

# OCP BACKGROUND

Some years ago, in 2012, Stanislav Batryn, PhD in law, head of Lions Litigate Law Firm gathered a group of young lawyers and law students as a core team for initiation of a brand new type of legal activity. Besides providing traditional legal services, a prior area of our specialization has been identified as social and rule of law - oriented activities. Such an activity included impartial investigation and launching of legal cases which had the greatest impact on interests of a state and society. Such an activity resulted in numerous legal cases and court proceeding and might be described as unprecedented for Ukraine. In brief, until 2013 there were no targeted and successive attempts of an individuals to sue government or president for failing to fulfill the promises set out in the constitution.

Results of our activities include a court claim against government (governed by Azarov - Yanukovych) to review unfair gas contracts between Ukraine and Russia (resulted in a strategic win in Stockholm); court claim against government (governed by Azarov - Yanukovych) to cancel unlawful refusal of Ukraine to sign an Association Agreement between the European Union and Ukraine (we won a case, decision of government was named by court as non legal); court claim against government (governed by Azarov - Yanukovych) to have the actions of Ukraine's Berkut riot police force declared illegal and illegitimate (we won a case, Berkut riot police force, which had killed protestants during revolution was dissolved as a result of court ruling), court claim against Ministry of Education (governed by Tabachnyk - Yanukovych) to obligate a state to fulfill its financial obligations before talented student, who won a governmental grant (we won a case, Ministry of Education had been forced to pay education grant); successful negotiations on behalf of families of Ukrainian climbers killed in Pakistan (resulted in payment of compensation for each case of the tragic death had been completed); successful investigation of an issue of legal nature of guaranties of Ukraine before Russia given by Pavlo Lazarenko, former Prime Minister of Ukraine (resulted in final court judgment and money back to national budget from Russia of more than 3 billion UAH, 400 millions USD ) etc.

In a crucial moment of the Revolution of Dignity our team had united efforts with the leaders of public opinion and created Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations in Ukraine, HRVIC Under the guidance of Stanislav Batryn, deputy head of Commission, 2175 cases of violations were investigated and submitted to General Prosecutor of Ukraine for further initiation of criminal cases against government of Yanukovych.

Other results of our activities included settlement of numerous cases and important official and non official statements in order to consolidate nation-building efforts and democracy in the country. Our activity has been widely covered in national and international media, including publications in media of USA, Switzerland, Poland, Check Republic, Spain, Italy, Germany, Serbia, Pakistan, India, Azerbaijan, Slovakia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Russia etc .

Thus, launching an Open Court Project in 2015 had a strong background, based on our history of success.

It is important to stress that our project is not political - oriented. No one of our team ever tried to use publicity to build a career in politics.