

BIOGRAPHY

Oleksandr Zaiets is the head of The Institute of Religious Freedom NGO, Kyiv, Ukraine.

Born in 1968. As early as in the middle of 90-th he became actively involved in issues of freedom of religion or belief and state-church relations.

In 1999 – 2001 worked as an assistant-adviser to a Member of the Parliament of Ukraine.



In 2001 together with a group of like-minded supporters Oleksandr Zaiets founded and headed The Institute of Religious Freedom NGO (in 2001-2008 – Director, since 2008 – Head of the Board).

Since 2004 is the Executive Secretary of the Council of Representatives of Christian Churches of Ukraine.

In 2005 – 2008 in the capacity of a consultant served as a member of the Working Group for freedom of worship under the Secretariat of the President of Ukraine and the Expert Group for the freedom of conscience of the Presidential National Council on Culture and Spirituality of Ukraine.

Participated in the development of several draft of law and amendments to laws which deal with the freedom of conscience matters and legal provisions for activities of religious organizations.

In 2009 – 2010 also worked as an adviser of the First Vice-Prime-minister of Ukraine.

As an expert in the field of freedom of conscience Oleksandr Zaiets regularly participates in international and national conferences, as well as round table meetings on the freedom of conscience, state-church and interdenominational relations in Ukraine.

Oleksandr Zaiets is a member of the Commission on implementation of the rights of the religious organizations and the Commission for humanitarian help under the Government of Ukraine; member of the Expert Council for freedom of conscience under State Committee of Ukraine on Nationalities and Religions; member of the Council for Interaction with Churches and Religious Organizations under Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.