

Complete the text using the words from the box:

HISTORY OF CONSTITUTION OF UKRAINE

legal bases, legal acts, Philip Orlyk, the parliament, Constitutional Court, public and political rights, self-government institutions, was adopted, was approved, a republic

The Constitution of Ukraine is the main formal document of our country. The *adoption* of a new constitution of Ukraine at the 5th session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine became an important event in the life of the people of Ukraine. The constitution is the of the land: laws and other normative must *conform* to it. The right to amend the Constitution through a special legislative procedure is vested exclusively with . The only body that may determine whether legislation conforms to it is the Constitutional Court of Ukraine.

The first Constitution of Ukraine was written by hetman in 1710. Being the first constitution in Europe it was notable for its profound democracy. The experience of Ukrainian people's republic (1918) played a significant role in the constitutional process. Until June 8, 1995, Ukraine's supreme law was the Constitution of the Ukrainian SSR (adopted in 1978, with numerous later amendments). Present Constitution at a dramatic overnight parliamentary session of June 27-28, 1996. The Law No. 254/96-BP ratifying the Constitution *was ceremonially signed and promulgated* in mid-July 1996. However, according to a ruling of the , current Constitution took force at the moment when the results of the parliamentary vote were announced, i.e., June 28, 1996.

On December 8, 2004, the parliament passed the Law No. 2222-IV *amending* the Constitution. The law with a 90 percent majority (402 ayes, 21 nays and 19 abstentions while for passing it required 300 ayes) simultaneously with other legislative measures aimed at resolving the presidential election crisis.

Principles of democracy common to all mankind are embodied in the Constitution which guarantees the basic economic, social, cultural, to the citizens of Ukraine. According to the Constitution Ukraine is a sovereign, democratic, social and juridical state. The form of *state government* is . The head of the state is the President. The power belonging to the people of Ukraine is exercised through democratic elections by state government bodies and . All citizens have equal rights. People are proclaimed the greatest social value in Ukraine. These and other regulations are developed in the chapters of the Constitution.

The best national traditions *are embodied* in the fundamental law of Ukraine. The Constitution creates the of regulation of social relations.