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**ACCESS
TO LAND**



IRWIR PAN

RUAR
REBUILD RURAL
UKRAINE

Seminar

Access to Land and Agroecology: Experiences of EU Countries for Ukraine



**2025 SEMINAR
ACCESS TO LAND**

Date: 18 March 2025

Format: Hybrid (Offline/ZOOM)

Venue: 26 Panasa Myrnoho Str., Kyiv

Opening time: 10:00 a.m. (EET)

Registration of participants: from 09:30 a.m. (EET)

Kyiv - 2025

The full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, severely disrupted food production and trade, jeopardizing both Ukraine's and the world's food security. Targeted attacks on Ukrainian agriculture have seriously hampered the agrarian sector's functionality. While export-oriented agribusinesses experienced the most significant losses, particularly at the war's outset, family farms and households demonstrated resilience by adapting to extreme conditions and continuing to supply food for the Ukrainian army and civilian population.

The invasion coincided with a pivotal land reform initiative aimed at lifting the moratorium on the sale of agricultural land, which had been in place since 2001. The war has resulted in a reduction of Ukraine's land resources by at least one-third. Despite appeals from researchers, non-governmental organizations, farmers, and peasants to halt land sales during wartime, the government proceeded with land privatization policies. These changes allowed private ownership not only by individuals but also by legal entities, increasing the maximum permissible ownership from 100 hectares to 10,000 hectares per entity.

The war has also caused severe damage to the quality of agricultural land. Hostilities have led to the destruction of soil structure and its essential functions, resulting in a sharp decline in biodiversity. The devastation of vegetation, disruption of topsoil, lack of natural moisture, and desertification pose long-term risks to agricultural productivity and food security.

Despite the challenges of war, Ukraine remains committed to European integration. In June 2024, Ukraine fully initiated the negotiation process for EU accession and is currently working with the EU to identify and address legislative and policy gaps necessary for alignment with European standards. In this context, the government must reevaluate agricultural and rural development policies to ensure synergy with EU practices. Considering European values and the substantial war-induced losses in rural production and human potential, Ukraine's integration into the EU necessitates a shift away from the expansion of intensive monoculture farming. Instead, it should prioritize agroecological approaches that promote sustainable agricultural practices and facilitate the natural regeneration of farmland.

These issues and others will be explored by Ukrainian and European experts, researchers, and practitioners at the seminar titled *"Access to Land and Agroecology: EU Countries' Experience for Ukraine"*. The seminar is supported by the State Organization "Institute for Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine" and the EU Erasmus+ program as part of the project *"Upskilling Pathway for Agroecology Practitioners toward European Synergies on Land Use" (UPSOL)*.

9:30 - 10:00	REGISTRATION
10:00 - 10:30	<p align="center">OPENING OF THE SEMINAR</p> <p>Olena BORODINA – Academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, head of the Department of Economy and policy of agrarian transformations at the State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”</p>
	<p align="center">WELCOMING SESSION</p>
	<p>Valeriy HEYETS – Academician of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Director of the State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”</p>
	<p>Monika STANNY – Professor, Director of the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland</p>
	<p>Geneviève SAVIGNY – Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Rights of Peasants at the UN Human Rights Council, France</p>
	<p>Viktor HONCHARENKO – President of the Association of Farmers and Private Landowners of Ukraine</p>
10:30 - 11:30	<p align="center">DISCUSSION PANEL 1:</p> <p align="center"><i>THE RIGHT TO LAND FOR COMMUNITIES, FAMILY FARMS AND FARMING HOUSEHOLDS IN UKRAINE</i></p>
	<p>Viktor YAROVYI – Leading Researcher, State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”</p> <p><i>Who became the owner of Ukrainian land during the war: trends in the land market</i></p>
	<p>Yosyp DOROSH, Oksana SAKAL, Shamil IBATULLIN – Institute of Land Use of the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences of Ukraine</p> <p><i>Land management of territorial communities in the new reality</i></p>
	<p>Viktor SHEREMETA – Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine 2017-2019, Vice-President of AFZU, Head of “Herkules” farm</p> <p><i>The land policy of Ukraine and its short-term and long-term effects</i></p>
11:30 - 12:00	Discussion: Q&A
12:00 - 13:00	<p align="center">DISCUSSION PANEL 2:</p> <p align="center"><i>PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IN THE FUNCTIONS OF THE LAND MARKET: EXPERIENCE OF THE EU COUNTRIES</i></p>
	<p>Vitaliy KRUPIN – Assistant Professor at the Institute of Rural and Agricultural Development of the Polish Academy of Sciences, rUAr Project, Poland</p> <p><i>Regulation of land concentration in Poland</i></p>
	<p>Lars PEHRSON – Chairman, Dansk Økojord A/S & Danmarks Økologiske JordbrugsFond, Denmark</p> <p><i>Supporting access to land in Denmark on the example of Dansk Økojord</i></p>
13:00 - 13:30	<p>Attila SZŐCS – Founder and Board Member of NGO “ALPA”, Romania</p> <p><i>Supporting the future regenerative farmers of Eastern Europe: from access to land to developing agroecology on the ground</i></p>
	Discussion: Q&A
13:30 - 14:30	LUNCH BREAK

14:30 - 15:30	DISCUSSION PANEL 3: AGROECOLOGICAL INITIATIVES IN THE EU AND UKRAINE - A PATH TO RESILIENT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	
	Bogdan SULIMAN – Coordinator of the work groups for Agroecology, the Right to Seeds and Youth at the EcoRuralis, Romania Agroecological practices in Romania	
	Nils MAURICE – Coordinator of the French Network of Farm Incubators (RENETA), France Agroecology farm incubators	
	Valentyna MOVCHAN – Director of the Institute of Biomedical Technologies at the University “Ukraine”, Board Member of the NGO "Permaculture in Ukraine" Soil restoration on the principles of agroecology and permaculture in Ukraine	
15:30 - 16:00	Discussion: Q&A	
16:00 - 17:00	DISCUSSION PANEL 4: PROTECTION OF LAND RIGHTS FOR SMALL PRODUCERS: A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE FOR UKRAINE	
	40 minutes	Work in groups
		Group 1 Moderator Viktor YAROVYI – PhD in Economics, Lead Researcher at the State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”
		Group 2 Moderator Oksana SAKAL – Doctor of Economics, Senior Researcher at the Institute of Land Management of the National Academy of Agrarian Sciences of Ukraine, Head of the Experimental Land Use Design Department at the “Innovation Centre”
		Group 3 Moderator Oksana RYKOVSKA – PhD in Economics, Senior Researcher at the State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”
		Group 4 Moderator Mykhailo KSENOFONTOV – PhD in Economics, Senior Researcher at the State Organization “Institute for Economics and Forecasting, NAS of Ukraine”
	20 minutes	Presentation of Group Discussion Results
17:00 - 17:30	Summary and Conclusion	



LAND MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



*Asociația tinerilor și tărăncilor
din România*

