



BIO

Ms. Olga Stefanyshyna

15+ years in TOP government positions and public sector, working for both the Government of Ukraine (Deputy Minister of Healthcare), legislative branch – (Member of Parliament) and non-governmental sector (top-manager and founder of the biggest patients' charitable foundations and leading advocacy NGOs)

In 2019, I was elected as a Member of the Parliament of Ukraine. Assigned to the Healthcare Parliamentary Committee, I dealt with the legislative initiatives aimed at developing the healthcare system of Ukraine. I submitted up to 100 bills, 20 of which were approved as the laws. Among all, my legislative initiatives introduced new international regulations for the blood system in Ukraine, improved drug policies for Ukrainian patients, as well as had impact on COVID-19 spread and prevention. Recently I was appointed as the Head of Parliamentary Sub-Committee on European Integration (health care area).

Back in 2018, I was appointed as the Deputy Minister of Healthcare of Ukraine for European Integration and was responsible for managing Ukraine's compliance with EU integration in the healthcare sector (managed to increase EU indicators from 4 to 40%), public health (drastically improved vaccination of children from 45 to 90%) and blood donation system reform (developed and approved Blood System Strategy). I also managed procurement reform of medicines and medical devices.

In 2015-2019 I made a substantial contribution to the reform of medical procurements of Ukraine. Working in the advocacy NGO, I was the co-author and advocate of the law, which allowed Ministry of Health to involve international organizations such as the "Crown Agents" British organization, UNDP, UNICEF etc. to help overcome corruption in the state procurements of drugs. Due to this reform Ukraine managed to eliminate corruption in the procurement system allowing to save up to 40% of budget costs for cancer, HIV, TB and other drugs. As a sustainable follow up to institutionalize anticorruption instruments, I, being Under Secretary of Health, launched a State Enterprise "Medical procurements of Ukraine", which has been successfully continuing this reform until now (<https://medzakupivli.com/en/>).

In 2014, following the Revolution of Dignity, in collaboration with other respected expert organizations (WHO, the World Bank, "Renaissance (G.Soros) Foundation") and the Ministry of Health we elaborated the National Strategy to Reform Healthcare System in Ukraine (<https://healthsag.org.ua/en/>). I was coordinating the process of expertise collection and the Strategy creation. The health care reform was launched in 2017 in Ukraine based on this Strategy and is still in action. I was the team member (Under Secretary), of the most effective Minister of Healthcare in the history of Ukraine (Ulena Suprun) who launched health care reform in Ukraine in 2017 – 2019. Its aim is to make a shift from the old Soviet-oriented medical services to more realistic and effective: the State (National Health Service, NHS) pays for services provided instead of the beds existing in the hospitals (similar to the British System).

During 2011-2018, I was the founder and the Executive Director of "Patients of Ukraine" Charity Foundation (<https://patients.org.ua/en/>), which is still one of the most influential patients' movements in the country taking leadership during COVID-19 pandemic and actively helping injured people during Russian war started in Ukraine.

I started my career in the field of health care back in 2005, when I was helping HIV-positive people whilst working for different charitable organizations namely the Red Cross, "All-Ukrainian Network of people living with HIV" on top positions.