323 Ukrainian MPs voted for the law, which provides that the Supreme Anti-Corruption Court will get cases only from the anti-corruption bodies Verkhovna Rada of 9th convocation. The Verkhovna Rada approved the bill, according to which only cases of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) and the Specialized Anti-Corruption Prosecutor’s Office (SAPO) will be transferred to the Supreme Anti-Corruption Court. The session was broadcasted by 112 Ukraine TV channel. The document was presented by the parliamentarians from the Servant of the People Party and the head of the Anti-Corruption Committee Anastasia Krasnosilska. “This is a bill that will allow the Anti-Corruption Court to focus solely on high-level corruption cases. Without this bill, the Anti-Corruption Court will be blocked by thousands, I stress, by thousands of minor cases, and people just won’t get the justice they have been waiting for more than 5 years,” Krasnosilska said. It is envisaged that from the day this law enters into force any other investigative judges stop accepting petitions and complaints, and any other courts of first instance – indictments in the cases investigated by NABU and SAPO. Instead, these motions and indictments are to be submitted to the Supreme Anti-Corruption Court. At the same time, the bill does not provide for changes to the article of the Criminal Procedure Code on the subject-matter jurisdiction of the Supreme Anti-Corruption Court.

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As it was reported earlier, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky filed an appeal to the Parliament, asking it to consider amendments of Article 106 of the Constitution of Ukraine. Thus, the head of the state urged the MPs to grant him the right to assign and dismiss the chiefs of NABU and DBR (National Anti-Corruption Bureau and State Bureau of Investigations). Currently, the Law on NABU foresees that the Bureau chief is appointed by the President, who chooses among the candidates offered by the contest committee. This official can be dismissed by the Parliament, with at least 150 votes necessary to pass the decision.

The Law on the State Bureau of Investigations foresees that DBR Head is appointed by the President, based on the Prime Minister’s offer and the recommendation of the contest committee.

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