

# STCU

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# УНТЦ

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## Basic Information About the Science and Technology Centre in Ukraine

by  
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Executive Director

The STCU is an intergovernmental organization, the first such, resident in Ukraine, that was established by an Agreement signed on 15 Oct 1993 by its four founding Parties: Ukraine, Canada, Sweden and the United States of America. The signed Agreement was put into force by President Krawchuk's decree # 202 of 04 May 1994. The STCU began its first organizational steps in November 1994 and became fully registered in Ukraine on 14 February 1995. Its main purpose, as given in the Agreement, can be stated as follows:

*To support R&D activities by Ukrainian scientists and engineers, formerly involved with weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, as part of the general process of conversion from a largely military to a civilian environment more useful for Ukraine*

Part of the rationale for this is, clearly, the hope of Western countries that Ukraine keep its considerable pool of talented scientists in Ukraine, rather than have them leave to other countries, possibly to those where their presence may not be particularly desirable.

For the initial period the donor countries have allocated the following funds: Canada - \$2,000,000.00, Sweden: \$1,500,000.00 and the U.S.A. \$15,000,000.00 for an initial total of \$18,500,000.00, all in US funds. (Canada's contribution is actually \$5,000,000 CDN, the difference being used to support Canada's share of the STCU's operating costs, as well as the project's Canadian costs). As its contribution, Ukraine pledged to provide suitable office premises, their maintenance, security and facilities for telecommunication.

According to the Agreement, the STCU's executive director and administrative officer are from Canada, the principal deputy executive director is Ukrainian, one deputy executive director is Swedish, while the third deputy executive director and the chief financial officer are from the USA. All other staff (up to 30) are Ukrainian.

*THE STCU's MAJOR ACTIVITIES CAN BE LISTED AS FOLLOWS:*

1. Solicit and receive from the Ukrainian scientific community proposals for research, development and production technology prototyping activities based on former military research work, but directed to peaceful uses.
2. Review these projects and assist the Ukrainian proposers in developing them so that they be presented in the best possible manner for successful evaluation and eventual funding by the donor countries.
3. Once a project is approved, develop and sign a contract with the project proposers regarding the actual execution, financing and deliverables of the project
4. Finance signed projects through direct salaries to researchers and by providing required equipment to carry out the scientific work.
5. Carry out project audits at regular intervals during the execution of the projects in order to monitor compliance with the signed contracts.
6. Develop and maintain an organization capable of carrying out the tasks listed above.

*SPECIAL, NOTEWORTHY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STCU*

There are several special characteristics of the STCU's activities that are particularly worth noting:

1. The STCU's funding equals approximately 3.5-4 trillion karbovantsi. This makes the STCU the major player in R&D funding in Ukraine. (For comparison we may note that the Ukrainian Space Program budget is 4 trillion karbovantsi).
2. In contrast to most other technical assistance projects, essentially all moneys declared by the STCU donor countries are to be spent in solely in Ukraine for direct support of individual researchers, for research equipment needed by them and for the STCU's administrative expenses in Ukraine.
3. The intellectual property developed as a result of projects supported by the STCU remains with the Ukrainian researchers. Donor countries reserve first negotiation rights for the use of that intellectual property in their spheres of interest.
4. The STCU will attempt to establish long-term links and cooperation between Ukrainian Institutes/researchers and interested Western industrial, academic and governmental organizations. This should help making Ukrainian scientific capabilities known in the world.
5. Contribute to Ukraine's economic development and stabilization by the direct and official infusion of considerable hard currency.
6. Contribute to the development of world-class technologies to the benefit of Ukraine.
7. Significant contribution to the prevention of valuable brain drain from Ukraine and redirecting it to peaceful and economically important uses.