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## **UKRAINIAN LANGUAGE IN THE FORMATION OF SOVEREIGN STATE**

Language problem, which has not yet been solved in Ukraine, around which different political circles conduct sharp disputes, is one of the factors influencing the success of a state formation. The representatives of one party prefer bilingualism, referring to the experience of many Western countries, which implement similar decisions, and appeal to the language problem aside the legitimization of bilingualism. Switzerland, together with official retro Romanesque language, uses German, French and Italian; in Canada official are French and English languages; or Belgium, with its three official languages – French, German and Dutch, are the examples of the approach to the solution of the language problem. Opposition sympathizers insist on the use of only one official language in the state – Ukrainian, which serves as the foundation for the mentality, national character, national consciousness, spirituality and culture. The history of the nation, land, national idea, unity and sovereignty, destiny of the people and the way to the future follow them. This situation presents two opposing positions, each possessing a weighty argument. However, according to the experience of humankind for the millennia, the language brings people together and strengthens the nation-state. The nation disappears when the language declines. Both the nation and the state become stronger and more developed when the language becomes authoritative, perspective, necessary, when national elite speaks it. The language is exposed to injury without its nation-state. The state loses essential features of sovereignty – cultural, informational, and fundamentally ideological. Today, even powerful English-speaking countries care of their language sovereignty.

According to Article 10 of the Constitution of our country, Ukrainian is the state language in Ukraine. The state provides comprehensive development and functioning of the Ukrainian language in all spheres of social life throughout the country. In Ukraine, the Constitution and the law guarantees free development and protection of other minority nations and their languages. The state promotes learning of the languages of international communication.

Thus, it is worth noting that Ukrainian as a state language is required as a means of communication throughout the country. It is especially important for the implementation of the powers by state and local authorities, and in other spheres of public life. The language of instruction in preschool, secondary, vocational and higher educational institutions of Ukraine is mostly Ukrainian. However, analyzing the current linguistic situation in the country, we can conclude that Ukrainian language has not received proper distribution in all spheres of public life as a state language of the nation-state. It is evident that the

way to real consolidation of Ukrainian language in the society as a state language was not effective. Nowadays we can observe the process of narrowing its scope. This leads to social tension in the society, secessionist sentiments, and conflicts with the interests of national security of Ukraine. Today in Ukraine, it is possible to take any position including the state one, without any knowledge of the state language. Moreover, neither an offender of the Constitution, nor a functionary has been dismissed from his employment for the ignorance of the state language. Although in any foreign country, it is impossible either to enter the civil service or to naturalize for staying in the country chosen without passing the language exam. The language problem often becomes a destabilizing factor in public life, which impedes the creation of a sovereign, democratic, and legal state.

Thus, we can see that current language situation in Ukraine shows that it is not enough to declare the state status of the Ukrainian language for its full establishment it in all spheres of public life. This requires mechanisms of implementing legal documents concerning the functioning of Ukrainian language and settlement of issues related to the improvement of legal liability for violations of the laws governing the use of state language. Ukrainian language is a key to national state formation, a leading factor for the consolidation of Ukraine. It is certainly necessary to revive Ukrainian language, to do everything possible so that every person living in Ukraine could speak it. Nevertheless, the main thing – it is impossible to do it by force, no one can compel an individual to speak his national language. It is important to be patient encourage society and especially those who work in state and local authorities to learn and speak Ukrainian. The state language policy in Ukraine should meet constitutional standards, the relevant provisions of international legal obligations Ukraine and strategies of state. It is necessary to develop a consistent and balanced approach in addressing language problems. It is important to avoid political speculations and ethnic conflicts, maintain stability in the country, because the use of languages in the country should become a factor of unity but not of discord.

Modern Ukraine is a free and independent European country whose people value and protect their traditions and culture. It is therefore necessary to make every effort to preserve and increase national treasures, among which Ukrainian language takes a special place.