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**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**UKRAINE**

**DRAFT LAW ON AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW OF UKRAINE "ON  
THE JUDICIARY AND THE STATUS OF JUDGES" AND CERTAIN  
LAWS OF UKRAINE ON IMPROVING DECLARATIONS OF  
INTEGRITY OF JUDGES AND JUDGES' FAMILY RELATIONS  
(No. 13165-2 of April 25, 2025)**

The draft law was  
introduced by the MPs of Ukraine

### **LAW OF UKRAINE**

On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" and Certain Laws of Ukraine on Improving Declarations of Integrity of Judges and Judges' Family Relations

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine resolves:

I. To introduce the following amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" (Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2016, No. 31, p. 545, as amended):

1. Clause 3 of part seven of Article 56 shall be amended to read as follows:

"3) submit a declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge".

2. Articles 61 and 62 shall read as follows:

"Article 61. Declaration of Integrity and Family Ties of Judges

1. Every year, by 1 May, a judge is obliged to submit a declaration of integrity and family ties on the official website of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine in the form determined by the Commission.

2. The declaration of integrity and family ties of judges must be indicated:

1) the judge's surname, name, patronymic, place of work, and position held;

2) statement about:

a) legality of the source of the property;

b) the correspondence of the judge's standard of living to the property owned by him/her and his/her family members and the income received by them;

c) no grounds for bringing a judge to disciplinary responsibility;

d) faithful performance of judicial duties and the Code of Judicial Ethics;

e) failure to take actions to acquire citizenship (nationality) of a foreign country of the state.

The judge's declaration of integrity and family ties may contain other statements determined by the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, which are intended to verify the judge's compliance with such integrity indicators as independence, honesty, impartiality, and incorruptibility, integrity, adherence to ethical standards, impeccable behaviour in professional and private life, as well as the legality of the sources of their property, the compliance of the standard of living of the judge or their family members with the declared income, and the compliance of the judge's lifestyle with their status;

3) information on the surname, name, patronymic of persons with whom the judge is related, their place of work (service), position held, if such persons exist or have existed within the last five years:

a) members of the High Council of Justice, heads, their deputies, disciplinary inspectors of the Disciplinary Inspectors Service of the High Council of Justice, employees of the Secretariat of the High Council of Justice;

b) members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, employees of the secretariat or inspectors of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine;

c) judges and court staff;

d) judges of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine, employees of the Secretariat of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine;

d) members of the Public Integrity Council;

e) prosecutors, law enforcement officers, attorneys, notaries;

f) officials of the State Judicial Administration of Ukraine and its territorial departments;

e) President of Ukraine;

ж) The Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine or his/her deputies;

з) The Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council of Ukraine or his/her deputies;

и) people's deputies of Ukraine, deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of local councils;

- i) members of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, heads or deputy heads of central executive authorities, including those with special status, members of the Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea;
- i) Heads or deputy heads of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine, members of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption;
- й) The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights;
- j) Members of the Accounting Chamber;
- l) members of the Central Election Commission;
- m) members of the Management Board or the Council of the National Bank of Ukraine;
- o) members of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine, national commissions for the regulation of natural monopolies, as well as the National Commission for the State Regulation of Communications and Informatisation, the National Commission for the State Regulation of Electronic Communications, Radio Frequency Spectrum and Postal Services, the National Commission for the State Regulation of Financial Services Markets, the National Securities and Stock Market Commission;
- o) heads or deputy heads of local state administrations;
- o) city, village, settlement heads or their deputies.

3. For the purposes of this Article, persons with whom a judge is related include:

- 1) persons who live together, are connected by common life and have mutual rights and obligations with the judge (except for persons whose mutual rights and obligations with the judge are not of a family nature), including persons who live together but are not married to the judge;
- 2) regardless of the conditions specified in paragraph 1 of this part - husband, wife, as well as relatives of each of the spouses or relatives of persons who live together but are not married to the judge (father, mother, stepfather, stepmother, son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, brother, sister, grandfather, grandmother, great-grandfather, great-grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, great-grandson, great-granddaughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, father-in-law, mother-in-law, nephew, niece, uncle, aunt, cousin, cousin, adoptive parent, adopted child).

4. The declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge shall be open to public access through publication on the official website of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, except as provided by this Law.

5. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the statements and information in the judge's declaration of integrity and family ties are considered reliable.

6. Based on information that may indicate that the statements or information in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge are unreliable (including incomplete), the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine conducts an appropriate verification.

7. Failure to submit, or untimely submission of, a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties or declaration of knowingly false (including incomplete) statements or information in it shall entail disciplinary liability established by this Law.

8. Bringing a judge to disciplinary liability for failure to submit, late submission of a declaration of integrity and family ties or for declaring knowingly false (including incomplete) statements or information in it does not relieve the judge of the obligation to submit a corresponding declaration with reliable statements or information.

#### Article 62. Verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of judges

1. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine verifies the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge on the basis of information received from any person or in case the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine independently establishes information that may indicate

- 1) unreliability (including incompleteness) of statements or information specified in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge;
- 2) non-submission, untimely filing declaration integrity and family ties of a judge.

The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine does not consider information received from anonymous sources or whose origin cannot be established.

2. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine is checking the declaration of integrity and family ties relations of judges by the procedure established by the Rules of Procedure of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine. Verification of a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties for unreliability (including incompleteness) statements or information, specified by declaration, as well as untimely submission of the declaration is made for the last reporting period.

3. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine may determine the priority procedure for verification of declarations of integrity and family ties of judges in the Rules of Procedure of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

4. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine no later than one month from the day of receipt or establishment of the information provided for in part one of this article, shall decide to conduct or refuse to conduct verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge. In the decision to verify the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge, High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine notes:

- 1) the grounds for the audit;
- 2) a judge whose declaration will be subject to verification;
- 3) the subject of the audit;
- 4) the period of the audit;
- 5) other information specified in the Rules of Procedure of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine.

No later than the next day after the decision to verify a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties is made, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine sends a copy of the decision to the judge whose declaration is to be verified.

6. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine shall verify the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge and make a decision based on its results within three months from the date of the decision to conduct it. This period may be extended on the basis of a reasoned decision of the Commission, but not more than for three months.

No later than the next day after the decision to continue the verification of the judge's declaration of integrity and family ties is made, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine sends a copy of the decision to the judge whose declaration is being verified.

7. For the purpose of verifying the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine applies the Unified Indicators for Assessing Integrity and Professional Ethics of a Judge (Candidate for the Position of Judge) approved in accordance with part six of Article 83 of this Law.

8. During the verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine has the right to request and receive information in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 86 of this Law.

9. During the verification of a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties, the judge whose declaration is being verified has the right to:

- 1) provide the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with oral or written explanations, make statements, and submit documents necessary for verification of statements and information in the declaration;
- 2) apply to the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine with a request to include additional documents and other material carriers of information regarding the subject of such an inspection in the inspection materials;
- 3) submit comments in writing before the declaration is audited;
- 4) to get acquainted with the materials and results of the declaration verification.

10. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine informs the judge whose declaration was checked of the results of the verification of the judge's integrity and family ties.

11. The results of the verification of a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties are considered at a meeting of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, to which the judge whose declaration was verified is invited.

The absence of a judge from a meeting of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine without valid reasons does not prevent the review of the results of the verification of the integrity declaration and family ties of such a judge.

In case of systematic (three times) absence of a judge, the Commission may consider the results of the verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of such a judge in his or her absence.

12. Following the review of the results of the verification of a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine makes one of the following decisions:

- 1) confirmation of information about the unreliability (including incompleteness) of statements or information in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge;
- 2) confirmation of information on failure to submit, or untimely submission of, a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties;
- 3) failure to confirm information about the unreliability (including incompleteness) of statements or information in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge;
- 4) failure to confirm information on failure to submit, or untimely submission of, a judge's declaration of integrity and family ties.

No later than the next day after the decision is made, the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine sends a copy of the decision to the judge whose declaration was checked.

13. A judge who disagrees with the decision of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, adopted on the basis of the verification of his or her declaration integrity and family ties, shall have the right to appeal such decision within 30 days from the date of its adoption in the manner prescribed by the Code of Administrative Procedure of Ukraine on the grounds specified in part three of Article 88 of this Law.

14. If the decision of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine adopted on the basis of the verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge has not been appealed to the court within the period provided for in part thirteen of this Article, the Commission shall include such decision in the judicial file of the judge concerned.

Within ten days from the date of their adoption, the decisions of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine provided for in paragraphs 1-2 of part twelve of this Article shall be additionally sent by the Commission, together with the materials of the inspection, to the body conducting disciplinary proceedings against the judge to decide whether to open or refuse to open a disciplinary case against such judge.

15. If the decision of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine made on the basis of the verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge is appealed to the court, the Commission shall include such decision in the judge's dossier and perform the actions provided for in paragraph two of part fourteen of this Article, if the court does not reverse such decision following the results of the relevant court proceedings.

16. The High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine, the High Council of Justice, their bodies or other entities within the procedures established by law for assessing the integrity and/or professional ethics of a judge (candidate for the position of a judge) shall take into account the unreliability (including incompleteness) of statements and information specified in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge, failure to submit or untimely submission of the declaration, if such circumstances are established by a decision of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine based on the results of the relevant inspection, which is valid and has not been cancelled in court.

17. The member of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine who initiated consideration of the information provided for in part one of this Article before the Commission shall not participate in the verification of the relevant declaration and family ties of the judge."

### 3. Article 72:

clause 5 of part one shall be amended to read as follows:

"5) a declaration of integrity and family ties of the candidate for the position of judge";

in part two, replace the words "declaration of family ties and declaration of integrity" with the words "declaration of integrity and family ties".

### 4. Clause 13 of part four of Article 85 shall be amended to read as follows:

"13) declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge".

5. In part twelve of Article 94, the words "declaration of family ties, as well as the declaration of integrity of a judge" shall be replaced with the words "declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge".

6. In part one of Article 106:

Clause 16 after the words "late submission of the declaration" shall be supplemented with the words "integrity and";

clause 17 shall be amended to read as follows:

"17) declaring knowingly false (including incomplete) statements or information in the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge."

paragraphs 18 and 19 shall be deleted.

7. Article 109:

in part three, replace the numbers "16-19" with the numbers "16, 17";

clause 6 of part nine shall be deleted.

8. Section XII "Final and Transitional Provisions" shall be supplemented with the following paragraphs

<sup>431-432</sup> of the following content:

<sup>431</sup>. Until 1 May 2025, the submission of the judge's declaration of family ties and the declaration of integrity shall be carried out in accordance with the rules in force before the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine

"On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges and certain laws of Ukraine on improving declarations of integrity of judges and judges' family ties.

<sup>432</sup>. After the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" and certain laws of Ukraine on improvement of declarations of integrity of judges and family ties of judges", the verification of the declaration of family ties of a judge and the declaration of integrity of a judge shall be carried out by the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure established by the said Law for verification of the declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge.

## II. Final provisions

1. This Law shall enter into force on the day following the day of its publication.

2. In the Law of Ukraine "On the High Council of Justice" (Bulletin of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2017, No. 7-8, p. 50, as amended):

in paragraph 6 of part one of Article 8, the words "declaration of family ties and declaration of integrity of a judge" shall be replaced with the words "declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge";

in paragraph 3 of part three of Article 20, the words "declaration of family ties, as well as the declaration of integrity of a judge" shall be replaced with the words "declaration of integrity and family ties of a judge";

3. The High Council of Justice shall, within three months from the date of entry into force of this Law, bring its regulatory legal acts into compliance with this Law.

4. The Higher Qualification Commission of Ukraine shall, within three months from the date of entry into force of this Law, bring its regulations into compliance with this Law.

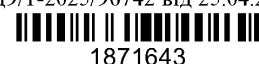
**Chairman**

**Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**



ЄАС ВЕРХОВНОЇ РАДИ УКРАЇНИ  
Підписувач: Калаур Іван Романович  
Сертифікат: 3FAA9288358EC00304000000509C3300BB50E000  
Дійсний до: 11.02.2027 0:00:00

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