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How to fix Ukraine's broken legal system?



The Runaways



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June 11 market rate



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2 News June 12, 2015 www.kyivpost.com

EBRD, Ukraine's biggest foreign investor, remains committed

BY OLENA GORDIIENKO

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The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development invested a record €1.2 billion in Ukraine last year when most other investors were sitting out the war-induced crisis or even taking out money. Cumulative foreign direct investment in Ukraine fell by 20 percent, to €41 billion, last year.

Praising the reform efforts of the Ukrainian government, EBRD President Suma Chakrabarti called for more international support of Ukraine at the Ukrainian-Canadian Congress in Toronto on June 9.

"We need to give credit where credit is due," Chakrabarti said. "Ukraine is doing its bit. So must all of those, like EBRD, who believe in the cause of transition.

Chakrabarti praised the Ukrainian government's professionalism and said it was the most reform-oriented Ukraine has known

EBRD has invested €10.4 billion in Ukraine, making it the country's largest

The bank is planning to maintain last year's investment level, while financial conditions have not been revised despite high country risk and Russia's war in Ukraine's east.

EBRD's activities were not significantly affected by Russia's aggression so far.

"There's no new business in the (separatist-controlled) parts of the country," Anton Usov, spokesperson for EBRD Ukraine, told the Kyiv Post. "As for existing clients, we are trying to look at them on a case-by-case basis...trying to restructure the existing loans whenever possible.'

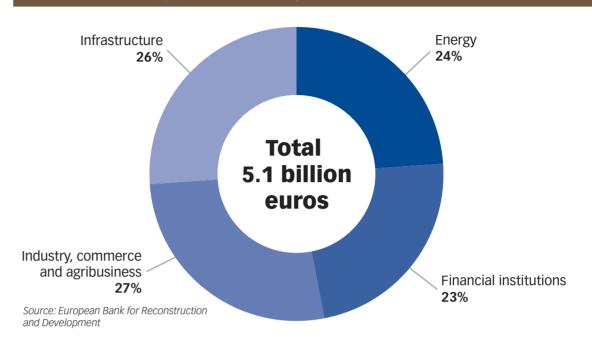
The bank's involvement in Crimea was minimal, not exceeding €30 million, while almost all of its partners were able to move their operations to

EBRD in Ukraine

344 projects in Ukraine to date €10.4 billion of EBRD investment to

€5.1 billion current portfolio of

EBRD Ukraine portfolio composition



In 2014, €250 million was invested in agribusiness, accounting for 21 percent of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's portfolio, with a similar disbursement planned for this year.

mainland Ukraine and avoid critical

The bank forecasts Ukraine's economy will contract by 7.5 percent this year, while the International Monetary Fund has it at 9 percent.

Sevki Acuner, EBRD country director for Ukraine, says the project pipeline for 2015 is steady in the energy, transport, logistics, pharmacy and information technology industries. Agriculture is the cornerstone of the bank's strategy in Ukraine, he said.

In 2014, the London-based bank invested €250 million, accounting for 21 percent of its portfolio, in agribusiness, with a similar disbursement planned for 2015.

Grain grower Nibulon, sugar producer Astarta and meat and sugar producer Agri Europe are among its clients. Last year, the financial institution lent \$60 million Brooklyn-Kiev, a private stevedoring company, to develop a grain shipment terminal as part of its strategy to develop the country's

action on reforms

infrastructure.

Foreign investment so far this year has been comparatively low. Many are waiting for the International Monetary Fund bailout to move forward. When the first IMF installment of \$5 billion came in March, "this is now opened up and you will see a very quick and strong pick-up in the volume (of investments)... in the second half of the vear." Acuner said.

The EBRD also plans to issue hryvnia bonds in autumn to enable

domestic investments, but details will depend on market conditions that are not vet known. In particular, small and medium enterprises and utility companies are in need of loans in national currency, according to Francis Malige, managing director of EBRD in eastern Europe and the Caucasus.

But continuing EBRD involvement is contingent upon the strength and success of promised reforms for which the business community has been waiting with increasing impatience.

"If the reforms are right and the projects are right, EBRD is here to invest," Paul Vlaanderen, head of the EBRD delegation to Ukraine, said on June 5 as the bank's board of directors finished their visit to Ukraine.

"We urge the Ukrainian government to be vet bolder. To grasp the nettle of difficult reforms still more firmly," Chakrabarti said.

Kyiv Post staff writer OlenaGordiienko can be reached at gordiienko@kyivpost.

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"We make it easy"

Equal rights for gays still distant dream in Ukraine

BY JOHANNES WAMBERG ANDERSEN, STEFAN HUIJBOOM AND OLENA GONCHAROVA

JOHANNES.WA@YAHOO.DK STEFANHUIJBOOM@GMAIL.COM GONCHAROVA@KYIVPOST.COM

Weekend summer mornings along the riverside promenade in Kyiv's Obolon district usually include scenes of strolling families and 20-something crowds. But on June 6, tension, violence and blood ruined this idyll as two opposing views clashed over gay rights and the right to publicly support them.

Equipped with rainbow flags and posters, 200 Ukrainians gathered at a Kyiv pride "March of Equality" to advocate for the rights of all people to be respected as they are - including lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgender.

Armed with nail bombs, flares, and donning balaclavas, some 80 militant and violent homophobes attempted to disrupt the march.

Hundreds of police took the brunt of the immediate attack, with one officer suffering a life-threatening shrapnel wound to an artery in his neck. A total of 11 police officers received injuries that day.

Police acted swiftly, but couldn't protect all the demonstrators as they scattered from the scene. At least 10 gay rights activists were hunted down and beaten.

One of them, Rostyslav Milevskyi



At least 200 Ukrainian gay activists held a gay pride March of Equality in Kyiv's Obolon embankment on June 6.

their exit strategy was poorly planned.

Milevskiv was run down and beaten by a group of eight anti-gay militants.

from Zaporizhya, told the Kyiv Post that He took part in a similar event in 2012, which also ended in violence, he said.

Seven militants – mostly from a variety of small nationalist groups - were

arrested by police. Volunteer battalion soldiers and Right Sector activists were placed under house arrest and charged with hooliganism. One suspect was

bailed out by lawmakers from the Radical Party, led by Oleh Lyashko.

In a year of great upheaval and change, conservative attitudes towards different sexual orientations seem

Ihor Kryvoruchko, 28, head of the right-wing Center Youth Assembly, was present at the march on June 6. He's certain that most Ukrainians consider homosexuality an aberration.

"Such parades could only take place on the territories of the self-proclaimed republics (in the east)," he told the Kyiv Post. "The real purpose of the organizers of the gay parade is to force more people to support the rights of the necrophiles, zoophiles and pedophiles," he said.

Milevskiy was certain that many in Ukraine still have "dark age stereotypes towards gays."

Bohdan Ovcharuk, spokesperson for Amnesty International Ukraine, said that the Right Sector seemed to be "the consolidating force" in the clashes.

A number of social media groups urged people to oppose the pride parade on the Russian-owned social network VKontakte. One of them, called Zero Tolerance, had posted a photo album of at least a dozen people the group's moderators say are gay activists. The group has more than 2,800 followers.

Right Sector spokesman Artem Skoropadsky insisted that the \rightarrow 11



Leaders talk: "What I don't believe in — is lies"



AMINAT SULEYMANOVA Managing Partner, attorney at law at AGA Partners

Can we start with an introduction of yourself and an overview of your company?

My name is Aminat Suleymanova, I am a lawver. My professional career in law started almost 20 years ago. I have been practicing law since I was a student, combining my studies at a law academy with a legal position in a law firm. We are happy to announce that this year AGA Partners is celebrating its 10-year anniversary.

The basic idea when I started the firm was to ake a houtique law firm, that supports nies engaged in international trade activity with their outbound transactions and investments overseas. Recently we expanded our activity with a private clients' practice.

Today the legal market is saturated with a number of law firms, which I would refer to as "legal supermarkets". So you can be offered any kind of legal service within one firm. But we have a different concept in the course of rendering legal services. We limited our activities to 3 practices — international trade, arbitration, and family law. To meet the needs of our client, we engage with reputable law companies in England on a cooperative basis. It is worth mentioning that our legal expert report on Ukrainian family law issues was cited in a judgment of the English

Our primary rule is to approach each client individually. Clients can address any partner at a time of their convenience. For us, legal practice is not just another business, but an opportunity to assist clients in their business or private issues. The greatest reward for us is the lovalty of our clients; we have some clients who have been with us for almost a decade.

AGA Partners was ranked by Legal 500 as being among the leading law firms of Ukraine in the area of dispute resolution. How did you gain this success?

The thing I like about that is that we weren't only mentioned in the area of dispute resolution, but we were the only one highly praised for GAFTA arbitration practice (the Grain and Feed Trade Association, a London-based trade organization). Ukraine is one of the biggest exporters of grains on the global level and we have been occupying a special niche in terms of providing legal support to outborder grain traders. That is another reason why this acknowledgment is so valuable to us. By the way, it was for the first time we've been nominated for this kind ranking.

We never seek people out, we grow them.

What law services have been the most in demand over the last year?

Actually it's hard to say because we don't practice everything. Still from year to year we are becoming stronger, more professional and better. Along with rapid professional development of the firm you can witness an increase in the number of our clients every year. And I don't think that decrease or increase in any particular area of the economy is the main reason for this, it is rather because clients get to be more careful about who they employ for assistance.

Clients are always looking for someone, the person who is the best in a particular area of practice. Let's use a hypothetical: if you are fond of tea, you are trying to buy it, you will not go to the supermarket, but to the special tea shop, where you will have a possibility to smell it, and ask the seller from where this tea leaves come from. (P.S.: I chose this example because I am a tea fan myself.) We do not assist each and every client who addresses us, we provide our services to those who share our values and our style of work

If you look ahead five years, how do you see the future of AGA Partners?

In a couple of years we are planing to open an office in London, due to the close relation of our practices in both family law issues and international trade, due to the London activities of our clients. At the moment our partners are flying to London at least once per month, so I think in 5 years we shall open a little office in London. Also we will definitely expand the number of employees, though by not more than 3-5 more people. But we don't want to become a big law firm. Personally I want to know everyone in person. We never seek people out, we grow them

Do you believe that "honesty is the best policy?"

Definitely, What I don't believe in — is lies. I bejust say: "I'm not ready to discuss that or those issues.../ It's too personal for me...". I feel comfortable with people saying that. If you say it in a soft way, people will understand, they might be a bit shocked at first, because in our mentality it's not usual, but still it's a better option.

What has been the most important management lesson you have learned?

- 1. You can't force a person to be happy if they don't want to be
- 2. Being a manager myself, I can tell that you don't have the luxury of not being in a good mood. Try to control yourself, even if you are in a had mood. Remember that people can take it personally.
- 3. You are not God to judge. You can just make your own choice but must be frank to yourself, and say: "it's personal". Very important — I treat everyone as an equal person, it's just that we may have different positions.

What is your management style? And what qualities do you appreciate the most in people?

I try to make the people around me feel comfortable. Usually a person straight from the university joins our firm but it's essential that everyone likes the new person in the company, as we will work together for 8 hours a day. I take into consideration the point of view of every member of our team. I may not always agree but I will definitely listen to what a person has to say. You always need to remember that the look from the outside is important; it can show you something new, something you haven't seen before and can even help your personal growth. There is always a tutor available from the partners to help the new associate or young lawyer. And you can discuss everything, even personal issues. If needed, they can work from home. What I appreciate the most in people is a good family background and education. We have to speak the same language and understand each other.

How do you keep a healthy balance between your family and career?

My own priority is family. We will always assist on different issues. And everybody in my firm, including myself, can say: "Ok, guys, I need some time for my family. This week I will be out of the

If you have responsibility, you can keep that halance If all members of the team are honest with each other, we will not have to lie to each other and keep family as a priority. Every year we have our vacations, we don't hold some corporate meeting for 3 days outside without families, it's not our style. I think that the best corporate event is to give more time to people to spend time with their families. Family is the priority and I do underline that.Our working day starts at 10 and lasts till 6. Certainly emergencies can happen, but it doesn't have to be a rule. The right manager has to organize an 8-hour working day. Otherwise, you don't organize your job well. Also if someone is important for me, in most cases I will make some allowances for them and follow their suggestions. You can ask for respect.

Editorial

Corruption coddlers

The case of the mysteriously missing member of parliament Serhiy Klyuyev has exposed the hard truth that President Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk either have no interest in fighting corruption -- or are content to fail spectacularly in combatting it.

They are mostly giving lip service to please Western donors. Ukraine is no closer to creating a clean, competent and independent criminal justice system than it was when President Viktor Yanukovych fled power after the EuroMaidan Revolution. The promised campaign against oligarchs seems short-circuited as well, with carve-outs and exemptions in place for the powerful if they are friendly to the new government. Settling scores against enemy oligarchs is not de-oligarchization. Creating equality before the law and swift justice are the remedies.

Ukrainians and the West should take notice of Serhiy Klyuyev's case as a watershed event in Poroshenko-Yatsenyuk's so-called "second war front" – the one against corruption – in addition to the "first war front" against Russia.

In the Klyuyev affair, fingers are pointed and confusing legal procedural issues are invoked. But they are smokescreens trying to justify inaction and, we believe, deliberately botched investigations.

Inevitably, blame will fall on Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin, who has shown that he is unable to competently or honestly investigate, prosecute and try Ukraine's corrupt current and former officials. But Shokin is only part of the problem. The real problem is that Ukraine's political leaders want to keep control over the criminal justice system. They want to be able to dictate, with winks and nods, who goes to jail and who stays free. All their predecessors manipulated the system that way, why can't they? They, like their predecessors, effectively exercise control through layers of loyal appointees so they can maintain deniability. This is why Ukraine's judges, prosecutors and police continue to fail the Ukrainian people. Salaries, independence and ethical standards are kept low so that politicians can manipulate, coerce and compromise these people who are supposed to be public servants.

The Klyuyev saga is all too typical. He is the brother of Andriy Klyuyev, the former chief of staff to ex-President Viktor Yanukovych. The evidence of theft and other financial crimes committed by the former nominal owner of Yanukovych's billion-dollar Mezhyhyria estate has been clear and known for more than a year.

He denies all wrongdoing, but Klyuyev and many others should have been arrested the moment that Yanukovych fled power on Feb. 22, 2014. More recently, he was a clear flight risk and measures should have been taken to keep tabs on him and prevent him from traveling abroad.

Here's the chronology

On June 3, parliament stripped Klyuyev of prosecutorial immunity but failed to vote on authorizing an arrest warrant. Lawmaker Serhiy Leshchenko wrote on Facebook that border guards at Boryspil airport didn't let him on flight to Vienna, where his assets are registered and he has a home.

On June 4, Klyuyev failed to appear for questioning at the prosecutor's office.

On June 5, the Council of European Union extends sanctions freezing assets of Klyuyev until September.

On June 8, the Interior Ministry issued a wanted notice for Klyuyev, but the Security Service of Ukraine, or SBU, denied that it had issued the notice.

On June 9, Shokin said Klyuyev is on an international wanted list but admitted that he doesn't know the lawmaker's whereabouts and announced that the SBU is looking for him.

On June 10, his lawyer, Yuriy Sukhov, invoked client privilege for not disclosing his client's whereabouts.

This scenario has been repeated many times over in independent Ukraine's history: Evidence of wrongdoing emerges, either against a member of parliament or some other high official. A public vote is held on stripping legal immunity from lawmakers, or the high official is tipped off about an impending arrest warrant. The suspect then vanishes. The Kyiv Post has counted at least 30 people in Yanukovych's inner circle who disappeared after the EuroMaidan Revolution. Groups such as the Reanimation Package of Reforms count as many as 50 "runaways" from criminal investigations. This is a low estimate that doesn't include all the Berkut police officers and lower-level judges and others who have skidaddled to avoid prosecution.

Ukrainians are focused on winning the war instigated by Russian President Vladimir Putin. But after Ukrainians win, they will shift more attention to winning the domestic war against corruption. Poroshenko and Yatsenyuk, as creatures and beneficiaries of a rancid legal system, should not perpetuate Soviet-era practices. Poroshenko, in an op-ed with the Wall Street Journal, wrote that more than 2,700 corrupt officials have been convicted in the last year. If true, the officials convicted were minnows, not whales. No former top Yanukovych officials have been tried or convicted, despite being suspected of stealing billions of dollars. The killers of 100 EuroMaidan Revolution demonstrators have not been brought to justice. And on and on. Poroshenko and Yanukovych can fool foreigners in embellishing their records, but not people who live in Ukraine. We know what is going on. Absent rule of law, another revolution is only a matter of time.

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Right Sector, Putin take same view on gay rights



Ukraine's Right Sector, in trying to get a June 6 Kyiv gay pride parade cancelled, wrote that "sodomite orgies are unacceptable in Kyiv" and other statements, including from Right Sector and parliament member Dmytro Yarosh, condemning homosexuality.

The parade took place as scheduled, but was disrupted by anti-gay violence, many injuries and the arrests of 25 members of the anti-gay militant group. Whether the Right Sector took part in the violence, they deserve criticism for stirring up hate.

For more than a year and a half, I have been trying to prove to the English-speaking world that the Right Sector are not fascists and demons as the Russian media asserts on EuromaidanPress. Because I was next to you on Euromaidan, and was with you in the frontline village of Pisky, and know that there are heaps of passionate and zealous people in the Right Sector that are willing to sacrifice their lives for Ukraine. But after these statements I'm not sure if I was right. It is fascists that divide people into real people and sub-humans, using definitions such as "sodomites" and calling for harassment against certain groups in our society because they are different.

It doesn't matter much to me if I live in Russia's totalitarian society where the today's czar will decide how you think, dress, and what you write in social networks, or the totalitarian society based on nationalist ideology, which, apparently, you want to build in Ukraine. In both situations I will spend my life in helping those who are oppressed, humiliated, and exterminated by the limited and cynical regime.

Right Sector, your threats of violent reprisals against people who think and behave differently than you do make you no better than Russian President Vladimir Putin in my eyes.

Dictatorship in any of its manifestations is evil. But it seems that for you moral relativity is not a problem, just as it isn't for the Euromaidan activist turned MP Tetyana Chornovol, who doesn't consider pressing several voting buttons at the same time bad as long as she is the one doing it: the dictatorship of Putin, who invades Ukraine to forcefully establish his "Russian world" is bad, while the dictatorship of Right Sector, which forces its ideas about the world upon others is good. Are you sure that you haven't become the monster you are battling?

Another thing that makes you similar to Putin is how you use your notions about religion in order to call for violence. The similarities between Russian "Orthodox jihad" to ISIS has been noted long ago. It is based on distorting the Holy Scripture and the Christian faith in order to achieve political goals. You say that the Kyiv gay pride (as opposed to an entertaining gay parade, a gay pride is held in solidarity with LBGT people) are a "public insult to Christian values," but the Bible is as not clear on homosexuality as the Russian media is.

But it's all simple for the Right Sector: "A lot of soldiers who oppose this anti-Christian phenomena are on rotation in Kyiv and may not accept LGBT parades."

Calls for violence in the name of Christ who prayed for his executioners on the cross are not Christian values, just as the values of the "Russian Orthodox army" [a Russian paramilitary group that wages war in the name of Orthodox Christianity and the "Russian world" in Donbas], imposed upon Donbas with guns, are not Christian. Are you not turning the Christianity of Christ into the "spiritual bonds" of the Russian Orthodox Church? Because Russia is world known for its hateful attitude to LGBT people that started with legislative restrictions that turned out to be a license to harm for hate crimes. And please, do not hide behind concerns for the "Kyiv believers" – I am a believer in Kyiv, and the March for Equality does me no harm.

By the way, the head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Sviatoslav Shevchuk, who in your appeal for some reason "rejects the false values of gender ideology" on behalf of the whole country, also expressed the opposite view: when talking about the program of Women's/Gender Studies at the Ukrainian Catholic University he called it "excellent" and "innovative." Certainly, There are discussions on the intersection of gender, Christianity, and LGBT. But to use the words of a Christian leader to justify your calls for violence against people coming out to defend their rights on the basis that you disagree with their opinion is immoral.

By calling LGBT Ukrainians "sodomites," "perverts," and "degenerates" you not only insult their human dignity, but also promote ignorance in our society. Nearly 100 years of attempts to "cure homosexuality" have ended in a fiasco, and the world is more and more inclined to think that people are simply born with homosexuality.

You can judge how easy it is for them to live in a society where they are considered to be "perverts who need to be treated" in the trailer of the film "Children-404," a project to help Russian LGBT children whom society tells that do not exist, or openly mocks those who gather the courage to come out (I strongly recommend watching the whole film).

Thus, the gay pride in Kyiv will only allow people with LBGT to not hide and feel that they are full-fledged citizens who, by the way, were standing with us on the Maidan Square during the Euromaidan revolution and join us now in protecting Ukraine's independence with arms.

Addressing the mayor of Kyiv, you call upon him to prevent "provocations, conflicts and troubles of any kind" in this difficult time for Ukraine.

However, in this difficult period of our history, we must, on the contrary, treat our fellow citizens with exceptional respect and understanding, regardless of their sexual orientation, religious beliefs, and so on.

And that is why the Right Sector should not divide Ukrainians into the "right" and "wrong" sorts by using hate speech and calling for harassment or violence while hiding behind religious or patriotic slogans. It is precisely such behavior that will lead to these "provocations, conflict and troubles," and in the long term can lead Ukraine to create its own "spiritual bonds" and build a new totalitarian machine to impose them upon all those that disagree.

Alya Shandra is managing editor of EuroMaidan



Do you support equal rights for homosexuals?



Ruslan Golovko student "I consider myself a member of the LGBT community. Ukraine is not ready to deal with our exis-

tence. Not to mention giving us rights to get married and so on. Ukrainians are not ready and they are scared. People think that you become gay because of propaganda on TV and on the Internet."



Bogdan Kurchak financial consultant "I'm definitely against all that gay stuff being legalized here in Ukraine. But I am not a homophobe. I

think a person can and should love whoever he or she wants, but... please, do it in private! "



Elena Gomareva teacher "Ukrainian society in general is not ready at all. But the youth is more into it. I have dozens

of friends who not only accept LGBT but even identify themselves as a part of this community."



Anastasia Kovalenko student

"That hell that happened at the Kyiv pride parade showed that we are not ready at all to provide LGBT

equal rights. We need to develop our tolerance. In my opinion, the number of people who accept and understand LGBT is increasing. Even my parents are among them."



pemianova
professor
"I feel sorry
for those gay
people – it's
their nature
and they can't
change who

they are. On

the other hand, Ukrainian society will never accept them as its members because it's against our religion."



Julia Keba mother "To be hone

"To be honest, I can't accept those LGBT demonstrations and their wish to yell about with whom they

ave sex."

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Many companies also try to be good citizens

BY ILYA TIMTCHENKO AND OLENA GORDIIENKO

Many companies in Ukraine take pride in being good corporate citizens. They give back to communities where they do business by raising money for charities, encouraging their employees to become volunteers, exceeding environmental or safety standards, or by supporting local educational initiatives.

They're learning that the efforts actually pay dividends for their companies.

While most companies in Ukraine still view corporate social responsibility programs as unnecessary expenses, others are discovering the long-term benefits, both for the company and for the wider Ukrainian community.

Giving back to society is standard practice for many companies

Such programs aim to improve society and the environment, according to the Center for CSR Development, a Ukrainian group that promotes the practice. It generally occurs when a business commits to certain policies, expenditures, and actions designed to help its employees and the broader community.

For companies wanting to show their regions affected by the war.

commitment to doing good, CSR is an important and useful public relations tool for good times and bad. "Although one cannot completely insure a company from a crisis, a business can minimize the consequences (with CSR)," said Andriy Kitura, an EY senior consultant in Ukraine. Having consumer loyalty and a good reputation during times of crisis are some of the advantages CSR can offer, he added.

The London Stock Exchange and Dow Jones sustainability indices show that investors are ready to pay more for CSR-active companies, Kitura said.

Many companies choose to focus solely on the bottom line, even if it generates a degree of harm. In the case of environmental pollution, they actually end up paying more in the long run, said Anna Danyliuk of the United Nations Development Program. Corporate social responsibility should be a general standard of doing business, rather than an "add-on activity" that is not directly helpful for the company, she said.

"Although it could be costly in the short run, in the long term it has benefits for you," said Robert Karlsson, chief executive officer of Shelton Petroleum, an oil and gas company. In 2014, the company increased its CSR budget in Ukraine by some 20 percent, supporting such initiatives as youth education programs and providing aid for people directly affected by Russia's war against Ukraine. The exact sum spent by the company on CSR is unavailable, as it does not publicly release its financials.

HH.ua, a leading Ukrainian job recruitment site, reports that the war in Ukraine has also affected the corporate culture of companies. For example, local companies are showing more corporate voluntarism by helping refugees, Ukrainian soldiers and the eastern regions affected by the war.



As part of the company's charity project, the Kharkiv-based pharmaceutical company Zdorovye sent 64 kilograms of medical supplies to Ukrainian soldiers fighting in the country's east and citizens affected by the war. (podrobnosti.ua)

SKF Ukraine, a parts manufacturing company, also supports those affected by Russia's invasion in the east. In addition, the company has decreased emissions of carbon dioxide by 30 percent since 2010, though no emission limits were set by law. It is planning to decrease energy consumption by 15-20 percent in the next five years.

"Now it's even more important, taking into account cost control and the energy crisis in Ukraine," said Tymofiy Fedorchuk, the company's facility manager.

There are many ways to invest in a community. Sigma Software, a software developing company, trains up to 300 students every year for free in various information technology and entrepreneurship courses at its laboratories in Kharkiv and Odesa. The company offers practical expertise in addition to general education, said Vladimir Beck, a company board member.

It's also enlightened self-interest: while aiding the local student community, the company receives a direct benefit by hiring up to 30 new employees from the group of students yearly. Yet the overall goal is to improve the educational process within the country, Beck said.

"It's not possible just to acquire talent," he said. "We need to really participate in the ecosystem of the educational system to help this talent grow." Once a company invests in the

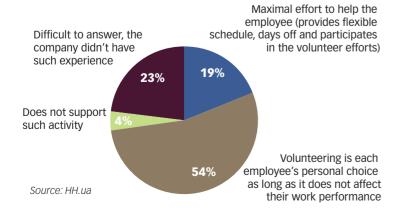
country, then the overflow effect will start touching the company itself, as well as others he noted.

Occasionally Sigma Software runs across skeptics from other companies regarding its local educational initiatives. But Beck views this as simply short-term thinking, when companies are not committed to a community in the long-run. "If one would like to run a sustainable business and pursue long-term goals, then skepticism should be faded out," he said.

Overall, Ukrainians appreciate the commitment of businesses to the EuroMaidan movement and the war effort, said Maryna Saprykina, executive director of the Center for CSR Development. "For the first time in 20 years, a (recent) survey found that Ukrainians have a positive attitude towards business," she said.

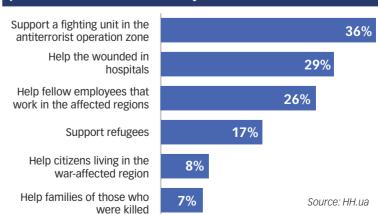
Kyiv Post staff writers Olena Gordiienko and Ilya Timtchenko can be reached at gordiienko@kyivpost.com and timtchenko@kyivpost.com, respectively.

How does a company react if the employee is actively volunteering to help refugees and Ukrainian soldiers?



Every fifth company is willing to actively support their employees in helping Ukrainian soldiers as well as refugees from eastern Ukraine and Crimea.

What kind of volunteer work does your company provide for those affected by the war in the east?



Ukrainian companies that volunteer in helping those affected by Russia's invasion in Crimea and the east mainly support soldiers fighting against the aggressor and those that were wounded.

Yatsenyuk does battle with Firtash, ally of Yanukovych

BY JOHANNES WAMBERG ANDERSEN

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More woes are coming to gas mogul Dmytro Firtash, who is already facing U.S. criminal charges of racketeering and attempted bribery.

Ukraine's government is threatening to expropriate two of the nation's six major chemical plants that belong to Dmytro Firtash, a gas mogul with ties to the Kremlin. Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk accused him of halting production of nitrogen fertilizer at the Rivne Azot and Cherkasy Azot, part of his Ostchem holding.

The group owes state-owned oil and gas monopoly Naftogaz Ukraine Hr 6 billion in overdue gas bills, Yatsenyuk told parliament on June 5. "If the bill isn't paid, these companies will be transferred to the state," he said.

On April 30, the same day that Firtash successfully fought U.S. extradition during a hearing in Vienna, a Kyiv court authorized the seizure of 500 million cubic meters of gas that Firtash's Ostchem holding has stockpiled, worth Hr 3.8 billion.

In a June 5 statement, Ostchem said that the "unlawful confiscation" had caused the halt in production, depriving the factories of gas, a raw material in the manufacture of mineral fertilizers.

Russia's war against Ukraine prompted Group DF in May 2014 to suspend production at two more plants oversafety worries: Concern Stirol in Russian-occupied Horlivka and Severodonetsk Azot Association in Luhansk Oblast. Production at Serverodonetsk resumed in late December, according to a company news release.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov on June 7 said that the state lodged 110 criminal complaints to "arrest" 110 units of real estate belonging to Ostchem, of which 46 have so far been authorized as of June 5, in a further effort to collect on the debt.

He also intimated that authorities are investigating former Naftogaz officials for a possible conspiracy with Firtash. This is in connection with a Stockholm arbitration court case in which Ukraine lost 12.1 billion cubic meters of gas that was worth billions of dollars to him.

In response, Ostchem cited "systematic and unprecedented pressure on its business from lawmakers and state officials affiliated with the National Front party," headed by Yatsenyuk. The holding accused Yatsenyuk of a "provocation."

In a written response to the Kyiv Post, the holding declined to name the state agencies it accused of wrongdoing.

Firtash, in an interview with his Inter TV channel, cited by his non-prof-

it Federation of Employers, said Ukrainian business is being forced to fight the government.

"When they saw that they can't win the war and realized that something still needs to be done, they started this so-called fight with the oligarchs," Firtash said. "This isn't just one...five people, it's thousands of people...who are creating jobs, who fill the state coffers, and who develop entire regions."

The government's "deoligarchization" campaign has not been solely focused on Firtash. Earlier this year, Poroshenko removed billionaire Ihor Kolomoisky as a regional governor as lawmakers moved to take control of lucrative state energy companies away from him.

More recently, authorities zoomed in on Rinat Akhmetov, Ukraine's richest man and a longtime backer of ex-President Viktor Yanukovych. Last month, prosecutors announced plans to cancel his DTEK energy holding's controversial acquisition of a top electricity generator because the process was uncompetitive.

A factory worker at the Cherkasy-based Azot plant told the Kyiv Post that production had unexpectedly stopped on June 1. "We were told that the factory was to undergo a major overhaul because of some debt issue," Serhiy Butenko said.

"It's a war of nerves," energy expert

Mykola Honchar of the Nomos group said, adding that Russian President Vladimir Putin is part of the blame game. "Firtash is acting as an agent for Moscow. He is trying to stir up social unrest by sending workers home and destabilizing the government."

Honchar defended the government's actions, saying that "debts have to be returned, and Firtash knew that."

Firtash's wealth skyrocketed from 2004 through 2009, when, in partnership with Kremlin-controlled Gazprom, he supplied Russian and Central Asian gas to Ukraine. In prior years, Firtash reportedly borrowed heavily from Russian banks to purchase gas at privileged prices and acquire Ukrainian chemical plants, according to a Nov. 26 Reuters investigative report.

Firtash, whose net worth is estimated by Forbes to be \$270 million, received another Russian loan to pay his record bail of €125 million in Austria, where he successfully convinced a judge that U.S. racketeering charges against him are politically motivated. The money came from Vasily Anismov, the billionaire who heads the Russian Judo Federation, the governing body of Putin's beloved sport.

Firtash has defended his intermediary relationship as essential for putting an end to haggling over gas prices between Ukraine and Russia. Ukraine's government has now cut out

the intermediaries and reduced gas purchases from Russia in light of the ongoing war.

In turn, Ostchem said the stateowned Odesa Portside Plant owes more than Hr 4 billion for gas to the group. Honchar said that the holding might have hoped for a debt swap because it was caught in its own net.

During Yanukovych's disgraced presidency in 2010-2014, Firtash aimed to privatize the Odesa plant, Honchar said.

The EuroMaidan Revolution put an end to Firtash' plans. Then in March 2014, Austrian police detained Firtash at the request of U.S. authorities. Still under travel restrictions in Austria he staged a comeback in March 2015 by launching a \$300 billion investment plan for Ukraine, setting up an agency with the support of notables like French philosopher Bernard-Henri Lévy, Lord Mandelson and Günter Verheugen. It was a direct challenge to the government's efforts to turn the crisis-stricken nation around. The price of the plan, Honchar said, would be a Ukraine under Russia's influence.

Geopolitics aside, Honchar said he expects a compromise on the debt issue. "Firtash gets to keep his plants, but the past paradise for him is over and he will have to go after the Odesa debt through the courts," he said.





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Sweden and CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility in Challenging Times as a Competitive Advantage

















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No Yanukovych officials brought to justice yet

BY OLEG SUKHOV AND ALLISON QUINN

AND A.CASEYQUINN@GMAIL.COM

More than 15 months after the EuroMaidan Revolution, Ukraine's law enforcers have proven themselves to be corrupt or inept while unable to deliver justice.

The scorecard of top former President Viktor Yanukovych officials brought to justice stands at zero. The scorecard of officials on the run from justice or criminal investigations amounts to at least 50 people.

Yet President Petro Poroshenko, in an op-ed for The Wall Street Journal. claimed on June 10 that 2,702 former officials have been convicted of corruption in the last year.

That assertion startled Daria Kalenyuk, head of the Anti-Corruption Action Center in Kviv.

"I think this is a mistake," Kalenyuk said. "I don't know who these people

She said it appeared that Poroshenko was stealing a page from Yanukovych, whose administration would add up figures of minor officials caught for smaller-scale theft to make it appear that the corrupt ex-leader was, indeed, battling corruption. Poroshenko's press office was unable to immediately provide a list of the 2,702 convicted corrupt officials when asked on June 11.

But the case of multimillionaire Serhiv Klyuyev is the one that sparked renewed attention to Ukraine's broken law enforcement system. Klyuyev is the onetime top ally of Yanukovych and a current member of parliament. He is also the younger brother of Yanukovych's last chief of staff, Andriy

Serhiy Klyuyev disappeared the same day that Parliament stripped him of his legal immunity from criminal prosecution on June 3. He is wanted



An oil painting hangs in the residence of former Prosecutor General Viktor Pshonka, depicting him as Russian military leader Mikhail Kutuzov (seated) and his deputy, Renat Kuzmin, standing to the left with his head turned on Feb. 27, 2014. Both men are wanted and fled Ukraine last year, presumably for Russia. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

on suspicion of large-scale fraud, abuse of power and other crimes, according to prosecutors

His vanishing act is only the latest is in a long list of high-ranking runaways tied to Yanukoyvch involving the alleged embezzlement of billions of dollars from Ukraine.

The ease with which Klyuyev evaded justice for more than a year indicates to many people that nothing has changed in law enforcement's unwillingness or chronic inability to put an end to the impunity of high-level officials suspected of corruption.

"The largest problem with corruption lies with law enforcement and impunity," Kalenyuk said. "The resistance of the law enforcement system is very strong....It's all about the money, the billions that were embezzled and the billions which are still being embezzled and nobody is being punished. If we do not do something with impunity, real reforms will not happen in this country."

Just to keep former Yanukovych officials on the European Union sanctions list, Kalynyuk said she and other activists had to pressure prosecutors to do their job.

The Presidential Adminstration, prosecutors and Security Service of Ukraine all blamed each other for the Klyuyev fiasco.

Parliament fulfilled the prosecutor general's request to prosecute Serhiy Klyuyev by stripping him of legal

sequently said that Klyuyev was internationally wanted, but Interpol denied receiving notification from Ukrainian authorities to support the claim.

Currently, his whereabouts are unknown, although lawmakers Serhiy Leshchenko and Anton Gerashchenko speculated that he is in Russia - along with Yanukovych and many of his

His lawyer, Yuriy Sukhov, cited legal procedural issues in absolving his client. Sukhov told the Kyiv Post that Serhiy Klyuyev "could not be considered a suspect," because he wasn't given three days' notice for questioning, as required by law.

"He cannot legally be on a wanted list," Sukhov said, while citing client privilege for not commenting on "his whereabouts at this time." Before he disappeared, Klyuyev denied committing any crimes.

Svitlana Zalishchuk, a lawmaker in the Petro Poroshenko Bloc and a founder of the Reanimation Package of Reforms initiative, said Klyuyev's disappearance could lead to a major loss of public trust in the president and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk.

"If Klyuyev ran away, Shokin has to resign," she told the Kyiv Post. "Otherwise it will undermine trust in the president, parliament and government...He was part of this big pyramid of corruption in this country. The prosecutor failed...miserably. If no one will take responsibility, it will be a great disappointment."

In justifying why they were not seeking the arrest of Klyuyev, Zalishchuk said prosecutors ignored the strongest evidence against Klyuyev in their report to parliament, portraying the case as weak. For instance, she said, the prosecutors did not include \rightarrow 9

The case against Serhiy Klyuyev

BY OLEG SUKHOV

placed on the fugitive list.

immunity. But the law enforcement

body ignored the most damning evi-

dence against Klyuyev and parliament

consequently didn't vote to arrest him,

The next day, he failed to appear for

questioning and the Interior Ministry

placed him on a wanted list on June 8.

From there, the situation became

increasingly comical, with reports of

Klyuyev trying to fly to Austria and a

statement by the Security Service of

Ukraine that he had been mistakenly

Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin sub-

allowing him to remain free.

Lawmaker Serhiy Klyuyev faces numerous accusations ranging from embezzlement and fraud to money laundering and vote rigging.

Prosecutors accuse him of illegally privatizing the Zaporizhzhya-based Semi-Conductor Plant, a polycrystalline silicon producer, in 2007.

They also suspect Klyuyev, and his brother Andriy Klyuyev, of possible fraud involved in borrowing Hr 5 billion from state-owned Ukreximbank and Hr 10 billion from state-run Oshchadbank, and not repaying the loans.

Firms reportedly linked to Klyuyev have enjoyed government generosity and received enormous funds from the state, with critics arguing that corrup-

In 2010, the government allocated subsidies worth Hr 200 million to develop Klyuyev's businesses, while in 2011 state power company Ukrenergo allocated Hr 382 million to connect his solar power plants to the state electricity grid. In 2011-2012, firms reportedly connected with Klyuvev leased about 1,000

hectares of land from the government at below-market price for 49 years. The Klyuyev brothers have also benefited as a result of a state-imposed, above-market electricity price for solar power plants that they allegedly lobbied. Serhiy Klyuyev has also come under fire as the former owner of Tantalit, which controlled ousted President Viktor Yanukovych's palatial Mezhyhirya

Tantalit spent millions of dollars furnishing and building the estate, with critics accusing Klyuyev of using the firm for money laundering. In another episode, Serhiy Klyuyev has been accused of laundering money to buy an apartment in Kyiv from Yanukovych in 2008 and paying for it in cash.

Serhiy Klyuyev has also allegedly helped Yanukovych in other ways. In late 2004, he was accused of involvement in vote rigging in favor of Yanukovych's presidential bid, with recordings of alleged conversations on such rigging being

Daria Kalenyuk, executive director of the Anti-Corruption Action Center, said by phone that prosecutors had failed to include many of these accusations in their request to strip Klyuyev of immunity despite vast evidence. For instance, they did not include the Mezhihirya episode and the apartment affair,

Suspected milking of state banks





Hr 10 billion borrowed by Klyuyev firms and not repaid



Hr 382 million received by Klyuyev firms from the government to connect his solar power plants to state electricity grid



Hr 8.4 billion earned by firms owned by Serhiy Klyuyev and his brother Andriy as a result of high, state-imposed prices for electricity from solar power plants



About 1,000 hectares of land leased by Klyuvey firms from government at a below-market price for 49 years



Subsidies worth Hr 200 million given by government to Klyuyev brothers



Hr 204 million, a below-market price paid by Klyuyev's firms for Ukraine's only state-owned polycrystalline silicon producer, Zavod Poluprovodnikov



Source: Anti-Corruption Action Center

Zalishchuk: 'People expected real investigation of crimes'

→ **8** Klyuyev's role in the alleged illegal privatization of state assets involving Yanukovych's billion-dollar Mezhyhirya estate or his purchase of a Kyiv apartment for a wildly inflated \$7 million, what she called a clear-cut money-laundering scheme.

Zalishchuk said that, as bad as Shokin is performing, it is Poroshenko and the rest of the government who will pay the political price for inaction against corruption.

"People didn't expect their pensions would be increased the next day or year. They understand that we have a war and an economic crisis," Zalishchuk said. "But people expected real investigations of crimes and justice and punishment of the people involved in the bloody activities during the revolution."

Andriy Andrushkiv, spokesman for the Reanimation Package of Reform, said Ukraine will start to resemble America's Wild West in the 19th century if law enforcement doesn't start functioning properly.

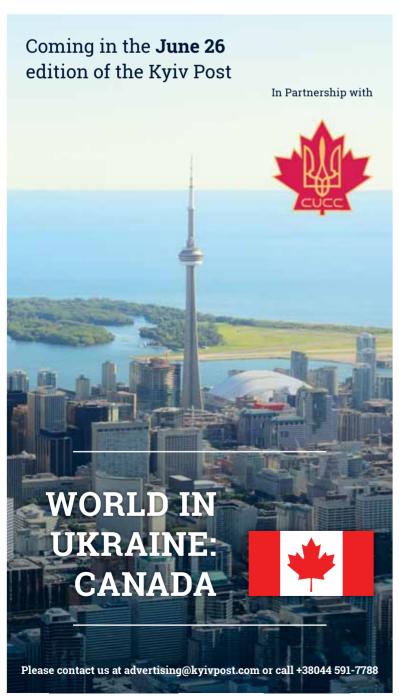
"That's why people are ready to have their own guns in hand so they protect themselves and they make rule of law by themselves," Andrushkiv said. "It could be a big problem if we don't have reforms by the end of the year." In fueling public anger, he also cited the prosecutors' continuing inability to identify the killers of roughly 100 demonstrators during the EuroMaidan Revolution last year.

Other notable Ukrainian fugitives aside from those facing European Union sanctions

	Name and title of fugitive	Time of	Charges		Name and title of	
	Name and the or ragitive	escape	Citarges		Name and the	
	Former Security Service head Oleksandr Yakymenko , two of his deputies and two -Security Service department heads	February 2014	Abuse of power during the EuroMaidan Revolution and financing Kremlin- backed separatists		Former Ukrtelecor Georgiy Dzekon	
	Former Agriculture and Food Minister Mykola Prisyazhnyuk	February 2014	Embezzlement	50	Former riot police er Dmytro Sado v	
35	Ex-Prosecutor General Viktor Pshonka's son and former lawmaker Artem	February 2014	Embezzlement		Former Kyiv traffic chief Mykola Ma i	
HIC HICH	Former presidential deputy chief of staff Andriy Portnov	February 2014	Abuse of power		Former Deputy Int Minister Serhiy C	
(a)	Former acting head of Odesa Oblast police Dmytro Fuchedzhi	May 2014	Abusing power by releasing Kremlin- backed separatists detained during clashes on May 2	5	Verkhovna Rada n Serhiy Klyuyev	
	Former Deputy Prosecutor General Renat Kuzmin	May-June 2014	Unlawful arrest of Yury Lutsenko, then an opposition politician, in 2010		Ex-Kyiv police city Valery Mazan an ty Petro Fedchul	
6	Former Finance Minister Yury Kolobov	August 2014	Abuse of power, embezzlement	Source: Kyiv Post Many top officials of stealing large a demonstrators in	s from the Viktor value	

of fugitive Time of Charges om CEO August Embezzlement 2014 Commanding a unit accused of September killing EuroMaidan 2014 vnyk demonstrators in February 2014 ic police Running an extor-April 2015 akarenko tion racket Reportedly A witness in a cornterior fled in May ruption case at the Chebotar 2015 Interior Ministry member Fraud and embez-June 2015 zlement Cracking down on EuroMaidan prond his depu- Unknown testers in February **ik** (pictured) 2014

Many top officials from the Viktor Yanukovych era have fled after suspicion of stealing large amounts of money or orchestrating violence against demonstrators in the EuroMaidan Revolution that forced the ex-president to flee on Feb. 22, 2014.







Riot police commander Dmytro Sadovnyk, who is accused of killing EuroMadian demonstrators, at a court hearing on Sept. 25 before fleeing Likraine (LINIAN)

Despite mountains of evidence, state prosecutors let Klyuyev get away

a deal with the authorities. That's the theory of Yury Derevyanko, a lawmaker from the Volya party. Law enforcement agencies were working "not in the interests of justice and investigation, but in the interests of those who flee," Derevyanko said.

The reasons, according to the law-maker, are a lack of political will and "corruption," Derevyanko said.

Boryslav Bereza, a lawmaker from the Ukrop group, which unites lawmakers whose political base stems from the EuroMaidan Revolution, said the Klyuyev case was further proof of rampant corruption in every structure of government, including judges and prosecutors.

"Our country is built on bribes for corrupt judges and corrupt law enforcement, and we are once again seeing that it is possible for anyone with money to avoid justice," Bereza said.

A member of the Prosecutor General's Office who is not authorized to speak to the press, told the Kyiv Post that the arrest of Klyuyev was not sought because he was being prosecuted under an article that allows bail.

Andriy Demartino, a spokesman for the prosecutor's office, said he could not comment on the matter.

The Security Service of Ukraine, or SBU, has also been criticized for failing to prevent the flight of high-profile suspects.

"We can't track someone without a court's authorization," Olena Hiklianska, a spokeswoman for the SBU, told the Kyiv Post. She said that prosecutors had not instructed the agency to put Klyuyev on surveillance. She added, however, that the SBU was tasked with helping border guards monitor illegal crossings.

The Presidential Administration declined to comment on Klyuyev's escape.

"So far, we don't comment on this because it's an issue for law enforcement agencies at this stage," Andriy Zhyhulin, spokesman for the presidential administration, said.

Klyuyev's flight follows a successive chain of similar cases.

At least 18 top Yanukovych allies accused of corruption and of the violent crackdown on EuroMaidan protesters fled Ukraine during or immediately after Yanukovych fled on Feb. 22, 2014. Most of them, as well as at

least 18 riot police officers suspected of killing demonstrators, reportedly found refuge in Russia or in Kremlin-annexed Crimea.

The flight of other top officials continued well after the chaos of the immediate aftermath of the revolution that drove Yanukovych from power.

In May 2014, the former acting police chief of Odesa Oblast, Dmytro Fuchedzhi, who is accused of aiding Russian-backed separatists in the city, fled to Moldova's breakaway region of Transnistria.

Another fugitive, former Deputy Prosecutor General Renat Kuzmin, fled after becoming a suspect in May 2014 in a criminal case into the unlawful arrest of Yury Lutsenko, the former interior minister and then an opposition politician, in 2010.

Kuzmin's flight was followed by that of former riot police officer Dmytro Sadovnyk, who commanded a unit accused of killing EuroMaidan demonstrators. He escaped after a judge released him from a detention facility in September 2014 and put him under partial house arrest.

Another major escapee was former Kyiv traffic police head Mykola Makarenko, who is accused of running an extortion racket and crossed the border to Belarus in April.

Some ex-Yanukovych allies remain a flight risk.

Oleksandr Yefremov, a heavyweight in the former ruling Party of Regions, is also suspected of abuse of power. In February he was released on bail from a pre-trial detention center, triggering a public backlash, and is currently under house arrest. Moreover, some activists are alarmed that some opposition members of Parliament — and former allies of Yanukovych — are not under investigation. The most frequently named are Yuriy Boyko, the former energy minister, and Serhiy Lyovochkin, the former Yanukovych chief of staff.

The flights of top officials and police officers come as Parliament considers cancelling immunity from prosecution for lawmakers and judges. Yet the initiative, championed by Poroshenko, is currently stuck in the Constitutional Court because the bill requires amendments to the Constitution.

Kyiv Post staff writers Oleg Sukhov and Allison Quinn can be reached at reaganx84@gmail.com and a.caseyquinn@ gmail.com, respectively.

Source: Council of Europe

List of former Ukrainian government officials sanctioned by the European Union

	opean Uni	Identifying information	Charges	Date of listing	Date of expiration
3	Viktor Yanukovych	born on July 9, 1950, in Yenakiieve (Donetsk oblast), former president of Ukraine	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Vitaliy Zakharchenko	born on Jan. 20, 1963 in Kostiantynivka (Donetsk oblast), former interior minister	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
1	Viktor Pshonka	born on Feb. 6, 1954 in Serhiyivka (Donetsk oblast), former prosecutor general of Ukraine	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
9	Olena Lukash	born on Nov. 12, 1976 in Moldova, former justice minister	Abuse of office in order to procure an unjustified advantage for herself or for a third party.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
3	Andriy Klyuyev	born on Aug. 12, 1964 in Donetsk, former head of administration for Yanukovych	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
Haras	Viktor Ratushniak	born on Oct. 16, 1959, former Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
0	Oleksandr Yanukovych	born on July 10, 1973 in Yenakiieve (Donetsk oblast), son of former President, business- man	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
35	Artem Pshonka	born on March 19, 1976 in Kramatorsk (Donetsk oblast), son of former Prosecutor General.	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
1	Serhiy Klyuyev	born on Aug. 19, 1969 in Donetsk, brother of Andriy Klyuyev, businessman	Misappropriation of public funds or assets and abuse of public office.	March 6, 2014	Oct. 6, 2015
9	Mykola Azarov	born on Dec. 17, 1947 in Kaluga, Russia, prime minister of Ukraine until January 2014	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Serhiy Kurchenko	born on Sept. 21, 1985 in Kharkiv, business- man	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Dmytro Tabachnyk	born on Nov. 28, 1963 in Kyiv, former Minister of Education and Science	Abuse of office as a public officeholder.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
9	Raisa Bohatyriova	born on Jan. 6, 1953 in Baikal, Chelyabinsk Oblast, Russia), former minister of health	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	March 6, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Serhiy Arbuzov	born on March 24, 1976 in Donetsk, former prime minister of Ukraine	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	April 15, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Yuriy Ivanyushchenko	born on Feb. 21, 1959 in Yenakiieve (Donetsk oblast), Party of Regions member of parlia- ment	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	April 14, 2014	March 6, 2016
	Oleksandr Klymenko	born on Nov. 16, 1980 in Makiivka (Donetsk Oblast), former minister of revenues and charges	Misappropriation of public funds or assets and abuse of office.	April 14, 2014	March 6, 2016
1	Edward Stavytskyi ,	born on Oct. 4, 1972 in Lebedyn (Sumy oblast), former minister of fuel and energy of Ukraine Reportedly residing in Israel.	Misappropriation of public funds or assets.	April 14, 2014	March 6, 2016

Initially, the European Union in March 2014 imposed asset freezes on 22 Ukrainian officials who were suspected of embezzling state funds and illegally transferring the funds outside Ukraine. Seventeen are currently sanctioned, including former President Viktor Yanukovych and ex-Prime Minister Mykola Azarov. On March 6, the EU removed Oleksiy Azarov, the son of the former prime minister, former presidential advisers Andriy Portnov and Ihor Kalinin, and former security chief Oleksandr Yakymenko. The former president's youngest son, Viktor Yanukovych Jr., was removed from the list on June 5 because he is dead.

Crime on rise as 'tolerance for violence has increased'

BY ALYONA ZHUK

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Crime is up in Ukraine, even subtracting the 7 percent of the nation now under Russian occupation.

Nationally, 271,553 criminal offenses were registered by the Prosecutor General's Office in January-May, almost 1.7 percent more than the same period last year. Many crimes, of course, go unreported because the public doesn't trust the police.

Police witnessed considerable growth in armed robberies, with 70 percent of those crimes being committed with illegal weapons brought in from the war-torn east, according to Artem Shevchenko, spokesman for the Interior Ministry.

Sociologist Iryna Bekeshkina, head of the Democratic Initiatives Foundation, a Kyiv-based policy center, said that the increased violence is linked with the Russian-separatist war in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts.

"The tolerance for violence has increased," she told the Kyiv Post. "People see violence on television every day. Every day people are killed, and this has already become a statistical fact. Dead people have become statistics."

At least 6,454 people have been killed and 16,146 wounded since mid-April 2014, when the Moscowengineered invasion of the Donbas began.



However, Ukrainian defense lawyer Igor Fomin, who represented former Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko in his trial under Viktor Yanukovych's presidency, said statistics understate the extent of the problem.

He said that only about 10 percent of registered cases make it to courts.

Police, meanwhile, sometimes fail to register criminal complaints because they are inundated and want to avoid the extra workload.

That's what almost happened to Ukrainian activist Valentyna Varava and her husband, who was beaten and robbed in Kyiv on April 19. Luckily, the

only valuables he had with him were Hr 200, and an old monochrome cellphone, which his assailants left behind. According to Varava, the attackers broke her husband's skull. The couple reported the crime to the police, but the report didn't mention the husband's damaged skull.

"They wanted to classify the act as a simple robbery of Hr 200. But anyway, in the end, no one did anything," she said.

Other Kyiv victims, all of burglaries, with whom the Kyiv Post spoke said their cases haven't been investigated. "The police took a report, and we haven't seen them since," said Anna Panasiuk, whose apartment was robbed early this year.

A burglar who broke into the apartment of Olga Tkachenko last October was jailed for six years. But her husband, Dmytro Tkachenko, caught him, chased him through the apartment window and handed him over to the police.

Shevchenko, the Interior Ministry spokesman, said "we are doing everything possible to reduce crime. We register every report, and we respond to every report."

According to data provided by the prosecutor's office, there was a slight decrease in burglary this year over the same period in 2014.

More crimes happen in summer. Citizens should install metal doors and burglar alarms. To avoid becoming a victim of street violence, the Interior Ministry advises not walking alone late at night, to walk in lit areas, to avoid drinking excessively and to conceal money and valuables.

Kyiv Post staff writer Alyona Zhuk can be reached at zhuk@kyivpost.com.

Ukraine fails test at gay rights event

→ **3** group hadn't been violent and the arrested members were victims of police brutality.

The Kyiv Post did witness police use excessive force while hunting down the anti-gay militants.

"We were there for a physical blockade, but of course not to kick their ass. We can't beat weak persons like gays that's a disgrace!" Skoropadsky said referring to the group's "traditional values."

A scholar on rightist movements in Eastern Europe, Andreas Umland, labeled the group as ultra-Christian conservative and radical nationalist.

The group's ideologue, Andriy Tarasenko, said that the nationalists were in opposition to the liberal principles contained in the constitution. For them, the right to free assembly had to be balanced against the interest of morality and the nation. Neither gays nor communists should be allowed to march the streets, he said.

Skoropadsky regretted the violence, but said it was to be expected when soldiers returning from the front were confronted with gays marching rather than supporting the war effort.

Asked whether rich people in expensive cars hanging out in upscale restaurants in times of war wasn't a bigger threat to the nation, Skoropadsky responded that spending money wasn't a political statement and that units of the group were actively engaged in the home-front battle against corruption. Widely believed to have the controversial oligarch Ihor Kolomoyskyi as a patron, the Right Sector features volun-

teer units fighting on the eastern front.

Anna Sharygina, another Equality
March organizer disagreed that it was
bad timing.

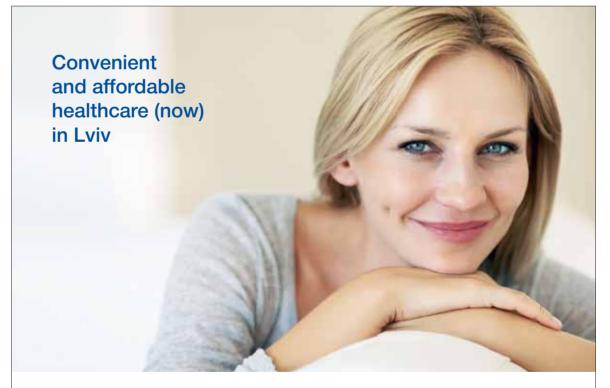
Gays had been on the barricades in the EuroMaidan Revolution and volunteered at the front lines side by side with the Right Sector without making an issue of their gender identity, she told Hromadske TV.

Russian-American writer and gayrights activist Masha Gessen said that gay rights were defining the border of Europe. She said that the timing was right because during transformations "the window of opportunity is very short. You have to seize it. In Russia we lost it — to the extent that we now are rebuilding the Soviet Union," she told Hromadske TV.

In late 2014, marketing research firm GfK found that only 34 percent of Ukrainians disapproved of discrimination against the gay community. However, in 2013 prior to the EuroMaidan Revolution, almost 80 percent of Ukrainians said they opposed any homosexual relations.

Short of a political reaction to the violence and with no openly gay top politicians in Ukraine, President Petro Poroshenko did offer his support the day before the March of Equality.

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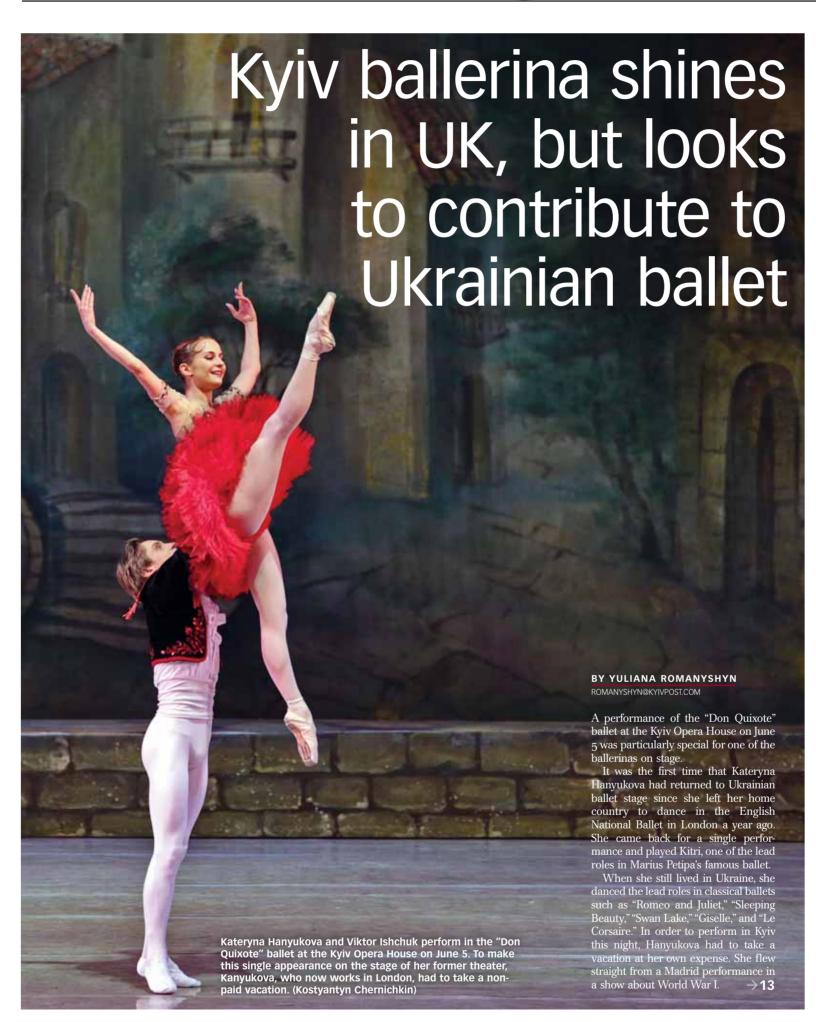
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City Life

WITH NATALIYA TRACH

Pet-friendly restaurants proliferate on Kyiv scene

A 9-month old Pomeranian Bali puppy has already been to many of kyiv's restaurants and cafes with her owner, Anastasiya Sergiyenko, a 28-year-old public relations manager.

"Together we've been to the Japanese cuisine restaurant Murakami, an upscale seafood restaurant, Crab's Burger, 3B café, and many other places," Sergiyenko says. In all her stops, she hasn't had any problems with staff or visitors because of her dog. "But before coming in I always ask the servers whether if it is permitted to bring in a pet," she says.

Allowing pets into restaurants is popular in parts of Western Europe and the practice is now spreading to Kyiv. As the number of customers grow, so do the number who want to bring their pets – mostly dogs. Restaurants that want to succeed need to adapt, experts say.

Many leading restaurants allow dogs. Restaurant critic Valeriy Polyakov, for example, points to the five-star Intercontinental Berchtesgaden Resort restaurant located in the Bavarian Alps. "This is a Michelin-starred restaurant, but it offers a bowl of water for any breed of dog," he says.

But others are not convinced. The Sushiya Japanese cuisine chain, Il Molino pizzerias, lounge restaurant Buddha Bar, Kyiv restaurants Bocconcino and Karavan all ban pets. Their explanation is simple: it's unhygienic. For starters, dogs shed, and there is no guarantee that each dog is "house trained." Moreover, many people are allergic to certain kinds of animals.

It's also an issue of safety: restaurants can't guarantee that a dog won't bite other customers.

But a strict no-animal policy is not wise either, some restaurant critics say. "Modern restaurants build on a hospitality policy and pet-friendly approach," Polyakov says.

Pet-friendly restaurants even offer pets fresh water, or more. "Besides water, we can bring our visitors' pets some meat or meatballs," says Yevheniya Ustenko, manager of Rybalove.

Kyiv Post staff writer Nataliya Trach can be reached at trach@kyivpost.

Kyiv restaurants that welcome pets

Da Vinci Fish Club (12 Volodymyrska St.), **Krep De Shyn** (25 Hoholivska St.), Rybalove (21-23 Vozdyyzhenska St.). Kanapa (19A Andriyivsky Uzviz St.), Oxota Na Ovets (10B Vozdvyzhenska St.), Barsuk (3A Kutizov Lane), Tampopo (55 Saksahanskoho St.), Khinkali (4 Shota Rustaveli St.), Picasso (4 Baseyna St.), Mayami Blues (114 Velyka Vasylkivska St.), Oliva (24 Velyka Vasylkivska St.), The Burger (5 Velyka Vasylkivska St.), Chashka Espresso Bar (1 Velyka Vasylkivska St.), Milk Bar (16 Shota Rustaveli St.).

Ukrainian ballet strong, but very underfunded, says prima ballerina

→ 12 While Western ballet talent scouts don't primarily focus on Ukraine – they prefer such countries as China or Japan – some Ukrainian dancers still make it big abroad. World-renowned dancer Sergey Polunin, from the southern city of Kherson, won a scholarship from the British Royal Ballet's school at the age of 13, and became its principal dancer at 20.

Kyiv's Alina Cojocaru left Ukraine in 1999 and is now also at the English National Ballet as a lead dancer.

Unlike Polunin and Cojocaru, who seem to have lost connection to Ukraine, Hanyukova plans to use the knowledge and experience she gets in the U.K. to develop ballet in her home country.

The 25-year-old dancer was offered a job at the English National Ballet after visiting a workshop early in 2014. She accepted it even though she didn't know anyone in the U.K.

While she now earns four-times more abroad than she did with the Kyiv Opera House, Hanyukova says it wasn't the money that made her accept the offer. She was drawn by her passion for modern ballet, which is rarely performed in Ukrainian theaters.

Hanyukova was exposed to ballet by chance. As a child, she used to dance in the yard near her house. A neighbor, a former ballerina, saw her and taught her the basics. The training she receives abroad is significantly more intense than what she had in Ukraine, she says. Rehearsals and classes take about 7.5 hours of hard work every day except Sundays, and sometimes she leaves the theater past midnight. But she finds comfort in eating — and unlike many ballerinas, she doesn't have to keep a strict diet thanks to her natural physique.

After living a year abroad, Hanyukova still believes the Ukrainian ballet school is strong. But while it has competent and enthusiastic teachers, the art form seriously lacks money.

Her alma mater, Kyiv State Ballet College, is an example of how badly ballet is being neglected by government and potential sponsors, she says. Even the floors of the college's dancing studio are worn out.

While working on an unlimited contract in London, Hanyukova plans to help develop modern ballet and philanthropy in Ukraine. She'll begin by seeking sponsorship for the college, the only state ballet school in Ukraine. "Our culture of philanthropy is embryonic," she says.

"I don't want my country to drag behind," Hanyukova says. "Ballet is where I can help it."

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Best gallery and exhibition picks

BY NATALIYA TRACH
TRACH@KYIVPOST.COM

June turned out to be a season for exhibitions in Kyiv. From an art retrospective to a display of Klitschko brothers' boxing prizes — Kyiv Post presents the most interesting of the ongoing exhibitions for all tastes.

Mixed Blood photo exhibition

This exhibition focuses on individuals and families with multicultural backgrounds. It comprises photos and interviews with 65 individuals and 55 families from 40 ethnic groups, including some Ukrainian celebrities. The project took a year-and-a-half for the Ukrainian-Armenian art journal NorDor to put together.

June 12 – 28, Spivakovska ART: EGO Culture Center, 59B Saksahanskoho St., Sun.-Mon. 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. Free admission

Kateryna Bilokur art exhibition

This large retrospective of the works by painter Kateryna Bilokur, one of Ukraine's most prominent and "naïve" artists, is dedicated to the 115th anniversary of her birth. The exhibition's leitmotif is "I want to be an artist" — a familiar quote and credo of Bilokur's. Though she had firsthand experience of some of the grimmest pages of the 20thcentury, most of her paintings were of flowers. Nearly 100 paintings are on display.

June 16 – July 19, Mystetsky Arsenal, 12 LavrskaSt., Tues.-Sun. Mon – day off. 11 a.m. – 8 p.m. Hr 40, Hr 20 for pensioners, students and children

Klitschko brothers' achievements exhibition

This exhibition focuses on Ukrainian boxing champions Volodymyr and Vitaly Klitschkos. Visitors can see their IBF, IBO and other championship belts, medals, dressing gowns and boxing shorts.

Permanent exhibition. NSC Olimpiysky, 55 Velyka Vasylkivska St., Wed. –Sun. 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., Mon, Tues – days off. Free admission

Winners of World Press Photo 2015

Nominees and winners of the World Press Photo 2015, the world's most prestigious photojournalism award, will be on display in Kyiv. This year's winning photo caused much discussion. Entitled "John and Alex," the photo features a gay Russian couple in the privacy of their room.

World Press Photo 2015 (exhibition). Taras Shevchenko Museum (12 Taras Shevchenko Blvd.). Through June 30. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 100 (Hr 150 for two)

Kyiv Post staff writer Nataliya Trach can be reached at trach@kyivpost.









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EMRE ARACI: TAKING OTTOMAN COMPOSITIONS TO EUROPE

We had a chat with Emre Aracı, PhD, a music historian with a deep appreciation for the aesthetic of a bygone era, who has studied and recorded waltzes, polkas, quadrilles, and marches that the Ottoman Sultans composed, about Ottoman music, Sultans who were composers, and his ballet on Murad V.

STORY E. MELEK CEVAHIROĞLU ÖMÜR

You have been living in England for twentyfive years. You did your academic studies on Ottoman Music and European influences. How did you decide to study in this field?

I spent my childhood and school years in Istanbul, and then left for Britain to study music. I say Britain because after studying in London for eight years, I became a student at Edinburgh University. The student orchestra that I established back then still continues to give concerts after twenty-five years. Perhaps in a foreign country one has a better chance of perceiving one's own culture and heritage in a more objective way. With the support of a Scottish benefactor in Edinburgh, I was able to write a PhD thesis on the life and works of Ahmed Adnan Savgun, one of the most important contemporary composers of the early Republican era in Turkey. My research was subsequently published as a book. Saygun's life got me interested in Turkey's emerging Western classical music tradition in the 19th century. That's how I started researching and recording the original compositions of the Ottoman sultans in the genres of waltzes, polkas, quadrilles and marches. My arrangements of these works were, in fact, premiered in Edinburgh.

You are conducting waltzes that were penned by an Ottoman sultan. What does that feel like in comparison to such greats as Bach and Mozart?

It would not be correct to compare the works

of great composers like Bach and Mozart to the popular waltzes of Sultan Abdulaziz and Sultan Murad V. The Ottoman sultans wrote those pieces with no artistic claims in mind. They were the products of their education and reflected their tastes and European lifestyle. That is why at my concerts I always introduce the works and explain the history behind them. Understanding a repertoire of this unusual kind, I think, will also help us to discover more about the cultural life of our past. To know that a sultan composed a waltz in the Viennese sense will perhaps also help us to see the past from a different perspective, in a less biased way. Would you not be surprised if King George III had produced works in the traditional Ottoman musical forms? Perhaps the mystery of history is hidden in these little details. As an artist in search of lost sounds in the Proustian manner. I slowly try to decipher these unknown works from the Ottoman era.

How is Turkish music perceived in Europe?

I research the hybrid European music of the Ottoman court in the 19th century. For instance, I wrote a book about the life of Donizetti Pasha. When I bring up Donizetti Pasha, people are often surprised. They are curious as to how a famous musician's name merged with an equally famous Ottoman title. Giuseppe Donizetti, the eldest brother of the famous opera composer Gaetano Donizetti is known in Turkish history as Donizetti Pasha; for he came to Istanbul in 1828 as master of music to Sultan Mahmud II and remained in the city until his death in 1856. I shall never forget the moment when I gave a concert



Emre Aracı has recorded four CDs in London and Prague that were released in Turkey by Kalan Music. These include "European Music at the Ottoman Court," "War and Peace: Crimea 1853-1856," "Bosphorus by Moonlight" and "Istanbul to London," the first two of which were later released internationally as compilations by Warner Classics under the title of "Invitation to the Seraglio," and the last two subsequently by Brilliant Classics as "Euro-Ottomania," which received praise from Gramophone.

at the Dolmabahçe Palace during the 2004 NATO Summit in Istanbul before the world leaders, of a repertoire that included the works of Donizetti Pasha and the Ottoman sultans, and when at the end of the performance Jacques Chirac and George W. Bush came up to me to ask questions about the music

You have staged a portrayal of Murad V's lif as a ballet. How did that project come to be? What did you feel?

This was a very exciting project for me and

was staged three years ago by the Ankara State Opera and Ballet Company. I always believed that Sultan Murad's music would lend itself beautifully to choreography and I had been dreaming for a long time to create a ballet based on his life. Finally this became a reality. The gala performance, attended by his direct descendants and members of the Ottoman family at the Ankara Opera House, was a very historic event when reality mixed with dream and when Sultan Murad's music, which he composed at this pianoforte in exile in Çırağan Palace in Istanbul, came back to life.



Ethnic music festival

The Land of Dreams (Krayina Mriy) is Ukraine's biggest ethnic music and Ukrainian culture festival, founded in 2004 by Oleh Skrypka, frontman of renowned band Vopli Vidoplyasova. While its primary focus is Ukrainian culture and music, the festival offers a lineup of ethnic bands from other countries.

The Land of Dreams (Krayina Mriy). June 20-21. Pyrohovo Museum (Pyrohiv village, Kyiv Oblast). Hr 200



New art-pop band Sphingidae

One of the freshest and most promising additions to the Kyiv music stage, Sphingidae is a mixed group with members from Ukraine, U.S. and France. The band members describe their music as a mix of art-pop, rock and gospel. To check out the band's sound, find their debut video "Mutual Agree" online.

Sphingidae (artpop). June 18. 7 p.m. Metropol (6 Prorizna St.). Hr 70



European music at Ottoman Court

Music historian and conductor Emre Araci of Turkey has a very narrow specialization he conducts music by European composers played in the palaces of the Ottoman Empire in the late 19th century. Naturally, it became the theme of the show he is giving with a Ukrainian orchestra in Kyiv. Seating is limited, call 581-0992 to book a seat.

European Music at Ottoman Court. June 16. 8 p.m. Tchaikovsky National Musical Academy (1-3/11 Horodetskoho St.). Free

Georgian-Ukrainian festival

A two-day festival celebrating Ukrainian-Georgian friendship is everything one may expect: a concert of Georgian and Ukrainian musicians, traditional Georgian food and wine, and lessons in Georgian folk dance. The musical lineup includes Georgian-Ukrainian singer Sophie Villy, Ukrainian bands Gapochka and Black Balloon. The concert begins at 6 p.m. on June 13.

Georgian-Ukrainian festival. June 13-14. Atmosfera Mall parking lot (103 Stolychne Shose). Free





Kyiv Family Day

A family festival in Pryroda Park will keep the kids busy with arts and crafts classes, dancing, and more. For parents, there will be lectures, discussions, a jazz concert and a quiet lounge zone

lectures, discussions, a jazz concert and a quiet lounge zone.

Kyiv Family Day. June 14. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Pryroda Park (11 Brovarskiy Ave.). Hr 50 (free for children under 12)



Street Food Festival

One could learn geography from the food offering at Kyiv's frequent street food festivals. The fare includes Spanish churros and tapas, Italian porchetta, Hungarian fish soup halaszle, Japanese dumplings gyoza, and much more. Also, some sangria and Prosecco to wash it down. This time there will be a farmer's market with fresh fruit and vegetables.

Street Food Festival. June 13-14. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Platforma Art Zavod (1A Bilomorska St.). Hr 40



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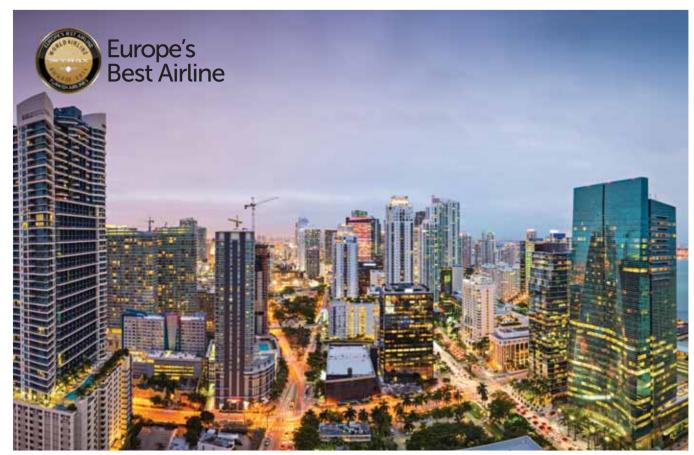
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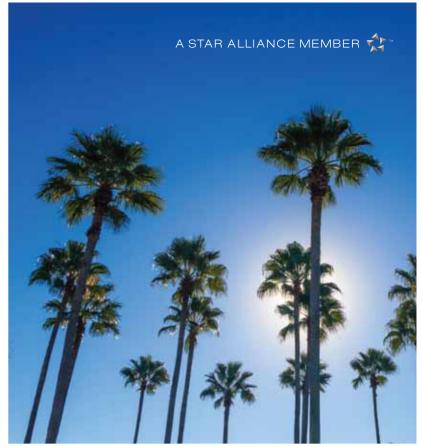
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