

1. Legislation: Passing Bills on Defence

01.07.10. The Supreme Council of Ukraine passed the new version of the Law "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Government Defence Order", the Law "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On State Control over International Transfer of Military and Dual-Purpose Articles", and the Law "On Fundamentals of Domestic and Foreign Policy".

Comment: *The Law "On Government Defence Order" establishes general legal foundations for planning and shaping of a government defence order. The law also regulates peculiarities of relations connected with identification and execution of purchase procedures, execution of work, and rendering of defence services (produce, work and services).*

The Law "On State Control over International Transfer of Military and Dual-Purpose Articles" was supplemented with an additional clause stipulating that a dual-purpose service (technical assistance) is technical assistance rendered to foreign legal entities or individual foreigners in or outside Ukraine on repair, development, production, operation, assembly, testing, modification, modernization, maintenance (to include field supervision and warranty service) or any other technical maintenance of systems subject to the state export control.

The Law "On Fundamentals of Domestic and Foreign Policy" stipulates that Ukraine, as a European non-aligned state, will pursue an open foreign policy and seeks cooperation with all interested partners while avoiding dependence on individual countries, groups of countries or international structures.

2. Military Policy: Defence Minister's Account

01.07.10. The Ukrainian Defence Minister, M.B.Yezhel, published his public account of his work over the first 100 days as head of the defence agency.

Comment: *According to the published account, the Defence Minister regards the following issues as paramount: retain the personnel potential of the Ukrainian Armed Forces; provide military forces with weapons and equipment; heighten the social status of servicemen and their families; prevent lowering of the combat readiness of the Joint Rapid Reaction Force and forces on duty; optimize the structure and strength of military command and control bodies; enhance effectiveness of military cooperation both with neighbouring states and in the regional security dimension.*

3. Personnel Training: Meeting with Graduates of Higher Military Educational Institutions

01.07.10. A ceremonious reception was held in the Order Hall of the National Defence University of Ukraine. The event was attended by the Defence Minister, Mykhailo Yezhel, and those graduates of higher military educational institutions and military departments of higher educational institutions who graduated with honours and were awarded with gold stars (summa cum laude).

Comment: *In attendance were senior leaders of the national defence agency and the General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and 37 graduates of higher military educational institutions in 2010.*

The State requirement for training of military experts are annotated in the Annex to IAR 26/2010.

4. UAF Training: Military Council of the Western Operational Command of the Ukrainian Army

30.06.10. An enlarged session of the Military Council of the Western Operational Command was held in Lviv.

Comment: *The Military Council's discussions were focused on the state of combat and mobilization readiness of military units and formations of the Western OC as well as the state and organization of work in the first six months of Academic Year 2010. Besides, the participants considered results of the Spring Conscription Campaign, military discipline, as well as financial and economic activities of the Operational Command.*

5. Combat Training: Parachute Jumps

01.07.10. 350 servicemen of the 95th Separate Airmobile Brigade 8th Army Corps executed the Parachute Jumps Programme for Academic Year 2010.

Comment: *350 paratroopers performed 470 parachute jumps both in the daytime and in the night-time. The total flying time of the helicopter crew amounted to some 10 hours.*

The paratroopers used the new domestically manufactured DPS parachutes. The brigade has 120 of these parachutes.

6. Combat Training: Training Flights of a Naval Air Brigade

01.07.10. Airmen of the Saky Naval Air Brigade stationed in the Crimea performed training flights on fixed-wing and rotor-wing aircraft.

Comment: *In total, three Be-12 aircraft, two Ka-27 helicopters, and one Mi-14 helicopter were used for the training flights. The naval pilots test-flew the aircraft, exercised antisubmarine warfare as well as sea search-and-rescue operations to include dropping of buoyant rescue facilities.*

7. International Cooperation: Meeting with a Delegation of the Swedish Armed Forces

30.06.10. A meeting between a Ukrainian delegation and a delegation of the Swedish Armed Forces took place in Sevastopol.

Comment: *The aim of the meeting was for the Swedish delegation to discuss with the Navy Command and Navy environmentalists the possibility of organization of a six-stage environmental exercise for servicemen and civil servants of the Ukrainian Navy in 2011-2012.*

It is anticipated that those meetings will make it possible for military experts of both countries to develop common views of environmental protection, gain a better understanding of the associated legislation and consider some environmental management issues.

8. International Cooperation: Promoting Relations with Sri Lanka

01.07.10. A meeting between the Ukrainian Defence Minister, Mykhailo Yezhel, and the President of Democratic Social Republic of Sri Lanka Mahinda Rajapaksa was held in Kiev.

Comment: *In the course of the meeting, the parties discussed a number of issues including training of Sri Lankian military personnel at higher military educational institutions of Ukraine. In addition, Ukrainian-Sri Lankian negotiations presided over by the President of Ukraine, Viktor Yanukovich, and the President of Sri Lanka, Rajapaksa, took place on 30 June 2010. A number of documents, including those on military-technical cooperation, were signed at the negotiations. In the course of his stay in Ukraine, President Mahinda Rajapaksa visited the National Defence University of Ukraine where he attended a briefing and familiarized himself with military equipment adopted by the Ukrainian Armed Forces.*

9. Conversion Challenges: Ammunition Removal

01.07.10. Removal of ammunition at the 61st Arsenal of the Southern Operational Command in Kharkiv region is under way.

Comment: *According to the Schedule of Ammunition Removal from the 61st Arsenal for 2009-2010, over 5000 tons out of 7500 tons of ammunition that remained intact after the incident have already been removed from the site. The rest of the ammunition will be removed and transported to central bases and depots for future use in combat training as well as for disposal or for sale. EOD specialists checked 2081 hectares within the three kilometres' radius, having rendered safe almost 5600 pieces of explosive ordnance. It will be recalled that a fire started at the 61st Arsenal on 27 August 2008. The fire then spread over to the ammunition depot which caused their detonation.*

10. Development of Weapons and Military Equipment: Cruiser "Ukraine"

29.06.10. According to the Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Navy, the Russian Navy Command is considering the possibility of buying the missile cruiser "Ukraine" (Project 1164) whose building hasn't yet been finished in Ukraine.

Comment: *Ukrainian experts take the view that Russian industry representatives whose estimates are used by the military intend to drag out the process and overstate the cost of works required to finish building of the cruiser "Ukraine". (The Russian side estimates the cruiser's readiness at 50%, the cost of the technical repair at 15 billion RUB (\$472 million) and adding the cost of modernization the total sum is estimated at 35 billion RUB (\$1,1 billion)).*

According to the Ukrainian side, the cruiser "Ukraine" (which is currently moored at the 61 Communards Dock in Mykolaiv) is 95% ready; however Ukraine is unable to finish it without outside assistance. The price of a batch-manufactured ship in 1980 was 130 million RUB. As of 2001, the price of the cruiser was \$350-660 million. The final decision of the ship purchase may be made by the end of 2010.

The State requirement for training of military experts

Training of the servicemen according to the levels of military education	Annual Defence Commission Indices (<i>persons</i>)				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
for the Armed Forces					
Officers of operational-strategic level	45	65	52	60	70
Officers of operational-tactical level	441	262	251	427	538
Officers of tactical level	848	416	1065	1451	1660
for other military formations					
Officers of operational-strategic level	-	2	2	-	-
Officers of operational-tactical level	111	98	59	-	-
Officers of tactical level	309	186	250	53	27
Total	1754	1029	1679	1991	2295