Independent, efficient, transparent and predictable courts are an inseparable part of the rule of law and contribute to a positive relationship between the judiciary and society.
OBJECTIVES
This four-year Dutch-Ukrainian project aims to strengthen the connection between the judiciary and society by focusing on:
• promoting self-government of judges and developing judicial governance
• supporting the professionalism of judges and court staff

RATIONALE
The right to a fair, timely and efficient trial by an independent, professional and predictable court is a prerequisite for the rule of law. By facilitating cooperation between Ukrainian and Dutch judges, legal professionals and experts the project works on strengthening the self-government and professionalism of judges, improving court procedures and enhancing the quality of court decisions. By focusing on these areas, the project aims for a more effective and efficient administration of justice, which in turn will promote trust of Ukrainian citizens in their judiciary.

APPROACH
The project is tailored to the specific requirements and needs of several Ukrainian courts. Focused on mutual learning and exchange of best practices, this project brings together Ukrainian and Dutch peers, working as a team towards our shared objectives.

ACTIVITIES
The objectives of the project are realised through a variety of activities, including:
• analysis of judicial core values and public trust in the judiciary
• trainings on the quality of court decisions, legal reasoning and public acceptance
• roundtables on the efficiency, timeliness, transparency and predictability of court proceedings
• workshops to draft guidelines on court proceedings
• peer coaching and knowledge exchange on leadership, teamwork and communication;
• working visits to Dutch courts

PARTICIPATING COURTS
7th Administrative Court of Appeal
Kiev Court of Appeal
North Commercial Court of Appeal
Desnyanskyi District Court of Kyiv
Obukhiv District Court of Kyiv Region

PROJECT PARTNERS:
Dutch Council for the Judiciary
High Council of Justice of Ukraine
Council of Judges of Ukraine
National School of Judges of Ukraine
All-Ukrainian Association of Administrative Judges
Esther de Rooij is Deputy President focusing on international cooperation and the rule of law for the District Court of Amsterdam. She has worked as a judge and court manager at several courts in the Netherlands for over twenty-five years. In addition, she has implemented international cooperation projects in Bosnia, Greece and Ukraine. She is a member of the board of the Dutch foundation Judges for Judges.

Lino Brosius has extensive experience in international legal cooperation and justice reform projects. He has designed and implemented capacity building projects for the EU and the Dutch government in Eastern Europe and the Western Balkans. In Ukraine, he worked on promoting self-government of judges, building confidence in the judiciary and supporting the use of probation and alternative sanctions.

Fleur van Lit is involved in the implementation and monitoring of several international legal cooperation projects in amongst others Ukraine and the Western Balkans. Before joining this project, she contributed to project management of socio-economic development and humanitarian programs worldwide.

Anastasia Syzenko is a project manager based in Kyiv where she supports project administration and implementation of the activities by ensuring communication and collaboration among project participants and partners. She has experience in project management and has worked on international projects in the fields of education, public administration, community development, and criminal justice.
This project is implemented by the Center for International Legal Cooperation (CILC) with the support of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs through the Matra programme. CILC is a non-profit organisation that promotes the rule of law by developing and implementing international legal cooperation projects. CILC works on solutions for challenges within legal systems by capacity building and supporting the exchange of public sector expertise among professionals and academics.

CONTACT
Spui 1
2511 BL The Hague
The Netherlands
+31 (0)70 311 72 50
jsua@cilc.nl
www.cilc.nl