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INTEGRATION OF ENGLISH INTO UKRAINIAN PUBLIC LIFE: A NEW LAW AND ITS IMPACT ON EDUCATION, BUSINESS, AND CULTURE

Beginning in the 20th century, English has gained the status of an international language of communication, which has become a crucial factor in the development of global communications. English is used in business negotiations, high-level meetings, and the signing of key international agreements. Today, proficiency in English has become a necessary condition for a successful career and personal development, as well as an important component of professional competence. Due to globalization and the internationalization of business, English has become the language of communication for millions of people around the world. Given these factors, proficiency in English is not only a desirable skill but also a necessity for every professional seeking to succeed in today's world.

Particularly important is the situation in Ukraine, where, on June 4, 2024, the Verkhovna Rada adopted a new law, No. 9432, aimed at integrating the English language into various sectors of public life. This law designates English as one of the languages of international communication in Ukraine, emphasizing the importance of its learning and usage in the context of global processes.

The main provisions of the law include:

1. **Mandatory proficiency in English for civil servants:** The law requires civil servants in categories «A», «B» and «C», heads of local state administrations, military officers, police officers of middle and senior ranks, prosecutors, and employees of customs and tax services to have a mandatory proficiency in English. To meet this requirement, they will be obligated to take a free English language exam organized by the Ministry of Education.

2. **English in education:** Learning English will become mandatory at all levels of education, starting from preschool. Beginning in September 2026, English will be taught in younger preschool groups in a playful format, while in older groups, it will be taught as a full-fledged subject. As a result, English will become an integral part of the curriculum in schools and higher education institutions.

3. **Infrastructure:** Information at train stations, bus terminals, airports, and other public places will be provided in English, helping foreign tourists and businesspeople navigate Ukraine more easily and boosting the country's investment attractiveness.

4. **Cinema:** Up to 10% of foreign films in cinemas will be shown in their original language with Ukrainian subtitles. This will promote the popularization of the English language among viewers and enhance their language competence.

5. Additional incentives: Civil servants with English proficiency at the B2 level or higher will receive a 10% salary bonus for four years after the end of martial law, providing an additional incentive to learn the English language.

This law aims to bring significant changes to the lives of Ukrainians, promoting the country's competitiveness, facilitating international integration, and improving the quality of education.

One of the advantages for the educational system is that learning English from an early age will allow the younger generation to adapt more easily to the global environment. Students will be able to participate in international exchange programs, competitions, and projects, opening up new opportunities for them.

Proficiency in English will also become a significant advantage for professional development, particularly in terms of employment. Civil servants and other professionals will be able to interact more easily with foreign partners, contributing to the development of business and the country's economy.

The infrastructural changes outlined in the law will also improve Ukraine's tourism appeal. Providing information in English at public places will make the country more accessible to foreign tourists and businesspeople.

At the same time, the law presents certain challenges for society, as integrating English into all aspects of life will require significant efforts from educational institutions and state bodies. Therefore, it is crucial to ensure the proper conditions for learning and to support the process of integrating the English language into the everyday life of the country.



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**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LIFE
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES OF UKRAINE
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**INTERNATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
IN SHAPING UKRAINE'S IMAGE:
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES**

**MATERIALS
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC AND PRACTICAL CONFERENCE**

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Kyiv

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Видання розраховано на науковців, викладачів, аспірантів, студентів.

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Forscientists, lecturers, postgraduates, students.

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