



Report on the activities of the Open Dialog Foundation for the year 2016

1. Basic information about the foundation:

a) Name: OPEN DIALOG FOUNDATION

b) Seat, address: 00-580 WARSAW, AL. SZUCHA 11A/21

c) Date of entry into the National Court Register: 12.04.2010

d) KRS: 0000353754, REGON: 060615226

e) Basic information about the Foundation's Management Board members according to the current entry in the court register:

Name and surname:

Lyudmyla Kozlovska – President of the Management Board

f) Statutory goals of the Foundation:

- Humanitarian activities;
- Supporting activities for the development of civil society in Poland and in other countries developing democracy;
- Scientific, educational, and cultural activities related to social and economic movements, which care for the development of civil society;
- Supporting the development of education and culture;
- Conducting international election observation missions at various state levels;
- Promoting and implementing tested strategies and methods to support development at the local and international level;
- Carrying out activities aimed at building partnership between Poland and other countries;
- Promoting and supporting activities to support the integration of countries developing democracy with other entities of international law;
- Initiating, promoting and supporting actions conducive to the process of civilisational and cultural changes that help create equal opportunities in intellectual, professional, social and cultural development;
- Promoting and supporting student self-government development initiatives in Poland and abroad.

2. Rules, forms and scope of statutory activities; implementation of statutory objectives:

2.1 Scope of activities:

1. Organising humanitarian aid;
2. Promoting and popularising democratic ideas and civil society;

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3. Organising and using mass media;
 4. Organising and conducting trainings and workshops for enterprises, institutions, local government organisations, social movements and other non-governmental organisations;
 5. Organising and conducting consultations and coaching for persons representing enterprises, institutions, local government organisations, social movements and other non-governmental organisations;
 6. Organising events, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, advertising campaigns and concerts;
 7. Publishing activities.

2.2 The process of pursuing the 2016 targets

The 'Ukrainian World' Centre

In mid-2016, the Foundation closed the Warsaw-based help centre for Ukrainian citizens, the 'Ukrainian World' (although financial issues were the decisive factor here; an important role was also played by the complex ownership situation related to claims made by the heirs of the building's pre-war owners).

Relations between Poland / EU and Ukraine

The Foundation continued its previous activities to support Polish–Ukrainian dialogue in order to build good neighbourly relations and strategic cooperation between the two countries, as well as expert and civic cooperation. The representatives of the Foundation remained active in the media in this area, and numerous thematic events were organised in the 'Ukrainian World' centre (until mid-2016), and – in cooperation with the 'Euromaidan Warsaw' Foundation – street campaigns of solidarity with Ukraine were carried out, as well as protests against the Russian aggression and war crimes in the occupied territories of Ukraine (including near the Warsaw Embassy of Russia, campaigns such as: 'Stop Putin's War In Ukraine' or 'Stop Killing Ilmi Umerov!' were organised).

In August 2016, the Foundation organised a protest action against human rights violations in Kazakhstan (in connection with the visit of Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev to Warsaw).

In cooperation with the Kiev Dialogue / European Exchange and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, the project 'Youth support as an impulse for strengthening democracy in Ukraine' was implemented; it was aimed at supporting Ukrainian youth in developing interest in socio-political processes and involving them in civic affairs in Ukraine by promoting democratic values. In practice, the project included a series of study visits by Ukrainian youth to EU countries.

As part of assistance to Ukrainian migrants (also following the closure of 'Ukrainian World'), we also provided free consultations regarding the legalisation of stays and work in Poland and we conducted trainings within the framework of an Academy specially set up for this purpose. The Polish-language courses were also an important element of the activities we carried out.

In September 2016, in cooperation with Global Compact NetWork Poland, we organised a panel devoted to human rights in the era of modern armed conflicts, being directly responsible for the Ukrainian context of the issue (Russian war crimes on the territory of the Donbas, which is not controlled by Ukraine).

We continued to support the development of economic relations as part of the Open Europe Group project, providing consultations to Ukrainian entrepreneurs.

Humanitarian aid for Ukraine

In essence, humanitarian aid was not provided in the reporting year. The exception was the support of Ukrainian schools in the vicinity of Chernobyl; the aid was provided due to the initiative and financial support of The Farm

51 Group SA (more information later in the report).

Support for reforms and changes in Ukraine

In the reporting year, implementation was completed on a civic education project for the Ukrainian society that was related to the lustration act financed by the USAID agency (as part of the Fair Justice Project). The project ended with an expert seminar in Kiev (April 2016).

The Foundation's experts participated in the work of the civic coalition of Ukrainian non-governmental organisations – the Reanimation Reform Package.

In connection with the defence of the Polish citizen Aleksander Orlov, the Foundation began to monitor the situation in the Ukrainian penitentiary system (in particular, in terms of detention conditions in detention centres and the situation of persons permanently imprisoned in them).

Medical programme

Under the direction of Dr. Ruslan Romanyshyn (in cooperation with the Ministry of Health Protection of Ukraine), activities initiated in the previous year were continued.

As part of the Polish–Ukrainian Programme for Development and Training of Health Care Professionals of Ukraine, a conference was organised to discuss the possibilities of cooperation in the field of education and work (including recognition of education) of Ukrainian students and employees of the health care system in Poland.

The Foundation intensified internship programmes (increasing the number of study visits and internships) of Ukrainian medical students in Poland) – several contracts were signed for this purpose with hospitals in the Mazowieckie Voivodship.

Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia

This area, i.e. activities for the release of Ukrainian political prisoners in the Russian Federation who have been imprisoned in connection with Russia's aggression against Ukraine and the occupation of Crimea, was one of the main directions of the Foundation's activity in the reporting year.

These activities were carried out as part of the international campaign 'LetMyPeopleGo', initiated by the Center For Civil Liberties / Euromaidan SOS and also supported, among others, by the Ukrainian Helsinki Group of Human Rights, Euromaidan Press, People in Need, Euromaidan Warsaw, and the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

A spectacular turning point in this area was the regaining of freedom by the Ukrainian soldier Nadia Savchenko in May 2016. Efforts to bring about her release from prison were carried out by the Foundation in institutions and member states of the EU, as well as at the first Free Russia Forum in Vilnius in March 2016 (as a result, the representatives of Russian opposition and civic circles gathered at the Forum adopted a resolution of solidarity with Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia, calling for the release of N. Savchenko).

The Chernobyl VR Project

In 2016, along with the Polish company The Farm 51, cooperation was initiated on the innovative project Chernobyl VR Project, a virtual museum of areas directly affected by the Chernobyl disaster in 1986. We co-organised its world premiere in Kiev under the patronage of Mayor Vitaliy Klitschko, and on 1 July, 2016, the Warsaw premiere was held. Subsequently, along with a number of partners, we carried out assistance activities, as Farm 51 allocated part of the proceeds from the sale of applications to assistance for schools and children from around Chernobyl.

Analytical and information activities

This was a fundamental basis for the Foundation's activities in other areas.

The main themes of the Foundation's reports and other studies in 2016 included:

1. violations of human rights in Kazakhstan (with an emphasis on the situation of political prisoners);
2. the case of Kazakhstani businessman and oppositionist Mukhtar Ablyazov and a number of people associated with him (extradition and refugee cases in EU countries, persecution from Kazakhstan in cooperation with Russia and Ukraine);
3. the matter of Interpol reform (in order to increase the protection of refugees and other people persecuted for political reasons) and the cases of people prosecuted for political reasons;
4. the 'LetMyPeopleGo' campaign – the case of Nadia Savchenko and a number of other Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia;
5. the case of Aleksander Orlov, a Polish citizen who spent many years in a detention centre in Odessa; this gave the impulse for a wider take up of the topic and the creation of a report on the long-term detention of people in Ukrainian detention facilities as a result of violation of reasonable deadlines for criminal proceedings; this study was created in cooperation with the Ukrainian Bar Association and the Dutch institute, the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO);
6. persecution of human rights defenders and other representatives of civil society in Moldova,

The Foundation's papers have been presented and discussed within the framework of lobbying activities outlined below.

All reports and papers are available at the Foundation's website: <http://odfoundation.eu/> (the page has four language versions: Polish, English, Russian, Ukrainian). <http://odfoundation.eu/>

The Foundation also carried out intensive communication in Polish and foreign media as well as on social media via the following official pages on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OpenDialogFoundation/>, <https://www.facebook.com/ODFUKR/> (the page of the Kiev office of the Foundation), <https://www.facebook.com/UkrainskiSwiat/> (the page of the 'Ukrainian World' centre) and Twitter: <https://twitter.com/odfoundation>.

Lobbying activities (*advocacy*)

Traditionally, lobbying has been the Foundation's area of greatest effort and activity.

It was coordinated by the Brussels office (apart from activities in Poland and Ukraine run by the Foundation's local offices). Its instruments were mostly cooperation with parliamentarians from EU countries and members of the European Parliament. The Foundation also had intensive relations with a number of EU institutions, other international organisations and diplomatic missions.

Representatives of the Foundation participated in the most important sessions and meetings of several international institutions in Brussels / Strasbourg (European Parliament), Strasbourg (Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe), Vienna (Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) and Geneva (UN). This involvement includes participation in public consultations initiated by these organisations and active communication with key stakeholders, both at the level of the aforementioned international organisations as well as many EU Member States, i.e. France, Great Britain, Italy, Poland, Spain, the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria, Portugal, Belgium and the Netherlands.

The Foundation continued to monitor the situation regarding respect for human rights in the post-Soviet region, and – through the preparation of publications and organisation of events and meetings – carried out advocacy at the European and international level in order to draw people's attention to general problems and specific, most often individual cases of violations of human rights.

In 2016, the work of the Foundation's advocacy team focused on the rights of prisoners and political refugees in

post-Soviet countries and EU Member States, including our main campaigns on Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia and the illegally annexed Crimea, as well as political abuse of the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) and international legal cooperation undertaken by undemocratic states to persecute their opponents and critics living abroad.

In connection with the persecution of Moldovan attorneys and human rights defenders, Anna Ursachi and Eduard Rudenco, whose defence was taken up by the Foundation, the Foundation became involved in advocacy for human rights and the rule of law in this country for the first time (primarily in the context of Moldova's integration with European structures as a country that had signed the association agreement with the EU).

In the reporting year, successes, that is, the release of those persecuted for political reasons, crowned many of the Foundation's activities initiated in previous years.

In 2016, due to pressure from the international community, Vladimir Kozlov, a political prisoner of Kazakhstan (August 2016) and Nadia Savchenko (May 2016) were released, along with three other Ukrainian 'Kremlin hostages': Yuriy Soloshenko, Hennadiy Afanasyev (June 2016) and Hayser Dzhemilev (November 2016). In the same month, Umyt Hallyyev, a Turkmen independent journalist and former co-worker of Free Europe/Freedom Radio was granted asylum and the right to family reunification in the Netherlands, and just before that, Gyuzyal Baydalinova, a Kazakhstani independent journalist and editor of Nakanune.kz, was released, and her court sentence was suspended (July 2016).

In December 2016, France refused to extradite Mukhtar Ablyazov, a Kazakhstani oppositionist and businessman, to Russia and Ukraine, while in the first half of the year, Lithuania refused to extradite Syrym Shalabayev, the brother of Ablyazov's wife, to Kazakhstan and Ukraine (June 2016). The case of Aleksander Orlov also ended successfully. As a result of a large-scale campaign, the Polish investigative journalist and human rights defender was released from detention in Ukraine (May 2016).

In autumn 2016, the Foundation organised an event in the European Parliament. The event was entitled *The Minsk Agreements, EU-Russia relations and the role of sanctions*. In February this year, it organised, among others, a hearing and a debate entitled *Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia and the occupied Crimea*. The event was accompanied by a screening of the film by the Crimean film director and political prisoner Oleg Sentsov. The direct result of these activities was the European Parliament's resolution of 16 March 2017.

Summary

In 2016, due to limited financial resources, the Foundation gradually ceased to be active in many areas it had previously operated in. The scale of operations, the number of co-workers and volunteers decreased significantly, and various programmes have been closed.

In the second half of the reporting year, the headquarters in Kiev was closed (which had been established on the wave of events on Maidan and projects dedicated to Ukrainian reforms in 2014). Recognising the enormity of the needs, the Management Board's priority was to improve the financial situation of the Foundation by effective raising of funds for its activities.

At the same time, in the reporting year, many people whom the Foundation had been defending in previous years regained their freedom.

Completely new activities were launched in two areas: human rights defence and support of the rule of law in Moldova, as well as involvement in the implementation of the Chernobyl VR Project.

2.3. Legal events with financial consequences:

PLN 2,891.75, payment of the main receivable, interest and bailiff costs due to the appropriation of cash by volunteers

3. Information on business activity according to the entry in the Register of Entrepreneurs of the National Court Register:

In the reporting year, the Foundation conducted business activities in the form of language training services for foreigners. The Foundation's revenue from the aforementioned activities amounted to PLN 231,025.40.

4. Resolutions of the Foundation's Management Board in 2016: the Management Board did not adopt any resolutions.

5. Information on the amount of income earned:

Total revenue: PLN 1,096,024.54, including:

a) Funds obtained from:

grants: PLN 132,241.05;

donations: PLN 713,222.45

b) Financial income: PLN 2,805

c) Other income (including in-kind donations): PLN 305.62

d) Other income: PLN 5,162.00

e) Paid statutory activities: PLN 11,263.02

f) Business activities: PLN 231,025.40

6. Information on costs incurred:

Total costs: PLN 1,210,632.90, including:

a) Cost of conducting statutory activities (cash benefits): PLN 1,014,971.79

b) Administration expenses: PLN 136,588.12

Consumption of materials and energy: PLN 1,599.54;

Outsourced services: PLN 125,626.56;

Taxes and fees: PLN 9,362.02;

Salaries and social insurance: PLN 0.00;

Other costs (including costs carried over from the previous year): PLN 0.00;

c) Financial expenses: PLN 5,674.95;

d) Other costs: PLN 53,398.04;

7. Data on the Foundation's activities in the field of:

a) number of employees: in the reporting year, the Foundation employed 2 persons:

Lyudmyla Kozlovska: Eastern Projects Coordinator,

Natalia Steć: Project Coordinator;

b) total salaries paid by the Foundation: PLN 72,703.92;

c) total annual remuneration paid to members of the Management Board and other bodies of the Foundation: PLN 0.00;

d) expenditure on remuneration under civil law contracts: PLN 316,816.15;

e) cash loans, granted by the Foundation: none

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- f) amounts deposited in bank accounts: the Foundation did not have bank deposits; the balances of current accounts at Alior Bank, as of the last day of the year, amounted to PLN 0.00; USD 0.00 and EUR 0.00; the balances of current deposits in Raiffeisen Bank amounted to PLN 50.31, USD 0.00 and EUR 0.00;
 - g) value of bonds purchased and amount of share equity or shares acquired: the Foundation did not acquire any bonds and did not have any share equity or shares in commercial companies,
 - h) acquired property: the Foundation did not acquire any real estate,
 - i) other acquired assets: the Foundation did not acquire any assets,
 - j) total assets at the end of the year were equal to the Foundation's total liabilities and amounted to: PLN 121,587.06
 - k) information about the Foundation's settlement of incumbent tax liabilities: as of 31 December, 2016, the Foundation was liable to pay the tax office: income tax (PIT-4) in the amount of PLN 37,390.00, corporate income tax (CIT-8) in the amount of PLN 1,827.00, tax on goods and services (VAT-9M) in the amount of PLN 0.00 and Social Insurance contributions in the amount of PLN 37,363.68.
 - l) The Foundation submitted the following statements: CIT-8; VAT-9M; VAT-8; 1FT-2R; PCC-3; P1T-4R; N1P-2.
8. During the reporting period, the Foundation did not execute any orders for public entities.
9. In the reporting period, no fiscal inspections were carried out at the Foundation's seat.

Signature of the President of the Management Board:

Lyudmyla Kozlovska

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Warsaw, 21 December 2017.