



Kiev, 25 June 2015

Dear friends!

With this letter we would like to update some information about New Social Democratic Platform from Ukraine and express our interest in cooperation with like-minded parties and organizations in Switzerland.

New SD Platform was established in 2012 as a movement of young and progressive people that shares the principles of social-democracy in all dimensions. Co-founders had got their initial social-democratic experience in Ukrainian Union of Young Socialists (IUSY member) that was a youth wing of its mother party – the Socialist Party of Ukraine (in the period when it used to be SI observer member). Also the socialist think tank “Institute for Democracy and Social Progress” had played a big role in the development of the progressive social-democratic agenda for the young people in Ukraine including trade unions members.

Since then the net of our regional coordinators has covered 16 regions of Ukraine and number of active members exceeded 750.

Within short time we managed to develop very small youth organization into an ideologically based network recognizable all over Ukraine. The process of forming the New SD Platform started from the grass-roots and now despite the difficult internal situation in Ukraine our main strong point is the regional representations of our activists.

We actively stated our political credo during parliamentary elections in 2014 with our campaign “#BeatPopulism”, which is still very popular and ongoing.

The main current issues for our organization are: promoting the principles of social-democracy in Ukraine, supporting of European integration of Ukraine and peace resolution of war which takes place on our territory, protection of social rights (trade unions, wage growth economic strategy), advocacy of interests of youth (first working place, access to education etc.), political education (especially in rural areas), anti-populism campaign, promoting gender issues etc.

The New SD Platform cooperates with different like-minded parties and organizations as Foundation of Max van der Stoel (the Netherlands), CEE Network for Gender Equality Issues (Slovenia) and Labour Party WFD (the Great Britain), Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Germany) and others. The current political and geo-political challenges, which Ukraine is facing now, make us to think thoroughly about our role in the future of our country.

We hope for establishment and strengthening the international cooperation between our organizations.

Here is the link to our organisation’s Portfolio: <https://cloud.mail.ru/02A775D4AE1A433497B4133A6B771A66>

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

In solidarity,

New SD Platform founders:

**Bohdan Ferens
Olena Lukaniuk
Igor Iltio
Kateryna Vezeleva**

IDSP Chair

Vitaly Shybko