lawyer, GRATA International, London, United Kingdom

## POLITICAL RELATIONS BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE UNITED KINGDOM

Diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Great Britain established January 10, 1992. Embassy of Ukraine in the United Kingdom began its work in September 1992. In the same year opened the British Embassy in Ukraine.

The current state of Ukrainian-British relations is characterized by a high level of dialogue between the parties in the political, economic, military and cultural fields, including on the implementation of European integration course of Ukraine. United Kingdom is traditionally an important economic partner for Ukraine, especially in areas such as investment cooperation, banking and financial sector, energy security.

By 2005, President of Ukraine carried out two visits to the UK - in February 1993 and December 1995. Prime Minister of Ukraine visited the UK in April 1996.

The events of November-December 2004 in Ukraine attracted much attention of political circles and the public in Great Britain. As a result, bilateral relations between Kyiv and London in 2005 acquired a new quality speakers.

However, the complex internal political processes in Ukraine after the "Orange Revolution" during 2006-2007, and the focus of the British political establishment on its own internal problems affected the development of Ukrainian-British political dialogue, in particular, reduced the intensity of contacts at the highest level.

2008-2009 were characterized by the strengthening of bilateral relations and conduct a large number of visits at all levels. In particular, there have been three visits of the President of Ukraine to the United Kingdom (May, October 2008, January 2009) and the visit of the Speaker of Ukraine to the UK (October 2009) and others. Following the visit in May 2008, the President of Ukraine to the United Kingdom adopted a joint statement which declared strategic character of Ukrainian-British relations.

Changes in the political leadership of Ukraine and the United Kingdom on the basis of national elections in 2010 did not affect the fundamental nature of the bilateral dialogue Kyiv and London. Continued active political contacts leadership of both countries.

In January 2011, the World Economic Forum in Davos working meeting of the President of Ukraine and Prime Minister of Great Britain. In the period 2010-2012, there was also a number of mutual visits of foreign ministers of both countries, as well as a working visit to London, the Prime Minister of Ukraine (27-28 July). However, the years 2012-2013 were characterized as certain slowdown Ukrainian-British political relations, especially the political dialogue at the highest level. This trend was due primarily negative assessments of democratic development in Ukraine.

Since the beginning of the Russian aggression against Ukraine in 2014. The United Kingdom actively supported the Ukraine. In this context, the official London implemented a series of sanctions and restrictive measures unilateral and multilateral formats. The UK has provided and continues to provide active

assistance to Ukraine at the sites of international organizations such as the United Nations (especially the UN Security Council), OSCE, NATO, the Council of Europe, EU, UNESCO. Active political dialogue at the highest and high levels has risen to an unprecedented high level for the entire history of bilateral relations. Since 2014 there have been: a meeting of Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Vilyamom Hague as part of his visit to Ukraine (March 3), the meeting of Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Prime Minister of Great Britain's David Cameron at the Summit in Brussels (March 6), the meeting of the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister of Great Britain David Cameron commemorating the 70th anniversary of the landing of troops in Normandy, Hitler coalition in 1944 (June 6) and number of contacts on the foreign agencies (3 March, 1 April, 7 May, 23 June). In the second half of 2014 should note the working visit of the President of Ukraine to the UK to participate in the activities of the NATO Summit (4-5) September m.Nyuport) and the meeting of the President of Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Prime Minister David Cameron, in the framework of the EU Council on August 30 and 69-th session of the UN on September 25 respectively. November 18-19 London visited by the wife of President of Ukraine Maryna Poroshenko, with which a series of presentations patronovanyh her humanitarian projects.

Equally dynamic in the context of bilateral relations began in 2015. President Poroshenko maintained regular contact with the Prime Minister David Cameron. In particular, the two presidents met within the 51 th Munich Security Conference (02.08.2015), EU Council meeting in Brussels (02/12/2015), the 70th session of the United Nations in New York (27/09/2015). Prime Minister of Ukraine Mr. Yatsenyuk also met with Prime Minister D. Cameron during his working visit to London (07/15/2015). It is also worth noting a working visit to Ukraine State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Philip Hammond (03/05/2015). Head of Foreign Office met with President Petro Poroshenko, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Volodymyryrom Groisman, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin.

8-9 July 2016 Warsaw during the NATO summit held meetings of the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister of Great Britain D. Cameron and Foreign Minister Klimkin Ukraine and its British counterpart V.Hemmonda.

2016 marked an important British political life event - June 23 in the country was made a national referendum, which resulted in the British called for the withdrawal of the United Kingdom and the EU. The results of the referendum in July there were changes in UK Government. Despite paying priority attention to the release of the UK and the EU to develop a model of future relations with the EU, Ukraine and the UK continue to maintain high-level political dialogue.

In particular, the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and the new Prime Minister of Great Britain T.Mey held a telephone conversation on August 1. Also held a working meeting (September 1) and the official visit (14-15 September), the newly appointed State Secretary for Foreign Affairs B.Dzhonsona UK Kyiv. Defense Minister of Ukraine was on a working visit to Britain on 7-8 September.

At present, the United Kingdom remains a consistent supporter of the European course of our country, fully supporting Ukraine in the fight against Russian aggression.