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Victor Pinchuk: Friend Or Foe Of Ukraine?



Billionaire Victor Pinchuk is Ukraine's most renowned philanthropist, spending \$125 million on many worthy causes. But no matter how much he tries to improve his reputation, few can forget how he made his fortune under the autocratic presidency of his father-in-law, Leonid Kuchma, or how some of his oligarchic ways persist even today. Story starts on page 10.



Oligarch Watch Series

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Victor Pinchuk, the Ukrainian billionaire and founder of the Interpipe group of companies, appears before a charity auction of the ANTIAIDS Foundation on Nov. 16, 2007, in Kyiv. (UNIAN)

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CURRENCY WATCH
Hr 26 to \$1
Oct. 13 market rate



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Kyiv Smart City project seeks City Hall overhaul

BY DENYS KRASNIKOV
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When the people of Kyiv can book a doctor's appointment, track city budget spending and find the best routes on public transport – all online via free Wi-Fi – they'll be living in the kind of town envisaged by Kyiv Smart City, a group of volunteers that are trying to transform the Ukraine's capital into a hi-tech metropolis.

In just a year of its existence, the organization has implemented a range of initiatives in Kyiv, including a pay-pass system for the metro, Wi-Fi in some public areas, electronic boards on bus stops, online petitions, a GPS tracker system for buses on the most popular routes, and so on.

City authorities don't fund any of these initiatives, but Mayor Vitali Klitschko, who tries to appeal to young people, is a vocal supporter of the project. The funding comes from the sponsors and grants.

"Kyiv will never be modern without the implementation of the kind of know-how that works around the globe," Klitschko told the Kyiv Post. "Without it, the city won't develop as quickly as we'd like."

No renovations

According to Kyiv Smart City coordinator Yaroslava Boyko, the city's lack of care about its own infrastructure affects the way its residents behave.

"It's been 25 years since independence, but nobody's even thought of renovating, say, the curbs," she told the Kyiv Post. "People automatically dump waste beside a bin. A lot of people think that if the government won't take care of its property, then they don't have to either."

With much of Kyiv's infrastructure and buildings dating from Soviet times, particularly the period of



Kyiv Smart City coordinator Yaroslava Boyko gestures during an interview with the Kyiv Post. According to her, the Ukrainian capital is neglecting its own infrastructure, and if it hadn't been for volunteers, various tech innovations might never have been introduced in Ukrainian cities at all. (Anastasia Vlasova)



Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko delivers a speech at the Kyiv Post Employment Fair on Sept. 24. Klitschko says the capital will never be modern without IT know-how. (Anastasia Vlasova)

reconstruction after the World War II, there is a great deal that could be done to upgrade the city. But not much has been achieved: even things like bicycle lanes and free public Wi-Fi access are rare.

Compare that with Estonia, a country with a population half of that of the Ukrainian capital, but which has a countrywide wireless internet network.

Technology to rescue

Still, the country's growing and fast-moving information technology industry offers the hope of more rapid progress in the future.

Boyko's opposite number at Kyiv City Administration, Yuriy Nazarov, the head of the city's information department, also predicts IT will be at the heart of future city development. He wants people to be able to track spending from city budgets and order administrative documents from the government on their smartphones.

"And that will be possible from anywhere, because bus stops and

benches will be Wi-Fi hotspots and will be equipped with solar panels for charging gadgets," Nazarov told the Kyiv Post.

This technology revolution has started in July 2015, when Kyiv Smart City organized Kyiv metro stations to get terminals for paying for a ride with a MasterCard PayPass bank card.

Another project was a platform for online petitions www.petition.kiev-city.gov.ua, launched in November 2015.

Then the group launched a free service of SMS notifications about transport schedule changes, with all the major mobile carriers sponsoring the project.

Big data is key

One of the most ambitious projects of Kyiv Smart City has been to open up access to government data. Although Ukraine's government agencies collect reams of it, the vast majority of the data remain inaccessible to citizens and businesses who could put such information to good use.

The first non-profit technology incubator launched in Ukraine, 1991 Open Data Incubator, is tackling the data access problem together with Kyiv Smart City. The incubator aims to convert the bundles of data produced by Ukraine's bureaucracy into streamlined flows of information that could be useful to citizens of modern cities.

The incubator is host to a group of programmers from all around Ukraine who are devoting their time to making applications that clearly display government data that is potentially of use to citizens, such as interactive maps of accidents on city roads, city budget spending reports, and maps of most the popular bicycle routes, for example.

All of these little open data startups aim to analyze extremely large data sets computationally, to reveal

patterns, trends, and associations, especially those relating to human behavior and interactions.

1991 Incubator CEO Denys Gursky said a modern city should work just like a private company, optimizing all of its processes – from improving energy efficiency to easing away road-traffic snarls.

"It's time for cities to use their resources rationally," Gursky told the Kyiv Post. "Big data is a key to puzzles in many aspects of city life."

And the country has enough socially active tech specialists to help, he thinks.

"Ukraine has plenty of IT professionals, who earn decent money, but who then come home, look out the window, and see the same old Ukraine," he said. They understand that there's only one way they can change the situation through the window – with the help of IT."

Klitschko agrees: "Let's face it – we have extremely educated and creative young people." He added that if the startups are eventually successful, the government would either buy them or help financially.

Another large IT-related project Kyiv Smart City plans to implement is a universal electronic wallet, which will connect the payment systems of the banks together in a network to help citizens pay all of their bills on one site on the internet.

But the main thing is not to make technologies for technology's sake, Boyko says: "Technologies must serve the people." But people themselves will have to change their attitudes, she says.

"There are lots of ideas," she went on. But Kyiv will transform into an up-to-date, tech-savvy metropolis only when "everyone starts behaving like European citizens."

"Unless Kyivans evolve – become active and aware of their rights – Kyiv won't be transformed." ■



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Unlike Trump, Ukrainian politicians get away with sexism and sexual harassment

BY VERONIKA MELKOZEROVA
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As the Western press gorges itself on the story of U.S. presidential candidate Donald Trump making numerous sexist comments about women, similar stories involving Ukrainian politicians remain untold.

While Trump has been weathering a media storm after the publication of a 2005 audio tape in which he discusses grabbing women's genitals, which he dismisses as "locker room talk," Ukrainian politicians easily get away with making sexist and homophobic comments, and even sexual harassment.

'Come to my suite'

In March, three female lawmakers with the Samopomich Party –

Viktoria Voytsitska, Olena Sotnyk, and Iryna Podolyak – filed a claim with the Rada's regulation committee in which they accused their colleague Oleg Barna of sexual harassment.

Earlier, Sotnyk said that the three lawmakers were unable to sign the petition for government dismissal because Barna, who was collecting the signatures, lost the document. Barna went on the air on Channel 24 to brush off the accusation. He said that if the female lawmakers wanted to add their signatures, they could find him in his hotel room. He offered the room number, too.

"Suite 508 - I'm always there in the evening, so come and join me. It will be pleasant and useful for us,"

more sexism on page 5



Oleg Barna, a member of Ukraine's parliament.



Donald Trump, U.S. presidential candidate.



Viktoria Voytsitska, a lawmaker with the Samopomich Party, speaks during the Verkhovna Rada meeting on May 11. (UNIAN)

At least 17 soldiers killed in war with Russia since 'back-to-school ceasefire'

BY BERMET TALANT AND OLENA GONCHAROVA

The situation in eastern Ukraine remains tense, although international monitors have recorded a decrease in violence since so-called "back-to-school ceasefire" was announced on Sept. 1.

However, the Ukrainian military claimed on Oct. 13 that despite an Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe-brokered disengagement deal, the withdrawal of troops and weapons was impossible in Stanytsya Luhanska because of separatists' violations of the ceasefire.

Read the full story at www.kyivpost.com



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Editorials

Pinchuk's trap

For the younger generation in Ukraine, Victor Pinchuk is likely a powerful and positive figure. He is the focus of the second part of the Kyiv Post's Oligarch Watch series in today's edition.

Pinchuk is known for his arts center. He's known for helping students study abroad. He's pledged to give away most of his billion-dollar fortune (although the pledge does not apply to relatives to whom he could transfer his wealth). He's known for bringing music legends Elton John and Paul McCartney to Ukraine. He's known for splurging by putting on Ukraine's best conference every year (outside of the Kyiv Post Tiger Conference).

But the question for those with extensive knowledge of Pinchuk has always been: Has he really changed, and put Ukraine's interests first, or are his efforts merely part of his sustained campaign to improve his reputation, protect his father-in-law, ex-President Leonid Kuchma and overcome his guilt for past sins?

There's some evidence for both arguments – and perhaps the truth lies in between.

Pinchuk's philanthropy is reaping rewards. Members of parliament Nataliya Katser-Buchkovska, Alex Ryabchyn and Alyona Skhrum were scholarship recipients of Pinchuk's WorldWideStudies program – as 80 others were. They are positive forces, as are former Pinchuk employees, lawmaker Olga Bielkova and deputy prime minister Ivanna Klymush-Tsintsadze.

But there is no getting around the fact that much of Pinchuk's fortune was made during the kleptocratic rule of Kuchma from 1994-2005. Ukraine under Kuchma was a living hell for millions of needlessly impoverished and repressed citizens. Kuchma did nothing to strengthen the state or put it on a democratic course. If not for popular revulsion, he would have tried to stay in office for a third term. Kuchma remains the top suspect in ordering the 2000 murder of journalist Georgiy Gongadze. Pinchuk used his media holdings to defend his father-in-law and attack Kuchma's enemies. The best that can be said about his shameless use of his media assets is that Pinchuk is loyal to a fault.

As much as Pinchuk tries to convince the world he's changed, past misdeeds drag him back. To show his true colors, he should stop trying to be friends with everyone in power and start acting on principle. He should break ranks with fellow oligarchs, come clean with the past, sell his TV stations and courageously put forth his vision for a democratic, rule-of-law, European future. The time for timidity is over. He will find the human capacity for forgiveness and support is enormous, but only for people who truly repent and change their ways.

Cyber aggression

The revelation that French television channel TV5Monde was almost destroyed in April 2015 by a hack that most likely originated in Russia should surprise nobody who has been following the Kremlin's aggression.

The hack, which was initially disguised as being by Islamic State cyber-jihadists, came within hours of shutting down TV5Monde's network of 12 channels for good, the station's director-general, Yves Bigot, said in an interview on Oct. 10 with the BBC.

The station only survived because technicians who were setting up a new channel happened to be on site, and were able to counter the hack.

This sophisticated attack was 10 weeks in the making, and required custom-made malware to carry it out. The investigation indicates that Russian hacking group APT 28 (a.k.a. Fancy Bears) was to blame, according to Bigot.

Fancy Bears and an associated group Cozy Bears (also known as APT 29) are thought to be behind a string of attacks in the United States, Germany and other nations. Recently, Fancy Bears openly took credit for the hacking of the World Anti-Doping Agency, revealing confidential medical records of U.S. and British athletes.

These hacking groups are linked to Russia's federal security services, according to internet security firm CrowdStrike. These attacks go back for many years, including one on Central Election System in May 2014, during the country's post-revolution presidential elections. There was also an attack on a Ukrainian regional power grid on Dec. 23, 2015 that knocked out power to thousands. Government. Banks. Broadcasters. Power grids. Each is serious enough, but imagine the chaos that would happen if all of them were attacked at once.



NEWS ITEM: The Ukrainian parliament on Oct. 6 voted to prolong the moratorium on selling agricultural lands for one more year.

NEWS ITEM: Venezuela gave its first-ever Hugo Chavez Peace Prize to Russian President Vladimir Putin on Oct. 7, the same day that the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded.



NEWS ITEM: The ruling Georgian Dream party, which vacillates between Russia and the West, won the first round of a legislative election on Oct. 8 with 48.7 percent of the vote, while the pro-Russian ultranationalist Alliance of Georgian Patriots got over 5 percent. Ex-Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili's anti-Kremlin United National Movement was the runner-up with 27.1 percent.

NEWS ITEM: To highlight the imperfections of the legislation on e-declarations of the officials' assets, lawmaker Eugeny Deydey registered a spoof bill on "yo-declarations," which suggests that "honest corrupt officials" declare their bribes.

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Reformer of the week

Ivan Miklos

Ivan Miklos, an adviser to Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman, on Oct. 12 criticized the Ukrainian parliament's decision to extend the moratorium on the sale of agricultural land until Jan. 1, 2018.

"Extending the moratorium on land sales will have a very negative impact on regions and cities, because a land market could become one of the biggest incentives for development and investment," he said.

Groysman, on the contrary, has supported the moratorium.

All of the factions of the Verkhovna Rada backed the ban on land sales on Oct. 6, preventing the emergence of a competitive land market and blocking investments in land.

Miklos also said Ukrainian authorities lacked political will for deep, fundamental reforms. The Verkhovna Rada supported only 37 percent of the cabinet's reformist initiatives in 2015, compared to 99 percent in Slovakia in 2003, he said.

Miklos, a former Slovak finance minister and deputy prime minister, oversaw free-market reforms in his native country in the 1990s and 2000s.

— Oleg Sukhov



Anti-reformer of the week

Yaroslav Romanyuk

Yaroslav Romanyuk, the head of the Supreme Court, has been resisting judicial reform.

The Supreme Court on Oct. 3 asked the Constitutional Court, whose judges are being investigated on suspicion of being bribed by ex-President Viktor Yanukovych and helping him usurp power, to cancel the current judicial reforms.

The reforms envisage abolishing the current Supreme Court and holding a competition for new Supreme Court judges.

Under Yanukovych, the Supreme Court and other top courts were effectively subjugated to the executive branch.

Odesa Oblast Governor Mikheil Saakashvili wrote in his recent book, "The Awakening of a Force," that Yanukovych had told him during a visit to the United Nations headquarters in New York that he had paid a \$20 million bribe to the head of the Supreme Court, without naming him. The Supreme Court did not respond to a request for comment.

Yanukovych and Saakashvili last visited the United Nations headquarters in September 2013. Romanyuk became head of the Supreme Court in May 2013.

— Oleg Sukhov



To nominate someone as reformer or anti-reformer of the week, write to news@kyivpost.com

Women in parliament endure sexism in Ukrainian politics

Sexism from page 3

Barna said on air, addressing his female colleagues.

Later Barna claimed that there was no sexism intended in his words, and his colleagues misunderstood him, but the three lawmakers said they were offended by the invitation.

"Respecting every human, regardless of their gender, age, nationality or sexuality, is one of the attributes of the civilized world," Voytsitska wrote on her Facebook page immediately after the incident. "However, even in the parliament the one faces discrimination and sexism."

Voytsitska told the Kyiv Post that Barna had not been punished for his statement, as her claim has sunk below a pile of dozens of other complaints being considered by the Rada's regulation committee. Barna wasn't available for comment.

Two months before offending Voytsitska and her colleagues, Barna was dismissed from the Bloc of Petro Poroshenko when he handled then-Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk from the Rada's rostrum as he delivered an address in parliament.

Parliament of men

Voytsitska told the Kyiv Post that politicians should set an example of good manners, but right now the parliament reflects the flaws of society. She said that Ukrainian politicians frequently make sexist comments about their female colleagues, and regard this as completely normal.

Moreover, women's chances of even getting in the parliament are low. Ukraine's parliament has only 52 women, accounting for only 12.3 percent of the 423 seats. In comparison, the European Union countries have an average of 23 percent female lawmakers.

"The parties' leaders just don't want to include more women. Politics in Ukraine is still a man's job," Svitlana Zalishchuk, lawmaker with Petro Poroshenko Bloc, told the Kyiv Post.

Zalishchuk was one of the authors of the state financing of political parties bill, approved by the Rada in 2015, which ruled that the parties with 30 percent of women as members can claim a 10 percent increase in state funding.



Radical Party lawmaker Ihor Mosiychuk and Petro Poroshenko Bloc lawmaker Svitlana Zalishchuk argue in the parliament on July 3, 2015. (UNIAN)

No equality

Ukraine took 67th place among 142 countries in the Gender Inequality of the World Economic Forum annual ranking in 2015, which is 11 points lower than in 2014, when Ukraine took 56th place.

Gender equality in Ukraine is still at an early stage, according to Inna Turkenya, the gender expert of the Female Leadership Academy.

"The level of discrimination against a woman depends on her occupation. Men can't stand women with a lot of money and power," said Turkenya.

Furthermore, Turkenya said, many women in Ukraine are still not aware of the fact that sexism and humiliation in the workplace is unacceptable.

"Ninety percent of women think sexist comments are jokes. It is normal for a male colleague to slap your butt, because he's joking or showing interest this way," said Turkenya.

She said this was because of the stereotypes that still exist in Ukrainian society: a woman must first and foremost be a beautiful and sexy homemaker, while men are seen as leaders and breadwinners.

Assault attempt

Victoria Siumar, now People's Front Party lawmaker and deputy secretary

of Ukraine's Security Council, first came to the Verkhovna Rada as a young journalist almost 20 years ago. She remembers that day well.

She was going to interview a male lawmaker who was the head of one of the Rada's committees.

"Behind the closed doors of his office, he openly asked if we could have sex," Siumar told the Kyiv Post.

The lawmaker recalled that the man even wanted to force himself on her, but she threatened to make a scandal. Siumar refused to name the politician, saying that he is no longer a member of the Rada.

Poroshenko Bloc lawmaker Zalishchuk has also been subjected to offensive comments from her colleagues. In 2015, her friend and another lawmaker Sergii Leshchenko had a conflict with Radical Party lawmaker Ihor Mosiychuk. Mosiychuk called Leshchenko "a bearded woman" because of his open support

for LGBT rights. When Zalishchuk came to his defense, Mosiychuk labeled her "a mouthy tradeswoman" and accused Leshchenko of "hiding under a woman's skirt."

Mosiychuk told the Kyiv Post that he didn't regret his words.

Signs of improvement

But there are signs that at least some Ukrainian politicians are getting better at recognizing the need for gender equality.

Voytsitska recalled a closed meeting of the government, at which she was supposed to read a report to Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman together with a male lawmaker from the Poroshenko Bloc.

"(The male lawmaker) said 'ladies first' and proposed that I report first. But Groysman interrupted him, saying there are no ladies or gentlemen in the Rada, we are all parliamentarians," said Voytsitska. ■



Nautical launch to Ukrainian Fashion Week

Ukrainian designer Lilia Poustovit opened Ukrainian Fashion Week at the Mystetsky Arsenal cultural center in Kyiv, presenting her nautically themed spring/summer 2017 collection on Oct. 13. Other designers presenting their latest collections include Yulia Polishchuk and Elena Burenina. (Volodymyr Petrov)



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Napule Pizza (9 Mechnykova St.)
Naturalich (3 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
News Cafe (6 Hetmana St.)
Tike (31-A Sahaidachnoho St.)
O'Brien's (17-A Mykhailivska St.)
O'Connors (15/8 Khoryva St.)
Oliva (34 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
One Love Coffee (1/3-2 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
One Love Espresso Bar (100 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Viva Oliva (16 Pushkinska St.)
Oliva (25 Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.)
Opanas (10 Tereshchenkivska St.)
Oxota Na Ovets (10-A Vozdvyzhenska St.)
Pache (3 Kostelna St.)
Pantagruel (1 Lysenka St.)
Pervak (15/2 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Podshofe (45/2 Pushkinska St.)

Praga (1 Hlushkova Ave.)
Pyvna №1 (15 Baseina St.)
Reprisa (40/25 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
Reprisa (26 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Salateira (37 Sahaidachnoho St.)
Salateira (72 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Salateira (56-A Yaroslavskaya St.)
Shevchenko Hall (13/5 Ihorivska St.)
Shooters (22 Moskovska St.)
Shoti (9 Mechnykova St.)
Simple (102 Saksahanskoho St.)
Small Talk & Coffee (19-A Dmytrivska St.)
Soiree (11 Artema St.)
Sam's Steak House (37 Zhylianska St.)
The Kitchen (68 Saksahanskoho St.)
Très Branché (4 Lysenka St.)
Tres Francais (3 Kostelna St.)
True Burger Bar (42 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
Tsarske Selo (42 Mazepy St.)
Under Wonder (21 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Vero Vero (82 Artema St.)
Verona Pizza (71-E Kostiantynivska St.)
Videnski Bulochky (1-3/5 Pushkinska St.)
Videnski Bulochky (14-A Instytutska St.)
Vopros Bar (19 Shota Rustaveli St.)
Wersteiner Pub (5-B Horodetskoho St.)
Wolkonsky Patisserie (5-7/29 Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)
Wolkonsky Patisserie (15 Khreshchatyk St.)
Yolk (11/16 Lva Tolstoho St.)
Yolk (37/1 Yaroslav Val St.)

🏠 HUBS

America House Creative Space (6 Pymonenka St.)
Chasopys (3 Lva Tolstoho St.)
Fedoriv Hub (5 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)

🎭 THEATERS

Operetta Theatre (53/3 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Theatre "Chorny Kvadrat" (5-B Artema St.)
Theater on Podil (20-B Andriivskyi Descent)

🏨 HOTELS

11 Mirrors (34-A Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
Attache Premier Hotel (26 Zhylianska St.)
Dream house hostel (2 Andriivsky Descent)
Express (38/40 Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)
Fairmont Hotel (1 Naberezhno-Khreshchatytska St.)
Gonchar Hotel (17-A Honcharna St.)
Greguar Hotel (67-7 Velyka Vasylkivska St.)
Hilton (28-30 Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)
Holiday Inn (79 Horkoho St.)
Hotel Bontiak (5/24-B Irynynska St.)
Hotel Rus (4 Hospitalna St.)
Hyatt (5-A Tarasovoi St.)
Impressa (21 Sahaidachnoho St.)
Intercontinental (2-A Velyka Zhytomyrska St.)
Khreshchatyk (14 Khreshchatyk St.)
Kozatsky Stan (18 km Boryspilske Highway)
Opera (23 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
Park-Hotel KIDEV (5 Boryspilska St.)
Premier Palace (5-7-29 Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)
President Hotel (12 Hospitalna St.)
Radisson Blue (22 Yaroslav Val St.)
Ramada (103 Stolychne Highway)
Ukraine (4 Instytutska St.)

🏢 BUSINESS CENTERS

Cubic Center (1 entrance) (3 Sholudenko St.)
Cubic Center (2 entrance) (3 Sholudenko St.)
Europa Plus (120 Saksahanskoho St.)
Europa Plus (33 Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)
Gooioord (11 Mykhailivska St.)
Gooioord (34/33 Ivana Franka St.)
Gooioord (36 Ivana Franka St.)

Gooioord (52 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
Illinsky (8 Illinska St.)
Regus (4 Hrinchenka St.)
Regus Podil (25-B Sahaidachnoho St.)
Ukrainian Crisis Media Center (4 Instytutska St.)

🏢 BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS

American Chamber of Commerce (12 Amosova St.)
European Business Association (1 Andriivsky Descent)
EBRD (16 Nemyrovycha-Danchenka St.)

🏠 EMBASSIES

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (7 Kontraktova Sq.)
Consulate of the Republic of Austria (33 Ivana Franka St.)
Embassy of the Republic of India (20-B Berlinskoho St.)
Embassy of the Unites States of America (4 Sikorskoho St.)

✈️ AIRPORTS & TICKETS OFFICES

Kiy Avia (4-B Horodetskoho St.)
VIP Hall Boryspil Airport (Airport Boryspil, Terminal D)
Business Terminal, Kyiv International Airport
Terminal A Lounge, Kyiv International Airport

🏟️ SPORT CLUBS

5th Element (29 Elektrykiv St.)
Fitness Planet (10 Kropyvnytskoho St.)
Kiev Sport Club (5 Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.)
Sofiivsky Fitness Center (5 Rylsky Lane)

🏥 CLINICS

Americal Medical Center (1 Berdychivska St.)
Porcelain (26-5 Otto Shmidta St.)
Porcelain (29 Vozdvyzhenska St.)

📖 LIBRARIES AND SCHOOLS

American Councils for International Education (20 Esplanadna St.)
Kyiv School of Economics (92-94 Dmytrivska St.)
National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine (1 Hrushevskoho St.)
National Academy for Public Administration under the President of Ukraine (12/2 Puhachova St., 20 Ezhena Potie St.)
Pechersk School International (7A Zabily St.)
Kyiv International School (3-A Sviatoshynsky Lane)

🛢️ GAS STATIONS

Shell Gas Station (31/1 Stolychne Highway)

REGIONS OF UKRAINE

Kharkiv

Paris restaurant (30/32 Yaroslava Mudroho St.)
Chichikov Hotel (6/8 Hoholia St.)
Kharkiv Palace Hotel (2 Pravdy Ave.)

Kirovohrad

Reikartz Kirovohrad (Hotel) (1-D Chornovola St.)

Lviv

🍷 RESTAURANTS

Amadeus (7 Katedralna St.)
Atlas Deluxe (27 Tarasa Shevchenka Ave.)
Baczewski Restauracja (8 Shevska St.)
Centaur (34 Rynok Sq.)

Chorny Kit (4 Heroyiv Maidanu St.)
Harmata (11 Hrabovskoho St.)
Hrushevsky cinema jazz (28 Tarasa Shevchenka Ave.)
iFest network (15-A Lemkivska St.)
Kumpel Gastropub (6 Vynnychenka St.)
Kumpel Gastropub (2-B Chornovola Ave.)
Stary Royal (3 Stavropigiyiska St.)
Strudel House (6 Shevska St.)
Tex-Mex BBQ (7 Johara Dudaieva St.)
Veronika (21 Tarasa Shevchenko Ave.)
Zukernia (3 Staroyevreyska St.)

🏠 HOTELS

Astoria (15 Horodotska St.)
Chopin (7 Malaniuka Sq.)
Citadel Inn (11 Hrabovskoho St.)
George (1 Mitskevycha St.)
Leopolis (16 Teatralna St.)
Lion's Castle (7 Hlinky St.)
Nobilis Hotel (5 Fredra St.)
Reikartz Dworzec Lviv (107 Horodotska St.)
Swiss Hotel (20 Kniazia Romana St.)

🏢 BUSINESS CENTERS

Emerald (3 Petrushevycha Sq.)
InterCity (67 Chornovola Ave.)

📖 SCHOOLS & OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Lviv Business School (35-A Hutorivka St.)
Bank Lviv (1 Serbska St.)

Mukacheve

Star (Hotel) (10 Myru Sq.)

Mykolaiv

Reikartz River Mykolaiv (Hotel) (9 Sportyvna St.)

Odesa

🍷 RESTAURANTS

Traveller's coffee (14 Derybasivska St.)
Terrace Sea View (1-5 Lanzheron Beach)
The Roastery by Odesa (1 Arkadia Alley)
Bratia Grill Restaurant (17 Derybasivska St.)
Benedikt (19 Sadova St.)
Fratelli (17 Hretska St.)
Ministerium (12, Hoholia St.)

🏠 HOTELS

Otrada (11 Zatyshna St.)
Palace Del Mar (1 Khrustalny Lane)
Stella Residence (3 Vanny Lane)
Frapolli (13 Derybasivska St.)
Maristella Marine Residence (2-A Bernadazzi St.)
London (95 Uspenska St.)
Bristol (15 Pushkinska St.)
Alexandroviskiy (12 Alexandrovsky Ave.)
Villa le Premier (3-A Vanny Lane)

Zakarpatska Oblast

Reikartz Karpaty (257 Tarasa Shevchenka St., s. Zhdeniyevy)
Reikartz Polyana (25 Zhovtneva St., s. Poliana)

Zaporizhia

Khortitsa Palace Hotel (71-A Tarasa Shevchenka Blvd.)

Dnipropetrovsk

Reikartz Dnipropetrovsk (12 Chervona St.)

Weekly business roundup

BY JOSH KOVENSKY
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Turkey, Russia sign gas deal to bypass Ukraine

Turkey and Russia signed an agreement this week to build two gas pipelines across the Black Sea to Turkey, potentially opening up another route for gas to circumvent Ukraine.

If implemented, TurkStream would see Russia send 30 billion cubic meters of gas to Turkey each year via two separate pipelines. One will move gas to Turkish consumers, while another would send gas on to customers in Europe.

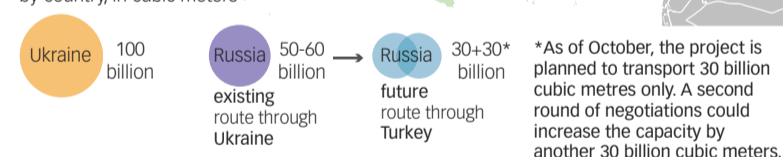
Though the current agreement only envisions 30 bcm of gas moving towards Turkey, further capacity could eliminate Russia's need to move gas across Ukraine, an arrangement that has proved politically and economically beneficial to Kyiv.

TurkStream originally had a planned capacity of 60 bcm of gas each year. Given that Russia now transports between 50 and 60 bcm of gas annually through Ukraine, full implementation of the Gazprom-operated project could be a serious blow to the country.

TurkStream

What Ukraine stands to lose from the new gas deal between Russia and Turkey

Volume of gas transportation capacity, by country, in cubic meters



By Stella Shablivska, Kyiv Post | Source: Reuters

The TurkStream pipeline could see Ukraine lose more of its share of the transport of Russian gas.

The Soviet-era pipelines that stretch across Ukraine are capable of carrying 100 bcm of gas each year.

In recent years, Russian efforts to build new pipelines through Belarus and the Baltic Sea have reduced its reliance on Ukraine.

The recent warming of relations between Russia and Turkey follows nearly a year of tensions after Turkey shot down a Russian jet that strayed into its airspace.

Mriya reports more stolen equipment

Troubled agro holding Mriya reported this week that corporate raiders are continuing to steal property from the company.

The firm, which is in the process of agreeing with international creditors to a debt restructuring that would see it pay back \$330 million of a total \$1.1 billion debt, is fighting off an attempt from the company's former owners to take control of Mriya property.

The stolen property in question involves around 40 pieces of equipment from a Ternopil oblast logistics center currently under the control of a former lawyer at the company, worth around \$3 million.

Though the equipment's low rel-



Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan waves goodbye to Russian President Vladimir Putin in Istanbul on Oct. 10. The two leaders were meeting to discuss the TurkStream pipeline. (AFP)

ative value makes the issue more of a headache than anything else for Mriya, the issue is seen as a test for the government's ability to defend the rights of foreign investors.

Out of that \$1.1 billion sum, nearly \$400 million was allegedly stolen by the company's former owners, the Huta family.

The creditors committee were able to install new management, which brought the company out of the black after the Hutu fled. Ukrainian law enforcement has launched a criminal case against Ivan Huta, while Mriya has sued to regain control of the Ternopil oblast logistics facility.

But the company's efforts to recover its property have been slowed by a recent Kyiv appellate court decision, which overturned a previous freezing order that would have returned the equipment to the company, while no arrests have been made of the Huta family more than two years after the fraud was revealed. That is

in spite of reports suggesting that they are in Ukraine.

Advancing industrial development in Ukraine

The Cabinet of Ministers has established a new committee tasked with advancing industrial development in Ukraine.

The Industrial Development Committee was formed with the aim of developing the manufacturing sector and to boost Ukrainian production of high value-added goods, as well as moving the economy away from a model dependent on resource extraction.

Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman said that if this work was carried out successfully, it could lead to the creation of tens of thousands new jobs in the industrial sector.

He said the committee should become a tool for identifying problems and working out solutions within national industries.

Alongside the committee, the gov-

ernment also decided to set up a special Deputy Minister's Office for economic development, trade, and industry, with a ministry department being dedicated to supporting industrial development.

Empire State Capital researcher Tantly Ratovohery argued that the move is an "obvious answer to the many criticisms about the lack of a clear cut industrial and economic model in the country," albeit one that is slightly late.

"Though opportune in its essence, we think that the decision is a little belated, leaving the recent germs of industrial and economic growth without the necessary direction for some more time," Ratovohery wrote in a research note.

"In the meantime, any real implementation of the concept will be a convincing argument towards the rehabilitation of the country's eastern industrial legacy, and especially the Donbas and Dnipro's industrial regions." ■

World in Ukraine: Estonia

Coming in the October 28 edition of the Kyiv Post

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Author David Satter talks about Kremlin ban on him

Editor's Note: The following interview is part of the journalism produced by MYMEDIA, a Kyiv Post partner. MYMEDIA is a program aiming at development of independent media and professional capacity building for journalists in Ukraine, Belarus, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia and Moldova. The program is financially supported by the Danish government. It is implemented by NIRAS, a leading international consultancy company, and BBC Media Action.

BY YANA BILIAIEVA

American journalist David Satter in late September gave a speech at the Publishers' Forum in Lviv, presenting his new book "The Less You Know, The Better You Sleep: Russia's Road to Terror and Dictatorship Under Yeltsin and Putin" (Yale University Press, 2016). Satter has been writing about Russia for 40 years. He has been a correspondent for the Financial Times and The Wall Street Journal in Moscow and worked under KGB surveillance during the Cold War. Satter authored four books on the Soviet Union and Russia. First he criticized the Soviet regime, then Boris Yeltsin's, and after that - Vladimir Putin's Russia. His writings highlighted violations of human rights in the Soviet Union. Later he investigated crimes



David Satter

of Russian special services, for which he was expelled from the country several times. MYMEDIA talked to Satter about Russian propaganda: how its strategy differs in the United States, Europe and Ukraine, and whether the governments in these regions react adequately to Putin's disinformation.

MYMEDIA: What motivated you to take up the topic of Russia?

Satter: I am the product of the Cold War. I was born in Chicago at the time, when the confrontation between the Soviet Union and the West was the main topic of discussion. Apart from that, at the school where I was studying there was an option to study Russian. It was completely accidental - an immigrant from the Soviet Union was teaching Russian there...I followed my father's advice to study Russian. At that time only a limited circle of people - diplomats and correspondents - had an opportunity to visit the Soviet Union. I could not imagine then that one day I would be one of them... Afterwards, I became a post-graduate student at Oxford University, and it brought me closer to the Soviet Union. And suddenly I got a chance to go to the USSR.

MYMEDIA: Working in Soviet Union and Russia as a foreign correspondent is difficult. You were expelled several times. What drives you forward and what could kill your interest?

Satter: I was driven by my interest,



General view of an apartment block in Pechatniki suburb, southeast of Moscow, after an explosion destroyed four storeys out of 18, of the building on Sept. 09, 1999. (AFP)

and it is probably too late to have it killed. Russia is a very interesting country, despite all its problems. Russian journalists often ask me if I love Russia. I answer this question with a question, "Do you love your wife?" And he says: "Of course." So do I. I have lived with "her" for many years and I know all her vices. It is already hard to imagine my life without her.

MYMEDIA: Considering your experience in observing Russian behavior, were the events of 2014 - Russian reaction to the EuroMaidan Revolution, annexation of Crimea and inciting war in eastern Ukraine - predictable to you?

Satter: One could foresee it.

Maidan was a direct threat to the system of power in Russia. Putin and the group surrounding him controlled all the levers of power in Ukraine, and substituting them was not easy... There was no way that the Russian authorities wanted to let that happen.

MYMEDIA: So you already were assuming that Russia would annex Crimea and unleash the war in Donbas?

Satter: The last thing Russian authorities wanted was for the Russian people to see what was happening in Ukraine: that Ukraine was creating a prosperous democratic state. There was a risk that Putin's control would be threatened. People are not stupid after all. They will see that the main obstacle to an improvement of their lives is the criminal regime. And they would see then how it could be eliminated. When a million people take to the streets, it is not so easy to attack them. This is why Maidan was a very undesirable precedent from a Russian viewpoint. As for the annexation of Crimea and the invasion of eastern Ukraine, it was just a red herring. Putin wanted to divert people's attention from the important lessons that they could learn from the Ukrainian EuroMaidan, and to that extent, he incited a wave of chauvinistic emotions inside Russia.

MYMEDIA: As for Russian propaganda - to what extent is this topic on the American agenda?

Satter: The situation in the USA is special now because we are in the



David Satter wrote "Darkness at Dawn: The Rise of the Russian Criminal State."

middle of a presidential race, and all the attention is currently focused on that. Everybody wants to predict who will win. Clarity concerning the Ukrainian issue will only come later, because everything can change. I was an advisor to John Kasich [a Republican Party candidate for president.] We supported supplying weapons to Ukraine in order to resist the Russian aggression. If the enemy is well-armed, the

desire to attack him will decline automatically.

MYMEDIA: Don't you think it might lead to another Syria in Ukraine?

Satter: We are not talking about weapons for attack, only about weapons for defense. They can only be used defensively against tanks or artillery, for the sake of creating equal conditions. But of course there is a risk in each decision. The idea is to prevent the resumption of military actions.

MYMEDIA: Or, on the contrary, to provoke it?

Satter: There was no provocation for the Russian invasion in Ukraine. Nowadays, [Kremlin-backed separatists] have more tanks than many NATO members. The large flow of Russian weapons crossing the border and the quantity of "volunteers," it is organized by Russia. All of this took place without any provocation. But of course the possibility of escalation cannot be excluded. If Russia sees

World in Ukraine: Hungary

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more **Satter** on page 9

Satter: Poroshenko 'doing very little' to establish rule of law

Satter from page 9

that Ukraine has decent defense weapons, it can react with air attacks. But this might also lead to retaliatory measures – the strengthening of the sanctions. Now we are freely trading gas and oil. But without it, Russia would be totally bankrupt. These are hard choices which are always accompanied by risks. We are dealing with people. And often these people are not very stable. It is difficult to predict how they will react. But there are reasons to believe that the stronger the Ukrainian defense is, the less the desire to attack Ukraine.

MYMEDIA: But with Putin it doesn't seem to be so easy?

Satter: At the worst, if there were a resumption of war, Ukrainians with weapons would be able to defend themselves better.

MYMEDIA: What does the Russian strategy in the United States look like?

Satter: The main goal of the Russian regime in general is the preservation of power, property, wealth and lawlessness. Being bandits, they cannot freely join international organizations. They cannot follow Western rules. They formally want to be members of various international and European organizations, but their inner corruption contradicts this aspiration. America, as the preacher of human rights and the defender of democracy is their objective enemy. The Russian authorities need external enemies because they need to divert the attention of the population away from their own crimes.

This is why I think their strategy is to undermine constantly American politics, wherever possible. But I do not think it is some global plan, like at the time of the USSR, when they wanted to spread communism to the entire world.

MYMEDIA: Many people in Ukraine, including President Petro Poroshenko, believe that the West is losing the information war. Do you agree?

Satter: The fact is that we are not getting across our points of view in the best manner, whereas Russian propaganda is very aggressive and well-done. Russian propaganda is directed at all the people from the post-Soviet space, including Ukraine. It is rather a question of professionalism: We often present our information in an unskilful, unprofessional manner. The internal situation in the West is worrying, but this has been the situation before, over the course of history. The most important is that the culture of these societies is democratic. And the first thing



Russian-backed T72 tank crews rest as they take part in military exercises near Shakhtarsk in Donetsk Oblast on Sept. 16. (AFP)

Ukraine can learn from the West is the rule of law. It is a little weird that when Poroshenko talks about "losing control of Western values" – and at the same time, he himself is doing very little to establish the rule of law in his own country. One needs to have an efficient system of law to fight corruption: fair courts, police and prosecutors. Therefore I don't know what he is talking about. He has to start with himself.

MYMEDIA: What do you see as the options for fighting disinformation? Ukraine, for example, banned Russian TV channels. Some Russian TV series were also banned.

Satter: This is a difficult question. Of course, it's better not to ban - but to improve the quality of your own broadcasting and truthful information.

MYMEDIA: There is also a financial question - how much money is Russia spending for its disinformation campaign? How does this compare to how much the media in democratic countries can afford to spend, especially in Ukraine.

Satter: If a TV channel is regularly lying and distorting, there should be means for the prosecutor to sue that

media outlet and potentially block it. But this should be done very carefully, because basically it is not right. However, in the situation when propaganda can cost the lives of people, this question should be discussed. It is also important to evaluate how effectively this propaganda works and how much influence it has. It might turn out to be much less effective than we think it is. Prohibiting Russian channels is appropriate in Ukraine in the framework of military censorship against the undermining effect of that propaganda.

MYMEDIA: New projects were born in response to Russian propaganda, such as Current Time, which is offering quality information for a Russian-speaking audience, and Stop Fake that exposes false reporting. Are there enough of these kinds of projects, and how effective are they against Russian disinformation?

Satter: There should be more of them.

MYMEDIA: So objective information, common sense and democracy are in the end stronger than disinformation?

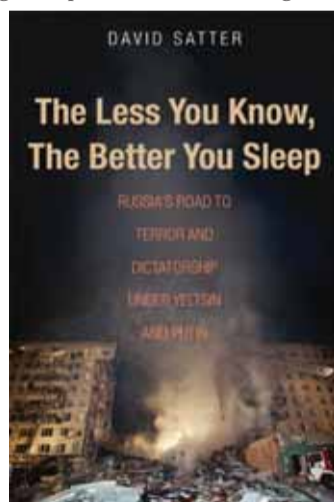
Satter: Normally yes. But in Russia no one can compete with state TV. They seized it and are using it. In Ukraine there are different sources or information, and this is the most important thing. This is why, if the representatives of fair information are able to present their version of events in a competent way, they will win.

MYMEDIA: How do you estimate the perspectives of the development of the Ukrainian-Russian-American relations in the case of a Hillary Clinton victory or a Trump victory?

Satter: I don't know what will happen, but most certainly the difference will not be dramatic. Trump will have an adviser who is smarter than he is, and Clinton has already

committed a lot of foolish mistakes. Now Trump is just talking nonsense, often saying extremely stupid things. But he does not have access to intelligence information. He has to find advisers among the Republicans who will be more realistic.

Yana Biliaieva is a journalist with MYMEDIA, covering media and political matters. ■



David Satter also wrote "The Less You Know, The Better You Sleep."

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Can oligarchs change? The Pinchuk example

Victor Pinchuk, who amassed a fortune under the presidency of father-in-law Leonid Kuchma, likes to say he is now a philanthropist and no longer an oligarch. Since Kuchma left power in 2005, Pinchuk has spent millions of dollars to secure “friendships” with some of the world’s most influential people, including with the woman who is likely to become the next president of the United States. That’s all good for Pinchuk. But is he really a friend of Ukraine?

Story At A Glance

Victor Pinchuk’s “friends” include Hillary and Bill Clinton, Tony Blair and Elton John. In paying millions of dollars in honorariums for famous politicians, entertainers and businesspeople to come to Ukraine, he has brought star power to Ukraine and raised the nation’s profile internationally.

Pinchuk’s family includes wife Elena Kuchma, daughter of ex-President Leonid Kuchma. Pinchuk’s business empire was built via non-transparent tenders, mostly during Kuchma’s presidency between 1994 and 2005.

Pinchuk helped Kuchma deflect blame for the Sept. 16, 2000, murder of journalist Georgiy Gongadze, exposed by the Mykola Melnychenko recordings, through his media holdings, including ICTV and Fakty newspaper.

Other than fellow oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky, with whom he has feuded, Pinchuk maintains working relationships with other oligarchs and top politicians, including Kuchma’s three successors – Viktor Yushchenko (2005-2010), Viktor Yanukovich (2010-2014) and incumbent Petro Poroshenko.

Besides his well-publicized philanthropy, Pinchuk has luxury tastes in his personal life. The London Telegraph reported that Pinchuk spent \$5 million for his opulent 50th birthday party in the French ski resort of Courchevel, flying in the Cirque de Soleil and superchef Alain Ducasse. Pinchuk also bought a top-end home in London at 17 Upper Phillimore Gardens, Kensington, for \$120 million (at the time, \$1 billion) in 2008.

Victor Pinchuk

Date of birth: Dec. 14, 1960.

Place of birth: Kyiv, but shortly after moved to Dnipropetrovsk

Wealth: \$1.3 billion, fourth richest person in Ukraine, according to a 2016 estimate by Focus magazine.

Key Assets: Interpipe, a steel pipe and wheels manufacturer; Credit Dnipro Bank, ferroalloy plants; and his media empire, which includes ICTV, Novy Kanal, STB and, until recently, Fakty newspaper.

Personal: Married to Elena Pinchuk, the only daughter of former Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma. Three daughters; his eldest daughter is from his first marriage.

Praised for: Donating \$125 million through his foundation to educational projects and scholarships, his annual Yalta European Strategy conference, Jewish causes and his art center in Kyiv.

Criticized for: Amassing wealth from insider deals when his father-in-law, Leonid Kuchma, was president; using his media arm to obstruct the investigation into the 2000 murder of journalist Georgiy Gongadze; his courtship of corrupt regimes, including the administration of overthrown President Viktor Yanukovich



(Volodymyr Petrov)

Editor’s Note: This article is part of the Oligarch Watch series of reports supported by Objective Investigative Reporting Program, a MYMEDIA project funded by the Danish government. All articles in this series are available in English, Ukrainian and Russian. They may be published freely with credits to their source. Content is independent of the donor. Contact news@kyivpost.com for details.

BY ISOBEL KOSHIW
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In 2013, Ukrainian billionaire Victor Pinchuk welcomed current U.S. Democratic Party presidential nominee Hillary Clinton onto the stage at his Yalta European Strategy, an annual conference he funds to promote Ukraine’s European integration

and strategy, calling her: “a real megastar.”

Clinton and her husband Bill, the 42nd U.S. president, have been paid speakers at the annual YES and other Pinchuk events. They describe themselves as friends of Pinchuk, who is known internationally as a businessman and philanthropist.

To date, Pinchuk’s charitable

foundation has given \$125 million to various causes, according to his spokespeople.

As well as the Clintons, Pinchuk can count Tony Blair, the former United Kingdom prime minister, and Elton John, the music legend, among his friends.

“Victor Pinchuk is the leading advocate for bringing his country into the European Union. He is heroic in his fight against anti-Semitism as well,” John once wrote. “Victor shows his love of our planet and makes the world a better place to live.” At the 2016 YES conference,

actor Kevin Spacey made an appearance as Pinchuk’s special guest.

In April, Pinchuk was invited to join the international advisory board at the Atlantic Council, one of Washington’s best-known think tanks. Also on the board is former Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt, former U.S. national security advisor Zbigniew Brzezinski, former U.S. Secretary of Defense Charles T. Hagel, and top business leaders.

“His efforts promoting Ukraine’s partnership with the European Union is matched by his unwavering commitment to promoting human rights in Ukraine,” Fred Kempe, president and CEO of the Atlantic Council, said in a statement about Pinchuk.

But Pinchuk hasn’t always mixed in such circles or received such praise. Pinchuk would not be interviewed for this story.

Moving to Kyiv

Pinchuk’s ascension to the top of Ukraine’s elite and into White House society began in 1990 with Interpipe, a Dnipropetrovsk steel pipe and wheel manufacturer that sold to countries in the former Soviet Union.

A pipe engineer by education, Pinchuk says he developed the business based on his own patents. At that time, Ukraine didn’t have a national currency, only the interim one known as the karbovanets, or coupons, so Pinchuk sold the steel pipes to Russia and central Asian countries in exchange for natural gas.

In the mid-1990s, he teamed up with Yulia Tymoshenko, then a

Dnipropetrovsk-based gas and oil trader, to start a company called Sodruzhestvo.

“The then-governor (Pavlo) Lazarenko was also a beneficiary (of Sodruzhestvo). No one did anything without him in those days,” said Nikita Poturayev, Pinchuk’s de facto communications head in 1998, of Lazarenko. Pinchuk was also first elected to parliament in 1998, serving as a lawmaker until 2006.

“But at some point Pinchuk understood that for him things could end badly, they might even kill him because they now knew how the scheme worked and they didn’t need him anymore,” Poturayev recalled. “So he started looking for connections in Kyiv. It took a while before he was in (then President Leonid) Kuchma’s circle though.”

According to Poturayev, Pinchuk was a classical music fan and funded several concert tours of famous Soviet orchestras to which he would invite members of the elite. It was at one of these concerts in 1996 that he was introduced to Kuchma’s only child, his daughter Elena. She became his second wife six years later.

Lazarenko fell from favor after challenging Kuchma for the presidency in 1999, fled and was subsequently arrested and later convicted in the United States on money laundering charges. Pinchuk took over his gas trade (as Lazarenko and Tymoshenko’s company, United Energy Systems of Ukraine, was excluded from the market)



Billionaire Victor Pinchuk, founder the board of the Yalta European Strategy, introduces ex-U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2013.(Yalta European Strategy)



OLIGARCH WATCH

Pinchuk starts out in Dnipro, moves to Kyiv, then marries Kuchma's daughter

and became the top oligarch in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast through a series of privatizations, and the growth of Interpipe.

Jewish revival

Pinchuk helped a revival of the long-repressed Jewish community in Dnipropetrovsk led by Israeli-American rabbi Shmuel Kaminetzky, who arrived from Brooklyn in 1990. The Holocaust and World War II had almost wiped out the 100,000-strong pre-war Jewish community.

"From 1939 to 1990, there was no rabbi—there was some official communist-appointed rabbi, but no real Jewish life. They shut down 47 synagogues, they controlled everything, but in every major city the communists left a token religious community and one small synagogue," Kaminetzky said in an interview with the Combined Jewish Philanthropies organization.

Joining the revival besides Pinchuk were Dnipropetrovsk business partners and future oligarchs Ihor Kolomoisky and Gennadiy Bogolyubov. The trio have donated tens of millions of dollars to Jewish projects in the city.

Kaminetzky was just a spiritual leader, but also, according to what Dnipropetrovsk businessman Edward Sartan told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in 2005, Kaminetzky also reconciled business disputes

Feud with Kolomoisky

In 2013, Pinchuk sued archrival Ihor Kolomoisky and his partner Gennadiy Bogolyubov in London's High Court for \$2 billion, unleashing testimony on their sordid business dealings from 1999 until the mid-2000s.

Pinchuk claimed that they had wrongly held onto and profited from shares in KZhRK, a major Ukrainian ore mining enterprise, that he paid \$143 million for in 2005.

Kolomoisky and Bogolyubov, however, insisted that Pinchuk's claim over the shares derived from his sense of "entitlement" because he was the president's son-in-law at the time.

Kolomoisky and Bogolyubov acquired KZhRK in July 2004 as part of the privatization of the

Ukrudprom Group, a state holding of ore mining businesses. Pinchuk insinuated in his claim that if it wasn't for him, the pair would not have been successful in the state tender, as the law was designed to favor those who already owned shares in Ukrudprom — Kolomoisky and Bogolyubov included. Kuchma had the right to veto the law, Pinchuk pointed out. Kolomoisky and Bogolyubov agreed in their defense that Pinchuk used his influence to pass the law and to ensure an artificially low price.

The London court documents show that, while on a trip with Bogolyubov to Jerusalem in 2005, Kaminetzky received a phone call from Pinchuk. When Pinchuk heard Kaminetzky was with Bogolyubov, he asked the rabbi to relay a question about whether he would receive KZhRK if he paid \$143 million for Alcross, a shell company that supposedly owned the shares of KZhRK. Bogolyubov said yes, but when Pinchuk bought Alcross he found it owned no shares.

Nikopol Ferroalloys

Bogolyubov later claimed he thought that Pinchuk was referring to other money that he and Kolomoisky believed they were still owed for Nikopol — a ferroalloys plant privatized in 1999 and that they allege Pinchuk had promised, yet failed to share with them.

All three successfully bid for 4.6 percent of Nikopol in 1999, with Pinchuk owning half of the stake. They then agreed that any future shares acquired would be split equally, along with the profit. Between 2000 and 2003, Pinchuk's Credit Dnepr bank and the Industrial and Financial Consortium of Pridneprovye acquired the majority share of Nikopol, but the defendants allege Pinchuk didn't stick to the agreement.

Pinchuk also was accused by the defendants of abusing his connections to control state-owned enterprises and extract kickbacks. For instance, according to the defendants, in exchange for control over the board of Ukraine's largest state oil and gas company, Ukrnafta, Kolomoisky (who owned



Victor Pinchuk remains a loyal son-in-law to Leonid Kuchma, Ukraine's longest-serving president, in office from 1994 to 2005. Kuchma's reign, however, is often referred to as independent Ukraine's "first dictatorship," a time of rampant corruption and the creation of the first generation of post-Soviet oligarchs. (Volodymyr Petrov)



Former Beatle Paul McCartney performs on Independence Square during a concert in Kyiv on June 14, 2008 sponsored by Victor Pinchuk. (UNIAN)



Victor Pinchuk and Yulia Tymoshenko speak in the Verkhovna Rada in Kyiv on May 10, 1998 when they were members of parliament. (UNIAN)

40.1 percent of the company) paid 50 percent of the profits into one of Pinchuk's accounts monthly, plus \$5 million a month into a "Special Fund" that Pinchuk allegedly said was for the upcoming 2004 election campaign.

Conversely, Pinchuk accused Kolomoisky of ordering the murders of three people, including a Dnipropetrovsk lawyer, and repeated corporate raiding. Kolomoisky has denied these accusations.

Neither side came off well from the pre-trial testimony.

Taken together, the depositions show how the oligarchy operated behind closed doors, colluding in privatization tenders to rob the state of revenues in auctions that should have been competitive.

The much-anticipated trial was settled days before the case was due to start in January.

Gongadze's murder

On Nov. 28, 2000, crisis hit the families of Leonid Kuchma and Victor Pinchuk.

Two months after journalist

Georgiy Gongadze went missing, the leader of the Socialist Party Oleksandr Moroz made a sensational speech in parliament. He claimed to have recordings of Kuchma ordering Gongadze's disappearance. On the tapes, a voice resembling Kuchma can be heard complaining about Gongadze's articles to then Interior Minister Yuriy Kravchenko:

"I say, as Volodya (Lytvyn, head of the Presidential Administration) says, the Chechens must kidnap him and

Pinchuk helped Kuchma deflect blame for murder

Pinchuk from page 11

take him to Chechnya by his dick and demand a ransom.” (Kuchma and Kravchenko, July 3, 2000)

“I’m telling you to drive him out, give him to the Chechens...Take him there, undress him, the fucker, leave him without his trousers, and let him sit there... He’s simply a fucker.” (Kuchma and Kravchenko, July 10, 2000)

In the weeks leading up to his kidnapping and death on Sept. 16, 2000, Gongadze voiced concerns to his friends and Ukraine’s General Prosecutor’s Office that he was being followed.

The recordings, which became known as the “cassette scandal,” consisted of more than 500 hours of conversations secretly recorded in the president’s office by Kuchma’s bodyguard, Mykola Melnychenko, from 1998 until a week after Gongadze’s disappearance. Aside from Gongadze, the tapes point to entrenched high-level corruption by the political elite – led by Kuchma.

Gongadze’s beheaded body was discovered in woods in Kyiv Oblast on Nov. 2. In addition to the body initially being left in conditions that hastened decomposition, it also disappeared temporarily and turned up in a Kyiv city morgue. Several DNA tests later confirmed the body was that of Gongadze.

In 2001, the Labor Ukraine party that Pinchuk was affiliated with paid Kroll Associates, an American



Georgiy Gongadze, the journalist who founded Ukrainska Pravda, was murdered on Sept. 16, 2000.

private investigations firm, to analyze the authenticity of the tapes. Kroll concluded that they had been doctored.

On the other hand, forensic audio specialists BEK TEK concluded that the recordings were authentic and had not been tampered with, and that the voices were indeed those of Kuchma and then-Interior Minister Yuriy Kravchenko. The owner of BEK TEK, Bruce Koenig, who had been an FBI audio-verification expert, stated that their findings would stand up in a Western court.

No investigation within Ukraine has ever supported their authenticity. To some extent, the debate



Ukrainska Pravda journalist Pavel Sheremet (L) shakes hands with ex-President Leonid Kuchma (C) during the Yalta European Strategy annual meeting on Sept. 11, 2015 in Kyiv. On July 20, Sheremet was murdered by a car bomb in Kyiv, a reminder of the murder of Ukrainska Pravda founder Georgiy Gongadze on Sept. 16, 2000. Kuchma remains the top suspect in ordering Gongadze's murder. He has always denied the accusation and has never formally been charged. (Volodymyr Petrov)

over the tapes was part of a diversion. With the prosecutor’s office controlled by the president, no serious investigation was ever undertaken by the Ukrainian authorities into the tapes, or the veracity of what was said on the tapes.

What’s a son-in-law for?

Pinchuk’s media outlets rallied

to the defense of his father-in-law.

Fakty, Ukraine’s largest newspaper at the time, immediately produced dozens of disparate versions of Gongadze’s disappearance, amplifying the authorities’ contradictory statements. From claiming that he was still alive, and had

been spotted by witnesses in various places in Ukraine and abroad (witnesses who later proved to be fake), to that he was killed by the same mafia types who falsified the recordings.

Kuchma and his supporters have long argued that the recordings were organized by his opponents and doctored to distort what had been said.

In 2002, the Financial Times correspondent to Ukraine Charles Clover, along with producer and filmmaker Peter Powell, was paid by an unknown source to produce an hour-long documentary entitled “PR.” It alleged that the U.S. government was using the Gongadze scandal to replace an innocent Kuchma with then-Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko.

In the two weeks leading up to the 2002 parliamentary elections, the film was broadcast three times, twice on Pinchuk’s ICTV and once on 1+1, whose programming was then allegedly controlled by Oleksandr Volkov, another Kuchma ally.

According to the 2003 book entitled ‘Beheaded’ by Jaroslav Koshiv (Editor’s Note: The book’s author, former Kyiv Post editor Jaroslav Koshiv, is the father of Kyiv Post staff writer Isobel Koshiv, this article’s author): “The news on Kuchma’s son-in-law’s ICTV aggressively defended the president and attacked the authenticity of the recordings.”

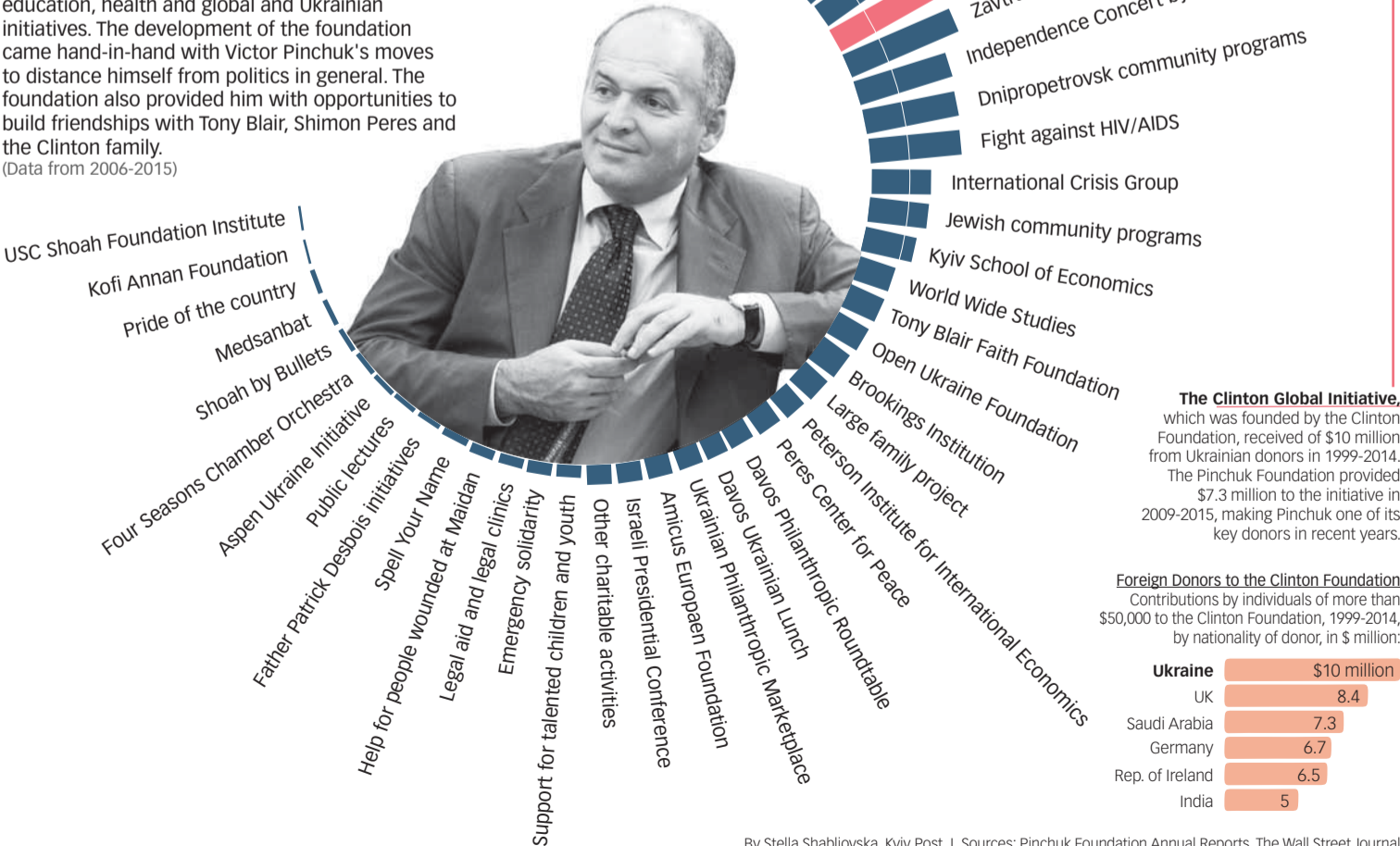
The media campaign in support of Kuchma continued intermittently for over a decade after the killing, as the General Prosecutor’s Office opened and closed investigations into the murder. The investigation remains open.

The highest-ranking person convicted in the murder of Gongadze was former police Gen. Oleksiy Pukach, sentenced on Jan. 29, 2013 to life imprisonment. Pukach has

Where does the Pinchuk Foundation spend its money?

The Pinchuk Foundation has a wide range of charitable programs connected with the arts, education, health and global and Ukrainian initiatives. The development of the foundation came hand-in-hand with Victor Pinchuk’s moves to distance himself from politics in general. The foundation also provided him with opportunities to build friendships with Tony Blair, Shimon Peres and the Clinton family.

(Data from 2006-2015)



Despite changes, Pinchuk keeps businesses intact

said Kuchma and Lytvyn should stand trial as well. Three lower-ranking police officers were also convicted and received lesser prison sentences.

After being driven from power with Yanukovich and other allies, former Deputy Prosecutor General Renat Kuzmin in 2015 told the Ihor Kolomoisky-owned 1+1 TV channel that Kuchma paid "a colossal \$1 billion bribe to close the criminal case" against him. Kuchma called the allegations "yet another dirty lie" in comments to the Kyiv Post.

Without Kuchma

The Melnychenko scandal ignited an anti-Kuchma protest movement, "Ukraine Without Kuchma," which became the basis of the 2004 Orange Revolution. Kuchma's camp was accused of rigging the Nov. 21, 2004 presidential election in favor of his intended successor, Viktor Yanukovich. A public uprising forced a Supreme Court ruling and a re-run election, which Yushchenko won on Dec. 26, 2004.

Initially the anti-oligarch rhetoric from the newly elected leaders, Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, was strong. Tymoshenko went after a number of assets she said were unfairly privatized, including those of Pinchuk.

Kryvorizhstal reversal

She was successful in nationalizing and then re-privatizing the Kryvorizhstal steel mill, which was 44-percent owned by Pinchuk. Originally privatized for the rock-bottom price of \$800 million in 2004, with his father-in-law still in power, Indian-owned Mittal Steel paid six times as much — \$4.8 billion — only a year later in 2005.

Overall, however, attempts to right past wrongs waned, and the entrenched oligarchy created over

the past 15 years fought back with a vengeance, and remained in power.

London court documents from 2013 show that Pinchuk acted together with other oligarchs to consolidate several metallurgy assets and protect them from the same fate as Kryvorizhstal: namely by creating an offshore company called Ferroalloys Holding. According to Kolomoisky's defense referring to a meeting in 2006:

"The claimant said that he was concerned that if Yulia Tymoshenko returned as prime minister (she served from Jan. 24 to Sep. 8, 2005 and again from Dec. 18, 2007 to March 4, 2010), there was a real risk that the shareholding in Nikopol of 50 percent plus one share would be re-registered in the name of the State Property Fund of Ukraine."

Despite their attempts, Pinchuk had to battle it out for control of Nikopol in the Kyiv courts, eventually winning on appeal in 2007. The review of past privatizations was discarded when Tymoshenko was unseated as prime minister in 2005.

Kuchma stays free

Justice for Gongadze took a similar turn for the benefit of the Kuchma family.

On the eve of Svyatoslav Piskun's appointment as general prosecutor, a voice resembling his can be heard on a leaked recording, most likely released by a dissident security services agent, promising someone with a voice resembling that of Pinchuk that he will protect the Kuchma family in exchange for the appointment:

Piskun: Viten'ka (diminutive for Viktor), I beg you on my knees, and with every, you know what ... go there and take this question in hand.

Pinchuk: In short, assure us, that



Ukrainian businessman and philanthropist Victor Pinchuk shakes hands with then Party of Regions lawmaker and billionaire Rinat Akhmetov (R) before a 7th Ukrainian-Russian economic forum on May 18, 2010 in Kyiv. (Ukrainian photo)

you are a friend?

Piskun: Not only (a friend).

Pinchuk: A great friend.

Piskun: Yes. And tell him that we, as our families have been friends, we will continue to be friends. And everything will be fine.

(Alleged recording of Piskun and Pinchuk, Dec. 9, 2004)

In 2005, Piskun denied that such a conversation had taken place: "Of course, it was hoax," he told Radio Svoboda journalists when asked about its authenticity.

At his Kyiv office in July, however, Piskun told the Kyiv Post he had reached out to Pinchuk to get Kuchma to reappoint him as prosecutor. When asked if the conversation took place, he gave a characteristically vague answer:

"I don't remember. He (Pinchuk) said that the conversation occurred.



Viktor Pinchuk speaks with fellow oligarch Dmytro Firtash, who is now in exile fighting U.S. corruption charges, at a press conference of then-Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and then-Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich in Donetsk on Oct. 18, 2011. (Ukrainian photo)

I don't remember it. Maybe it happened because I remember when the topic of my return was being discussed I talked to Pinchuk. I talked to Pinchuk. Why? Because for me Pinchuk seems more democratic. A more rightful person than Kuchma. Do you understand? So if I understood that Kuchma is the Red Commissar, Red Director. He has the soul of a communist. I considered Pinchuk a more Western person. But there was one phrase in that conversation: 'I beg you on my knees.' I never say things like that. I haven't even knelt down in front of my own mother."

Piskun: Tapes authentic

In his interview with the Kyiv Post, Piskun became the first senior official to admit to the authenticity of the Gongadze tapes and, moreover, that he believed, due to the FBI analysis carried out in 2003, that they were genuine even back then. However, he says they are not evidence that Kuchma ordered the journalist's murder, as Kuchma did

not use the word "kill." Instead, he says a case needs to be opened to establish and investigate causal links.

Piskun: "I know what I know. I know what he said. And I believe that on those tapes there is the voice of Kuchma, (former President Viktor) Yanukovich, (then head of Presidential Administration Volodymyr) Lytvyn, Kravchenko and others. I know this. I believe the study that has already been done. But what is needed is to establish the causal link. This needs to be done by investigators."

Kyiv Post: But the causal link is that he was the president and he said these words to Kravchenko who was the head of Interior Ministry.

Piskun: Attention! They didn't carry out the order. What was the order?

Kyiv Post: To take him to Chechnya

Piskun: Why didn't they take him to Chechnya?



Victor Pinchuk and ex-United Kingdom Prime Minister Tony Blair at the 12th annual Yalta European Strategy conference on Sept. 11, 2015 in Kyiv. (UNIAN)



From left, ex-President Leonid Kuchma, BBC HARDtalk moderator Stephen Sackur, Elena Pinchuk and Victor Pinchuk listen to a speaker during Pinchuk's annual Yalta European Strategy Conference on Sept. 12, 2015. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Pinchuk's image makeover marred by past misdeeds

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Kyiv Post: I don't know. I remember at that time there was a method that the security services used when they choked people. They did the same to Gongadze but for too long.

Piskun: And you're telling me that? (laughs)

On March 4, 2005, the Gongadze investigation came to yet another halt after Interior Minister Yuriy Kravchenko was found dead in his home on the day he was scheduled to give evidence. The authorities declared it was a suicide, but some gun experts say it would have been nearly impossible for Kravchenko to shoot himself twice in the head.



**OLIGARCH
WATCH**

Moving West

Even before his father-in-law left the presidency, Pinchuk began to expand his horizons.

In the summer of 2004, he held the first Yalta European Strategy summit in Crimea. There were around 30 attendees. Thomas Eymond-Laritz, a foreign consultant and one of Pinchuk's key advisers between 2004 and 2009, was one of them. At the

time, according to Eymond-Laritz, Pinchuk was looking for somebody to manage his international relations and non-business activities.

From 2006, with the help of Eymond-Laritz, he started to fund large-scale philanthropic and development projects under the umbrella of the Victor Pinchuk Foundation. It has sent 80 students on part scholarships to study abroad since 2010; given scholarships to 2,000 students within Ukraine; created 32 neonatal centers across the country; provides training courses for medical staff dealing with war casualties, and supported the revival of the Ukrainian Jewish community.

Pinchuk was the first Ukrainian oligarch to set up a foundation, and the others followed suit, Eymond-Laritz told the Kyiv Post.

"There was a real philanthropic revolution in Ukraine that was driven by Pinchuk," said Eymond-Laritz.

Friends in high places

By 2007 and 2008, once he could demonstrate the success of the projects, Pinchuk was able to make

connections with the international leaders he associates with today, according to Eymond-Laritz.

His relationship with the Clintons

is particularly famed. In 2015, the Wall Street Journal alleged that Pinchuk was the largest individual donor to the Clinton Foundation,

giving at least \$8.6 million between 2009 and 2013. The foundation in September also reported it has given an additional \$7.4 million to the



Victor Pinchuk discusses with winners of the Worldwide Studies scholarship program 2013 on June 21, 2012. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Pinchuk retains political clout out of office

Clinton Global Initiative charity.

The clout that comes with such a friendship is evident. As an example of his access to White House, between September 2011 and November 2012, Pinchuk met State Department officials a total of 12 times, the New York Times reported.

Pinchuk has given nearly \$1 million to Blair's foundation and Blair has come to Ukraine several times at Pinchuk's invitation. Last year, via Pinchuk, President Petro Poroshenko

tried to bring Blair in as an adviser, although in the end it amounted to nothing more than a photo opportunity.

Pinchuk has been awarded a seat on the board of the Atlantic Council and the Brookings Institute, and was on the board of the Peterson Institute for International Economics, all prominent U.S. think tanks. He has reciprocated. In 2016, Peterson Institute

more **Pinchuk** on page 16

Then Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich (L) and founder of the group of companies Interpipe, art patron Victor Pinchuk during the opening ceremony of the metallurgical plant Interpipe Steel on Oct. 4, 2012 in Dnipro. (Dnipropetrovsk). (UNIAN)



New generations come to power, with help from Pinchuk, one way or another: Do they owe him?

BY OLEG SUKHOV
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Billionaire Victor Pinchuk says that he left politics, in part by not seeking re-election as a parliament lawmaker, after his father-in-law Leonid Kuchma's presidency ended in 2005.

There is, however, evidence of financial influence on domestic politics by this wealthy businessman and media magnate, who has given money to members of various political parties over the years.

For instance, the Viktor Pinchuk Foundation donated \$1.75 million to ex-Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk's Open Ukraine charity fund in 2006-2015, according to a report by the Pinchuk Foundation.

However, Open Ukraine denies the existence of any political links between Yatsenyuk and Pinchuk.

"Arseniy Yatsenyuk is just a founder of the foundation, and does not influence the decisions made by its supervisory and executive boards," Open Ukraine told the Kyiv Post. "...The foundation's activities are not directed by any external interests. This principle also applies to Arseniy Yatsenyuk."

Another example is that of Sergii Leshchenko, a former investigative journalist who brands himself as an anti-corruption crusader critical even of President Petro Poroshenko - despite being a member of the pro-presidential parliament faction. Leshchenko received Hr 55,478 in 2015 and Hr 35,543 in 2016 from the Victor Pinchuk Foundation,



Sergii Leshchenko

according to Leshchenko's leaked tax returns, published by Espresso.tv website, which in turn was founded by a member of Yatsenyuk's People's Front party.

Leshchenko told the Kyiv Post the money was payment for his participation in events organized by Pinchuk during the World Economic Forum in Davos.

Leshchenko denied having any links to Pinchuk, telling the Kyiv Post that the Victor Pinchuk Foundation had received money from George Soros' International Renaissance Foundation to finance his participation and that of other Ukrainian lawmakers in the Davos Economic Forum.

In other cases, loyalty to Pinchuk may be simply because he financially helped students get ahead in life - and they took leadership positions in the nation.



Arseniy Yatsenyuk

Before they became politicians, lawmakers Oleksiy Ryabchyn and Alyona Shkrum from the Batkivshchyna Party and Natalia Katser-Buchkovska from the People's Front party received WorldWideStudies scholarships from Pinchuk's foundation to study abroad. Each scholarship amounted to about \$30,000.

Do they feel beholden to him as a consequence? Do they feel a need to protect his interests above the national interest?

Shkrum and Katser-Buchkovska dismissed as nonsense allegations that, as past scholarship winners, they represent Pinchuk's interests. Ryabchyn merely said that Pinchuk's money went to the university where he studied.

Olga Bielkova, a lawmaker from the Poroshenko Bloc, used to work for the Victor Pinchuk Foundation



Olga Bielkova

and was responsible for the WorldWideStudies program, while Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze, deputy prime minister for European integration and a former Poroshenko Bloc lawmaker, used to be the director of Pinchuk's Yalta European Strategy project. Klympush-Tsintsadze did not respond to a request for comment.

Meanwhile, U.S. lobbyist Doug Schoen said in a May 16 report filed with the U.S. Department of Justice that he had received money from the Victor Pinchuk Foundation and the oligarch's EastOne business group to meet with 76 people, including Bielkova and Pavlo Ryzanenko, another lawmaker from the Poroshenko Bloc, the Ukrainska Pravda online newspaper reported in September. According to the report, Schoen gets \$40,000 from Pinchuk every month.

Bielkova said she has visited the United States and met Schoen, but says she has nothing to do with Pinchuk's money.

"The Victor Pinchuk Foundation paid neither for this trip nor for any others," she told the Kyiv Post. "The document published on Ukrainska Pravda shows a report by a registered lobbyist who gets monthly payments for his services, regardless of my presence."

She said that she made the trip after being invited by the Atlantic Council, a think tank, and the International Monetary Fund, war-torn Ukraine's top financial creditor. Bielkova added that Pinchuk's



Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze

foundation had never paid her after she left it.

Ryzanenko told Ukrainska Pravda that Bielkova had invited him to one of her meetings in the United States.

Bielkova, Katser-Buchkovska and Ryabchyn sit on the Verkhovna Rada's energy committee. Katser-Buchkovska and Bielkova, as well as Leshchenko, have praised some actions of the current management of Ukrzavvydobuvannya, which has been accused by critics of having links to Pinchuk.

Oleksandr Romanyuk, a deputy head of Ukrzavvydobuvannya, used to be an adviser to the chief executive of Pinchuk's EastOne group.

Ukrzavvydobuvannya has cancelled controversial joint gas production contracts with private firms controlled by vested interests as part of efforts to make the company more transparent and profitable. The contracts have been criticized as rent-seeking schemes for politicians to skim off Ukrzavvydobuvannya's profits.

However, the company's contract with a firm called Dion has not been cancelled, energy analyst Bohdan Solokovsky told the Kyiv Post. Dion is controlled by Pinchuk, according to the dsnews.ua news site.

Bielkova denied accusations that she is lobbying for Pinchuk's interests in the natural gas industry. "All of my bills are publicly discussed with all market players, signed by various lawmakers, and are directed towards one goal: increasing Ukraine's domestic natural gas production," she said.



Alex Ryabchyn



Alyona Shkrum



Nataliya Katser-Buchkovska

Pinchuk gives out \$125 million, the price of his London house

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and Brookings fellow Anders Aslund became a member of the board at Pinchuk's Credit Dnipro, along with former International Monetary Fund head Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

Out of public office

The development of the foundation, and the conference, came hand-in-hand with Pinchuk's moves to distance himself publicly from politics. When his second consecutive term as a parliamentary deputy ended in 2006, Pinchuk decided not to stand for office again.

Said Eymond-Lartiaz: "The funny thing is that this transition - and he was the first one, the first large oligarch to decide to withdraw from politics at that time, I vividly remember - takes time to become reality. Today you can discuss politics and the name of Pinchuk never appears. So, in a way, this decision he took in 2004 and 2005 to withdraw from political life is a real fact now. It was a real fact before. But in a way he really stopped being an oligarch and became truly a business leader and philanthropist... 10 years ago, nobody would believe that a billionaire like Pinchuk could have nothing to do with politics, but today, it's a fact."

Around the same time Pinchuk also took the decision not to participate in any further privatizations in order to "cut the relationship between his business activities and the state," said Eymond-Lartiaz.

Star shows

Actor Kevin Spacey's appearance at this year's YES conference underscored Pinchuk's transformation from son-in-law oligarch to international businessman. Spacey walked onto the stage at the YES dinner at the same moment that a 16th anniversary commemoration of Gongadze's murder was happening across Kyiv.

No longer an oligarch?

Over the last decade, through his foundation and the conference, Pinchuk has presented himself to hordes of political and business leaders as a proponent of Ukraine's European integration, and as a Western businessman.

This attempted image makeover comes despite the fact that his main business interest, Interpipe, is aligned with Russia or other former Soviet republics. The company has looked to break into new markets upon facing significant losses since Russia refused to extend its duty-free quotas in 2013, and global oil prices fell, shrinking the demand for railcar wheels and oil and gas pipes.

According to Dennis Sakva, energy sector analyst at Dragon Capital: Interpipe has \$1.1 billion in debt. Political analyst Taras Berezovets sees no contradiction in Pinchuk's openly European Union stance, while having his hands in Russian pockets.

Rather, he told the Kyiv Post, it's a balancing act.

"He never was in favor of some sort

For this oligarch, owning 3 TV stations is way to help friends, warn enemies

BY OKSANA GRYTSENKO
GRYTSENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

If the oligarch with the most TV stations wins, billionaire Victor Pinchuk is Ukraine's champion. He has three channels - ICTV, STB and Novy Kanal - as part of his StarLightMedia holding.

"Owning television gives you access to the highest ranks of oligarchic influence in Ukraine," said Balazh Jarabik, a visiting scholar at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

StarLightMedia is owned by Pinchuk and his wife, Elena Pinchuk, the daughter of former President Leonid Kuchma.

The media holding is among the assets that Pinchuk acquired while his father-in-law served as Ukraine's second president from 1994 through 2005.

Besides ICTV, STB and Novy Kanal, the holding includes music stations M1, M2, and QTV.

All in all, 22 percent of Ukraine's television audience tunes into one of Pinchuk's stations, according to recent research by the Institute of Mass Information and Reporters Without Borders.

This gives him more viewers than fellow billionaire oligarchs Dmytro Firtash with his Inter Media group, Ihor Kolomoisky with 1+1 media and Rinat Akhmetov, who controls the Media Group Ukraine.

Pinchuk bought ICTV, one of the first private Ukrainian TV stations, in 2000 from then gas magnate and pro-government lawmaker Igor Bakai.

In the early 2000s, he purchased STB from Russia's Lukoil oil group, and Novy Kanal from Moscow-based Alfa Group.

Observers say he first exploited the power of nationwide television in the 2002 parliamentary campaign, promoting Winter Crop Generation, an unsuccessful new political formation that was seen as a spoiler party.

"The representatives of Winter Crop Generation were seated along with political heavyweights on TV talk shows, which portrayed them as those that had some significance," recalled political analyst Kostiantyn Bondarenko.

Bondarenko said that ownership of a TV channel became a typical attribute of any Ukrainian oligarch, but Pinchuk never lost interest in television. He invested millions of dollars in the development of his then-small TV channels to bring them to competitive positions.

To launch entertainment and cartoon channel QTV in 2008 alone, he spent some \$5 million, said Olga Vaganova, a StarLightMedia spokeswoman.

The rewards are not financial.



From left, ICTV CEO Oleksander Bogutsky, StarLightMedia owner Victor Pinchuk, STB TV chairman Vladimir Borodyansky talk on Nov. 11, 2009, in Kyiv about the consolidation of TV channels under Pinchuk's ownership. (UNIAN)

aganova said Pinchuk's channels, just like all Ukrainian TV channels, are unprofitable.

Instead, the benefits include political leverage and power.

When Viktor Yushchenko replaced Kuchma after the 2004 Orange Revolution, Pinchuk lost his powerful patron.

But the influence on public opinion through television helped to keep him afloat and thwart attacks by rivals that rose above him in the ranks of political power.

Pinchuk, analysts say, used all the might of the ICTV, STB and Novy Kanal channels to criticize and - ultimately torpedo - plans by then-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko to cancel questionable privatization tenders. This helped Pinchuk keep control of the prized and profitable Nikopol Ferroalloy Plant.

ICTV, for example, showed a TV documentary questioning the economic benefit of the re-privatization of the plant. All three channels heavily covered protest rallies against re-nationalization of the factory.

Eventually, Yushchenko fired Tymoshenko, defusing the imminent threat to Pinchuk's business interests.

When prosecutors under President Viktor Yanukovich allowed a criminal investigation into the alleged involvement of Kuchma in the Sept. 16, 2000, kidnapping and murder of journalist Georgiy Gongadze, news coverage blasted to viewers on Pinchuk's channels countered by discrediting the investigation, challenging the evidence and polishing Kuchma's image.

"He didn't just use them. It was one of the keynotes," said Otar Dovzhenko, a lecturer at the School

of Journalism at Ukrainian Catholic University and a former editor of the Telekritika media watchdog.

Dovzhenko said that, when Kuchma turned 75 in 2013, ICTV had a special edition on its main Sunday news show, which consisted of an interview with Kuchma. Publicity stunts such as events when Kuchma made a public appearance giving lectures or presenting grants for students always received coverage on Pinchuk's channels.

In January 2013, Pinchuk's channels stood out by not showing the final courtroom speech of former police Gen. Oleksiy Pukach, who was sentenced to life in prison for Gongadze's murder.

In the dramatic scene, Pukach claimed that he would agree with the verdict only when Kuchma and his former chief of staff Volodymyr Lytvyn joined him in the dock.

Although it was assumed by many for years that Pinchuk himself held a controlling stake in the channels, legislation adopted in 2015 aimed at bringing transparency to media ownership forced him to reveal that his wife Elena owned a 50 percent interest in all of his media assets.

Despite extensively promoting Kuchma and Pinchuk's charity events, his channels were trying not to take any political side. Instead, they covered any political party or politician who was ready to pay, Dovzhenko said. He said: "ICTV has always been a supermarket of 'jeansa,'" - the slang term for paid-for PR or advertorials disguised as news.

During the parliament campaign in 2014, ICTV became No. 3 in terms of the number of its news items that appeared to be "jinsa," after the Inter

and Ukraina TV channels, a media monitoring by Telekritika conducted in September-October 2014 showed.

ICTV spokeswoman Tetiana Veremchuk didn't immediately comment on the issue.

Pinchuk's channels also took a neutral side during the EuroMaidan Revolution that ousted President Viktor Yanukovich on Feb. 22, 2014. Activists criticized the stations for their neutrality.

"Pinchuk's channels show comedies, and Inter (shows) movies. No need for nicely written statements, guys. Dead bodies and seas of blood are on your conscience," wrote now-lawmaker Viktoriya Syumar, the former executive director at Institute of Mass Information, on her Facebook page on Feb. 19, 2014. The comment came the day after the first mass shootings of demonstrators.

At the last parliament elections of 2014, Pinchuk's channels promoted independent lawmakers close to the oligarch. Thanks to extensive TV coverage on ICTV, Pinchuk's former manager, Yakiv Bezbakh, once again secured a parliament seat, Dovzhenko said.

Pinchuk's channels don't seem to challenge or strongly praise any of Ukraine's post-Kuchma presidents, including current leader Petro Poroshenko.

TV monitoring by Vox Ukraine, published on Sept. 7, revealed that the prime time Sunday TV shows of Pinchuk's ICTV had no more than 2 percent negative mentions of Poroshenko. This same pattern is also seen on the channels controlled by Firtash, Kolomoisky and Akhmetov.

Victor Pinchuk and his wife Elena Pinchuk, founder of the ANTI AIDS Foundation, look at the exhibits during the opening of the "Fear and Hope" exhibition in the Pinchuk Art Centre on May 16, 2014 in Kyiv. (Pavlo Podufalov)



"The purpose of my stay at the hunting club was hunting."

He said that he joined the club in 2008 when Yanukovych was in opposition. "When the situation changed, the rules dictated that one did not refuse an invitation from the president."

Clinton's friend

Pinchuk's political capital, albeit in some dimensions limited, comes from his connections, as showcased at the YES conference, which brings together more big names than any other conference, as well as his ownership of three major Ukrainian TV channels. Together they have a combined viewership of 22 percent of the population, the Industrial Television Committee reported in September, meaning Pinchuk has the widest reach.

"He can sell these facts to the president or the Ukrainian government," says Berezovets.

This has never been more true than in the post-Yanukovych era: the government's promise of EU integration, its reliance on IMF money and its need for continued Russian sanctions has left it dependent on good relations with the West.

With Hillary Clinton likely to be the next president of the United States, Pinchuk may yet achieve what others in the Ukrainian elite can only dream of: being a personal "friend," as Clinton called him at YES 2013, of the U.S. president.

Escaping his past?

However, despite all of Pinchuk's attempts to make people forget how he became wealthy, the past may haunt him forever. The investigation into Kuchma's suspected involvement in Gongadze's murder has never been closed. He clings to his three TV stations. He tries to stay on the good side of whoever is in power. He spends at least as much on personal luxuries – like a \$120 million London house – than his foundation gives away. And the largest recipients of his foundation have a self-promotional component: The Pinchuk Art Centre and the annual Yalta European Strategy conferences.

His legacy, perhaps, is still yet to be decided.

Oleg Rybachuk, the former chief of staff to President Viktor Yushchenko and one of Ukraine's most prominent civil society leaders, casts doubt on Pinchuk's sincerity. Just before the EuroMaidan Revolution, "when there was all this pressure from Russia and he had lots of business in Russia and Crimea, he was very much in favor of Ukraine not moving towards the EU. His idea was it's a mistake for Ukraine to become part of the EU. So he was looking for some compromise." ■

Victor knows Hillary, but how will it help?

of Soviet Union or whatever kind of union Putin would like to make with Ukraine," said Berezovets. "He understands that Ukraine has much better prospects on the EU market."

Silent on Putin

Ukraine's political realities, however, have never allowed for full-fledged independence. Like almost all the Ukrainian oligarchs, Pinchuk is silent on Putin or Russia's war to preserve his business in Russia, says Berezovets: "I don't remember a single case where Pinchuk said anything about... Putin's aggression."

Similarly, when Yanukovych was elected president in 2010, he went after Kuchma for abandoning him during the 2004 Orange Revolution. Ukrainian prosecutors breathed new life

into a criminal investigation into Kuchma's suspected involvement in Gongadze's murder. The case was closed because the Constitutional Court concluded the recordings were obtained illegally and thus "violated the person's rights and their fundamental freedoms."

Club with Yanukovych

The renewed investigation, however, didn't stop Pinchuk or Kuchma from associating with Yanukovych.

This included membership of Yanukovych's Kedr hunting club. The club and its membership, which included several oligarchs, was discovered by journalists in documents left behind by Yanukovych at his vast Mezhyhirya estate north of Kyiv when he fled Ukraine on Feb. 22,



Legendary singer and philanthropist Elton John (L) and billionaire Victor Pinchuk, founder of the Yalta European Strategy annual conference, appear together on Sept. 12, 2015. (Volodymyr Petrov)

2014.

Pinchuk told YanukovychLeaks

journalists that his membership was not for resolving business problems:



OLIGARCH WATCH



Oct. 7 – Oligarch Watch, Part 1

Petro Poroshenko: All In The Family – Again



Oct. 14 – Oligarch Watch, Part 2

Victor Pinchuk: Ukraine's Friend Or Foe?



Oct. 21 – Oligarch Watch, Part 3

Rinat Akhmetov



Oct. 28 – Oligarch Watch, Part 4

Ihor Kolomoisky

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WITH VERONIKA MELKOZEROVA
MELKOZEROVA@KYIVPOST.COM

more **Sex** on page **19**



Lifestyle blog: Sex traditions in Ukraine surprising, intriguing

Sex from page 18

to 18 to “vechornitsy” or “dosvitky” - basically all night parties, where young people would discover their sexuality by experimentation. This was their preparation for their future married life.

Although the Orthodox Church criticized vechornitsy and even banned them under a canon law in 1719, parents still encouraged their children to take part in them, and even gave them money to hold such parties, as this was only way they would be able to get to know the opposite gender.

In every village during the spring, winter, and summer Orthodox holidays, young women and men used to rent the house of a widow and spend the night, chatting, flirting and exploring each other's bodies.

“Young men and women would lie down together right on the floor, which was covered with straw, and sleep together. Every woman chose a man to sleep with,” Ignatenko writes in one of her books.

According to her information, 45 percent of young women who went to vechornitsy lost their virginity before marriage.

Ukrainians from the Polissya region (Volyn, Rivne, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Chernihiv, Sumy oblasts) had a sexual game called “prytuly” (literally meaning snuggling), which was basically an imitation of sex, but sometimes even went as far as sexual penetration.

Ignatenko says in her book that the prytuly game was extremely dangerous for young women, due to the high possibility of an unintended pregnancy. If it was discovered that a girl had lost her virginity and got pregnant before marriage, she would be ostracized and dubbed a “pokrytka” (literally meaning “knocked up”).

Love potions

To prevent public disgrace, Ukrainian women used what they thought were contraceptives – magic spells made with period blood and various herbs that induce bleeding.

After marriage, the rules of sexual behavior were much less strict. A man could have an affair if it didn't damage his marriage. If a woman was unfaithful she might be criticized, but not particularly harshly. Indeed, it was considered normal for a widow, or for a woman who was much younger than her husband, to have a “lubasok” (a lover).

According to spadok.org.ua, a website dedicated to Ukraine's traditions and history, the Hutsuls, an ethnic group of Ukrainians living in the Carpathian Mountains in Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi and Zakarpattia oblasts, were the most sexually unfettered. During a Hutsul vechornitsy, young men were known to molest, pinch, kiss and even bite their love interests.

Sex between males and female of equal age was taboo. But older women, especially widows, would often take younger men as lovers.

If a girl liked a boy, she could allow him to touch her breasts. To charm a boy, young female Hutsuls would also cast various spells and brew magic potions.

Zchesy, period blood, was considered the most effective ingredient for a love potion. It was enough to add one drop of the blood to a man's drink or food and he would love the girl until the day he died, it was believed.

Hutsul marriages were also quite open: Both the husband and the wife could have many lovers. Women expressed their interest in men by special signs, for example presenting a pysanka (painted egg) to their love interest on Easter day. ■

Ukrainian Mrs. Universe champions inner beauty

BY SOPHIA LELEW
S.LELEW@WARWICK.AC.UK

“It's not the end of the world once you're married!” says Olga Torner over cappuccinos in Kyiv's newly opened Almondo Restaurant and Club; a classy venue for a classy lady.

This is particularly the case for Torner, 28, a Ukrainian model and currently a TV presenter at Ukrainian news channel News One, as she's been crowned Mrs. Universe.

Torner won the Mrs. Universe beauty pageant, held in Guangzhou, China, on Sept. 4 – at the same time as G20 summit. Seventy married beauties made their way to the city to compete for the prestigious title of “the most beautiful and honorable married woman in the universe.”

Beaming, Torner speaks of her victory, and why she decided to enter her first major beauty pageant.

“I decided to enter the competition so I could show that when women get married, give birth to children and have housework to do, they can still be beautiful and compete in global beauty contests,” she says.

With her long, loosely curled brunette locks, green Slavic eyes as bright as her crown, which sits in front of her, and perfect white smile, there's little doubt Torner was a worthy winner.

Dressed casually in a cream jumper, and white jeans, her natural beauty shines out without the need for excessive make-up or a glittery ball gown.

Although originally from Kyiv, Torner now lives in Vienna with her Austrian husband, who works in the sphere of nanotechnology for medical applications. She has been living in Austria for three years, and so competed for Mrs. Universe under the Austrian flag.

“I tried to represent Ukraine in



Olga Torner, the newly crowned Mrs. Universe, takes a selfie in a restaurant in Kyiv. Ukrainian-born Torner represented Austria in the pageant, as she lives there with her husband. (Volodymyr Petrov)

the competition, but their regulations prevented me from doing so,” she says.

However, Torner still visits her homeland often, as she commutes regularly between Vienna and Kyiv to work at News One.

Torner says Mrs. Universe is not just about having a pretty face. This year, contestants had to produce a speech and presentation about domestic violence. Torner said she had been shocked to discover the scale of domestic violence in the world.

“One in every four women suffers from domestic abuse, and these statistics even apply to countries like Austria,” the model says.

As well as giving an emotional and moving speech, which she said had her and half the audience in tears, Torner has also posted a video to social media to raise awareness about the issue. It's clearly a subject she feels strongly about.

“Don't be silent. Silence hides the violence,” she says.

In addition to an evening gown, contestants were required to wear their country's national costume; a category in which Torner won first place with her Empress Elizabeth of

Austria inspired dress, including the empress's distinct floral decoration running through her hair.

“I decided to find an outfit based on Elizabeth instead of wearing a traditional Dirndl,” she says, explaining her choice. “Empress Elizabeth paid attention to her beauty, so that was well suited for Mrs. Universe.”

Torner said there is a stark contrast in attitudes to physical appearance between people in Ukraine and Austria.

“Austria's beauty industry is not developed like Ukraine's... I would have a balance between Austria and Ukraine, because in Austria they don't really pay any attention (to beauty), but in Ukraine girls usually do much more than they need to.”

Torner herself favors a more natural look, and doesn't approve of plastic surgery, such as breast enhancements, believing that such surgery is only necessary to correct an imperfection. She says she regards inner beauty as being of much greater significance.

“Girls should worry more about their personality,” she says. “Even if you have some blemishes on your face, if you are smiling then your beauty will shine through.” ■

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Best places for a drink in Podil neighborhood

Podil from page 18

Hashtag Bar

Hashtag Bar is another “secret” place that doesn’t have the signboard, but is always crowded. Opened in 2014, the bar soon became popular among Ukrainian artists, fashionistas and hipsters. The bar offers a range of cocktails and more than 20 types of whiskey. The bar takes whiskey seriously – nothing as sacrilegious as a whiskey and coke can be found on the menu. The average price of a cocktail or whiskey is Hr 100-120,

and soft drinks and beers start at Hr 50.

48 Vozdvyzhenska St.
4 p.m. – to the last client

Fly Bar

Fly Bar offers classical dishes from different continents such as British chicken pot pie, a stuffed bread empanada popular in Latin America, or Moroccan beef cheeks with couscous. The bar also has an impressive collection of whiskeys, a variety of custom-mixed cocktails prepared by the chief bartender, and even an alcohol-based sorbet. The place, which opened less than a year ago, also attracts visitors due to its unusual interior, which features lots of interesting details, like vintage armchairs and a set of clocks attached to the wall showing the time in different corners of the world.

25B Sahaidachnoho St.
11 a.m. – 4 a.m.

Marrakesh

This restaurant offers exquisite Moroccan-themed meals com-

Another 10 good places to spend an evening at Podil:

- The Living Room
- DoskaBar
- Smoky
- Khvylovy
- Tequila House
- Druzi Café & Bar
- Lubov-Morkov
- Gastrorock
- Wood You Like Bar
- The PodWall



This map features the Kyiv Post's pick of the best venues in Kyiv's historical district of Podil. (Iryna Movchan)



ADVERTISEMENT

A regular meeting of Nobles Fortune Club took place on Nov. 10 at the Fairmont Grand Hotel in Kyiv, with the support of Talent Advisors. The topic of discussion was “The Path of Motion in a Storm. Indefiniteness Management.” The guest of the club was the author of “Black Swan” and “Antifragile,” Nassim Taleb*.

Every guest of the club came with a key question. For example, “Should we ignore chaos and relax? Or manage and try?” However, Taleb, being an experienced lecturer, handed out a series of talk abstracts, which despite their obviousness, calmed his audience down:

Are you bored with the overwhelming hopelessness of the future? Transform it, affecting the present.

Is there a lot of pain surrounding you? Rejoice - you have stronger incentives to grow and develop.

Are you standing drooping your head before a super-challenge, not knowing how to start and what to take up? Change the structure of events - a journey of a thousand miles can be overcome step-by-step.

Does the situation seem hopeless, are the risks running high and is the

air electrified with threats? Relax and raise the stakes, radicalize, go into “all-in” – this is easiest when you have nothing to lose.

We are grateful to A-Club – the best open collar private banking in Ukraine of the Alfa-Bank as well as an International law firm Integrites for support in organizing the Club meeting. Nobles Fortune Club is a membership club for intellectual leaders and influential businessmen meeting scientists, economists, writers, politicians, public figures and other opinion leaders.

**Nassim Taleb is a world-famous scientist, mathematician, philosopher, thinker of modern times and a recognized financial guru. He is a graduate of the Sorbonne and the holder of an MBA from the Wharton School of Business, who has built a successful career on Wall Street. The author of bestsellers “Black Swan”, “Antifragile”, “Fooled by Randomness” and sensational theory, which studies unpredictable events, their natures, and their impact on our lives.*

bined with more common dishes of French and Mediterranean cuisine. Marrakesh is famous for its hookah pipes, with more than 30 types of tobacco available. There is a wide range of drink options: the menu lists about 25 types of tea (Hr 75) alone, along with plenty of options for wine and classic cocktails (Hr 85-95). And every Friday and Saturday Marrakesh has performances by DJs and belly dancers.

24 Sahaidachnoho St.
12 p.m. – 1 a.m.

Gnezdo Bar

Another popular underground place is Gnezdo Bar at 21 Andriyivsky Uzviz Street. Its name in Russian means “The Nest.” Opened in 2014, the bar quickly became popular among young people because of its creative design full of handmade decorations and friendly atmosphere. Gnezdo often holds movie screenings, live music performances or DJ-sets on weekends. The price of a cocktail is around Hr 70, and snacks and salads cost Hr 40-70.

21 Andriyivsky Uzviz St.
11 a.m. – 1 a.m.

Bar 32

Bar 32, on Vozdvyzhenska St., offers 10 types of cocktails based on various brands of whiskey and brandy, with additional ingredients such as maple syrup or apple flavoring. The bar is located near the Vozdvyzhenska Arts House Gallery, so many of its visitors are artists or gallery visitors. Cocktails cost around Hr 80-100. The bar has live jazz music each Friday, and even has its own internet jazz radio station, “Old Fashioned Radio” available at www.ofr.fm.



People chat in the PR Bar & Kitchen at 6 A Petra Sahaidachnoho St. on Oct. 12. (Anastasia Vlasova)

32 Vozdvyzhenska St.
11 a.m. – 11 p.m.

To Be

To Be bar is a stylish spot with a fashionable but sparse interior, delicious cocktails for around Hr 100-130, and lots of flavors of hookah pipe tobacco.

co. Apart from the drinks options, the restaurant offers main courses of seafood and meat for Hr 135-299, salads for around Hr 120, and sushi roll sets for around Hr 150.

2A Verkhnyi Val
12 p.m. – 2 a.m.



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Queen cover show

The cover band God Save the Queen will play the most famous songs of the legendary British rock band Queen.

God Save the Queen (cover show). Oct. 22. 8 p.m.
KPI House of Culture (37 Peremohy Ave.) Hr 650 – 1,600



(courtesy)

Oct. 22



(parkyivhus.com)

Oct. 14-16

Costumed Pokrova Celebration

Actors are to recreate the celebration of Pokrova, the Orthodox holiday of the Intercession of the Theotokos, in the medieval Ukrainian state, the Kyivska Rus. The celebration includes knights tournaments, historical theater plays, dancing, and games.

Pokrova Celebration. Oct. 14-16. 12 p.m. Kyivska Rus Park (Kopachiv village, Kyiv Oblast). Hr 70

Compiled by Anna Yakutenko

The Hardkiss (pop)

Ukrainian progressive-pop band the Hardkiss, famous for the distinctive voice of their vocalist Julia Sanina, will celebrate the band's fifth anniversary by performing their old hits and new songs in Kyiv on Oct. 21-22. After the concert in Kyiv, the Hardkiss will start a national tour.

The Hardkiss. Oct. 21-22. 8 p.m. Stereo Plaza (119 Lobanovsky Ave.). Hr 450 – 1,700

Oct. 21-22



(Anastasia Vlasova)

Oct. 14-16



(Volodymyr Petrov)

Vsi Svoi Market. Coats

Anyone looking for a coat should visit the three-day Vsi Svoi market at 12 Desyatylna St. More than 300 Ukrainian producers will be there to sell a range of outerwear, including coats, jackets and fur waistcoats.

Vsi Svoi Market: Coats. Oct. 14-16. D12 (12 Desyatylna St.). Free



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Announcement # 012

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Communications and Records (C&R) Assistant/Roving Secretary's position is located in the Executive Office of the USAID Regional Mission to Ukraine. Under the direct supervision of the Supervisory Management Specialist, the incumbent performs a variety of administrative duties with a primary responsibility to provide the C&R management for the Mission as well as a full range of administrative services to various offices by backing up their Administrative Assistants as necessary. As a C&R Assistant, the incumbent is responsible for the management of the unclassified records, correspondence and communications within the Mission being the primary point of contact for all relevant inquiries, requests and liaison with other Embassy sections and USAID/W. As a Roving Secretary, the incumbent serves as a full backup for all Mission Administrative Assistants, as needed, providing full administrative support to their respective offices in their day to day duties; covers for the Travel Assistant, as needed, by providing general travel services to the entire mission and assisting with official travel arrangement for the Mission staff; provides administrative and logistical support of trainings hosted by the Regional Mission.

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For more details visit <http://gogov.org.ua/news/vakansiyi/>

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The Program Assistant supports daily implementation of activities and is responsible for assisting the program team in coordinating programmatic and technical efforts. S/He must have strong writing and communication skills. In close cooperation with Program Officers, Grants and Contracts staff coordinates direct technical assistance and/or arrange for technical assistance to ENGAGE grantees. S/He must have understanding in gender and other marginalized groups' inclusion issues.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist in conducting organizational assessment, strategic planning of Ukrainian NGOs and networks;
- Provide assistance in coordinating direct technical assistance and/or arranging technical assistance to NGO grantees;
- Assist NGOs in their advocacy and outreach to citizens in coordination with the Senior Program Officer, Deputy Chief of Party and Chief of Party;
- In coordination with the Grants and Contracts Managers, assess submitted grant proposals and narrative reports of grantees from the programmatic viewpoint;
- Assist in conducting assessment of specific sectors of civil society;
- Ensure integration of the inclusive approaches in NGOs activities including gender mainstreaming and assessments;
- Provide assistance in the drafting of programmatic work plans, reports, etc.;
- Perform other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Requirements:

- University Degree in Management, Organizational Development, Public Policy, or Public Relations;
- Strong understanding of civil society activism, including specific knowledge of organizations working on representing interests of marginalized groups;
- Excellent communication skills (both written and oral) in both English and Ukrainian;
- Excellent writing skills in English and Ukrainian;
- Experience with international technical assistance programs supported by USAID or European donors;
- Good planning and organizational skills, flexibility, creative communication;
- Ability to sustain interpersonal and professional relationships with internal colleagues and contacts in donor and peer organizations;
- Good analytical skills;
- Ability to multitask, adapting to frequently changing priorities;
- Advanced user of different computer applications, including knowledge of data bases, data visualization;
- Self-motivated and highly committed;

For more information on Pact and this vacancy, please visit www.pactworld.org.

To Apply:

Please send your CV and a cover letter to engagehr@pactworld.org with "Program Assistant" in the subject line by OOB October 24, 2016. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be invited to interview.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Pact Inc. seeks candidates to fill the position of Communication Assistant for the USAID/Enhance Non-Governmental Actors and Grassroots Engagement (ENGAGE) activity in Ukraine

POSITION SUMMARY

The Communication Assistant is responsible for assisting Policy and Strategic Communication Analyst and illustrating both the mission and success of ENGAGE activity by utilizing various marketing and branding techniques. S/He is also expected to help design and distribute various internal and external Pact communication products.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

- Assist in developing communication strategy and its implementation in coordination with the Policy and Strategic Communication team;
- Advice on and arrange publicity for the ENGAGE activity through different outlets;
- Compose, edit, design, record, produce publications such as newsletters, leaflets and brochures;
- Write news releases, speeches and articles; edit and organize publication of documents in both English and Ukrainian;
- Keep USAID, the donor community and partners up-to-date with ENGAGE activity news;
- Assist with web-development and technological enhancements;
- Produce a weekly newsletter to donors and partners in English;
- Coordinate a wide array of outreach events, including press conferences, briefings, business luncheons, and partners meetings;
- Provide assistance in drafting of programmatic work plans, reports, etc.;

Requirements:

- University Degree in Journalism, Communications, or Public Relations;
- Excellent communication skills (both written and oral) in English and Ukrainian;
- Excellent writing skills in English and Ukrainian;
- Advanced desktop publishing skills and computer literacy on a variety of software applications, including knowledge of databases, data visualization programs, graphic editors (e.g. Adobe Photoshop, Dream Weaver, Adobe Illustrator, etc.).

Preference for:

- Experience in similar position or experience working with international technical assistance programs supported by USAID or European donors;
- Experience in web design and social media platforms;
- Time-management and organizational skills, flexibility, excellent interpersonal skills;
- Creativity in communicating in different ways;
- Ability to form and maintain relationships through teamwork and networking;
- Self-motivated and highly committed candidates;
- Knowledge of civil society activism, involvement in specific projects, etc.

For more information on Pact and this vacancy, please visit www.pactworld.org.

To Apply:

Please send your CV and a cover letter to engagehr@pactworld.org with "Communication Assistant" in the subject line by OOB October 24, 2016. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be invited to interview.



WORLD BANK GROUP

THE WORLD BANK IS SEEKING A

CONSULTANT

**TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT
FOR UKRAINE COUNTRY TEAM**

The main responsibilities may include: maintaining media relations, drafting press releases, articles and other information products for various audiences; preparing messages that will resonate with external audiences; organizing public events; contributing to the Facebook and other social media channels.

The successful candidates must have a university degree, minimum of 5 years proven relevant experience, deep knowledge of the Ukrainian media and well developed contacts with journalists and be fluent in English and Ukrainian.

Interested individuals should send an email expressing their interest to the email address ukraine@worldbank.org by 26 October with the following information:

- 1) name, address, telephone number and email address;
- 2) current CV



Pact Inc. seeks candidates to fill the position of Finance Officer for the USAID/Enhance Non-Governmental Actors and Grassroots Engagement (ENGAGE) activity in Ukraine

POSITION SUMMARY

Finance Officer is required to provide support in performing the accounting function of PACT/ ENGAGE according to Pact Country Financial Manual, including but not limited to petty cash management, time sheets recording and monthly payroll processing for Pact /ENGAGE employees. S/he will check all expense supporting documentation to ensure compliance with organization's policies and related law, prior to obtaining approvals and payment processing.

Specific duties and responsibilities:

- Enter Purchase orders, Purchase Requisitions, Journal entries and other accounting transactions into Serenic NAV (ERP system) according with a granted profile;
- Prepare payment vouchers in accordance with internal rules;
- Review all expense supporting documentation to ensure compliance with the organization's policies and appropriate regulations prior to obtaining approvals and processing of payments;
- Review travel vouchers for accuracy and tracks processing and payment;
- Review and audit operational expenses reported by the staff to ensure that expenses are in accordance with approved budgets, donor regulations, and organization's policies and that adequate supporting documentation is available for all income and expenses;
- Maintain a good filing system for Pact-Ukraine financial records;
- Review grant matrixes and wire transfers to ensure their correctness;
- Act as petty cash custodian;
- Assist Finance Manager in preparing monthly reports;
- Carry out employees' payroll, sick leave control and processing due to Pact policy & the Ukrainian legislation;
- Monthly VAT report preparation/submission to TAX inspection;
- Compiling financial documents for audit reviews as needed;

Requirements:

- Bachelor's or Master's degree in Finance or Management;
- 2+ years of experience on similar position;
- Extensive background in the areas of finance management, book-keeping and financial grant management;
- Experience with international technical assistance programs, particularly USAID-funded;
- Fluent in English, Ukrainian, and Russian;
- Proficiency in word processing, Excel and database skills;
- Ability to perform and prioritize multiple tasks;
- Critical thinking, research and organizational skills;
- Proactive team-player;
- Interested in the international politics and civil society development.

For more information on Pact and this vacancy, please visit www.pactworld.org.

To Apply:

Please send your CV and cover letter to engagehr@pactworld.org with "Finance Officer" in the subject line by OOB October 24, 2016. Please note that only short-listed candidates will be invited to interview.



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

- **Sector Lead (4 positions) at the Project Office for Sectoral Decentralization (POSD)**
- **Sector Lead for Administrative Services Centers at the Administrative Services Reform Office (ASO)**
- **Export Services Unit Leader and Export Services Specialists at the Export Promotion Office (EPO)**

Please, submit your CV and Cover letter to: prsm@fsr.org.ua

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

TENDER

The University of Washington/International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH) is soliciting proposals from potential Vendors to provide Event Planning and Conference services from January 01 - December 31, 2017 (12 months). I-TECH's key partners include the Ukrainian Center for Socially Dangerous Disease Control of the MoH of Ukraine (UCDC) and the Bogomolets National Medical University (NMU). The current key focus of I-TECH's activities is strengthening capacity of clinical cadre in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

This solicitation is open to those Vendors that satisfy the minimum qualifications:

1. Vendor's primary business focus/expertise/background is in event planning and conference services;
2. Track record of providing successful event planning & management services for:
 - a. Public Agencies;
 - b. Non Profit Organizations, including international;
 - c. Other entities, similar in size to, or projects similar in scope to I-TECH's;
3. Four (4) years or more event planning & management experience;
4. Legal status in Ukraine;
5. Ability to act as "prime" Contractor for purpose of engaging & managing subcontractors

Vendors interested in providing the required services may contact **tenders@itech-ukraine.org** to receive the tender information packet.

Deadline of offer package submission is 6 p.m., Monday, October 31, 2016. Queries can be submitted by no later than 6 p.m., Monday, October 24, 2016.

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The Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) is looking for an Economic Analyst, **Financial and Economic Analysis in the Verkhovna Rada Ukraine (FEAO)**.

Background

The Financial and Economic Analysis Office (FEAO) was established in January 2016 to provide independent and non-partisan economic, financial and legal analysis to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (VRU), its members and committees. The office produces a series of standard products which present independent and factual information to the VRU, as well as responding to requests from committees and individual members and their staff. The project aims to improve the quality of financial legislation and the quality of information and analysis which is available to the VRU's members and committees. For more information please visit: www.feao.org.ua.

The contract is being offered by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy on behalf of the partners and the FEAO.

Main purpose of the role

Conduct research, prepare reports, or formulate plans to address economic problems related to the production and distribution of goods and services or monetary and fiscal policy. Collect and process economic and statistical data using sampling techniques and econometric methods.

Main Duties

- Research and analyze economic issues
- Conduct surveys and collect data
- Analyze data using mathematical models and statistical techniques
- Prepare reports, tables, and charts that present research results
- Interpret and forecast market trends
- Advise governments on economic topics
- Design policies or make recommendations for solving economic problems
- Write articles for publication in newsletters and academic journals

More information is available at www.feao.org.ua

Application deadline is 21 October 2016.



Global Communities is seeking a qualified professional to fill a long-term position of the **MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING ASSISTANT** for the five-year USAID-funded

Decentralization Offering Better Results and Efficiency Development Program (DOBRE):

The Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Assistant will work closely with the MEL Specialist on the design and implementation of the DOBRE Program Monitoring & Evaluation System. He/ she will support development of the system and quality control, help in data collection and analysis, and provide input into monthly and quarterly reports.

Full job description is available at:

www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/monitoring-evaluation-learning-assistant

Candidates are asked to submit resumes and cover letters in English to:

UkraineHR@globalcommunities.org indicating the position title in the subject line by October 31, 2016.

Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted.

No telephone inquiries will be accepted.

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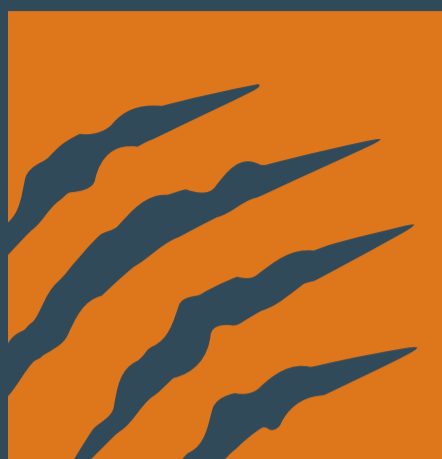
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Basayna	Excellent	1	30	650
Khreshchatyk	Excellent	1	45	800
Sofivska	Excellent	2	65	950
Darvina	Excellent	2	70	1000
Lysenko	Excellent	3	85	1200
APARTMENTS FOR RENT				
Location (St.)	Condition	Rooms	Area	Rent, UAH (per day)
Mykhailivska	Excellent	1	35	11000
Yaroslavskaya	Excellent	1	40	12000
Pushkinska	Excellent	1	35	12000
Vorovskogo	Excellent	2	60	20800
Tereschenkivska	Excellent	2	50	30000
Sofivska	Excellent	2	70	18000
Mezhygirska	Excellent	2	65	18000
Sofivska	Excellent	2	65	18000
Prorizna	Excellent	2	65	17000
Mezhygirska	Excellent	3	90	25000
Saksaganskogo	Excellent	4	160	27000
Lva Tolstogo	Excellent	5	142	65000
Mykhailivska	Excellent	6	262	100000
Darvina (office)	Excellent	6	150	72000
APARTMENTS FOR SALE				
Location (St.)	Condition	Rooms	Area	Price, UAH
Volodymyrska	Excellent	1	44	797500
Darvina (office)	Excellent	6	150	178000

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