



New Ukraine
institute for strategic research

Project Proposal

Minsk – 3

The Project Proposal to Foster Conflict Resolution in Donbas

I. «The Normandy Format 4+1»

*The Top-Level Ukrainian-Russian Group
«The Normandy Group» of Ministers for Foreign Affairs*

II. «The Mariupil Format» of the National Dialogue

**III. «The Roadmap» of Implementation of the Minsk
Agreements** *(the initial project proposal)*

**Appendix. Approaches towards defining the legal status of
the territories**



I. «The Normandy Format 4+1» (I)

- **Engaging the OSCE Secretary General into the work of the heads of state and government in «the Normandy Format»**
- **Holding meetings in «the Normandy Format» on a regular basis in Minsk**



I. «The Normandy Format 4+1» (II)

Task 1: to speed up decision-making and decision-implementation regarding conflict resolution in Donbas

Task 2: to write a Draft Concept of a New System of Security and Cooperation in Europe «European Consensus 2017».



The Top-Level Ukrainian-Russian Group

The Project Proposal seeks to establish the Top-Level Ukrainian-Russian Group (on the level of Presidents) **within the framework of «the Normandy Format 4+1».**

It is aimed at drafting and signing the Declaration on Cooperation (Memorandum of Cooperation) that covers:

- the provisions of the state border regime,
- the reduction of the risks of military incidents,
- humane solution to the issue of political prisoners.

«The Normandy Group» of Ministers for Foreign Affairs

Key Tasks:

- to provide comprehensive analytical support for «the Normandy Format» of the heads of state and government
- to draft the Roadmap for Resolving the Conflict in Donbas – «The Roadmap» of Implementation of the Minsk Agreements
- to monitor over the implementation of negotiators' obligations



II. «The Mariupil Format» of the National Dialogue (I)

The National Parliament of Ukraine should initiate the All-Ukrainian National Dialogue by means of:

1. establishing the inter-faction parliamentary deputy group responsible for maintaining the ongoing All-Ukrainian National Dialogue in the City of Mariupil («The Mariupil Format»);
2. engaging the representatives of *ORDLO* (areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts not controlled by the Government) into the negotiation process;
3. engaging the representatives of local administrations and self-government, business, civil and religious organizations into the negotiation process.

II. «The Mariupil Format» of the National Dialogue (II)

Key Tasks:

- Compromising conflict resolution in Donbas by legal and political means;
- Cooperation on the implementation of the project “The Demilitarized Neutral Territory”;
- Ensuring social and economic connections between the territories hit by the conflict;
- Restoration of regular social and economic activities in the region;
- Creating the conditions for free movement of citizens;
- Keeping the infrastructure and engineering communications in good condition; ensuring that infrastructure and utilities function properly; environment monitoring and monitoring over technologically hazardous facilities; demining; arranging restoration works.

III. «The Roadmap» of Implementation of the Minsk Agreements (the initial project proposal) (I)

I term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (3 months’ term): transforming the contact line into “the demilitarized neutral territory” via removing all types of troops and weapons, providing the multilateral security regime and law enforcement in close cooperation of OSCE.

II term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (3 months’ term): de-internationalisation of the conflict; ensuring international control over heavy weapons; preparing for the deployment of the OSCE police mission.

III term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (1 month’ term): restoring control over the state border, in cooperation with the OSCE/UN; preparing the referendum in ORDLO regarding autonomous regions within Ukraine.

III term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (1 month’ term): amending the Constitution of Ukraine regarding the institution of territorial autonomy in unitary Ukraine; adopting legislation on amnesty and investigating war crimes according to “transitional justice“; amending the electoral law.

III. «The Roadmap» of Implementation of the Minsk Agreements (the initial project proposal) (II)

III term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (1 month’ term): holding elections to new bodies of regional self-government in *ORDLO*

IV term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (3 months’ term): possible timing for the OSCE Conference for discussing a New System of Security and Cooperation in Europe «European Consensus 2017»

IV term of the “Minsk-3” Project Proposal (3 months’ term): transition period necessary to negotiate – within “The Mariupil Format” – the proposal of amending the administrative-territorial structure of Donbas within unitary Ukraine (via community merging).

Finalising the constitutional process regarding decentralisation and territorial autonomy in unitary Ukraine.



III. «The Roadmap» of Implementation of the Minsk Agreements (the initial project proposal) (III)

To overcome the consequences of the war, to ensure peaceful development, and to promote reforms of Ukraine

Ukraine should establish the budget fund, which consists from the funds generated by businesses that function on the territory of autonomous regions of unitary Ukraine; ensure that the Agency for Donbas Restoration functions properly; finance of public companies involved in restoration programs.

International partners should offer grants to support projects on restoring Donbas and on overcoming the consequences of the war, and offer mechanisms for implementing the so-called "Marshall Plan for Ukraine":

- **Establishing the International Fund for Restoring Donbas and Ukraine** (non-repayable financial assistance provided by the states - signatories of the Budapest Memorandum).
- **Establishing the International Investment Fund**, which would consolidate the companies of the guarantor-states, as well as other states and international unions (the EU), engaged – with the support of the respective national governments – to invest in the economy of Ukraine within the new reform agenda and for the sake of modernization of the Ukrainian economy.

The companies that participate in the International Investment Fund should receive maximum preferences from the Government (including the possibility of state guarantees).

Approaches towards defining the legal status of the territories (I)

We suggest:

1. To stick to three core elements of the administrative-territorial system of Ukraine.
2. To remove the list of names of the administrative-territorial units from the Constitution of Ukraine.
3. The core elements of the administrative-territorial system of Ukraine should include regions (including regions with the autonomous status), districts, and communities.
4. To broaden the opportunities for administrative-territorial reforms in the future.

Approaches towards defining the legal status of the territories(II)

We suggest to edit Chapter IX of the Constitution of Ukraine: THE ADMINISTRATIVE-TERRITORIAL SYSTEM OF UKRAINE

The administrative-territorial system of Ukraine is based on the principles of unity and territorial integrity of the state, decentralisation, economic self-sufficiency and sustainable development of administrative-territorial units, taking account of their historical, economic, ecological, geographic, and demographic peculiarities, ethnic and cultural traditions.

The administrative-territorial system of Ukraine consists of:

- 1) regions (including regions with the autonomous status according to the Constitution of Ukraine);
- 2) districts;
- 3) communities.

A community is an administrative-territorial unit, which is established according to the law and includes one or several settlements (village, town, etc), as well as surrounding territories.

The procedures of establishing, abolishing, and changing the borders and names of the administrative-territorial units are defined by the Constitution of Ukraine and the law.

Apart from these constitutional norms, we suggest that the matters of the autonomous status of each region are defined by separate laws of Ukraine.

