large Chamber, Administrative Court of Cassation, Commercial Court of Cassation, Civil Court of Cassation and Criminal Court of Cassation;
- only licensed attorneys will be able to represent private individuals and legal entities in court (starting from 1 January 2017 in the Supreme Court and Courts of Cassation, from 1 January 2018 – in Courts of Appeal, from 1 January 2019 – in Courts of first instance).

The legislation is yet to be signed by the President of Ukraine. It will come into effect the day following the day of its publication but not before the constitutional amendments become effective (within 3 months after publication).

**Bill No 4734 dated 30 May, 2016*