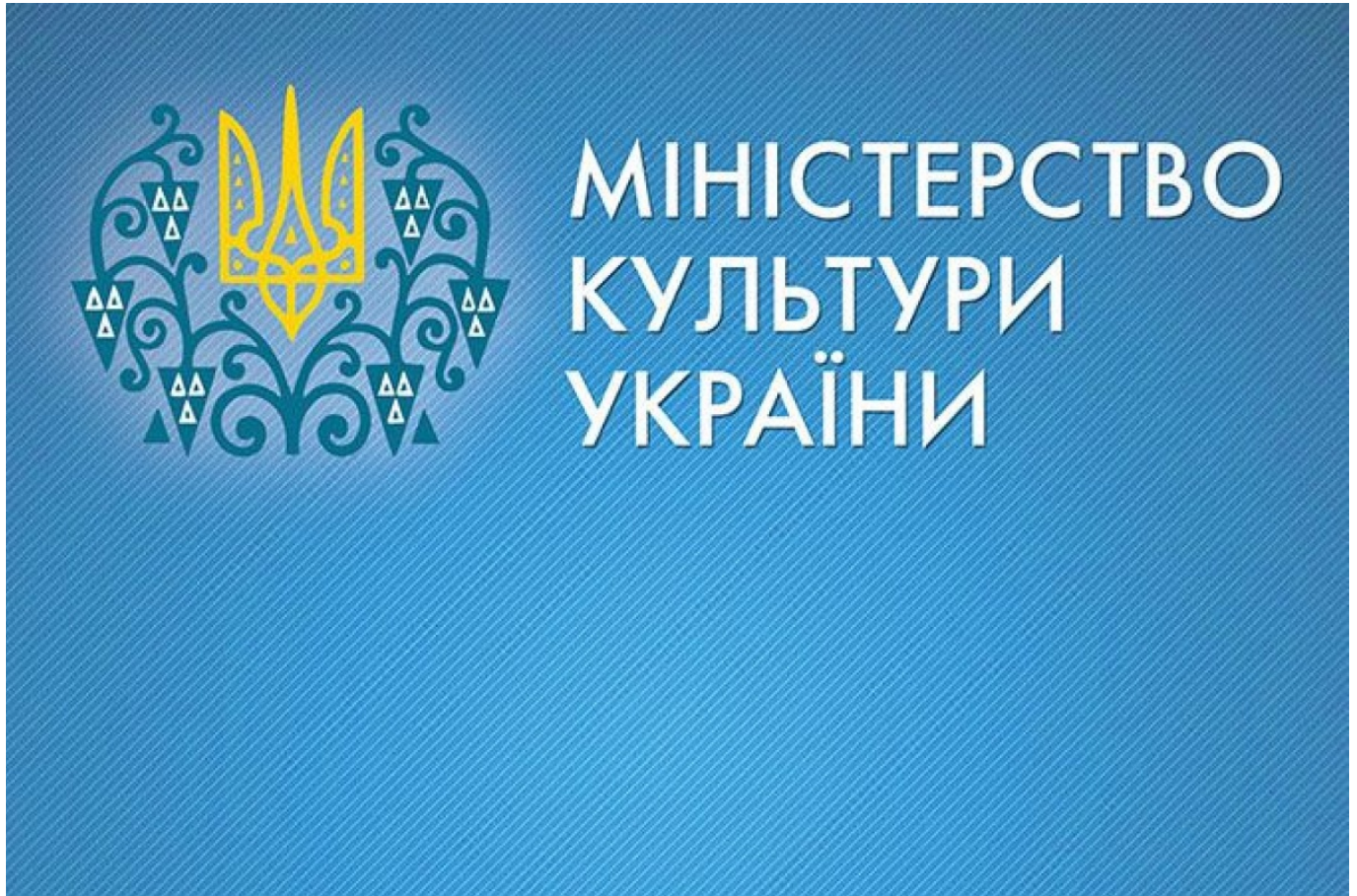


## **Court can stop religious organization's activity if it refuses renaming - Ukraine's Culture Ministry**



The activities of a religious organization can be terminated under a court ruling if it refused to fulfil the requirements of the law on renaming, the Ukrainian Culture Ministry said.

“In accordance with Part 3 of Article 16 of the Ukrainian law On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations, the activities of a religious organization, which is a legal entity, can be terminated under a court ruling if it violates the provisions of this law and other regulations of Ukraine,” the ministry said in its response to Interfax’s inquiry as to what procedure is envisaged in a situation when a religious organization fails to comply with the law on renaming.

Courts try cases seeking the termination of the activities of religious organizations in accordance with the legal proceedings envisaged by the Ukrainian Code of Civil Procedure at the request of a body authorized to register the charter of a specific religious organization or a prosecutor, the Culture Ministry said.

The Verkhovna Rada on December 20, 2018 passed a law obligating the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) to state in its name that it belongs to the Russian Orthodox Church. Ukrainian President Pyotr Poroshenko signed the law on December 22, 2018.

(Source: Interfax-Religion)