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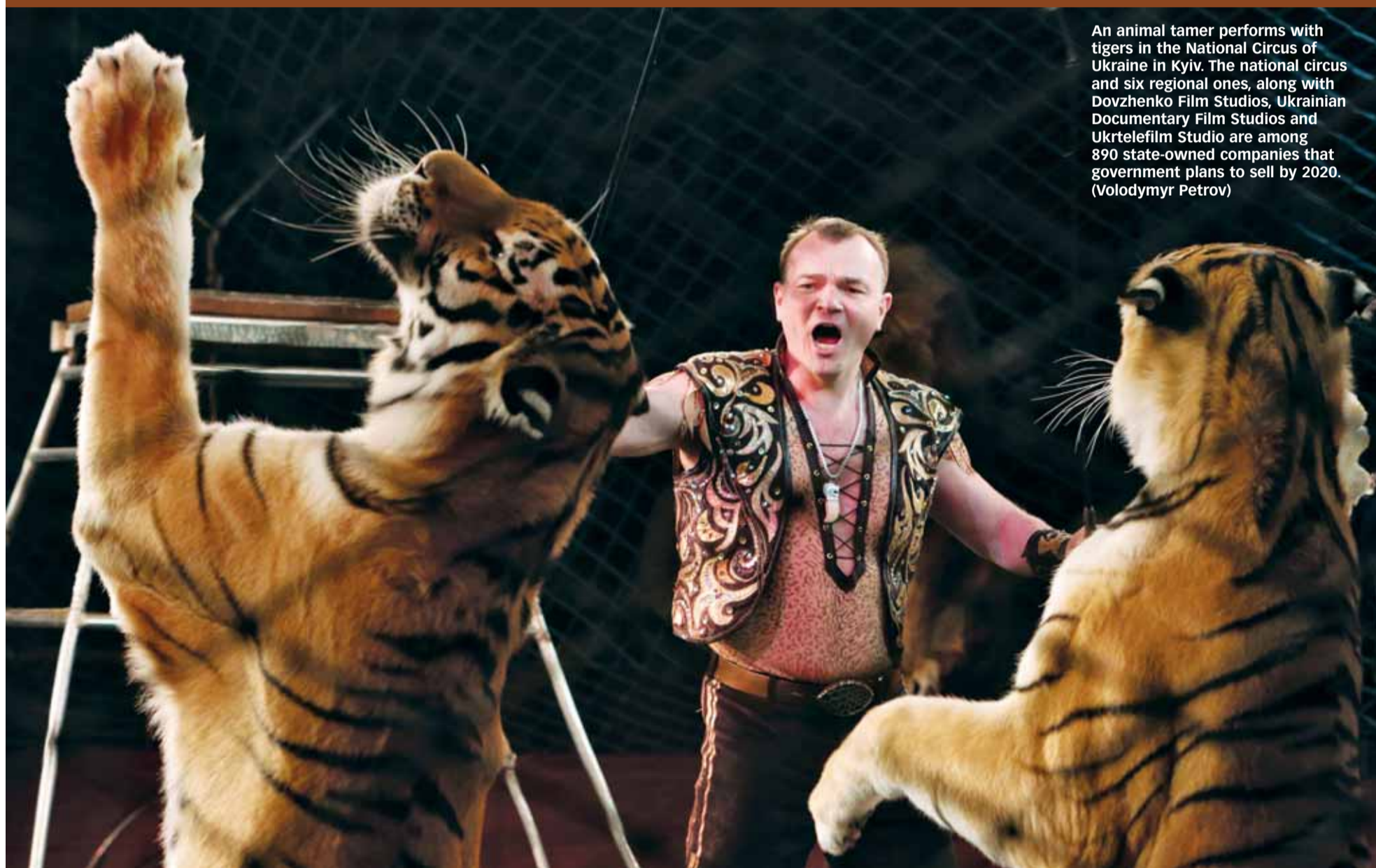
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August 4, 2017

For Sale!

Circuses, movie studios and the largest fertilizer, alcohol and turbine producers are among 890 state-owned companies that the government will try to sell by 2020. The state's 3,460 firms are financial drains on taxpayers and sources of corrupt enrichment for insiders.



An animal tamer performs with tigers in the National Circus of Ukraine in Kyiv. The national circus and six regional ones, along with Dovzhenko Film Studios, Ukrainian Documentary Film Studios and Ukrtefilm Studio are among 890 state-owned companies that government plans to sell by 2020. (Volodymyr Petrov)

BY VERONIKA MELKOZEROVA
 MELKOZEROVA@KYIVPOST.COM

The National Circus of Ukraine and six regional circuses along with Dovzhenko Film Studios, Ukrainian

Documentary Film Studios, Ukrtefilm Studio were included into the list of 890 state-owned companies that are to be privatized in 2017–2020.

Ukraine's Ministry of Economic

Development and Trade has published the list on its website.

"We've never brought profit to the state. But I don't think that businessmen would be interested in buying the National Circus Company or

a circus as a possible business," Oleksandr Salnikov, the lawyer of the National Circus Company of Ukraine told the Kyiv Post on Aug. 1.

Salnikov said that the investors would be more interested to pur-

chase the circuses for a land plot and destroy the entertainment enterprises.

There are 3,460 state-owned

more **Circus** on page **11**

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CURRENCY WATCH

Hr 26 to \$1

August 3 market rate



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Azerbaijan's Aliyev keeps abusing rights

BY KYIV POST

It's a little country with big human rights problems that Western leaders are prone to ignore for the sake of oil.

Since 1993, the former Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, with 10 million people on the Caspian Sea, has been the fiefdom of the Aliyev family — first the father Heydar, the former Soviet KGB officer, and now the son, Ilham, who took over upon the father's death in 2003.

It's hard to say how popular Aliyev is because elections are not free or fair.

It's hard to say how many people oppose Aliyev because critics are often thrown in jail or driven into exile.

And it's hard to speak one's mind — even insulting the president is against the law.

The cult of personality surrounding Heydar Aliyev — known as Heydarism — remains so extensive that airports, oil refineries, stadiums and buildings are named after him. Even streets and public squares in other nations carry his name, such as a square in Ukraine.

His son, Ilham, has ruled with an iron fist as well, kicking out foreign nongovernmental organizations, arresting dissenters and silencing journalists.

According to Amnesty International's latest annual report, some political prisoners have been released but at least 14 remain in prison, including journalists, youth activists, politicians and religious activists.

A wave of crackdowns took place in the summer of 2014, including the arrests of human rights activists Leyla Yunus, Arif Yunus, Rasul Jafarov and Intiqam Aliyev.

Yunus was one of the most high profile critics of the Azerbaijani government. She was arrested a few days after calling for a boycott of the Baku European Games, but released in 2016.

Intiqam Aliyev and Jafarov were charged with tax evasion and illegal entrepreneurship. Rasul Jafarov started to be followed by Azerbaijani government in 2012, after organizing in the Sing for Democracy campaign during the Eurovision Song Contest hosted by Baku.

Aliyev pardoned some of the political prisoners, including Jafarov in 2016. However, Intiqam Aliyev remains in prison.



Azerbaijan's police detain an opposition activist during a rally against the devaluation of the national currency, manat, in the capital city Baku on Feb. 28, 2015. (AFP)

Also, in May 2016, police arrested youth activists Giyas Ibrahimov and Bayram Mammadov for spraying graffiti on a monument to former President Heydar Aliyev. They were also charged with drug possession and sentenced to up to 10 years in jail.

Jafarov told the Kyiv Post that the government crackdown aims to prevent political change and preserve vested economic interests.

"The Azerbaijani government tries to keep its power because of the economic interests. For this reason, they have aggression against youth activists, journalists and human rights defenders. The authorities consider them as enemies. If someone criticizes president, they decide to punish this person. Because, they are not tolerant. They show their power by punishing someone so no one can beat them."

No free speech

Journalists, opposition newspapers and online websites have been pressured by the Azerbaijani government because of their work.

Freedom House classifies the media in Azerbaijan as "not free" and Reporters without Borders ranked the country 162 out of 180 countries in its annual World Press Freedom Index for 2017.

According to a report in Caucasian Knot, an online news site, 199 people remain political prisoners — including journalists, youth activists, politicians and religious activists.

On May 29, Azerbaijani investigative reporter Afghan Mukhtarli, 43, who had been living in exile in Georgia since 2015, disappeared from the streets of Georgia's capital, Tbilisi, and reappeared two days



Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev

later in a Baku prison.

Mukhtarli worked for several independent and opposition media outlets like Institute for War and Peace Reporting and Meydan TV. He investigated stories about corruption in Azerbaijan and business networks owned by the family of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and his business networks in Georgia.

In 2015, Azerbaijani journalist Rasim Aliyev was killed after criticizing footballer on his Facebook account.

In 2014, an Azerbaijani reporter Khadija Ismayilova was arrested for embezzlement and tax evasion. She had focused on corruption and offshore bank accounts linked to Aliyev. She was released in 2016.

In 2013, Ilgar Mammadov, the leader of REAL, an opposition group was arrested and sentenced to seven years in prison. He is still in prison.

Seymur Kazimov, an independent Azerbaijani journalist, says the government is not responsive to criticism from international human rights organizations. To the contrary,

they attack journalists even more after such damning reports.

"If journalists are in prison, it cannot be hidden. We know it clearly that, under what kind of circumstances we are working in. At least, government can read international organizations' reports and take into consideration them that, why international organizations are criticizing them," Kazimov said. "Why are they arresting journalists?"

Jasur Mammadov Sumerinli, a journalist who worked as a military investigative reporter in Azerbaijan, moved to Germany in 2014 because of his investigations about the mysterious deaths of soldiers, corruption and bribery cases in the Azerbaijani army.

"In Azerbaijan, there are a few journalists who work independently, but government does not allow them to act freely. If we look at the Azerbaijani media today, we will see a group of people who are far from international journalistic rules. Those journalists are busy with fluttering the government, especially the president. Indeed, it is a very shameful situation."

No opposition media

On May 12, critical news sites such as Radio Liberty, Meydan TV, Azadlig newspaper, The Azerbaijani Time and Turan TV channel were banned by a court ruling. The court claimed that these media outlets are threatening the country's security.

Baku-based media expert Alasgar Mammadli told the KyivPost that blocking websites is part of curtailing free speech on the internet, yet people usually find ways around the prohibitions.

"The Azerbaijani government thinks that blocking opposition and independent websites is an alternative way. However, it is not true because, many people are using social networks such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. It is impossible to block all ways without banning the whole internet system inside the country. If they block the network in Azerbaijan, they can prevent all of these."

Speaking out

International organizations such as Amnesty International, Reporters Without Borders, Freedom House continue to call attention to human rights abuses and demand freedom for political prisoners.

For instance, on June 22, Reporters Without Borders called for the immediate release of at least 15 imprisoned bloggers, media workers and independent journalists who have recently been detained.

Jafarov, the human rights activist, said European countries such as France, Italy and Germany are not doing enough to pressure Aliyev on human rights. "These countries have enough power. However, they don't do enough work on human rights issues in Azerbaijan," Jafarov said.

In 2016, European Court of Human rights received 186 complaints concerning Azerbaijan, but 136 applications were declared inadmissible. ■

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Activists, reformers say they are facing more harassment

BY OLENA GONCHAROVA
GONCHAROVA@KYIVPOST.COM

Ukraine's tax police, an agency that was supposed to be liquidated in January, opened a criminal case against the Anti-Corruption Action Center, the watchdog said on Aug. 2.

The move followed a campaign by Ukrainian authorities to discredit and restrict anti-corruption activists and opposition politicians.

Critics accuse President Petro Poroshenko's administration of becoming more authoritarian, monopolizing power and stifling opponents.

Poroshenko was asked about persecution during a press conference in May. He explained that Ukraine faced unprecedented security risks linked to the war with Russia. At the same time, he said, "Ukraine's civil society is enjoying more freedom than ever."

The tax case against the Anti-Corruption Action Center, known as AntAC, comes after Poroshenko on July 27 cancelled the Ukrainian citizenship of ex-Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, a major rival.

Criminal cases

Criminal cases have been opened against those who have taken on corruption in Ukraine's establishment.

These include ex-prosecutors Vitaly Kasko and Davit Sakvarelidze, ex-head of Odesa customs Yulia Marushevska, National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine deputy chief Gizo Uglava and reformist lawmaker Sergii Leshchenko.

Sakvarelidze faced criminal cases related to ordering searches of two top prosecutors in the corruption case dubbed as the "diamond prosecutors" in 2015, as well as spending of U.S. government money.

In late 2016, prosecutors and the National Agency for Preventing Corruption opened investigations against Leshchenko. The unlawful enrichment case concerned Leshchenko's purchase of a 192-square meter apartment worth Hr 7.5 million (\$281,000) in Kyiv in August 2016. In February, Kyiv Pechersk Court found him not guilty.

Also in February, the National Agency for Preventing Corruption started an investigation against Marushevska over an \$18 bonus. The investigation was started by Security Service of Ukraine deputy chief Pavlo Demchyna.

Timur Nishnianidze, a former employee of Saakashvili, was accused of getting illegal tax refunds when he was Georgia's consul in Odesa from 2007-2012.

The case was initiated by prosecutors who have been accused of having links to Ihor Kononenko and Oleksandr Hranovsky, lawmakers close to Poroshenko.

Other Saakashvili allies who faced criminal cases include ex-customs official Roman Bakhovsky and Sasha Borovik, an ex-aide to Saakashvili, who also lost his Ukrainian citizenship.

Finance Minister Oleksandr Danyliuk also recently became a target of prosecutors on suspected tax evasion.

Garbage blockade

Another Poroshenko opponent targeted is Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovy. Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko said on March 14 that Sadovy could be charged with negligence in garbage disposal in Lviv. Sadovy dismissed the attack as persecution. Sadovy leads the Samopomich Party with 26 seats in parliament. He also will run for president in 2019.

Political critics removal

Poroshenko has also come down hard on critics. In March 2016, opposition lawmakers Yegor Firsov and Mykola Tomenko, who left the Bloc of Petro Poroshenko, were expelled from parliament by the party.

The Constitution allows for the ouster of lawmakers who leave their political parties, but Firsov and Tomenko say their expulsion was illegal due to procedural and other violations. Opposition lawmakers had never been expelled before.

Smear campaign

AntAC and its president, Vitaly Shabunin, have been facing a smear campaign. In February, executive director Daria Kaleniuk was threatened with charges by the National Agency for Preventing Corruption for paying Hr 9,841 (\$378) to Leshchenko for lectures on fighting corruption.

The recent investigation by the tax police is yet another attempt to "find dirt," says Olena Shcherban, chief lawyer and board member.

The letter from the tax police says that the case was opened after an appeal from a third party. Anyone can submit evidence of an alleged crime to law enforcement agencies for investigation, lawyers explain.

Shortly before the case was opened in June, Pavlo Pynzenyk, a lawmaker with the People's Front party, showed a video to the parliament alleging embezzlement of grants by AntAC. In 2016, AntAC received \$419,458 in grants from George Soros' International Renaissance Foundation, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the governments of the Czech Republic and Netherlands.

Previous attacks

In March 2016, prosecutors started an investigation against the watchdog for alleged embezzlement of grant money that AntAC received from the U.S. government. The case was closed, however, after a statement from the U.S. Embassy.

But a year later, the state's fight against anti-corruption activists intensified.

On March 27, Poroshenko signed into law requirements that oblige anti-corruption activists to file electronic asset and income declarations identical to those of public officials.

It didn't stop there.

In April, several people protested Shabunin's "corruption" near the house in Kyiv where the activist lives. The demonstrators, however, appeared to not know what the protest was about, leading to suspicions that they were hired.

Shabunin blamed the Security



Ukrainian anti-corruption activists rally on May 16 outside the Ukrainian parliament in Kyiv. Anti-corruption activists say they face growing harassment from Ukraine's government. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, however, has said that Ukrainian society is freer than ever. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Service of Ukraine's Pavlo Demchyna; the agency denied the claims. However, an investigation by Radio Svoboda found that an SBU employee was at the protest and commissioned video footage. In late May, a video was uploaded on YouTube that appeared to be a fake news report. The host in the newscast, Michael-John Wolfe, turned out to be an actor who was hired to do it.

When contacted by the Kyiv Post, Wolfe said that he had no idea who Shabunin was.

"I assumed the videos were made by his friends or someone playing a prank on him," Wolfe said.

In June, two officers and several activists with a camera served Shabunin a summons to a military enlistment office. Shabunin, who is not fit for military service for health reasons, viewed this as part of the authorities' crack down.

In July, Adam Erel, U.S. ambassador to Bahrain from 2007 to 2011, published an opinion piece on Fox News in which he accused Shabunin of "profiting from sweet-

heart deals and kickbacks." Erel was the vice chairman at Mercury Public Affairs since 2013. In 2011-2012, Mercury received \$560,000 from the European Center for a Modern Ukraine, a Brussels-based organization sympathetic to exiled ex-President Viktor Yanukovich and his political party, according to Reuters.

Political analyst Vitaliy Bala said the recent attacks show the government's attempt to suppress anti-corruption activists.

Kyiv Post staff writer Oleg Sukhov contributed reporting to the story. ■

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Editorials

Undermining progress

Life would have been so much different and better today in Ukraine if President Petro Poroshenko, fresh off his landslide election following the EuroMaidan Revolution, had taken the side of the people — the public, civil society and Ukraine’s international friends.

Instead, Poroshenko sided with the status quo of entrenched corrupt interests among bureaucrats and oligarchs, who still control parliament and most of the news media. In this regard, Poroshenko is simply another oligarch — albeit the reigning one — with a TV station.

And that’s partly why Ukraine is in the position it is today, more than three years after the uprising that drove President Viktor Yanukovich from power — dependent on foreign aid, starved of private investment and \$75 billion in debt.

The president squandered the goodwill of the people. He is unpopular, no matter who is doing the polling. It may be too late for him to recover by the 2019 presidential election. Unfortunately, as people take their revenge at the voting booth, they could elect an even worse leader.

The president is behaving more autocratically as law enforcement agencies harass anti-corruption activists while Poroshenko presents himself to the world as a modern democrat. He’s not. If he were, he would not have been obstructing, foot-dragging and stalling on transformational reforms. Ukraine still has no new Supreme Court (the one that’s coming might not be an improvement), no anti-corruption court and no changes in the working of the General Prosecutor’s Office, Interior Ministry and Security Service of Ukraine. Parliament left many tasks undone, including reforms in health, pension, privatization, elections, agricultural land market and on and on.

The failures deepen the public’s sense of injustice. Ukraine’s leaders have been trying to burnish the nation’s image abroad to attract private investment. They’ve traveled far and wide, staged conferences, spent money and created new agencies such as Ukraine Invest.

And then Poroshenko turns around and undermines progress by canceling political critic Mikheil Saakashvili’s Ukrainian citizenship on July 27. With his blow against Saakashvili, Poroshenko has riled up a political critic who was polling at 1.8 percent support. This critic speaks several languages, is living in New York — the news media capital of the world — and gives interviews to CNN and anyone else who will listen about the injustice done to him by Poroshenko.

Let’s stipulate this: Despite Russia’s dismembering war, the nation is in its best shape since independence, Poroshenko is the best of the five presidents, parliament is the best ever and the people are living freer than ever. The nation is much improved mainly because of its people. But it still cannot break free from its Soviet ways because its political leaders, like Poroshenko, are still stuck in this past.

Ukraine deserves better. It is poised for an economic breakthrough on many fronts — export-oriented manufacturing, agriculture, information technology, services and others. But it’s not going to happen without rule of law — without politicians letting go and letting independent democratic institutions and a competitive market economy flourish. Don’t take our word for it. Ask investors why they’re mostly bypassing the country. They’ll tell you.

Junk-talking Juncker

We don’t know what explains European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker’s intemperate and ridiculous outbursts, but they are counterproductive and not befitting a person in his position.

Ukraine witnessed one such off-policy remark during his visit to Kyiv in July, when President Petro Poroshenko convinced him over talks to soften a longstanding European Union demand that Ukraine establish an anti-corruption court. While Juncker backpedaled after that boneheaded remark, just this week he threatened retaliation against the United States if the new sanctions against Russia harm EU energy companies and their business with the Kremlin. All of these and other remarks remind people how he alienated so many Brits that some think he contributed to the majority voting in a referendum last year to exit the EU.

Certainly the 28-nation bloc can find someone more diplomatic, even-tempered and effective than Juncker, not to mention someone who can distinguish a friend of Europe (America) from an enemy (Russia).



NEWS ITEM: Anti-corruption activists from the Public Council of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NABU) tried to make aerial footage of the lavish house of a top-ranking prosecutor, Volodymyr Bedrykivskiy, but their drone was shot down when flying above the property.

NEWS ITEM: President Petro Poroshenko on July 27 suspended the Ukrainian citizenship of ex-President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili, two years after granting it to him. Saakashvili calls it an attempt to get rid of a political rival.



NEWS ITEM: Prosecutors closed the criminal investigation of lawmaker Serhiy Pashinsky, who in January got into a brawl with a stranger and fired at him using a gun he got as a present from Interior Minister Arsen Avakov.



NEWS ITEM: Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman got mocked on social media for his excited announcement that a barge carrying watermelons from Kherson to Kyiv up the Dnipro River, the first time in 14 years, marking the revival of river cargo transportation in Ukraine.

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Reformer of the week

Natali Sokolenko

Natali Sokolenko, a member of the Public Integrity Council, on Aug. 1 urged the High Council of Justice and President Petro Poroshenko not to appoint Supreme Court judges deemed to be corrupt or dishonest.

On July 28, the High Qualification Commission chose 120 judges of the new Supreme Court that have yet to be approved by the High Council of Justice. Poroshenko has a symbolic right to appoint them.

As many as 25 percent of the new Supreme Court's nominated 120 judges have been vetoed by the Public Integrity Council, a civil society watchdog, because of alleged evidence of corruption and dishonesty. The final list was even worse than the percentage during the previous stage: 23.8 percent of the 319 candidates had been deemed dishonest by the Public Integrity Council.

The U.S. embassy criticized the competition on July 31, saying that "integrity concerns of many nominees remained."

Civic activists argue that the long-awaited renewal of the Supreme Court did not take place: 46 percent of the 120 nominees are incumbent judges of the Supreme Court and higher specialized courts, which are being merged into the new Supreme Court. Moreover, 77.5 percent of the nominees had been judges within Ukraine's corrupt and politicized judiciary before.

— Oleg Sukhov



(Courtesy)

Anti-reformer of the week

Vadym Troyan

The house of Deputy Interior Minister Vadym Troyan was searched on July 28 as part of a graft case, the Prosecutor General's Office and the State Security Service said.

The UNN news agency published a photo in which Troyan surrounded by law enforcers is writing something, and a supposed bag with cash lies on a desk. Troyan claimed the photo had been taken when a thief had broken into his house two weeks ago — an account that contradicted the prosecutors' words and UNN's claim.

The SBU and prosecutors subsequently said that three associates of Troyan had been arrested for extorting a Hr 1.5 million (\$58,000) bribe, while he had nothing to do with the bribery. The statement was seen by Troyan's critics as an effort to let him escape punishment.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Arsen Avajov on July 19 appointed Vyacheslav Abroskin as first deputy chief of the National Police. According to an alleged SBU document published in March by Anton Shevtsov, an ex-police chief and a suspect in a treason case, Shevtsov has received intelligence information from Abroskin in the interests of Crimean separatist Sergei Aksyonov — charges that Abroskin denies.

Another blow to the police's image came as lawyer Yevhenia Zakrevska said on July 26 that two more ex-Berkut riot police officers charged with killing EuroMaidan activists and attacking journalists had fled Ukraine.

— Oleg Sukhov



(UNIAN)

VOX populi

WITH MARIYA KAPINOS



Did President Petro Poroshenko strip Mikheil Saakashvili of Ukrainian citizenship rightfully or for political reasons?



Oleksandr Andrushchenko, manager

"What has happened is terrible for the country. Saakashvili is a very progressive kind of man and from what I know he was stripped of citizenship so he would not get a chance to do the same reforms he did in Georgia. I've been to Georgia many times and Saakashvili is very popular there."



Violetta Khomut, student

"It is so weird that at first Saakashvili was granted with Ukrainian citizenship and later it was taken away. He was the governor of Odessa Oblast, had a lot of power and it seems to me Poroshenko simply wanted to get rid of Saakashvili by stripping him of citizenship."



Marina Yakubishina, accountant

"I believe what has happened is the fault of both Poroshenko and Saakashvili. But what I do not like is all these games with Ukrainian citizenship granted and taken away so easily. Ukrainians do not look good in the light of the events."



Vadim Sergienko, tourist

"I think what's going on is Poroshenko's revenge, the president is simply getting square with Saakashvili. On the other hand, I am from Odesa and I feel like Saakashvili is more of a talker, he hasn't done much for Ukraine."



Andrew Gladchenko, driver

"I remember there was the time when Poroshenko and Saakashvili were in very good relationships. Sometimes I think there is some kind of agreement between them and Saakashvili was stripped of citizenship because for some reason he wanted to leave Ukraine."

Ukraine's Friend & Foe Of The Week

Editor's Note: This feature separates Ukraine's friends from its enemies. The Order of Yaroslav the Wise has been given since 1995 for distinguished service to the nation. It is named after the Kyivan Rus leader from 1019-1054, when the medieval empire reached its zenith. The Order of Lenin was the highest decoration bestowed by the Soviet Union, whose demise Russian President Vladimir Putin mourns. It is named after Vladimir Lenin, whose corpse still rots on the Kremlin's Red Square, 100 years after the October Revolution he led.

(WSJ)

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Wall Street Journal Editorial Board

From the beginning of Russia's war against Ukraine, the Western press have had trouble calling an invasion an invasion.

Readers have been told of a "civil war" in Ukraine, or a "Ukraine crisis" driven by "rebels" or "separatists" fighting against "far-right volunteer battalions."

In fact, since the beginning of Russia's aggression against Ukraine, when it first sent in troops in unmarked uniforms to seize the Ukrainian territory of Crimea in February 2014, and then in April 2014 started a fake uprising in the Donbas, it has been clear that all such terms are misleading.

The person who claims to have "pulled the trigger of war" in the Donbas — a Russian military intelligence officer called Igor Girkin, also known by his nom de guerre "Strelkov," constantly complained of a shortage of local recruits who shared the separatist goal. The so-called "rebels" and "separatists" have never been anything of the kind. While estimates of the numbers of Russian regular troops serving in Ukraine vary widely,



Order of Yaroslav the Wise

published senior command positions in the anti-government forces in the Donbas are occupied by serving Russian officers. The soldiers are mostly a mixture of mercenaries, local collaborators, criminals and gang members, with Russian regular soldiers covertly embedded.

The massive amount of tanks (U.S. special envoy for Ukraine Kurt Volker recently estimated that the anti-government forces have more tanks than all the armies of Western Europe combined) clearly came from Russia. Russia also sends regular loads ammunition. If it didn't, the war would have been over years ago.

So it refreshing to see the Wall Street Journal, in an editorial on Aug. 1 supporting the provision of lethal defensive weapons to Ukraine, using accurate terms to describe Russia's war. There is no mention of "rebels" or "separatists": the anti-government forces are correctly termed "Mr. Putin's proxy forces." The parts of Luhansk and Donetsk where Russian proxy forces are in control are not incorrectly called "separatist enclaves," but "occupied areas" that "the Russians invaded in 2014."

And the newspaper is clear that Ukraine needs U.S. anti-tank weapons to defend itself against "Russian tanks," and to "raise the cost of Moscow's aggression."

So the editorial board of the Journal is Ukraine's friend of the week — not only for supporting the provision of vital defensive arms to Ukraine, something that Ukraine has needed since the summer of 2014, and which could have stopped Putin's proxy forces in their tracks a long time ago.

It also collectively earns the Order of Yaroslav the Wise for describing Russia's war on Ukraine properly terms, as all other media should.

— Euan MacDonald

(AFP)



Glenn Greenwald

One would have thought, in the early weeks of 2014, that the Ukrainian people's achievement of throwing out the corrupt, Kremlin-backed President Viktor Yanukovich, would have been greeted with general acclaim from leftist politicians and journalists.

One would have been wrong though: In the days after Yanukovich abandoned office, and Ukraine, in line with its constitution, restored its government and elected an acting president, many on the left in the West started to parrot Kremlin propaganda that there had been a "fascist coup."

One of them was Glenn Greenwald, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former lawyer who has been a prominent voice in left-leaning journalism. On Dec. 31, 2014, nearly a year after Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and eight months after Russia fomented war in the Donbas, Greenwald criticized fellow journalists in a tweet for "obsessing on Russia's actions in Crimea while ignoring U.S. interference in Ukraine," which he said was "jingoistic and deceptive."

Given that Greenwald had

already had almost a year to find out what had actually happened in Ukraine, there must be some other factor causing him to be so wrong about the country.

That factor is, of course, knee-jerk anti-Americanism. While many on the left quite rightly criticize the United States for mistakes in its foreign policy, their opposition to foreign interventions and imperialism tends to be one-sided. Correctly seeing Russia as a foe of the West, they incorrectly ignore or, worse, justify, the graver crimes of Vladimir Putin's authoritarian, imperialistic regime.

The enemy of your enemy is not always your friend — in fact, it may well be an even worse enemy.

This has clearly not sunk in with the likes of Greenwald, as seen from a recent exchange on Twitter on U.S. plans to arm Ukraine with defensive weapons, including much-needed anti-tank missiles.

Greenwald was challenged for using the term "anti-Russian Ukrainians" in his tweet with a link to a report of Pentagon plans to arm Ukraine. When challenged about the pejorative phrase, he

first said it was justified because two think tanks had used it, and then tweeted that he had "simply pointed out that US arming of Ukrainians is a policy Kremlin opposes, because it regards Ukrainians as adverse. That's it."

However, when asked whether he was OK with the Kremlin arming and training "rebels" inside Ukraine, Greenwald never replied.

Maybe he was bored with the exchange, but this failure to support Ukraine and recognize the truth, while apologizing for the Kremlin, fits a pattern. For that, Greenwald is Ukraine's foe of the week and earns this week's Order of Lenin.

— Euan MacDonald



Order of Lenin

Bizarre story of how nation's oceanic fishing fleet started

BY JOSH KOVENSKY
KOVENSKY@KYIVPOST.COM

Oleg Pryimak has a fishy job.

The lanky businessman manages a rare, post-Soviet breed of state-owned enterprise: a British Virgin Islands-registered offshore with 100 percent Ukrainian government ownership.

Ukraine's state offshore Fishing Company S.A. owns a fleet of five oceangoing Soviet-era fishing vessels, commissioned by the Cabinet of Ministers in 1997 to create an oceanic fishing fleet run with the help of Crimean business partners.

For years, the company appears to have been as corrupt as it sounds, with perennial news reports accusing the company of draining millions from the state budget.

But Pryimak has been fighting to clean the company out: commissioning an independent forensic audit and fending off an attack from the enterprise's former Crimean business partners in an offshore legal battle that has dragged on for years.

"We are not some shady corrupt business," Pryimak told the Kyiv Post

in an interview. "We need to make sure that our interests are preserved."

Last year, the company made its first profit since creation. Now the question is: Can the company hold together as it engages in high-seas litigation? And can it eventually be sold?

Wild '90s

Fishing Company S.A. was born out of a 1997 Cabinet of Ministers decision to found an oceanic fishing fleet. Then-Prime Minister Valeriy Pustovoitenko signed a proclamation ordering the fleet's creation, moving the 250 fishing ships inherited from the Soviet Union into the shell company.

To finance the fleet, the Cabinet of Ministers ordered state-owned Oschadbank to loan the firm \$10.6 million to help build what Pryimak referred to as a miniature of the Soviet fishing fleet.

Calling the Soviet fleet "tremendous," Pryimak said that there were "250 ships sailing the high seas with no commercial value. We now know that this was to maintain a military presence, as the Chinese are doing now."



Oleg Pryimak, director of Ukraine's state-owned British Virgin Islands-registered offshore firm Fishing Company S.A., speaks to the Kyiv Post in the State Fishing Agency's headquarters. Pryimak has fought to regain control of the entity's five oceanic fishing vessels in a bid to sell off the company. (Volodymyr Petrov)

So why was Ukraine trying to replicate this?

The story quickly gets murky. Over the years, many of the ships have been sold, leaving only five under Fishing Company S.A.'s control.

A 2001 report by the Rada's Accounting Chamber accused the company of siphoning \$10.7 million out of the state budget over the first four years of its existence.

"This is a characteristic example of howling red tape," said chamber head and former first deputy prime minister Valentin Simonenko in an interview with Dzerkalo Tyzhnia at the time. "It's not a resident company, it's a high-profit enterprise not only freed from taxes to the state budget."

Attack from Crimea

Fishing Company S.A. trudged along through to 2014, lending money to third parties along the way while registering its ships in Sevastopol.

Charter agreements were concluded between Crimean businessmen and the company by which the Crimeans would receive a portion of the profits from contracting out the ships to an operator while agreeing to pay dividends to the Ukrainian government.

In practice, the government received no benefit from the arrangement. By the time of the 2014 EuroMaidan Revolution and Russia's subsequent annexation of Crimea, the firm was deep in debt, owing millions of dollars to related party creditors, according to an audit report reviewed by the Kyiv Post.

The Crimean businessmen — whose identities Pryimak would not provide and which could not be confirmed by the Kyiv Post — foreclosed upon two of the ships in Cypriot court through an intermediary shell company.

The Ukrainian government has managed to win back one of the ships in the courts, and remains embroiled in litigation over another.

"If they had been located in Crimea, it would have been easy for them to use the Russian flag," Pryimak said. "But so far, they've only managed to receive a couple charter agreements and accrue some new loan indebtedness."

Cash rules everything around me. Through legal threats, Pryimak said that he had succeeded in getting the company to deliver a dividend to the Ukrainian budget for the first time in its history last year. The firm brought Hr 13 million (\$501,000) to the state budget.

If the other side misses a payment, Pryimak said, "that's grounds for us to declare them in default under the charter agreement, and take the vessels away."

In June, the owners paid an addi-

tional tranche of Hr 26.6 million (\$1.02 million).

Now, the task for Pryimak is to find a way to sell off the remaining ships.

The fishing agency official estimated the total value of the company at Hr 150 million (\$5.7 million).

"We can privatize them under the charter agreements," Pryimak said. "The charter agreements would become the problem of the new owner."

Pryimak will run up against the country's ongoing failure to enact mass privatization — a stated priority of the post-EuroMaidan government that has been widely condemned as a failed policy.

But Pryimak hopes that fish companies elsewhere in the former Soviet Union — apart from Russia — will take an interest in what he has to offer.

"We need to make sure that our interests are preserved," he said. ■



The Professor Mykhailo Aleksandrov is one of five remaining oceanic fishing vessels owned by the Ukrainian government. The owners of the Aleksandrov defaulted after years of mismanagement that left the ship sinking in debt. (Courtesy)

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Blockade forces Mariupol steel plants to reorganize

BY JOSH KOVENSKY
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MARIUPOL, Ukraine — On the night of Jan. 25, activists arrived at the Luhansk-Lisichansk railway, intent on blocking trade with enterprises in areas controlled by Russian-backed separatists.

The activists began blocking trains moving cargo from Russian-occupied Luhansk and Donetsk, with organizer and Samopomich Party member of parliament Semen Semenchenko equating trade with the separatists to “terrorist financing.”

The blockade — which stopped Donbas coal from going to Mariupol — forced the city’s massive steel mills to reorganize, relying on overburdened railway lines to import more expensive coal from the U.S. and, increasingly, Russia.

Russia itself has benefitted from the blockade, apart from higher sales to Ukrainian steel mills. Donetsk separatist leader Aleksandr Zakharchenko announced in March that his newly seized mines would sell the coal to Russian factories.

The central bank said in April that the blockade would cost the Ukrainian economy one percent of growth.

Blockade

Azovstal is one of the country’s biggest steel mills, paired with the Ilyich factory, also in Mariupol, the Azov Sea port city of 500,000 people some 635 kilometers southeast of Kyiv.

Enver Tskitishvili, a gregarious ex-member of parliament, is director of Azovstal.

“At the start of February, our production fell by an order of 30 percent,” Tskitishvili said at his office. “We were working on the level of 40 percent of what was possible.”

A steelworker at Metinvest’s Azovstal factory in Mariupol works near a furnace on July 5. The factory has had to double its coal imports from Russia after a blockade cut off access to its mines on Russian-backed separatist-held territory. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)



Tskitishvili accused the activists of “wanting to inflict damage on Ukraine.”

“Why do I say ‘want?’” Tskitishvili asked rhetorically. “Because they thought that the cargo transports would freeze, and then get stuck. The people who planned this either worked in the government or know how the government works.”

Since the blockade, Azovstal has raised its coal purchases from Russia, from 15 percent of its total to 33 percent. “Buying coal from Russia, whose economy do we develop? Russia’s,” Tskitishvili said.

The other two thirds of Azovstal’s coal now comes from mines in the United States under billionaire oligarch Rinat Akhmetov’s control.

That hasn’t been cheap.

Ukraine went from importing

steelmaking coal at \$71 per ton in the first three months of 2016 to \$206 per ton in the first three months of this year, according to U.S. Energy Department data.

That’s a leap from purchasing coal at an internationally standard price to having the third-most expensive imports in the world.

Concorde Capital Analyst Andriy Perederey said “most of this coal went from Metinvest-owned U.S.-based mine United Coal for the holding’s internal use.”

This “reflects the internal price of Metinvest,” he added.

Profit for some

In the government-controlled town of Novotroitske, 72 kilometers north of Mariupol and one kilometer from the contact line, business is booming.

Dokuchaevsk was able to produce 5 million tons of limestone per year. Plus another mine at Komsomolskoe and more in Crimea, that was a total capacity of around 13.5 million tons, Onyshchenko said.

Now, with those gone, Novotroitske is the last quarry standing at 40 million licensed reserves.

Onyshchenko has doubled staff to 1,200, mining 4 million tons annually for sale mostly to the Mariupol steel plants.

“It was a buyer’s market a few years ago, now it’s a seller’s market,” he said. “We’re trying to benefit from that.”

Railroad troubles

To bring limestone down from Novotroitske to Mariupol, train cars go down a railway kilometers away from the contact line.

Since Russian-backed separatists cut off the normal route to Mariupol — via Donetsk — the city has relied on an alternate link to the rest of Ukraine via Volnovakha and Kamysh Zorya.

That line is capable of running 15 of the 28 cargo trains needed daily to maintain the Mariupol factories.

“This situation, where you have to add investment, is really expensive. Everything is only getting worse and worse,” said Vasily Klat, director of Mariupol’s transport department. “It’s Ukrzaliznytsia, they don’t listen to the city.”

Tskitishvili said that the bottleneck cuts his production capacity by 25 percent.

The general director added that further shipments of coal from the United States via ports on the Black Sea and from Russia via a long railway route further stress the system.

“The main thing to solve this would be to end the war,” Tskitishvili said. ■

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June 1 - Sept. 17



(Jordan Matter)

'Dancers After Dark' (photo exhibition)

"Dancers After Dark" is a photo exhibition by an acclaimed New York portrait photographer Jordan Matter. Matter's photos show dancers from around the world in everyday situations. Only one thing is out of order: Most of them are naked. **"Dancers After Dark" (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery (55B Sichovykh Striltsiv St.). June 1 - Sept. 17. 11 a.m - 7 p.m. Free**

Friday, Aug. 4

Live music

Jazz in the Garden. Gryshko Botanical Garden. 8 p.m. Hr 300 ●
Jazz on the Roof. Playing Ella Fitzgerald. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-450 ●

Clubs

Crazy Party Night. Coyote Ugly. 10 p.m. Hr 150 ●
Friday Afterwork. Dali Park Night

Club. 6 p.m. Hr 100 ●

Miscellaneous

We Are Alive (photo exhibition). Izone. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free ●
Instinct (art show). Ya Gallery. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
Beach and Shore (art show). Russian Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 35 ●
Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
In Progress. Ukrainian Dress

Code since Independence (exhibition of Ukrainian clothes). Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 30 - 130 ●

Movies

The Hippopotamus. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 50-70 ●

Shows

One Night in Sahara. African Exotic Show. Indigo Club. 11 p.m. Free. ●

Saturday, Aug. 5

Classical music

Classics in the Garden. Playing Strauss, Saint-Saens, Tchaikovsky, Satie, Delib, Grieg. Gryshko Botanical Garden. 8 p.m. Hr 300 ●

Clubs

DJ Zed Bias. UBK Club. 10 p.m. Hr 100-150 ●
Apartment 38 (party). Sandali. 9 p.m. Hr 300-450 ●

Aug. 10



(Courtesy)

'Out of Fashion' (documentary)

This Estonian documentary is about fashion designer Reet Aus who is worried about thousands of factories in the developing countries that produce clothing for big brands, but also - tons and tons of toxic waste. Aus comes up with an ambitious plan to change the world. **"Out of Fashion" (documentary). Skvorechnik Cafe (Trukhaniv Island) Aug. 10. 9 p.m. Free**

Crazy Party Night. Coyote Ugly. 10 p.m. Hr 150 ●
Neon Body Party. Bionica Club. 9 p.m. Hr 60 ●
Zed Bias DJ set. UBK club. 10 p.m. Hr 150-300 ●

Miscellaneous

We Are Alive (photo exhibition). Izone. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free ●
Instinct (art show). Ya Gallery. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
Beach and Shore (art show). Russian Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 35 ●
Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
Polish Art (art exhibition). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. ●

In Progress. Ukrainian Dress Code since Independence (exhibition of Ukrainian clothes). Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 30 - 130 ●

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free ●

Shows

Play Girls (show). Indigo Club. 11 p.m. Free. ●
Panivalkova (indie pop). Bel étage. 7:30 p.m. Hr 350 ●

Polish Art (art exhibition). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40 ●

In Progress. Ukrainian Dress Code Since Independence (exhibition of Ukrainian clothes). Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 30 - 130 ●

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free ●

Movies

The Hippopotamus. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. Hr 50-70 ●

The Curious World of Hieronymus Bosch. Exhibition on Screen. Kyiv Cinema. 3 p.m. Hr 150 ●

Shows

Space Psycho Tropic Plank-Tone Show. Caribbean Club. 6 p.m. Hr 100-300 ●

Monday, Aug. 7

Classical music

The National Ensemble of Soloists Kyiv Camerata. National Philharmonic of Ukraine. 7 p.m. Hr 70 - 250

Miscellaneous

We Are Alive (photo exhibition). Izone. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free ●
Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi

'One Night in Sahara' (African exotic show)

Organizers of the show promise a crazy mix of dancing and African music played by three DJs: Duffy, Mark House and Dvblex. Visitors can either sit and watch the show while drinking wine and dining, or dance along in a special dancing zone.

"One Night in Sahara" (African exotic show). Indigo Club (3 Kudryashova St.). Aug 4. 11 p.m. Free



(Courtesy)

Aug 4

Movies

The Hippopotamus. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. Hr 50-70 ●

Theater

Richard II. British Theater Live. Lavina Mall. 3 p.m. Hr 175 ●

Sunday, Aug. 6

Live music

Jazz on the Roof. Alexey Kogan. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-350 ●

Clubs

Codex Rooftop II (techno party). K.Point. 12 p.m. Hr 120 ●
Not a Bar Tel-Aviv. Holidays in Kyiv. Bionica Club. 10 p.m. Hr 40 ●
Who is in Charge (party). Bionica Club. 10 p.m. Hr 30 ●
Karaoke Top Party. SkyBar Night Club. 8 p.m. Hr 100 ●

Miscellaneous

We Are Alive (photo exhibition). Izone. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free
Instinct (art show). Ya Gallery. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
Beach and Shore (art show). Russian Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 35 ●
Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●

Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●

Tuesday, Aug. 8

Live music

Evening of Jazz and Manhattan. Roof. 7 p.m. Hr 250 - 450 ●

Miscellaneous

We Are Alive (photo exhibition). Izone. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Free ●
Fragile State (art show) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. ●
Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●
Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free ●

Movies

Before I Fall. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. 9 p.m. Hr 50-70 ●

Theater

Obsession. British Theater Live. Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 175 ●

Wednesday, Aug. 9

Classical music

Classics on the Roof. Playing Strauss, Grieg, Sibelius. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 300 ●

Live music

Nirvana Cover Party. Roof. 7 p.m.
Hr 250 - 450

Miscellaneous

Fragile State (art exhibition) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Polish Art (art exhibition). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Theater

Titus Andronicus. British Theater Live. Multiplex Cinema in SkyMall. 9 p.m. Hr 175

Thursday, Aug. 10

Live music

Jazz on the beach. UBK. 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. Hr 200

Miscellaneous

Fragile State (art exhibition) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Polish Art (art show). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Movies

Out of Fashion (documentary). Skvorechnykh Cafe. 9 p.m. Free

Before I Fall. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m., 9 p.m. Hr 50-70

Friday, Aug. 11

Live music

Jazz on the Roof. Swing. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-350



Aug. 5

Panivalkova (indie pop)

Ukrainian indie pop band Panivalkova got in the spotlight after their music video "Let Me" went viral online. The band's members play unusual instruments like flex-a-tone, which is a flexible metal sheet suspended in a wire frame ending in a handle, and cabasa - a percussion instrument that has loops of steel ball chain wrapped around a wide cylinder.

Panivalkova (indie pop). Bel étage. (16A Shota Rustaveli St.) Aug. 5. 7:30 p.m. Hr 350

Clubs

Party Animals. Forsage Club. 7 p.m. Free

Friday Free Style: Olga Neka. Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 100-150

Miscellaneous

Fragile State (art show) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Polish Art (art show). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

tion). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Shows

Friday Afterwork. Habana Cuban restaurant. 6:30 p.m. Free

Saturday, Aug. 12

Live music

Jazz on the Roof. Broadway. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-350

Clubs

Our Sound Party. Indigo Club. 11 p.m. Hr 100

Lesnoy Prichal: Wicked Bass Release Party. Closer Club. 12 a.m. Hr 200-280

Miscellaneous

Holi (Hindu festival of color). VDNH. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 200-400

Kurazh Bazaar (flea market). Platforma Art Factory. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Hr 50

Fragile State (art exhibition) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Polish Art (art exhibition). Khanenko

'Titus Andronicus' (British Theater Live)

Kyivans can enjoy the first screening of one of William Shakespeare's bloodiest plays, "Titus Andronicus," simultaneously with other theater fans in cinemas all over the world. "Titus Andronicus" is a brutal revenge tragedy, which depicts the times when Rome was a place where rape, cannibalism, and corruption were ubiquitous.

"Titus Andronicus." British Theater Live. Sky Mall (2T Henerala Vatutina Ave). Aug. 9, 9 p.m. Hr 175



Aug. 9

Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40

Movies

Before I Fall. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. Hr 50-70

Theater

Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead. British Theater Live. Multiplex Cinema in Lavina Mall. 3 p.m. Hr 175

Sunday, Aug. 13

Live music

Jazz on the Roof. Love songs. Bel étage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-350

Jazz in the Garden. Gryshko Botanical Garden. 8 p.m. Hr 300

Miscellaneous

Holi (Hindu festival of color). VDNH. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 200-400

Kurazh Bazar (flea market). Platforma Art Factory. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Hr 50

Fragile State (art exhibition) Pinchuk Art Center. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Blossom Soul (art show). Zavalnyi Art Center. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Polish Art (art exhibition). Khanenko Museum. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hr 10 - 40

Dancers After Dark (photo exhibition). Brucie Collections Gallery. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free

Movies

Before I Fall. Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. Hr 50-70



Aug. 12-13

Holi Festival

Hindu Holi "festival of colors" was conceived as a celebration of spring, but in Kyiv it takes place at least once a season. During the festival, visitors will smear each other with color dash, listen to live music and see a motor show. The price of the tickets varies depending on the type and amount of color powder the visitor wants to get.

Holi Festival. VDNH (1 Akademika Hlushkova Ave.) Aug. 12-13. 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Hr 200 - 400. Buy additional powder for up to Hr 3,000

Venues

Live Music

● Gryshko National Botanical Garden (1 Tymiriazivska St.) +38044285 4105
● Bel étage (16A Shota Rustaveli St.) +38067171 1616 info@etage.kiev.ua
● Roof (37/41 Sichovykh

Striltsiv St.) +38067155 2255
● Clubs
● Coyote Ugly (9A Mechnykova St.) +38044280 0678
● Dali Park Night Club (16 Parkova Rd.) +38044221 4433

● UBK Club (Trukhaniv Island) 097771 3143
● Sandali Trukhaniv Resort (Trukhaniv Island, 3 Parkova Road) 097631 0000
● Bionica Club (128 Borshchahivska St.) 063441 3441
● K. Point (72 Hlybochytka St.) 095604

8426
● SkyBar (5 Velyka Vasykivska St.) 044223 8888
● Forsage Club (51A Harmatna St.) 044232 7001
● Caribbean Club (4 Petliury St.) 067224 4111 caribbeanclub@gmail.com
● Indigo Club (3

Kudriashova St.) 044500 0011 (13)
● Closer (31 Nyzhnoiurkivska St.) 067658 8951(14)
● Miscellaneous
● Izone (8 Naberezhno-Luhova St.) 050477 2620 info@izone.ua
● Ya Gallery Art Center (49B Khoryva St.) 4929203

info.yagallery@gmail.com
● Kyiv National Museum of Russian Art (9 Tereshchenkivska St.) 044287 7324 museumu@ukr.net
● Zavalnyi Art Center (31 Staronavodnytska St.) 044254 3275 (18)
● Khanenko Museum (15 Tereshchenkivska St.)

044235 3290
● Mystetsky Arsenal (10-12 Lavrska St.) 044288 5225
● Pinchuk Art Center (1/2-3 Velyka Vasykivska St./Baseina St.) 044590 0858
● Brucie Collections Gallery (55 Sichovykh Striltsiv St.) 044353 1234

● Platforma Art Factory (1 Bilomorska St.) 044338 5538
● VDNH (1 Akademika Hlushkova Ave.) 044596 9101
● Movies
● Kinopanorama Cinema (19 Shota Rustaveli St.) 044287 3041 adm.kinopanorama@gmail.com

● Kyiv Cinema (19 Velyka Vasykivska St.) 044234 7381
● Skvorechnik Cafe (5 Trukhanivska St.) 073402 8151
● Show
● Habana Cuban restaurant (24 Verkhni VAI St.) 095709 6234

● Theater
● Lavina Mall (6D Berkovetska) 0800505 333
● SkyMall (2T Henerala Vatutina Ave.) 0800505 333
● National Philharmonic of Ukraine (2 Volodymyrskyi Descent) 044278 1697

Telecoms market for 2: Lifecell loses subscribers as Kyivstar, Vodafone grow

BY DENYS KRASNIKOV
KRASNIKOV@KYIVPOST.COM

Kyivstar and Vodafone are on their way to becoming Ukraine's dominant telecommunications providers as new data shows that Lifecell lost 2.2 million subscribers in the last two years.

According to Lifecell's latest financial report, 800,000 subscribers stopped using their SIM cards in 2017. According to the company's metrics, these users haven't replenished their accounts for more than three months.

Now, the company has 8.4 million active users. That's down from 9.2 million at the end of 2016 and 10.6

million in 2015, out of a total market of roughly 55 million SIM cards in Ukraine.

Lifecell insists that such an outflow is normal. The number of Ukrainians with two SIM cards has dwindled, a company spokeswoman argued, meaning that the carrier is not losing ground in the telecom market.

Lifecell says its SIM cards were often used as an addition to the main phone number, partly because the operator is the most recent entrant on Ukraine's telecom market and offers cheaper plans.

Lifecell spokeswoman Olga Mukha told the Kyiv Post that Lifecell can't break the duopoly of Vodafone and Kyivstar until there is mobile num-



Young men walk the central Khreshchatyk Street while using their smartphones in Kyiv on June 21. The Ukrainian telecoms market amounts to roughly 55 million active SIM cards, while the population of Ukraine is about 42 million people. Lifecell representatives claim fewer Ukrainians now use two SIM cards, which means some of those who had Lifecell as their second operator stopped using its services. (Oleg Petrusiuk)

Market situation of 3 main telecom operators in Ukraine

	KYIVSTAR		vodafone		lifecell	
	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	1Q 2017	2Q 2017	1Q 2017	2Q 2017
Revenue	Hr 3.87 billion	Hr 4.06 billion	Hr 2.84 billion	N/A	Hr 1.15 billion	Hr 1.17 billion
Subscribers	26 million	26.1 million	20.9 million	N/A	9.7 million	8.4* million
Revenue, year-over-year	12%	10%	N/A	N/A	4.2%	1.8%

* this decrease links to deactivation of inactive SIM-cards turned off for more than 3 months.

Sources: Kyivstar, Vodafone and Lifecell press releases

The table compares available financial results of Ukraine's three biggest phone carriers for the first and second quarters of 2017. Vodafone Ukraine will report its earnings later in August.

ber portability, a service that allows customers to move freely among networks, taking their number with them regardless of which provider they use.

Ukraine has been trying to launch mobile number portability since 2010, when the respective bill was passed in parliament. Since then, the state has been trying to pick a company to service the database of mobile numbers. The results of the

last tender were canceled by court in April and the selection is about to start anew.

The absence of mobile number portability and price hikes in tariff plans create a "club effect" that keeps subscribers "locked in prisons," Mukha says. As a result, people can't spend the money on several operators and tend to stick to only one; in most cases, it is not Lifecell.

According to forecasts from the State Center of Radio Frequencies, only one to two million people are expected to change carriers if mobile portability goes live.

Kyivstar and Vodafone currently have 26.1 million and 20.9 million subscribers respectively. The subscriber bases of both have been growing, albeit slowly.

Financial troubles

Lifecell reports that it has started earning slightly more from those who remained loyal to its brand. With 800,000 fewer active subscribers in the second quarter of 2017, Lifecell demonstrated revenue growth of 1.8 percent, comparing to the same period last year. The revenue reached \$46 million.

But it's literally nothing in comparison with revenue Kyivstar and Vodafone Ukraine demonstrate, thinks Roman Khimich, an independent telecom consultant. On Aug. 3, Kyivstar reported it had earned by 10 percent more than a year ago in the second quarter of 2017, \$154 million, while Vodafone reported \$108 million earnings in this year's first three months.

Khimich is sure that Lifecell uses quarter reports to manipulate its investors. By reducing its base of subscribers (showing only active ones), it increases statistics on average spending inside its network. Average revenue per user for all the operators grew from around \$1.3 to \$1.7 per month.

"Shareholders first of all are interested in money, that's why financial

indicators like average revenue per user are more important than the number of subscribers," Khimich told the Kyiv Post.

So he says people should not think that Lifecell will leave the market because it has fewer active users. Financial results, however, tell a less pleasant story. "Lifecell revenue grows almost 10 times slower, which means the company loses its market share," Khimich said.

Such a weak position has prompted speculation that Lifecell's sole shareholder, Turkey-based Turkcell, may soon sell the company, leaving only two big mobile operators in Ukraine.

"The market for two? Everything is possible," Alexander Zhyvotovskyy, the head of the State Center of Radio Frequencies, said in an interview with the Kyiv Post on Aug. 2. "But if this ever happened, it would be very bad for the market."

Managerial decisions

In April, Lifecell changed its CEO. An official press release claimed the company's former chief, Burak Ersoy, had resigned. Ismet Yazici, the former head of Turkcell in northern Cyprus, took over. He still hasn't given interviews since his appointment on April 13.

Zhyvotovskyy sees 2016 as the year when something went wrong for Lifecell.

"Nothing supercritical happened on the market in '16, and so external factors couldn't affect the company's business," Zhyvotovskyy said. "There should be a deeper look into some particular managerial decisions, I guess."

He says the Ukrainian telecom market is fiercely competitive and unforgiving of mistakes.

"If the financial results of Kyivstar deteriorated like they did at Lifecell, the life of its CEO, Peter Chernyshov, would change a lot."

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Wladimir Klitschko retires after 21 years in boxing

Ukrainian boxing star and the former heavyweight champion Wladimir Klitschko will not fight British boxer Anthony Joshua to regain his championship belts that he lost to Joshua in April. Klitschko, 41, announced that he is retired from boxing on Aug. 3, via video on his official website. "Twenty-seven years ago I made my best choice. I have chosen the profession that became my life," Klitschko said. He follows his older brother, Vitali Klitschko, who retired from boxing in 2013 and has been mayor of Kyiv since 2014. In the photo, Klitschko celebrates his victory over American Bryant Jennings in New York's Madison Square Garden on April 25, 2015. (AFP)

Government again promises to sell off state enterprises

Circus from page 1

enterprises in Ukraine, the Economy Ministry said.

The state has proved itself as ineffective owner and manager of the companies that operate in competitive markets, the economy ministry press service told the Kyiv Post on July 28.

In 2016, the ministry said, more than 1,600 state-owned enterprises were simply not working, an increase from 2012's figure of 1,367 non-functional companies.



Number of state-owned enterprises in different countries

China		more than 150,000 (as of 2015)
Ukraine		3,460
Pakistan		184
Sweden		48
U.S.		more than 20
Canada		10

Sources: Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Shanghai Daily newspaper, Government Office of Sweden, Wikipedia.

Ukraine's government owns 3,460 firms that almost everyone agrees are not managed effectively and are sources of major corruption.

"We also counted 1,186 state-owned loss-making companies only in 2016. The additional funding of those enterprises damages the state budget and creates corruption risks," the ministry said.

In 2017, more than Hr 537 million was allocated for financial support of state owned companies of cultural sector only.

Only strategically important state-owned companies for Ukraine's economy would stay under government control. Others would be passed in concessions, liquidated or sold to private investors.

Aside from movie studios and circuses to be put on the sales block by 2020, there are several dozens of road agencies, fish and food factories, state chemical and steel producers, state concern UkrSpirt, Oshchadbank, Odessa Port Side Plant, joint stock company Turboatom, sea and river ports, jewelry factories and many others.

The Ukrainian government has broadened the list of enterprises to be sold to private investors by the end of August, as part of the memorandum with the International Monetary Fund signed in April.

IMF has disbursed about half of the \$17.5 billion credit package that expires at the end of 2018, but stalled reforms have stalled the lending.

The IMF insisted Odessa Port Side

Plant must be privatized until the end of 2017.

According to the State Property Fund website, Odessa Port Side Plant, UkrSpirt, oblennergos (state energy suppliers), public joint-stock corporation Turboatom and others must be sold only through an auction or a transparent competition.

"Privatization of major enterprises is impossible without the joint efforts of all branches of government. The State Property Fund will do its best to fasten the privatization and increase the flow of funds in the state budget," the message reads.

Slow and hard

The Ministry of Economic Development and Trade monitoring said Dovzhenko Film Studios lost Hr 3 million for the state in 2015–2016. Ukrtefilm Studio lost more than Hr 2.5 million in the same period.

The Lviv State Circus lost Hr 1.6 million and the Zaporizhzhia Circus Hr 1.4 million in 2015–2016. The ministry has no data about National Circus of Ukraine financial performance.

"Those enterprises can be sold to private investors or passed in the communal ownership," the ministry said.

However, the ministry press service added, that circuses and cinema studios were included in the privatization list as "recommended."

Current Ukrainian legislation doesn't allow to sell the objects with the "national" status to the private investors.

The Cabinet of Ministers ordered the Ministry of Economic



A film crew shoots the scene of the feature film "On the Edge of an Abyss" ("Na krayu bezodni") in the first studio stage of the Dovzhenko Film Studios in Kyiv in 2015. (Courtesy of Dovzhenko Film Studios)

Development and Trade and State Property Fund to broaden the list of state owned enterprises and represent the new privatization addition (2017–2020) to the Cabinet for approval," said the ministry's press service.

Nina Yavorska, State Property Fund spokesperson, told the Kyiv Post on July 29 that Ukrainian min-

istries are managing almost every state-owned company in Ukraine.

"The Culture Ministry is responsible for circuses, cinema studios and other state-owned entertainment enterprises," Yavorska said. "The State Property Fund sells the companies for private investors, but ministries must prepare the enterprises first and pass it under the fund's

control after the Cabinet's approval of course."

Yavorska said "it is great that the government had included even cinema studios and circuses in the new privatization list. The more enterprises would be passed into the private sector, the better performance will Ukraine's economy show," she added. ■

Privatization-related scandals in Ukraine

No one interested in Odesa Port Side Plant?

Odesa Portside Chemical Plant is one of the largest state producers of ammonia, urea, methanol and other chemicals, is located on 250 hectares of land near the city of Yuzhny in Odesa Oblast.

In December the plant officially stopped its work due to the lack of finances and announced it was going to lease its entire complex for rent.

The enterprise was mostly export-oriented (85 percent) and sells its products to 30 countries of the world. The plant was meant to be the first big privatization since 2015, with a minimum bid of \$500 million.

In July 2016, the government brought down the price to \$250 million, but the privatization failed again due to the lack of bids from the potential investors, State Property Fund has reported.

Although about 10 potential investors showed interest.

In the latest memorandum signed in April, IMF insisted that Odesa Port Side Plant must be privatized by the end of 2017. The next auction will take place in December. State Property Fund head Ihor Bilous told



Odesa Portside Plant is a fertilizer plant in Odesa Oblast that the government tried to sell twice in 2016 and failed. Ihor Bilous, head of Ukraine's State Property Fund, announced on Dec. 7 that there were not enough bidders for the privatization of the plant to go ahead. (Volodymyr Petrov)

the journalists that the new price would be about \$150 million.

Loud arrest

In July 2016, the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine detained the head of the Odesa Portside Plant Supervisory Council Sergei Pereloma and his deputy Mykola Shchurikov.

Both were suspected of Hr 250

million embezzlement during the illegal procurement of natural gas for the plant.

Three days later both were sentenced to 60 days in prison. However, on Aug 1, 2016, the Court of Appeal of Kyiv canceled the sentence.

Pereloma still works as a deputy head of the joint stock company Naftogaz Ukraine.

Shchurikov won the case against "NABU's illegal arrest" in court and has since returned to his job in Odesa Port Side plant supervisory council.

Assassination

Viktor Pankov, ex-deputy head of the state-owned alcoholic beverage producer UkrSpirt, was shot dead in one of the districts of Kyiv on May 30. The assassin shot four times in his back.

The police tied his murder with Pankov's professional activity. Interior Ministry advisor Anton Gerashchenko told Interfax news agency, Pankov was assassinated because of his work in UkrSpirt.

"For the last 10–15 years Pankov was deeply connected with this challenging state enterprise, that was meant to work profitably for Ukrainian people, but instead constantly works in the shade," Gerashchenko said.

The investigation into Pankov's murder has not let to any arrest. In 2012, the Anti-Monopoly Committee of Ukraine fined UkrSpirt Hr 200 million for intentional and illegal overpricing of ethanol.



Freshen up with ice cream that looks and tastes good



Double Cacao in Kyiv sells four kinds of ice cream that would fit the dietary of vegans, those who eat raw food, as well as everyone who eats healthy. (Volodymyr Petrov)

BY TOMA ISTOMINA
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The mix of egg yolks, cream, and sugar might not sound like something delicious but it actually makes one of the most popular desserts — ice cream.

The Kyiv Post has picked some of the most appealing and unusual artisanal ice cream producers to try in Kyiv.

Umka

This organic ice cream is made from natural milk, fruit, and berries, and without preservatives or flavor enhancers.

Umka's flavors include hazelnut, walnut, chocolate, salty caramel, and stracciatella (vanilla ice cream with chocolate chips). There are

also some flavors that rotate and aren't on the menu constantly: pistachio, banana, melon, coffee, and cappuccino. Umka also offers vegan ice cream made from almond milk. Apart from that, Umka sells fruit and berry sorbets, and croissants with sweet fillings or with turkey and vegetables.

Prices: 1 scoop — Hr 25–30, bucket — Hr 200, croissant — Hr 30–60.

Umka. 6 Kostiolna St. 9 a.m. — 10 p.m.

Frice

Frice sells rolled-up ice cream. It is formed by pouring an ice cream base (chocolate, vanilla, or green tea) on an extremely cold steel surface, mixing it with fruits, berries, cookies and rolling it up. Customers can add ingredients like cherry, banana, pear,

mango, apricot, watermelon, raspberry, chocolate, coconut chips, Oreo cookies, and marshmallows. One serving includes five ice rolls in a paper bucket. One can add caramel, coconut, vanilla, or tiramisu toppings.

Prices: 1 serving — Hr 50.
Frice. 1 Bilomorska St. 10 a.m. — 10 p.m.

Double Cacao

This producer makes beautiful desserts and uses only natural planted ingredients without heat treatment. They sell four kinds of ice cream based on either coconut cream or milk: Coco (date caramel, chocolate, pistachio), Hazel & Cacao (cacao, date caramel, chocolate, hazelnut), Lime & Chia (coconut mousse, lime, chia seeds), and Coffee (date fruit, chocolate, coconut flakes). It is per-

fect for vegans, those following a raw diet, and everyone who keeps fit and eats healthy. Apart from ice cream, Double Cacao makes candies and bars.

Prices: ice cream — Hr 80, candy — Hr 25–35, bar — Hr 40–50.

Double Cacao. Frank Coffee (3 Yevhena Hutsala Ln.). 8 a.m. — 8 p.m.

Also sold in London Coffee House (18 Verhni Val St.). 8 a.m. — 12 a.m.

Monkey Nice Cream

In this café, ice cream is made instantly — an ice cream maker freezes it with liquid nitrogen. Monkey Nice Cream sells different kinds of cryogenic ice cream with banana and chocolate, berries and marshmallow, caramel and peanuts, blue-

more **Ice cream** on page 14

World Traveler



WITH BERMET TALANT
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J is for July, jailoo and joy in Kyrgyzstan

NARYN, Kyrgyzstan — Some people spend their summer vacations on southern resorts and at beach parties. My dream holiday is an escape to the mountains to ride horses on pastures and sleep in a yurt surrounded by sheep. You can call me weird.

You can also call me biased because the most beautiful mountains I've seen are in Kyrgyzstan where they take up 80 percent of the territory. The small landlocked country, sandwiched between China and Kazakhstan, is my homeland.

With its rocky canyons, wild nature, high-altitude lakes, and rapid rivers, this Central Asian state is growing in popularity as a travel destination for extreme sports. Every year foreigners flock there to ski or climb some of the highest peaks of the Tien-Shan range, over 7,000 meters high.

I also have turned into a once-a-year visitor. On my short visits, I usually have time only to see my family and friends in Bishkek, the capital city where I grew up.

This July, however, I had to stay for two weeks waiting for paperwork. The timeout allowed me to take that "dream holiday."

Where nomads go

Up until the 1920s, when the Soviet government forced individual households to consolidate into collective farms, the Kyrgyz people lived as nomads in tribes. They were scattered in the territory ruled by Uyghurs, Mongols, Chinese, and, most recently, the Russians.

These days, the majority of the six-million Kyrgyz nation lives in villages and towns. But for one season each year, Kyrgyz farmers leave their homes and relocate with their families and livestock to summer pastures — *jailoo* (pronounced with elongated O) to live as their ancestors lived for centuries.

Jailoo at Son-Köl Lake is believed to be the most spectacular. Getting there from Bishkek takes five to six hours of bumpy ride past picturesque sceneries.

This alpine lake is situated in a valley 3,000 meters above sea level in Naryn, the most mountainous province in Kyrgyzstan. And it can be accessed through the Kalmak-Ashuu pass at nearly 3,500 meters altitude only

more **Kyrgyzstan** on page 14

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KyivPost

Andy Warhol's friend in Kyiv with classy photo exhibition

BY MARIYA KAPINOS
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He was Andy Warhol's best friend. He also befriended Liza Minnelli, John Lennon and Keith Haring — and shot their portraits.

Christopher Makos was a prominent figure in the New York art scene of the 1970s and 1980s. This July, he came to Kyiv to present his photo exhibition "An Outward Glance: Christopher Makos on Andy Warhol's Epoch."

The exhibit consists of two parts: One shows scenes of underground New York in 1970–1980, while the second, called "Altered Images," is dedicated to Warhol, who in the pictures is dressed as a woman.

Warhol, who died in 1987 at age 58, called Makos "the most modern photographer in America."

Makos opened his art show on July 21 in Izolyatsia, an art gallery founded in Donetsk in 2010 and relocated to Kyiv in 2014 after Russia unleashed its war in Donbas.

"The exhibition is about identity," says Makos. "In my photos you can see Andy Warhol dressed as a woman. But he is not only putting on woman's clothes, he is trying out new identities."

Makos believes that the exhibi-

American artist Christopher Makos presents his photo project "Altered Images" on July 21 in Kyiv.

(Oleg Petراسиuk)



A woman passes by the Christopher Makos' photos of Andy Warhol dressed as a woman, exhibited in Izolyatsia art center in Kyiv on July 21. (Oleg Petراسиuk)

tion is important for Ukrainians since they also are aiming to build a new society. "The world changes not from the top," Makos insists. "Everything starts from the bottom and you, all of you, are responsible for its changes."

Many people from around Kyiv came to listen to him in Izolyatsia. The room was booked with Makos' fans. The artist turned out to be very energizing and interactive. He made the audience sing along to David Bowie's "I Am Afraid of America"

and answer his questions.

During his presentation, Makos also answered the Marcel Proust Questionnaire, known for its funny questions like: "On what occasions do you lie?", "Which living person do you most admire?" or "What is your greatest regret?"

The audience learned that the biggest issue with Makos is patience. "I always try to remember: patience, patience in every situation," he said.

He also revealed that the only thing he could not live without were sneakers, and his motto is: "Be cool." Makos also named all of his famous

acquaintances and tried describing their character in one word.

"(Salvador) Dali — mad, (John) Lennon — musical, (Mick) Jagger, Debbie Harris — musical, Keith Haring — very funny."

He expressed gratitude to Liuba Mikhailova, an Izolyatsia founder, who brought his project to Ukraine.

"These photographs have been to London, Shanghai, New York, Florence and many other places,

and now they're here," he said. "Ukrainians must feel very lucky."

Zhanna Tarasova, a Warhol fan, came to the exhibition because, after discovering "Altered Images," she started to follow Makos' work too.

"I was so surprised to hear he will present his artworks in Kyiv, my hometown," says Tarasova. "I always thought of him as an American over the sea, living in another, underground universe." ■

The exhibition is open through Sep. 28 in Izolyatsia (8 Naberezhno-Lugova St.), Monday to Sunday, 10 a.m.— 8 p.m. Free entrance.



Marilyn Manson in Kyiv: 'You made Moscow sound like your bitch'

American rock musician Marilyn Manson chose an unusual way to compliment the crowd during his Kyiv show on Aug. 2. "Kyiv!" Manson shouted. "Now I don't want to be political but you just made Moscow sound like your bitch." The singer also performed in Moscow on July 31. The remark was taken seriously in Ukraine and Russia because of the Kremlin's war against Ukraine, which has claimed more than 10,000 lives since its start in February 2014 with the invasion of the Crimean peninsula. (Vasyl Osadchyi/CA Melnitsa Kyiv)

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World Traveler: Among Kyrgyz shepherds

Kyrgyzstan from page 12

four months a year. In other times, the pass is covered by thick snow. It's a short season from June to September, and the area around Son-Köl turns into the most blissful place.

Despite being a popular tourist destination advertised in any travel guide on Central Asia, this jailoo is surprisingly quiet and empty. In fact, it is so vast that some yurts stand hundreds of meters apart, separated by herds of sheep and horses.

There's no infrastructure -- no roads, no buildings, no running water, no electricity, no mobile network.

The only vestige of civilization is small power generators, which most shepherd households have to light up yurts inside in the evenings.

Nights at jailoo are the starriest; the air is the clearest.

At jailoo

Our group of Kyrgyz, Koreans, Japanese and Russians arrived to jailoo at noon. Until dinner, we entertained ourselves as much as urban youth could without internet.

We had a nap, went for a walk to the lake shore, chased lambs and calves, rode horses for a few hours, and played with the children of our hosts. Time passed slowly, but we didn't feel bored.

After sunset, the temperature outside dropped from 20 to 8 degrees Celsius. I took a deep breath at the thought of suffocating night heat of Bishkek at 40 degrees. Jailoo was refreshingly cold in summer.

We were sitting inside of a "dining" yurt and chatting over hot black tea with homemade jam. Then we washed our faces with ice cold water from the water tank outside and went to sleep in our yurts under a double



Horses feed at a summer pasture at Son-Köl Lake in Kyrgyzstan on July 8. (Bermet Talant)

layer of blankets.

Like many shepherds at Son-Köl, our hosts Ishen and Roza collaborate with tourism agencies and organizations like The Trekking Union of Kyrgyzstan and Kyrgyz CBT (community-based tourism) Association.

A weekend on jailoo with TUK will cost \$50 that covers transport, one night lodging in a yurt, dinner, and breakfast. Additional expenses might include horseback riding (\$5 per hour), lunch (\$4), and *kymyz*, fermented mare's milk (70 cents per liter).

Although tourism brings money, shepherds still consider it as side income to their main business: livestock breeding. Their lifestyle is sim-

ple and busy: men tend sheep and horses; women cook and clean; children help with the chores, too.

Tourists receive what they use or eat. That's why you feel more like a guest rather than a paying client.

Had I had more time, I would have gone on jailoo-hopping, moving from one pasture to another and staying with shepherds' families.

Roots

I grew up in a city, but I feel at home at jailoo. Colors, smells, tastes, colloquial Kyrgyz language -- everything reminds me of childhood summers spent at my grandmother's suburban house.

We didn't live in yurts in the mid-

dle of nowhere. But my grandma managed to harmoniously fit the elements of Kyrgyz nomadic lifestyle into sedentary suburban life.

We slept on the floor covered with handmade *shyrdaks*, ornamented felt carpets, and *töshöks*, colorful quilts, because when all family gathered for a weekend, there weren't enough beds for everyone.

Mornings smelled with *tokoch*, round-shaped bread, and *kaymak*, fresh cream. Evenings smelled like *shorpo*, lamb soup, and *kuurdak*, fried liver and potatoes dish.

Just like on jailoo, time went slowly in our summer house. But everyone, including us kids, had something to do. There was a vegetable garden

and sheep, cows, chicken, and dogs that grandma kept in the backyard.

In the afternoons we hid from scorching heat in rooms with dark curtains that kept them cool. We didn't have smartphones, Facebook, and internet. In the evenings, we ate at one big table, read books, played outside and talked for hours over hot black tea with homemade jam.

Grandma loved to preach: "Remember your tribe (Solto), honor your seven fathers (alas, I can only name three), and never forget your roots."

"I try not to, grandma," I would respond if she were alive now. "See, I always come back."

Mom calls me a modern Kyrgyz nomad for changing countries and cities. I cringe. To me, a word "nomad" has become a cliché hyped by Western travel blogs. Going to another country for several days isn't nomadism; it's tourism.

To me, those shepherd families -- real modern Kyrgyz nomads -- prove that being a nomad is so much more than a simple act of moving from place to place.

It's about leaving the comfort zone and making a new home wherever life takes you; about knowing your goals and time limits; about taking only essential things with you; about sharing and connecting with every person who passes your way; about living with less and making the most use of everything you get at your disposal; about hard work. ■

How to get there:

Fly to Bishkek via Istanbul with Turkish Airlines, Pegasus. Fly to Almaty directly from Kyiv with Air Astana. Take a cab to Bishkek. Nationals of 58 countries may enter Kyrgyzstan visa-free.

Artisanal ice cream all the rage in hot Kyiv

Ice cream from page 12

berries and lavender, apple and pear, and more. Customers can also pick ingredients to create their own desserts. It is served in a small bowl with a waffle. Apart from ice cream, Monkey Nice Cream makes sorbets, tarts, and cheesecakes in bars.

Prices: ice cream -- Hr 69-79, sorbet -- Hr 69, tart -- Hr 59-69, cheesecake -- Hr 59.

Monkey Nice Cream. 4 Rusanivska Embankment. 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Mr. Pops

This producer makes popsicles out of natural products. To the milk or cream base fruits and berries are added. Mr. Pops sells such milk based ice cream as raspberry, strawberry, mango, citrus, melon, and lavender, as well as cream-based double chocolate, vanilla with brownie, lemon cheesecake, and salty caramel. Premium ice cream with exotic ingredients -- mango, passionfruit, pear and blue cheese -- is also an option here. For those who don't eat dairy, Mr. Pops has strawberry sorbet and coconut ice cream.

Prices: ice cream -- Hr 40, premi-

um -- Hr 55.

Mr. Pops. Come & Stay (23 V Velyka Vasylkivska St.) 8 a.m. - 10 p.m. *Gossips bar* (36A Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.) 11 a.m. - 12 a.m. *Coffee in action* (51 Nyzhnii Val St.) 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. 43/16 Velyka Vasylkivska St. 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.)

Gelateria Roma

Gelateria Roma offers over 50 types of Italian ice cream including classic flavors like vanilla and chocolate, fruity -- pineapple, lemon, strawberry, and exotic -- mint, cinnamon, coconut, almond. Ice cream here is made of natural ingredients such as juice, shredded fruit, berries and nuts. Customers can try such unusual ice cream as Mister Niko (vanilla ice cream, chocolate paste, peanuts), Mek Raph (white chocolate, almond, coconut), and Bacio (vanilla ice cream, hazelnuts in chocolate). The dessert can be served in a waffle cone or a paper bucket.

Prices: ice cream (100 grams) -- Hr 40.

Gelateria Roma. Ocean Plaza (176 Maksyma Horkoho St.), New Way (1 Architectora Verbytskoho St.), *Blockbuster* (34 V Moskovskiyi Ave.) ■



Kyivans seek escape from summer heat

A boy plays with water in the fountain on Poshtova Square on July 22 in Kyiv. Kyiv is going through the hottest week of this year's summer, with highs in the 30s Celsius. (Oleg Petrusiuk)

E-Governance for Accountability and Participation (EGAP) Program is looking for

COMPONENT 4 "NATIONAL POLICY" LOCAL COORDINATOR

For detailed information about the vacancy and the Program which is funded by Swiss Confederation through the Swiss Cooperation Office in Ukraine and implemented by East Europe Foundation, Innovabridge Foundation please visit www.egap.in.ua

Duties & Responsibilities of Local Coordinator
The Local Coordinator will assist the Lead and the EGAP Program Manager with the following:

- In close collaboration with the State Agency for E-Governance, OGP Secretariat at Cabinet of Ministers and National Coalition for E-democracy ensures the sustainability and success of activities initiated in the first 2 years of the EGAP Program, particularly ensuring the promotion of e-services and the implementation of the National Concept for E-democracy (2016-18) action points most relevant for EGAP Program's goals and objectives;
- Establishes/ maintains a sustainable Working Group on e-Governance (e.g. engages in the National Inter-Ministerial Council on e-governance) and on e-Democracy (E-democracy Coalition at the Reanimation Package of Reforms) holds at minimum, quarterly meetings to promote the effective implementation of select legislative/ policy initiatives;
- In alignment with EGAP's key activities, identifies strategic entry points for policy dialogue, initiates analytics and organizes thematic policy roundtables at national and inter-regional level aiming to initiate and change legislation or policies on e-Services and e-Democracy;
- Ensures coordination with other EGAP Component 1,2,3 Leads and regional coordinators ensuring that activities strategically build on and reinforce other Components;
- Ensuring public visibility of activities and results offline and online at national/ regional level through press conferences, online, Good E-Governance Policy Brief Series, blogging and other creative promotional initiatives; in Year 4 will co-organize a National Conference;
- Maintaining excellent relations with government representatives, civil society and donors.

The above is an approximate division of tasks which will be flexibly adapted to implementation.

Qualifications

- Has a university degree in Social Sciences, Public Administration or other pertinent experience.
- Knowledgeable and experienced practitioner in the areas of e-governance and e-democracy (able to provide concrete examples of past achievements), familiar with innovative Ukrainian and international trends, approaches in e-governance and e-democracy.
- Solid track record in organizing policy dialogues, in the development/ influencing/advocacy of national legislation and inter-governmental coordination/ relations at national and regional level.
- Excellent professional written/verbal communication, interpersonal, promotional and diplomacy skills, capacity to collaborate with and convene government representatives, donors, civil society and media.
- Demonstrates strong leadership, self-initiative, results-orientation and organizational skills.
- Has high professional and ethical standards in line with Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation's Code of Conduct for Implementing Partners.
- Excellent command of Ukrainian and English (oral and written).

Deadline for submissions: Interested candidates should send their applications including a motivation letter, current curriculum vitae and 2 professional references from prior employers by 21 August 2017 to Dr. Tomkova (tomkova@innovabridge.org) and Ms. Saienko (es@eef.org.ua). Shortlisted candidates will be called for interviews by 1 September 2017. The expected starting date for the position is 15 September 2017.



The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)
is a non-profit organization working to strengthen democracy worldwide
NDI-Ukraine is currently seeking a

Program Assistant to Senior Country Director

The position will be based in Kyiv

Requirements:

- Bachelor's Degree (Political Science or related subjects)
- Keen interest in Ukraine's reform and political processes
- Strong analytical skills
- Thorough understanding of political and civic landscape in Ukraine
- Excellent written/oral communication skills
- Fluency in Ukrainian and English
- Ability to work in a team and under pressure
- Relevant experience is an advantage

Interested applicants should submit CVs and motivation letters in English by email to the following email address: ukraine@ndi.org
Deadline for application is Thursday, August 31, 2017
Full text of the advertisement can be viewed here: <https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/606026>
For additional information please see www.ndi.org



Oxford Biolabs, a small but growing UK nutraceutical and cosmeceutical company, seeks an

international Sales and Marketing Director,

based in Lviv, Ukraine.
See www.oxfordbiolabs.com/MD for all our open positions.

Register interest for this/future positions: jobs@oxbiolabs.com

MINI RESUME

Remote Copywriting/Copyediting for IT, NGOs and others
Freelance writer and journalist.
Copyeditor @ Odessa Review Magazine. Native English.
Case Studies, White Papers, Blog posts, Content Marketing, Documentation and More

Copyediting \$0.02/word.
Copywriting \$0.10/word
luke3718smith@gmail.com



DAI GLOBAL, LLC, implementer of the USAID-funded Financial Sector Transformation Project (FST),
is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following long-term technical positions:

Legal and Regulatory Expert specializing in one or several of the following areas: capital markets/financial instruments, non-bank financial institutions, digital finance/banking, pension system, financial consumer protection, etc.

Digital Finance Specialist to support the Project implementation, including market research, assessment of digital finance pilots and Action Plan implementation, working with local and international digital finance experts.

Non-Bank Financial Institutions Expert to support the Project implementation with a focus on the development of leasing as a key SME access-to-finance tool. He/she will work with local and international NBFI experts to enhance NBFI financing, including product development, training program and SME financing readiness.

For more details, please visit: <https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/job-opportunities-52>

Candidates are asked to submit CVs and cover letters in English to: RecruitmentFST@dai.com indicating the position title in the subject line by August 21, 2017, 6 pm Kyiv time.



DAI GLOBAL, LLC, implementer of the USAID-funded Financial Sector Transformation Project (FST),
is seeking a qualified candidate to fill the long-term position of

Procurement Officer

The successful candidate will be responsible for implementation of technical and operations related procurement in compliance with internal policies and donor regulations. Working closely with the Project technical teams, the Procurement Officer will be instrumental in supporting the Project activities through his/her services.

For more details, please visit: <https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/procurement-officer-2>

Candidates are asked to submit CVs and cover letters in English to: RecruitmentFST@dai.com indicating the position title in the subject line by August 13, 2017, 6 pm Kyiv time.



Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) Switzerland is looking for the following position in Kyiv:

LEAD MANAGER IN HEALTH CARE ACTIVITY

Supporting the Medical Coordinator through delegated tasks and responsibilities including defining, leading and coordinating the entire medical scope of the mission, according to MSF protocols, standards, policies and values, in order to ensure the quality of the medical care given to the targeted population and thus improving their overall health and living conditions.

Full job description is available at: <https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/lead-manager-health-care-activity>

Please send a CV and motivation letter in English to: msfch-ukraine-hrco@geneva.msf.org by August 10, 2017 indicating the position title in the subject.

CLASSIFIEDS

House and pet sitting while you are away on holiday or business. I speak English and pet language fluently.
Short- and long-term sitting options are available.
Polina +380932629705
pslesarchuk@gmail.com

Hi! My name is Evgenia. I offer private guided tours in Kiev.
EvgeniaFedorova.com



Professionals for Reform Support Mechanism (PRSM) provides human resource support – from managers to technical experts - to critical reform initiatives undertaken by national governmental agencies. PRSM is currently seeking candidates to fill the following expert positions for the Government of Ukraine:

- For the International Maritime Organization Audit Project Management Office:
 - ✓ **The Quality management System Coordinator;**
 - ✓ **Finance Coordinator;**
 - ✓ **Legal Expert.**

For more detailed information about preferred qualifications and skills, indicative duties and responsibilities, as well as applying procedure, please visit web-site: <http://edge.in.ua/vacancies>



Lithuanian capital company working all over the world is looking for potential business partners –


companies which specializes in providing personnel and services in shipbuilding and ship repair

(isolation and finishing of living quarters, equipment and installation of ventilation systems and pipelines, welding and assembly of ship structures).

Additional information is available by phone +37061511865 or info@arosmarine.com

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Skype: Katrin8505
www.ukraine4date.net



The U.S. Embassy will hold a motor vehicles closed bid sale at the Embassy warehouse at 44 Mashinobudivna St. on Tuesday, August 15, 2017, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

All subject vehicles are being sold "as is" and have no expressed or implied warranties on the condition of the vehicles.

For more information, please see our website: <https://goo.gl/HmRdg9>

Brand New 4BR House near Pechersk School International

Overview:

- Comfortable and brand new 4BR House on Vladyslava Zaremba Ln, 39 for long term rent at \$3,900.
- Exceptional location in the Holosiev district, 100m walk to green forest, 900m to Pechersk School International and 10-minute drive to downtown.
- First for rent, completed in July 2017.
- Owned by a West-ern-minded landlord, who lived for 20+ years abroad.
- Family-friendly unit planning: 2 kid's bedrooms and office room; 3 bathrooms; storage space indoor and outdoor; spacious open terrace (27m²); 2 parking spots
- Located in secured area, near Holosiev park
- Ideal place for expat family with 2 kids

Contact person: Alex (+380-95-481-8758)



American firm seeking Ukrainian plant with vacuum furnace braising capacity to produce aluminum automotive-style radiators (intercoolers). Need 700-800 units of various sizes yearly with 1.5 million USD value.

Contact Ukrainian-American Trade Association, San Diego, California.

e-mail: richard2152@sbcglobal.net, FAX 858-487-8316, SKYPE ukramer988@gmail.com, www.ukramertrade.com.
Dun & Bradstreet No. 047811477

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Consulting partner



Organizer



Participants



September 16, 2017

NSK OLIMPIYSKIY. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.