

# Resolution 1 of the First Ukrainian Social Forum, May 2008. (Abridged) (computer translation)

Today the citizens of Ukraine met with the whole complex of social problems, notably the oppression of the rights of hired workers, the obstruction of independent trade unions, anti-people reform of housing and communal services, which eventually lead to a sharp increase in social unequal to the illegal building of municipal territories, the destruction of the surrounding environment and discrimination based on gender and ethnicity. The assembled activists across the country speak different languages, have different age, have advanced different topic for discussion. However, the main thing united us - the desire for change!

At a time when politicians are crucified on the "democracy", in fact they are the first who is ready to strangle this democratic initiative. Freedom and justice can not be acquired through entry into the EU. No one will defend the rights of people besides us. People need to realize that they can only rely on our own strength, solidarity and self-organization. Conduct 1st Ukrainian Social Forum provided an opportunity to inform participants and foreign guests on the development of socio-economic situation in Ukraine, to attract public attention to the trade union activists, students, human rights, feminist movements, countercultural formations, think tanks, experts, media, and a plenary number of thematic sessions, exchange experiences in solving social problems hasty.

History shows that without strong collective action and creating bottom-independent government and business initiatives and civil unions can not achieve a better society. That is why the main goal of 1st Ukrainian Social Forum was to form and strengthen self-nationals and diverse, socially oriented civic associations. And we are confident that we have achieved the desired result.

Organizing Sotsforum, we set ourselves entirely specific objectives:

1) Sharing experiences and networking among social activists who are working on similar problems in Ukraine and abroad. We had to say to each other, we have the experience, which should share the common objective.

2) Formation of All-Ukrainian Network, which will bring together social organizations in different areas at the information level. In fact, only a united and coordinated action, we can achieve something.

3) Ensuring the effectiveness of the formation of self-organization of the population and various civic movements aimed at the creation and development of civil society.

4) Increasing public awareness of the greatest social problems of Ukrainian people. Conclusion of social activism with marginal information space to a new level

5) Facilitating the establishment of an independent Ukraine in the solidarity of the working movement, the social development of the principles of non-bureaucratic organizational foundations of this movement (development of trade union ideology).

Independent trade unions - is the force that is able to make or the most serious shift in the social sphere.

6) Promote good practice off-system organizations and associations of citizens, the directions of their activities.

7) Raising public awareness of the need to develop a package of important social issues with the proposals to overcome them stateless.

As a result of the workshops at the Forum were the following decisions:

## Antifascist Section

1) Continue to monitor the activities of xenophobic movements in order to further counteract them.

2) Consolidate the anti-fascist movement, in spite of the existing therein ideological differences.

3) Discourage apolitizatsii [?]anti-fascist movement as harmful conditions in the Ukrainian phenomenon.

4) To establish effective contacts with local and national diasporas, the consequence should be the Joint Anti-Fascist Front.

Gender discrimination and emancipatory practice Ukrainian conditions as well as any other suitable for the development of emancipatory practice, i.e. those who intended to join the resistance discrimination

against various groups of the oppressed. In this regard, we stand behind all clear, obvious requirements:

- 1) women's liberation from the need to be a servant and the object of medical control;
- 2) an exemption from the obligation men geteroseksualizirovat [?]his life and play by the rules of the masculine;
- 3) the release of children from the status of "living jewels" who are deprived of their voice and their rights.

We favor the consolidation of scattered in different cities of the action teams and strive for the organization not previously familiar with each other gettoizirovannyh [?] groups in the same rack network.

## UNION

- 1) Establish a working group, whose functions will consist in determining the allowable limits in the work of trade unions and leftist political forces;
- 2) To promote the formation of an independent Ukraine in solidarity of the working movement, built on historically inherent in democratic principles;
- 3) Coordinate activities between different areas of trade unionists in order to protect mutual interests;
- 4) Develop a network of existing independent trade union organizations formed outside the former Soviet relic structures of the FPA.

## Housing

To form an information network and activist on all-Ukrainian level.

Create a section of the site "Liva right" on housing and utilities reform, and municipal issues, which would become a forum for activists.

A conference on resistance negative consequences of destruction utilities.

## Ecology

- 1) To develop the practice of legal training of NGOs to address environmental problems, both regional and Ukrainian;
- 2) Take into account the experience of more developed countries in the ecological sense, in particular on the development of new technologies and energy conservation;
- 3) condemn the practice of illegal construction of green areas, particularly in Kiev, where now the situation is the most predatory;
- 4) Require immediate revision of the Forest Code, as such, which does not reflect modern realities and nature conservation.

## Countercultural

Participants of the conference "Social Culture and counterculture," agreed to start cooperation between the existing formations and possible undertaking of new cultural projects.

Speakers pointed to the need

- 1) a more in-depth coverage of social and gender issues in art.
- 2) to protest against certain competitive environment of today's art: "competition" between sotsalno-critical formations in the future must take place in the plane "breynstorma" and "competition of ideas" that have nothing to do with the desire to monopolize art space.
- 3) reassessment of the value of contemporary art and producing new approaches to overcome the current crisis in the culture.

## International Section

- 1) give full support to the Kurdish movement in exile, including to provide information support within Eastern Europe;
- 2) apply to the Kurdish government to stop persecution of objectionable government officials, regardless of their political orientation;
- 3) to require the Iraqi government and the occupying U.S. administration to respect personal and cultural rights, permit free discussion, meetings, working demonstrations, strikes, etc.
- 4) called on the European Union and civil society to condemn the deportation of Kurdish leaders and give them all possible assistance in all possible directions.

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<http://www.ikd.ru/node/6091> (Russian)