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Foreigners Who Fight And Die For Ukraine



The body of a Georgian fighter in the pro-Ukrainian Azov Regiment remains on the ground after he was killed in fighting near Donetsk Oblast's Shyrokyne, near the Azov Sea port city of Mariupol, on April 18. The victim, Georgi Djanelidze, is one of many foreign fighters taking part in Russia's war against Ukraine. (Anastasia Vlasova)

Even those killed get no recognition

BY ALLISON QUINN
A.CASEYQUINN@GMAIL.COM

SHYROKYNE, Ukraine – Even as a military spokesman denied that any Ukrainian forces had been killed during a weekend battle in Shyrokyne

on April 19, members of the Azov Regiment were packing up the body of a Georgian fighter killed by Russian-backed snipers.

The body of Georgi Djanelidze, known as Satana, had been mined to kill or maim those who tried to

recover his body. The 41-year-old soldier was shot to death after hoisting a Georgian and Ukrainian flag on territory controlled by the Kremlin's insurgents.

While he gave his life fighting for Ukraine, his death was not → **16**

Russians join Ukrainians to battle Kremlin in Donbas

BY OLEG SUKHOV
REAGANX84@GMAIL.COM

An estimated 100 Russian soldiers are fighting on the Ukrainian side to

defend the nation against the combined Russian-separatist invasion of the eastern Donbas.

Many of them are motivated by their opposition to President Vladimir → **17**

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Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko (L) and United States Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey R. Pyatt (2nd L) speak with U.S. soldiers during the opening ceremony of the Ukrainian-US Exercise Fearless Guardian in Lviv Oblast on April 20. (Mykola Lazarenko)



West steps up training as Russia triggers alarm

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH
RACHKEVYCH@KYIVPOST.COM

NATO member countries are stepping up training exercises with Ukrainian forces as Russia continues bolstering military capabilities in and near Donbas and Crimea at an alarming rate.

American, NATO and Ukrainian officials in the past month reported that in violation of the Minsk truce that Russian President Vladimir Putin publicly supported on Feb. 12, Russia has amassed some 60,000 troops along the Ukrainian border as of March. Russian military personnel also continue to conduct sophisticated training of combined Russian-separatist fighters

inside the eastern Donbas and maintain heavy weapons and advanced air defense systems near the front lines.

"These forces will give Russia its largest presence on the border since October 2014," American Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt tweeted on April 23. "Complexity of training leaves no doubt Russia is involved. This is the highest amount of Russian air defense equipment in eastern Ukraine since August."

Thus, the likelihood of a full-scale Russian attack still remains high. First parliamentary deputy speaker Andriy Parubiy told channel 5 TV on March 28 that combined Russian-separatist forces could strike this spring. An analysis made public on March 30 by

former NATO Supreme Commander Wesley Clark said that Russian forces could spearhead a new offensive "within the next 60 days."

The actions constitute a violation of the Feb. 12 cease-fire that was brokered in Minsk, Belarus, acting U.S. State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said in an April 17 briefing.

According to the cease-fire agreement that two self-proclaimed separatist leaders signed with an envoy from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Russia's ambassador to Ukraine and ex-President Leonid Kuchma, heavy weapons were to be withdrawn from the frontline. A cease-fire was supposed to commence on Feb. 15, and prisoners

of war and civil hostages were to be exchanged.

Instead, "Russia has sent heavy weapons to the front lines in eastern Ukraine in violation of the Minsk agreements... They've command-and-control elements to coordinate military operations...so I think that's a very clear picture of how active Russia is," Harf said.

Skirmishes, firefights and the use of heavy weapons persist almost on a daily basis, according to Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council.

Combined Russian-separatist forces on April 20 fired 120-millimeter mortars 18 times, 122-millimeter mortars twice and used tanks three times against Ukrainian forces on → 16

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Editorials

Funny money

Ukraine and Russia could end up playing starring roles in deciding who will be the next president of the United States. Hillary Clinton, the Democratic Party front-runner and former U.S. secretary of state, first lady and U.S. senator, is getting pilloried for her and husband Bill Clinton's insatiable appetite for foreign cash.

The Republicans are trotting out her longtime ties to Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk as evidence of her unfitness for office.

Pinchuk has given generously – just how generously only he knows – to the Clinton Foundation. In return, he has bought himself a measure of legitimacy, evidently in hopes that Ukrainians will forget how he grew rich under the patronage of his father-in-law, former President Leonid Kuchma, who presided like a mafia boss over a gangster state during his decade of misrule. We will believe that President Petro Poroshenko is serious about fighting corruption when we see Kuchma stand trial on accusations that he ordered the Sept. 16, 2000, murder of journalist Georgiy Gongadze. Kuchma has always denied involvement, but the evidence suggests otherwise.

The author of a forthcoming book called "Clinton Cash" dragged the Clintons and Pinchuk further into the mud by alleging that Pinchuk's EastOne company violated an international trade ban by selling energy equipment to Iran. Pinchuk's spokespeople deny that he did anything of the kind and he, like his father-in-law, deserve the presumption of innocence until proven guilty.

Then The New York Times did their own story on how ex-U.S. President Bill Clinton got paid \$500,000 for a single speech at a time Russia's atomic energy agency, Rosatom, was trying to acquire the Uranium One firm in Canada in the Kremlin's bid to control the global supply of the heavy metal. The newspaper wrote that backers of Bill Clinton owned the mining firm that became Uranium One and eventually sold to Russia.

One sentence in the April 23 report by the The New York Times cuts to the chase: "Shortly after the Russians announced their intention to acquire a majority stake in Uranium One, Mr. Clinton received \$500,000 for a Moscow speech from a Russian investment bank with links to the Kremlin that was promoting Uranium One stock."

Meanwhile, getting less attention worldwide, Ukrainian politicians recently filed their often fishy and funny reports that reveal a great mismatch between their stated incomes and assets.

As Katya Gorchinskaya wrote on April 23 for Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, "the gaps between officials' incomes and their assets are a painful reminder of the deep-rooted corruption and insider deals that continue to plague Ukrainian politics, despite being the main cause of two revolutions."

Two examples cited by Gorchinskaya: ex-President Victor Yanukovich's former presidential chief of staff Serhiy Lyovochkin made more than \$430,000 last year, but the origin of this money is unclear. RFE/RL also wrote that another opposition politician, Ihor Yermeev, made more than \$1 million in dividends, but wouldn't name the companies.

At the least, these disclosures show that big money still infects big politics, usually to the detriment of the public interest. The sordid reality makes a strong argument for public financing of election campaigns and strict bans on private donations. But for that to happen, the "little" people among us will have to band together as never before.

Striking distance

If the West is right, Russians are not only well inside Ukraine with thousands of soldiers and sophisticated military equipment, they are poised to deliver a crushing strike in the eastern Donbas if Vladimir Putin so chooses.

Meanwhile, in western Ukraine, a modest number of American trainers are starting to help Ukrainian troops improve their ability to defend themselves and the nation.

Where this is heading is anybody's guess. We're back to Kremlin watching or, more specifically, Vladimir Putin-watching.

Stephen Sestanovich, a professor at Columbia University and senior fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations, finds reason for optimism in Putin's annual call-in program earlier this month. He thought Putin struck a more conciliatory tone. He wrote: "No one should think Russian pressure on Ukraine is over, nor that Russian lying has ended...But Mr. Putin presents himself as someone more satisfied with the status quo, more ready to discourage new separatist offensives, more inclined to deflate Russia's nationalist hysteria just a little."

But, as Sestanovich writes, the West may find an outwardly more conciliatory Putin harder to combat than an openly hostile one.

Our position stands: Ukraine needs to stay on a perpetual war footing while fighting corruption. The West needs to give aid and military assistance contingent on a genuine uprooting of graft and oligarchic interests that have kept Ukraine impoverished. This is a marathon over values, not a sprint over tactics.



NEWS ITEM: When speaking about Ukraine, Russian officials and media often describe it as a dictatorship and a nation poisoned by nationalism — exactly the words that can be applied to Russia, where the dictatorship of President Vladimir Putin has been going on for 15 years.



NEWS ITEM: Several lawmakers, including Oleh Lyashko and Andriy Lozoviy of the Radical Party, Tetiana Chornovol of People's Front, Semen Semenchenko of Samopomich and independent lawmaker Volodymyr Parasiuk have filed a draft law to nationalize ATB, one of Ukraine's biggest supermarket chains. The media have accused its owner Hennadiy Butkevych of connections to the Russian-backed Donbas separatists, but he denied the accusation.



NEWS ITEM: Less than two weeks after Hillary Clinton announced her candidacy for U.S. president in 2016, a Newsweek story alleged that she overlooked a violation of Iran trade sanctions by Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk, who was the largest individual donor to the Clinton Foundation. Pinchuk's spokespeople denied that his companies violated any international trading ban by selling to Iran.

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Former deputy prime minister turned opposition leader Boris Nemtsov (C) walks together with protesters carrying Ukrainian and Russian flags in Moscow, on March 15, 2014, during a rally against recent Russia's move on Crimea. (AFP)

Leaving Moscow is best choice for this American



GUY ARCHER

I moved from the United States to Moscow 17 years ago, and I've never regretted it. But my relationship with the city – and with Russia – is complex, with many conflicting emotions. I often compare it to a difficult marriage. I've left a couple of times, exhausted and fed up, only to return because I'm miserable without my city. I have lived in Kyiv, very happily, since January. Yet still, only last week, I called my Moscow landlord to see if I could keep my apartment there for one more month.

But Russia is on a miserable and ruinous course. Under its current plundering leadership, it's all too clear that nothing is going to get better in the foreseeable future.

The hysterical, pervasive pitch of anti-everything-that-is-not-Russian has grown so insane and ominous over the last year that many Russian friends are packing and getting their families out of there. The once large Western business community has been severely reduced in Moscow and St. Petersburg. The economy is in shambles, and the political and cultural atmosphere is stifling.

Ukraine is also facing almost insurmountable challenges, and its own prospects are precarious. But there is hope for Ukraine, and its citizens are fighting for a better future. That matters. The mood is different in Ukraine. This makes the contrast with current Russia so stark.

This surely terrifies the regime of Vladimir Putin. And this is why I believe that Ukraine's future success may also be the best hope for Russia as well. Because it will come to this: If Ukraine can develop a strong civil society and accountable, transparent government structures, then people in Russia may begin to ask, "Why can't we?"

Propaganda against Ukraine has been relentless for the last year-and-a-half in Russia. It has simultaneously vilified Ukraine (Stepan Bandera-fascists roaming the streets of Kyiv in packs, murdering Russian speakers and crucifying children, and so on), while paradoxically making it look ridiculous by playing up the buffoonery of Ukraine's ruling elite (with Verkhovna Rada deputies, government officials, and a cast of oligarchs lending very obliging hands). The message is basically that Ukraine is not a real country. And even if it were, it's too much of a basket case to rid itself of its endemic corruption. And even then, it's bent on fascism. Coherence really is not a big issue for them.

The courage of Ukrainians to unify and stand up to Russia's aggression has forced Russian propagandists to ratchet things up to an even more shrill tone. They must account for Kyiv's resolve by saying Ukraine is under the dastardly thumb of the CIA, backed by NATO troops. And many intelligent people really believe this.

Over the last year, there has been no way to escape this relentless barrage of hateful nonsense. Every bar, every restaurant, almost every public space has had televisions broadcasting non-stop images of dead civilians (killed by "junta" soldiers), the tragic fire in Odesa on May 2, 2014, dead journalists, and on and on and on. Television and social media have been flooded by accounts of U.S. and EU iniquity and our apparent obsession with ruining Holy Russia via NATO and our homosexual and immoral ways.

But the most obnoxious of all has been the complete desecration of one of Russia's most important holidays – May 9's Victory Day. Somehow, and I am not entirely sure how, the annexation of Crimea and the fight of the Donbas separatists (mind you, no Russians are fighting there) have been successfully linked to the victory of the Soviet Red Army in World War II. I suppose the most likely connection is that Russia likes thinking that it's once again fighting fascists (this time based in Kyiv); but it really is too batty to spend much time figuring over. It has very worrying implications for Ukraine, however. This May 9 commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Soviet victory, and I suspect that it will be used to the ugliest possible effect.

One day last spring, I saw that the little park that my living room window looks out on was being dug up. Several weeks later, my pleasant view was totally altered. There was a huge, ugly marble plaque dedicating the park to the Red Army victors. The park was resplendent with huge, tacky sculpted flags – the Russian tricolor and the Soviet flags (again, coherence not being a big issue). If it had been a real tribute to the heroism of the Red Army, it would have been a fine thing. But it wasn't. It was just a ridiculous and cheap ploy to keep people stirred up and frothing against Ukraine.

So why do I keep the apartment? Why do I keep some kind of connection to my beloved Moscow? Because a lot of people there aren't crazy at all. Many Russians hate this war against a country with which it is inexorably linked through culture, history, and family ties. Because of the tens of thousands of people who turned out to solemnly protest the murder of Boris Nemtsov carrying both Ukrainian and Russian flags. Because I cannot believe that a great culture and a place I love so dearly could fall for such lousy and idiotic bunkum. Or at least, forever.

Kyiv Post staff writer Guy Archer is former communications director for the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia and co-owned a publishing company in Russia.

VOX populi

WITH OLENA GORDIENKO



How did the 1986 Chernobyl accident affect your life?

Editor's Note: On April 26 Ukraine will commemorate the 28th anniversary of the catastrophe at the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant, an explosion that contaminated large parts of Ukraine and Belarus with radiation. The explosion took place during an experiment to test reactor No. 4's ability to function on its own electricity if the auxiliary electricity supply failed. At least 30 immediate deaths were attributed to the accident, while many other people are believed to have died prematurely – and continue to do so – because of exposure to the radiation. The disaster forced the evacuation of 200,000 people and the creation of a 30-kilometer exclusion zone. During a recent press tour to the exclusion zone, organized by the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, Kyiv Post staff writer Olena Gordienko had a chance to talk to people whose lives were affected by the disaster.



Lenar Sagidulin

Nuclear safety expert who worked at Chernobyl plant when accident happened

"When it happened, I was sleeping in my apartment. But my friend was directly involved in the experiment. He died shortly after accident, at 5 a.m. His wife worked in the hospital and he died on her knees. Nobody said what was happening. Even the intercity communication lines were cut off. We couldn't call to other cities. The central TV channel announced that 'something happened at the station with a minor leakage' and that was not true. My family left immediately and I stayed, because my managers still believed we could somehow cope with the accident and prevent the meltdown of the core and prevent the constant release of radioactivity. But at least we did one thing – we buried our colleague who died."

it's possible to live here. They like it. We provide them with electricity and water. Apart from squatters, some 2,200 people from all over Ukraine work in the zone. They are working in catering, boiler houses, management of radioactive waste, forestry, water management. State agencies are managing the whole process. Costs are paid from the state budget – an annual Hr 209 million for the zone and Hr 750 million for the nuclear plant."



Olha Sventitska

Head of group working with squatters

"We are the budget organization that was created to keep a record of returning people."

We provide services, transportation, telecommunications, even burials, organize visits to the squatters from outside the zone. These are people who came back in 1987, illegally, and just stayed in places where they used live. They didn't like housing they were given outside of the zone, city flats, they couldn't live there. They were used to their wooden houses, and especially older people decided to come back. Houses are very isolated – sometimes you need to walk 15 min to the next inhabited house in the village. Most of the people are retired, their pensions are delivered to their houses monthly. Chernobyl has a shop while a sales van goes around the villages. People don't really follow the advice. They also plant vegetable and potatoes in their gardens."



Oksana Kadun

Chief doctor of Ivankiv Central hospital

"Ivankiv district is close to the exclusion zone and almost entirely contaminated. We take care of 30,000 people of the district and also treat everyone from the exclusion zone, including squatters. If help is needed, we provide it to anyone. But this year authorities included the medical unit of the plant into our jurisdiction and the budget stayed the same. We used to receive Hr 15 million per hospital, now it's only Hr 10 million. We don't have money for medicine at all. People receive only 70 percent of salaries. Many people here have chronic diseases and children are usually very sick – skeletal system, heart diseases, problems that a child's organism is not supposed to suffer. The European Union is conducting rehabilitation programs in Ivankiv, aimed to improve the health of women and children. Europe is helping but our own country has somehow forgotten about us."



Valery Slutsky

Squatter and pensioner, 69

"I came back in 1987 because my ancestors are buried here, this is my homeland. I used to work here as a bus driver, now

my son does the same. My son is 42, his wife works in Bila Tserkva, so he commutes by shifts. And I live here permanently. I am completely healthy. I always say: I used to consume my 150 grams (of vodka) and I still can do it, so everything is alright."



Vitaly Malyuk

Deputy head of center organizational and technical support of the exclusion zone management

"Out of 40,000 people evacuated out of the city, some 2,000 came back the same 1986, mostly the elderly. It was easier before, and then the government started regulating and forbidding. There are now 180 people left, 100 in Chernobyl and 80 in villages. They don't want to leave. The ambience here is quite particular, but



Khalilov Khalil

Engineer working at confinement construction

"There are 11 of us working for an Azerbaijani company. I didn't tell my mother where they were sending me until

the day of departure – she would have been too worried. I have been working here for three years now and I like it. My Azerbaijani company is paying me quite well including subsistence, it's OK to bring home the bacon."



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Some use war, recession as time to beef up credentials

BY ILYA TIMTCHENKO AND OLENA GORDIENKO
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Kyiv master's of business administration programs have had to adjust to the realities of war and they're not all that harsh, as it turns out.

Demand is rising as some employees are taking a break from working at a time of pay cuts and layoffs to enhance their skills, said Iryna Tyhomirova, the president of the International Institute of Management.

A record 100 students are studying for an MBA at Kyiv Mohyla Business School, compared to 70 in 2013. It hopes to boost admissions another 30-40 percent for September.

Those still working are seeking more flexible formats in which they can come after work and have short, practical courses. "They want fast knowledge," Tyhomirova said.

They'll have to get that knowledge at their own expense, as recession-battered businesses no longer have the costs for education perks. For instance, almost all the current MBA students at the Kyiv School of Economics pay for their studies.

"Companies are not able to pay for their employees but people understand the need to invest in themselves," said Yuliya Tychkivska, the school's vice president.

At Edinburgh Business School in

Where to get master's of business administration degrees in Kyiv

School	MBA programs	Language	Target audience	Tuition per program (2014)	Duration
Kyiv School of Economics	General	English	Middle managers	\$7,650 and up	18 months
Kyiv Mohyla Business School	President's, Executive, leadership	English, Ukrainian (mixed)	Business owners, experienced managers	Hr 205,00 - Hr 524,000 + \$6,500	12 - 21 months
International Institute of Management	Public administration, senior executive, general	Ukrainian, English	Top managers and business owners	Hr 264,000 - Hr 348,000	26 months
International Institute of Business	Executive, international, general, government	Russian, Ukrainian	Top managers, business owners	Hr 158,900 - Hr 269,900 + 5900 euro	24 months
Edinburgh Business School Eastern Europe	General	Either English or Russian	Top, Experienced managers	\$25,000-26,000	From 30 months
Sterling Business School	General (online only but working on a future local program)	English	Middle managers	\$20,000	less than 24 months
Interregional Academy of Personnel Management	General	Russian	Experienced managers	Hr 54,000	19 months

Source: Kyiv Post research

Ukraine, no more than 15 percent of students are sponsored by their employers, said Natalia Kryvda, the academic programs director. That's compared to about a third of students getting such support five years ago.

Even with rising applicants, tuitions have remained unchanged in the best case, or rising not more than 15 percent in the worst, in a Kyiv Post survey of six MBA programs.

Before the crisis, tuition at the International Institute of Business was fixed to the euro. The hryvnia's plunge made it out-of-reach for most applicants for 2015 enrollment, even amid higher demand.

"We understood that we couldn't make a profit off of this. In the social context, this would have been wrong," said Yuriy Zelenin, the institute's CEO.

Enrollment in the International

Institute of Business's MBA programs this academic year increased to 87 compared to 63 in 2013.

Edinburgh Business School also didn't raise its MBA costs in Ukraine, even doing so for most of its 28 programs throughout the world. The Kyiv School of Economics fixed its short-term prices in hryvnias. At that, prices for 2016 enrollment are certain to rise, most MBA programs reported.

Another trend is rising female enrollment, accounting for 30 percent of the student body at the International Institute of Business compared to 20 percent in the prior year. The weakening economy has prompted women to pursue higher-paying careers, Zelenin said.

"There is a clear demand for new paradigms, new ways of thinking and adjusting to the new circum- → 10

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Rich property developer sets up scholarship fund for students

BY ILYA TIMTCHENKO
TIMTCHENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

Another magnate is following in the footsteps of billionaire Victor Pinchuk by financing graduate-level education for a new generation of Ukrainians.

Shopping mall developer Garik Korogodsky, 54, has joined the administration of Kyiv's International Institute of Management in launching Generation.UA, a business administration master's degree program with a focus on public administration.

The first class met on April 20 to begin a 26-month curriculum modeled after the Harvard Business School's hybrid master's program. Through Generation.UA, Korogodsky is sponsoring 35 student scholarships worth an average of Hr 260,000.

"I am dealing with government officials and noticed that they are weak in many ques-

Garik Korogodsky



tions," Korogodsky told the Kyiv Post. "From there came the idea to prepare a strong team that would replace the old officials."

The co-owner of one of Kyiv's biggest malls called Dream Town, and the builder of the Globus shopping mall in central Kyiv, Korogodsky is Ukraine's 94th richest man, according to Ukraine's Focus magazine. His net worth is estimated at \$60 million. The businessman is married and has four children, one of whom works in the Ministry of Infrastructure.

Korogodsky's partners, Aleksand Melamud and Oleh Krapivin, whose fortunes are also estimated at \$60 million each, run Vita Veritas, a real estate company.

"We have very high ambitions. We want to prepare the future president, premier and ministers," Korogodsky said during a March 16 Interfax press conference. "There will be no children of famous people. This guarantees us the shift of the approach to governance."

Korogodsky wants to train future public servants who will transform the government system and uproot corruption.

"This is our response to current demands," says Iryna Tyhomyrova, president → 10



Alyona Shkrum, 27, a Batkivshchyna Party member (R) gives out T-shirts showing Ukrainian pilot Nadezhda Savchenko, imprisoned by Russia, during a Vekhovna Rada session on March 2. Shkrum received her law degree from the University of Cambridge. Her education was sponsored by the World Wide Studies program. (Pavlo Podufalov)

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University wants stronger public managers in Ukraine

BY YULIA SOSNOVSKA
JUL.SOSNOVSKA@GMAIL.COM

To fill a gap, Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv is introducing a master's degree program in public management this fall.

The new program is in response to a dearth of qualified state administrators, particularly after many city managers were elected to Ukraine's Parliament in October, said former Economy Minister Pavlo Sheremeta, who will head the new school.

"There is no institution in Ukraine to prepare modern public managers," said Sophia Opatska, the director of the Lviv Business School, which is partnering with Ukrainian Catholic University. She pointed out that there is the state-run Academy of Public Administration in Kyiv, "but it hasn't brought the expected results in its 23 years, despite having huge resources."

The Catholic university applied in mid-April for the school's license with the Education Ministry in hopes to have 25 slots filled by September.

The year-and-a-half program involves independent study and classroom sessions to be taught by five professors from other university departments and guest lecturers. The university's prominent history professor, Yaroslav Hrytsak, will serve as the school's department head.

The school's curriculum consists of up to 10 core courses such as public policy, strategy, finances, human resources and professional ethics. Future civil servants will then choose if they want to specialize in local government, European relations or public policy.

Besides theory, they will take part in role-playing workshops, work with case studies and on different projects, write research papers and serve in internships.

As is common in American universities, according to Opatska, the Lviv Business School will provide organizational and marketing support for the new department, as well as open



Pavlo Sheremeta, the former economy minister, speaks with students during an innovation and entrepreneurship program in Lviv Business School on Sept. 11, 2013. (Bohdan Yemets)

its classes to public administration students.

The school will seek to enroll both experienced state officials who want to improve their skills, as well as university graduates who wish to enter civil service.

Sheremeta said tuition will rival similar programs at Lviv Business School and Kyiv Mohyla Business School for which he also played a key role in launching.

The financial plan is for the school to cover its own costs with tuition as part of its "high-value, low-cost"

approach. Other Ukrainian Catholic University study programs, such as in theology and philosophy, need support beyond student tuition, he said. The new school will be based at the university's Kozelnytska Street campus.

Opatska expects entrepreneurs in the Lviv Business School network to contribute financially, such as in 2014-2015 when they helped with the three-month Good Governance program that served as the building block for the public administration school.

Admissions details will be announced after the school obtains its license,

Sheremeta said, mentioning only that they will be based on a Western model, requiring interviews, essays, resumes and recommendations.

Assisting Sheremeta in organizing the school was Terry Anderson of Troy University in Alabama, who came to Lviv in February to collaborate.

She has experience in the post-Soviet sphere, previously serving the government of former Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili in organizing public administration and public relations.

"The program I developed is pretty similar to my students' program at

Troy University," she said. "The core is almost identical."

Besides the master's degree program, the school will organize programs with local governments. The first began on April 17 with a three-day discussion led by American management guru Adrian Slywotzky.

A six-month course is being financed by the Lviv City Council for 44 of its officials, who will develop projects for implementation, Opatska said.

Kyiv Post staff writer Yulia Sosnovska can be reached at jul.sosnovska@gmail.com.

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MBA program kicks off for mid-level managers

BY OLENA GORDIENKO
GORDIENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

The Kyiv School of Economics on April 15 launched Ukraine's newest masters's of business administration program.

The aim is to provide affordable education to fill the country's shortage of skilled middle managers, particularly those who can speed European integration.

Most current MBA programs are targeted at the executive level with a focus on philosophy, vision and strategy, said Yuliya Tychkivska, the school's vice president.

"This focus is great, but at the same time there are no programs oriented for those who do the actual job, middle management, the 'doers,'" Tychkivska said.

These "doers" will have to confront the challenges arising from Ukraine having to do business under new rules and regulations as part of Ukraine's free trade agreement with the European Union.

"Our experience showed that Ukrainian companies are tragically unprepared for these challenges," she said. "Our mission is to train an army of analytically versed, English-speaking managers that will be able to raise the competitiveness of Ukrainian companies in the global markets."

Among the 16 students, who range in age between 25 and 50, who met for their first class on April 15 was Eugene Cherviachenko, managing director of investment banking at Kyiv-based SP Advisors. He has spent a decade in Ukrainian investment banking, including involvement in two successful initial public offerings.

Nonetheless, he decided to go back to school, partly inspired by his own initiative called Study & Practice aimed at offering practical insight into business for university students.

"The purpose of KSE's program is not just education. It aims to develop a new Ukrainian generation, which is very important for me, as I'm doing the same with students," Cherviachenko said.

Cherviachenko's choice of the mid-manager program was based on extensive research. Kyiv offers about a dozen MBA programs, many of which are in English.



Kyiv School of Economics President George Logush speaks at the Kyiv Post Employment Fair on Sept. 13. His colleagues say he inspired the university's new MBA program. (Anastasia Vlasova)

"It's in English; it's price competitive; it provides a stable platform for communication among students," he said. "It's also new, so you can have a first-mover advantage by not only benefitting from the program, but contributing to it too."

Students study two courses during six week blocks that meet twice a week, followed by exams. Core courses include managerial economics, quantitative methods, accounting and finance and banking. Concentration courses focus on practical skills such as marketing and human resources.

To develop the MBA program, the Kyiv School of Economics invited an international advisory board of academics and business leaders who understand what skills their managers lack, said Sergiy Gvozdiy, a professor and academic director

of management education at the school.

For example, some don't have such basic skills as calculating price elasticity. Making data-based decisions is another key skill demanded by the market, said Tychkivska, who is enrolled and studying alongside managers, lawyers, bankers and startup founders.

"A frequent practice by companies is to train additionally newly employed people," Gvozdiy said. "Their will to adapt and develop outweighs their professional skills and qualities in an employer's hiring decision."

What is valued most nowadays, he said, is a symbiosis of skills and knowledge in diverse areas, such as qualitative and quantitative skills, marketing, accounting and industry-specific knowledge.

To produce capable managers, the

Kyiv School of Economics has modeled its class format, academic requirements, scoring system and textbooks after top business schools.

Classes are taught by Ukraine-based professors with western Ph.Ds and business experts, alumni of top business schools, and visiting professors from such top schools as the London Business School and the MIT Sloan School of Management, said Tychkivska.

Many concentration courses will be taught by practicing executives, such as L'Oreal General Manager Mark Savchuk and EY Managing Director Alexei Kredisov.

Cherviachenko said he's already reaping benefits and seeing ways to improve himself and his Study & Practice program.

"I used to manage very complicated

projects but I need to systematize my knowledge," he said.

Applications for the program are accepted on a rolling basis. A resume, motivation letter and references are required, with interviews taking place during the second stage. It will aim to include Graduate Management Admission Test results in the future, Gvozdiy said.

"We didn't expect English to be such an obstacle for Ukrainians. It turned out to be an even bigger obstacle than money, so we had to reject several applicants," Tychkivska said.

The 18-month MBA program costs \$7,650, cheaper than the \$12,000-\$30,000 for other major MBAs in Ukraine.

Kyiv Post staff writer Olena Gordienko can be reached at gordienko@kyivpost.com.

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MBA enrollment up as candidates look for job edge

→6 stances, taking decisions in the context of uncertainty," said Tymur Demchuk, the manager of executive development programs at Kyiv Mohyla Business School.

Among new courses emerging is Edinburgh's Management in Turbulence Streams and the International Institute for Business is partnering with the British Chartered Institute of Marketing for

recent university graduates pursuing marketing.

Meanwhile, Kyiv Mohyla is training public officials for free.

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Students at the International Institute of Management prepare for their second class of the Generation.UA MBA program on April 22. (Volodymyr Petrov)

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Western education funding programs for Ukrainians

Scholarships	Coverage	Degrees sponsored	Country providing scholarships	Website
Fulbright Scholarship	All tuition costs plus a stipend	Graduate	United States	fulbright.org.ua
WorldWideStudies	Up to 60 percent of all tuition costs or no more than \$50,000 for the whole study period	Graduate	Ukraine	worldwidestudies.org
The Global Undergraduate Exchange Program in Eurasia and Central Asia (IREX)	1 semester exchange program to a US university	Undergraduate	United States	irex.ua
Erasmus Mundus European Mobility with Neighboring Region in the East (EMERGE)	Varies (a minimum of 1,000 euros per month plus logistics and insurance)	Undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate, and academic staff	European Union	emerge.uaic.ro
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)	All tuition fees plus stipend	Undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate	Germany	daad.org.ua
Study in Sweden (36 universities)	Varies	Undergraduate, graduate, post-graduate	Sweden	studyinsweden.se
Chevening Scholarships	Varies	Post-graduate	United Kingdom	chevening.org/ukraine

Source: Kyiv Post research

Several scholarship programs exist for the enterprising Ukrainian student who wants to get an education abroad.

Millionaire Korogodsky to give 35 scholarships worth at least \$365,000

→7 of the educational institute. "We are saying that we need new people in the government's management."

The initiative drew 700 applications. Applicants had to be 24-32 years old, Ukrainian citizens and with at least two years of administrative work experience.

"These will be people who will, on one hand, understand business, and on the other, understand how government works," Tyhomirova says.

A similar program called World Wide Studies was launched by billionaire pipe maker Victor Pinchuk. Now in its sixth year, it has invested more than \$1.8 million since its founding, according to Dennis Kazvan, 39, communications director of the Victor Pinchuk Foundation.

The program provides up to 60 percent of funding, or no more than

\$50,000, for Ukrainians wishing to pursue a master's degree in any of the top 200 global universities with the exception of a master's in business administration. So far, more than 80 Ukrainians have earned the scholarship, with the majority of graduates returning to Ukraine to work.

"One of the main missions was to form a new generation of Ukrainians, the change makers of tomorrow," Kazvan says.

Among World Wide Studies most visible alumni is Oleksiy Ryabchyn, a parliament member and chair of the energy-efficiency subcommittee. He earned his master's in innovation and sustainability for international development at the University of Sussex.

Along with successfully campaigning for parliament, he has authored more

than 50 articles for the Washington Post on Ukraine.

The program also supported Alyona Shkrum, another member of parliament, who studied at the University of Cambridge and University of Paris Pantheon Sorbonne.

Law has been the most popular field of study, though World Wide Studies is now promoting studies in other areas that need development in Ukraine, such as agriculture, ecology, public administration, aerospace engineering and alternative energies.

About 100 grant applications are submitted each year that are then reviewed by a selection committee. In 2014, seven were designated to earn grants.

Kyiv Post staff writer Ilya Timchenko can be reached at timchenko@kyivpost.com.



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Vakarchuk to study at Yale as third Ukrainian fellow

BY YULIANA ROMANYSHYN
ROMANYSHYN@KYIVPOST.COM

Svyatoslav Vakarchuk, the front man for the legendary rock band Okean Elzy, has been named a Yale World Fellow in the U. S. along with 15 others from around the world.

Vakarchuk, 39, became the third Yale World Fellow from Ukraine since the program was launched in 2002. The program is designed for mid-career professional with a significant record of achievements.

According to Uma Ramiah, the director of communications for the program, more than 4,000 applications competed for 16 spots in 2015.

While leading the most successful music band in Ukraine, Vakarchuk has been openly political and patriotic since the 2004 Orange Revolution. He founded a non-profit organization Lyudy Maybutnyogo (People of the Future) and worked as a goodwill ambassador for the United Nations Development Program.

Besides music and politics, Vakarchuk has a degree in theoretical physics. His father, the former Education Minister Ivan Vakarchuk, is a reputed professor of physics.

Vakarchuk visited the Yale campus in March and held a discussion "Physics, Revolution, and Rock & Roll: Reflections on Today's Ukraine."

With Okean Elzy taking a break from music for the fall of 2015, Vakarchuk will spend four months, August to November, at the Ivy League university.

"I decided to rest usefully," Vakarchuk told the Kyiv Post by phone.

When asked how he will use the knowledge he receives in Yale, Vakarchuk said he didn't know enough about the essence of the program to decide that yet.

"We shall see," he said.

Yale, in New Haven, Connecticut, is one of the top-rated universities for American and other politicians, including alumni ex-U.S. President George H. W. Bush, ex-Vice President Richard Cheney, ex-President Bill Clinton and ex-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

Not a lot of Ukrainians have graduated from Yale.

Yale World Fellows takes applications from citizens of other countries who are fluent in English and are in the middle stage of their careers.



Svyatoslav Vakarchuk (L), leader of Okean Elzy rock band, hugs former Soviet-era political prisoner Yevhen Sverstiuk during a ceremony awarding the Vasyl Stus Prize in Kyiv on Jan. 14, 2014. (UNIAN)

Ihor Shevchenko, the first Ukrainian to become a Yale World Fellow in 2006, is the current minister of ecology and natural resources.

Shevchenko, 44, recalled the program as a big help.

"Yale trains global thinking people," he says.

Living expenses are covered by the organizers. Moreover, Shevchenko was receiving a \$6,000 monthly scholarship. Shevchenko said Western education improves a person's outlook and qualifications.

"It's important for a person to spend at least a half of year in a developed country and feel a part of that society," he says.

Andriy Shevchenko, 38, an ex-member of parliament and former TV jour-

nalist, said the Yale World Fellow program influenced him greatly as well.

He received a blue book with a list of 3,000 courses Yale offers to study. Besides intense schedule, it also gave a top-professional network of American elite. Shevchenko visited the discussion led by Tony Blair and Bill Clinton.

Shevchenko found it so valuable that he nominated his friend Vakarchuk, while Vakarchuk has also applied for the program himself. He called Vakarchuk strong in public speech and vital to Ukraine's social and political life.

"Our country will largely benefit from him being there," Shevchenko said.

Kyiv Post staff writer Yuliana Romanyshyn can be reached at romanyshyn@kyivpost.com



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Former member of parliament Andriy Shevchenko speaks during a public discussion of Ukraine's 2015 budget on Dec. 24. (UNIAN)



Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources Ihor Shevchenko speaks about his first 100 days in office on March 12 in Kyiv. (UNIAN)

Executives To Watch

Editor's Note: In 2015, the Kyiv Post will offer more coverage of the leaders who run Ukraine's biggest and best companies. Look for our regular series of features: Executives To Watch, CEOs To Watch and Expats To Watch.

John Deere sees bountiful harvests ahead in Ukraine

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH
RACHKEVYCH@KYIVPOST.COM

Agriculture is sexy, beamed an excited Igor Kutovoy, the country manager of John Deere. His eyes sparkled at the mere prospect that Ukraine – already a leading world grower of sunflowers, wheat and corn – could more than double yearly grain harvests to more than 100 million tons.

"Ukraine will become the Dubai of agriculture," Kutovoy told the Kyiv Post at his office in the Sviatoshyn district, referring to the United Arab Emirates capital's success with oil.

What's certain is that there will be many more mouths to feed. The world's population is expected to reach 9.5 billion people by 2050, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Demand for grains like corn, rice, soybeans and wheat has already climbed by 40 percent since 2000, according to the USDA. To increase harvests and bring the surplus grain to market, however, Ukraine will have to improve rail transport links, expand grain storage capacity and continue upgrading its ports, industry experts said.

Outmoded machinery is also holding back the nation. Approximately 70 percent of agricultural equipment being used in Ukraine is obsolete, according to the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development, which has supported lending programs for farmers to lease or purchase high-quality farming machinery.

This is where John Deere's machines hope to come in. The Moline, Illinois-based global giant racked up \$36 billion in worldwide sales last year, but doesn't publicly break out figures by country.

Machinery is sold through six dealers in geographic regions, the largest one in Dnipropetrovsk. "Deere products are usually the most expensive," he said. And, in economically troubled Ukraine, high costs are naturally an obstacle to more sales.

But Kutovoy said the company's equipment is worth the expense.

John Deere's tractors are "usually on the cutting edge in technology, both in the iron and brain part, the precision, the connectivity of the machines...are

perfected to a level that is unheard of," he said. Once a field's coordinates are entered into a tractor, the John Deere machine will provide better precision on autopilot than if it is run manually, according to Kutovoy. In terms of performance, uptime and cost of operations, "we clearly lead the pack in all these positions," he said.

Leasing made up 25 percent of business last year. The value of John Deere equipment imports usually puts it among the top 20 importers in Ukraine, according to the Donetsk Oblast native. In 2014, the company imported 793 units of agricultural equipment with a customs value of \$87 million, including 305 new tractors, according to Valeriy Berlet, director of Marcom, a Kyiv-based marketing and communications agency.

Given Ukraine's large fields, the manufacturer's 300-horsepower tractor is the most popular item and sells for \$200,000, followed by rotor combines.

"You can't plow a large field with a Belarusian 80-horsepower tractor," he said.

John Deere entered the market in 1996, when the company made its biggest single sale by supplying 1,049 combines to the government at a price of \$187 million. "Ever since then we've had a special relationship with the Ukrainian government," Kutovoy said.

After earning a master's degree in business administration at the INSEAD campus in Fontainebleau, France in 2012, he was recruited to head the John Deere Ukraine branch. Since 2007, he had held executive positions for a Caterpillar distributor and French producer of fertilizers.

Kutovoy said that, above all else, his master's in business administration taught him compassion.

"It's not about your ambition or desire to go to the very top...If you want to succeed, you want to be helpful to as many people as possible without expecting much in return," he said.

When the EuroMaidan Revolution erupted in 2013, the local branch of the ruling Party of Regions had occupied the first floor of the office building housing John Deere. Kutovoy first considered taking a vacation to volunteer, "but I felt I would be exposing the company to a lot." So he started bring-



Igor Kutovoy

Age: 36

Nationality: Ukrainian
Job: Country manager of John Deere

How to succeed in

Ukraine: "Enjoy new challenges. You have to be flexible, to have very thick skin. You have to love this country."

ing supplies to hospitals for "all the wounded, the protesters and police."

When lethal violence broke out in late February 2014, "it was personally moving to me...we took security measures and closed the office for two days."

As a native of Torez, a Donetsk Oblast city that is currently occupied by Russian forces, Kutovoy said it is "difficult to see the country under so much stress right now."

Under the current government, he said life can change for the better if people take more responsibility.

"The Maidan has only kicked things off. The real game is now," Kutovoy stated. "People should start doing what they're paid to do. They should look for not short-term gain, but something that is sustainable. This country has

already amazing agriculture. That's what many people miss."

During his free time, the country manager assists an informal network of Western-educated executives called ReformsUA by offering advice and feedback on agricultural issues "without using company resources."

Kutovoy is intimately familiar with the West, having spent seven years in the U.S.

Top importers of agricultural equipment to Ukraine, 2014

Trademark	Units	Customs value, \$million
John Deere	793	87.1
Case	662	63.9
New Holland	613	61.3
Belarus	2,694	43.5
Claas	380	32.8
Great Plains	445	21.6
Horsch	173	17.4
Kinze	163	13.9
Fendt	72	12.8
Lemken	265	11.2
Challenger	73	9.2
Maschio Gaspardo	528	7.9
Berthoud	85	7.4
Amazone	175	5.9
Gregoire Besson	88	5.5
Other	15,459	93.7

Source: MARCOM marketing and communication agency

Agricultural equipment imports to Ukraine in 2014 declined by 40 percent over the previous year, according to data provided by Kyiv-based Marcom marketing and communications agency.

from 1994-2001, when he received a bachelor's degree in finance from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona. When he returned at the age of 23, he started working as a project manager on a mid-sized farm in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

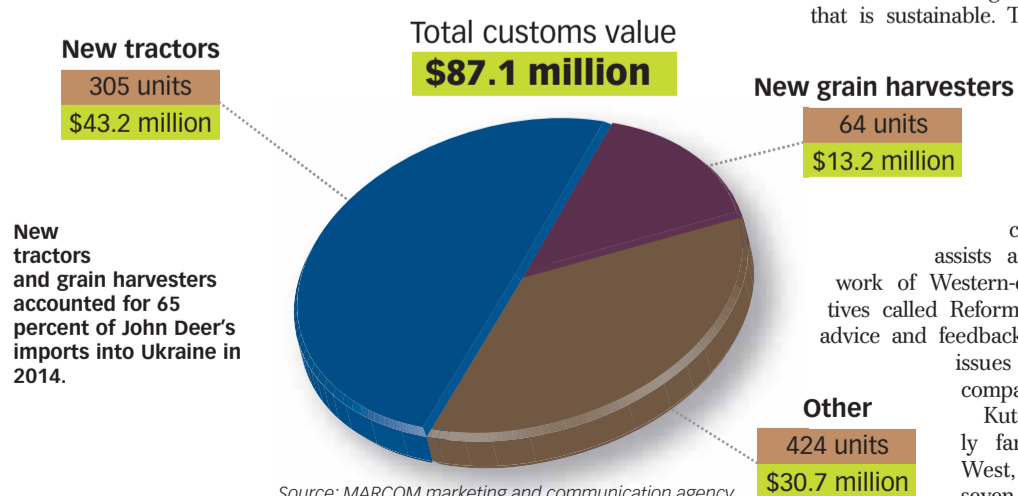
In his personal life, he finds that golfing gives him time to think. He also enjoys traveling, having already visited

30 countries.

But his thoughts invariably return to agriculture and Ukraine. His advise to parents of university-aged children? If they aren't good at computer programming, "have them study agriculture, have them become an agronomist," he said.

Kyiv Post editor Mark Rachkevych can be reached at rachkevych@kyivpost.com.

John Deere agriculture equipment imports, 2014



Women converge in Lviv to close tech sector's gender gap

BY BOZHENA SHEREMETA
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LVIV, Ukraine – Ukraine's tech industry is no exception when it comes to gender gap.

Yet the popularity of the Rails Girls software coding seminar held on April 18 in Lviv proved it's not from a lack of trying to bridge that gap. The global network of non-profit workshops teaches women the Rails code for the Ruby programming language. It was held in Lviv for the first time, and three similar seminars have been organized elsewhere in Ukraine in recent years.

Only 20 participants could attend out of 400 applicants from all over Ukraine, including such major technology hubs as Kyiv and Odesa. Among its five organizers, Oksana Kunikeych, 22, organized the workshop after benefiting from DjangoGirls, another seminar that teaches code, which she attended last fall in Lviv.

"I am a beginner at programming myself," says Kunikeych, who studies applied linguistics at Lviv Polytechnic Institute and works as a copywriter. "I am learning JavaScript coding language now, but my interest in coding was mostly spurred after DjangoGirls workshop. I was so excited that I decided to organize something similar so that other girls would get inspired."



Women learn Rails coding during a Rails Girls workshop on April 18 in DataArt's office in Lviv. (Yuliy Kudlanyk)

Women make up only 25 percent of the tech industry's global workforce, though comprising 57 percent of the overall workforce, according to

WhoIsHostingThis market research. The Finland-based Rails Girls requires organizers to complete an event registration form on its website

and to list sponsors, as their seminars must be free for both participants and mentors.

Although Lviv is known as a hub

for outsourcing firms, companies were reluctant to sponsor. Finally, U.S.-based DataArt, a custom-software development firm, agreed to be general sponsor and provide the venue.

Participants were selected based exclusively on their cover letters and readiness to promote the event within their local communities and among their colleagues and social networks. They needed no experience in coding and there were no age or professional restrictions.

All 10 mentors volunteered after requests were placed on social networks. They were tech professionals with extensive expertise in different programming languages.

"In (information technology), there is such a philosophy as 'giving back to the community,'" Kunikeych says.

Another Lviv event – uniting several coding workshops – is planned for late summer, Kunikeych says.

Rails Girls was first organized in Helsinki in 2010. Now the event network covers more than 50 cities worldwide.

Information about future events can be found on the Rails Girls official website www.railsgirls.com.

Kyiv Post staff writer Bozhena Sheremeta can be reached at sheremeta@kyivpost.com. The Kyiv Post's IT coverage is sponsored by AVentures Capital, Ciklum, FISON and SoftServe.

Ukraine investigates suspected financial corruption in state food and grain corporation

BY OLENA GORDIENKO
GORDIENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

The more that authorities and current company officials dig, the more multi-million-dollar embezzlement schemes they uncover at the state-owned State Food and Grain Corporation.

Founded in August 2010 under Viktor Yanukovich's presidency, such government agencies have since become the focus of criticism by international lenders, business associations and grain traders for widespread graft and stifling competition.

The depth and scope of corruption have only begun to surface since last year and continue to raise eyebrows.

Valery Tomilenko, the acting head of the state-run grain trader, said that the company lost Hr 100 million a month last year through fraudulent scams, according to an April 15 statement on the Agriculture Ministry's website.

Five days later, he told Interfax Ukraine news agency that in one scheme, the state corporation lost \$132 million related to the sale of grain through four offshore companies using money that China gave Ukraine as part of a loan-for-grain deal.

That scheme spanned for most of 2014, he told the Kyiv Post by phone. In the course of another investigation, the Security Service of Ukraine, or SBU, said the government-owned grain

trader caused \$500,000 in damages to the state in a fraudulent grain contract with a Swiss company during the last week of December, just days after Tomilenko's appointment.

The deal was also part of the Chinese loan-for-grain deal that was sealed in 2012. Regarding the SBU's allegations, Tomilenko said he is ready to answer "all law enforcement inquiries should they arise and provide documentary evidence of the legality of the transaction." His predecessors who ran the state corporation in 2014 when the bulk of the scams allegedly took place, Ihor Yakubovych and Petro Vovchuk, couldn't be reached for comment.

Tomilenko Valery Tomilenko, the acting head of the state-run grain trader, said that the company lost Hr 100 million a month last year through fraudulent scams, according to an April 15 statement on the Agriculture Ministry's website.

Yakubovych resigned in March 2014. He's been wanted by authorities since January on charges of embezzling Hr 177 million. He is presumed to have fled to Russia.

Vovchuk resigned in December, two months after the SBU detained him on suspicion of planning to defraud the state of \$15 million over the purchase of a stevedoring company. He was subsequently released and his whereabouts are now unknown.

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Lyudmila Melnik, MD, PhD, Chief of Obstetrics & Gynecology Department

Dr. Lyudmila Melnik graduated from the Kyiv Medical Institute in 1976. She completed her internship program in 1977 and residency program in 1982. Dr. Melnik practiced at the Kyiv Institute of Pediatrics and Gynecology, where she later became the Director of the Women's Reproductive Health Department. Dr. Melnik joined AMC Kyiv in 1996 where she now specializes in preventative care, infertility, family planning, prenatal programs and deliveries.

Marina Sokolova, MD, Staff Gynecologist

Dr. Sokolova graduated from the Odessa Ukraine Medical University, completing her internship at Kyiv's Regional Health Center for Mother and Child where she trained in Obstetrics, Pathology, Gynecology, and Post-natal departments. Dr. Sokolova has extensive experience in Ultrasonographic diagnostics, Gynecology and Endocrinology, and holds an advanced European Certificate in Intensive Care and Resuscitation. Dr. Sokolova is fluent in English, Italian, and her native Russian and Ukrainian languages



Maya Kipiani, MD, Staff Gynecologist

Dr. Kipiani graduated from the Donetsk Medical University and held the position of Chief Gynecologist at the Prenatal Center of Family Planning and Reproductive Health in Donetsk. Dr. Kipiani has more than 15 years of extensive experience in Gynecology and Obstetrics.

Yulia Abakarova, MD, Ultrasound Specialist

Dr. Abakarova graduated from the Lugansk Medical University in 1996 and has over 18 years experience in Radiology and Ultrasound investigations in Internal medicine, Gynecology and Endocrinology. Dr. Julia Abakarova joined AMC in September 2014.



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Will Clinton's Pinchuk ties damage her candidacy?

BY OLENA GONCHAROVA
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It turns out that Russia and Ukraine are likely to be top foreign policy issues in the 2016 U.S. presidential campaign. For Democratic Party candidate and early front-runner Hillary Clinton, connections to Ukraine now under the microscope may not help her win the presidency.

Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk, one of the biggest contributors to the Clinton Foundation, stands accused of violating an international trade ban in place against Iran – accusations that Pinchuk denies and whose statement the Kyiv Post published in full.

Pinchuk owns Interpipe, a manufacturer of steel railways and pipes used in the oil and natural gas sectors.

A story published by Newsweek on April 18 says that Interpipe made a number of shipments to Iran in 2011 and 2012, including one worth \$1.8 million in May 2012, which included railway parts and products commonly used in the oil and gas sectors. The allegations were based on a review of declarations and documents that Newsweek's journalists claim to have got from Ukraine.

However, as part of the global effort to punish Iran and prevent it from



Billionaire Victor Pinchuk, founder and member of the board of the Yalta European Strategy (L) and former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton give a speech at the YES conference in 2013. (YES)

building a nuclear weapon, sales worth more than \$1 million are banned to the Iranian petrochemical industry.

In written comments to the Kyiv Post, Interpipe says the documents published by Newsweek "were not agreed with Interpipe and the company doesn't know why Newsweek believes the information is verified."

The company, however, didn't provide precise information on shipments made to Iran. In a statement published by the company on April 21, Interpipe said it hasn't violated an international trade ban in place against Iran.

The allegation was followed by a recent investigation by The New York Times that says Hillary Clinton, as U.S. secretary of state, approved the Russian acquisition of a uranium company in Canada that controlled one-fifth of America's uranium production capacity after a major donation to the Clinton Foundation. The state department was one of the government agencies that needed to approve the deal because uranium is considered

as strategic asset with implications for national security.

Sourcing Canadian records, the journalists reported that the chairman of Russian-owned Uranium One gave more than \$2 million in donations to the Clinton Foundation. The foundation didn't publicly identify the donors. The journalists, however, are not

sure whether the donations played any role in the approval of the uranium deal.

Experts believe that such cases call into question Clinton's ethics.

Brian Mefford, a Kyiv-based political consultant and Republican Party activist, says the controversy around Hillary Clinton "reinforces the perception that the Clintons have always had double standards in which they say one thing and do the other. However, the

Clintons have weathered many storms and this is likely to be a brief storm in an otherwise sunny career."

Reno Domenico, the head of Democrats Abroad Ukraine in Kyiv, says the report alleging that Clinton donor Pinchuk may have violated U.S. sanctions on Iran, is "not kind of news any candidate would want."

But Domenico said: "It's an allegation that has to be proven. We have to see what comes out of it. And I don't think Hillary Clinton would be responsible for something Pinchuk does."

While of interest to Ukrainians, the Pinchuk allegations may not harm Hillary Clinton's election chances, Mefford says. "Fortunately for Hillary, foreign policy issues rarely are a factor in presidential elections," he says.

However, Mefford said that the contribution made by the Russian-owned company "may potentially be a liability" for Hillary Clinton.

"After all it was Hillary who was the author of the 'reset' policy with Russia which not only failed to achieve its goal, but instead emboldened [Russian President Vladimir] Putin to challenge the West and de facto intervene in Ukraine," Mefford said. "Almost all candidates in the presidential race have taken a tough stance against Putin and in support of Ukraine. The Republican nominee will clearly try to pin the failure of 'reset' on Hillary Clinton to question her judgment."

However, if Clinton wins the elections, Ukraine could probably benefit as Clinton is now calling on the West to boost financial and military assistance to Ukraine.

"I think we need to provide more financial assistance for the government of Ukraine, as it is trying to make the transition from a non-professional, corrupt system to a system that operates according to the global rules," Clinton said in her recent address. "I think we need to provide more help to Ukraine to protect its borders. The United States and NATO are still very reluctant to do it."

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Officials still trying to untangle alleged corruption in Agriculture Ministry under Yanukovich

→13 The state-owned grain corporation has been handling the fulfillment of the 15-year, \$3 billion grain-for-loan deal with China.

The Export-Import Bank of China gave half the money to Ukraine for grain in advance, while the other half has been available as a line of credit for Ukraine to purchase Chinese goods and services for the overhaul of agricultural infrastructure.

Ukraine hasn't used that money yet. The terms of the deal foresee Ukraine supplying 3-5 million tons of grain every calendar year to China, according to Tomilenko.

China received its first shipment of corn on Dec. 6, 2013, according to the state-owned China National Complete

Engineering Corporation, the Chinese counterpart of the deal that works directly with Ukraine's grain corporation. By November 2014, Ukraine hadn't delivered some 550,000 tons of grain for that year prompting a visit by Chinese company officials, according to Tomilenko's interview with Interfax.

Ukraine fulfilled most of the order on time, while the Chinese let Ukraine postpone a shipment of 50,000 tons of corn until September 2015, Tomilenko said. Altogether, Ukraine shipped nearly 1 million tons of corn to China under the deal in 2014, Reuters reported.

So far this year China has contracted Ukraine to supply 600,000 tons of corn, 470,047 tons of which was sent in January, according to a March 17

Reuters report. The State Food and Grain Corporation has 53 affiliate companies and has the capacity to store 3-7.5 million tons of grain, and move 2.5 million tons through two Ukrainian port elevators, according to data provided on its website.

Founded in August 2010, the company lost \$2 billion over the course of the last three fiscal years, Tomilenko said based on available preliminary data.

Authorities have opened more than 60 cases at the behest of the state company to collect mainly on unpaid forwarding contracts by foreign companies, including the filing of lawsuits in international arbitration courts, Tomilenko said.

Critics fear officials trying to sabotage lustration drive

BY ALYONA ZHUK
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A police raid at the home and workplace of a Justice Ministry official who leads the nation's lustration campaign has called into question the Ukrainian government's commitment to cleansing the nation's political life of top officials from the ousted regime of Viktor Yanukovich and Communist Party members.

Tetiana Kozachenko, head of the lustration department of the Justice Ministry, said that police broke into her apartment and searched her ministry office on April 21. They were looking for a letter reportedly signed by Deputy Justice Minister Natalia Sevostianova to spare a top Fiscal Service official from lustration. The letter turned out to be a fake.

Kozachenko said she was the one who discovered the fraudulent letter in the first place, during her inspection of the Fiscal Service staff. There were no searches at the homes of others, including Sevostianova, whose signature is on the forged letter. Police found nothing during the search, according to Kozachenko.

But lawmakers and public activists criticized the search and the authorities, including President Petro Poroshenko, for interfering with the political cleansing process.

Many believed that the search was an attempt to intimidate Kozachenko, who leads the implementation of the lustration law, adopted last fall to rid the country's politics from officials who held top positions under Yanukovich, who is wanted on murder and corruption charges, and Communist Party members.

Kozachenko said that the only rationale for searching her apartment is to intimidate and pressure her.

She hasn't accused anyone by name. But Karl Volokh from the non-governmental Lustration Committee did.

He blamed Vitaliy Sakal, the Interior Ministry's top investigator, for the search. The investigator subsequently



People rally near the Constitutional Court in Kyiv on April 16. They protested against a hearing that challenged the lustration law, designed to cleanse Ukraine of top officials who served under Viktor Yanukovich's administration and in the Communist Party. (UNIAN)

resigned on April 23, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said on his Facebook page. In Volokh's words, the raid is a response to Kozachenko's attempts to fire Sakal and another top Interior Ministry official, Vasyl Paskal.

Both their names feature on a list of the top 50 officials who must be lustrated, according to the group. They held high positions in law enforcement bodies under the regime of Yanukovich, who fled to Russia on Feb. 22, 2014, abandoning his presidency.

"One of them stands behind the search, so it's easy to notice the conflict of interests and abuse of power," Volokh told the Kyiv Post.

He said Ukraine's leaders lack the political will to enforce anti-corruption and lustration laws.

Yegor Sobolev, the head of the Verkhovna Rada's anti-corruption committee and one of the authors of the lustration law, said that all the main state agencies resist lustration, including Poroshenko.

"Lustration is being sabotaged by the state apparatus, led, unfortunately, by the president," he said.

Poroshenko's press secretary wasn't immediately available for a comment.

Ukraine's Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk earlier this month said at a Cabinet hearing that about 2,000

officials of the previous regime have already been lustrated, with nearly 1,500 quitting voluntarily and 427 dismissed. However, it's unclear how many of Yanukovich's cronies remain in government.

An even bigger threat to lustration comes from the Constitutional Court that may repeal the law entirely.

It has been argued that collective dismissals stipulated by the law violate Article 61 of the Ukrainian Constitution, according to which legal responsibility must be individual.

On April 16, the Constitutional Court started hearings on the issue, but postponed the procedures indefinitely.

The hearings are based on three submissions – two were made by the Supreme Court, and one by the group of 47 lawmakers, mostly from the Opposition Bloc parliamentary faction, the successor of Yanukovich's Party of Regions.

One of them, Mykola Skoryk, told Kyiv Post that the lustration, backed by Sobolev, Yatsenyuk and Petrenko, is "a sublimation of revenge and fight against political rivals".

"The current 'lustration' only weakens Ukraine instead of making it stronger," he said, adding that it "squeezes out officials, who were serving their country and had nothing to do with any crimes."

The European Union's advisory body on constitutional law, the Venice Commission, initially criticized the bill for not meeting international standards. In December it toned down its language saying that "the law in its current form contained several serious shortcomings and welcomed the readiness of the Ukrainian authorities to amend the law in line with the Ukrainian Constitution and European standards." In June, the commission will issue a revised opinion on the law.

Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko told reporters after the hearing that the judges agreed to wait until Ukraine's parliament vote on changes to the lustration law. Petrenko said the revised law should eliminate constitutional challenges. Legislation was submitted to parliament on April 21.

Critics also say there is a conflict of interest in the Constitutional Court, since seven of the currently serving judges who are asked to rule on the law are subject to lustration, according to Petrenko.

He also pointed out that some of the judges on the Constitutional Court voted in 2010 for amendments to the Constitution that concentrated powers under Yanukovich and the executive branch.

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Foreigners from other nations ready to die to save Ukraine

→1 even mentioned by Ukrainian officials the next day. Government military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said “no Ukrainian forces” had died in the battle. Asked about the Georgian’s death, Lysenko directed journalists to the Georgian Embassy.

The comments, dismissive of the ultimate sacrifice made by Djanelidze, put a cold distance between the official government line and foreign fighters who don’t have Ukrainian citizenship, required for legally serving in government-commanded units in the military structure.

Foreigner fighting for Ukraine got a break on the evening of April 23 when parliament moved to simplified the procedure for them to obtain citizenship.

Despite denials by Ukraine’s central authorities, evidence mounts on the frontlines that dozens of foreigners are still among the ranks of fighters, without status, yet still killing and spilling their own blood on behalf of Ukraine.

Djanelidze was just one of many foreign citizens to take up arms and risk his life on behalf of the new Ukraine.

Georgi Kalandadze, a general with Georgia’s armed forces, said in comments to Ukrainian media that there are about 100 other Georgian citizens fighting alongside Ukrainian forces.

Artyom Skoropadsky, a spokesman for Right Sector, put the number of foreigners in his group at 40, noting that all of them were hoping to receive Ukrainian citizenship for their sacrifice.

“Most of them are from Belarus and Russia. There are some Europeans as well. They’ve all been placed on a list and are waiting to receive citizenship. We hope the president will recognize the need to give them citizenship for fighting on behalf of Ukraine. Many of them would be killed or thrown in prison if they went back home,” Skoropadsky said.

Mikael Skillt, a Swedish sniper who trains members of the Azov Regiment, came to Ukraine immediately after he saw footage of protesters being shot down on Maidan in February 2014.

Skillt, who served in the Swedish



Ukrainian Gen. Andriy Taran (R) and his Russian counterpart Aleksander Lentsov talk after holding a meeting of members of the Joint Center for Control and Coordination in Donetsk Oblast's Shyrokyne, near the Azov Sea port city of Mariupol, on April 19. (Anastasia Vlasova)

Army and National Guard back home, left behind a girlfriend, a house and a job in Sweden to help volunteer fighters of Azov.

For him, the decision was easy.

“I saw young brave men with no military background trying to stand up for themselves and getting killed for it, and I thought I could help,” he said.

“I was promised citizenship back in August, but it’s Ukraine and things move slowly,” he said, noting that it would be up to President Petro Poroshenko to issue a corresponding decree to grant foreigners citizenship.

“It’s been like that since day one, basically. It’s just a legal issue, because according to Ukrainian law, it’s forbidden to let foreigners fight for Ukraine,” he said. “So they can’t acknowledge foreign fighters, because if they do, if they say, ‘Yeah we have some foreign guys in Azov or any other battalion,

they are saying ‘Yeah we have a law but we don’t give a shit.’”

The Azov Regiment had stopped sending foreigners to the war front, he claims, out of respect for the Minsk II ceasefire agreement reached in February. If fighting intensifies again, however, Skillt said he’d be prepared to fight.

For a Slovakian fighter who goes by the nickname Bull, the motivation was much deeper. Bull joined the Donbas Battalion in August after the massacre of Ilovaisk, in which hundreds of Ukrainian soldiers were slaughtered in a major defeat. He says he realized “there is a huge possibility the conflict will spill into other countries because of Russia using Russian minorities and supporters as proxies.”

He declined to give his real name for fear of repercussions back home in Slovakia.

“I didn’t join just for Ukraine, but also

for my country, because even after 20 years there are still people who would sell out their country if they got the chance,” he said, referring to his compatriots who are sympathetic to Russia.

Bull said joining the battalion was relatively easy, and military training was immediately provided.

“I was never offered any money or citizenship, though it would be nice to have official status. But Ukrainian politics are a bit slow in that area,” he said.

Noting that he’d met dozens of other foreign fighters in eastern Ukraine, he said many of them were dead now, with little publicity given to their deaths because they “tend not to advertise what they are doing for fear of threats to their families back home.”

Editor’s Note: This article has been produced with support from www.mymedia.org, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and implemented by a joint venture between NIRAS and BBC Media Action.

“Europeans don’t brag about it because they see it as their duty,” he said.

An Austrian fighter who requested anonymity for fear of reprisals said numerous foreigners were taking part in battles near Donetsk Airport alongside Right Sector, but most of the foreigners stuck to a separate group. He said three U.S. citizens were due to join in the next few weeks, despite the government’s demands to bring all volunteer battalions under more control.

The Russian side has also seen its fair share of foreign volunteers, with numerous videos going viral on YouTube in which Americans, Chechens, Serbs, Georgians and Spaniards pledged loyalty to separatist forces. Their motivations varied, from defeating “fascism” in Kyiv to protecting Orthodox Christianity.

Allegations of racism and far-right nationalism have abounded about volunteers fighting on both sides of the conflict, and the variety of volunteer battalions and lack of coordination have contributed to what some fighters have described as all-out chaos.

On the road to Shyrokyne in Donetsk Oblast, a commander from the Donbas Battalion who identified himself as Volfovich said he had to use snipers to prohibit entry to all civilian vehicles because “a bunch of different groups are running around (the town) and there is no management whatsoever, it’s chaos.”

Lysenko, the military spokesman, told the Kyiv Post that none of the foreigners taking part in fighting were recognized as official members of the armed forces, but they had the right to go through official channels and join if they wanted.

“Currently, we do not have any foreign citizens fighting in counter-terrorism zones in our structures,” he said when asked about Djanelidze’s death.

Massive Russian military buildup alarms West as trainers work to bolster Ukraine’s defenses

→2 April 22. Pro-Kyiv forces spotted 17 enemy drones the same day and observed a Russian Mi-8 helicopter breach Ukraine’s airspace.

Two days earlier, Russia delivered 40 train carriages with military equipment to Sverdlovsk in Luhansk Oblast, the national security council tweeted. Fifty trucks and 20 infantry fighting vehicles with military personnel had crossed the Russia-Ukraine border the same day.

Kremlin-backed separatists have made it clear that they won’t abide by the cease-fire too. Self-proclaimed Donetsk separatist leader Aleksandr Zakharchenko declared to Vice News this week that “we do not want to be a part of Ukraine...we want to be friends with Russia and that’s what we are doing.”

Acknowledging that his father lives in government-controlled territory, Zakharchenko said that his Russian relatives and friends also fight in Ukraine.

“I have a cousin in Astrakhan (in Russia). I have a friend in Sakhalin (in

Russia). They both came here,” he said. “Even Americans fight for us, one of them we call Texas, he is from there. He is a sniper. We don’t have surface-to-air weapons to shoot down planes.”

Oleksiy Melnyk, co-director of foreign relations and international security programs at Razumkov Center, doesn’t see the conflict subsiding any time soon, as it contradicts the plans of Russia’s top leadership.

“What is certain is that Vladimir Putin cannot allow Kyiv to re-establish its control over the territory of (Luhansk and Donetsk self-proclaimed separatist republics),” Melnyk said. “What is also certain is that neither Zakharchenko nor (Luhansk separatist leader Ihor) Plotnitskiy are interested in further de-escalation. They do understand a direct link between the war and the level of the Russian aid.”

Some 100,000 Russian soldiers are stationed in annexed Crimea, which has become heavily militarized, NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe

Gen. Philip Breedlove said in March. Long-range anti-aircraft and attack missile systems are on the peninsula as well.

Another staging area is Belgorod in Russia, just east of the Ukrainian city of Kharkiv, according to American ambassador Pyatt. Kyiv authorities say there is a training camp located ten kilometers from Ukraine’s border that comprises 50 armored vehicles and 2,000 servicemen.

Ukrainian authorities say that Russia operates at least three military training centers inside Ukraine. Two are in Luhansk Oblast – near the cities of Krasnyi Luch and Oleksandrivsk – and one in Horlivka in Donetsk Oblast.

West trains Ukraine

In addition to providing non-lethal items to Ukraine such as, night vision goggles and sleeping bags, some NATO-member countries are training the Ukrainian military.

Britain was the first to send advisers to Ukraine consisting of 35 instructors to Mykolayiv in the south for two

months in March. This week 290 U.S. paratroopers started training National Guard units in Lviv Oblast as part of long-term program. Officials expect 900 Ukrainian soldiers to be trained during the next six months in civil-military cooperation, civil emergency planning, basic medical care, casualty evacuation and actions as part of small military units.

Canada has committed as many 200 Canadian soldiers to train the military this summer, and Poland said it will host and visit Ukrainian soldiers to train military instructors at an unspecified time.

Russia said the presence of Western military advisers and instructors risked escalating the war.

“Provocateurs in Kyiv and those who support the ‘party of war’ might attempt to cook something up in the hopes of inflaming world public opinion, resulting in weapons flowing into Ukraine. We must keep a close eye on this,” Lavrov said, according to a

translated TV interview provided by the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Operation Atlantic Resolve

Partially in response to Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and the specter of war spreading further into Europe, NATO started military drills and joint-training programs with alliance and non-alliance countries. It is strengthening defenses on its eastern flank with a force of 5,000 troops and command centers in Bulgaria, Poland and Romania. Training exercises have been held in Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia and Germany as well.

Non-NATO Norway held Joint Viking exercises in March just as Russia was conducting massive drills near the border area. Sweden, also not part of the military alliance, in March put some 150 troops on the strategic Baltic Sea island of Gotland in response to Russian saber-rattling in the region.

Kyiv Post editor-at-large Mark Rachkevych can be reached at rachkevych@kyivpost.com.

Russians who despise Putin eagerly pick up guns in fight

→ 1 Putin's dictatorship, with the war in Ukraine providing them with the most direct and dramatic battlefield to oppose the Kremlin.

Many of the fighters are Russian nationalists who believe in close affinity between the Russian and Ukrainian nations and who think that Putin is a lethal threat to both entities.

Their existence also discredits incessant Kremlin propaganda that Russian speakers are being persecuted in Ukraine.

Two of the most prominent Ukrainian nationalist groups, the Dnipropetrovsk-based Right Sector and the Kharkiv-based Patriot of Ukraine – the core of the Azov Regiment – are mostly Russian-speaking. The units include many ethnic Russians, both Ukrainian-born and Russian-born, testimony to the centuries of interlocking blood ties between Russians and Ukrainians.

One of the Right Sector's Russian fighters, Ilya Bogdanov, hails from Russia's Pacific coast city of Vladivostok and has been involved in the nationalist movement since he was 14. He told the Kyiv Post that he had been friends with Primorye Partisans, Russian nationalist guerrillas who killed police officers in 2010 for serving the Kremlin regime. From 2005-2014, Bogdanov worked as an officer in Russia's Federal Security Service, or FSB, the successor agency to the Soviet KGB. He was deployed to fight Islamist insurgents in Dagestan in 2010.

He said that, before getting fired by the FSB, he sympathized with Ukraine's 2013-2014 EuroMaidan Revolution because he hoped that a similar uprising would take place in Russia. "I felt like the unhappiest person in the world because the revolution that we had dreamed of passed us by," he said.

He took action by joining Ukrainian voluntary fighting battalions on the frontlines in August. He became one of the most famous "cyborgs" – a popular term for Ukrainian soldiers who heroically defended Donetsk Airport before it was destroyed and overrun by Kremlin-backed forces in January.

Another Russian fighter, whose nom-de-guerre is Varyag (Varangian), is training in Kyiv before going to the war front. He fears retribution if he is publicly identified by name.

Varyag used to run a nationalist group in Russia's Sakhalin Oblast and served in the country's navy. He says that he fled Russia in November after



Azov Regiment fighters, including Russians, struggle to lift a backpack weighing 70 kilograms filled with sand during a physical endurance exam in Kyiv on April 18. (Volodymyr Petrov)

authorities opened a criminal case against him for reposting a video that authorities claimed had incited ethnic hatred.

Pomor, a nationalist from Murmansk Oblast, is also training to fight in the war. Like Varyag, he would not disclose his name for fear of reprisals.

Pomor left Russia in September after authorities started a criminal investigation against him for inciting hatred towards United Russia, the country's ruling party.

"We fought against stupidity and meanness," Pomor said. "There we fought against the mean part of the nation politically, and here we can fight them physically – with weapons in our hands."

For him, the war is more of a civilizational and political conflict than an ethnic one.

"This is not a Russian-Ukrainian war," Pomor said. "This is a war

between *vatniks* (a common term for Russian imperialists) and non-*vatniks*, Putin and anti-Putin."

But Varyag admitted he likes war. "I've always felt an urge to fight," he said. "But I was not able to go to Chechnya or Kosovo."

He also said he wants to "clean up the mess" caused by Russia's aggression.

"I've been fighting against Putin's anti-Russian regime since I came of age," Bogdanov said. "It's a fake. It's pseudo-totalitarian and pseudo-fascist, and fascists there are not real. Everything is unreal there."

He also said that he was inspired by the "atmosphere of freedom" in Ukraine and saw his conflict with Russian imperialists as one between progress and barbarianism.

"When we're fighting a war of symbols, others are developing technologies worldwide," Bogdanov said. "I support all people who want to move ahead and develop. And I have little in common with those who want to degenerate and think in the categories of the previous century."

Pomor voiced similar ideas: "We are not xenophobes or chauvinists... A Soviet chauvinist blames someone else – he wakes up at home and there's a lot of rubbish and empty bottles everywhere, and America is to blame. A proper nationalist admits his nation's mistakes and tries to correct them."

Bogdanov said all of his nationalist friends initially supported the EuroMaidan Revolution. But after Russia's annexation of Crimea in March 2014, most of them became imperialists and went to fight on the side of the separatists. Only a minority supported Ukraine.

The FSB initially coordinated a campaign to send mercenaries to Crimea,

he said.

"A friend came up to me and said 'Let's go to Crimea. We can shoot Tatars there,'" Bogdanov added. "Everyone went (to fight). It was impossible to be left aside."

Six of Bogdanov's acquaintances are fighting for the combined Russian-separatist forces in Luhansk Oblast. When he was based at Donetsk Airport's measurement tower, some of Bogdanov's former friends came there specifically to target him.

"Putin cleverly used the Black Hundred imperial archetypes (a reference to the xenophobic Black Hundreds in the Russian Empire)," Bogdanov said. "Every Russian is indoctrinated starting from the cradle with the ideas of Moscow as the third Rome and war against the whole world."

Bogdanov said that he used to be a supporter of Black Hundreds and a skinhead but now he defines his views as "moderately conservative" and is against any totalitarian regime.

It is easier for Russian nationalists to fight for Kremlin-backed separatists because they get paid well, have no problems crossing the border and don't lose their citizenship, he said.

Bogdanov mentioned a surreal situation when some Russian nationalists went through territory controlled by separatists in Donetsk Oblast to fight for the Right Sector. They ended up enrolling in separatist forces because they didn't let them cross the frontline.

One of the separatists Bogdanov knows well is his former best friend, a guy named Fyodor.

"My last contact with Fedya was in November, when he said he had peed on an Aidar Battalion soldier's corpse," he says. "His main argument against Ukraine is that 'you are ruled by Jews.'" Bogdanov said there are about 50

Russians in the Right Sector's military unit and the same number at the Azov Regiment.

But Artyom Skoropadsky, the Right Sector's spokesman and also a Russian citizen, said that there are about 50 fighters from Russia and Belarus in the unit. Like all other applicants, the Russian fighters have been checked by Right Sector's security unit, he added.

One of the Right Sector's Russian fighters, Samurai, is a former officer of the Special Rapid Response Unit, a part of Russia's Interior Ministry.

There has been talk of creating a separate "Russian corps" at Azov. So far the Russian fighters have created an informal group called the Misanthropic Division. There has also been a failed attempt to create the Sever Battalion in Chernihiv Oblast with a Russian company as part of it.

There is also Yulia Talopa, a 19-year-old Russian-born sniper in the Aidar Battalion and some Russian fighters in the Donbas Battalion, Varyag and Pomor say.

If they go back to their homeland, Ukraine's Russian fighters face criminal cases for being mercenaries and for extremism.

Yet the fighters are also having problems legalizing their presence in Ukraine. Bogdanov got Ukrainian citizenship earlier this year, but most of his fellow Russians have received neither citizenship nor refugee status.

Ukrainian law bans combatants from being officially registered as refugees.

Skoropadsky said, however, that the Right Sector would apply to the Presidential Administration to get Ukrainian citizenship for its Russian soldiers. The Verkhovna Rada on April 23 approved the first reading of a bill making it easier for foreign fighters to get citizenship.



Right Sector fighter Ilya Bogdanov (right), a Russian and former Federal Security Service officer, with his comrade in arms. (Ilya Bogdanov/facebook)

Ukrainian forces in Pisky want OSCE to stay put

BY ALLISON QUINN
A.CASEYQUINN@GMAIL.COM

PISKY, Ukraine – As the sound of shelling punctuates every sentence he utters, Semyon Sanolenko, a Ukrainian soldier from the Dnipro Battalion serving in Pisky, asks, “Can you hear the ceasefire in action?”

Sanolenko has spent six weeks on the frontline in the besieged town near what used to be the Donetsk Airport, but which remains a hotspot in the war.

Skirmishes continue each day between combined Russian-separatist forces despite the much lauded ceasefire achieved in mid-February.

“There’s your ceasefire,” he says, as an explosion rings out 100 meters away.

The fighting hasn’t ended in Pisky, about 1.5 kilometers from the obliterated Donetsk Airport, becoming yet another black hole in the year-long conflict, a Ukrainian stronghold against the advancement of insurgents who have already vowed to take control of all of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

The relentless fighting in Pisky has prompted Ukrainian officials and international monitors to suggest setting up an observation post in the area to record cease-fire violations, though it is unclear how soon such a post would be set up.

Troops on the ground said it was much too late to be thinking about simply recording further ceasefire violations, lamenting the fact that both Ukrainian and U.S. officials were tip-toeing around one rather inconvenient fact – that the ceasefire never took hold and peaceful means of resolving the conflict have become irrelevant.

“We can’t negotiate with terrorists,” Sanolenko said. “More pressure needs to be put on the insurgents to stop. Diplomatic means simply aren’t effective with terrorists. You can’t negotiate with apes running around with automatic weapons.”

Salim, a Crimean Tatar fighting with the Dnipro Battalion, scoffed when hearing the word truce.

“We had one wounded here today



Several hotspots have emerged along the 450-kilometer (280-mile) front line where combined Russian-separatist forces have concentrated their attacks: Shyrokyne, Opytne, Avdiivka, Pisky and the outskirts of Horlivka, all in Donetsk Oblast; and Shchastia in Luhansk Oblast. More than 6,100 people have been killed since mid-April 2014 when armed fighting started, according to the United Nations’ conservative estimates, and more than 2 million have been uprooted from their homes, 1.6 million of whom internally resulting in a humanitarian crisis. (National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine)

and four yesterday. It never stops,” he said. “It’s easy for people in Kyiv to not see the war, to look the other way. But here we are.”

Another fighter who goes by the nom de guerre Cherniy described

utter chaos in the neighboring Russian-separatist controlled territory

“There are other armed groups there who live by their own laws, and the representatives of the separatist republics have no influence over them. They answer to no one, only to someone who is interested in prolonging the conflict. The so-called government of rebel-controlled Donetsk is in no condition to deal with these groups. They just can’t,” he said.

Two days earlier, a Ukrainian commander in Shyrokyne, who goes by the name of Sobol, issued a similar warning, saying the positions of both the insurgents and Ukrainian forces had been coming under attack by an unidentified group seeking to stir up the conflict.

Cherniy said it was likely Russians who didn’t want to stop fighting who were responsible for these attacks.

“We see how they fight among themselves, these groups. You can hear these gun battles on their territory, and it becomes clear that they are battling each other. On one side you have the Vostok Battalion, on the other, Motorola (of Spartak Battalion) and his group, and they are shooting at each other, fighting for control over parts of the territory, for strategic locations or the areas that are more profitable for them.”

When asked whether an increased presence by international monitors from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, – there are 444 currently in-country – might calm things down, Cherniy laughed.

“The OSCE has never helped us. Sure, when they come, the attacks stop. They record the fact that everything is calm. Then they leave and it all starts up again. I have a proposal for them: How about they stop living in hotels and spend a few days in Pisky? We can set up a little makeshift camp for them in the center of town, we’ll fit it out with heating and water. Live here and see what life is like.”

Michael Bociurkuw, a spokesman for the OSCE’s Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, said there were plans to set up an observation post in Pisky but no deadline had been set yet.

“We do conduct patrols in Pisky and frequently report on what is happening there,” he said.

As for Cherniy’s invitation to spend the night in Pisky, Bociurkuw said it wasn’t that simple.

“Our monitors did spend a night in Shyrokyne, and we are focusing on that to see if it can be replicated elsewhere. But that is a pilot project, there are safety precautions and a lot of logistics involved, and we have to consider that,” Bociurkuw said.



A Ukrainian soldier pets a dog near a bridge in government-held Pisky village in Donetsk Oblast on April 23. (Anastasia Vlasova)



Super-intense workout will melt away extra kilograms



Maksym Yaroshenko, founder of Ryvok fitness club, leads the intense fitness class in one of Ryvok's two gyms in Kyiv on April 20. (Volodymyr Petrov)

BY YULIANA ROMANYSHYN
ROMANYSHYN@KYIVPOST.COM

One popular option for getting into shape for summer is through months of exercising and dieting. But for the truly impatient, even this healthy approach takes too long.

Instead, they are now joining one of the latest sports trend – ultra-intense fitness classes that push the limits of human endurance. But this intensity

pays off with quick results, participants say.

One club that offers this kind of program in Kyiv is Ryvok, which has been operating since 2013. Its members gather six times a week for extreme one-hour workouts. The program does not involve weight training, but instead, concentrates on daily cardiovascular exercises. Sundays are the one day off from the routine, but not from the balanced diet recommended for

participants.

Ryvok promises new bodies for those who can withstand the grueling two-month regime.

“One of our clients has lost 24 kilograms in two months,” says Maksym Yaroshenko, who founded Ryvok, basing it on a Canadian concept.

Thus far, 2,000 people have completed the two-month program at Ryvok. According to Yaroshenko, only one percent of members drop out early

in the program – possibly because the bulk of the two-month membership fee (Hr 4,000) is paid up front.

The club's alumni are advised to visit the class a couple of times a week in order to preserve and maintain their hard-earned results.

Ryvok's chief competitor is Sekta, an international fitness initiative based on a similar exercise concept that was first launched in Saint Petersburg in 2013, with one club in Kyiv. →20



Getting a taste of authentic Crimean Tatar chebureks

Sofra, the Crimean Tatar take-out located next to the Zhytniy Rynok indoor market in Podil, has become a popular destination over the last few months. It sells chebureks and yantykhs, traditional deep-fried turnovers filled with ground meat, onions and spices. Lines here can last up to an hour at midday.

It is not just the food that attracts the crowd, but the story behind the venue. It was opened in November 2014 by a Crimean Tatar family that fled Crimea after Russia invaded and annexed Ukraine's Black Sea peninsula.

The owner of Sofra - the name meaning “dining room” in the Tatar language - Eskender Budzhurov says his recipe for success is very simple.

“We put our soul into cooking,” he says.

A year ago his life was quite different in Simferopol, Crimea's capital where Budzhurov owned a guesthouse.

His Crimean Tatar family moved to Crimea from Uzbekistan in 1989, when Crimean Tatars were again allowed to live on their native land after Soviet authorities ordered the Tatars to leave the peninsula in 1944.

“I had always wanted to live on my native land,” says Budzhurov, 55, who was born in Uzbekistan.

His dream came true, but 25 years later he had to flee Crimea again. The Budzhurovs were among some 10,000 Crimean Tatars who decided to leave Crimea to avoid repressions by the new Russian authorities that are believed to be hostile to the Tatars.

The family experienced the hostility firsthand when a neighbor threatened Budzhurov's elder son with a gun for his pro-Ukrainian views.

In early November 2014 Budzhurov and his two sons moved to Kyiv. By the end of the month they opened a takeout of authentic Crimean Tatar pastry where they now work 10 hours a day in shifts.

Budzhurov said he would move back to Crimea once it is returned to Ukraine. For now, Sofra is the only place that reminds him of home. So does the smell of chebureks, the greasy turnovers that are sold at every corner in Crimea.

Sofra's chebureks come with mutton (Hr 18) and cheese (Hr 15). They turned out to be different from the classic cheburek found in Crimea's takeouts. Crimea's →20

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Crimea's takeouts. Crimea's →20

Group archives Soviet-era wall mosaics

BY YULIYA SOSNOVSKA
JUL.SOSNOVSKA@GMAIL.COM

Nearly 25 years after the breakup of the Soviet Union, Soviet-era monumental mosaics still draw attention along Kyiv's streets. But too often they are simply overlooked or ignored.

One art group plans to change this reality. The Izolyatsia art center is now exhaustively collecting photographs of Soviet wall mosaics throughout Ukraine for its online archive at www.ukrainianmosaic.org.

Soviet monumental art peaked in the 1960s, when building exteriors were adorned by elaborate mosaics that were meant to inspire citizens and glorify the country's achievements.

Izolyatsia (Isolation) operated in Donetsk, but had to relocate to Kyiv in 2014 after the Russia-backed separatists took over the city.

Photos from Kyiv, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Mariupol, Poltava and several smaller cities are already on the website. The group running the project is working to create a complete and definitive digital archive of the mosaic works. They then hope to have the mosaics registered as cultural monuments in order to preserve them.

The project began when an employ-

ee at Izolyatsia, Liubava Ilenko, started taking pictures of Donetsk mosaics in February 2014. Within four months she had put together a collection of photos for the entire oblast.

"It's incredible that she managed to do it right before the war started," says Yevheniya Moliar, the curator of the project.

Now the whole crew of Izolyatsia is involved in photographing mosaics throughout the country. There are no known comprehensive studies dedicated to cataloguing the Soviet-era mosaics thoroughly, so the team has been scouring Soviet-era architectural books in order to find out about the mosaics and their artists.

Mosaic artwork was popularly used in the Soviet Union from the time of Josef Stalin. When the general architectural building style became more minimalist in the 1960s and onwards, mosaics became particularly useful in decorating otherwise bland buildings and other structures. And they were also quite handy for carrying a message or a bit of propaganda and jingoism. A common mosaic often pictured a worker or an athlete surrounded by Soviet symbols. Mosaics of Young Pioneers frequently appeared on the



A wall mosaic showing Soviet symbols is seen on the wall of the apartment building on Peremohy Avenue in Kyiv. (Volodymyr Petrov)

walls of schools, with students portrayed holding books. But frequently, the artwork and craftsmanship itself was highly skilled and intricate.

When Izolyatsia members now take pictures of these mosaics, passers-by are surprised that they lived near these

pieces of art for decades without ever really noticing them.

"Interaction is a very important part of the project," Moliar says. "It helps people identify mosaics as pieces of art and causes changes in their attitudes towards them." When people start

recognizing the mosaics as important artworks, he hopes, they will also not let them be destroyed.

Kyiv photographer Maksim Belousov agrees that the wall mosaics are at risk of disappearing because building owners often tear them down or cover them with signboards and advertising.

One endangered work is a mosaic by Ada Rybachuk and Volodymyr Melnychenko on Central Bus Station in Kyiv. The building supporting it is expected to be torn down.

Another goal of the project is to change peoples' attitudes toward Soviet art.

"We are witnesses of the de-sovietization of cultural and social life," Moliar says. "We want to show that the monumental art of the Soviet period is a unique art phenomenon of the 20th century, an area where traditions and innovations were combined."

The Izolyatsia art center invites everyone to participate in the project by sending in photos of local mosaics and their respective addresses to info@izolyatsia.org. They will be added to the archive after verification.

Kyiv Post staff writer Yulia Sosnovska can be reached at jul.sosnovska@gmail.com.



Asan Budzhurov (R) cooks chebureks and yantkyhs, traditional Tatar meals made with dough filled with ground meat, onions and spices, at his father's takeout Sofra in Kyiv on April 21. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Food Critic: Refugees sell real Crimean Tatar takeout pastry

→ **19** pastry is usually extremely greasy, with fat dripping off it, while Sofra's pastry is much drier.

"Chebureks are one of my favorite meals and my friends recommended me this place," Ivan Hrynyshyn told the Kyiv Post while visiting Sofra on April 21.

He came from Boyarka, the suburb, to buy some meat and cheese chebureks, and found them tasty and inexpensive.

The owner says people like his dishes because they are made according to an old family recipe. He learned how to cook traditional food from his grandmother as a child but hardly ever used this knowledge before moving to Kyiv.

"During the first days (when Sofra opened) we all lacked skills, it was

taking us too long to make one piece," he recalls.

But in a couple of weeks they learned to be faster. Now the three men produce more than 150 chebureks and nearly 100 yantkyhs a day. The café also offers tea (Hr 4), coffee (Hr 5) and ayran (Hr 7). Every month, the owner donates some Hr 2,000 of the profit to Ukraine's army.

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

Sofra

16 Verkhniy Val St.
Open daily 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.
Hr 15 for a cheburek or a yantkykh with cheese or Hr 18 for the ones with mutton.

Super-intense workout promises to burn off those pounds in time for swimsuit season

→ **19** Kyivan Julia Shcherba spent more than a year as a member of Sekta. She joined to improve her posture and to develop six-pack abs, all of which

she accomplished.

She was first shocked by the intensity of the training. But classes are accompanied by online support groups

through which participants share their results and cheer each other on. This component seems to be almost as important as the exercise itself.

"Sekta teaches you to love your body and supports you psychologically," Shcherba says. She also faithfully followed Sekta's prescribed diet – slow-burning carbs in the morning and protein and fiber in the evening.

Shcherba also tried Ryvok, and found it more intense than Sekta. She eventually chose Sekta because of the online support groups.

At Sekta, members pay Hr 3,300 for 12 weeks of daily trainings. The first training and consultation are free at both Ryvok and Sekta.

Though Sekta is a Russian program, one of its Ukrainian coordinators, Tetiana Polzunova, says the political tension between the two countries doesn't harm the club's reputation in

Ryvok

Locations: Kvadrat fitness and dance studio (18 Kurenivska St.)
Nevesomst dance studio (4/6 Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.)
www.ryvok.com.ua
Hr 4,000 for a two-month membership

Sekta

Location: D-Side dance studio (5 Ivana Kudri St.)
www.sektaschool.ru
Hr 3,300 for 12 weeks or Hr 1,100 for one month

Kyiv.

Kyiv Post staff writer Yuliana Romanyshyn can be reached at romanyshyn@kyivpost.com.

Tested by the Kyiv Post

Editor's Note: Kyiv Post staff writer Yuliana Romanyshyn tried a class at Ryvok to get firsthand experience.

Getting to Ryvok gym requires a 15-minute walk from the Petrivka metro station. The gym is hidden between warehouses and shabby office spaces next to Auchan on Kurenivska Street.

My training lasted 45 minutes, but I was already ready to run away just eight minutes into the class. Things finally became more bearable, thanks largely to the encouragement given by our trainer. There were 15 people in the class, and she paid personal attention to everyone who required it.

The class was an alternation between cardio workouts and

stretching, with short frequent breaks. Most of the exercises worked on the legs and back, where, predictably, the bulk of the pain was the next day.

In general, I found the class tolerably difficult. But for those who don't already have regular physical workout routines, it may prove to be too intense.

One thing is certain: an intense workout with a supportive group of comrades significantly raises the level of motivation to get fit. And succumbing to a piece of cake seems a bit less likely after sweltering to burn calories.



Burns Night participants in Scottish kilts climb the stairs of the Kyiv City State Administration on April 18.



Facing camera, Ramona Barden greets Lena McKenzie as Esther Bestman looks on.



Robert Grant puts in his bid in front of a portrait of the late Michael Jackson.



From left, George Barbachuk, James Field and Natalia Drach.



Stuart McKenzie, president of Kyiv Lions Club.



Kyiv Lions Club rakes in nearly \$70,000 for charity

Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko points out a souvenir boxing glove for German consultant Marc Kloepfel as Osman Omer Bekmezci stands by. Kloepfel paid \$26,000 for two golden-ring tickets to a scheduled fall heavyweight championship bout involving Klitschko's brother, Wladimir, who will first need to defeat a rival on April 25 in New York's Madison Square Garden.



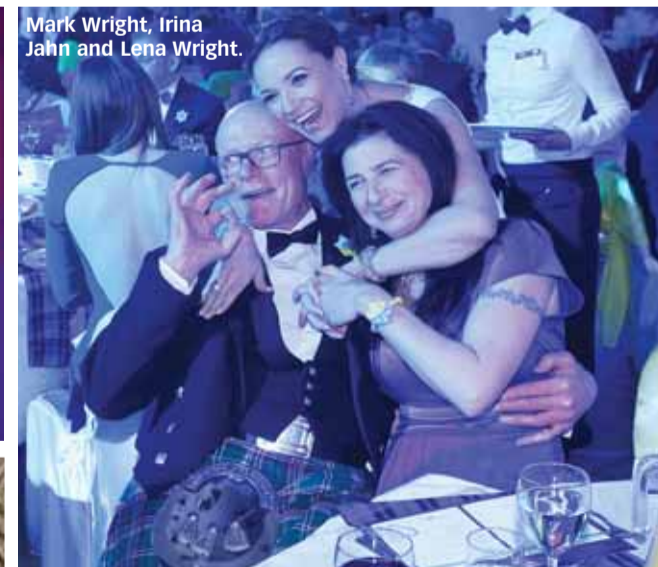
Burns Night participants look over items put up for auction.



David Young, in red-plaid sport coat joins friends Ola Rondiak, Anna and Andy O'Brooks.



The Hard Kiss lead singer Julia Sanina performs.



Mark Wright, Irina Jahn and Lena Wright.



Fred Finn and Alisa Berezutska pick up their awards.



Maria Griffin, master of ceremonies Pavlo Shylko and Anna O'Brooks.

➔ The Kyiv Lions Club on April 18 restarted its annual Burns Night charity dinner. It was not held last year because of the EuroMaidan Revolution and Russia's war against Ukraine. The local chapter of the international service organization staged the event at the Kyiv City State Administration on April 19, made available for the evening at no cost by Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko. The Lions Club raised net proceeds of \$69,700 for the purchase of much-needed equipment for two Kyiv children's hospitals. German business consultant Mark Kloepfel was the top bidder on items sold at auction, paying \$26,000 for two ringside seats to an upcoming bout by world heavyweight boxing champion Wladimir Klitschko, the mayor's younger brother. "I feel good about it," Kloepfel said afterwards. "I am looking forward to the fight. I hope it will take place in Kyiv. And it's for a good cause." Nearly 300 guests showed up for the evening. Ukraine provided the theme of the night, with men wearing blue-and-yellow pins on their lapels and women sporting the national colors on bracelets. The beneficiaries of the money raised include the Kyiv City Children's Hospital and the Kyiv Center for Pediatric Neurosurgery. (Volodymyr Petrov)

April 25



Klitschko vs. Jennings

Ukraine's Wladimir Klitschko will defend his 10-year title reign against American Bryant Jennings for the WBO, IBF, and WBA belts. The fight will take place in the legendary Madison Square Garden in New York on April 25 and will be broadcast at Ukrainian Inter TV.

Klitschko vs. Jennings. April 25. Check Inter TV for time

'Twelfth Night'

The Kyiv Cinema will show the romantic comedy "Twelfth Night" written by William Shakespeare and staged by the Globe Theater. All roles in the play are performed by men. The costumes, music and choreography also follow the style of the 17th century.

"Twelfth Night" by Globe Theater (screening). Kyiv Cinema (19 Velyka Vasylkivska St.). April 28, 7 p.m. Hr 120

April 28



April 29



French music and poetry

Organizers of the French Spring Festival invite everyone to spend an evening with French classical music and poetry. The best musicians of the Ukrainian classical scene will play the music of Claude Debussy and Maurice Ravel, accompanied by readings of Charles Baudelaire and Paul Verlaine.

French Music and Poetry. Kyiv House of Architect (7 Borys Hrinchenko St.). April 29, 8 p.m. Hr 100-250

Film and Urbanism Festival

The Second International Festival of Film and Urbanism 86 will take place in Slavutych, a two-hour drive from Kyiv. The event will explore urbanism, environment, and energy. Among other attractions, 12 documentaries new to Ukraine will be screened. Additional information, including the program and directions can be found at www.86.org.ua.

International Festival of Film and Urbanism 86. Slavutych (Kyiv Oblast). April 28 - May 3. Free



April 28 - May 3

April 10 - May 10



Art show devoted to beauty

This new art exhibition titled Appeal to Beauty features the works of the best young Ukrainian artists hand picked by German curator Reynaldo Schumacher. Its central is beauty as an aesthetic category the artists hope to show that beauty can outweigh violence.

Appeal to Beauty art exhibition. Lavra Art Gallery (1 Lavrska St.) April 10 - May 10, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Open Tuesday through Saturday. Free admission

May 26



Georgian jazz with Nino Katamadze

Jazz singer Nino Katamadze brings her razom (together) show to Kyiv on May 26. Jazz ensemble Insight and an orchestra will accompany her in Ukraine.

Nino Katamadze Show. Zhovtnevy Palace (1 Instytutska St.). May 26, 7 p.m., Hr 300-2,200

April 30



Forum One Ukraine

British billionaire Richard Branson shares his knowledge and discusses his business strategies in an ever-changing world with Ukraine's business community. Other high-caliber speakers include Gabor George Burt, Fredrik Haren and Evgeniy Chichvarkin.

Forum One Ukraine. Palace Ukraine (103 Velyka Vasylkivska St.). April 30. Hr 3,000-44,000



The Embassy of Sweden announces a vacancy for the position of **Programme Officer** to manage a portfolio mainly within the field of democratic governance and human rights.

The closing date for applications is **8 May, 2015**.

For more information about the position, application procedures and requirements, please visit www.swedenabroad.com/en-GB/Embassies/Kyiv/

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Some years ago, the Kyiv Post lost part of its print archive from 1995-2000. If you have any copies tucked away in an attic or storage, please deliver them to the Kyiv Post! We will scan them for our archives and return your copy! Thanks for helping to preserve the history of Ukraine's English-language newspaper since 1995! **CONTACT:** Brian Bonner, chief editor, bonner@kyivpost.com or call +38 044 591 33 44. The Kyiv Post office is at 31a Pushkinska St., Office 600, Kyiv, Ukraine, 01004.



U.S. EMBASSY IN UKRAINE IS LOOKING TO FILL THE POSITION OF GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Basic Function of Position:

As a member of the Public Affairs Section's New Media Unit, designs graphic elements for Embassy print, video and online products. An incumbent serves as assistant video editor and second cameraperson for in-house video productions. In coordination with appropriate offices of the State Department, conceives and develops the requirements for applications (apps) for digital devices (e.g. smartphones and tablets) to increase access to Embassy and U.S. Government online materials. Regularly reviews and analyzes other U.S. Embassy websites — as well as business, government and NGO websites — in search of best practices in online outreach and graphic presentation.

Required Qualifications:

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- **Experience for Trainee level:** One year of professional experience, which involves either work with graphic design or professional video production (camera work and/or video editing).
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- **Skills and abilities:** Mastery of graphic design software, video camera and editing skills. Ability to develop requirements for apps for a variety of digital devices (e.g. smartphones, tablets, laptops). Refined Internet search abilities. Interpersonal skills for interaction with other team members as well as the public.

Application deadline: May 8, 2014 at 6 P.M. Kyiv Time

How to Apply: The compensation is set for full performance level at 17.000\$ (gross per year) and for trainee level at 14.000\$ (gross per year) plus benefit package. Full version of the vacancy announcement and the U.S. Mission application for employment form (DS-174) are available at our site: <http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/job-opportunities.html>.

Interested applicants should fill out the application form in English and email it to: KyivHR@state.gov or faxed it to: 044-521-5155.

East Europe Foundation, Kyiv-based international charitable organization seeks candidates for the following positions for E-governance for Accountability and Transparency Program (EGAP):

PROGRAM ASSISTANT (FULL-TIME)

Main Duties: assist Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader on a daily basis; prepare program related events and meetings; support effective communication with program partners; collect activity data, keep up databases; assist in preparing program plans and reports; translate documentation.

Qualifications Required: Bachelor's (or equivalent) Degree in Management, IT, Social Sciences, Economics; at least two years of respective experience; good communication skills in Ukrainian and English; proficiency in MS Office tools, database packages, and web-based management systems.

E-DEMOCRACY PILOTS COORDINATOR (PART-TIME)

Under the supervision of Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader, Coordinator is responsible for planning and implementation of the project component aimed to increase citizen participation and policy influencing due to e-democracy mechanisms. Main Duties: coordinate activities of regional e-democracy incubators; organize hackathons, workshops and other program-related events; oversee development and introduction of e-democracy tools, platforms, applications.

Qualifications Required: Bachelor's (or equivalent) Degree in Management, IT, Social Sciences, Economics; at least four years of respective experience; good communication skills in Ukrainian, English a plus; understanding of innovative IT tools and knowledge sharing mechanisms; proficiency in MS Office tools, database packages, and web-based management systems.

E-DEMOCRACY CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATOR (PART-TIME)

Under the supervision of Team Leader and Deputy Team Leader, Coordinator is responsible for planning and implementation of the project component aimed to build capacity of regional stakeholders in e-democracy concepts and practices. Main Duties: assess capacity building needs of the target audience; coordinate development of e-democracy training modules; organize training of trainers on the developed modules; coordinate series of trainings, both on-site and distance.

Qualifications Required: Bachelor's (or equivalent) Degree in Management, IT, Social Sciences, Economics; at least four years of respective experience and the ability to take independent decisions within the scope of responsibility; experience in conducting trainings; good communication skills in Ukrainian, English a plus; proficiency in MS Office tools, database packages, and web-based management systems.

Applicants are kindly requested to apply at their earliest convenience due to the urgency with filling in these vacancies.

Send CV to resumes@eurasia.kiev.ua. State job title in subject line of email. No phone inquiries, please. More information about East Europe Foundation at www.eef.org.ua.

HEALTH CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY

Deloitte is seeking resumes of the below position to work with HIV Reform in Action (HIVriA), a USAID project.

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COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST

For qualifications and job descriptions refer to: www.kyivpost.com/employment/job/164/

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- Strong computer skills, with programs such as Quick Books
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- Knowledge of international accounting standards is an asset;
- Strong social skills and ability to work collaboratively.

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