

CHAPTER 28

Participation in european union agencies and programmes*Article 450*

Ukraine shall be allowed to participate in EU agencies relevant to the implementation of this Agreement and other EU agencies, where their establishing regulations permit, and as laid down by these establishing regulations. Ukraine shall enter into separate agreements with the EU to enable its participation in each such agency and to set the amount of its financial contribution.

Article 451

Ukraine shall be allowed to participate in all current and future programmes of the Union that are opened to the participation of Ukraine in accordance with the relevant provisions adopting those programmes. Ukraine's participation in the programmes of the Union shall be in accordance with the provisions laid down in the annexed Protocol III on a Framework Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine on the General Principles for the Participation of Ukraine in Union Programmes of 2010.

Article 452

The EU shall inform Ukraine in the case of establishment of new EU agencies and new programmes of the Union, as well as regarding changes in terms of participation in the programmes of the Union and agencies, mentioned in the Articles 450 and 451 of this Agreement.

TITLE VI

FINANCIAL COOPERATION, WITH ANTI-FRAUD PROVISIONS*Article 453*

Ukraine shall benefit from financial assistance through the relevant EU funding mechanisms and instruments. Such financial assistance will contribute to achieving the objectives of this Agreement and will be provided in accordance with the following Articles of this Agreement.

Article 454

The main principles of financial assistance shall be as envisaged in the relevant EU Financial Instrument Regulations.

Article 455

The priority areas of the EU financial assistance agreed by the Parties shall be laid down in relevant indicative programmes reflecting agreed policy priorities. The indicative amounts of assistance established in these indicative programmes shall take into account Ukraine's needs, sector capacities and progress with reforms.

Article 456

In order to make the best use of the resources available, the Parties shall endeavour to have EU assistance implemented in close cooperation and coordination with other donor countries, donor organisations and international financial institutions, and in line with international principles of aid effectiveness.

Article 457

The fundamental legal, administrative and technical basis of financial assistance shall be established within the framework of relevant agreements between the Parties.

Article 458

The Association Council shall be informed of the progress and implementation of financial assistance, and its impact upon pursuing the objectives of this Agreement. To that end, the relevant bodies of the Parties shall provide appropriate monitoring and evaluation information on a mutual and permanent basis.

Article 459

1. The Parties shall implement assistance in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and shall cooperate in protecting of the financial interests of the EU and of Ukraine as set out in Annex XLIII to this Agreement. The Parties shall take effective measures to prevent and fight fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities, inter alia by means of mutual administrative assistance and mutual legal assistance in the fields covered by this Agreement.
2. To this end, Ukraine shall also gradually approximate its legislation in line with the provisions as set out in Annex XLIV to this Agreement.
3. Annex XLIII to this Agreement shall be applicable to any further agreement or financing instrument to be concluded between the Parties, and any other EU financing instrument to which Ukraine may be associated, without prejudice to any other additional clauses covering audits, on-the-spot checks, inspections, controls, and anti-fraud measures, such as, inter alia, those conducted by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Court of Auditors (ECA).

TITLE VII

INSTITUTIONAL, GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

CHAPTER 1

Institutional framework*Article 460*

1. The highest level of political and policy dialogue between the Parties shall be at Summit level. Summit meetings shall take place in principle once a year. The Summit shall provide overall guidance for the implementation of this Agreement as well as an opportunity to discuss any bilateral or international issues of mutual interest.
2. At ministerial level, regular political and policy dialogue shall take place within the Association Council established by Article 461 of this Agreement and within the framework of regular meetings between representatives of the Parties by mutual agreement.

Article 461

1. An Association Council is hereby established. It shall supervise and monitor the application and implementation of this Agreement and periodically review the functioning of this Agreement in the light of its objectives.
2. The Association Council shall meet at ministerial level at regular intervals, at least once a year, and when circumstances require. The Association Council shall meet in all necessary configurations, by mutual agreement.
3. In addition to supervising and monitoring the application and implementation of this Agreement, the Association Council shall examine any major issues arising within the framework of this Agreement and any other bilateral or international issues of mutual interest.

Article 462

1. The Association Council shall consist of members of the Council of the European Union and members of the European Commission, on the one hand, and of members of the Government of Ukraine, on the other.
2. The Association Council shall establish its own rules of procedure.
3. The Association Council shall be chaired in turn by a representative of the Union and a representative of Ukraine.
4. Where appropriate, and by mutual agreement, other bodies will take part as observers in the work of the Association Council.