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## **THE TERRITORIAL BASIS FOR THE FUNCTIONING OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN UKRAINE: ISSUES OF REFORMATION**

In the article the author analyzes current issues determining the territorial bases of the mechanism of functioning of the institution of local self-government in Ukraine.

The purpose of this article is to highlight topical issues related to the reform of the territorial foundations of local self-government, which will ensure the sufficiency of territorial communities, the availability of appropriate resources for the implementation of the rights of local communities by providing quality services to the population in accordance with the established social standards.

The author comes to the conclusion that the existing system of territorial organization of power is too cumbersome, requires significant resources for its maintenance, is overly centralized, creates duplication of powers of bodies of local self-government and bodies of state executive power, which leads to conflicts between different levels of public authorities at the local level, makes impossible the realization of the rights of relevant local communities.

Therefore, it is necessary to develop criteria for classification of localities into the categories of villages, settlements,

cities, districts. Different population of administrative-territorial units generates the existence of disparities at the levels of budget due to sufficiency of the inhabitants of these administrative-territorial units, different availability of administrative, social and other services, etc.

The functioning of local self-government is impossible without defining territorial boundaries. Given this, the land outside settlements should be transferred to local communities (but should not be in manual control of the district, as it is now). The territory should be under the jurisdiction of the communities of basic level (village, town and city councils), with the exception of state owned lands (for state property). In order to maintain this it is necessary to differentiate the lands of state and communal property (according to legislation); to determine the nature and to fix the limits of the jurisdiction of each village, town or city council.

Finally, it will strengthen the financial basis of local self-government; increase incomes of local self-government; improve efficient use of land; bring services to the people and will implement social rights at the level of the corresponding territorial communities.