

UKRAINE REFORMS TRACKER WEEKLY

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IMF's benchmarks and soft commitments

Parliament pushes forward draft law at odds with IMF requirements

Last week, the Verkhovna Rada rejected draft law #12368, submitted by the Cabinet of Ministers, which aimed to establish a High Administrative Court. Instead, lawmakers backed an alternative proposal, draft law #12368-1, introduced by MP Vlasenko of the Batkivshchyna faction, in its first reading. This version designates the Kyiv City District Administrative Court to handle cases concerning the NABU and SAPO competitions and audits. For appeals it proposes to establish a separate Kyiv City Appeal Administrative Court. This move diverges from Ukraine's commitments under the IMF's Memorandum of Economic and Financial Policies (MEFP).

Source: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Parliament set to vote public investment management bill

During sessions scheduled for January 14-17, 2025, the Verkhovna Rada will review draft law #12245 on public investment management in its second and final reading. The Budget Committee approved it on Monday morning. This legislation is crucial for meeting a structural benchmark under the MEFP, with a deadline at the end of January 2025.

However, Transparency International Ukraine has flagged concerns over recent amendments that grant the Cabinet of Ministers authority to increase salaries for State Audit Service employees and assign special ranks and statuses to the SAS.

Source: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Transparency International Ukraine

Parliament to vote on draft law to repeal "Lozovyy Amendments", rejection likely

The Verkhovna Rada is set to consider a revised draft law (#12367) amending the Criminal Procedure Code in its first reading. This government-backed legislation aims to fulfil obligations related to repealing the "Lozovyy amendments" and addressing the implications of expired pre-trial investigation time limits.

Our information indicates a significant risk of rejection when it comes to a vote. The Law Enforcement Committee hasn't decided on the draft law during its meeting on Monday, January 13. More likely MPs will submit an alternative bill.

Source: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Iaroslav Zhelezniak

Obligations to the EU

Ukraine advances energy sector commitments

The Verkhovna Rada has adopted draft law #12131, reinstating monitoring and reporting on greenhouse gas emissions, fulfilling a key requirement under the Ukraine Plan. The deadline for this measure was set for the end of the second quarter of 2025.

Source: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Other key economic issues

Corporate governance reform sees progress

PParliament has passed draft law #6013, mandating corporate governance standards across utility and state-owned enterprises. In particular, these companies will have to sell assets via "Prozorro.Sales" and publish financial reports.

Moreover, the Cabinet of Ministers approved new procedures for evaluating the performance of supervisory boards in SOEs. Oleksii Sobolev, First Deputy Minister of Economy, noted that this includes mandatory performance assessments for the boards of Ukrenergo, Naftogaz, and the Gas Transmission System Operator (GTSO) for the previous year. The reform aims to ensure supervisory board independence and adherence to OECD corporate governance principles, requiring annual submission of development and performance reports by the end of March.

Source: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

Contributor authors: Yaroslav Zhelezniak, Daria Kutsenko, Max Nefyodov

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