

**FULL TEXT OF DRAFT LAW 8371 (ENGLISH TRANSLATION BY GOOGLE) AS APPROVED BY THE RADA'S COMMITTEE ON HUMANITARIAN AND INFORMATION POLICY ON AUGUST 16, 2024. THIS TEXT IS FOUND IN THE "COMPARATIVE TABLE" POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE RADA ON AUGUST 16, 2024. TO ACCESS THE TABLE, CLICK ON THE LAST DOCUMENT LISTED AT <https://itd.rada.gov.ua/billInfo/Bills/Card/41219> NOTATIONS IN BLUE ARE NOT PART OF THE POSTED TEXT AND HAVE BEEN ADDED FOR EXPANATORY PURPOSES.**

**On the protection of the constitutional order in the sphere of activities of religious organizations [This is the new title of Draft Law 8371)**

[CLAIMED JUSTIFICATION FOR LAW]

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,

based on the principles of Article 35 of the Constitution of Ukraine, Articles 9 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which provide for the rights to freedom of conscience, religion and association in religious organizations and the possibility of limiting the relevant rights by law in the interests of national or public security, protection of rights and freedoms other persons,

recognizing the duty of the state to protect the right to freedom of conscience, religion and association in religious organizations, including the right of citizens to change their religion and beliefs and the right of religious organizations to change their subordination to religious centers (management), from unlawful encroachments by any persons, religious or other organizations, foreign states,

taking into account the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, the support of this aggression by the Russian Orthodox Church and noting that the numerous illegal actions of the Russian Orthodox Church and its subordinate religious organizations on the territory of Ukraine pose a threat to national and public security, the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Ukraine,

taking into account the decision of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine on certain aspects of the activity of religious organizations in Ukraine and the application of personal special economic and other restrictive measures (sanctions),

adopts this Law.

**Article 1. Scope of the Law**

1. This Law, with the aim of protecting national and public security, human rights and freedoms, defines the specifics of the activities of foreign religious organizations in Ukraine.

2. None of the provisions of this Law can be interpreted as limiting the freedom of religion or belief, the right to observe religious practices and ritual rites.

## [FOREIGN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS]

### **Article 2. Organizational principles of functioning of foreign religious organizations**

1. For the purposes of this Law, a foreign religious organization is a religious organization (including a religious administration, association, center) as a legal entity formed and/or registered in accordance with the legislation of another state, located outside Ukraine. Foreign religious organizations can carry out activities in Ukraine, provided that their activities do not harm national or public security, protection of public order, health, morals, rights and freedoms of other persons.

2. The activities of foreign religious organizations that meet the following criteria are prohibited on the territory of Ukraine:

1) are located in a state that is recognized as having carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying part of the territory of Ukraine;

2) directly or indirectly (including through public speeches of leaders or other management bodies) support armed aggression against Ukraine.

Foreign religious organizations located in a state recognized as having carried out or carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying part of the territory of Ukraine include foreign religious organizations (including religious administrations, associations, centers), the head the center (management) of which is located outside Ukraine in the relevant aggressor state.

3. Foreign religious organizations, the activities of which are prohibited in accordance with this Article, are defined by Article 3 of this Law.

If the activity of a foreign religious organization meets the criteria specified in the second part of this article, which became known after the entry into force of this Law, the prohibition of the activity of such a foreign religious organization is carried out by amending the first part of Article 3 of this Law.

The cancellation of the ban on the activity of foreign religious organizations in Ukraine, established by this Law, is carried out by making amendments to this Law.

### **Article 3. Foreign religious organizations whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine**

1. Considering the fact that the Russian Orthodox Church is an ideological extension of the regime of the aggressor state, an accomplice to war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in the name of the Russian Federation and the ideology of "Russian world", the activities of the Russian Orthodox Church in Ukraine are prohibited.

2. Activities of religious organizations affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with part one of this article, including

directly or as a constituent part of another religious organization, or in the presence of other signs established by Article 5-1 of the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations", is not allowed and such religious organizations are terminated in accordance with the procedure established by law.

The list of religious organizations in Ukraine affiliated (connected by one or more features defined by Article 5-1 of the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations") with a foreign religious organization, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine, is approved by an order of the central executive body, which implements state policy in the field of religion, and is published on its official website.

In the case established by law, the activity in Ukraine of a foreign religious organization located in a state recognized as having carried out or carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying a part of the territory of Ukraine, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with this Law, shall be terminated from the date of entry into force of this Law or the law on making relevant changes to this Law.

#### **Article 4. Consequences of banning the activity of a foreign religious organization in Ukraine**

1. Foreign religious organizations, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine, are subject to the consequences established by law.

The National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine applies restrictive measures (sanctions) to foreign religious organizations, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of this Law, in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of Ukraine "On Sanctions" and normative legal acts adopted for its implementation.

2. From the date of the ban on the activity of a foreign religious organization in Ukraine:

1) the activity of a foreign religious organization in Ukraine, defined by the first part of Article 3 of this Law, is terminated with the consequences established by law;

2) transactions related to the use of property (rent, hiring, leasing, other forms of use of someone else's property), the validity period of which has not expired, made between residents of Ukraine and the corresponding foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine, as well as with registered in Ukraine, legal entities, the owner of which is such a foreign religious organization as a member, that have not brought their activities into compliance with this Law within the period established by part three of this article, are prematurely terminated;

3) other consequences are applied in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations".

3. A foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine, cannot be the owner or participant of legal entities registered in Ukraine. Such legal entities must bring their composition of participants into compliance with this Law within three months from the date of the ban on the activity of the corresponding foreign religious organization in Ukraine. In

the event that the legal entity does not bring the composition of participants to compliance with this Law within the prescribed period, such a legal entity is terminated on the basis of a court decision as a result of consideration of a lawsuit by the central executive body implementing state policy in the field of religion.

4. Relations and/or connections, and/or communications of religious organizations, including religious communities, other legal entities under private law, with foreign religious organizations, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine, are not allowed, except when they are carried out with the consent of the central body of executive power, which implements state policy in the field of religion.

In order to obtain approval, a person planning relations and/or connections and/or communications with a foreign religious organization whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine shall apply to the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion with a corresponding application. The application is accompanied by information justifying the need for relations and/or connections and/or communications with a foreign religious organization whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine.

The procedure for granting individual consent to relations and/or connections and/or communication with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine, the form of an application for granting consent, the list of information and additional documents attached to it, the grounds for granting and refusing the granting of consent, the procedure for monitoring connections and contacts with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine, are approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

5. A religious organization operating in Ukraine cannot have a management center (management) outside of Ukraine in a state that is recognized as having carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying part of the territory of Ukraine, as well as being part of the structure (be a part of) a foreign religious organization whose activities in Ukraine are prohibited in accordance with Article 3 of this Law, or be otherwise affiliated with such a religious organization.

## [RUSSIAN WORLD]

### **Article 5. Peculiarities of the termination of a religious organization for reasons of propaganda of the ideology of the "Russian world"**

1. The use of religious organizations to promote the ideology of "Russian world", including the popularization of such ideology in any way and/or by any means, which is contrary to the interests of national and public security, territorial integrity of Ukraine, is prohibited. When applying the provisions of the first paragraph of this part, the facts of the propagation of the ideology of the "Russian world" are taken into account both directly by the religious organization and by its statutory or other management bodies, by other persons who act on their behalf by assignment or with permission or in accordance with another method of agreement independently from the form of such consent.

2. Consideration of the issue of confirmation of the facts of the use of a religious organization to promote the ideology of the "Russian world" is carried out by the central body of the executive power, which implements state policy in the field of religion, in accordance with the procedure established by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine. The conclusions of the religious examination, information of other central executive bodies, data of public electronic registers, as well as information received from individuals and/or legal entities, from the media and other open sources may be used during the review. [\[The phrase "Russian world" is defined at page 21\]](#)

## **Section II. FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS**

### [\[EFFECTIVE DATES\]](#)

1. This Law enters into force 30 days after its publication, except for:

- 1) subparagraph 2 of paragraph 2 of this section, which shall enter into force nine months from the day following the date of publication of this Law;
- 2) of clause 6 of this section, which shall enter into force on the day following the date of publication of this Law.

2. Make changes to the following legislative acts of Ukraine:

### [\[COURT PROCEEDINGS WITH RESPECT TO TERMINATION\]](#)

1) section XIII "Transitional Provisions" of the Civil Procedure Code of Ukraine (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2017, No. 48, Article 436) shall be supplemented with paragraph 2 of the following content:

"2. Civil cases on the termination of the activities of a religious organization, in which lawsuits were filed before the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations" entered into force and whose consideration in the court of first instance has not been completed through the adoption of a corresponding court decision, continue to be considered (are being completed) according to the rules that were in effect before the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations" came into force.

Consideration of appeals and cassation complaints, as well as other statements provided for by this Code, in such civil cases, which were filed before the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations" came into force, continues and is completed according to the rules that were in effect before the Law of Ukraine came into force. The Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations";

2) in the Administrative Judicial Code of Ukraine (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2017, No. 48, Article 436):

a) part two of Article 22 shall be supplemented with paragraph 4 of the following content:

"4) on the termination of a religious organization, provided for in Article 289-9 of this Code";

b) part two of Article 245 shall be supplemented with paragraph 8-2 of the following content:

"8-2) the termination of a religious organization provided for in Article 289-9 of this Code, and the transfer of property, funds and other assets in its ownership, except religious ones, to the ownership of the state";

c) paragraph 2 of chapter 11 of section II shall be supplemented by article 289-9 with the following content:

"Article 289-9. Peculiarities of proceedings in administrative lawsuits for the termination of a religious organization

1. The effect of the provisions of this article extends to the consideration of administrative cases on the termination of a religious organization provided for by law.

The right to file an administrative claim for the termination of a religious organization is vested in the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion, or the body authorized to register the charter (regulations) of the relevant religious organization.

2. Administrative cases specified in part one of this article shall be considered as a court of first instance by the court specified in part two of article 22 of this Code.

3. In the event of the opening of proceedings in an administrative case specified in part one of this article, or an appeal proceeding in such a case and the appointment of a court session, the relevant court shall notify the plaintiff thereof within three days and shall oblige him to publish the relevant announcement in accordance with the procedure provided for in part n of this article.

4. In the event that the court of first instance in an administrative case provided for in the first part of this article makes a decision that is subject to appeal, or concludes the consideration of the case by adopting a court decision, the court of first instance after drawing up the full text of the corresponding court decision immediately, but no later than ten days from the date of drafting the full text of the decision:

1) sends copies of case materials in electronic form to the court of appellate instance to ensure the possibility of immediate consideration of appeals against such a court decision in case of their submission;

2) informs about such a decision of the plaintiff to publish an announcement in the manner prescribed by part five of this article.

5. Announcement of the opening of proceedings in the administrative case specified in the first part of this article or appeal proceedings in such a case and the appointment of a court session, the rendering by the court of first instance of a decision that is subject to appeal, or the completion of the consideration of the case by the adoption of a court decision together with a

copy of the relevant court decision or court summons is published on the web portal of the judiciary of Ukraine, as well as on the official website of the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion, or the body authorized to register the charter (regulations) of the relevant religious organization.

After three days from the date of publication of such an announcement, it is considered that the participants in the case and all interested persons have been duly notified of the trial of such a case, the date, time and place of the court session, the adoption and content of the published court decision therein.

Failure to appear at a court session in a court of first instance or appellate instance of persons duly notified of the date, time, and place of the hearing in accordance with the procedure provided for in this part shall not prevent the hearing of the case.

6. An appeal against a court decision in an administrative case, provided for in part one of this article, is filed within twenty days, and against a court decision - within ten days from the date of its publication in accordance with part five of this article.

The court of appellate instance in the administrative case provided for in the first part of this article is the Supreme Court as part of the collegium of the Administrative Court of Cassation of not less than five judges.

The judgment of the Supreme Court in such cases is final and not subject to cassation appeal.

7. An administrative case on a claim for the termination of a religious organization shall be decided by the court of first instance within one month after the opening of the proceedings in the case.

The appellate court considers the case within one month after the opening of the appellate proceedings.

8. No court fee shall be paid for the submission to the administrative court of claims and appeals in the cases defined by this article";

d) section VII "Transitional Provisions" shall be supplemented with paragraph 4-3 of the following content:

"4-3. In the conditions of martial law in Ukraine, introduced by the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the introduction of martial law in Ukraine" dated February 24, 2022 No. 64/2022, approved by the Law of Ukraine "On the approval of the Decree of the President of Ukraine "On the introduction of martial law in Ukraine" dated February 24, 2022 of the year No. 2102-IX, administrative cases on a claim against the central body of executive power, which implements state policy in the field of religion, are sued and decided by the district administrative court, the territorial jurisdiction of which extends to the city of Kyiv (exclusive jurisdiction)";

3) in the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations" (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of the Ukrainian SSR, 1991, No. 25, Article 283 with the following amendments): [[The full text of this law, before amendment by 8371, is found at https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/987-12#Text](https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/987-12#Text)]

#### [THE "SIGNS" OF AFFILIATION]

a) supplement Article 5-1 with the following content:

"Article 5-1. Restrictions on the activity in Ukraine of a religious organization affiliated with a foreign religious organization located in a state that is recognized as having carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying part of the territory of Ukraine

It is not allowed to operate in Ukraine a religious organization that:

1) affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations";

2) affiliated with a religious organization that is affiliated with a foreign religious organization whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations".

A religious organization is affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", in the presence of one or more of the following signs:

1) a religious organization directly or as a constituent part of another religious organization is part of the structure (is part of) a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and/or is affiliated with a religious organization an organization that is affiliated with the specified foreign religious organization;

2) in official documents and/or decisions of governing bodies, and/or in the statute (regulations), and/or in the documents stipulated by the statute (regulations) of a religious organization operating in Ukraine, there are signs of inclusion in the structure of the relevant foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and/or a religious organization that is affiliated with the specified foreign religious organization;

3) in official documents and/or decisions of governing bodies, and/or in the charter (regulations) of a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the of the activities of religious organizations", there are indications of the entry into its



structure of a religious organization operating in Ukraine, or provisions regarding the right to make decisions by the statutory governing bodies of the specified foreign religious organization on canonical and organizational issues that are binding for the operating religious organization in Ukraine;

4) official documents and/or decisions of governing bodies, and/or the charter (regulations) of a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", provides for mandatory entry of managers and/or authorized representatives of a religious organization operating in Ukraine, in the statutory management bodies of the specified foreign religious organization;

5) a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", due to its subordination in canonical and/or organizational matters, has the opportunity to influence management decisions and/or activities religious organization operating in Ukraine;

6) a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", carries out appointment, election, approval, approval, blessing (or other administrative or canonical procedure related upon acquisition of powers) of the head of a religious organization operating in Ukraine;

7) a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", accepts, agrees, approves, blesses, approves (or carries out another administrative or canonical procedure related to with entry into force) the charter (regulations) of a religious organization operating in Ukraine.

Clause 4 of the second part does not apply if the subjects, managers and/or authorized representatives of religious organizations specified in this clause have publicly stated orally or in writing that they disagree with the appointment to the management bodies of the specified foreign religious organization, have taken the necessary actions, including prepared relevant statements and/or other documents for termination of powers and severance of ties with such foreign religious organization";

#### [REGISTRATION AND CHANGE OF SUBORDINATION]

b) part three of Article 8 should be amended as follows:

"The state recognizes the right of a religious community to be subordinated in canonical and organizational matters to any religious centers (administrations) operating in Ukraine and abroad, except for those governing centers (administrations) are located outside of Ukraine in a state that is recognized as having carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupied part of the territory of Ukraine, and whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine, and religious organizations, the activities of which are not allowed in accordance

with the requirements of Article 5-1 of this Law, as well as the free change of this subordination by making appropriate changes to the charter (regulations) of the religious community. The decision to change the subordination and to make appropriate changes to the charter is adopted by the general meeting of the religious community. Such general meetings of the religious community may be convened by its members";

c) to supplement Article 9 with parts four and five of the following content:

"The state recognizes the right of a religious center (management) to be subservient in canonical and organizational matters to any religious centers (management) operating in Ukraine and abroad, except for religious organizations whose activities are not allowed in accordance with the requirements of Article 5-1 of this Law, and /or foreign religious organizations located in a state that is recognized as having carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupied part of the territory of Ukraine, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Sphere activities of religious organizations". The state recognizes the right of religious organizations to freely change such affiliation by making appropriate changes to the charter (regulations) of the religious center (management).

The decision on the change of subordination and the introduction of relevant changes to the charter (regulations) is adopted by the general meeting of the management body of the religious center (management)";

d) to supplement Article 10 with parts three and four of the following content:

"The state recognizes the right of monasteries, religious brotherhoods, missionary societies (missions) to be subordinate in canonical and organizational matters to any religious centers (management) operating in Ukraine and abroad, except for religious organizations whose management center (management) is under within the borders of Ukraine in a state recognized as having carried out or carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupying part of the territory of Ukraine, and whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and religious organizations subject to Article 5-1 of this Law, and the free change of this subordination by making appropriate changes to the charter (regulations) of the monastery, religious brotherhood, missionary society (mission).

The decision to change the subordination and make the corresponding changes to the statute (regulations) is adopted by the general meeting of the relevant monastery, religious brotherhood, missionary society (mission)";

e) in Article 12: in part three:

Paragraph 1 should be read as follows:

"1) name, type of religious organization, its religious affiliation and location"; add item 1-1 with the following content:

"1-1) management bodies of a religious organization, their competence, the procedure for their decision-making";

Paragraph 6 should be read as follows:

"6) the procedure for resolving property and other issues in the event of termination of a religious organization"; parts seven and eight to be excluded;

e) in Article 14:

add the words "in triplicate" to the first part after the words "statute (regulations)";

in part two:

in the first paragraph, delete the words "duly certified copies";

in paragraph 1, replace the words "decision (excerpt)" with the words "original decision";

paragraph 2 before the words "property right document" add the words "duly certified copy";

paragraph 2 of part three should be supplemented with the words "in triplicate";

in part four: in point 1:

replace the words "duly certified copy of the protocol (or extract from the protocol)" with the words "original protocol";

exclude the words "and additions"; replace the word "these" with the word "such";

in paragraph 2, the words "and additions" and "and the original of the certificate issued by the registration authority (if such was issued)" should be deleted;

add the words "in triplicate" to part eight;

in paragraph 1 of part nine, replace the words "duly certified copy of the decision (excerpt)" with the words "original decision";

add the words "in three copies" to the twelfth part;

in part thirteen:

in the first paragraph, delete the words "duly certified copies";

in paragraph 1, replace the words "decision (excerpt)" with the words "original decision";

point 2 before the word "statute" add the words "duly certified copy";

point 3 before the word "document" add the words "duly certified copy";

in the sixteenth part: the first paragraph should be read as follows:

"Additions to the charter (regulations) of the religious organization in the new edition";

in paragraph 1, replace the words "decision (excerpt)" with the words "original decision";  
paragraph 2 before the words "current edition" add the words "original or duly certified copy";

the twenty-first part should be set out in the following version:

"Exceeding the terms established by this Law for making decisions on registration or refusal to register the charter (regulations) of a religious organization may be appealed in court in the manner specified by law";

f) part two of Article 15 shall be amended as follows:

"The decision to refuse to register the charter (regulations) of a religious organization, to register the charter (regulations) of a religious organization in the new edition, indicating the reasons for the refusal, is notified to the applicants in writing within ten days. Such a decision may be appealed to a higher-level administrative body. In the absence of a higher-level administrative body, the complaint is submitted to the same administrative body that adopted the administrative act, took procedural actions and/or made the procedural decision or inaction that is being contested, if a complaint review commission has been established at it. In the event that such an administrative body has not established a commission for handling complaints, a claim for an administrative act, procedural decision, action or inaction of an administrative body shall be submitted to the court in accordance with the law";

#### [GROUNDS FOR TERMINATION]

g) Article 16 shall be amended as follows:

"Article 16. Termination of a religious organization. A religious organization may be terminated:

- 1) in connection with its reorganization or liquidation;
- 2) by a court decision in case of violation of this Law.

In a judicial procedure, a religious organization is terminated only in the following cases:

- 1) the commission of actions by a religious organization, the inadmissibility of which is stipulated by Articles 3, 5 and 17 of this Law;
- 2) a combination of ritual or preaching activities of a religious organization with encroachment on the life, health, freedom and dignity of a person;
- 3) systematic violation by a religious organization of the procedure for conducting public religious events (worships, rites, ceremonies, marches, etc.) established by law;
- 4) inciting citizens to fail to fulfill their constitutional duties or actions that are accompanied by gross violations of public order or encroachment on the rights and property of state, public or religious organizations;

5) conviction of its authorized persons for committing a crime against the foundations of national security of Ukraine or for committing a criminal offense provided for in Articles 161, 190, 209, 258–2586, 436–438, 442, 447 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine; [Termination of an entire religious organization because of certain crimes of its authorized persons]

6) failure to comply with the order to eliminate the violation provided for in Article 30 of this Law within the period established by this Law; [Termination of an entire organization for failure to eliminate one or more signs of affiliation]

7) detection of repeated facts of the use of a religious organization for the purposes of spreading propaganda of the ideology of the "Russian world" in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations"; [Termination of an entire organization because of repeated facts of use to spread ideology of Russian world]

8) detection of violations of the requirements for the creation and operation of a religious organization, the management center (control) of which is located outside of Ukraine in a state that has carried out or is carrying out armed aggression against Ukraine and/or temporarily occupied part of the territory of Ukraine, established by the Constitution of Ukraine, this Law and other laws of Ukraine.

The court considers the case of termination of a religious organization in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law.

In the event that the grounds for the termination of a religious organization established by this Law are discovered, the central executive body implementing state policy in the field of religion, or the body authorized to register the charter (regulations) of the relevant religious organization, shall immediately apply to the court with a claim for the termination of the religious organization .

A commission for the termination of a religious organization (liquidation commission) is appointed by a court decision on the termination of a religious organization.

#### [ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE -- “SIGNS” OF AFFILIATION]

The study of the issue of the presence of signs of affiliation of a religious organization operating in Ukraine with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations" established by Article 5-1 of this Law, is carried out by the central body executive power, which implements state policy in the field of religion, on its own initiative or on the basis of an appeal by a state authority, a local self-government body, an association of citizens, or other persons.

Notice of initiation of investigation into the issue of the presence of signs of affiliation of a religious organization operating in Ukraine, established by Article 5-1 of this Law, with a foreign religious organization whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of

Activities of Religious Organizations". the central executive body implementing state policy in the field of religion publishes on its official website.

After the publication of the notice on the initiation of the investigation, the central executive body that implements the state policy in the field of religion may apply to state authorities, local self-government bodies, legal entities and individuals for the provision of information, explanations, documents, extracts from public electronic registers that are necessary to carry out research and establish the presence or absence of signs of affiliation, defined by Article 5-1 of this Law.

In order to establish signs of affiliation of a religious organization with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion may use conclusions of religious expertise, information provided by other central bodies of executive power, data from public electronic registers, as well as information received from individuals and legal entities, from the media and other open sources.

When assessing the presence or absence of signs of affiliation, defined by Article 5-1 of this Law, the appropriateness, admissibility, and reliability of each fact, conclusion, argument, and other evidence obtained during the research are taken into account separately, as well as probability and mutual connection of evidence in their totality. The presence of a circumstance, which any interested person refers to as the basis of his arguments or objections, is considered proven if the evidence provided to confirm such a circumstance is more probable than the evidence provided to refute it. Motives for recognizing the evidence as more probable in relation to each circumstance, on the basis of which the presence of signs of affiliation is established, may be brought to the attention of the religious organization at the same time as the prescription.

In the case of establishing a sign of affiliation of a religious organization with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", the central executive body implementing state policy in the field of religion shall issue an order on the elimination of violations and sends it to a religious organization.

Simultaneously with sending an order to eliminate violations, the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion compiles a list of religious organizations that are part of the structure (are part of) or related to the structure of a religious organization, in respect of which an order to eliminate violations has been issued, and publishes it on its official website. The specified list can be changed, supplemented or specified in accordance with the information received by the central executive body that implements the state policy in the field of religion.

Within 30 days from the date of receipt of the order on the elimination of violations, the religious organization is obliged to eliminate the violations specified in the order and to send to the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion, a report on the

elimination of violations with relevant supporting evidence. Along with the report, objections to established signs of affiliation, which became the basis for issuing the order, can also be submitted. The established deadline for submitting the report may be extended by the central executive body that implements the state policy in the field of religion at the motivated request of a religious organization, but for no more than 60 days.

A religious organization that is part of the structure (is a part) or is connected with the structure of another religious organization, in respect of which a decision was made to recognize it as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On Protection of the Constitutional Order in the field of activity of religious organizations", together with the report on the elimination of violations, can also file an objection against the fact that it is part of the structure (is part of) or is connected with the structure or is otherwise affiliated with such a religious organization.

On the basis of the materials collected in the process of research, including the report and other documents provided by the religious organization, the central executive body implementing the state policy in the field of religion establishes the presence or absence of grounds for a conclusion on the elimination of violations or the erroneousness of the decree issued on elimination of violations. A remedial order issued in error is revoked and the religious organization is notified.

When establishing the presence or absence of grounds for concluding that violations have been eliminated or that the ruling on the elimination of violations is incorrect, the rules for assessing the presence or absence of signs of affiliation, established by this article, are applied. If, within the period established by this article, the religious organization did not submit a report on the elimination of the violation or the provided report did not confirm the elimination of the violations specified in the order on the elimination of violations, and in the absence of grounds for revoking the order on the elimination of violations, the relevant religious organization is recognized as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", about which the central executive body implementing the state policy in the field of religion makes a corresponding decision, notifies the relevant religious organization in writing and publishes the announcement on its official website.

After making a decision to recognize a religious organization as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", the central executive body implementing state policy in the field of religion:

- 1) sends an order to eliminate violations to religious organizations, in respect of which there are signs of affiliation with a religious organization, which is recognized as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of

Activities of Religious Organizations", and/or religious organizations that are part of the structure (are part of) or are related to the structure of such a religious organization, recognized as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activity religious organizations";

2) sends a notice of recognition of the relevant religious organization as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", to the State Property Fund of Ukraine, local self-government bodies, other legal and natural persons, in respect of whom there is information about their provision of property to the relevant religious organization, for the early termination of the rights to use the property, including the early termination of lease agreements for the relevant property concluded with the religious organization, cancellation (early termination) of decisions on the provision of the relevant property for use;

3) applies to the court with a claim for the termination of a religious organization on the basis of paragraph 6 of the second part of this article.

A religious organization at any time after being recognized as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", may submit to the central body of executive power, which implements state policy in the field of religion, a statement on revocation of the decision to recognize her as an affiliate in connection with her independent elimination of the signs of affiliation established by Article 5-1 of this Law. A report on the elimination of violations with relevant supporting evidence is attached to such a statement. The application and the report attached to it are considered in the general procedure established by this article";

#### [RESULTING LACK OF PROPERTY RIGHTS]

g) in Article 17:

after the second part, add eight new parts of the following content:

"State and/or communal property, including religious buildings, structures and property cannot be used or transferred to a religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", as well as religious organizations whose activities are not allowed in accordance with Article 5-1 of this Law.

The right to use state and/or communal property granted to religious organizations whose activities are not allowed in accordance with Article 5-1 of this Law, and contracts concluded with such religious organizations related to the use of state or communal property (rent, hire, leasing, other forms of using someone else's property) are terminated early, 60 days from the date of adoption of the decision to recognize the relevant religious organization as affiliated with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with



Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations". Contracts related to the use of state and/or communal property by a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations" are terminated early, 60 days after the entry into force of the said by law.

Acts committed in violation of part three of this article are null and void.

A religious building or structure is a building or structure that is an object of immovable property, specially designed to meet religious needs by holding religious services, religious rites, ceremonies, processions, rituals, prayers, services, religious gatherings and providing other types of religious practice.

A complex of religious buildings is a topographically defined set of separate or connected religious buildings, structures, as well as other objects necessary to ensure the religious practice of a religious organization. Religious property is property intended for worship services, religious rites, ceremonies, processions, rituals, prayers, services, religious gatherings and provision of other types of religious practice.

In case of doubts about the belonging of a building, construction or property to cults, the central executive body implementing the state policy in the field of religion can appoint a religious examination.

Religious organizations have the right to receive religious buildings, structures and property in state and/or communal ownership for free use for the purpose of worship, religious rites, ceremonies, processions, rituals, prayers, services, religious gatherings, religious education and provision other types of religious practice in accordance with the internal guidelines of the religious organization in the manner established by law."

In this regard, parts three to ten shall be considered parts eleven to eighteen, respectively; part eighteen should be set out in the following wording:

"Decisions of state bodies on matters of ownership and use of religious buildings and property can be appealed in an administrative procedure in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Administrative Procedure" and/or in a judicial procedure provided for by the Code of Administrative Procedure of Ukraine";

h) part two of Article 18 shall be amended as follows:

"It is forbidden to take any actions, the consequence of which may be the alienation of the property of a religious organization, in particular its sale, exchange, pledge, mortgage, free transfer to the ownership or management of other persons, until the procedure for changing one's subordination in canonical and organizational matters is completed any religious association operating in Ukraine and abroad by registering a new version of the statute (regulations) in accordance with the procedure established by this Law and state registration of changes to information about a legal entity in accordance with the procedure established by the Law of

Ukraine "On State Registration of Legal Entities , natural persons - entrepreneurs and public organizations";

i) in Article 20:

put the title in the following version:

"Article 20. Disposition of property, funds and other assets of religious organizations that have ceased to exist";

in the first part, exclude the word "activities"; in the second part of the words "activities" and "former" to exclude;

in the fourth part, replace the word "ceased its activity" with the word "ceased";

in the fifth part, the word "activities" should be excluded; [The existing fifth part reads: "In the event of termination of the activities of a religious organization due to violation of this Law and other legislative acts of Ukraine, property owned by it, with the exception of cult property, may be transferred to the state free of charge. Cult property is transferred to other religious organizations.]

i) add a new part of the following content to Article 24 after the second part:

#### [CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS]

"Relations and/or connections, and/or communications of religious organizations with foreign religious organizations, the activities of which are prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", are allowed with the individual approval of the central body of the executive power that implements state policy in the field of religion, and are subject to monitoring in the manner established by law."

In this regard, parts three and four shall be considered parts four and five, respectively;

#### [ADDITIONAL POWERS OF DESS]

j) Article 30 shall be supplemented with paragraphs eight to thirteen with the following contents:

"conducting a study on the issue of the presence of signs of affiliation of a religious organization with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation;

recognition of a religious organization as affiliated with a religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations";

issuance of a mandatory order to eliminate violations of the legislation on freedom of conscience and religious organizations, the form of which is approved by the central executive body that implements state policy in the field of religion;

providing individual consent to relations and/or connections, and/or communications with a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and monitoring of connections and contacts with such a foreign religious organization;

applying to the court with a claim for the termination of a religious organization in cases established by law;

implementation of other actions defined by this Law";

#### [AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ACTS]

4) in the third paragraph of the third part of Article 23 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Prosecutor's Office" (Vedomosti of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2015, No. 2-3, Article 12 with subsequent amendments) to exclude the words "religious organizations";

5) in the Law of Ukraine "On State Registration of Legal Entities, Individuals — Entrepreneurs, and Public Organizations" (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2016, No. 2, Article 17 with the following amendments):

a) the third paragraph of clause 14 of the first part of Article 1 shall be amended as follows:

"the central body of executive power that implements state policy in the field of religion, - in the case of state registration of legal entities - religious organizations (religious centers, administrations, monasteries, religious brotherhoods, missions and spiritual educational institutions); The Council of Ministers of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, regional, Kyiv and Sevastopol city state administrations - in the case of state registration of legal entities - religious organizations (religious communities)";

b) add the fourth paragraph of the second part of Article 4 with the following content:

"State registration of legal entities - religious organizations (religious communities) on the basis of documents submitted in paper or electronic form is carried out regardless of the location of the religious organization (religious community). In case of termination of a legal entity - a religious organization (religious community) on the basis of a court decision on the termination of such a religious organization (religious community), the state registration of the termination is carried out by the subject of state registration at the location of the corresponding legal entity";

c) the third paragraph of clause 6 of the first part of Article 15 should be read as follows:

"The effect of the second paragraph of this clause in the part of the notarization of the authenticity of the signature does not extend to the state registration of changes to the

information about the state body, local self-government body, public association, charitable organization or religious organization contained in the Unified State Register, as well as to the state registration of changes to information about a legal entity made on the basis of an administrative act of a state body, a local self-government body";

6) in Article 9 of the Law of Ukraine "On Leasing of State and Communal Property" (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2020, No. 4, Article 25):

#### [PROHIBITION OF TRANSFER OF STATE OR COMMUNAL PROPERTY]

add part two with the words "except for the transfer to a religious organization for free use or loan of state or communal property, which is cult property, in particular, a cult building, structure, for the purpose of holding services, religious rites, ceremonies, processions, rituals, prayers, services, religious gatherings, religious education and provision of other types of religious practice in the order determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine";

after the second part, add a new part of the following content:

"3. It is prohibited to transfer state and/or communal property for free use or loan or lease to a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and to legal entities, owners, participants which is such a foreign religious organization, as well as religious organizations whose activities are not allowed in accordance with Article 5-1 of the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations". In the event that the signs of affiliation, defined by the specified article, are discovered after the transfer of property for free use or loan, or lease, the corresponding contract is terminated early, and the decision on the transfer is revoked on the basis of a corresponding notification of the central executive body that implements the state policy in the field of religion".

In this regard, part three shall be considered part four;

7) part eight of Article 51 of the Law of Ukraine "On prevention and countermeasures against the legalization (laundering) of criminal proceeds, the financing of terrorism and the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction" (Vedomosti Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2020, No. 25, Article 171; from as amended by the Law of Ukraine dated September 6, 2022 No. 2571-IX) add the words "religious organizations" after the words "that carry out professional self-government in the field of notary";

8) in the first part of Article 1 of the Law of Ukraine "On the prohibition of propaganda of the Russian Nazi totalitarian regime, armed aggression of the Russian Federation as a terrorist state against Ukraine, symbols of the military invasion of the Russian Nazi totalitarian regime in Ukraine" (News of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, 2023, No. No. 47-50, Article 120):

add item 1-1 with the following content:

#### [DEFINITION OF "RUSSIAN WORLD"]

"1-1) the ideology of the "Russian world" is a Russian neo-colonial doctrine based on chauvinistic, Nazi, racist, xenophobic, religious ideas, images and goals, the destruction of Ukraine, the genocide of the Ukrainian people, the non-recognition of the sovereignty of Ukraine and other states, which has for the purpose of violent expansion of the Russian supranational imperial space as a way of realizing the special civilizational right of Russians to mass murders, state terrorism, military invasion of other states, occupation of territories, expansion of the canonical territory of the Russian Orthodox Church beyond the territory of the Russian Federation";

paragraph 3 should be supplemented with the words "popularization of the ideology of the 'Russian world' in any way and/or by any means."

[GENERAL PROVISIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5]

3. After 60 days from the date of entry into force of this Law, contracts for the free use or loan or lease of state and/or communal property concluded with a foreign religious organization whose activities are prohibited in Ukraine shall be prematurely terminated.

4. Religious organizations that, as of the date of entry into force of this Law, have registered their statutes (regulations) in accordance with the legislation on freedom of conscience and religious organizations, are obliged to bring their activities, statutes (regulations) into force within three months from the date of entry into force of this Law compliance with the requirements of this Law.

5. Any activity of legal entities whose owner is a foreign religious organization whose activity is prohibited in Ukraine is prohibited. Such legal entities must bring their activities into compliance with the requirements of this Law within three months from the date of entry into force of this Law.

6. Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine:

1) within three months from the date of publication of this Law:

ensure the adoption of normative legal acts necessary for the implementation of this Law; to bring its normative legal acts into compliance with this Law;

to ensure that ministries and other central bodies of executive power bring their regulatory acts into compliance with this Law;

to carry out measures prescribed by law regarding the return of state property from the use of a foreign religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the Field of Activities of Religious Organizations", and religious organizations whose activity is prohibited in accordance with Article 5- 1 of the Law of Ukraine "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations";

2) within six months from the date of publication of this Law, take measures established by law to return state property from the use of legal entities, the owner of which is a foreign

religious organization, the activity of which is prohibited in Ukraine in accordance with Article 3 of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of the Constitutional Order in the activities of religious organizations".