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## **DIPLOMATIC CORPS**

In the scientific literature on international law, diplomatic and consular service the notion of "diplomatic corps" is used in two meanings – the broad meaning and the narrow one. In the narrow sense, the diplomatic corps is a community of heads of foreign diplomatic missions that are accredited in the host country. In the broad meaning, the diplomatic community is understood not only by the heads of missions but also by the diplomatic staff of all foreign embassies and missions accredited in the capital of the host country. In addition, the notion of diplomatic community can include also members of the families of diplomatic agents (the wife of the latter, their minor children, adult but unmarried daughters, and sometimes even parents of a diplomat).

Such an approach is not justified, since the diplomatic corps is not just a community of individuals involved in the diplomatic sphere. Therefore, the diplomatic corps should be determined first of all as the union of professionals who form a corporation of diplomatic agents accredited in the host country.

The diplomatic corps acts as a unit on the ceremonial and organizational matters in the relations between the members of the diplomatic corps and the authorities of the host country. The main task of diplomacy is the implementation of official relations between sovereign countries on a bilateral basis .

However, the diplomatic corps is not an institution organized in accordance with a rule of international law, nor is it a political association or organization with the status of a legal entity, nor has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of the host country. Only the dean (the head of the corps) has a right to take part in general and certain ceremonial occasions. Collective appearances of the diplomatic corps on the ceremonial matters are possible only in cases of protocol, ceremonial questions: congratulations

on the occasion of the entry of the head of state or the government of the host country; greetings on the occasion of the national holiday of the host country; performances on visits to historical centers, industrial spots, scientific centers of the host country; expressing regret in appropriate cases, etc. .

The dean is only a representational position. Nobody designates or chooses him; the longest stay in the country automatically becomes the dean.

The Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of the host country regularly publishes a list of diplomatic corps accredited in a particular country. Foreign diplomats receive diplomatic cards and special license plates for vehicles to confirm their status.

As for 2017, 77 embassies of foreign states, 18 representations of international organizations, the Delegation of the European Union, one international regional organization, one intergovernmental organization, two monitoring missions and one consultative mission (total number of 101 institutions) are accredited in Ukraine .

Consular posts of foreign states are represented in Ukraine by 23 general consulates, 7 consulates, 1 consular agency, and 109 honorary consulates. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine accredited more than 2,800 people who enjoy various privileges and immunities.

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