



**ACHED - French Citizens' Association
for Equitable and Sustainable times o'clock**

Since 1983 for the end of double DST of France
For the reduction of forward timelags on the clock
14 avenue de Saint-Germain, 78160 Marly-le-Roi FRANCE
achedinfo@gmail.com + 33-977 19 91 14

For the attention of
Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine
March 20th, 2025

Subject: the right time for Ukrainians, signing the July 2024 bill:

(про обчислення часу в Україні - About the calculation of time in Ukraine)

Dear Mr. President,

We were thrilled by the passage of the recent bill¹ in your parliament in July 2024, and we sincerely hope you will sign it as soon as possible. Our deepest gratitude goes to your parliament and your country for supporting this important measure. However, it has not received yet your signature while the usual time change approaches (March 29-30). We understand that you are facing numerous pressing issues, and we acknowledge reports of a petition gathering over 25,000 signatures opposing the bill. Despite this, we remain hopeful that you will sign it, and we would like to share some key observations that may assist in your decision.

First and foremost, it is important to remember that Russia has already ceased seasonal time changes and has opted for permanent standard time aligned with Moscow's natural time zone (UTC+3). This decision followed a complex process: initially, Russia abolished clock changes but retained permanent daylight saving time (DST), which led to widespread discomfort, especially in winter. Recognizing this, President Putin reinstated standard time year-round², a move that ultimately benefited the Russian population. Their experience serves as a valuable example.

-Note 1: Kyiv is ideally situated 30°31' E (30.52° East longitude). This longitude aligns Kyiv close to its natural solar time, meaning UTC+2 (standard time) is the most appropriate for its geographical location. For the rest of the country, your Westernmost meridian is: 22°08'E (Zakarpattia Oblast). Your Easternmost meridian: 40°13'E (Luhansk Oblast). Typically timezones span 15° so your country is not far from perfectly fitting the UTC+2 timezone.-

Secondly, while a petition³ with 25,000 signatures is noteworthy, it does not necessarily reflect the broader interests and opinions of society as a whole. Petitions often represent the views

¹ <https://itd.rada.gov.ua/billInfo/Bills/Card/4294> Draft Law on Time Calculation in Ukraine , No. 4201 sent to the President of Ukraine for signature on 21.08.2024.

² <https://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-news-from-elsewhere-28423647> Russia: Putin abolishes 'daylight savings' time change Published 22 July 2014

³ <https://petition.president.gov.ua/petition/230584> Petition about No. 4201 law

of vocal groups, which may not always be well-informed or representative of the majority. Additionally, we have not come across any reliable, large-scale polling in Ukraine on this matter. What we have seen is a call for maintaining the status quo based on fear rather than facts. However, we believe that educated Ukrainians—like their Russian counterparts—would genuinely welcome not only the end of time changes but also the adoption of permanent standard time (Kyiv time). This aligns with global trends, as demonstrated by a recent Gallup⁴ poll in the United States, which indicates increasing awareness of the benefits of permanent standard time over DST.

Thirdly, the interest of permanent standard time is beyond the opinion. Consider all the scientific research about sleep, and navigate with care the energy research often written with a political bias for DST. Permanent standard time is best to sleep better, to save on health care, to save on heating and air conditioning, car usage and to reduce carbon emissions. The more you sleep the less consumption and emissions. The petition that has protested against the bill wants to make people afraid of increased energy costs in the evening. That is completely unconfirmed and if true could be managed. Estimates of savings with DST have always been biased. Conversely the increased morning peaks induced by DST in the morning are rarely mentioned. Have you heard about Russia having electricity problems in the evening after stabilizing on standard time?

-Note 2: In consideration for the current situation of your country we should mention the importance of clock time for operations, flights etc... Typically all operations should not be affected if already handled with a stable time. Commonly the flights use UTC, the Universal or Military time. For local operations we hope you already handle in UTC time or in Kyiv standard time.-

In conclusion, a stable and standard time system provides a strong foundation for society, benefiting sleep, health, and climate stability. We deeply appreciate Ukraine's efforts to return to its natural time zone, and we strongly encourage you to sign this bill without delay for immediate or 2026 application. Given the ongoing climate crisis, acting swiftly could also set a positive precedent for other nations. In the footnotes, you will find letters we have sent to the UN and the EU regarding this issue. If possible, we would appreciate your support in ensuring that these messages^{5 6 7 8} are acknowledged and considered (#BacktoStandardTime, #RetourVersLeFuseau, #Naturaltimezonesforclimate).

Wishing you the very best and hoping for peace and a survivable climate around us all.

For ACHED, its president, LM Gabarain.



⁴ <https://news.gallup.com/poll/657584/half-daylight-saving-time-sunsetted.aspx> More Than Half in U.S. Want Daylight Saving Time Sunsetted - About half of U.S. adults prefer standard time year-round

⁵ <http://www.heure-ete.net/letter20211030UVL.pdf> Letter (in English) 30-Nov-2021 to the EU commission

⁶ <http://www.heure-ete.net/letter20211027AG.pdf> Letter (in English) 27-Oct-2021 to United Nations

⁷ <http://www.heure-ete.net/Recentletters.pdf> Recent letters

⁸ <http://heure-ete.net/ached.htm> Press releases since 2006