

KyivPost

LEGAL
QUARTERLY

#11 is coming on Sept. 30

Ukraine's customs service

KyivPost

21st
Year

Subscribe
to Kyiv Post
online.

WWW.KYIVPOST.COM

vol. 21, issue 37

INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST.

www.kyivpost.com

September 9, 2016

Checkpoint Misery



A woman who has fallen ill is assisted at a crossing point in Novotroitske near Mariupol in Donetsk Oblast on Sept. 6. People stand in long lines under the hot summer sun to cross the border between Ukrainian-controlled territory and Russian-occupied areas of Donetsk Oblast as the Kremlin's war continues, with 10,000 deaths recorded since 2014. (Anastasia Vlasova)

BY OKSANA GRYTSENKO
GRYTSENKO@KYIV POST

NOVOTROITSKE, Ukraine – The border guards rushed to an old blue car, a Soviet-made Lada. A minute earlier one of them had reported that he had found a hidden compartment in the vehicle.

The contents of the compart-

ment in the car's door turned out to be heart-wrenchingly mundane, however.

The border guards found just 67 pairs of nylon tights, which the family had bought in Kharkiv, where they had been for a wedding. The family were planning to re-sell the tights in their native Makiyivka, a town in separatist-controlled territory.

The family, two parents and their two small children, looked scared.

"What can I do? How can I survive? I have two kids to raise," lamented the mother, a woman in her early 30s, wearing a pink t-shirt, who refused to give her name out of fears for her safety.

She said the family was unable to survive on the \$60 monthly salary

her husband receives working as a guard at a coal mine in Makiyivka, while she is on maternity leave with their young children.

Their plight is a common one: For almost two years, thousands of Donbas residents have daily crossed the unofficial border between

more **Novotroitske** on page 11

Lawmakers face packed Rada agenda

BY ALYONA ZHUK
ZHUK@KYIVPOST.COM

Amid growing impatience with Ukraine's political leaders, the nation's lawmakers return from a two-month summer break to a packed agenda.

During the current session, which will last until January, parliament wants to adopt key anti-corruption bills, work on decentralization, enact a transparent land market and approve the budget for 2017.

Moreover, lawmakers still have unfinished business left over from the previous session – appointing new members of the Central Election Commission, improving electoral legislation, and passing a bill that would

more **Rada** on page 2

Kremlin anger rises as US blacklists more Russian firms

BY RAHIM RAHEMTULLA

The Kremlin is threatening Washington, D.C., with reciprocal measures after the U.S. added more Russian firms to its sanctions list. The White House expanded restrictions already put in place in response to Moscow's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and its ongoing war against Ukraine.

According to documents published by the U.S. Federal Register on Sept. 7, 81 more entities are now blacklisted, among them 11 from the Russian arms sector and 51 companies owned or operated by Russian gas monopoly Gazprom. The new additions to the sanctions list are described in the documents as "acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States."

more **Sanctions** on page 8

Inside:

National 2, 3, 8, 9, 11 | Business 6, 7
Opinion 4, 5, 10 | Lifestyle 12 – 14
Employment/Real Estate/Classifieds 14, 15

Follow the Kyiv Post on
Facebook at
[www.facebook.com/
KyivPost](http://www.facebook.com/KyivPost), and on Twitter
at @KyivPost.

CURRENCY WATCH

Hr 26.7 to \$1

Sept. 8 market rate



Advertising: +380 44 591-7788 advertising@kyivpost.com

Subscriptions: +380 44 591-7788 subscribe@kyivpost.com

Editorial staff: +380 44 591-3344 news@kyivpost.com

The material published in the Kyiv Post may not be reproduced without the written consent of the publisher. All material in the Kyiv Post is protected by Ukrainian and international laws.

The views expressed in the Kyiv Post are not necessarily the views of the publisher nor does the publisher carry any responsibility for those views.

Газета "Kyiv Post" видається ТОВ "Паблік-Медіа". Щотижневий наклад 11,000 прим. Ціна за домовленістю. Матеріали, надруковані в газеті "Kyiv Post" є власністю видавництва, захищені міжнародним та українським законодавством і не можуть бути відтворені у будь-якій формі без письмового дозволу Видавця. Думки, висловлені у дописах не завжди збігаються з поглядами видавця, який не бере на себе відповідальність за наслідки публікацій.

Засновник ТОВ "Паблік-Медіа"

Головний редактор Брайан Боннер

Відповідальний за випуск

Люк Шеньє

Адреса видавця та засновника співпадають: Україна, м. Київ, 01004, вул. Пушкінська, 31А, 6-й поверх.

Реєстраційне свідоцтво

Кв № 15261-3833ПР від 19.06.09.

Передплатний індекс ДП Преса 40528

Надруковано ТОВ «Новий друк», 02660, Київ, вулиця Магнітогорська, 1, тел.: 559-9147

Замовлення № 13-8040

З приводу розміщення реклами звертайтеся: +380 44 591-77-88

Відповідальність за зміст реклами несе замовник.

Mailing address:

Kyiv Post,
31A Pushkinska, Suite 600, 6th floor
Kyiv, Ukraine, 01004

Advertising

tel. +380 44 591-7788
fax +380 44 591-3345
advertising@kyivpost.com

Editorial staff

tel. +380 44 591-3344
fax +380 44 591-3345
news@kyivpost.com

Subscriptions&Distribution

tel. +380 44 591-3344
fax +380 44 591-3345
subscribe@kyivpost.com

Employment Advertising

tel. +380 44 591-3344
fax +380 44 591-3345
advertising@kyivpost.com

Ukraine's parliament in session until January

Rada from page 1

regulate Ukraine's Hr 30 billion (\$1.2 billion) energy market.

But while lawmakers seem to understand the public's demands for change, political bickering and populism, as seen in previous sessions, still threaten to get in the way of progress on reform. Speaking to the Kyiv Post on the Rada's opening day, independent lawmaker Hanna Hopko said she hoped lawmakers would be able to put their political differences behind them.

"The most important thing is to work together to get results," Hopko said. "That's something we've not seen yet. It's got to begin now."

The Rada has made a reasonably good start this session – over the first three days lawmakers voted for the arrest of an allegedly corrupt judge, approved legislation to relocate higher education institutions from the occupied territories in the Donbas, and passed several bills on the rights of convicts.

The most anticipated legislation of the first week's agenda was the decentralization package of laws. The parliament was scheduled to vote on it on Sept. 8, but postponed most of the bills in the package.

According to Vadym Miskiy, head of advocacy department at Reanimation Package of Reforms, a civil activism group, these laws will allow about 100 new town and village councils to be set up by the end of the year.

But parliament also has a lot more on its to-do list.

Anti-corruption laws

Civil activists have for months been calling on parliament to pass a law to launch an independent anti-corruption court, which would hear the cases of officials accused of corruption.

This court is mentioned in judi-



The Verkhovna Rada meets for the first time after a two-month summer break on Sept. 6. The parliament's new session will last until the end of January. (Volodymyr Petrov)

cial reform legislation approved in June. However, that legislation didn't stipulate how and, more importantly, when the court has to be set up.

"That means there's no deadline, and (lawmakers) can talk about it and forget it, or just pretend for a long time that they're doing something," Miskiy said.

To make sure that doesn't happen, experts from the Reanimation Package of Reforms and reform-oriented lawmakers are now drawing up a draft law to create the court. According to the bill's authors, they want to table the legislation in parliament "in the nearest future."

"We can't wait for the (regular) courts to be reformed - it will take too much time," Miskiy said, explaining while such a special court is needed.

But Yegor Sobolev, a lawmaker with the Samopomich faction, said this law, as well as other anti-corruption legislation, would only be adopted if there were strong support from the public, media, and the international community.

Another bill that parliament has to approve would allow the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine to tap phones by itself - without having to use the equipment of Ukraine's SBU security service.

"Now (the SBU's) involvement renders corrupt people inside the security service untouchable," Sobolev said. "The bureau should be able to get to anyone."

Miskiy said the approval of phone tapping powers for the bureau was "a matter of one vote," and said he hoped lawmakers would pass the law by the end of September.

Energy market regulator

The issue of energy is one where populism might get in the way of reform: The opposition, in a bid to win favor with voters, is demanding the cancellation of the unpopular law passed last session that increased gas and electricity rates to market levels.

Serhiy Rybalka, a lawmaker from Oleg Lyashko's Radical Party, told the Kyiv Post that the current utility rates would result in "a genocide of the Ukrainian people."

"We want to make the government explain these gas prices," Rybalka said.

Yuliya Tymoshenko's Batkivshchyna faction is also hoping to use the rise in utility rates as a stick with which to beat the current government. Oleksiy Ryabchyn, a lawmaker with Batkivshchyna, told the Kyiv Post that "the utility prices are eating into the people's savings." Miskiy criticized lawmakers for making a big issue about utility rates, while not acting to improve the energy market in general.

"(Lawmakers) can't seem to find the time to vote for a mechanism that would make the market regulator transparent and open," he said.

The regulator in question is the National Commission for State Regulation of Energy and Public Utilities. It was established by presidential decree, and currently it's up to the president to appoint its administrators – effectively putting the commission under the president's full control.

To counter that, the expert community has proposed legislation that would allow the transparent hiring of commission members and make the setting of energy tariffs more transparent. However, the bill has failed to pass several times, the last attempt being on July 14.

"We will try to find new reasons for the lawmakers to vote for it," Miskiy said, adding that the main reason would be an economic one – passing of the bill is one of the European Union's conditions for further financial support to Ukraine.

Budget deadline

Hopko said she hopes this year the government will table the draft

budget in parliament earlier than usual, and that lawmakers won't be scrambling to approve the document right before the New Year, as has commonly been the case in previous years. Last year the government presented the draft of the budget in December, and the Verkhovna Rada passed it only on Dec. 25, 2015.

According to Miskiy, the most crucial element of next year's budget is that there is appropriate financing for newly established anti-corruption bodies like the National Anti-Corruption Bureau, the National Police, the Anti-Corruption Prosecutors Office and the State Investigation Bureau.

Protecting reforms

Besides passing new legislation, lawmakers will have to protect positive changes that have already been made, Miskiy said.

One such change is the electronic declaration system for public officials. After surviving several attempts of legislative sabotage, the system was finally launched on Sept. 1, albeit in a barely-functioning form.

"Unfortunately, we're hearing comments from the president and the justice minister that the e-declarations legislation is flawed, and this could lead to attempts to restrict the information that has to be declared, or cut the public's access to this information," Miskiy said.

Tetiana Donets, a lawmaker with the People's Front faction, has already registered a draft law that, if passed, would hobble the entire e-declaration system.

Miskiy says that experts and activists have to put pressure on lawmakers to focus on what is really important, rather than on their own interests.

"Parliament is a huge (producer) of legislative spam. They have to decrease the quantity and improve quality (of bills)," he said. ■



Worldwide movers, you deserve the best

International Moving & Storage

AGS, for moving with peace of mind

AGS UKRAINE
Tel. : +380 44 502 39 23
manager-kiiev@agsmovers.com
www.agsmovers.com

Safe, secure international and local removals, storage and archiving



INTERDEAN
RELOCATION SERVICES

THINKING RELOCATION?

THINK INTERDEAN.

"We make it easy"

Relocation | Immigration | Moving | Real Estate

Contact Interdean:
T: +38 (044) 576 7370
+38 (044) 384 2773
E: kiiev@interdean.com



www.interdean.com

E-declarations facing yet more sabotage by fearful officials

BY OLEG SUKHOV
SUKHOV@KYIVPOST.COM

Given the number of political and legal torpedoes fired at Ukraine's electronic asset and income declarations system for officials so far, it's a wonder that it's afloat.

The e-declaration system, finally launched on Sept. 1, almost two years after passed into law in October 2014, is now running. But it is technically crippled. Lawmakers are already preparing another attempt to sink the system through amending the anti-corruption law.

Civic activists say the authorities are intentionally hobbling the system, while the National Agency for Preventing Corruption and the State Service for Government Communications have blamed software developer Miranda and civil society representatives for problems. The government agencies, which are controlled by President Petro Poroshenko and leaders of the People's Front party, repeatedly failed to comment.

Ukrainians have a big stake in the system's survival: Electronic declarations – a major anti-graft tool – are a key requirement of the European Union for it to cancel travel visas. Moreover, much-needed Western aid hangs on the system.

"As new anti-graft tools are being created, the old corrupt system in all branches of government has been using every mechanism to block these processes," Yaroslav Yurchyshyn, head of Transparency International Ukraine, told the Kyiv Post. "This includes delaying organizational processes and meddling in the selection of civil society members."

Cabinet protégés

According to the 2014 anti-corruption law, the electronic declarations system is supposed to be overseen by the National Agency for Preventing Corruption.

However, the Cabinet was dragging its feet on the creation of the agency for a year-and-a-half.

Civic activists accused the Cabinet of sabotaging the process by trying to place its loyalists on the commission that selects the agency's leadership, while at the same time excluding representatives from civil society.

In December 2015 the commission, packed with Cabinet protégés, appointed to the agency two top officials loyal to Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and National Security and Defense Council Secretary Oleksandr Turchynov – Natalia Korchak and Oleksandr Skopych.

Viktor Chumak, who is seen as independent, was also appointed.

Korchak's candidacy triggered a controversy because she used to be Yatsenyuk's teacher.



Natalia Korchak, head of the National Agency for Preventing Corruption.

The Reanimation Package of Reforms then said that the candidate selection competition had been held with violations, and called for its annulment. One of the violations is that Konstantyn Vashchenko, a commission member and head of the National Civil Service Agency, voted for his own subordinate Oleksandr Skopych, a deputy head of the agency, an explicit conflict of interest. Chumak then refused to be appointed to the agency, saying that the selection competition had been illegal.

Legal loopholes

The e-declarations system has survived six or seven attempts to cripple its implementation this year alone.

In February Vadym Denysenko, a lawmaker from the Poroshenko Bloc, inserted loopholes into the anti-corruption law that would have allowed corrupt officials to escape punishment for lying in declarations. The amendments were subsequently canceled under Western pressure.

In March the commission selected another two top officials of the National Agency for Preventing Corruption. But only one of them, Rouslan Riaboshapka, was seen as independent. The other official chosen in March, Ruslan Radetsky, is an ally of Poroshenko, meaning that three out of the four officials thus far selected are linked to top politicians.

Further problems arose when the State Service for Government Communications failed to provide equipment for the e-declaration system from April through June.

Then on Aug. 9-10, a DoS attack was reportedly launched on the declaration system from an address used by the State Service for Government Communications.

Next, the service on Aug. 12 refused to certify the electronic declaration system developed by software firm Miranda, arguing that it did not comply with technical requirements. Critics said, however,

that the service was only looking for an excuse to block the e-declarations system, since it had previously approved the software.

The National Agency for Preventing Corruption created another problem when it launched the uncertified system on Aug. 15. As a result, punishing officials for lying in declarations became impossible, since evidence from the uncertified system will be inadmissible to the courts. Thus, officials would be able to hide and legalize their corrupt wealth.

On Aug. 31, the State Service for Government Communications again blamed all problems on software firm Miranda, saying that it would be banned from servicing the e-declaration system. But after the service took over the system and certified it, the system failed to function when it was formally launched for the second time on Sept. 1: It was initially impossible to upload declarations to the site.

Technical glitches

The first e-declarations were uploaded on Sept. 4, but numerous technical problems remained. Moreover, some officials sidestepped the law by saying in their statements that their family members had refused to provide information about their wealth.

"The government, instead of testing the system before its launch, was looking for excuses not to launch it," Yurchyshyn said. "Instead of aiming to be effective, the civil service just aims to explain why its efforts are failing. It imitates work instead of yielding results."

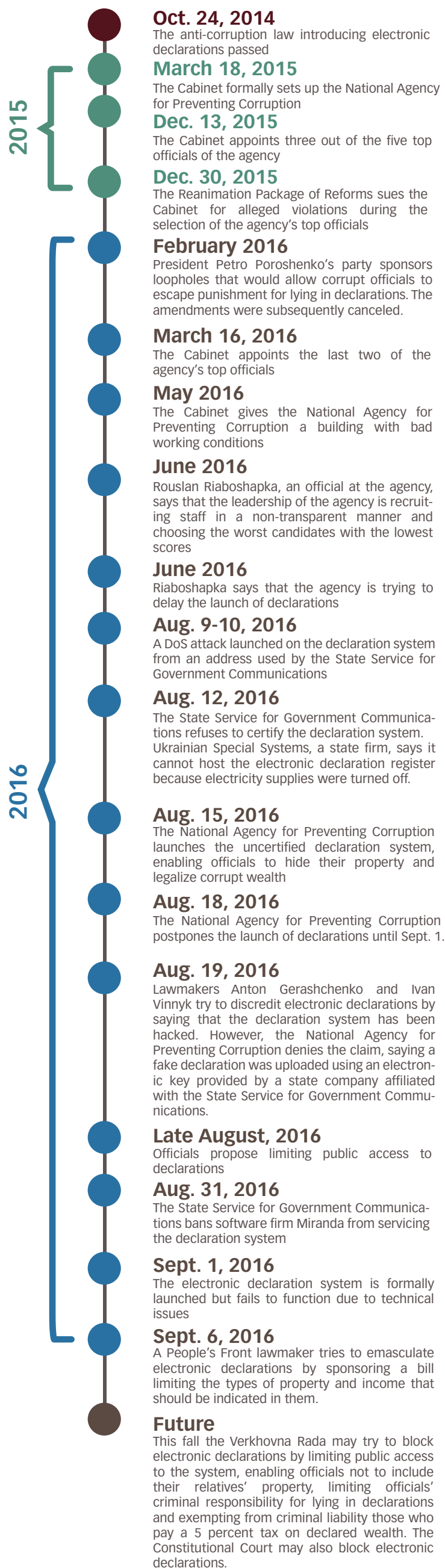
The EuroOptimists, a reformist group of lawmakers, said on Sept. 6 that the technical glitches could lead the system to fail, and it would be impossible to punish officials for lying in declarations.

The next attempt to sabotage the system started on Sept. 6, when People's Front lawmaker Tetiana Donets sponsored a bill limiting the types of property and income listed in e-declarations, and banning public access to them.

The Verkhovna Rada is also expected to consider a bill exempting from criminal liability those who pay a 5 percent tax on their declared wealth.

Meanwhile, the Constitutional Court, whose judges are being investigated for helping former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich usurp power and for taking bribes from him, is considering a motion to block the e-declaration system as unconstitutional. And more attempts to scuttle the e-declaration system seem certain to follow. "The e-declaration system is a nightmare for our politicians and corrupt officials, who will never be able to explain where they got their wealth," Chumak told the Kyiv Post. ■

Chronicle of obstructions of e-declarations



By Ira Movchan | Kyiv Post
Sources: Kyiv Post

Ukrainian authorities have sabotaged electronic declarations ever since a law mandating them was passed in October 2014.

Editorial

Inter on fire

We deplore the arson attack on Inter TV on Sept. 4, and the terror and injuries caused to journalists working at the station. We hope those responsible are prosecuted and punished to the full extent of the law.

We also share the view that Ukraine's political and law enforcement authorities have long created a permissive atmosphere in society regarding violence against journalists. If crimes against journalists are never solved, as they almost never have been in Ukraine, the impunity only breeds more violence or harassment. In Inter's case, it looks like police were slow in responding to the attack on the TV station. Given the hostility of Ukrainian officials, including Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, to Inter's pro-Russian news coverage, the question arises about whether Ukraine's police will enforce the law effectively and equally.

But let's also say this directly: Inter has been playing with fire of a different kind for decades. It is preposterous to hold Inter up as a bastion of free speech in Ukraine. In fact, Inter's history is exactly the opposite – one of suppression of free speech.

This channel's main advantage has always been its huge reach in Ukraine – delivering its brand of crapola pro-Kremlin, pro-corrupt oligarch PR, pro-whomever is in power, from one end of the nation to the other.

Its ownership roster includes Viktor Medvedchuk, who is proud to call Ukraine's enemy Vladimir Putin his friend and who is also shameless about vacationing in Russian-occupied Crimea.

In a country with rule of law, Ukraine's "Prince of Darkness" would be near the top of any investigative list of police and prosecutors. He deserves U.S. sanctions and much worse for, as the American government correctly put it: "threatening the peace, security, stability, sovereignty, or territorial integrity of Ukraine, and for undermining Ukraine's democratic institutions and processes."

A White House statement also said that Medvedchuk had "provided financial, material, or technological support" to ex-President Viktor Yanukovich, who ran from power in 2014.

The Kyiv Post has watched this quisling for decades. Here's what we wrote in a Nov. 26, 2008, editorial headlined "Scary return," an opinion that prompted Medvedchuk to send a case of toilet bowl cleaner to the newspaper.

"Medvedchuk used the nationwide reach of Inter TV station to shamelessly promote the so-called 'oligarch's party,' which flopped as a political force. Then he sank to greater depths as chief of staff for ex-President Leonid Kuchma. In that capacity, the presidential administration muzzled the press with 'temnyky' orders on how to cover the news. Medvedchuk's main job seemed to be to hold Kuchma together during a time of rising condemnation for the lame president, caught on the 'Melnychenko tapes' with running the nation as a criminal enterprise...Medvedchuk has nothing constructive to offer modern-day Ukraine."

Today's owners of Inter are no better. The station belongs to the indicted oligarch-in-exile Dmytro Firtash, fighting U.S. bribery charges from his home in Vienna, and former Yanukovich chief of staff, Serhiy Lyovochkin. If ever there were two more people who deserved the full weight and force of law enforcement in Ukraine, it's these two characters.

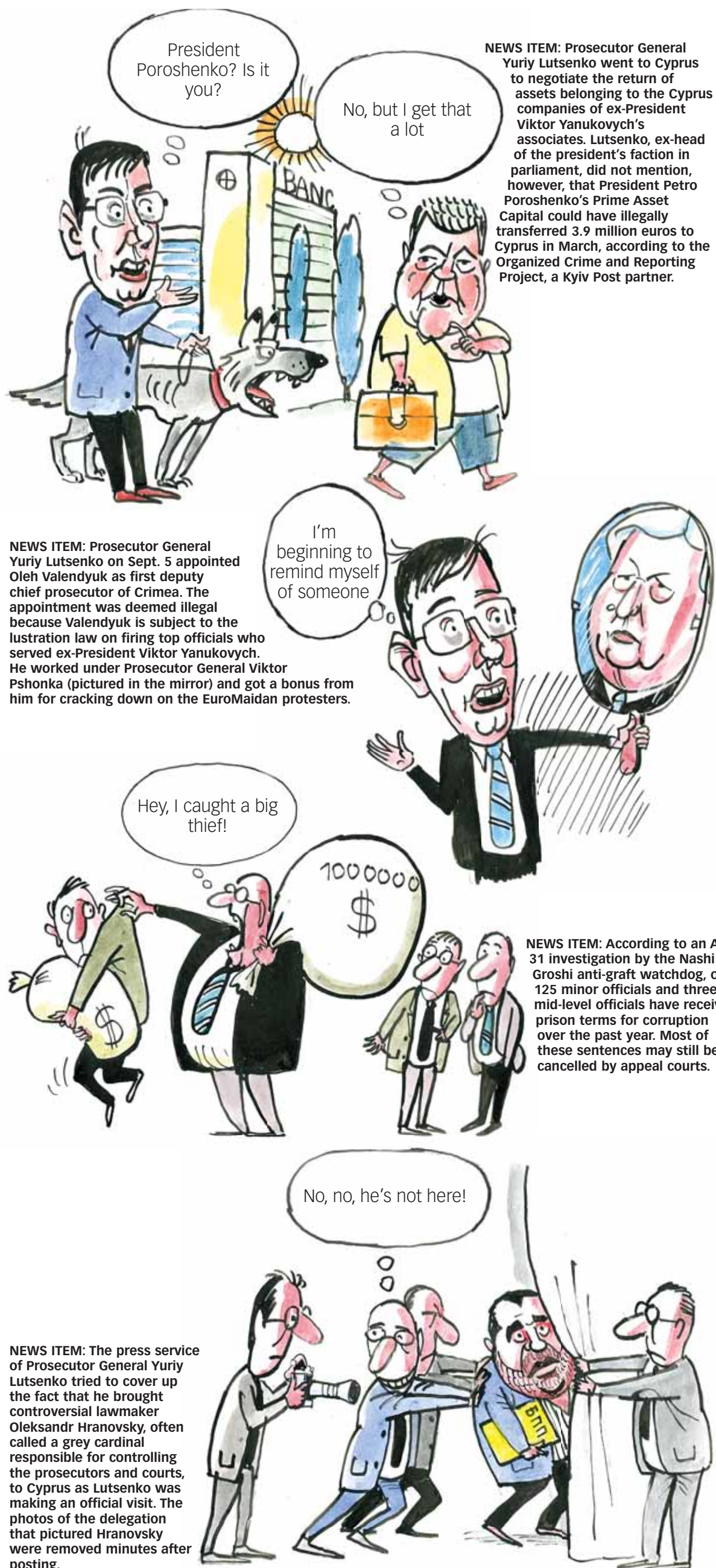
Firtash got rich at Ukraine's expense from his RosUkrEnergo gas trade. To this day, the National Bank of Ukraine says he owes the nation more than \$500 million in unpaid refinancing loans and his long-insolvent Nadra Bank cost taxpayers another \$150 million to repay depositors who lost their savings in the bankrupt enterprise.

It's nothing short of criminal negligence that these two blokes are allowed to keep their hands on one of Ukraine's largest and most-watched TV stations.

Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko is off to an incompetent start. But the blame ultimately lies with President Petro Poroshenko. Despite his hollow denials and tough anti-corruption talk, we believe the reports of the "Vienna Agreement," in which he and Vitali Klitschko flew to Vienna in 2014 to offer immunity and impunity to Firtash in exchange for his support of their presidential and mayoral bids, respectively.

With his public support sinking to 11 percent nationally in recent polls, Ukrainians no longer trust or support him. He is getting what he so richly deserves. It's too bad that, because of him, Medvedchuk, Firtash, Lyovochkin and many others are not getting what they deserve.

As for Inter, the best way to counter its gusher of distorted "news" is for viewers to stop watching the channel and for advertisers to stop supporting the station.



KyivPost
INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST

Mohammad Zahoor, Publisher

Luc Chénier, Chief Executive Officer

Brian Bonner, Chief Editor

Editors: Euan MacDonald, Allison Quinn, Olga Rudenko

Staff Writers: Olena Goncharova, Oksana Grytsenko, Isobel Koshiw, Josh Kovensky, Denys Krasnikov, Vlad Lavrov, Veronika Melkozerova, Victoria Petrenko, Yuliana Romanyshyn, Daryna Shevchenko, Oleg Sukhov, Nataliya Trach,

Anna Yakutenko, Alyona Zhuk

Photo Editor: Pavlo Podufalov

Photographers: Kostyantyn Chernichkin, Volodymyr Petrov, Anastasia Vlasova

Chief Designer: Vladyslav Zakharenko

Social Media Manager: Iryna Savchuk

Commercial Director: Alyona Nevmerzhytska

Sales Managers: Yulia Kovalenko,

Yulia Krus, Vita Shvets, Elena Symonenko

Designer: Anton Ekle

Subscription Manager: Svitlana Kolesnikova

Transport Manager: Mykola Andruska

Chief Accountant: Galyna Rogachova

Accountant: Yana Chernik

IT Manager: Oleksiy Bondarchuk

Graphic Artist: Stella Shabliovskaya

To inquire about distribution of the Kyiv Post, please contact Svitlana Kolesnikova at subscribe@kyivpost.com or by phone at 591-3344

Feel strongly about an issue? Agree or disagree with editorial positions in this newspaper?

The Kyiv Post welcomes letters to the editors and opinion pieces, usually 800 to 1,000 words in length. Please email all correspondence to Brian Bonner chief editor, at bonner@kyivpost.com. All correspondence must include an email address and contact phone number for verification.

Reformer of the week

Maxim Hryshchuk

Maxim Hryshchuk, deputy chief anti-corruption prosecutor, has led a strong campaign with his colleagues since he got the job in December 2015.

Hryshchuk has been praised as one of the few prosecutors who served as a fighter on the war front in 2014-2015. He came into the limelight as a “cyborg” who fought Russian-separatist troops at Donetsk Airport.

The most recent evidence of the effectiveness of his office's work came on Aug. 31, when a Kyiv court issued an arrest warrant for an official of railway monopoly Ukrzalyznytisia, who was charged by anti-corruption prosecutors with embezzling Hr. 13.65 million.

Anti-corruption prosecutors and employees of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine also arrested the acting rector of the National Aviation University on Aug. 26, accusing him of taking a Hr. 3 million bribe.

The anti-graft bureau and the anti-corruption prosecutor's office are also investigating criminal cases against top allies of President Petro Poroshenko and ex-Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, including Poroshenko's grey cardinals Ihor Kononenko and Oleksandr Hranovsky.

The new anti-graft bodies have come under attack in recent weeks in what Poroshenko's critics see as his attempt to limit their independence, and ultimately emasculate them. In August, employees of the anti-corruption bureau said they had been tortured by prosecutors linked to Hranovsky, although those prosecutors denied that.

— Oleg Sukhov



Anti-reformer of the week

Oleh Valendyuk

Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko on Sept. 5 appointed Oleh Valendyuk as the first deputy chief of the prosecutor's office of Crimea — a Kyiv-based body focused on violations committed by the Russian occupation authorities in the annexed Ukrainian peninsula.

But Tetiana Kozachenko, the head of the Justice Ministry's lustration department, believes Lutsenko had no right to appoint Valendyuk, who is subject to dismissal under the lustration law on firing top officials who served under ex-President Viktor Yanukovich.

Valendyuk has been lambasted for being in charge of criminal cases against EuroMaidan protesters. On the eve of the murder of dozens of demonstrators in central Kyiv on Feb. 20, 2014, Yanukovich's prosecutor general, Viktor Pshonka, gave him a bonus for taking “an active role” in cracking down on protesters.

Valendyuk is an ally of Oleksandr Hranovsky, a controversial grey cardinal of President Petro Poroshenko accused of corruption and illegally interfering with law enforcement. Hranovsky denies the corruption accusations, but has admitted being acquainted with Valendyuk.

Lutsenko has been accused of deceiving the public by first seemingly complying with the lustration law and ousting Valendyuk as Kyiv's acting prosecutor in July, and then clandestinely giving him another job.

Lutsenko performed a similar trick when he asked Roman Hovda, a controversial ally of ex-Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin, to step down as a deputy prosecutor general in May, but then secretly appointed him chief prosecutor of Kyiv in July.

— Oleg Sukhov



What do you expect from the new session of the Verkhovna Rada?



Stivlana Batiushynska
student at Kyiv Shevchenko University
I really don't think anything will change, and I don't think anything

new will come out of this session. I'm sure the lawmakers won't work any better, and nothing will improve in the country.



Pavlo Petrenko
lawyer
That's a cool question! To be honest, I don't expect anything positive, because the lawmakers just

do nothing. There is a hope they'll do something, but it's just a hope. Concerning the adoption of new legislation, the main question is if it's just going to be more populism, or important laws for the country.



Uliana Bagaturia
marketing specialist
I'm really not very interested in politics. I expect there to be some results, and

that they take a more human approach — not only to adopting legislation, but to implementing it as well.



Liudmyla Babych
economist
I don't really expect anything positive, maybe there will be in a future parliament. But this

parliament has already demonstrated all the things it can do — and none of it has been any good.



Liudmyla Sokurianskaya
sociology professor at Kharkiv National University
I expect them to get some work done!

It sometimes makes me really sad when I see them “working.” Ordinary people work a lot harder. Lawmakers miss parliament sessions, and they have to be called back into the session hall to get their work done! That is disrespectful to our nation. However, I don't think anything will actually change.

Putin loses in Hangzhou



EUAN MACDONALD

At first glance, Russian President Vladimir Putin looked to have had a successful time at the G20 Summit meeting in Hangzhou, China, on Sept. 4-5.

Kremlin media gloated over the official leaders' photo, which showed U.S. President Barack Obama looking intently as Putin and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan were in close conversation.

Putin held a series of meetings at the sidelines of the summit, including one with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, who had been snubbed by Obama. The U.S. president refused to shake the Egyptian leader's hand.

In contrast, at their all-smiles meeting, Putin and Sisi agreed to restore regular flights between their countries and other measures.

The meeting with Sisi, as well as the warm images with Erdogan, show how well Putin has managed to bolster the Kremlin's position in the Middle East in the year since Russia's surprise intervention in Syria. The United States under Obama, by contrast, has lost direction and influence in the region.

And before the G20 Summit had even begun, Putin nixed a Normandy format meeting among France, Germany, Ukraine and Russia that Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko had been hoping would be held on the sidelines at Hangzhou.

Putin ruled out that meeting after the Kremlin claimed (falsely, it appears) that Kyiv was using “terror tactics” by planning subversive attacks in the Russian-occupied Ukrainian territory of Crimea. Two Russian soldiers were reported to have been killed in incidents on the border between mainland Ukraine and the Russian-occupied Ukrainian peninsula in early August, but no firm details are known.

Putin's response to the claimed incidents was not only to scrap the Normandy meeting, but to resurrect the old Kremlin propaganda canard that the Ukrainian authorities illegitimately came to power in a coup, thus attempting to undermine Kyiv's authority ahead of further talks about Ukraine.

But Putin didn't get his way on Ukraine in Hangzhou.

While the Kremlin earlier said Putin planned to



China's President Xi Jinping (front row, center) and G20 leaders pose for a group photo in Hangzhou on Sept. 4. G20 leaders confront a sluggish global economy and the winds of populism as they open annual talks, but the long war in Syria and the South China Sea territorial dispute hang over the summit. (AFP)

meet with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande together to discuss Ukraine, he ended up meeting the German and French leaders separately.

And while Putin did meet with his U.S. counterpart Obama, he seems to have gained little from the encounter: A photo of Obama towering and glowering over the Russian leader, who is meeting the U.S. president's stare coldly, illustrates the current state of distrust between the White House and the Kremlin.

No doubt to Putin's chagrin, Merkel, Hollande and Obama held their own meeting to discuss Ukraine. Moreover, the United States on Sept. 1 and on Sept. 6 announced fresh sanctions on Russia due to its continued occupation of the Ukrainian territory of Crimea and aggression in the Donbas, while the European Union looks set to prolong its existing sanctions — the deadline for a decision on prolonging them is set for Sept. 15, and despite a Kremlin diplomatic offensive in the southern and eastern states of the EU, the union's unanimity on the issue appears to be holding for now.

Although the details of the discussions between Putin and Western leaders on Ukraine are not known, they may have caused Putin to pirouette on the issue of the Normandy format meetings.

At a news conference at the end of the Hangzhou summit, Putin declared that Russia would return to the Normandy format talks, saying “whether they are good or bad, there are still no

other initiatives to regulate the conflict.” Putin also said he would be prepared to communicate with Poroshenko again, saying “we will probably have to.”

This came only weeks after Putin described the Normandy format meetings as “pointless” in the wake of the alleged Ukrainian “planned terror attacks” on the Russian occupied Crimean peninsula.

That Russia is prepared to back down on the issue of the Normandy format talks could be read as a failure for Putin, who takes every opportunity to blame Kyiv for the ongoing stalemate in implementing the Minsk II agreements to end Kremlin's war against Ukraine, and who has sought to drive a wedge between Ukraine and its Western allies. The Russian president's tactic for driving in that wedge appears to be to offer “cooperation” with the West in Syria in exchange for concessions on the issue of sanctions and Russia's illegal occupation of Ukraine's Crimea: Thus, his attempt to freeze Kyiv out of ongoing negotiations about Ukraine.

For now, that tactic has failed — the Western leaders refused to play Putin's alternative game, and have forced him back to the Normandy table.

So while the Russian leader's busy schedule of meetings and photo ops at the G20 Summit may have looked good in the Russian papers, Putin failed to achieve his goals on Ukraine and may even have been forced back a step or two.

In that regard, G20 looks like a loss for Putin. ■

Weekly business roundup

BY NATALIE VIKHROV, ISOBEL KOSHIW AND JOSH KOVENSKY

NATALIE.VIKHROV@GMAIL.COM, KOSHIW@KYIVPOST.COM, KOVENSKY@KYIVPOST.COM

Poroshenko hails lower trade with Russia

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko announced during the opening session of the Verkhovna Rada on Sept. 6 that trade between Russia and Ukraine had decreased five-fold since the start of the year and is gradually being replaced by increased commerce with the European Union.

"Those who speculate on doing business with Russia during the war must know - our exports to Russia have gone down by five times," said Poroshenko. According to the Ukrainian State Statistic Services, the percentage of Ukrainian exports that go to the EU increased to 39 percent this year (\$5.39 billion), whereas those to Russia make up just 9 percent (\$1.19 billion).

Poroshenko's comments come in spite of his chocolate company Roshen's continuing to manufacture and sell in Russia.

The decrease in trade is fueled by mutual trade restrictions and the economic downturn suffered by both countries, now at war, over the last two years.

Akhmetov sells Donetsk plant, makes bank move

Ukraine's richest billionaire Rinat Akhmetov sold all of his shares in a Donetsk-based enrichment plant this week.

The Kolosnikovska Central Enrichment Plant - a coal processing plant located in the separatist territory - was sold by Akhmetov's Cyprus-registered System Capital Management to Viktor Chmylev, a Makiivka resident. Some Ukrainian media sources speculated that Chmylev is unlikely to be the real beneficial owner.



A man walks inside an airframe for an Antonov-225 Mriya plane at Antonov aircraft plant in Kyiv on Sept. 7. Ukraine hopes to attract \$500 million in investment from China to complete an updated version of the Mriya, the world's biggest aircraft, Antonov said on Sept. 7. (AFP)

The sale occurred on Aug. 28, according to the State Currency and Market Commission.

Akhmetov's First Ukrainian National Bank (PUMB) also submitted plans to the National Bank of Ukraine to fulfill its agreed recapitalization program this week. The bank stated on its website that it will reach its target recapitalization of Hryvnia 1.2 billion (\$45 million) by introducing additional surcharges on problem loans and by repaying part of its loan portfolio.

Energy sector reforms wins 600 million euros

Ukraine will receive 600 million euros of macro-financial assistance from the European Union after it adopts a number of laws designed to reform the country's energy sector, an EU official has said.

European Commission Vice President for Energy Union Maroš Šefčovic made the pledge to release the tranche of aid during a meeting with Ukrainian Parliament Speaker Andriy Parubiy in Kyiv. He also stated that Ukraine had the potential to become an energy exporter.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman, who also met with Šefčovic, affirmed the country's commitment to energy sector reforms.

Groysman said the government was working with the European Commission to update the country's energy strategy and create a memorandum that would expand cooperation between Ukraine and the EU in the energy sector. He said he expected the energy strategy to be presented in September, with Ukraine and the European Union planning to sign the memorandum before 2017.

Groysman also said work was underway on the Energy Efficiency Fund, which could play a big part in upgrading the country's energy sector, and which has the support of the European Commission until the end of the year.

Šefčovic claimed that if Ukraine managed to increase its energy efficiency levels to the EU's average level, it could not only achieve savings that would exceed Spain's energy consumption over a whole year, but also pave the way for the country to become an energy exporter. He said the European Commission was also prepared to take part in the modernization of the Ukrainian gas transport system.

Investment company Empire State Capital Partners' research team stated that while the news was "overshadowed by current concerns about energy supplies and transit for next winter," it emphasized the country's growing integration with the European Energy Community.

"We see a high chance of the country passing the new regulations in the energy sector, in line with its commitments under the EU-Ukraine

association agreement," it stated.

"The launch of the Energy Efficiency Fund should be instrumental in fostering energy saving reforms in the country."

Macroeconomic picture looks a little bit brighter

Timothy Ash, a London-based analyst with Nomura International, writes on Sept. 7 that the International Monetary Fund is expected to re-start lending to Ukraine after the board of directors meets on Sept. 14.

The IMF froze lending at \$6.7 billion last year out of a possible \$17.6 billion because of Ukraine's sluggish performance on fighting corruption.

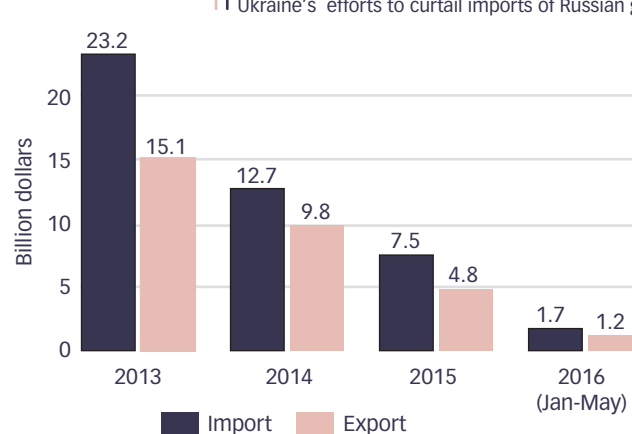
The IMF expects Ukraine's economy to grow 1.5 percent this year and 2.5 percent next year, although such forecasts for "crisis countries such as Ukraine" are very difficult, Ash wrote. In other improving news, inflation is down to 12 percent by the end of the year -- from a peak of 46 percent in 2015.

Ash also wrote that public debt has increased to \$67 billion in July, \$2 billion more than at the end of 2015.

"If Ukraine had been a model IMF patient we might have seen National Bank of Ukraine reserves recover more quickly, foreign exchange restrictions eased back sooner and this might have spurred more confidence and economic activity, spurring a stronger real gross domestic product growth rebound and also a virtuous cycle feeding back into improved government revenue performance."

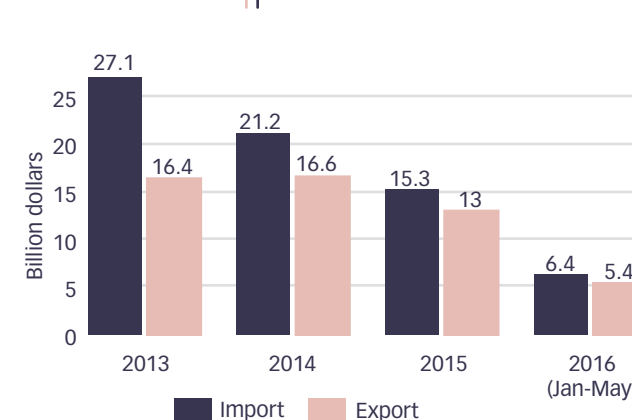
"The agenda of politicians and policymakers should now be all about making Ukraine a great place to do business and to invest, reforming and improving the efficiency of public administration, reducing the scale/size of government but also focusing it on service delivery, targeting support on the needy, and cutting taxes to spur business to create jobs, growth and development," Ash wrote. "These are more difficult challenges given more than 20 years of neglect, half-backed and often ill-conceived reform." ■

BILATERAL TRADE WITH RUSSIA 2013-2016



Ukraine's trade with Russia has declined dramatically since the onset of war between the two countries and the economic crisis in 2014. The decrease can partly be explained by Ukraine's efforts to curtail imports of Russian gas.

BILATERAL TRADE WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION 2013-2016



Trade between Ukraine and the European Union has gradually declined since 2013, despite a free trade agreement coming into force on Jan. 1, 2015.



Meridian International School

Sample the pleasures of a better education!



As you research the best school for your children, you can learn a great deal of from other people. But, ultimately, there is only one opinion that matters - your own. That's why we'd like to invite you to come see for yourself why Meridian International School is like to no other learning environment anywhere.

www.mischool.com.ua
www.sadokmeridian.com.ua
044 434 88 80

KINDERGARTEN
PRIMARY SCHOOL
SECONDARY SCHOOL
HIGH SCHOOL

- Highly qualified foreign and local teaching staff
- Small classes and personalized attention
- Breakfast, lunch, a wide range of snacks
- Transport service from every district of Kyiv

Energy independence still distant dream for Ukraine

BY DUNCAN HILL

Since the EuroMaidan Revolution that ousted Viktor Yanukovich as president, Ukraine has had success in weaning itself off Russian gas by importing more from Europe. The goal is energy independence.

Could Ukraine stop importing gas and start producing enough to meet its own needs?

It is a tall order, but one that Andriy Kobolev, head of the state oil-and-gas company Naftogaz, thinks possible. "By 2020 Ukraine can become self-sufficient in terms of gas production," he told Bloomberg news.

In order to achieve that, Ukraine would need to boost production by 35 percent from today's production, all the while improving energy efficiency and contending with declining output from existing fields.

That is not going to be easy with oil trading below \$50 per barrel.

"Ukraine has to compete for investment and we are simply not attractive at the moment, even against regional rivals let alone global ones" said Olga Bielkova, a member of the parliamentary energy committee from the Bloc of President Petro Poroshenko.



Nataliya Katser-Buchkovska, member of the Verkhovna Rada

Lack of interest

A recent gas tender underscored the lack of interest in Ukraine. It offered rights to a vast gas field, but only three bids were received. These all came from smaller companies that focus on Ukraine. None of the global oil majors is currently interested.

"Given the current situation with oil prices slump, there are no plans for new exploration projects in Ukraine in the foreseeable future," Shell spokesperson Yuliya Pikhnovska told the Kyiv Post.

But according to Roman Opimakh, who heads up the Association of Gas Producers of Ukraine, gas self-sufficiency could be achieved without the majors. "These medium-sized gas companies already have a lot of investments in Ukraine and want to invest more. It is just a matter of the taxes being too high at the moment," Opimakh said.

The tax rate on gas production is no longer at the dizzying heights it reached soon after the EuroMaidan Revolution. Back then it was increased to 55 percent of revenues, in part to help fund the war against

pro-Russian separatists in the east.

"That really killed the industry. Investors have a choice and no one wants to go where the tax rate is that high," said Robert Bensch, senior managing partner at Pelicourt LLC, which specializes in energy investments in Ukraine.

The rate was reduced in last year's budget, but not enough to encourage more investment.

Reverse flow

Since the EuroMaidan Revolution, the government's primary aim had been to wean Ukraine off Russian gas by finding other suppliers. It has met with remarkable success in reversing the flow of the pipelines and getting more gas from Europe.

Between 2014 and 2015, the share of Russian gas used to produce energy in Ukraine fell from 34 percent of the total in 2015 to just 18 percent. Over the same period, the volume of gas imported from Europe more than doubled, its share rising from 12 percent to 30 percent. Last year, Ukraine got almost twice as much gas from Europe as it did from Russia.

Under this reverse-flow approach, a lot of the gas being imported from Europe still comes from Russia indi-



Alistair McBain, CEO of Arawak Energy

rectly. Gazprom, the Russian state gas company, sells it to European countries who then resell it to Ukraine. Gazprom tries to prevent reselling of its gas, but EU competition law is keeping the pipelines open.

Energy efficiency

Having diversified suppliers, the government is turning its attention towards boosting domestic production. The tax rate was cut to 29 percent of revenue for gas mined below 5,000 meters and 14 percent for anything deeper. The state-owned gas company, Ukrzavvydobuvannya pays a higher rate of 50 percent.

At first glance, the statistics suggest an improvement. In 2014, Ukrainian gas accounted for around 50 percent of all gas consumed. By 2015 that figure had jumped to 60 percent.

But this is misleading. Natural gas output actually fell by 3 percent over the same period. The share of domestic gas increased because the country was using less.

Gas consumption across Ukraine fell by 21 percent in just one year between 2014 and 2015. Increased



Lawmaker Olga Bielkova shakes hands with a worker as she visits a gas drilling rig in Poltava Oblast on Aug. 30. (Facebook/Olga Bielkova)

prices, a government-led energy efficiency drive and a warm winter all contributed, but the greatest savings were made because of a contracting industrial sector. Industrial demand fell by 27 percent as Ukraine lost territory and foreign investors.

Intensification

There is also more trouble in store as wells dry up. Output is forecast to almost half over the next five years. These losses could be offset with more intensive mining techniques. But this will cost money.

Publicly-owned UGV produces around three quarters of the Ukraine's gas, but its fields tend to be the oldest.

UGV's parent company, Naftogaz, is undergoing a complicated unbundling process and investments are not being made as quickly as needed.

"If we just focus on improving output from existing fields it will not be enough, we need to focus on encouraging new production if we want to become self-sufficient," said Bielkova.

Tax changes

The industry says the new tax rate is still too high. UGV and six smaller companies clubbed together last year to form the Association of Gas Producers of Ukraine. The association is calling for a more competitive tax rate of 12 percent.

The proposed 12 percent rate would initially be on revenue, but the association wants this partially switched to a profit-based tax system.

"Most countries tax oil and gas operations on the profits they make. This is helpful because the state shares the risks with the investor," said Alistair McBain, CEO of Arawak Energy, which has investments in Poltava with GeoAlliance.

Fuel subsidies

Any reduction in the tax rate could have implications for ordinary Ukrainians because the tax on UGV is used to pay subsidies to the poor. More than half the population is eligible for a subsidy and for 15 to

20 percent of people their fuel bill is greater than their income.

The government is increasing the price of gas under pressure from the International Monetary Fund.

Nataliya Katser-Buchkovska, who heads the parliamentary subcommittee overseeing energy, understands that the taxes are needed to pay for the subsidies. But she acknowledges that the tax base will quickly diminish unless there is additional investment. "It is necessary to balance immediate budget needs and long-term investment incentives for gas production growth," she said.

Dividend payment

The gas association believes that all gas players should be managed by the same tax rates, whether they are private or state entities.

In the short term, it argues that

the any shortfall in revenue could be made up by UGV paying a dividend instead of subsoil royalty to the government. This is standard practice in neighboring countries. It also points to other possible benefits.

"Ukraine could cut the import cumulatively by 45 billion cubic meters by 2020... which would have a dramatically positive effect on the foreign currency balance and in creating many jobs in gas industry and linked sectors," Opimakh said.

He has calculated that by implementing its proposed tax changes, the industry could see as much as a 15 percent annual growth rate to 2020. This would not, however, deliver complete self-sufficiency.

Budget changes

Ukraine's parliament is setting next year's budget, but tax changes for gas production are not on the agenda. One of the reasons is that an inter-agency working group that brought together the main stakeholders with the Ministry of Finance no longer meets. This group was instrumental in getting the tax rate reduced last year from its post-Maidan high. Katser-Buchkovska, who is a member of parliament for the Popular Front party founded by former Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, blames the transition to the new government of Volodymyr Groysman.

"Lack of progress, instability and lack of political will of the responsible authorities, has led to this situation," she said.

Katser-Buchkovska has made an appeal to the Ministry of Finance to re-establish the working group. In the meantime, Ukraine languishes low on investors' lists.

"No one is talking about Ukraine right now," Bensch said. "There is zero interest. If you have money, it's better to invest elsewhere." ■

ON THE MOVE

Advertisement



Oleksandr Aleksyeyenko

Marchenko Danevych Expands Capacities in Competition & IP with New Partner Oleksandr Aleksyeyenko

Marchenko Danevych has expanded its team by welcoming a true and notable specialist in Competition and IP, Oleksandr Aleksyeyenko, as a new equity Partner of the law firm. He joined the firm on September 01, 2016.

Oleksandr Aleksyeyenko shares his agenda for the future: "I am very excited to join Marchenko Danevych, where I will lead and grow Antitrust/Competition and IP practices. They will complement well-established and reputable Dispute Resolution and Life Sciences practices of the firm and will serve as a distinct advantage in handling increasingly sophisticated and complex legal work for the benefit of our Clients'.

Previously a Partner and Head of Competition practice at an international law firm with strong presence in Ukraine and the CIS region, Oleksandr has nearly a decade of legal experience in merger clearances and investigations involving unfair competition, abuse of dominant position and anticompetitive behavior. He also has a solid experience in advising clients on issues related to banking and finance, intellectual property, labor and employment.

Arson attack on Inter TV station stirs anger, fear

BY BERMET TALANT
BERMET.TALANT@GMAIL.COM

An arson attack that took place on Sept. 4 in the office of the Inter TV channel again put the spotlight on the channel accused of pro-Kremlin sympathies.

Inter argues that the attack was politically motivated for its criticism of the government. Politicians and activists say the channel was attacked for being a "Kremlin agent."

Arson, protests

Ahead of the arson attack, a group of activists in camouflage staged a protest in front of Inter office on Shchuseva Street in Kyiv.

The activists were identified as former soldiers and members of the All-Ukrainian Union of Anti-Terrorist Operation Veterans, a group of Donbas war veterans. After setting up tents and setting fire to car tires, they started chanting "Inter is a Kremlin agent."

Then, at 4:30 p.m. Inter's office was set on fire by a group of masked and helmeted arsonists.

CCTV footage that Inter released three days after the fire matches eyewitness accounts. People in helmets and masks pushed past the building's guards while setting off fire extinguishers. They rushed into the building and set a first-floor studio on fire.

Inter cameramen Vadim Revun, who filmed the fire, told the Kyiv Post that the 10 attackers beat him and threw him and another cameraman out of the building.

They were taken to the hospital with a female reporter who suffered a spinal injury. Other staff were affected by smoke inhalation.

Police later arrested nine people at the scene, but released them after questioning and identity checks. All of them were Ukrainian military veterans.

According to the authorities, the fire damaged an area of about 30 square meters on the first and second floors.

Protests continued on Sept. 5, this time near Inter's headquarters on Dmytrivska Street in central Kyiv. Several dozen activists blocked the entrance and prevented Inter employees from entering

the building.

Demands for change

One of the activists, Oleksiy Serediuk, a member of the St. Maria Battalion, posted on his Facebook page an open letter to Dmytro Firtash, one of the owners of Inter Media Group. Firtash is a billionaire in exile who is facing bribery charges in the United States and owes the National Bank of Ukraine \$482 million in unpaid loans to his insolvent Nadra Bank.

The open letter demanded that a supervisory board for the Inter Media Group be set up, that two soldiers be made members of executive board, and that the TV channel's managers be dismissed.

The veterans also called for Serhiy Lyovochkin, a lawmaker and another owner of the Inter Media Group, who served as chief of staff for ex-President Viktor Yanukovich, and Ihor Shuvalov, a Russian citizen and deputy director at Inter's news service, to end their association with the channel.

The blockade ended on Sept. 6. Activists claimed they had reached agreement with Inter's management that within five days that the channel would change its pro-Kremlin content and fire Shuvalov. "Otherwise we will resume the blockade and strive to shut down the channel," another protester, Vitaliy Cherniy told the Kyiv Post.

But Inter later released an official statement saying the channel had not held any negotiations with the protesters. Cherniy claimed that the activists had negotiated with representatives of Firtash.

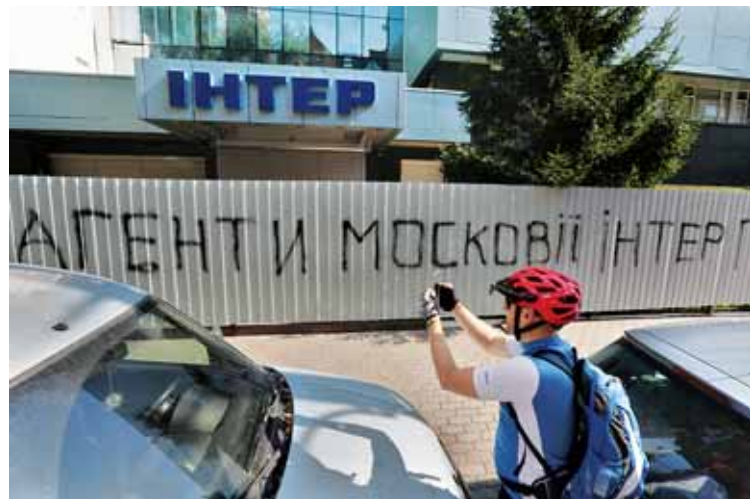
Kremlin agents?

Inter ranked as the fifth most-watched channel in Ukraine in August, according to viewing figures by the research company Nielsen.

Nataliya Ligacheva, head of a Kyiv-based media watchdog Detector Media, said that Inter's editorial line could be interpreted as pro-Russian.

"Inter refused to give a balance of opinions, and has become a PR machine for the Opposition Bloc,"

more Inter on page 11



A man takes a photo of an inscription that the protesters made on the fence surrounding Inter TV office on Sept. 5. The graffiti reads "Inter, the agents of Moscow." (Volodymyr Petrov)



Employees work at a Mikron factory in Russia. The semiconductor manufacturer is one of 81 new entities included on an expanded U.S. sanctions list. (Courtesy)

US tightens sanctions only days after Putin, Obama meet in China

Sanctions from page 1

A Kremlin spokesman has said the latest sanctions are "not consistent" with talks recently held between Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Barack Obama. Dmitry Peskov revealed the two leaders discussed "possible cooperation in sensitive areas" when they met at a recent G20 summit in China. He has warned that Moscow will review the new blacklist and base its response on the principal of reciprocity.

Among the companies now subject to U.S. restrictions are the electronics firms Angstrom and Mikron. As with other enterprises subject to the measures, their exports, re-exports and ability to transfer materials and technology will be limited.

The vast majority of the newly-sanctioned entities are located in Russia but there are also a small number in Crimea, Hong Kong and India. Several are believed to be involved in the construction of a bridge across the Kerch Strait which would connect mainland Russia with Kremlin-annexed Crimea. Putin has emphasized that the \$4.5 billion project, which is due for completion in 2018, is a top priority.

This most recent expansion of the blacklist by the White House comes after a similar announcement by the U.S. Treasury Department on Sept. 1 which saw 18 entities operating in Russian-occupied Crimea in the transport, construction and defense sectors come under sanctions. The companies on the list no longer have the right to conduct business with their U.S.-based counterparts.

American and European sanctions

against Russia first came into force in 2014, soon after the Kremlin's illegal annexation of Crimea in March of that year. The measures initially involved travel bans and asset freezes but were later stepped up in response to Moscow's backing for separatist rebels in Ukraine's eastern Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts. The restrictions have targeted Russia's defense, energy and finance sectors, limiting the ability of firms to import technologically advanced equipment and raise funds on Western capital markets. The sanctions, combined with low global oil prices, have pushed Russia's economy into a recession which the International Monetary Fund has forecast to last until 2017.

The Kremlin's response to outside pressure has been to slap on counter-sanctions.

In August 2014 it introduced a ban on the import of Western food products. The embargo, which still remains in force, affects fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, milk and dairy from the U.S., the E.U., Australia, Canada and Norway. Although some producers have been able to circumvent the restrictions by sending goods via third countries such as Belarus, many have been hit hard. Polish apple farmers, who expect a record crop this year, had previously counted Russia as one of their biggest markets. They have been among those suffering the most as a result of the trade war between Russia and the West.

In Brussels, meanwhile, recent efforts by Moscow to lobby for sanctions to be lifted by the European Union have largely failed.

The E.U. voted on Sept. 7 to keep

in place travel bans and asset freezes first introduced in 2014. The measures affect lawmakers, oligarchs, separatists in eastern Ukraine and two Russian celebrities who have been vocal in their support for the breakaway Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

In spite of calls from some within the 28-nation bloc for ties to be normalized with Russia, European leaders continue to link the lifting of sanctions to the fulfillment of the terms of the Minsk peace deal. That agreement, brokered with the help of France and Germany, calls for a withdrawal of Russian forces from eastern Ukraine, a lasting ceasefire, return of the eastern border to Ukraine's control and unfettered access by international monitors.

However Moscow continues to insist it is not party to the conflict in the Donbas and accuses Kyiv of failing to uphold its part of the deal on making constitutional changes that would give more political power to the occupied regions.

In an effort to get the peace process back on track, German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier is due to visit Ukraine next week with his French counterpart Jean-Marc Ayrault. They are scheduled to discuss the possibility of holding a fresh round of talks with Russia. This comes following a summer which has seen violence flare on several occasions in the war zone and in occupied Crimea. The Pentagon has reported large Russian troop movements near the Ukrainian border, part of maneuvers which many analysts believe Moscow hopes will help it extract concessions at the negotiating table. ■

DREAM JOB?

Your Name Here

COMMUNICATION AMBASSADOR

+38 044 591 33 44
careers.kyivpost.com

FIND IT AT



Kyiv Post

EMPLOYMENT FAIR



SEPTEMBER 24, 10 AM - 4 PM



DEC PLACE | 23B LESI UKRAINKY BLVD.

ORGANIZER

KyivPost

GENERAL PARTNER

ControlPay

EXCLUSIVE HR PARTNER

WORK.ua

CAREER PARTNER

hh.ua
HeadHunter

PARTICIPANTS:

1+1 media
GROUP OF COMPANIES

TCM GROUP
UKRAINE

ProCredit Bank

SPORT LIFE
FITNESS CLUBS ONLINE

JABIL

ControlPay

BEETROOT

KPMG

PORSCHE
GROUP UKRAINE

ФОКСТРОТ

smart

DEC
education



Horizon Capital

LC Waikiki
Everyone deserves to dress well

WIL Торговельно-сервісний центр "Вікстр Плюс"

BRAIN SOURCE
INTERNATIONAL

АІАМАНТБАНК

AIT

L'ORÉAL

HYATT
REGENCY
KIEV

CITRUS.UA

pwc

hexa

Henkel



Western NIS
Enterprise Fund

ЦЕНТР ЗАЙНІСТІ
ВІЛЬНИХ ЛЮДЕЙ

RABOTA PLUS
ТЕРИТОРІЯ РАБОГО УЧАСИ
www.rabotaplus.ua

Roland Berger

The longer the war goes on, the harder it is for journalists

**OKSANA GRYTSENKO
AND ANASTASIA VLASOVA**

GRYTSENKO@KYIVPSOT.COM
VLASOVA@KYIVPOST.COM



NOVOTROITSKE, Ukraine — When Russia was annexing Crimea in March 2014, we started every morning in our hotel in Simferopol by checking the Facebook updates of Ukraine's Defense Ministry spokesman on the peninsula.

The spokesman, Vladislav Seleznev, posted timely and reliable information about the Ukraine military bases in Crimea that were being besieged by the Russians. It helped us decide where we should go on that day to get a good story.

When the Russians started the military conflict in Donbas, Seleznev, who was one of a few Crimean soldiers to stay loyal to Ukraine, was appointed a spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation, as Ukraine's authorities still call the war against Russia's proxy fighters.

We first met Seleznev in the village of Dovhenke at the end of May 2014, on the border of Donetsk and Kharkiv oblasts, in the dusty field in which the Ukrainian military was setting up their headquarters and preparing for the liberation of the Donbas.

We also met there another military press officer, Oleksiy Dmytrashkivsky, a cheerful man fond of movie making.

Thanks to their help, we managed to file stories on the extremely dangerous Ukrainian checkpoint on the suburbs of then separatist-occupied Sloviansk, we traveled to Siversk on the day after its liberation, and got to

talk to President Petro Poroshenko when he first came to visit the Ukrainian troops in Donbas just after being sworn into office.

The cooperation didn't always go smoothly. Sometimes we were denied access to some military sites, but we did see that the press officers really were trying to help us.

Sometimes we argued with them about where the border lies between journalists' obligation to tell truth, and the military need to keep strategic information secret. Still, there was an understanding that we were on the same side and working towards the same goal — to tell the world the truth about Russia's war against Ukraine.

Meanwhile, the war was reaching its toughest period in the summer of 2014, and fighting peaked again in early 2015.

We reported from the outskirts of battle-torn Ilovaisk; from Mariupol, where residents were digging trenches as defenses against Russian tanks; from Pisky, a village regularly shelled from Donetsk airport; and from Debaltseve, from where Ukrainian soldiers were forced to retreat under fire.

The soldiers fighting on the frontlines were usually easy to talk to and didn't mind being photographed. They just let us know what they cannot say or allow to be photographed for security reasons. These restrictions were limited and always reasonable.

But when the fighting started to die down from the summer of 2015, surprisingly, it became harder to report from the war zone.

The number of the press officers grew, and they changed so regularly that we couldn't even remember their names anymore. Simultaneously, the number of requirements for working in the war zone grew.

An ATO press card wasn't enough to interview and photograph soldiers anymore. We couldn't just call a press officer to arrange a visit to a military unit — instead, they introduced a special form that journalists had to fill in a day before the visit.

And starting early July 2016, even a written request wasn't enough anymore.

The ATO press officers started demanding that journalists do the paperwork a week before travelling. They said that "some well-known journalists came up with this idea at a meeting of a journalists club."

It's hard to believe this story, as any journalist working in a war zone knows that war is by nature always unpredictable. When you travel to the frontlines, you never know what you will find there, and whether you will have to go back there on the next day.

In more than two years of working in the war-torn Donbas we learned to be flexible, ready to change our plans within minutes and travel fast whenever we had to. So it is strange for us that the press officers — who are, in fact, part of the military — now

refuse to be flexible at all.

On Sept. 6, for the first time since the war started, we were pressured to delete pictures and video shot in a public place, the Novotroitske crossing point on the government-controlled side of the front line. A border guard claimed our pictures contained secret information.

After an hour of waiting at the checkpoint and getting permission from three different press officers, the head of the crossing point, Volodymyr Demchenko, finally allowed us to walk around and take photos.

The restrictions were usual: no landscapes, general views, and shots of the faces of personnel.

When our work was almost done, Demchenko demanded to see all the images and video footage, explaining that he was worried about us showing the faces of his staff.

As we were going through all the images for the second or third time, Demchenko was coming up with more and more ideas about what should and what should not be in the pictures, and deleting more and more of our footage.

There was no escaping from the procedure, which took place in a small state security trailer with three armed men inside, and Demchenko tugging at the camera strap from time to time.

When we voiced our concerns that Demchenko might delete all of the footage we had taken, he brushed them away, saying that there was

still plenty of time to go and shoot new photos — but this time under his guidance. That, of course, wasn't an option for us.

Apparently, the army wants to take more and more control over what journalists say and show when reporting from the war zone.

The recent scandal with staged battle photographs taken by Dmytro Muravskiy, a former volunteer adviser at the Defense Ministry and a photographer, proved that many people — some of them in public office — don't appreciate the difference between journalism and propaganda. The military press service might prefer showing propaganda instead of the truth.

Muravskiy was removed from his job as a volunteer adviser, but the Facebook posts that show support and admiration of his work written by Oksana Gavriluk, the head of communications and media at the Defense Ministry, are still up.

Access to the war zone and the access to truth must not be a reward or privilege. It mustn't be given only to obedient and benevolent media — as we have seen, the resulting coverage will be more propaganda than news.

Faced with an enemy that lies as a matter of course, the Ukrainian military, and its politicians, should remember that one of their strongest allies is the truth, and that uncovering the truth requires letting responsible, independent journalists do their work as freely as possible. ■

**EASE YOUR MIND!
AFFORDABLE HEALTH
INSURANCE PLANS**



AMC Health Insurance Plans, starting at \$45 per month.*

- Physician and Specialist consultations
- 24-hour Outpatient and emergency treatment
- Radiology and Laboratory services (X-Ray, Ultrasound, Diagnostics)
- Child vaccinations (according to US schedule)
- Home or office doctor visits
- Expert second opinion with US and European Hospitals

*The AMC Health and Wellness Plan is a licensed healthcare delivery plan, paid on an annual basis, designed to provide primary and urgent care health and assistance services. The above price is AMC's basic Outpatient Plan, covering all outpatient services with a plan utilization limit of \$10,000 per person, per year. For more information about this and other health insurance products, please call us at 490.7600 or visit us at www.amcenters.com

**AMERICAN
MEDICAL CENTERS**

Kyiv: +38 (044) 490 76 00
Lviv: +38 (032) 253 70 00
Tbilisi: +99 (532) 250 00 20
www.amcenters.com



A celebration of Pakistan Defense Day in Kyiv

Pakistan's Ambassador to Ukraine Athar Abbas shakes hands with one of the many visitors welcomed in Kyiv to celebrate Pakistan Defense Day on Sept. 6. The date is a public holiday celebrated to commemorate Pakistan's successful defense against India, marked by a cease-fire in the 1965 war. Standing to the right of Abbas is General Mohammad Zafar. The event took place at the Hall of Reception, 22 Hrushevskoho St. Abbas is a two-star general whose military service in Pakistan started in 1976 and ended in 2012. He spent the last four years of his military service as the ministry's top spokesman. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Russia's war creates pain, hardship at Donbas border

Novotroitske from page 1

Ukrainian government-controlled and separatist territories, created by Russia's war against Ukraine, which has taken 10,000 lives. Many bring back goods that are scarce in the areas of the Donbas where the Kremlin's proxy forces have seized control.

Today, the crossing point near Novotroitske in Donetsk Oblast, a town of 7,000 people 700 kilometers southeast of Kyiv, looks and functions like an interstate checkpoint.

To cross it, residents need to obtain a year-long permit – resembling a visa – from the Security Service of Ukraine, commonly known by its SBU Ukrainian acronym. The border guards look for people and cars crossing illegally, customs officers check for smuggled goods and the SBU and police search people for guns, drugs and explosives.

The residents, most of whom cross for family visits and also to get pensions or to buy goods, line up in the baking heat, praying for quick and safe crossing.

"If a car window can't be rolled down, it's a sign that something is being hidden in the car door," said Volodymyr Demchenko, a chief border guard officer, pointing at the blue Lada.

The other unauthorized goods carried in that vehicle included two children's jackets, several pairs of children's boots, several romper suits, a dozen bras and a dozen pairs of women's panties.

"Some of this stuff we wanted to wear ourselves, the rest was for sale," the woman explained.

That last statement was a mistake.

The customs officer searching the car, who would give only his nickname, Khich, said that despite the total value of the goods being only \$577, which is within the allowed limit, the fact that the family was planning to sell the goods made them lawbreakers. They'll have to pay a fine of between \$650 and \$1,300.

It's up to the local court in Volnovakha to decide on the fine for the family. With pleas to "resolve this some way," the woman followed the customs officer to fill in a statement on the customs violation.

Every day up to 5,000 people pass



Border control officers search a car at a crossing point in Novotroitske near Mariupol in Donetsk Oblast on Sept. 6. The guards found 67 pairs of nylon tights, underwear and bras that the car owners tried to smuggle into the Russian-occupied territories to sell. (Anastasia Vlasova)

through the Novotroitske crossing point on foot or by car. In summer there were some 7,000 people every day, Demchenko said.

On both sides of the crossing point, about 100 people stand in line trying to get some shade from a shed set up in summer by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees. There are free water cans marked "Doctors Without Borders." There are also two trucks belonging to the International Committee of the Red Cross standing next to about 10 trucks of the charity foundation of Rinat Akhmetov. Akhmetov, Ukraine's richest person, who still has many businesses working in the separatist-controlled zone, has long been sending humanitarian aid into the occupied territories.

The heat takes its toll on the waiting crowd. After one woman almost faints under the searing sun, border guards bring her to an air-conditioned room and call an ambulance from Novotroitske. There are no doctors or nurses stationed at the checkpoint.

Demchenko says that checks of a person, if they aren't carrying anything illegal, can last just 15 seconds. But the lines of exhausted residents showed that most checks take longer.

Several dozen people were lined up by the SBU's booth at the checkpoint because their electronic permit for crossing had either expired or the computer system failed to identify them.

"I'm pregnant, I was told I can pass through without waiting!" a woman shouted from the crowd.

The nervous atmosphere at the checkpoint contrasts with the bright sunflowers painted on the white walls of the concrete shelters, constructed as a place to shelter from shelling. The border guards said three days previously a mortar hit the road near the crossing point, luckily without causing any casualties.

The words "Ukraine is our love forever" are painted on the wall of the crossing point opposite the separatist-controlled side.

A middle-aged lady wearing a long amber necklace came up to the border guards asking for a phone to call the SBU call center. The line was busy, so she rushed to the tents of the State Emergency Service, saying "they're lifesavers, so I'll ask them to save me!"

The emergency workers, located in two big tents in some 500 meters from the crossing point, were not busy at that point, and were napping

on their camp beds or offering people free water.

The mobile office of the state savings bank Oschadbank, located

in the "grey zone" between the two sides, was much more busy: this is where pensioners from the separatist-controlled areas are able to withdraw their state pensions.

Two elderly women, of 90- and 92-years-of-age, accompanied by a woman in her 50s, were slowly but determinedly walking to the bank office. A relative had driven them from the separatists-controlled Dokuchayevsk, about six kilometers from the crossing point, to the bank office, where they could be issued with pension cards.

Another elderly couple, in tears, came up to the border guards, begging them to find them a computer to use to sign in an electronic form required by the SBU. But there was no computer available for them to use.

Another man asked what paperwork was required to transport a dead body across the border. Demchenko told him a document from a hospital was required.

As the heat of the day reached its peak, tempers were heating up as well. An exasperated Demchenko summed up the situation.

"This border is just absurd." ■

Inter TV, with news coverage that toes Kremlin line, faces protests

Inter from page 8

said Ligacheva, referring to the party of former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's political supporters. "It's quite obvious, as they get the leader of the Opposition Bloc to comment on every event."

According to Detector Media, Inter's daily news program Podrobnosti has been a leading

violation of professional standards among Ukrainian programs.

Yevhen Fedchenko, the head of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Journalism and co-founder of StopFake.org, a website that documents fake news about Ukraine, described the channel as "pro-Russian."

"The news framing on Inter matches the news framing on Russian media," he said.

Since Inter has been seen as pro-Russian for years, it's not clear why the attack took place now, when the channel has lost its leading position among viewers, Fedchenko said.

"The attack seemed quite unnatural to me and looked like a pre-planned act by people who knew very well what they were doing," said Fedchenko. "Ukrainian radicals are more clumsy and amateur." ■

Together with Passion

RHENUS LOGISTICS

RHENUS REVIVAL
your logistics partner in Ukraine and all over the world

<p>INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High and Heavy cargo transportation - International deliveries via road / sea / air / rail - Consolidation of all European cargoes in Frankfurt for CIS countries - FTL/LTL 	<p>WAREHOUSE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cold warehouse 9 000 m² t +4°C and +16°C - Warehouses, class A for storage FMCG goods - Bonded warehouses, class A - Warehouse services: picking, FIFO/FEFO, shrinking, labeling, etc
<p>DOMESTIC DISTRIBUTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Domestic Distribution all over Ukraine to more than 520 consignees, "door to door"; from one box to full truck; 	<p>CUSTOMS BROKERAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All necessary services for import/export/transit procedures provided by Customs Brokerage Department - Consulting in Customs and bonded warehouse procedures

We are working in accordance to Standards ISO 9001:2008, HACCP, OHSAS 18001:2007

Rhenus Revival LLC +38 044 492 74 01 Affiliated branch of Rhenus Revival
18, Promyslova Str. +38 044 459 03 22 Zhitomirskoye Highway, 21 km
08702 Obukhiv +38 044 492 74 10 08114 Stoyanka
e-mail: contact@ua.rhenus.com — web: www.rhenus.com



Fashionistas now wear Ukrainian vyshyvankas

City Life

WITH ANNA YAKUTENKO
YAKUTENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

Modern music festival aims 'to attract hipsters and babushkas'

Modern orchestral music has the reputation of being "difficult," but that hasn't stopped concerts featuring modern works drawing good crowds in the Ukrainian capital.

Now the organizers of the upcoming Kyiv Contemporary Music Days festival hope to build on the success of the inaugural festival they held last year, with a program of events that will include performances of pieces by composers and musicians from 12 countries.

The six concerts will be held in some of Kyiv's major art spaces, such as the Mystetsky Arsenal and the Izolyatsia art centers, from Sept. 9 to Oct. 10. The highlights of the festival are to be a performance by 32-year-old Portuguese composer Jaime Reis, who was a student of the world famous composer Karlheinz Stockhausen, and a concert for violin and orchestra by Hungarian composer György Ligeti, played by the Ukrainian ensemble Armonia Ludus.

Kyiv Contemporary Music Days was founded by a group of volunteers led by Kyiv-based pianist Albert Saprykin. In 2015 Saprykin and three other musicians from the Kroiser Ensemble - all graduates of the University of the Arts in Graz, Austria - decided to give a concert in Kyiv. They asked composers to send them pieces for the ensemble to play. Saprykin received 48 pieces from composers from a range of countries, and invited six of them to attend the ensemble's performances in Kyiv and give lectures about contemporary music.

The resulting festival, held in January 2015, featured 17 concerts and lectures about modern orchestral music that attracted 10 musicians from other countries to perform in various art spaces around Kyiv.

The festival was very successful, Saprykin told the Kyiv Post in an interview on Sept. 7. The concert halls were full of people, and more chairs even had to be put out to seat the larger than expected audiences. Most of the performances were free, except for the final concert in Mystetsky Arsenal.

Some of this year's concerts, in contrast, will cost around Hr 100-200 (still less than \$10) per ticket.

more Festival on page 13



A woman picks a traditional embroidered shirt at the ethnic music festival Krayina Mriy (The Land of Dreams) in Pyrogovo historic park in Kyiv on June 21, 2015. As vyshyvankas become more fashionable, the number of shops offering them grows. (Volodymyr Petrov)

BY ANNA YAKUTENKO
YAKUTENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

The vyshyvanka, Ukraine's traditional embroidered shirt, is not just something for Ukrainian wardrobes anymore: it's a fashion item.

Clothes with designs inspired by traditional Ukrainian patterns are now appearing in collections from top designers and brands like Valentino and H&M. The list of celebrities who have been spotted in vyshyvankas includes U.S. burlesque dancer Dita von Teese, Queen Maxima of the Netherlands,

Australian actress Nicole Kidman, U.S. singer Taylor Swift, U.S. actress Halle Berry, and singer/songwriter and fashion designer Kelly Osbourne, the daughter of British singer Ozzy Osbourne.

And vyshyvankas are not just for the rich and famous, of course, so the Kyiv Post has checked out the best places in Kyiv where anyone can buy their dream vyshyvanka.

Ethnohata

Online shop Ethnohata (Ethnic House) offers a wide range of vyshyvankas with both traditional and

modern embroidery patterns for Hr 190-3,000 (\$8-120) at ethnoxata.com.ua. Customers can choose shirts made from a range of materials, such as satin, batiste, viscose, flax and homespun cloth. Apart from vyshyvankas, Ethnohata sells women's, men's and children's embroidered clothes and accessories (skirts, trousers, and even embroidered socks).

Delivery of an order worth over Hr 800 (\$32) is free in Ukraine. Orders can also be picked up from Ethnohata's office at 1 Elyzaveta Chavdar St., near Osokorky metro station on the left bank of Kyiv.

Delivery to other countries, apart from Russia, is also available.

Ethnodim

Kyiv store Ethnodim offers trendy hand-made vyshyvankas for Hr 820-3,400 (\$33-136). The store stocks a large selection of traditional vyshyvankas, along with modern blouses and shirts decorated with traditional embroidered patterns. Apart from clothes, Ethnodim has a full range of traditionally decorated accessories,

more Vyshyvanka on page 13

Advertising: +380 44 591-7788 advertising@kyivpost.com

Editorial staff: +380 44 591-3344 news@kyivpost.com

Subscriptions: +380 44 591-7788 subscribe@kyivpost.com

CANADIAN CLUB RESTAURANT
FOR CANADIANS AND AMERICANS
-20% OFF
KYIV, 23B LESI UKRAINKI BLVD
RESERVATIONS: (098) 201-25-25

The biggest Ukrainian festival of landscape, plants and flowers
23-25 September
MORE DETAILS:
art-green-fest.com.ua
ARTGREENFEST 2016
ART MALL
37, Zabolotnogo Str. Kyiv

Kyiv to host contemporary music festival, musicians' master-classes

Festival from page 12

The festival is not funded either by the state or by private donors, so all the musicians and composers have volunteered to perform for free. In addition, the art spaces are providing their concert halls free of charge.

Saprykin said that the festival attracts not only people who are avid modern music fans, but people who've never even been to such concerts before.

"After we had the concert in Arsenal, a lot of people came to me and said: 'Thank you for introducing this music to me.' (The audience) was a unique mixture of hipsters and babushkas."

This year, apart from concerts, the festival will include free master classes for Ukrainian and international musicians. Saprykin said almost all of them would be coming to Kyiv for the first time, as they are eager to learn from renowned modern composers of orchestral music.

The students who attend the master classes will subsequently perform their compositions before



An audience listens to modern orchestral music at the Mystetsky Arsenal arts center on Dec. 11, 2015 during the first Kyiv Contemporary Music Days festival. (Courtesy)

audiences at concerts on Sept. 9 and Sept. 10.

"We wanted to introduce modern orchestral music to Kyivans the best way we could," Saprykin said, adding the organizers invited only highly qualified professionals who can perform even the most technically demanding compositions. Saprykin

said that he also plans to hold another music festival in December and that he has invited various international musicians, such as the Ensemble Modern from Frankfurt, Germany, to perform.

"A festival of such a level could be held anywhere in Europe," he said. ■

Guide to Kyiv Contemporary Music Festival:

Sept. 9

Where: Goethe-Institute (12/4 Voloska)

Ten composers from Germany, Greece, Britain, Sweden, China and Ukraine who attended master classes given by Portuguese composer Jaime Reis will present their works, performed by the Kyiv-based Sed Contra Ensemble.

Price: Free

Sept. 10, 7 p.m.

Where: Izolyatsia art space (8 Nabarezhno-Lugova St.)

Composers from Portugal, Germany, the United States and prominent Ukrainian pianist Antony Baryshevsky will present electronic compositions written during five days of master classes. The music is to be composed using computers, and the composers will use mixing consoles to play their works. Portuguese com-

poser Jaime Reis will also play his compositions.

Price: Hr 100

Date to be announced

Where: National Union of Composers of Ukraine

A concert by the Contemporary Music Days founders, Japan-born violinist Junya Makino and pianist Albert Saprykin. The musicians will perform works by composers Beat Furrer, Heinz Holliger, and Olga Neuwirth.

Price: Hr 100

Sept. 22, 8 p.m.

Where: Mystetsky Arsenal (12 Lavrska St.)

Ukrainian ensemble Armonia Ludus together with Junya Makino and Serbia-born clarinetist Darko Horvatic will perform a piece for violin and orchestra by Hungarian composer György Ligeti, who is regarded as one of the most important avant-garde

composers of the latter half of the twentieth century. The composition has never been played in Ukraine, as it is very difficult to perform.

Price: Hr 150-600

Oct. 9, 7 p.m.

Where: Izolyatsia art space (8 Nabarezhno-Lugova St.)

Russian-born violinist and composer Artur Zobnin will perform the works of European modern composers such as Wolfgang Rihm and Georges Aperghis, along with pieces by Ukrainian composers.

Price: Hr 100-200

Oct. 10

Where: Actor's House (7 Yaroslaviv Val St.)

A performance by top Ukrainian pianist Evgeny Gromov, who is famous for playing various pieces by European modern music composers.

Price: Hr 100-250

Embroidered shirts become hot fashion accessories both in Ukraine and abroad

Vyshyvanka from page 12

such as embroidered towels, wallets, and cloth belts that women from central Ukraine used to wear on top of vyshyvankas in centuries past.

Some vyshyvankas can be bought online at etnodim.com.ua, but the store at 58/28 Verhny Val St. in Kyiv's historic Podil district offers even more choices. Orders can be delivered by courier or by mail. Deliveries abroad cost an additional \$10.

Otaman Atelier

Otaman Atelier at 21a Mykhailivska St. has a great variety of exclusive vyshyvanka. Otaman refers to the leaders of the Cossack medieval state, Zaporizhian Sich, or hetmans.

The atelier, founded in 2012 by Ivan Slobodyanyk, offers only custom-made vyshyvankas and traditional clothes for Hr 1,200-6,000 (\$48-240) and more. Customers can choose the material.

Vita Kin

Ukrainian designer Vita Kin gain worldwide popularity due to her original colorful vyshyvankas, inspired by traditional Ukrainian embroidery. Kin's modern vyshyvankas catch the eye with their bright colors and large ornaments. Her list of star clients includes British singer Florence Welch, the vocalist of the band Florence & The Machine, and the editor-at-large of Vogue Japan, Anna Dello Russo.

Kin's Vyshyvankas can be found in stores in the United States, France, Italy, Germany, Monaco, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Denmark, Greece, Portugal, Croatia, Australia as well as in some countries of Asia and Africa. The vyshyvankas can be ordered online at www.net-a-porter.com and

www.matchesfashion.com. Prices start from Hr 25,000 (\$1,000).

Foberini

Foberini, a Ukrainian brand of traditional clothing, offers stylish and bright vyshyvankas along with embroidered dresses. The brand combines traditional folk elements with contemporary design. Prices range from Hr 3,300 (\$132) for an embroidered top, to Hr 15,000 (\$600) for a dress. The shirts also go perfectly with jeans and sneakers.

Foberini's shop is located at 30 Anny Akhmatovoi St., near Poznyaky metro station. Shirts and dresses can also be ordered online at foberini.com, and orders can be delivered by courier or by a delivery service. For more details, call +38098-723-9393.

Julia Magdych

Lviv-born designer Yuliya Magdych makes vyshyvankas using a range of embroidery techniques that she learned from her grandmother. She combines traditional embroidery patterns, each of which has a symbolic meaning, with loose-fitting blouses in bright colors. She usually decorates her clothes with flowers and songbirds.

Prices vary from Hr 8,000 (\$320) to Hr 60,000 (\$2,400). An online exhibition and shop can be found at yuliyamagdych.com. Delivery of orders is free within Ukraine.

Andriyivky Uzviz

Authentic vyshyvankas are also on sale on Andriyivsky Uzviz (Andrew's Descent) in the historic Podil district of Kyiv. There, tourists can find a range of dressmakers offering vyshyvankas with both machine-made and handmade embroidery. Prices start from around Hr 700 (\$28), but vyshyvankas with rarer embroidery patterns start at Hr 1,500 (\$60). ■

Svoi
Restaurant Terrace Karaoke
On the territory of the NSC "Olimpiysky"

Saksahans'koho 1-g. svoiclub.com.ua. +38(098)679-0-679

BEST RESTAURANTS KYIV

Hr 400

• Maps • Symbols
• Pictures • Recommendations

BUY IT ONLINE: WWW.EATINKIEV.COM

The first city restaurant guide in English!

THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL IN KYIV

FULLY AUTHORISED TO TEACH ALL THREE IB PROGRAMMES SINCE 2000

7A, VICTORIA ZABILY STR, KYIV, UKRAINE
044 377 5292, WWW.PSI.KIEV.UA

**WORLD CLASS GRADE 12 RESULTS
PSI SCORES 34 POINTS**

Pechersk School International, Kyiv, students averaged 34 points on the International Baccalaureate Diploma examinations, which is well above the world average of all IB Schools. Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2016 on these very successful results.

Sept. 3-4

(oktoberfest.kiev.ua)

Oktoberfest Kyiv

The annual Oktoberfest beer festival will be held on Sept. 9-11 at the Platforma Art Factory. Visitors will be able to try various types of beer along with German traditional food, and will be entertained by music bands from Ukraine and Germany.

Oktoberfest (beer festival). Sept. 9-11. Platforma Art Factory (1 Bilomorska St.). Hr 70-100



Sept. 18



Traditional food festival

Korosten, a city located 164 kilometers northwest of Kyiv in neighboring Zhytomyr Oblast, will hold an annual food festival

of Ukrainian traditional potato pancakes, known as the deruny. Visitors can try various types of the deruny and learn how to prepare the dish at master classes. One can get to Korosten by bus, train or car (take the E373 highway from Kyiv).

Deruny Festival. Sept. 10. 12 a.m. – 11 p.m. Korosten (Zhytomyr Oblast). Free

GogolFest art festival

Annual GogolFest contemporary art festival gathers Ukrainian and international artists at Platforma Art Factory. Visitors can see the newest performance by Ukrainian band Dakh Daughters, watch the play performed by Vilnius Public Theater, listen to the classical music in the basement of an old factory, enjoy an exhibition of artworks.

GogolFest. Sept. 16 – 25.

Platforma Art Factory (1

Bilomorska St.). Hr 25-80 (Hr

120 for the first day). Tickets for

some performances are sold separately at kasa.in.ua and concert.ua

Sept. 5



Medieval knight tournament

Fans of medieval reconstructions will enjoy a costumed knights' tournament in the Kyivan Rus historical theme park near the town of Kopachiv, south of the capital. Around 300 people from historical reconstruction clubs from Ukraine and abroad will take part in the festival. Participants will compete individually and in groups of five and 16 knights. To get to the park, take a bus from Vydubychi metro station for Hr 30. If traveling by car drive south on the H01 highway.

Medieval battle reconstruction. Sept. 16-18.

Kyivska Rus Park. Hr 190

Sept. 5



Sept. 10



In Extremo (rock show)

German seven-piece band In Extremo are in Kyiv to play their hits, which blend metal rock songs with medieval folk tunes. Apart from songs in German, the band also performs in Occitan, Latin, Spanish, Swedish, French, Norwegian and Icelandic.

In Extremo (rock). Sept. 10. 8 p.m.

Sentrum (11 Shota Rustaveli St.). Hr 550-1,500

Sept. 2-14



French movie night

Connoisseurs of French cinema can look forwards to a night screening of movies on the theme of l'amour,

or "love" in English, at the capital's Kinopanorama cinema. The movies, three comic melodramas and one drama, will be screened in French with Ukrainian subtitles.

French movie night. Sept. 17. 11 p.m. Kinopanorama (19 Shota Rustaveli St.). Hr 200

Compiled by Anna Yakutenko

KyivPost

Ukraine's future is in your hands!

Help the Kyiv Post identify **30 leaders under 30 years of age**.

The winners will be honored at the Nov. 29 Tiger Conference at the Hilton Kyiv Hotel.

The young leaders can come from all walks of life – education, entertainment, business, technology or government. Their achievements and their potential to transform Ukraine for the better are what they must have in common.

Send nominations to news@kyivpost.com with the subject line: **30 under 30**.

NOVEMBER 29, 2016
HILTON KYIV HOTEL



5th
TIGER
CONFERENCE

TENDER



гуманітарна допомога
та громадянський захист

National open tender for procurement of medical equipment, household equipment and medical consumables

Tender Reference N: KOS/PR/16/16052-1/022

Première Urgence Internationale intends to award a purchase contract for:

- Procurement of medical equipment, household equipment and medical consumables.

With financial assistance from European Commission Humanitarian Office – DG ECHO

The tender documentation can be received from PUI Office, 34, apt. 2 Gorkogo/Antonovicha st, 1st floor, Kiev, Ukraine,

+ 380 50 337 40 23
+ 380 63 314 71 81

log.officer@premiere-urgence.com.ua

The tender documentation can be received from 29th August 2016 until 23rd September 2016, during workdays from 09:00 to 17:00 at PUI office. The offers must be submitted on before 23rd September 2016 17:00.

THE BEST WAY

to reach the largest group
of English-speaking
Ukrainians



is to advertise in the
KyivPost
INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST

Call the advertising
department at 591 7788
or e-mail:
advertising@kyivpost.com



Global Communities

is seeking qualified professionals to fill the following long-term positions for the five-year USAID-funded Decentralization Offering Better Results and Efficiency Development Program (DOBRE):

- **CAPACITY BUILDING SPECIALIST**
- **COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER**
- **PROCUREMENT MANAGER**

Open positions are available:
<http://www.kyivpost.com/payment/vacancy/498/>

<http://www.kyivpost.com/payment/vacancy/499/>

Full job descriptions can be found at:
www.globalcommunities.org/careers

Candidates are asked to submit resumes and cover letters in English to:
UkraineHR@globalcommunities.org
indicating the position title in the subject line by **September 20, 2016**.
Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. No telephone inquiries will be accepted.

join.rolandberger.com



B_e

analytical.

Roland Berger is currently looking for Research Specialists for the newly formed research team based in Kyiv.

We offer:

- An international network of researchers
- Challenging tasks and interesting projects
- Training and development programs
- Professional office in the Kyiv center
- Dynamic group of co-workers
- Competitive salary, official hiring

Responsibilities:

- Conduct information research and analysis in English as well as German or French
- Support consultants' project teams worldwide in their analysis and market assessment
- Provide research support for all European Roland Berger Offices
- Prepare short-term project tasks and internal studies
- Research and monitor best sources, databases and research tools
- Conduct interviews

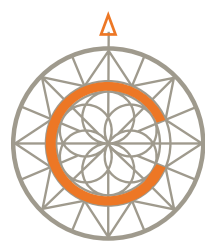
Qualifications:

- Master's degree from the University (preferable Business / Economics) with excellent GPA
- Education or professional experience abroad (English speaking countries, Germany or France) is a plus
- Fluent spoken and written English and German or French
- Outstanding analytical and methodological skills
- Advanced MS Office skills
- Able to work independently and self motivated
- Integrity and ethical approach to work

Skills/Experience:

- Knowledge of / experience with commercial databases is an advantage but not mandatory

To apply please forward your CV and a short cover letter in English stating clearly why you are suitable for the job to
Tatiana.Sheremet@rolandberger.com.



CHEMONICS

Chemonics International seeks candidates for multiple long-term positions on the anticipated USAID-funded Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions (SACCI) Activity. This five-year project will enhance institutional accountability and capability to deter corruption and develop and support a citizen constituency for fighting corruption in Ukraine. Please submit expressions of interest for the following positions:

INSTITUTION BUILDING ADVISOR: Illustrative responsibilities include advising staff in national and regional offices of anticorruption institutions on the institutionalization of systems and administrative processes to ensure their strong and efficient functioning, advise institutions to develop capacity development plans to address gaps. Experience in organizational development is required.

ANTI-CORRUPTION SPECIALIST: Illustrative responsibilities include advising government institutions on integrating transparency plans and anti-corruption best practices and international standards into standard operating procedures, strengthening internal mechanisms to combat corruption, and coordinating public sector, private sector, and CSO stakeholder anti-corruption activities. Experience in anti-corruption activities, corruption prevention and prosecution, and public procurement is required.

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR: Illustrative responsibilities include support to anti-corruption champion institutions' communications with citizens, provide strategic guidance to anticorruption institutions on messaging and external positioning with stakeholders. Prior experience in public relations for government entities required.

MEDIA SPECIALIST: Illustrative responsibilities include improving the media knowledge about anticorruption reforms and strengthening its capacity to cover anti-corruption efforts and corruption issues. Prior experience in media relations required.

Civil Society Engagement Advisor: Illustrative responsibilities include developing strategies to engage civil society organization in anti-corruption monitoring activities, growing and coordinating CSO networks to develop organizational capacity, facilitating civil society engagement with governments to improve transparency, and managing media engagement strategy to effectively promote anti-corruption and public transparency. Proven experience in community engagement, CSO development, and media engagement is required.

ADVOCACY SPECIALIST: Illustrative responsibilities includes supporting civil society to fill its role in monitoring, oversight, and advocacy. Proven experience in public advocacy required.

LEGAL SPECIALIST: Illustrative responsibilities include the development of legislation and regulations to improve the anti-corruption framework. Prior experience in anti-corruption legislation development required.

MONITORING & EVALUATION SPECIALIST: Illustrative responsibilities include managing the implementation of the project's performance monitoring plan, including the collection of data to support indicators and targets, ensuring data quality and integrity, and tracking program data inputs to contribute to program reports. Familiarity with donor-funded monitoring and evaluation systems and frameworks required; prior monitoring and evaluation experience on USAID-funded programs preferred.

OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR: Illustrative responsibilities include overseeing the work of the finance and administration staff, managing human resources issues, and ensuring efficient project operations through communications, logistics, and office maintenance. Proven experience overseeing finance and administration within an international organization; experience working on a USAID project is preferred.

GRANTS AND PROCUREMENT OFFICER: Illustrative responsibilities include managing, administering, and monitoring all grants, subcontracts, and procurements issued by the project in line with USAID rules, regulations, and procedures. Proven experience overseeing the administration and management of grant and subcontract applications, competition, and performance monitoring is required; prior grant management experience on USAID-funded programs preferred.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR TECHNICAL LONG TERM SPECIALISTS:

- Master's degree, or an equivalent combination of education and work experience in an education related field
- Minimum 7-10 years relevant experience in anti-corruption, governance, transparency, or civil society engagement is required.
- Demonstrated ability to work closely and collaboratively with counterparts within government agencies, civil society organizations, and local media is required.
- Strong experience in capacity development, training, and mentoring is required.
- Proficiency in English required; fluency in Ukrainian and/or Russian is required.

Application Instructions: Please submit a cover letter and CV with the position name in the subject line to SACCIrecruit@chemonics.com no later than September 18, 2016.

CLASSIFIEDS

Place your
TEXT
for Hr 132

Place
your
TEXT
for Hr 484

Marriage Agency
We can help you
meet your love.
+38 (067) 408-20-20
Skype: Katrin8505
www.ukraine4date.net

Discover Kyiv with a
smart English-speaking
guide. Russian language
lessons are provided.
Natalia +38 (096) 97 22 908

Place your
TEXT
for Hr 132

Accompanied interpreter and travel
arrangements assistant, home
searches and VIP property rent
specialist, Kiev and Odessa guide.
You can find my experience info on
Anyia Ignatenko Linked-in website.
Email: anyiaizmail@yahoo.com

Place
your
TEXT
for Hr 484

**Subscribe
to Kyiv Post
online.
Only \$60 a year.**

WWW.KYIVPOST.COM

Tennis trainer
itf level1 certificate
Social project
rehabilitation with aid of tennis
fb.com/RehabilitationTennis/
+38 (067) 403 13 56 Vladymyr

COLONNADE



A FAIRFAX COMPANY

ABOUT US:

- International insurer with leading experience in Ukraine
- The company was founded in Ukraine in 1998
- Transparent management and business practices based on international standards
- One of the leaders in corporate insurance

INSURANCE PRODUCTS:

- Commercial property. Contractor's All Risk insurance
- Commercial motor. Private motor
- Liability: Public and Product, Professional indemnity, Directors&Officers insurance
- Personal Accident
- Cargo

FIARFAX:

- Colonnade Insurance is a subsidiary of Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited ("Fairfax"), a Canadian-based insurance and reinsurance group listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol FFH
- Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited ("Fairfax") is a holding company which, through its subsidiaries, is engaged in non-life insurance and reinsurance and investment management. FAIRFAX subsidiaries operate in more than 32 countries

PrJSC "IC "Colonnade Ukraine"
entrance 10, 8, Illinska str.,
Kyiv, 04070, Ukraine.

Tel: 38 (044) 537 53 90
Fax: 38 (044) 537 53 99

Email: info@colonnade.com.ua www.colonnade.com.ua