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TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES AS SUBJECTS OF ACTIVE
CIVIC SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT IN UKRAINE

The article substantiates the role of territorial communities as subjects of the active development of civil society in Ukraine. The importance of interaction between the legal, social state and civil society and improvement of mechanisms of positive influence of the population on the activity of authorities in the interests of citizens is emphasized. The main functions of civil society are considered. It is emphasized that the main components of civil society – the community and representative power, individual and collective interests, rights and freedoms of citizens can be implemented the most completely at the level of villages, towns, and cities. The leading public administration actors at the closest to people level of administration, which are territorial communities, are identified. The focus is made on the development of participatory democracy for the growth of public activity, in particular on new opportunities for the citizen's budget (as the participatory budget) as an effective tool for cooperation between the authorities and the community and the involvement of the public in solving local problems. It is noted that in the conditions of the process of decentralization of power, which began in Ukraine, territorial communities should become powerful actors of the active development of civil society in the state.

Key words: territorial community, civil society, citizen involvement, participatory democracy, participatory budget.