

The Law of Ukraine

On Postal Service

This Law determines the legal, social-economic and organizational grounds for the activities in the sphere of the postal services, and regulates relations between the bodies of state power and local self-government, postal service operators and users of their services.

Article 1. Definition of Main Terms

The terms in this law shall be used in the following meaning:

post office box – the box, properly equipped to prevent unauthorized access, which is mounted inside of postal service objects and can be rented by an addressee for the determined period of time in order to receive postal items, money orders, printed periodicals in his name;

letterbox – the special box, properly equipped to prevent unauthorized access and set for receiving by addressees ordinary postal items, printed periodicals, advices of delivery of the registered postal items.

letterbox cabinet – the special cabinet containing letterboxes, properly equipped to prevent unauthorized access, which is mounted in entrances, vestibules of residential and non-residential buildings to allow addressees to receive ordinary postal items, printed periodicals, advices of delivery of the registered postal items;

addressee (recipient) – the legal entity or the natural person, whom a postal, telegraph or other item is addressed;

printed matter – the postal item containing printed press, business papers, articles of cultural and household or other character, the size, weight and packing procedure of which are set forth in accordance with legislation of Ukraine.

small packet – the international registered postal item, containing samples of goods, small articles of a gift and other character, the sizes, weight and packing procedure of which is set forth in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine.

postal service means – postal devices and equipment, transportation means of postal service, postage stamps, stamped envelopes and cards, as well as buildings (facilities in buildings) used to provide postal services;

letter – the postal item in the form of a postal envelope, which contains a written message or a document, the sizes and weight of which are specified according to the legislation of Ukraine.

franking machine – a machine designed to fix an impression of the state sign on the letter-post items, which confirms payment for postal services, date of posting and other information;

postal service network – the totality of postal service objects and postal routes;

national postal operator (national operator) – the operator providing universal postal services within the whole territory of Ukraine in accordance with the procedure set forth by legislation, which is empowered with the exclusive rights to carry out certain activities in the sphere of the postal services;

postal service objects – post offices, centers processing and conveying mail, zonal centers, centers of postal service, stations of postal service, points of postal services and other units engaged in the integrated production and technological process of provision of postal services;

postal operator (operator) – the subject of entrepreneurial activities providing postal services in accordance with the procedure set forth by legislation;

transfer of monetary funds (money order) – a postal service relating to transmission of a specified monetary amount and its further out-payment to the addressee according to the user's order.

transmission of postal items (money orders) – a series of operations in acceptance, processing, transportation and conveyance (delivery) of postal items (money orders);

letter-post items – ordinary and registered letters, post cards, printed matters, literature for the blind and small packets;

parcel – the postal item, containing articles of cultural and household, and other character, which are not prohibited by legislation for sending, the sizes, weight and packing procedure of which is set forth in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine.

postal services – a product, resulting from the activities of postal operator in acceptance, processing, transportation and conveyance (delivery) of postal items, fulfillment of users' orders relating to money orders, bank transactions, aimed at satisfying users' needs;

postal security – a series of measures, stipulated by legislation, aimed at protection of the information confidence in postal service, safeguard of postal items, monetary funds and postal service means;

post card – a postal item of a standard form containing an open written message;

postage stamp - a state sign, manufactured according to the procedure set forth by legislation, with specified face value and state, serving as the tool of payment for postal services provided by the national operator;

pillar-box – a box, properly equipped, to prevent unauthorized access, which is mounted in places specifically assigned and utilized for collection of ordinary letters and post cards from senders;

postal items – letters, post cards, printed matters, literature for the blind, small packets, international postal items with the insured value, parcels, direct mail containers, registered according to the legislation of Ukraine;

postal service – a process of acceptance, processing, transportation, and conveyance (delivery) of postal items, execution of users' orders relating to money orders, bank transactions;

postal service of the general use – an integral part of the postal service of Ukraine aimed at provision of postal services of the determined level of quality to all users;

postal service of the special use – an integral part of postal service of Ukraine aimed at provision of postal services to the users of certain categories;

post code – a coded postal address, presented as the conditional digital indication of the postal service objects, including rural inhabited localities having no post offices;

literature for the blind – messages, written in a special graphic manner for the blind, printed periodicals for the blind, clichés with special graphic signs for the blind presented in an open manner, as well as audio records and special paper intended exclusively for the blind, provided this literature is sent by the officially acknowledged institutions for the blind or in their address;

users of postal services (users) – natural persons and legal entities using postal services;

universal postal services – a system of postal services of general use of the determined quality level provided to all users within the whole territory of Ukraine according to the tariffs, regulated by the state.

Article 2. Legislation on Postal Service of Ukraine

Relations in the sphere of the postal services are regulated by the Constitution of Ukraine, this and other laws of Ukraine and legal-normative acts, adopted pursuant thereto.

Postal services of the special use (courier and special service) shall be carried out according to the legislation of Ukraine.

If international agreements of Ukraine, ratified by the Verkhovna Rada specify other provisions than those contained in this law, the provisions of the international agreements shall be applied.

Article 3. Main Principles for Carrying out the Postal Services

The main principles for carrying out the postal services are the following:

protection of users' interests in the postal services;

guaranty of the postal services of the determined quality;

accessibility to the market of the postal services;

legislative regulation of relations in the postal services;

ensuring users' rights to the information confidence in the postal services;

ensuring rights of postal operators;

unity of rules, standards and norms in the postal services.

Article 4. Language Use in the Postal Services

The Ukrainian language and other languages shall be used in the sphere of the postal services in Ukraine pursuant to law.

The issue of language use in the international postal service shall be regulated according to the international agreements of Ukraine, ratified the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 5. Accounting and Reporting Time in Postal Service

The unified accounting and reporting time, being in force in Ukraine, shall be applied to the postal services.

Article 6. Protection of the Information Confidence in the Sphere of the Postal Services

The confidence of postal items, including letters and other letter-post items, electronic items sent (transmitted) by means of communication, shall be guaranteed by the Constitution and legislation of Ukraine.

Operators shall take organizational and technical measures to protect information pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine.

Extraction and examination of letter-post items, inserts of other postal items, any information inquiries relating thereto, except for the cases, determined by law, shall be prohibited.

Inserts, prohibited by law for sending in postal items, shall be removed by operators from the postal items according to the procedure set forth by this Law in presence of the sender or the person authorized by him, except for cases, determined by law.

Article 7. State Regulation of the Postal Services

The state regulation of the postal services shall be implemented in order to form the market of the postal services oriented to the user, by means of:

legal-normative support of the activities in the sphere of the postal services;

control over the observance of the legislation on postal service;

formation of the unified scientific and technical policy in the postal services;

licensing the postal services as stipulated by legislation;

formation of the list of quality indicators relating to the postal services and determination of their levels;

standardization and certification of the postal services means;

regulation of postal services' tariffs;

ensuring competition in the postal services.

Article 8. Competence of the Bodies of Executive Power in the Sphere of the Postal Services

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall ensure general regulation of the postal services in accordance with its authorities.

Implementation of the state policy in the sphere of the postal services shall be carried out by the central body of executive power in the sphere of communication, authorized thereto.

The authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication shall undertake the following:

drafting of legal-normative acts regulating the postal services;

determination of the procedure of issuance and withdrawal of postage stamps from circulation;

control over the postal services quality, ensuring postal security and the information confidence in the postal services;

organization of work connected with standardization and certification of the postal services means;

ensuring of training and re-training of cadre engaged in the postal services;

promotion of the development of the postal services market.

Efficient functioning of the postal services market shall be ensured by the National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation on the basis of balancing interests of the society, operators and users of the postal services.

The National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation and its authorities shall be determined by this and other laws of Ukraine.

The National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation shall undertake:

issuance of licenses for provision of the postal services, as determined by laws of Ukraine;

maintenance of the unified state register of postal operators;

formation of the price policy and tariff regulation of the postal services according to the legislation of Ukraine.

The National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation may carry out other functions according to the legislation of Ukraine.

Legal-normative acts of the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication and the decision of the National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation, adopted according to the established procedure, pursuant to its authorities, shall be obligatory relating to their fulfillment by operators and users of the postal services.

Article 9. The Tariff Regulation in the Sphere of the Postal Services

The tariff regulation in the sphere of the postal services shall be carried out by the National Committee of Ukraine on the Issues of Communication Regulation according to the legislation of Ukraine, and it shall stimulate introduction of up-to-date technologies, improvement of quality, increase in volumes and extension of the services' nomenclature.

Exclusively universal postal services are subject to the tariff regulation in the sphere of the postal services.

Article 10. Standardization and Certification of Postal Services Means

The postal services means, applied in the postal service networks of general use, are subject to standardization and certification pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine, in accordance with the list specified by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication.

Article 11. Development of Postal Services Networks and Means

Development and reconstruction of the postal services networks and means shall be carried out pursuant to the state programs of development of the unified national system of communication of Ukraine, taking into account its priority directions and on the basis of the recent achievements of the scientific and technical progress in this sphere.

Development of the postal services networks and means shall be carried out for the account of investments, the sources of which are the resources of operators, funds from the State budget of Ukraine and local budgets, as well as funds of

natural persons and legal entities, engaged or loaned in accordance with the procedure set forth by the legislation of Ukraine.

Article 12. Authorities of the Local Bodies of Executive Power and Bodies of Local Self-Government

The local bodies of executive power and bodies of local self-government, pursuant to their authorities shall:

assist the operators in locating postal service objects in relevant territories;

coordinate the placement of pillar-boxes, carried out by the national operator, in localities convenient for users;

assist operators in conclusion of tenancy agreements with the owners of premises in residential and non-residential buildings, needed to provide postal services;

assist operators to deliver postal items to remote inhabited localities;

consider operators' proposals relating to establishment of favorable conditions for their activities.

While projecting further development of inhabited localities, building and reconstruction of residential blocks in cities, as well as separate residential buildings, the local bodies of executive power and bodies of local self-government shall take measures, according to their authorities, relating to ensuring projecting and building of the postal service objects, needed to organize provision of the universal postal services, pursuant to the stipulated specifications, providing, however, for the possibility of their further transfer to the national operator for their utilization on the privileged conditions.

Transference or re-equipment of the postal service objects belonging to operators, which results from new building, extension or reconstruction of inhabited localities, separate buildings, ways, communications, development of minerals, shall be carried out and funded by the customer of these works in compliance with the technical conditions of the operator.

The local bodies of executive power and bodies of local self-government, in accordance with their authorities, shall take all possible measures to facilitate efficient activities and development of postal service objects in relative territories.

Article 13. Procedure of Provision of Postal Services

The operators shall provide postal services to the users pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine and carry out other entrepreneurial activities according to the procedure set forth by law.

Postal services shall be provided on a contract basis in accordance with the Rules of Provision of the Postal Services, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and shall comply with the stipulated quality standards.

The contract for provision of postal services, if this contract is concluded in writing, or the receipt, or the check etc., if the contract is concluded orally, shall contain the names of the operator and the postal service object providing such services, as well as the date and type of the service, and its value.

The contract for provision of the postal services shall be considered to be concluded after the user pays the value of this service, if anything else is stipulated by the relative contracts.

Article 14. Secure Keeping of Postal Items and Monetary Funds

The operators shall ensure secure keeping of postal items and monetary funds.

The facilities, where processing of postal items is carried out and monetary funds are kept, shall be properly equipped, including installation of the fire-alarm system, and shall comply with the current technical requirements.

In order to safeguard the postal service objects, to ensure preservation of postal items and funds, the operator may have postal security units and militarized guard. The units of militarized guard shall ensure security of the postal service objects, operator's personnel and transportation means, as well as safeguard of postal items and monetary funds. The units of postal security shall take measures relating to prevention of losses and theft of postal items and monetary funds, control over the observance of the requirements as to sending articles and things by means of the postal service network.

In order to protect postal service objects, postal items and monetary funds (inclusively when they are transported) the operators' personnel, specially trained for this, shall be empowered with the right to use arms and means of self-defense and individual protection. The list of the operator's employees, entitled to use arms and means of self-defense and individual protection, shall be stipulated by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication. The procedure of acquisition, accounting, keeping, repairing and destroying the firearms, ammunition thereto, and means of self-defense and individual protection of the operator's personnel, shall be set forth in accordance with law. The procedure of the firearms application shall be determined by law.

Should any defects of postal item (nonconformity between the actual weight and weight indicated in the accompanying documents, damage of wrapper, seals, ties etc.) be discovered, the operator shall register in writing the fact of defect and take measures to deliver such postal item to the addressee or to the sender in accordance with the procedure set forth by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication.

Articles, that may cause danger to life, people's health, destruction or damage of property, shall not be allowed to send. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall determine the list of articles, prohibited for sending in postal items. The procedure of withdrawal of the articles from postal items, prohibited for sending in postal items, and the procedure of their handling, shall be set forth by law.

Article 15. Peculiarities of the National Operator's Activities

The national operator shall ensure provision of the universal postal services within the whole territory of Ukraine according to the list, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

The state shall ensure financial support of the national operator in provision of the universal postal services.

The national operator shall be empowered with the exclusive right to:

publish, issue in circulation and organize distribution of postage stamps, stamped envelopes and cards, as well as withdraw them from circulation;

official publishing of catalogues and price lists of the collection postage stamps and other philatelic products;

send ordinary letters weighting less than 350 g and ordinary post cards;

place and use pillar-boxes for collection of letters and post cards within the whole territory of the state pursuant to the standards set forth by the authorized central body in the sphere of communication;

utilize franking machines and issue permits for their utilization to other natural persons and legal entities;

apply drawing of the State Emblem of Ukraine on pillar-boxes, postal service transportation means, and use in its activities control stamps and insurance stamps bearing drawing of the State Emblem of Ukraine.

The personnel of the national operator, when on duty, shall have the right to wear uniforms and badges, specimens of which shall be approved by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication.

The costs resulting from manufacturing of uniforms and badges shall enter in gross costs of the national operator.

In order to satisfy the state needs, the national operator may carry out activities connected with payment and delivery of pensions, pecuniary aids to poor citizens, and provide other services according to the contractual principles, in compliance with the legislation of Ukraine.

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall specify the legal entity, which will be authorized to carry out functions of the national operator.

Article 16. The Operator's Personnel

The operator's personnel shall be considered to be the operator's employees ensuring provision of the postal services.

Labor relations of the operator's personnel shall be regulated by the Labor Legislation of Ukraine and work rules and regulations.

Should any loss, incompleteness or damage of postal items' inserts occur or should any shortage of monetary funds, violation of control terms of delivery of postal items and money orders take place, the operator's personnel, guilty in incurred losses, shall be liable pursuant to the procedure stipulated by the legislation of Ukraine.

The administrator of the national operator and administrators of its branches shall be employed on a contract basis.

The national operator shall create jobs for employment of disabled in the quantity set forth by law, proceeding from the total number of personnel, excluding the number of postmen, drivers and employees engaged in works with hard and hazardous work conditions.

Article 17. The Operators' Rights and Obligations

All operators, independently their organizational and legal form, shall have equal rights and fulfill the same obligations pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine, except for the exclusive rights and obligations of the national operator, specified by law.

Operators shall ensure access of users to the information on tariffs, rules of provision of the postal services, delivery terms for postal items, office hours of postal service objects, articles prohibited for posting, liabilities of operators before users, number and term of the license effectiveness for the provision of postal services, etc.

Operators shall have the right to inform users of their postal services through mass media and by means of advertisement distribution.

Article 18. The Operators' Liabilities

The operators shall be liable for infringements of the legislation in the sphere of the postal services in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.

Should any operator fail to carry out services in sending internal postal items, users' orders relating to money orders or carry out the above activities in undue manner, such operator shall be liable before users within the following limits:

for the complete loss of the registered letter-post items (registered letter, printed matter, post card, advice of delivery of postal item), parcels and direct containers without any declared value, the indemnity shall be equal to the value of postal services and the penalty in the amount of 100 percent of the value of these services;

for partial loss (damage) of the insert of the uninsured parcel, the indemnity shall be reimbursed proportionally to the weight of the lost or damaged part of the insert, by means of dividing the tariff amount for sending into net weight of the insert and the penalty in the amount of 100 percent of the value of postal services;

for complete loss (damage) of the insert of the insured parcel, letter or printed matter, the indemnity shall be equal to the amount of the declared value of the postal item, value of the postal services and the penalty in the amount of 25 percent of the value of such services;

for partial loss (damage) of the insert of the insured parcel, letter or the printed matter with attached description of the insert, the value of the insert or its damaged part, pursuant to the description, value of postal services and the penalty in the amount of 25 percent of the value of such services shall be returned (indemnified). If the damaged insert can be used, the amount of indemnity shall be reduced according to the agreement with the sender or the addressee. Should the sender or the addressee refuse to receive the partially damaged insert, it shall be sold by the operator. If the value of the contained articles is not indicated in the description or they are sent without any description, the amount of indemnity shall be determined proportionally to the weight of the lost or damaged part of the insert independently its actual value, but, not more than the declared value of the parcel, letter or printed matter. In this case the value of the weight unit shall be determined by means of division of the amount of declared value into the net weight of the insert;

for failure to pay out money in accordance with the money order and infringement of terms for sending money orders – pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine;

for untimely delivery of any type of the registered postal item – penalty in the amount of 25 percent of the value of postal services;

in case of infringement of the established terms for sending postal items by air – indemnity shall be equal to the difference between the postage for sending by air and the postage for sending by surface, and penalty in the amount of 25 percent of the value of the postal services.

For the loss (damage) of international postal items and parcels the operators shall be liable in accordance with the acts of the Universal Postal Union and the legislation of Ukraine, for failure to repay international money orders – in compliance with the international agreements of Ukraine, ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

The user shall be indemnified in full for the prepaid services on the basis of the receipt or other document conforming payment for these services if such services were not actually provided to the user.

Should the user disagree with indemnified amount, specified by this article, the issue of reimbursement for the actually incurred losses, moral damages, lost benefits resulting from undue fulfillment by operators of their obligations, as well as other disputes that may arise between users and operators, shall be considered pursuant to the court procedure.

The operator shall not bear any material liabilities for any postal items if:

the postal item is subject to detention, confiscation or destruction pursuant to law;

loss or damage of the postal item insert is the consequence of the acts of God (earthquake, hurricane, high water etc);

incompleteness or damage of the postal item insert results from violation by sender of the rules relating to restrictions for sending articles and things, set forth by the legislation of Ukraine;

postal item (money order) is delivered (out-paid) to the addressee against the addressee's receipt conforming its delivery;

inquiry on undelivered postal item (money order) is submitted to postal service object after the six months period expired from the date of its acceptance.

the insured postal item or direct container was accepted from the sender closed, the wrapper of the postal item or the container itself, seal or the sender's seal are not damaged, and the weight of postal item or direct container corresponds to the weight, specified at its acceptance.

Should any impossibility arise to deliver the postal items (money orders) to the addressees, they shall be returned to the senders. If it's impossible to deliver postal items (money orders) to addressees or senders, they shall be stored in the postal service objects during six months from the date of their acceptance.

The procedure of opening the undelivered postal items shall be determined by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication. Procedure of handling monetary funds of the unpaid money orders, inserts of undelivered postal items, shall be determined by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.

Article 19. Users' Rights and Obligations

The users shall have equal rights to utilize postal services within the whole territory of Ukraine.

The users shall be empowered with the right to receive postal items in their home, office addresses, poste restante, or using post-office boxes.

Postal items, for addressees staying outside the inhabited localities, shall be delivered to these addressees to the closest postal service object.

Postal items shall belong to the senders until the moment when they are delivered to the addressees, provided they are not detained pursuant to law.

The users, according to law, shall be liable for losses incurred by the operators or third parties, if such losses result from inserted articles, prohibited for sending in postal items, or undue packing of the sent inserts.

Article 20. Functioning of the Postal Service Network under the Conditions of Martial Law or National Emergency, or Emergency Situations

Functioning of the postal service network under the conditions of martial law and their mobilization readiness shall be ensured in compliance with law.

Under the conditions of national emergency or martial law the provision of postal services may be limited or terminated, and the postal service network may be reduced pursuant to the decision of the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication.

Liquidation of the consequences of accidents (incidents), damages occurred on the postal service objects in the result of catastrophes, natural disasters shall be carried out pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine.

The local bodies of executive power, bodies of local self-government, in accordance with their authorities, shall assist the operators in liquidation of the consequences of accidents (incidents), catastrophes, natural disasters and damages of the postal service objects.

Article 21. Postage stamps

Postage stamps (including printed on postal envelopes and post cards) shall serve as a tool of payment for postal services, provided by the national operator in sending of letter-post items.

The national operator shall publish postage stamps, stamped envelopes and cards according to the topics and specimens, approved by the Editing-and-Art Council, the composition, functions, rights and obligations of which shall be determined by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication.

Article 22. Transportation Means of Postal Service

In order to transport mail the operators shall use their own transportation means and vehicles of other natural persons and legal entities on a contract basis.

The special transportation means of postal service are considered to be the specifically equipped transportation means with identifying signs and color-graphic design, plotted thereon, and used by operators to provide postal services.

Requirements, relating to the equipment of the transportation means and plotting identifying signs and color-graphic design thereon, shall be set forth by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine.

Automobile, water, railway and air conveyance of postal items shall be carried out on the contract basis pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine.

Transportation of postal items by vehicles of general use, re-loading of postal items shall be carried out pursuant to the priority procedure.

Trains, having in their composition vans, specifically equipped for mail transportation, shall be accepted at platforms and ruts, where due conditions for mail exchange are ensured.

Passage of transportation means of postal service to the postal service objects, including those which are located at terminals, stations and ports, as well as in check-points through the state body of Ukraine, in order to exchange postal items, shall be carried out on the priority principles, without obstacles, free of charge;

Article 23. Peculiarities of Use of Postal Service Means

Post office boxes, letterboxes, letterbox cabinets shall be manufacture according to the stipulated standards.

Delivery of ordinary letters, post cards, printed matters, printed periodicals and advices of delivery of the registered postal items shall be carried out to letterbox cabinets (letterboxes) of the addressees.

Acquisition, mounting and maintenance of letterboxes cabinets (letterboxes) in due order shall be carried out by the owners of residential and non-residential buildings.

Letterboxes cabinets (letterboxes) shall be mounted in places convenient for mail delivery.

Failure to fulfill requirements relating to placement of letterbox cabinets (letterboxes) shall release the operator from the liability for delivery of postal items to the addressee. In this case the operator shall inform the users of its refusal to deliver postal items.

Pillar-boxes for collection of the senders' ordinary letters and post cards shall be placed in convenient places, stipulated by the national operator, approved upon the local bodies of executive power or bodies of local self-government.

Article 24. Economic Basis for the Operators' Activities

Operators shall independently plan their activities and determine prospects of their development, according to the legislation of Ukraine, proceeding from the demand for postal services and the state orders for such services.

In order to ensure constant conditions of work and development of the own postal service network, the operator shall be entitled to carry out his internal business centralization, redistribution and utilization of the own resources.

Profits of the national operator's branches, resulting from business activities in the sphere of the postal services, shall be estimated within the limits of receipts of profit, redistributed between the branches.

Article 25. Fulfillment of the State Orders Relating to the Postal Services

The state order, relating to provision of postal services shall be stipulated by the state contract, concluded between the authorized central body of executive power, specified by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, and the operator.

According to the legislation of Ukraine, operators shall provide services on a privileged basis, however, covering all the expenses resulting from this for the account of the State budget of Ukraine and local budgets.

Article 26. Customs Control and Customs Clearance of International Postal Items

The operators shall submit international postal items for customs control, during their transition through the customs border of Ukraine.

The customs bodies shall be empowered with the right to detain articles, prohibited by law for sending in international postal items or sent with infringement of the customs legislation of Ukraine, pursuant to the procedure set forth by the legislation of Ukraine.

The operators shall not be liable for failure to provide postal services or undue provision of postal services resulting from adoption by customs bodies of decisions relating to postal items during execution of the customs control.

Article 27. International Cooperation

The international cooperation in the sphere of the postal services shall be carried out pursuant to the legislation of Ukraine and relevant international agreements of Ukraine, ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Legal, organizational and financial relations with international organizations of postal service, as well as presentation of Ukraine at the international postal service organizations, international legal protection of Ukraine's interests in the postal service issues shall be carried out by the authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of postal services in terms of its authorities.

According to the procedure determined by the legislation of Ukraine, the national operator shall maintain cooperation with the operators of postal service of other countries, ensure execution of the decisions, stipulated by the normative acts of the Universal Postal Union, ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Article 28. Liability for Infringement of the Legislation on Postal Service

Infringement of regulations in the sphere of postal services, manufacture, for the purpose of sale, or sale of consciously falsified postage stamps and the state sign clichés of franking machines, damage of the postal service means, theft or damage of postal items, shall incur liability in accordance with the law.

Article 29. Final Provisions

1. This Law shall come into force on the date of its publishing.

2. The authorized central body of executive power in the sphere of communication shall be entitled to carry out functions of the National Committee on Issues of Communication Regulation till creation of the above committee.

3. The legislation of Ukraine shall be applied in the part, provided this part does not contradict to this Law, until the legislation of Ukraine is brought in compliance with the standards of this Law.

4. Clause 46 of Article 9 of the Law of Ukraine «On Licensing Certain Economic Activities» (Vidomosti Verkhovnoyi Rady Ukrainy, 2000, N 36, p.299; 2001, N 22, p.105) shall have the following wording:

«46) sending of money orders, ordinary and registered letters, post cards, printed matters, and parcels less than 30 kg»

5. Within two months from the date this Law came into force, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

submit proposals for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, relating to bringing the legislative acts of Ukraine in compliance with this Law;

bring their legal-normative acts in compliance with this Law;

ensure bringing of the legal-normative acts of ministries and other central bodies of executive power in compliance with this Law;

adopt legal-normative acts, needed for implementation of this Law.

L.Kuchma

President of Ukraine

October 4, 2001

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