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**POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION-MAKING IN UKRAINE:
FEATURES AND PROBLEMS**

This paper examines the characteristics and challenges of political and administrative decision-making in today's Ukraine as a subject within the academic field of public management and administration. The relevance of the topic stems from the fact that the quality of public policy implementation, the state's defense capability, and the assessment of public management's compliance with the European Union's principles of public administration all depend on adherence to the legal procedures for preparing and adopting such decisions. The article draws on general scientific methods of generalization, analysis, and synthesis, as well as structural-functional, institutional, comparative, and situational analysis, and the formal-legal method. The meaning of the concept "political-administrative decision" is clarified: the author defines it as a decision made by political management entities in which political goal-setting is enshrined in specific administrative and legal means for achieving those goals and is formalized in the form of laws and other normative legal acts. It has been established that a key feature of the decision-making process in contemporary Ukraine is that it takes place within a political-administrative environment in which the number of mandatory approval procedures is kept to a minimum. Under wartime conditions, this environment is primarily defined by the office of the president. Using the example of how the sanctions mechanism operates, it is shown that under martial law, there are entirely legitimate legal grounds for making such decisions with a minimal number of approval procedures. It has been established that the absence or disregard of the obligation on the part of legislative initiators to analyze the potential impact of draft legislative acts affects the final quality of political and administrative decisions and increases the risks of corruption and conflicts of interest. It has been demonstrated that the absence of mandatory impact assessments for draft laws proposed by members of parliament, the non-

mandatory nature of public consultations, and the lack of personnel to support the preparation of policy and administrative decisions existed even before the full-scale war; therefore, a return to normal legislative practices upon the end of martial law will not, in and of itself, eliminate these problems. The practical value of the findings lies in identifying areas for improving the procedure for making political and administrative decisions in accordance with the principles of public administration, compliance with which is required as part of Ukraine's preparations for accession to the European Union.

Keywords: political management, political and administrative decision, political institutions, political processes, decision-making process, authorities, martial law.