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SIMPLIFY STATE REGULATION FOR SELLERS OF ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO — THE IWG ON DEREGULATION APPROVED ANOTHER DECISION

During the recent meeting, the IWG on deregulation recommended to simplify state regulation for sellers of alcohol and tobacco. What exactly is recommended to be optimised? Digitize obtaining licenses for wholesale and retail trade in alcoholic and tobacco products and electronic cigarettes. Applying for a license will be possible through Action. The term for obtaining a license will be reduced from 10 days to 1 day. When it will be implemented, the risks of illegal trade and illegal licenses will be taken into account. Find out more about the meeting and the IWG recommendations.

SECURING THE INTEGRITY AND RESILIENCE OF UKRAINE'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM DURING THE FUTURE RECOVERY

On June 19, in London, the conference on Securing the Integrity and Resilience of Ukraine's Financial System took place, co-organised by the Centre for Financial Crime and Security Studies (CFCS) at RUSI, RUSI Europe, the Better Regulation Delivery Office (BRDO). The event took place on the eve of the Ukraine Recovery Conference in June 2023 co-hosted by the UK and Ukrainian governments. Based on the discussions, RUSI prepared a report which summarises the main findings of the discussions related to the integrity and resilience of Ukraine's financial system. Visit our webpage to learn what the BRDO representative were speaking about during the conference.

MANAGING A HOUSE THROUGH A HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION BECOMES EASIER - THE PARLIAMENT ADOPTED DRAFT LAW NO. 7029

The Parliament of Ukraine adopted draft law No. 7029 "On Amendments to Some Laws of Ukraine on Simplifying the Management of Apartment Buildings" as a whole. The BRDO team participated in finalising the draft law for the second reading. Almost 39,000 associations of co-owners of multi-apartment buildings that have already been created clearly confirm the effectiveness of the residents' management of their own houses as an alternative to the outdated system of ZHEKs or management companies with an extortionate policy from developers. However, until that moment, the process of creating condominiums and making decisions was too bureaucratised. In particular, the number of votes needed to make any decisions was a significant obstacle to the effective management of the house – it was unjustifiably overstated. Thanks to the adoption of draft law No. 7029, the creation and operation of apartment buildings become easier and make it possible to ensure the comfort of residents of multi-apartment buildings much more efficiently. Read our press release to learn what the draft law provides for.

CANNABIS FOR MEDICAL AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES IS VOTED IN FAVOUR IN THE FIRST READING. WHAT IS CHANGING IN THE MARKET?

On June 13, the Parliament of Ukraine adopted draft law 7457 on regulating the circulation of cannabis plants, in particular for medical and industrial purposes. BRDO welcomes this decision, as we have supported initiatives related to the legalisation of these crops since 2020. Since 2020, our team of analysts and lawyers has been working on a study of the technical hemp market in Ukraine, which resulted in the Green Paper "Technical Hemp Market" and work on deregulation legislative initiatives. Settlement of the issue of medical cannabis is definitely an important step for Ukraine. Equally significant is the regulation of industrial hemp, which is not and should not be defined as a drug. What is the legislative status of industrial hemp and why it needs regulating? Read in our explanation.

APPEAL OF THE RISE UKRAINE COALITION REGARDING THE **OPENING OF THE REGISTER OF SEIZED ASSETS**

The RISE Ukraine coalition demands public access to the Unified State Register of Assets Seized in Criminal Proceedings (the Register), in particular through publication in the form of open data. The corresponding appeal was published on the website of the coalition, where BRDO is one of the participants. The Unified State Register of Assets Seized in Criminal Proceedings records seized assets in all criminal proceedings in Ukraine. The register is administered by the Agency for Search and Asset Management. It contains, in particular, a description and value of the entire portfolio of assets, information about the income received from the management of these assets, the duration of the property management agreement and any actions with them. Who manages the Register and what is the problem? Read in our material.

UKRAINE FOLLOWS THE LAWS OF THE USSR REGARDING CRIMINAL LIABILITY FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS THAT DO NOT CONSTITUTE A PUBLIC DANGER

Ukraine criminalizes the distribution of pornography, citing a 100-year-old document. Currently, Ukraine continues to follow the Soviet legacy regarding criminal liability for the distribution of pornographic materials that do not pose a public danger. At a time when erotic content has already collected more than 31 million hryvnias for the defense of our country, the production and circulation of porn in Ukraine is completely prohibited by law. The maximum sanction is imprisonment for 7 years. Thousands of people are prosecuted under the relevant article every year. The reason for this is usually the need for Ukraine to "implement" the International Convention on the Prevention of Circulation and Trade in Pornographic Publications. BRDO expers analysed the problem and propose a solution.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR. THREE YEARS OF THE SINGLE STATE E-SYSTEM IN CONSTRUCTION

In the beginning of July, the event "Digital transformation of the construction sector. Three years of the Single State e-System in Construction", organised by USAID / UK aid project TAPAS Project/Transparency and accountability in public administration and services with the support of the Ministry of Community Development, Territories and Infrastructure of Ukraine and the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine. The partner of the event was the Eastern Europe Fund. Oleksii Dorogan joined the event and talked about the role of NGOs in the digitalisation of the public sector in Ukraine, why all effective digital tools are interconnected, and how the e-System in construction is now helping to build the Digital Restoration EcoSystem for Accountable Management (DREAM). His speech can be viewed here (in Ukrainian).

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