

working in the field of law for at least 5 years and knows the Ukrainian language. The process of appointing judges to the post consists of 15 stages. It is based on the competitive selection, which is an important improvement. What is more, new Law seeks to increase transparency by creating the Public Council of Integrity, even though the position of this body is still speculative. This shows that Ukrainian system has made a significant step forward, but along with the benefits of reform (competition system, increasing transparency of the selection procedure for a judge, etc.), there are some shortcomings (declarative position of the decisions of the Public Council of Integrity). This is only the first step to make our justice effective.

Thus, it is worth mentioning that Ukraine has rather high requirements for candidates for the position of judge which are in line with the public importance and authority of this position. What is more, with regard to the selection and training of judges and their appointment and selection, it is necessary to adhere to certain European and international standards - transparency, openness, and prevention of pressure on the formation of judicial corps by state authorities and political parties. All these aspects should be discovered in order to enhance and improve our judiciary system. All things considered, the improvement of the personnel policy will help to increase the efficiency and transparency of the judiciary, facilitate citizens' access to the system of court settlement of disputes, provide real legal and institutional guarantees for the protection of human and citizens' rights and freedoms.

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## **DEMOCRACY**

Democracy in modern usage, is a system of government in which the citizens exercise power directly or elect representatives from among themselves to form a governing body, such as a parliament.[1] Democracy is sometimes referred to as "rule of the majority".[2] Democracy is a system of processing conflicts in which outcomes depend on what participants do, but no single force controls what occurs and its outcomes.

The uncertainty of outcomes is inherent in democracy, which makes all forces struggle repeatedly for the realization of their interests, being the devolution of power from a group of people to a set of rules.[3] Western democracy, as distinct from that which existed in pre-modern societies, is generally considered to have originated in city states such as Classical Athens and the Roman Republic, where various schemes and degrees of enfranchisement of the free male population were observed before the form disappeared in the West at the beginning of late antiquity. The English word dates to the 16th century, from the older Middle French and Middle Latin equivalents.

According to political scientist Larry Diamond, democracy consists of four key elements: a political system for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections; the active participation of the people, as citizens, in politics and civic life; protection of the human rights of all citizens; a rule of law, in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens.[4]

Democracy contrasts with forms of government where power is either held by an individual, as in an absolute monarchy, or where power is held by a small number of individuals, as in an oligarchy. Nevertheless, these oppositions, inherited from Greek philosophy,[6] are now ambiguous because contemporary governments have mixed democratic, oligarchic, and monarchic elements. Karl Popper defined democracy in contrast to dictatorship or tyranny, thus focusing on opportunities for the people to control their leaders and to oust them without the need for a revolution.

No consensus exists on how to define democracy, but legal equality, political freedom and rule of law have been identified as important characteristics. These principles are reflected in all eligible citizens being equal before the law and having equal access to legislative processes. For example, in a representative democracy, every vote has equal weight, no unreasonable restrictions can apply to anyone seeking to become a representative, and the freedom of its eligible citizens is secured by legitimised rights and liberties which are typically protected by a constitution. Other uses of "democracy" include that of direct democracy.

One theory holds that democracy requires three fundamental principles: upward control (sovereignty residing at the lowest levels of authority), political equality, and social norms by which individuals and institutions only consider acceptable acts that reflect the first two principles of upward control and political equality.

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## **CAREER DEVELOPMENT FOR LAWYERS**

*«Knowing others is intelligence; knowing yourself is true wisdom.*

*Mastering others is strength; mastering yourself is true power».*

*- Tao Te Ching*

It's no news that lawyers must commit to continuous learning and skill development to stay at the top of their game. With so many approaches to professional development—and often limited time to do it in—what's the best tack to take? How do they balance providing the best possible representation for their clients while advancing their careers? How does one benefit the other [1]?

Lawyers are far behind their corporate clients, and even professionals in other professional service firms, in recognizing and appreciating the importance of taking control over their career. The reason for this may lie in the fact that historically the career path of a lawyer was clear – go to a good law school and get good grades, join a major firm to get practical training, “sink or swim” through the process and make partner. This traditional path has not, however,