

Control in the field of drinking water and drinking water supply is executed in order to determine correspondence of drinking water quality to the state standards. State, production and public control are executed in the field of drinking water and drinking water supply.

Disputes on the issues of drinking water and drinking water supply are considered in judicial proceedings.

Ukraine introduces the international legal mechanisms for ensuring protection and efficient use of the sources of drinking water supply according to the international agreements. If the international agreement of Ukraine the binding nature of which has been ratified by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine sets the rules other than those envisaged by this Law, the norms of international agreement shall apply.

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THE BATTLE OF POLTAVA: SOME SPECIAL FEATURES

The Battle of Poltava (the 300th anniversary of which is celebrated this year) is a very important and at the same time tragic chapter in the history of Ukraine.

It is widely known that the Battle of Poltava – the defining battle of the Great Northern War (1700–1721) – took place on June 27, 1709 between the Swedish and the Russian armies along the River Vorskla to the north of Poltava.

After the rejection of a Russian peace in 1707, the Swedish King Charles XII spent much of the summer of 1708 in Lithuania waiting for supplies for an assault upon Russia. However, in that September he decided to move down to the Ukraine where he expected to gain the support of the Cossack Hetman Ivan Mazepa. In the meantime, Tsar Peter I managed to defeat the Swedish forces Charles had been waiting for (the battle of Lesnaia, September 28, 1708) and seized then the spring Charles re-

sumed his advance, but his army had been reduced by about one-third due to starvation, frostbites and other effects of the weather. The wet weather had also seriously depleted the army's supplies of gunpower; the cannon were also essentially out of action, due to the lack of usable ammunition. Charles's first action was to lay siege to the fortress of Poltava. Peter had already organized a huge force to protect it, and he quickly arrived. On 27 June, Charles received information that large Kalmyk forces were going to join Peter and to cut off all supplies of the Swedish Army [2, p. 17–20].

When the battle started, Charles had about 14,000 men, while Peter commanded about 45,000 ones. To make matters worse for the Swedes, Charles was wounded during the siege on June 17, when he was hit in the foot while taking part in a small engagement during an inspection of the Swedish outposts on the banks of the Vorskla. The Russian army deceitfully occupied and destroyed the Zaporizhian Host with the the help of Halagan, a former Cossack officer. The rest of the Cossacks moved their Host down the Dnipro river for the next 19 years.

The battle began before dawn at 3:45 a.m. on June, 28, with the Swedes advancing boldly against the Russian fortified lines. At first, the battle started off in a traditional fashion, with the better trained Swedes pressing in on the Russians' redoubts, overrunning a few Russian defensive redoubts. The Swedish seemed to possess an advantage, but this was quickly nullified. By dawn, the weather was already very hot and humid with the rising sun obscured by smoke from cannon and musket fire. The Swedish infantry, commanded by General Lewenhaupt, attempted to attack the Russians. But the Swedish advance soon faltered, partly because the infantry had been ordered to withdraw and reorganise. To make matters worse, one Swedish detachment, commanded by General Roos, hadn't been told about the overall plan and became isolated in the Russian defensive redoubts when a column of about 4,000 Russian reinforcements reoccupied the fortified positions, trapping Roos and his 2,600-man force. With over 1,000 casualties and ammunition running low, Roos was forced to surrender his command [3].

The Swedes waited for Roos to return. As time went by, the Russians infantry moved out of its fortified camp. Around 9:00 am, the Swedish line started to move forward; 4,000 Swedish infantry against 20,000 Russian infantry [3]. They advanced and the Russians opened fire on them with their guns creating a firestorm of shells. When the Swedes were 100 meters from the Russian line, the Russians aimed and fired their muskets. When they were 30 meters from the Russian line, the Swedes fired one volley and charged. They were on the verge of a breakthrough and needed the cavalry; unfortunately for the Swedes, it was disorganised. The Russian line was longer than the Swedish line, and the

Russian right soon flanked the Swedish infantry. Several regiments were surrounded in a classic Cannae-style battle. The cavalry tried to buy the infantry time to get away; several units attacked the Russians head on despite them forming into squares. Seeing the defeat of his army from a stretcher in the rear, Charles ordered the army to retreat at 11:00 a.m. Charles then gathered the remainder of his troops and baggage train, and retreated to the south later that same day, abandoning the siege of Poltava. Lewenhaupt led the surviving Swedish and some of the Cossacks forces to the Dnieper River, but was doggedly pursued by the Russian regular cavalry and 3,000 Kalmyks and forced to surrender three days later at Perevolochna, on July 1 [1, p. 30–31].

The Battle of Poltava is one of tragic chapters in our national history as it was won by Russia, putting an end to Mazepa's hopes of transferring Ukraine into the control of Sweden, which in a treaty had promised independence to Ukraine.

During an event in Mazepyntsi to mark the 370th birthday (March 20, 2009) of Hetman Mazepa President Viktor Yushchenko called for the dispel of the myth about the alleged treason of Mazepa. According to Yushchenko the hetman wanted to create an independent Ukraine and architecture was thriving in Ukraine over the years of Mazepa's rule, "Ukraine was reviving as the country of European cultural traditions".

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КРЕАТИВНІСТЬ ТА ІННОВАЦІЇ ЯК ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКИЙ ПРІОРИТЕТ

У Європи ще ніколи не було кращого часу

відкрити себе для нових ідей. Виграє саме той, хто інвестува-

тиме в креативність та інноваційні технології

Ян Фігель, Комісар ЄС із питань освіти.

Європейський союз – найпотужніше інтеграційне об'єднання Європи й світу, яке складається із 27 країн із населенням 455 млн. осіб, валовим внутрішнім продуктом близько 10 трильйонів доларів і понад 30% частиною світового обсягу торгівлі.