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Odesa's Agony

5 years later, few answers in May 2, 2014 deaths of 48 people



Pro-Russian activist Vera Butuk lits candles by the fence surrounding the Trade Unions House in Odesa on May, 12 in remembrance of the 42 people killed by fire inside on May 2, 2014. Altogether, 48 people were killed in Odesa on that day from the fire and street fights between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian activists. No one has been convicted of any crime. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

BY OKSANA GRYTSENKO
GRYTSENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

ODESA, Ukraine – Every Sunday, a dozen people come to the Trade Unions House in Odesa. They bring candles and flowers to commemo-

rate the 48 people who were killed there on May 2, 2014, a time of heightened fears over the possibility of a full-scale invasion of Ukraine from Russia.

On that day, Odesa, the Black Sea port city of 1 million people

located 470 kilometers southwest of Kyiv, transformed into a battlefield between pro-Ukrainian and pro-Russian activists. It ended with bloodshed: Six people were shot dead in the city streets, 32 were killed in a fire at the Trade Unions House and

more 10 lost their lives while trying to escape the blaze by jumping or falling out of windows.

It was a tragic event that shook the nation. At that time, Russia had

more **Odesa** on page **14**

Special Business Focus on Corporate Social Responsibility

Coverage inside:

- Giving women equal opportunities
- Ukrainian businesses adopt eco-friendly practices
- Pitfalls of no ethics, no legal compliance

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NATO-Ukraine: Where does relationship stand after 25 years of talks?

BY ILLIA PONOMARENKO
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It has been 25 years since Ukraine joined NATO's Partnership for Peace program, which promotes and strengthens cooperation between former Eastern Bloc states and the 29-member military alliance of North American and European countries.

That date was the starting point for the young Ukrainian nation in its long and complicated dialogue with Brussels, a conversation that has been driven by Ukraine's hope of moving westward and out of Russia's sphere of influence.

Since 1994, 13 nations participating in the Partnership for Peace program have successfully joined NATO – but not Ukraine, despite numerous key milestones in cooperation and assurances that the country will gain membership some sunny day.

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Former Georgian leader and ex-Odesa Oblast governor Mikheil Saakashvili is greeted by his supporters after arriving at Kyiv's Boryspil airport on May 29, 2019. He came back to Ukraine for the first time since Ukrainian authorities deported him without a court order in 2018. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Saakashvili doesn't want state job, but ready to help Zelenskiy

BY OLEG SUKHOV
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Mikheil Saakashvili, one of the most polarizing figures in global politics, is back in Ukraine.

The former Georgian president and Odesa Oblast governor arrived at Kyiv's Boryspil International Airport from Poland on May 29, a day after Ukraine's new president, Volodymyr Zelenskiy, restored his Ukrainian citizenship.

Saakashvili has no interest in receiving a government job or running for parliament, the politician said shortly after his arrival. But he is ready to advise and help Zelenskiy's team and candidates running for parliament.

After returning to Ukraine, Saakashvili praised Zelenskiy's election as a new chance for reforms in Ukraine. He said he stood ready take part in "building a new Ukraine."

"The people of Ukraine voted for the dismantlement of the oligarchic system and of the kleptocratic government," Saakashvili said.

But analysts argue that Zelenskiy

may be reluctant to give the former Georgian leader a specific role. After all, in the past, Saakashvili has proven ready to become a critic of the administration he worked for.

Georgian to Ukrainian

During his presidency from 2004 to 2013, Saakashvili spearheaded law enforcement and economic reforms in Georgia that won him accolades in the West. To supporters, he was a dedicated and effective fighter against corruption.

In 2014, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko invited the former Georgian president to work his magic in Ukraine. He granted Saakashvili Ukrainian citizenship and appointed him governor of corruption-ridden Odesa Oblast in 2015.

Then, in 2016, he resigned from the governorship, accusing Poroshenko of stalling reforms and supporting corruption in Odesa Oblast.

That was the end of Saakashvili's alliance with Poroshenko. The two men would become political enemies, and Saakashvili would be one of the Ukrainian president's most vocal critics.

In 2017, Poroshenko stripped Saakashvili of his Ukrainian citizenship while he was out of the country. The former Georgian president has called that move illegal (at the time, Saakashvili had no other citizenship) and political reprisal.

On Sept. 10, 2017, Saakashvili returned to Ukraine by breaking through the Polish border, accompanied by a crowd of supporters. He went on to organize protests against Poroshenko in late 2017 and early 2018.

In response, Ukrainian authori-

ties opened a criminal case against Saakashvili and deported him from Ukraine without a court order in February 2018. Under Ukrainian law, deportation without a court order is illegal.

Job prospects

After returning to Ukraine, Saakashvili said he had not negotiated for the restoration of his citizenship or a job with Zelenskiy's team.

He said that he did not intend to become prime minister or to get a top law enforcement job. Ukraine needs a "young Ukrainian prime minister," he said. "I'm not here for any positions, I'm not looking for any positions."

However, Saakashvili said that he was ready to select and help a new generation of government leaders in Ukraine and create a "platform for ideas."

"I will help in every way to replace the political class in Ukraine and the kleptocrats who have robbed Ukraine," he added.

But that hasn't stopped people from speculating. "The best line so far I have heard is for Zelenskiy to appoint Saakashvili as the new prosecutor general," British analyst Timothy Ash wrote on May 28.

"This would surely put the fear of God into Ukraine's oligarchic and political class — and particularly former President Poroshenko and his supporters, given there is much 'unfinished business' between Poroshenko and Saakashvili given the former gave and then took away Saakashvili's citizenship and then deported him," Ash continued. "Appointing (Saakashvili) would be hugely popular from a domestic polit-

ical perspective given the demand for meaningful reform to address the anti-corruption agenda — and Saakashvili already delivered therein as president of Georgia."

However, "the obvious negative with Saakashvili is his whirlwind/ loose cannon reputation, which could ultimately come back to haunt Zelenskiy and his friends," Ash added.

But Ukrainian political analyst Volodymyr Fesenko told the Kyiv Post that Saakashvili was unlikely to get any government job.

"Zelenskiy's team understands the risks of appointing Saakashvili to important jobs," Fesenko said, noting that Saakashvili could easily turn from an ally of Zelenskiy into a critic and competitor. "They righted a wrong (by restoring Saakashvili's citizenship) but they won't go further."

Rada election

Saakashvili also said he would not run in the July 21 early parliamentary election, but would help other candidates, including representatives of his Movement of New Forces party.

David Sakvarelidze, one of the party's leaders, said on May 29 that it would take part in the Verkhovna Rada election. But its likelihood of success is far from certain.

Fesenko argued that the party's chances in the election were limited. For his part, Sakvarelidze told the Kyiv Post that it could pass the minimum 5 percent threshold to make it into parliament.

The Movement of New Forces had a 2.4 percent rating after Saakashvili's deportation in February 2018 and

more Saakashvili on page 17

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Parliamentary race starts with scramble to find, field electable candidate slate

Editor's Note: Election Watch is a regular update on the state of the 2019 races for presidency and parliament. The country elected the new president on April 21 and will vote for the new parliament on July 21. The Election Watch project is supported by the National Endowment for Democracy. The donor doesn't influence the content. Go to kyivpost.com for more election coverage.

Key developments:

Petro Poroshenko rebrands his party. Mikheil Saakashvili returns to Ukraine. New parties hastily recruit candidates. Parties urged to include more women.

BY OLGA RUDENKO
RUDENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

In the history of the parliamentary election campaigns in Ukraine, this one could be the hastiest.

Seven weeks before the July 21 election, the political field is still full of undecided players, politicians who are yet to join any party, and new parties hurriedly recruiting members.

Time is tight: Parties need to finalize the candidates on the ballot by June 20.

Days until parliamentary election: 51



For new parties, it also means finding representatives to run in some 220 single-member districts around the country.

Voice, a new party started by popular singer Svyatoslav Vakarchuk, said they wouldn't post their representatives in every district and, as of May 28, were 80 percent done with forming their list of candidates.

Servant of the People, the newly-created party of President Volodymyr Zelenskiy, lags behind. It is leading in the polls with over 40-percent support, but is looking for single-member district nominees online. It will be accepting applicants until June 2.

Other new players appear to be even less prepared for the election.

Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman, who is remaining in his job because the parliament didn't accept his resignation on May 30, revealed the name of his new party: Ukrainian Strategy. So far, the name is nearly all there is to know about it.

Meanwhile, some old players are struggling to reinvent themselves.

Poroshenko rebrands

After losing his re-election bid to Volodymyr Zelenskiy in April, ex-President Petro Poroshenko wants to take his party to parliament and work in opposition to Zelenskiy.

Yet, for now, it doesn't look like Poroshenko will claim a lot of seats

in the Verkhovna Rada: his party is supported by just 8.8 percent of decided voters, according to the latest poll by the Rating Group.

It means that Poroshenko's party could take some 25 seats in a parliament of 423 people. It may also add several lawmakers from the single-member districts, where half of the parliament is elected. It will still be a far cry from the dominant position that the Poroshenko Bloc has held in the current parliament, where it has 130 seats thanks to the party's success in the 2014 election.

In its nearly five years in power, Poroshenko Bloc's members got into multiple scandals and faced many accusations of corruption. To lessen the burden of the past five years, Poroshenko announced a rebranding of his party. It will run for parliament as European Solidarity.

The party's new name highlights Poroshenko's main offer: a strong Western vector for the country's development, with an ultimate goal of joining the European Union and NATO. In the Ukrainian language, European Solidarity has the same abbreviation as the EU.

"It's an updated party with an updated leadership," said Poroshenko at the party meeting on May 24.

European Solidarity will present its list of candidates at the party convention on May 31.

Meanwhile, a couple of top lawmakers announced they were leaving Poroshenko's party. Ihor Kononenko, Poroshenko's top partner in business and politics, said he supports the party but is leaving it "to give way to younger politicians."

Although Kononenko didn't comment on his election plans, they are hardly a secret. For more than a year, Kononenko has been frequenting the single-member election district No. 94, an area in Kyiv Oblast with its center in Obukhiv, a city of 33,000 people less than 50 kilometers away from the capital. There, Kononenko has been giving away presents for the population — which once included bath towels emblazoned with his name — and ceremonially opening new and renovated facilities, such as school football fields. Often, he benefited from his position as a lawmaker, opening objects paid for from the state budget, as if he were the sponsor.

After more than a year of it, most believe Kononenko will run for par-



Lawmakers attend a parliament session on May 16, 2019 — Vyshyvanka Day. There are only 49 women among the 423 members of the Ukrainian parliament. International organizations and Ukrainian activists are calling on the political parties to nominate more women in the July 21 election. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

2019 parliamentary election: Key dates

- May 24** — Election campaign officially starts.
- June 20** — Deadline for parties to submit their list of candidates to the Central Election Commission. Deadline for candidates running in single-member districts to register for the election.
- June 25** — The last day when the Central Election Commission can deny registration of a candidate or a party.
- July 2** — Deadline for the Central Election Commission to publish the official list of candidates running in single-member districts.
- July 8** — Deadline for candidates and parties to withdraw from the election.
- July 10** — All registered voters in Ukraine should receive through mail an invitation to vote by this date.
- July 13** — Deadline for foreign countries and international organizations to apply to monitor the election. Also, all ballots must be printed by this date.
- July 15** — Deadline for voters to apply to change their assigned place of voting.
- July 18** — Last day when polls can be published.
- July 19** — Last day of campaigning.
- July 20** — "Silence Day." Campaigning is prohibited.
- July 21** — Election Day.
- Aug. 5** — Deadline to announce the results of the election.

Sources: Central Election Commission, Ukrainian law "On Electing Members of Parliament"

liament in the district.

Another top member fleeing Poroshenko's ranks is Oleksandr Hranovskiy, a lawmaker famed for being

well-connected among judges and prosecutors. Hranovskiy left the party and announced he would run for parliament as an independent candidate in a sin-

gle-member district in Kharkiv.

He told ZIK TV he chose Kharkiv because "it's a complicated electoral district where it's impossible for those in power to rig the vote." At the same time, Kharkiv's long-serving Mayor Hennadiy Kernes said it was him who offered Hranovskiy to run in Kharkiv.

Celebrities on a roll

Celebrities are trending in this election. The examples of comedian and actor Zelenskiy, who won the presidency, and singer Svyatoslav Vakarchuk, who is running for parliament with a new party, Holos (Voice), have inspired other show business stars to consider a political career — or at least to get some publicity out of the election.

Viktor Pavlyk, one of the best-known pop stars in Ukraine in the 1990s, told news website LB.ua that he was negotiating to run for parliament. However, his party of choice is Stabilnist, a party started by Vasyl

more Election on page 23

World in Ukraine: Italy

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Editorials

NATO needs Ukraine

It has been 25 years since Ukraine joined NATO's Partnership for Peace program, beginning a complicated but key relationship.

Today, polls show most Ukrainians want their country to join NATO, the 29-nation alliance committed to each other's defense. It's easy to see why: NATO membership is critical to the safety and security of Ukraine.

But NATO needs Ukraine too. Whatever NATO countries are doing in defense of Ukraine is at least partially motivated by self-interest, as they cautiously eye the flat, defenseless Eurasian steppe that merges into Russia. Ukraine isn't just a geographical buffer: it has defensible mountains, critical ports, abundant resources, energy and food production. It also has 42 million priceless Ukrainians.

Keeping Ukraine's value in mind, NATO would do well to respect that Ukrainian men, women and children are still dying along a frontier where Europe and the West itself are under attack. And in fairness, most NATO politicians do seem to recognize and pay at least lip service to the fact that Ukraine is defending not only itself but also the European continent against Russia's expansionist, neo-imperial ambitions.

Given that NATO sees the strategic importance of Ukraine, should it not be doing a better job of defending it? Why has it fallen mainly to the U.S., U.K., Canada, Poland and Lithuania to invest in Ukraine's defense and bolster its military capabilities? Countries such as France, Germany, Italy, Spain and others are simply not doing enough to help Ukraine build its own resilience and, therefore, defend Europe too. Those nations have their own reasons, but it leaves the gates of Europe weak.

Michael Fallon, former U.K. defense secretary, recently told the Kyiv Post that European countries are failing Ukraine. "It's the edge of freedom," he said. He is right. NATO needs Ukraine, and its 29 members need to do better.

Welcome home, but...

On May 29, Mikheil Saakashvili flew back to Ukraine, arriving at Kyiv's Boryspil International Airport to a raucous welcome from supporters. Just a day earlier, President Volodymyr Zelenskiy had restored the former Georgian president and ex-Odesa Oblast governor's Ukrainian citizenship.

As many will remember, Zelenskiy's predecessor, President Petro Poroshenko, granted Saakashvili citizenship in 2015 to allow him to push reforms and battle graft in the country's highly corrupt Odesa Oblast. Roughly two years later, he stripped Saakashvili of citizenship after he quit the governor's post and became one of Poroshenko's fiercest critics.

Zelenskiy was right to reinstate Saakashvili's citizenship. Stripping the Georgian-Ukrainian politician of citizenship was unjust and likely illegal, as it left him stateless. Moreover, it was politically motivated and set a precedent that should worry any citizen of Ukraine.

But this statement should not be viewed as an endorsement of Saakashvili as a politician.

Saakashvili is a provocative and erratic individual whose behavior after he lost his citizenship — breaking through the Ukrainian border, threatening to jump off a building, wrangling with law enforcement on a roof — damaged Ukraine by helping turn its politics into an absurdist spectacle.

Now, Saakashvili says he is not seeking government or political office, and only wants to help build Ukraine. We hope he will honor that promise.

Saakashvili's tenure as Odesa governor was not particularly successful in terms of fighting corruption. This demonstrated that, despite his anti-corruption bona fides, his Georgian experience could not simply be transplanted in Ukraine.

Should Saakashvili choose to advise other politicians on anti-corruption and campaigning, that is his choice. But he should recognize that he can best contribute to Ukraine's development as a private citizen — not in parliament, not in a ministry, not in the limelight.

At his worst, Saakashvili has been a distraction from the hard work of reforming Ukraine. He should not allow himself to take on that role again.



NEWS ITEM: A new pedestrian bridge opened in Kyiv on May 26, connecting two picturesque riverside areas, Mariinsky Park and Volodymyrska Hirka (Volodymyr Hill) Park. However, several of the bridge's glass panels cracked in the first days of service. Ironically, Mayor Vitali Klitschko and his brother Wladimir Klitschko, both former boxing champions, jumped on the glass panels at the bridge's opening ceremony to show they are safe.



NEWS ITEM: Mikheil Saakashvili, ex-president of Georgia and former governor of Odesa Oblast, returned to Ukraine on May 29 after a forced 15-month exile. Saakashvili was sent out of the country after President Petro Poroshenko stripped him of Ukrainian citizenship amid a political confrontation. President Volodymyr Zelenskiy restored Saakashvili's citizenship a week after assuming office.



NEWS ITEM: A month after the presidential election, another feverish election campaign started in Ukraine. With less than two months left before the July 21 snap parliamentary election, new parties and political alliances are formed by the day.

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Reformer & Anti-Reformer Of The Week



Laura Kovesi
Romanian anti-corruption crusader serves as inspiration for Ukraine



Ihor Kolomoisky
Oligarch meddles in politics, allies with controversial mayors

Ukraine's Friend & Foe Of The Week



Jean-Erik de Zagon
Head of EIB in Ukraine leads team that's funding hospitals and more.



Nigel Farage
Anti-European British MEP with concerning ties to Russia was re-elected.

VOX populi:

Kyiv's new pedestrian bridge is expensive. Was it worth it?

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

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

Corporate Social Responsibility

In partnership with Ecosoft & BWT

Businesses help women to gain equal job opportunities

BY NATALIA DATSKEYVCH
DATSKEYVCH@KYIVPOST.COM

Gender inequality can cost a lot.

According to a 2015 study by U.S.-based McKinsey & Company, a worldwide management consulting firm, reducing gender inequality could add \$12 trillion to the global economy by 2025. For Ukraine, the benefits would be enormous as well.

But achieving gender equality in Ukraine will require hard work and serious efforts to change traditional stereotypes about a woman's role in society. Instead of just being seen as housewives, women can

increasingly occupy high-level positions in such professional fields as science, information technology, engineering, architecture and entrepreneurship.

"Ukraine has very talented girls, but there are stereotypes and certain models (they have seen) since childhood. There are so many cases when a teacher in school says: 'You're a girl, you just need to get married successfully,'" Elena Lopushenko, a product manager at German multinational software corporation SAP, told the Kyiv Post.

Often these stereotypes follow young women as they attend the



Women study hairdressing during vocational training through a program supported by L'Oreal company for victims of domestic violence. (Courtesy)

university or continue their professional careers.

"Female (university) students said that their teachers, for example, would not give the highest score to a girl, even if she is the smartest," said Maryna Saprykina, managing director at the Center for the Development of Corporate Social Responsibility in Ukraine.

However, international businesses in Ukraine are making some progress in numerous projects related to encouraging and supporting women in their professional lives.

Women in business

Just a month ago, Bank Lviv became the first bank in Ukraine to join the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's Women in Business initiative, which supports women entrepreneurs.

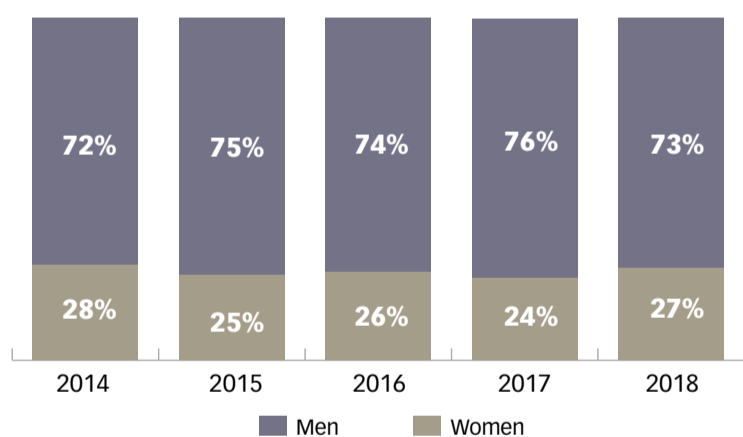
The EBRD is providing the bank with up to 43 million euros for low-interest lending to women who want to start their own businesses or develop existing ones. It is providing an additional one million euros in loans to support international and regional trade.

"This encourages women not to sit surrounded by four walls if they are housewives or if they work at some kind of production site, but to start something of their own," said Anton Usov, EBRD's senior adviser for external relations.

Besides loans with lower than average interest rates, the program has additional options such as special training for women on how to do business and marketing, as well as advisory services on product placement.

Although no one has received any loans yet since the program started in late April, EBRD expects it to have positive results since similar

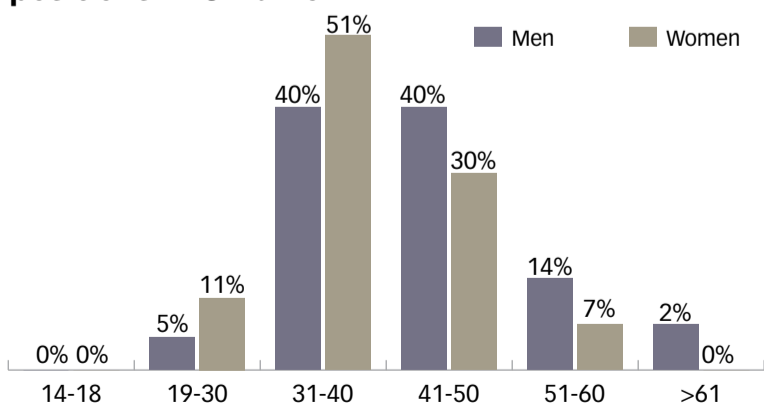
Work resumes submitted by women and men in Ukraine



In 2018, women accounted for only 27 percent of job resumes placed for top management positions via HeadHunter, Ukraine's most popular headhunting website agency. The dynamic barely changed over the past five years.

Source: HeadHunter grc

Age groups applying for top management positions in Ukraine



In 2018, women between 31 and 40 years old were the most active in searching for jobs in Ukraine's top management positions. For the 51-60 age group, there were twice as many men who searched for jobs compared to women.

Source: HeadHunter grc



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Ukrainian business warms to eco-friendly practices

BY IGOR KOSSOV
KOSSOV@KYIVPOST.COM

Ecological waste-reduction programs are becoming trendy and many companies in Ukraine are looking to adopt them, while some ecological experts say that more action is needed.

Ukraine is responding to a global movement toward solid waste reduction and recycling. Part of this global trend is mandated by regulations, such as the recent European Parliament approval of a gradual ban on certain types of single-use plastics. The Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament, is currently considering its own similar legislation.

Some companies have also launched their own initiatives as part of their corporate social responsibility programs. Experts also said they noticed Ukrainian consumers starting to be more conscious of the importance of recycling and the danger of disposable products like plastic bags.

Percentage of waste recycled by European countries

Ukraine	7*
EU (27 countries)	46.5*
Belgium	53.7
Bulgaria	34.6
Czechia	34.1*
Denmark	46.3
Germany	67.6*
Estonia	28.4
Greece	18.9
Spain	33.5*
France	42.9*
Croatia	23.6
Italy	47.7
Cyprus	16.1*
Latvia	23.3
Lithuania	48.1
Luxembourg	48.3*
Hungary	35
Netherlands	54.2
Austria	57.7
Poland	33.8*
Portugal	28.4
Romania	13.9
Slovenia	57*
Slovakia	29.8
Finland	40.5
Sweden	46.8
United Kingdom	43.8
Iceland	25.8
Norway	38.8
Switzerland	52.5*

* — estimate
Source: Eurostat, Ukrinform

A comparison of the rates of recycled waste across multiple European countries. In Ukraine, only 7 percent of waste is recycled while the rest ends up in landfills or strewn about in cities and the outdoors, making it one of the least ecologically advanced countries in Europe. Still, recycling awareness is picking up steam in the country.



Two people sort plastic waste at the Ecohope sorting station at Donetsk National University on May 8, 2019. Environmentalists say that awareness of the importance of recycling is growing, but not as quickly as they would like. (Ukrinform)

"This is very much trending right now," said Maryna Saprykina, managing director at the Center for the Development of Corporate Social Responsibility in Ukraine.

For example, European Business Association committee manager Christina Linichenko said that multiple large retailers have ecological CSR projects — reducing single-use plastics, switching to biodegradable or reusable bags and establishing recycling centers. The charge is mainly being led by international companies with branches in Ukraine.

However, several experts said that ecological programs are still in their early stages in Ukraine and some companies still see ecological responsibility as a quick fix for the sake of public relations as opposed to a fundamental restructuring of their business model. Some programs — like so-called biodegradable plastic bags — may even be doing more harm than good.

Changing habits

Environmental NGOs have often warned against the growing problem of garbage in Ukraine. Single-use plastics are especially dangerous, because they can build up in landfills or pollute the environment.

According to research by agricultural company Goodvalley Ukraine LLC, in the country, "only 7 percent of waste is sorted and recycled while the rest is transported to landfills." Linichenko told the Kyiv Post that up to 10 percent of Ukrainian waste is recycled.

According to a 2018 petition by the environmental NGO ReThink, every Ukrainian uses about 500 polyethylene bags per year and a very small percent of them are recycled. These bags kill many animals and birds after they end up in the ground, woods, rivers and seas. Besides bags, polluting products include dispos-

able straws, plates, cups, cutlery and other items.

Oksana Kravchenko, the media coordinator of environmental NGO Zelena Hvilya, told the Kyiv Post that part of the problem comes from the habits of Ukrainians, many of whom don't yet understand the full danger of solid waste.

Hanna Ponikarchuk, co-founder of the environmental project O. Zero, agreed. However, she added that households and companies are becoming more aware of what's needed in order to protect the environment. She said that even a small reduction in Ukrainians' use of disposable packages will have a positive ripple effect throughout the ecosystem.

Business strategies

Still, a great deal also depends on business.

Some experts see encouraging signs. According to Saprykina, about 65 percent of all Ukrainian companies now have some form of ecological responsibility program, up from fewer than 10 percent in 2010. A majority of these programs revolve around reducing carbon dioxide emission and increasing energy efficiency.

However, the reduction and recycling of solid waste, including plastic, is also gaining steam, according to multiple experts and businesses that spoke to the Kyiv Post. Ponikarchuk said that a year ago, she saw supermarket employees pushing back against replacing small plastic bags with reusable alternatives but they have now started accepting the practice as normal.

Last year, Silpo supermarkets partnered with the NGO Ukraine Without Waste to create three recycling stations in Kyiv. People can bring in their recyclable waste, which includes certain plastics, metal, glass

and paper. The waste is sorted and sent to recycling plants, which are run by separate companies. Silpo incentivizes people to bring in their garbage by giving them points on company loyalty cards, which can then be redeemed during shopping.

Silpo's project lead, Galyna Dmitruk, said that 72 tons of material has been recycled as of March and the amount has grown since then. The company plans to open seven more recycling stations across multiple cities, including Dnipro, Odesa and Zaporizhia.

Goodvalley Ukraine has a program to collect and sort recyclable garbage around its farms and adjacent villages. Paper, plastic and glass containers are sorted out from the general waste and sold to recycling plants. The project involves 8 village councils in Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, and provides for the education of locals on how to sort their waste.

The Ukrainian Packaging and Environment Coalition, an association of companies that produce packaging, which includes Coca-Cola, PepsiCo, TetraPak and Elopak, stated that member companies are sorting and recycling packaging waste, starting with a pilot program in Vyshegorod in the Kyiv Oblast. The Coalition stated that over the course of a year, 320 tons of packaging waste, or 25 percent of all packaging waste in Vyshegorod, was collected for recycling.

EBA's Linichenko said that major retailers including Novus, Metro, Auchan and Billa are introducing programs to limit their solid waste. These include phasing out thin single-use plastic bags (between 2 and 10 micrometers thick), the introduction and sale of reusable bags and nets, and cellulose bags that aren't as strong as plastic but are fully biodegradable. However, multiple NGOs stated that these companies still use too much plastic.

Biosphere Corporation, which makes storage accessories and household goods, told the Kyiv Post that it runs a plant that recycles plastic products into pellets which can then be used to make new plastic packaging and other goods. The company sells some of these pellets and uses others in the manufacturing of its products.

In a more controversial move, some stores, including Novus and Metro, are also introducing plastic bags that contain a substance that enables them to break down into tiny particles within the span of roughly three years, according to Linichenko. Experts explained that this substance is called D2W and is produced by the British company Symphony Environmental. Environmentalists warn that far from being a solution, this substance makes plastic pollution even harder to control.

Room for improvement

Several NGO representatives told the Kyiv Post that they are encouraged by the growing attention to solid waste but would like to see more.

"Every day, there are more and more people at our recycling stations and many cafes and restaurants are stopping the use of disposable plastic or replace it with more environmentally friendly materials," Ivanka Davydenko of Ukraine Without Waste told the Kyiv Post. "However, there is still not enough attention and we need the support of the media and a wider dissemination of information about the problem and possibilities to fight against it."

Saprykina said that there are two kinds of companies — those that integrate ecological programs into their core operating procedure and those that run ecological CSR largely because it's trendy and they want to maintain good PR.

"I would divide it into practices that are integrated into the business," said Saprykina. "And... the more tactical practices... 'because it's a trend, so we are doing it.'"

She added that manufacturing companies tend to fall under the former category while retailers and other consumer-facing companies tend toward the latter. While she supplied Kyiv Post with examples of multiple companies, including retailers, that have environmental programs, she pointed out that over a third of all Ukrainian companies still lack ecological strategies.

Davydenko said that, despite some stores starting to sell reusable bags, single-use plastics are still on offer and the smallest ones are handed out for free. She suggested that one solution could be to charge money for all plastic bags. However, some people buy reusable bags and still end up throwing them out.

Several experts told the Kyiv Post that, despite major retailers starting to switch out their single-use plastic bags, many bazaars or markets still hand out a lot of disposable plastics.

Sanofi Award Jury Members on How to Attract Investments to Scientific Research

On May 22, Sanofi Ukraine awarded the winners of Sanofi Award to Young Scientists for Medical Research, conducted in partnership with the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine two years in a row. This year, leading Ukrainian experts in various fields of medicine assessed the works together with startup experts, who evaluated and determined the potential for the practical implementation of the projects submitted for the competition. Startup experts together with the organizer of the Contest, Country Chair of Sanofi Ukraine Guilhem Granier, explored the idea of what young scientists should do to attract investment to scientific research.



Ceremony of Sanofi Award to Young Scientists for Medical Research, May 22, 2019

Sviatoslav Khanenko, Founder and Chief Doctor of the SQLab biohacking clinic, Jury member of Sanofi Award to Young Scientists for Medical Research

Firstly, the author of scientific research or a start-up proposal needs to clearly understand what social problem or healthcare problem he/she is going to solve by realizing his/her idea. The answers to such questions like "What do I want to create" and "How will the result look?" are incredibly important. Then, I would recommend that the author decide on the objectives of the project and describe them using a SMART scale (specific, measurable, assignable, realistic, and time-related). I strongly encourage the author of a research project to create a business plan for the project and a plan for achieving specific goals indicating the required resources. I believe that the objectives have to be set for a period of less than a year, and, after that, the next step should be to attract new rounds of funding.

It is preferable for the author of a scientific study or a start-up proposal to have a decent career portfolio. It is rare for investors to give resources to people who have no achievements. This does not necessarily mean that business achievements are a must. Young scientists should include a prior scientific work in their portfolio to confirm that they are able to reasonably and carefully plan and achieve the desired results.

An important part of attracting investment is the authors' understanding of their competencies and their continuous development. To attract investors to the research project, it is necessary to acquire not only medical and scientific, but also managerial and entrepreneurial skills — the ability to be flexible and able to handle any situation, organize a team, remain motivated and inspire others. The following list of competencies may be a benchmark for young entrepreneurs and scientists in medicine:

- Communication and relationship management
- Leadership
- Continuous development
- Understanding of health care system
- Business competence

To appear promising to the investors, young scientists should constantly study, improve their skills and take actions.

I believe that soft skills like courage and perseverance are also essential. After all, start-ups and inventions require a lot of energy at the first stage, as there is a significant chance that the leader will have to stop in his/her tracks. In the early days, innovators have to be ready to make mistakes and accept failures, which might slow down the work and even frustrate them. Nevertheless, it is very important, against all odds, to move forward. And if something goes wrong, the plan needs to be adjusted. The plan is nothing, but planning is everything.

I would suggest for young scientists to identify the control

points, such as financial indicators or the results of clinical research, and monitor them.

I am convinced that a young scientist needs to attend international conferences and different educational meetings. Even an international diploma is not as important as educational trips to other countries. Young scientists have to analyze what's happening globally and to gain entrepreneurial skills in order to pay the greatest attention to the most promising areas. I think that investors will prefer to put money into a project with a large potential market. For

example, the authors of the project that won first place in the Sanofi Award did research on multifunctional polymeric material with powerful disinfecting properties. They already have a major bargaining chip, because the market for disinfectants is large in any part of the world. Their research has a huge potential for solving the following problems: the inappropriate consumption of antibiotics, the need to develop new air purification technologies, disinfecting in conditions of war, outdated water purification technologies, and toxic industrial emissions.

If authors are working on a major research project, I would advise them to break the activities into sub-groupings, and implement a sub-project based in Ukraine, for example. And if they succeed, foreign investors will definitely notice them. You also need to search and find partners. When implementing work aimed at improving management processes in the healthcare field, it is necessary to gain the support of doctors and hospital managers.

The team also plays a key role in any project. After all, the investor will entrust resources to those who will be able to implement the project and make it profitable.

Andrii Sorokhan, Western NIS Enterprise Fund venture arm, U.Ventures, Jury member of Sanofi Award to Young Scientists for Medical Research

Firstly, I would advise entrepreneurs and researchers to get a good idea of the stages and areas the fund or sponsors provide support for. If a certain investor or a fund does not invest in scientific developments or the field of medicine, it is better not to waste too much time on them. For example, the Western NIS Enterprise Fund's venture arm U.Ventures supports a wide range of start-ups at the seed stage (sometimes Series A), but mostly focuses on ones that have a strong IT component to their product.

Once the homework of getting acquainted with the fund's priorities is done, the author of a startup project faces the next challenge: to persuade the investor that his or her product is worthy of support. The scientist needs to prepare a convincing presentation and to design and structure it diligently. The success of the pitch largely depends on how the presentation is performed and what results were already achieved to develop a product and bring it to the market. For us, it's important to clearly see that the author of a startup project is not just following the hype, but has a passion to solve a problem that may touch him/her personally. Of course, in scientific research it might be a bit different, because the research development, as a rule, is connected with the previous work of the scientist. But, indeed, a personal anchor guarantees that the researcher will be less likely to give up when his/her startup or research encounters difficult times.

When we assess a startup or a product, we like the products that can solve a difficult problem that is currently being ad-

ressed inefficiently. The product must have an unfair advantage, like some technical advantage or experience of the team that is difficult to replicate. And the innovator should clearly understand what the competitive advantage of the project is. We need to understand what the market of innovation is and for which market volume the authors target their product.

We pay great attention to how strong and balanced the team is in terms of various skills. The kind of people who will join the company later depends on the personality of the founder, the CEO. To summarize, we will invest in startups with a passionate team and a clear vision of what the future of innovation/the product will look like in 5-10 years.

Guilhem Granier, Country Chair, Sanofi Ukraine

Undeniably, to find investments, the scientist must undertake this task as seriously as doing scientific research. This is a stand-alone process that requires a very detailed and precise action plan.

However, it should not be a complicated task for the scientists to explain their idea in simple words, regardless of how complex and scientific their research is. The presentation must be comprehensible to a wide audience. Complexity frightens and discourages, so learning to adapt research is a very important lesson for the scientists while presenting their projects to investors. This is exactly what we observed when the winners of Sanofi Award pitched their ideas to potential investors and media during the awarding ceremonies.

Scientists need to think like the investors and answer the question: "What does an investor need and how exactly can the scientific invention or idea meet this need?". They might get ready for difficult and even awkward questions and remember that they do not have to take any comments personally, nobody wants to offend them. They just need to understand the opposite side, that the investor also takes a risk by investing in a new project.



Guilhem Granier, Country Chair of Sanofi Ukraine, with the winners of Sanofi Award

Moreover, young scientists should take failures or unsuccessful meetings with investors as the most valuable experience, because such meetings also teach a lot. I would recommend that they have a curious mind and be open and ready to change their point of view, as every meeting with investors may add a new perspective.

It is better not to adhere to the "all or nothing" approach, since this is completely unproductive. If a scientist cannot find funding for the whole project at once, he or she can try to split the process of searching for funds into subsections and contribute to creating conditions for future success.

And, finally, perseverance, inspiration, and a strong belief in the successful result should be young project authors' companions throughout the investment search process. They should be ready to hear "no," but never give up and always move forward — because **#future_motivates!**

International businesses help Ukrainian women reach professional dreams

Dreams from page 5

programs proved successful in other countries, Usov said.

Usov also doesn't see any risks for the program to fail.

"This (program) exists in different markets which have less favorable conditions than Ukraine. We work in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, and, believe me, the markets there are much more complex," he said.

According to Usov, the most popular businesses that receive support include services in cosmetology, hairdressing, cafes, restaurants, logistics, food processing, textiles and pharmacy.

"Our capacity to provide financial services tailored to the needs of women entrepreneurs and accompanied by consulting and mentorship support became so much stronger with the EBRD program," said Lyudmila Mazurkevych, head of Bank Lviv's marketing department.

The bank will provide loans from \$3,700 to \$344,500 for up to five years per person. The financing can be spent for any business purpose such as working capital, investments, real estate, renovation, expansion and marketing.

"It has to make business sense, and if it does, we will finance it," said Mazurkevych.



From left: Natalia Shcherban, Mariia Bailiak and Olena Vanieieva were named winners of the joint L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science program during an award ceremony in Kyiv on Nov. 30, 2018. (Courtesy)

Women in science

For those women who want to succeed in science, beauty products company L'Oréal in collaboration

"Very often (victims of domestic violence) are left without means of subsistence, very often they have to live with their children in shelters. Our main goal is to help women not with food or money, but with more fundamental goals," said Romanenko.

In total, 45 women have already completed these courses and received a profession.

STEM girls

Currently, there is a huge gap in Ukraine's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) sector: 77 percent of STEM professionals are men, according to the Center for Development of CSR.

Three years ago, software firm SAP launched in Ukraine its special STEM project to support young women between the ages of 14 and 24 to develop in this sector. The company created a platform for communication between successful women and young girls.

"Each year, 20 successful women, who have already made a good career in the STEM fields, join the project and their task is to motivate girls (who want to do something similar)," said Lopushenko.

"When girls meet successful women, they see that these women also had some obstacles. They inspire and motivate girls to take a certain path and take some (concrete) steps," she added.

In order to participate in this mentoring program, the teenage girls must submit a motivation presentation about what they want to learn from successful women and what projects they want to be involved in.

"In the final round, when all the projects are presented, a mentor woman chooses the project she likes the most and helps to implement it with resources, knowledge or networking," said Lopushenko.

Among one of the most surprising projects for Lopushenko was a project called "Computer modeling: The reconstruction of abandoned buildings into creative platforms."

The project was submitted by a 14-year-old girl, Anastasiya Kanivets, from the small town of Pomichna in Ukraine's central Kirovograd Oblast.

Kanivets' idea was to remake abandoned factories into modern art spaces that would include a cinema, art gallery, and a playground so that teens could have a place to hang out. In total, 24 girls became graduates of SAP's program this year.

According to a national survey undertaken in Ukraine at the end of 2018, 81 percent of women and 73 percent of men said they believe that gender equality is an important issue. Now, Ukraine is tackling this issue in the workplace, but the road ahead is still long. ■

Ukraine in the Global Gender Gap Index ranking

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Iceland	1	1	1	1	1	1
Finland	2	2	3	2	3	3
Norway	3	3	2	3	2	2
Ukraine	64	56	67	69	61	65
Poland	54	57	51	38	55	51

The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report examines the gender gap in four key areas – health, education, economy and politics – representing inequality across the globe. In 2018 Ukraine ranked 65th out of 149 countries, while in 2006 the country was 48th out of 115 countries.

Source: World Economic Forum

with UNESCO has been supporting women scientists in Ukraine throughout the last year.

"Ukraine was the last country in Eastern Europe where this program didn't exist because of many political and economic crises in the country," said Yulia Romanenko, communications director at L'Oréal Ukraine.

Romanenko did not expect that many women would be interested in the program at the beginning.

"We thought it would be 50 applications... But we were happy when we received 255 applications from 30 cities all over Ukraine," she said.

Out of these, 10 finalists were chosen by juries in collaboration with the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Center for CSR Development. After one final round of interviews, three winners were then selected – chemist Natalia Shcherban, mathematician Olena Vanieieva, and biochemist Mariia Bailiak. Each winner received Hr 120,000, or \$4,570, as a prize.

"Such programs stimulate and motivate people since it is very important to know that science is still needed in Ukraine. Young scientists often work only based on their enthusiasm, receiving a salary that is barely enough to live off. We need more such competitions so that

scientists will stay in Ukraine," Bailiak told the Kyiv Post.

"I haven't used the prize yet. I'm planning to spend it, if necessary, on the implementation of my own ideas in science such as an internship at Åbo Akademi in Finland," said Shcherban.

Besides its women in science program, L'Oréal launched another project in 2017 dedicated to helping women who are victims of domestic violence.

"These may be young mothers, orphan girls, and senior class students. With this program, women receive help to become professionals in the hairdressing business," said Romanenko.

Women who are survivors of abuse or living in domestic violence shelters receive free vocational training as hairdressers for six months and are also provided with uniforms, as well as compensation for their travel expenses and food.

TOP 10 KYIV POST exclusives online this week

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- UPDATE: New scenic walkway opens in Kyiv, problems ensue (PHOTOS)**
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- Prosecutor alleges constant political interference in law enforcement**
- Ukraine awaits results of European Parliament elections for signs of political shift**
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MHP to Expand its CSR Projects and Train Local Communities How to Raise Co-Financing from International Contributors

Reforming state power and the system of local finance has posed serious challenges for the local authorities. The key issues are maintaining the local road, city and communal infrastructure and constructing and maintaining public amenities – kindergartens, schools, and hospitals. These are just a few of the local bottlenecks resolved both by attracting taxes paid by economic entities and fundraising provided by socially conscious companies operating in the region or community through corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects.

In 2018, MHP doubled the volume of its social and infrastructural investments to UAH 200 million in 14 areas where 30 of the company's enterprises and subdivisions operate. The need for investment in developing the infrastructure of rural communities is obvious: financial flows are traditionally concentrated in cities, though a significant part of the Ukrainian population still lives in rural areas. MHP helps local communities improve the funding of their development.

"We are planning to actively attract European contributors in the second half of 2019. We have to understand which international investor is ready to co-finance projects together with us. We are actively cooperating with the EBRD, discussing local communities' development projects. Also, we are working with global corporations," says Viktoria Nagirnyak, head of the CSR Department at MHP.

To do that, we are implementing educational and outreach projects in the company's operation areas. MHP is planning to teach local people and authorities how to work systematically and develop strategic partnerships with foreign contributors, because European institutions award million-euro co-financing grants for local infrastructure projects to facilitate the development of regions and communities. Combining this resource with MHP's CSR projects will help improve the adaptability of local communities.



"Village heads quite often used to turn to us for help. But in most cases, they simply wanted to get money for some local needs. When we asked them 'What have you done yourselves?' we did not get any answer. We have switched over to a new model – co-financing local initiatives – and everything has changed drastically because projects have become more successful as the whole community contributes. And they really value their achievements, because these are the results of their own work," said Viktoria Nagirnyak.

The innovative model of partnership with communities that MHP offers – when local people and authorities are not only given fish but are also taught to fish – will help expand the possibilities of

other CSR projects due to co-financing by European contributors as well as involvement of local communities in the projects.

MHP's "Community Wellbeing" educational initiative helps people form developmental objectives for local neighborhoods and initiatives for cooperation with the company and the local authorities as a first step toward increasing the scope of cooperation projects with contributing organizations through co-financing tools.

The company follows the same policy when supporting rural medicine in its operation areas. Ukraine's medical reform has placed the rural population in a difficult position. It faces a slew of healthcare problems: no nurses, no budget, no outpatient clinics, etc. Village heads and deputies are turning to MHP for help. Viktoria Nagirnyak told us about successful practical experiences with project co-financing from various sources: "We hire a teaching expert to explain to the local community what steps to take. After that we provide financing. For example, if they need medical equipment, the community allocates as much as it can, even 5 thousand hryvnias. We pay the rest. In 2018, we allocated UAH 4.15 million for these kinds of projects."

Viktoria Nagirnyak is quite confident that even the smallest feasible participation by the community in project implementation strongly motivates its members – both citizens and authorities – to feel responsibility for the project's outcome.

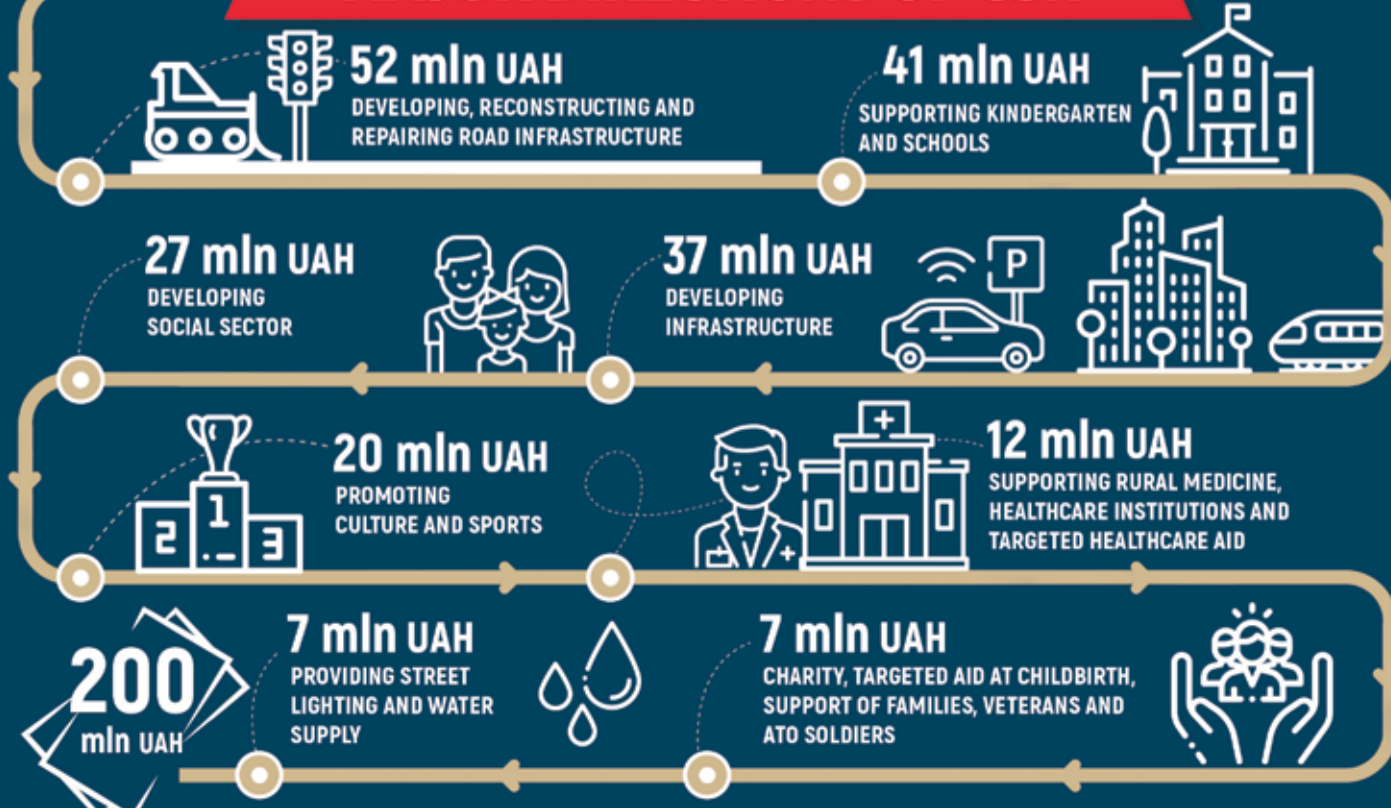
The company's nearest plans include involving European donors and the EBRD in developing local communities and in training them to cooperate with these donors. MHP's project "Village: Steps for Development" is a competition for micro-grants of up to UAH 50,000 for small businesses. This year, the project, which proved its efficiency a year ago, will be expanded to eight regions of Ukraine. Besides getting new knowledge, businesspeople and representatives of local communities will also learn how to acquire extra financing from contributing organizations. In 2018, MHP picked the 83 best projects of early-stage and experienced rural entrepreneurs in the "Village: Steps for Development" framework, which managed to raise over UAH 4 million for development.

The new philosophy of relations with communities, as well as MHP's assistance in raising co-financing from European contributors (international projects work mainly on these conditions) will help to boost the motivation and involvement of local people and authorities in implementing the initiatives they need to develop their localities.



MHP CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROJECTS IN 2018 – OVER 200 MILLION UAH

MAJOR DIRECTIONS OF CSR



MHP IN TOP-100 NATIONAL TAXPAYERS

- 28 000 employees
- 30 enterprises
- 14 regions

CSR PROJECTS REACH OUT TO

- over 500 villages
- over 100 territorial communities

IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUMENTS

- 7 nation-wide CSR projects
- 8 regions – micro-grants for socially essential businesses
- "Future for community" Charity Fund
- "Yielding for community" Charity Fund

Business leaders show pitfalls of unethical and illegal practices

BY BRIAN BONNER
BONNER@KYIVPOST.COM

When Yevhen Kravtsov took over as CEO of Ukrzaliznytsia two years ago, he inherited a state railway monopoly with 260,000 employees that had not been run like a single entity. Rather, Kravtsov describes it as a collection of six fiefdoms in which the largest customers got rich subsidies and the company routinely overpaid for diesel fuel and other expenses.

"We were still in the Soviet times with a market economy around us. It was a very interesting cocktail that gave us the best examples of Chinese corruption," Kravtsov said of how Ukrzaliznytsia ran in the recent past.

When Pavlo Riabikin took over Kyiv Boryspil International Airport two years ago, he inherited a 4,000-employee state enterprise with a reputation for poor customer service, allegiance to the then-monopoly Ukraine International Airlines, and baggage handlers who frequently pilfered the luggage of passengers.

When Iryna Mudra five years ago joined Oschadbank, where she now serves as chief compliance officer, the state-owned financial institution with 30,000 employees was reeling from bad loans and needed a state bailout. Oschadbank was part of the disastrous orgy of bank fraud, poor business practices and unfortunate circumstances that cost taxpayers \$20 billion before regulators closed half of the nation's banks. For instance, Oschadbank lost an Hr 20 billion — \$750 million — loan portfolio when Russia illegally seized Crimea in 2014.

Integrity, ethics needed

All three state businesses provide vivid illustrations of how corruption and stealing thrive without ethics, adherence to law or best practices.

Kravtsov, Riabikin, and Mudra were part of the May 22 CEO Debates sponsored by the Ukrainian Network of Integrity and Compliance. The event was organized by the Kyiv Post and held at the office of SigmaBleyzer private equity firm in Kyiv.

The two-year-old Ukrainian Network of Integrity and Compliance has more than 50 companies that pledge to work transparently. The initiative got its start from the Business Ombudsman Council, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and



Guests attend CEO Debates on May 22, 2019 at the Kyiv office of SigmaBleyzer private equity firm. The event, sponsored by the Ukrainian Network of Integrity and Compliance, focused on business ethics and legal compliance. (Oleg Petrusiuk)

Development. The event was part of Business Integrity Week.

Public, private panels

The talk was divided into two panels. Hlib Bakalov, chief compliance officer for Ukrrenerg, joined the leaders of Ukrzaliznytsia, Kyiv Boryspil International Airport and Oschadbank on the panel of leaders of government-owned businesses. Ukrrenerg supplies electricity to shady regional distribution companies known as oblenergos, most owned by oligarchs.

The other panel featured leaders of private-sector companies. That discussion was moderated by Iryna Nikolayevska, head of compliance at Kinstellar law firm. The speakers were Andreas Flodstrom, CEO of Beetroot; Guilhem Granier, Sanofi Ukraine country director; Alessandro Zanelli, CEO of Nestle Ukraine & Moldova; Dmytro Kyselov, Procter & Gamble country manager; and Olena Rybak, managing director of IC Consultanten.

Granier said that international companies have advantages because they operate with well-defined practices for legal and ethical compliance. The French pharmaceutical firm is "not afraid of operating in countries that might have high risk." Sanofi believes that transparency and ethics

"are key drivers of prosperity," he said, a counter to Ukraine's pharmaceutical industry, which is known for corruption and kickbacks.

Zanelli of Nestle said that "compliance is what you have to do, while ethics is what is the right thing to do." It's not easy, he said, amid Ukraine's gray economy.

Compliance costs

Flodstrom of Beetroot, an information technology firm, is Swedish. He said that the "cost of being compliant is much higher in Ukraine than many other countries," and that sometimes lawyers in Ukraine tell him that the legal way of doing business is more risky than illegal ways.

Kyselov of Procter & Gamble said that Ukraine's laws can be "very ambiguous," and that the international household products firm is at a competitive disadvantage because rule of law is "not for everyone yet," with some firms evading taxes. While the cost of compliance can be high, he said the payoff is in high public trust of such companies as P&G.

Rybak, the managing director of the consulting firm IC Consultanten, cautioned to be very careful about choosing partners. The wrong ones can harm reputation and cause financial losses.

Ending Soviet mentality

The leaders of the state-owned firms said they are making inroads in shedding the Soviet legacy.

Kravtsov said he has: centralized management of Ukrzaliznytsia; reduced the number of units of procurement, from 200 to 35; introduced competitive bidding procedures through ProZorro in spending \$1.1 billion annually; clamped down on ticket brokers; and raised rental of freight wagons to market rates. Moreover, Ukrzaliznytsia is buying new locomotives from U.S.-based General Electric.

these moves have saved money and improved efficiency, enabling the railways, for example, to reduce

the workforce by 10 percent in the last year. Still, Ukrzaliznytsia estimates that it may have to lay off another 100,000 employees, even though — as Kravtsov said — entire cities are dependent on the railways.

The steps have also saved \$260 million in one year alone, said Kravtsov. "This money previously was in the pockets of intermediaries or clients, not for the purpose of railways," he said.

There is still much to do for the ubiquitous railways that half the nation uses frequently. Ukrainian Railways also moves 60 percent of all cargo in the country.

He said the corporatization under way has consolidated 50 enterprises into one joint-stock company with a supervisory board. Corruption and fraud are battled with internal compliance, procurement and anti-corruption managers working with law enforcement agencies. But he admitted it's difficult to ensure that policies set in Kyiv are followed at every local train depot.

Fighting corruption

Riabikin said "we are trying to make the same rules for all airlines." Now, he said, 40 airlines are serving 90 destinations from Boryspil with passenger traffic expected to reach a record 15 million this year.

He also described the airport as "a Soviet system in a market economy; it changed very, very slowly."

Among his anti-corruption measures, he said, has been the firing of 300 employees suspected of stealing from passengers' luggage. Before he came, he said, only three people had been fired.

He also fights state micromanagement, including a recent Cabinet of Ministers requirement that the airport give 90 percent of its net profit to the state budget, rather than investing most of it in operations and development.

Mudra of Oschadbank said that the banking sector got a boost from a post-2014 crackdown by the National Bank of Ukraine on unethical prac-

tics. As a consequence, she said, the bank's portfolio of non-performing or bad loans has dropped from 50 percent to less than 1 percent.

"The biggest corruption in state banks is, of course, in lending," she said. But the central bank has imposed prohibitions against related-party lending and conflicts of interest, among other stringent regulations to avoid a repeat of the crisis that forced a \$20 billion taxpayer bailout.

Banking improvements

"If we do not observe ethical conduct, huge sanctions will be imposed by the central bank," Mydra said.

She said ethics "starts at the top." She said her position of chief compliance officer should be as independent as possible so that employees feel encouraged to be whistleblowers without fear of retribution or job loss.

"I'm not going to say everything is going right, but senior management and the board of directors understand that rules should be observed and followed," she said.

Oschadbank, with 2,000 branches, is one of the big three state-owned banks along with Ukreximbank and PrivatBank.

The representatives of the state firms said that paying market salaries is essential to attracting honest and qualified employees, but admitted that their companies pay market salaries mainly to the top managers. Public and private companies are struggling with the proper wage differential between the highest-paid and lowest-paid employees. In general, American corporate culture rewards CEOs more lavishly than European ones, while Ukraine is trying to find the right balance. The issue of proper compensation is more difficult for state-owned companies, since many of them are monopolies with no competition whatsoever.

"My main concern is salaries," said Bakalov of Ukrrenerg. "There is no way you will get qualified employees without market salaries." ■



Evgen Kravtsov, CEO of Ukrainian Railways, speaks at CEO Debates on May 22, 2019 at the SigmaBleyzer office in Kyiv. (Oleg Petrusiuk)

Parliament proposes ban on the sale of light plastic bags

Eco-friendly from page 6

"With bazaars, everything is a bit more complicated. There, cheap disposable packaging reigns supreme," said Davydenko. "However, unlike in supermarkets, fruits and vegetables aren't packed into plastic... and you can always use your own bag."

Experts also raised a concern about the so-called biodegradable plastic bags containing D2W, also known as oxo-degradable plastic. Ponikarchuk and Davydenko said that there is no evidence that such bags fully biodegrade. Instead, they fall apart into microplastic particles, which can easily get into the ground, the air, and the water supply, poisoning animals and people. This makes them more dangerous than large plastic bags, which can at least be gathered in one place. Oxo-degradable plastics do not require any certification in Ukraine, according to ReThink.

The European Union recommended to ban the use of plastics that contain D2W, writing that these plastics are "not a solution for the environment and that oxo-degradable plastic is not suited for long-term use, recycling or compost-



Workers sort garbage at the No Waste Recycling Station in Kyiv on September 4, 2018. Several recycling stations have opened in Kyiv over the past year. (Ukrinform)

ing. There is considerable risk that biodegrade and are a subsequent fragmenting plastics will not fully risk of an accelerated and accumulating amount of microplastics in the environment."

Pending legislation

This week, the European Parliament approved a new law banning single-use plastic items like plates, straws and cutlery by 2021. The law calls on member states to collect 90 percent of plastic bottles by 2029 and forces plastic bottles to contain 25 percent recycled content by 2025.

In January, the Verkhovna Rada, introduced bill 9507, proposing a ban on the sale of light plastic bags in retail outlets. However, the bill contains exceptions, permitting certain ultralight plastic bags as well as bulk products for which the bag is the primary packaging.

ReThink supported the bill, stating that it would align Ukraine "with civilized countries that understand the consequences of excessive use of plastics for the environment." It would also force Ukraine to quickly develop alternative, environmentally-safe products.

However, Linichenko and the EBA criticized aspects of the bill, saying that while business supported a reduction in plastic bags, it would be unfair to supermarkets because they face more inspections than bazaars, which would continue to use small disposable plastics. ■

Advertisement

LCF Law Group Supports Talented Youth

LCF Law Group has been the leader in the Ukrainian legal service market for over 10 years and it is among the Top-10 leading law firms in Ukraine. The company is number one in protecting clients in the hardest multi-jurisdictional, high-value, high-risk and supposedly unwinnable legal disputes and arbitrations. The LCF team consists of noted lawyers having vast experience, wealth of legal knowledge and expertise in banking, agriculture, IT, infrastructure, energy economy as well as manufacturing and pharmaceutical business sectors. The company's philosophy lies in maintaining long-term cooperation with its client based on principles of mutual trust and professional ethics along with deep understanding of client's business specifics.

Participating in Educational Projects

The range of LCF educational projects is extremely wide and involves co-working with higher educational institutions, awarding scholarships and grants to talented young people and participating in innovative educational platforms.

For the third consecutive year, LCF Law Group has given a grant to study at the Ukrainian Catholic University to ambitious specialists who want changes and want

to develop our state. In 2018 the winner was Vladislav Kantsyr, a student of the Master's Program in Public Administration at the School of Management of the Ukrainian Catholic University. Commenting on granting scholarships, Mrs. Anna Ogrenchuk, Managing Partner at LCF and the scholarships founder, said: "So far, changes in approaches to training of lawyers remains one of the key issues in legal job development in Ukraine. These changes are required not only in academic curriculum but also in teaching methods and approaches. Enhancing of legal culture and standards is impossible without creating proactive attitude to the legal profession." As a follow-up to the project, in 2019 it is planned to award a scholarship to the best teacher of the Ukrainian Catholic University Law School.

LCF Law Group works in close cooperation with a number of specialized higher educational institutions and supports ELSA Ukraine student educational initiatives and ones of the League of Students of the Ukrainian Bar Association. LCF Law Group experts are regularly invited to workshops and international classes held by leading universities in Ukraine and act as judges in international student competitions such as Mini-Moot Court, ELSA Moot Courts, The Annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. In the context of cooperation with educational organizations, LCF Law Group supported the second Legal Debate Summer at School n.a. Philip Jessup.

LCF Law Group maintains close ties with innovative educational platforms and advance training law schools.

For instance, LCF Law Group is a general partner of Judicial Practice School and professional partner of School of Bankruptcy at Legal High School – an innovative educational platform.

Youth is Engine of Reform

Among current CSR projects focused on young people there is the Youth as Engine of Reforms educational project organized by LCF Law Group in conjunction with the Ukrainian Association of Insolvency Practitioners. The project consists of several modules aimed at increasing activity among young people, particularly students, as the nation's hope and the main engine of change for the better. The ultimate goal is to attract young people to active work on changes through developing and proposing efficient measures for improving the life in the country, particularly regarding changes in legislation, law improvement and establishing justice.

The project started with the contest "Bankruptcy in Ukraine" – International Standards Compliance for creative works by students. The winner will receive a stipendium and the opportunity to have an internship at the LCF Law Group. The winner will be announced at the end of June 2019.

Remarkably, within the project there were also a series of public events arranged under the patronage of Alexander Biryukov - Doctor of Law, LCF Law Group Counsel and President of Ukrainian Association of Insolvency Practitioners. In particular, a cycle of public lectures was given at the leading universities of Ukraine – Kyiv Institute of International



Relations, T. Shevchenko KNU, Odesa Law Academy, Khmelnytskyi University of Management and Law, Uzhgorod National University. The lectures were intended for law students, lawyers, official receivers, specialists in handling procedures for declaring bankruptcy, economists and anyone interested in solving debt recovery problems by means of bankrupt law. Commenting on the project, Mr. Aleaxander Biryukov noted: "Bankruptcy as a classical university discipline should be studied giving particular attention to theoretical approaches to settling complicated insolvency relations, specific legal concepts, universal principles of law and unique mechanisms of bankruptcy procedures while taking into account already existing international standards".

The project is to be continued and new interesting initiatives are in the pipeline!

Alexander Biryukov

Ph.D.
Counsel of LCF Law Group,
President of Ukrainian Association
of Insolvency Practitioners

"We need to study the essence
of law, not text of law"

#Youth_Is_Engine_of_Reform



(Courtesy of the Dovzhenko Center.)

May 31-June 12



H.R. Giger. Alienation and Camera Obscura

A two-meter sculpture of the Alien, one of the most recognizable and terrifying monsters imagined by humans, will greet the visitors of Hans Ruedi Giger's retrospective exhibition at the Dovzhenko Center. Besides his Oscar-winning contribution to visual effects of the sci-fi horror film "Alien," the Swiss artist is known for his graphics of humans and machines linked together in a biomechanical relationship. H.R. Giger is credited for inventing this style called "biopunk" that hugely influenced pop-culture. The exhibition will feature 32 graphics and seven sculptures of Giger's creative work through the years. A side exhibition of Giger's photographs will reveal more about the artist's life and creative development at the Triptych Global Arts Workshop gallery.

H.R. Giger. Alienation. Dovzhenko Center (1 Vasylykivska St.) May 30-June 30. Mon-Sun 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s. Triptych Global Arts Workshop (34 Andriivskyi Uzviz St.) May 31-June 12. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Friday, May 31

Classical music

Ave Maria (Schubert, Saint-Saëns, Caccini). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-300

Live music

Jazz on the Terrace. Vsi Svoi D12. 7 p.m. Hr 350-500

Jazz for Adults With Alexey Kogan. Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 180-850

Clubs

Bal Under the Trees: Flux (electronic dance music). Mezzanine. 9 p.m. Hr 200-250. Visitors must be over 21

Antai, Jasper Code and others (electronic dance music). UBK Club. 10 p.m. Hr 100. Visitors must be over 21

Emerging Patterns, Haathi and others (electronic dance music). River Port. 11 p.m. Hr 150-250

Cabaret Nocturne and Charlie (electronic dance music). Closer. 11.59 p.m. Hr 300-400. Visitors must be over 21

Miscellaneous

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of biopunk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees

Ain't Nobody's Business! (collective exhibition exploring displays of sexuality). Pinchuk Art Center. 12-9 p.m. Free

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 12-9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees

Monolith (contemporary art exploring the digitalization of the world). America House. 12-9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 12

p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees

Movies

Indie Lab Short Films (documentary shorts made by young Ukrainian directors within the U.S. Embassy-funded workshop, in Ukrainian with English subtitles). America House. 6 p.m. Free. Bring ID

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

Molodist Kyiv International Film Festival (nine-day film festival featuring nearly 200 short and full length movies). Kyiv Cinema, Butterfly Deluxe. 10 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. Hr 110-125

Shows

Sheetel (rock, dark pop, piano-grunge). Monterey Live Stage. 8 p.m. Hr 250-400

Anna Dontsova Quintet (author's music, jazz hits). 32 Jazz Club. 8 p.m. Hr 400

Theater

The Barber of Seville (three-act opera in Italian). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600

Saturday, June 1

Live music

Lords of the Sound Feat. Didier Marouani - Interstellar Concert. Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater. 5 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 350-950

Volga: Funk (covers of songs by James Brown, Chaka Khan, Nina Simone, Martha High). Caribbean Club. 7 p.m. Hr 210-690

Clubs

Bolotin, Guy Richard and others (electronic dance music). UBK Club. 10 p.m. Hr 100. Visitors must be over 21

Secretsundaze (electronic dance music). Closer. 11:55 p.m. Hr 300-400. Visitors must be over 21

Selecta, Masta and others (rap). Green Theater. 11 p.m. Hr 100. Visitors must be over 18

Miscellaneous

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free. Bring ID

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries,

sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of biopunk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees

Ain't Nobody's Business! (collective exhibition exploring displays of sexuality). Pinchuk Art Center. 12-9 p.m. Free

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees

Rayon #1 Block Party (market of used and new goods, music, entertainment aimed to raise money for the development of Reitarska Street). Reitarska Street. 12-8 p.m. Free

Movies

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Zhovten. 1:50 p.m. Hr 95. Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

A New High (documentary). America House. 2 p.m. Free. Bring ID

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210

Molodist Kyiv International Film Festival (nine-day film festival featuring nearly 200 short and full length movies). Kyiv Cinema, Butterfly Deluxe. 10 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. Hr 110-125

Shows

YGT and Koloah (jazz, ambient-pop). Bursa Hotel. 7 p.m. Hr 200

David Friesen Trio Concert (jazz). 32 Jazz Club. 8 p.m. Hr 400

Inaia (pop). MK Music Space. 8 p.m. Hr 250-350

Theater

An Ideal Husband (theater recording in English with Ukrainian subtitles). Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 3 p.m. Hr 190-240

Chasing Two Hares (two-act ballet). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600

Sunday, June 2

Live music

Sympho Jazz (classics in jazz arrangements). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 80-400

Summer Symphonies on the Helipad (music from great operas, ballets and symphonies with a rooftop view). Parkovyi Center. 7 p.m. Hr 290-390

François-Xavier Roth and Carolin Widmann (Stravinsky, Zimmermann, Debussy, Ligeti). MK Music Space. 7 p.m. Free

Clubs

Dimone, Zaicev, Kichi Kazuko and others (electronic dance music). River Port. 4 p.m. Hr 100

Boddika, Nonplus (electronic music). UBK. 1-11 p.m. Hr 250

Miscellaneous

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of biopunk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees

Ain't Nobody's Business! (collective exhibition exploring displays of sexuality). Pinchuk Art Center. 12-9 p.m. Free

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees

Movies

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Zhovten. 1:50 p.m. Hr 95. Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210

Molodist Kyiv International Film Festival (nine-day film festival featuring nearly 200 short and full length movies). Kyiv Cinema, Butterfly Deluxe. 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Hr 110-125

Shows

Rauf and Faik (pop, hip-hop, rap). Green Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 500-1,200

TIK (folk rock, punk-rock). Docker Pub. 8 p.m. Hr 500 - 6,750

The Young Gods (industrial rock). Monterey Live Stage. 9 p.m. Hr 550-1190

Theater

Turandot (three-act opera in Italian). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600

Monday, June 3

Miscellaneous

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of biopunk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Movies

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210

Tuesday, June 4

Classical music

Bach, Prokofiev, Shostakovich (piano concert). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-300

Live music

Life Is Jazz (Ukrainian jazz musicians). Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 100-200

Miscellaneous

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of biopunk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees

ReWhale (opening of the interactive exhibition about the ocean pollution). America House. 6:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

Movies

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Cinema City. 7 p.m. Hr 120-130. Multiplex (Atmosphere, Komod, Lavina Mall, Prospect, Sky Mall). 7 p.m. Hr 90-250. Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160

Twelfth Night (comedy in French with Ukrainian subtitles). Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 190

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210

Theater

Romeo and Juliet (ballet). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600

June 5



(Godsmack/facebook)

Godsmack

The versatile rock U.S. band from Massachusetts, will unleash the power of its post-grunge, hard rock and nu-metal in Kyiv, their first time in Ukraine. Godsmack had their break in 1999 with "Voodoo," where a sound influenced by Alice in Chains fused with Middle Eastern-sounding percussion. Their next big hit couldn't be more different - "I Stand Alone" had grinding riffs, lumbering drums and vocals similar to that James Hetfield, the frontman of Metallica, another big influence. The percussive tribal rhythms and mystical imagery make Godsmack instantly recognizable. In Kyiv, the band will present their seventh album "When Legends Rise" and play some good old hits.

Godsmack. Stereo Plaza (119 Lobanovskyi Ave). June 5. 7 p.m. Hr 1,460-8,800

Wednesday, June 5**Classical music**

Brahms, Ravel, Silvestrov (piano concert). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-300 📍

Live music

Jazz on the Roof of Tsum. Tsum. 7 p.m. Hr 450 📍

Miscellaneous

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees 📍

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of bio-punk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free 📍

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees 📍

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees 📍

ReWhale (interactive exhibition about the ocean pollution). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

Movies

Godzilla: King of the Monsters (action, adventure, fantasy). Planeta Kino. 7 p.m. Hr 100-160 📍

Forrest Gump (drama, romance). Planeta Kino. 7:30, 8 p.m. Hr 150-210 📍

Summer Shorts Australia (short films produced in Australia, in English with Ukrainian subtitles). Kyiv Cinema. 7:30 p.m. Hr 90-120 📍

Shows

Godsmack (hard rock, post-grunge, nu-metal). Stereo Plaza. 7 p.m. Hr 1,460-8,800 📍

Boombbox (funk rock, reggae, rock and roll). Platforma Art Factory. 7 p.m. Hr 799 📍

Theater

Carmen TV (Kyiv Modern Ballet). Kyiv Opera and Ballet Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 140-450 📍

Antony & Cleopatra (British National Theater recording, drama). Multiplex (Sky Mall). 7:30 p.m. Hr 190 📍

Thursday, June 6**Live music**

Hetty & the Jazzatto Band (swing, jazz, bossa nova). Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 220-1,490 📍

Urban Gypsy & Lisa Bajrak (jazz covers).

MK Music Space. 8 p.m. Hr 250 📍

Miscellaneous

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees 📍

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of bio-punk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free 📍

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees 📍

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees 📍

ReWhale (interactive exhibition about the ocean pollution). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

Theater

Got to Be Free (rock musical about EuroMaidan Revolution). Theater on Podil. 7 p.m. Hr 200-700 📍

Vienna Waltz (ballet). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600 📍

Friday, June 7**Classical music**

Bach, Mozart, Stravinsky (violin). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 80-400 📍

Live music

Shanna Waterstown (jazz, soul, gospel, blues). Mystetskyi Arsenal. 8 p.m. Hr 250-450 📍

Summer Playlist (Pavlo Ignatyev's piano music show). Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 180-650 📍

Red Hot Chili Peppers Tribute (by Symbol Sound band). Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 100-1,125 📍

Clubs

Santiago Uribe, Bru and others (electronic dance music). River Port. 10 p.m. Hr 200-250. Visitors must be over 18 📍

DJ Normal 4 and others (electronic dance music). Closer. 11:59 p.m. Hr 300-400. Visitors must be over 21 📍

Miscellaneous

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍



May 31-June 5

'Godzilla: King of the Monsters'

For the biggest on-screen battles ever go watch the latest in the Godzilla franchise reboot. The eponymous giant monster will face a worthy opponent in the three-headed dragon-like Ghidorah and its minions. The critics hammered the film for underdeveloped human characters and storyline, but most viewers will go see it for the monster battles. The praised action sequences and visual effects will sure make those look interesting.

Godzilla: King of the Monsters. May 31-June 5. See all screenings in the Entertainment Guide on pages 12-13.

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of bio-punk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free 📍

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees 📍

Faces of Civil Society (photo exhibition by Chris Collison featuring interviews with Ukrainian civic activists and human rights defenders conducted in 2015-2019). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees 📍

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees 📍

ReWhale (interactive exhibition about the ocean pollution). America House. 12 p.m. - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

Shows

Noize MC (rap rock, alternative hip hop, electronic rock). Stereo Plaza. 8 p.m. Hr 650-2,200 📍

Theater

Carmen (opera in French). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600 📍

Saturday, June 8**Live music**

Guitarra Nueva (classical music in guitar arrangements). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-350 📍

Jazz on the Helipad. Parkoviy Center. 7 p.m. Hr 200-350 📍

Clubs

Zaicev, Dimone, Max Owl and others (electronic dance music). River Port. 10 p.m. Hr 150-300 📍

Christian AB, Unai Trotti and others (electronic dance music). Closer. 11:55 p.m. Hr 300-400. Visitors must be over 21 📍

Miscellaneous

ReWhale (interactive exhibition about the ocean pollution). America House. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free. Bring ID 📍

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of bio-punk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free 📍

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees 📍

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees 📍

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees 📍

Market of Ceramics, Goods for Balconies and Terraces (furniture, textiles, pillows, candles, ceramics by Ukrainian producers). Vsi Svoi D12. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Movies

Nureyev (documentary, biography). Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 3 p.m. Hr 190-240 📍

Shows

Tempers (glam rock, synthpop, dark cabaret). Closer. 8 p.m. Hr 250 📍

Yakiv Tsvietynskyi Quartet (jazz) 32 Jazz

Club. 8 p.m. Hr 400 📍

Timecop 1983 (dance, electronic music). Caribbean Club. 9 p.m. Hr 590-790 📍

Theater

The Audience (British National Theater recording). Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 190 📍

The Marriage of Figaro (ballet). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600 📍

Sunday, June 9**Classical music**

Machado Guitar Quartet (Rossini, Piazzolla, Igllesias). National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-350 📍

Live music

Nirvana tribute (by M. Others band). Docker Pub. 8 p.m. Hr 100-1,125 📍

Miscellaneous

Oleksandr Bohomazov: Creative Laboratory (artworks, sketches by Ukrainian avantgarde artist). National Art Museum. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hr 70, Hr 30 for pupils, students and retirees 📍

A Boy and a Comet (paintings, diaries, sketches and photographs of Ukrainian artist Oleh Holosii). The Naked Room. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Camera Obscura. H.R. Giger & Photography 1950s-1960s (photographs by the Swiss surrealist artist, "father of bio-punk"). Triptych Global Arts Workshop. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free 📍

Nothing Extra (street art by Hamlet Zinkovsky). M17 Contemporary Art Center. 11 a.m. - 10 p.m. Hr 100, Hr 70 for children, students and retirees 📍

H.R. Giger. Alienation (graphics and sculptures by the Swiss surrealist artists, including the 'Alien' series). Dovzhenko Center. 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 80, Hr 50 for students and retirees 📍

Market of Ceramics, Goods for Balconies and Terraces (furniture, textiles, pillows, candles, ceramics by Ukrainian producers). Vsi Svoi D12. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free 📍

Shows

Monteray Summer Rock Fest: Azathoth Circle, Season of Melancholy and others (metal, rock, metalcore). Monteray Live Stage. 6 p.m. Hr 100 📍

Falk Bonitz Trio (jazz). 32 Jazz Club. 8 p.m. Hr 400 📍

Theater

Madama Butterfly - Cio-Cio San (opera in Italian). National Opera. 7 p.m. Hr 50-600 📍

Rayon #1 Block Party

Kyiv's most neighborly party will welcome visitors on the central Reitarska Street for the third time in two years. Local brands and businesses will go out to the street to sell their clothes and goods with discounts, while local cafes will treat visitors to food and drinks outside. There will be games, art exhibitions and lectures as well. Part of the proceeds from the sales will fund the development of Reitarska Street.

Rayon #1 Block Party.
Reitarska Street. June 1. 12-8 p.m. Free

**Venues**

Classical Music
National Philharmonic of Ukraine (2 Volodymyrskyi Uzviz St.) +38044 278 6291

Live Music
Caribbean Club (4 Petliuru St.) +38067 224 4111
Docker Pub (25 Bohatyrska St.) +38050 358 5513
Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater (3 Ivana Franka Sq.)

+38044 279 5921
MK Music Space (57B Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.) +38095 179 3834
Mystetskyi Arsenal (10-12 Lavrska St.) +38044 288 5225
Parkoviy Congress and Exhibition Center (16A Parkova Rd.) +38044 594 8888
Tsum (38 Khreshchatyk St.) 0800 60 0202

Clubs
Closer (31 Nyzhnoiurkivska St.) +38067 250 0308
Green Theater (2 Parkova Rd.)

+38067 155 2255
Mezzanine (31 Nyzhnoiurkivska St.) +38063 873 7306 📍
River Port (67 Nyzhnii Val St.) www.facebook.com/riverportkyiv
UBK Club (Trukhaniv Island, 300 meters right of Pedestrian Bridge) +38097 771 3143

Miscellaneous
America House (6 Mykoly Pymonenka St.) +38063 343 0119
Dovzhenko Center (1 Vasylykivska St.) +38044 201 6574
M17 Contemporary Art Center

(102-104 Antonovycha St.) +38067 310 6631
The Naked Room (21 Reitarska St.) www.facebook.com/thenakedroom
National Art Museum of Ukraine (6 Mykhaila Hrushevskoho St.) +38044 279 6462
Pinchuk Art Center (1/3-2 Velyka Vasylykivska St.) +38044 590 0858
Reitarska Street
Triptych Global Arts Workshop (34 Andriivsky Uzviz St.) +38044 279 0759
Vsi Svoi D12 (12 Desiatynna St.) www.facebook.com/vsi.svoi

Movies
Butterfly Deluxe (50 Antonovycha St.) +38044 206 1322
Cinema City (Ocean Plaza shopping mall, 176 Antonovycha St.) +38044 230 7230
Kyiv Cinema (19 Velyka Vasylykivska St.) +38044 234 7381
Multiplex Cinema (Atmosphere, 103 Stolychne Hwy.) 0800 505 333
Multiplex Cinema (Komod, 4A Sheptytskoho St.) 0800 505 333
Multiplex Cinema (Lavina Mall, 6D Berkovetska St.) 0800 505 333

Multiplex Cinema (Prospect, 1V Hnata Khotkevycha St.) 0800 505 333
Multiplex Cinema (Sky Mall, 2T Henerala Vatutina Ave.) 0800 505 333
Planeta Kino Cinema (34 Stepana Bandery Ave.) 0800 300 600
Zhovten Cinema (26 Kostiantynivska St.) +38044 428 5757

Shows
32 Jazz Club (32 Vozdvyzhenska St.) +38050 462 0014
Bursa Hotel (11B Kostiantynivska St.) +38044 537 7007
Monteray Live Stage (8 Prorizna St.)

+38093 323 0644
Platforma Art Factory (1 Bilomorska St.) +38044 461 8810
Stereo Plaza (119 Lobanovskiy Ave.) +38044 222 8040

Theater
Kyiv Opera and Ballet Theater (2 Mezhyhirska St.) +38044 425 4280
National Opera of Ukraine (50 Volodymyrskyi Uzviz St.) +38044 234 7165
Theater on Podil (20A, Andriivsky Uzviz St.) +38044 332 2217

Reconstructing deadly May 2 events in Odesa

Odesa from page 1

already seized Crimea and parts of the eastern Donbas region. Soon after, the Kremlin would use the Odesa catastrophe to recruit volunteers to instigate a broader insurrection against Kyiv — after all, 46 of the 48 victims were identified as pro-Russian activists.

Five years on, only a small group of people — predominantly survivors and relatives of those killed — are still pushing for justice.

With no clear answers from Ukrainian law enforcement, the people who come to the Trade Unions House still share the Russian conspiracy theory that the Security Service of Ukraine used gas to deliberately kill people in the building.

Meanwhile, pro-Ukrainian activists pay tribute to two young men killed on May 2 from the Ukrainian side. Their portraits hang on a fence downtown, three kilometers from Trade Unions House, where people leave flowers. Their supporters have their own theory: that the fire in the Trade Unions House was orchestrated by the Russian security services and that many of the people killed there were Russian nationals.

Separately, a group of journalists and experts have joined together and conducted an independent investigation. They call themselves the May 2 Group, and say they have many of the answers.

“This was a horrible accident,” Tetiana Gerasymova, coordinator of the May 2 Group, told the Kyiv Post.

She believes the local police and emergency services chiefs could have prevented such a high death toll, but they simply did not.

But the May 2 Group’s explanation of the tragedy appears to be of little



A Ukrainian flag waves outside a window of the Trade Unions House in Odesa, where 42 people were killed in a fire — either directly from the flames or from jumping out windows to escape the blaze — on May 2, 2014. Graffiti on the soot-covered wall reads “Glory to Novorossiya,” a name used in Russian propaganda for southeastern Ukraine. In total, 48 people were killed in Odesa on that day as a result of fights between pro-Ukrainian and pro-Russian activists. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

interest to law enforcement. In a report published on May 2 this year, the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission to Ukraine cited “a lack of genuine interest from the authorities to ensure justice for victims and accountability for perpetrators.”

Many people investigated for alleged involvement in the Odesa tragedy — both by law enforcement and the May 2 Group — have long left for Russia or Russian-controlled territories.

How it happened: Downtown

In April 2014, only two months after the EuroMaidan Revolution overthrew pro-Kremlin President Viktor Yanukovich, pro-Moscow rallies against the new government in Kyiv rocked Odesa and other southern and eastern cities. Pro-Kyiv activists also came out to rally in support of the new Ukrainian government and against the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Excited by Russia’s annexation of Crimea and possibly sponsored by the Russian government, pro-Russian activists set up a tent camp at Kulykove Field square, located next to the Trade Unions House, which had served as Communist Party headquarters in Soviet times.

Pro-Ukrainian activists regularly rallied near the monument to Duke de Richelieu, the first governor of the city.

On May 2, Odesa hosted a soccer match between the local Chornomorets club and Kharkiv Metalist. Fans of both teams, along with local pro-Ukrainian activists, planned to march for national unity before the game.

Tetiana Soykina, 28, an activist from the Ukrainian Right Sector nationalist group, came in the afternoon to Soborna Square, where about 2,000 people, including many women and children, were gathering to start the unity rally. She left her body armor vest at home, not expecting any serious clashes.

But around 3:30 p.m., fights broke out when about 300 members of the pro-Russian Odesa Squad led by Serhiy Dolzhenkov abruptly changed the direction of their march and attacked the pro-Ukrainian activists

with stones, stun grenades and smoke bombs. Street clashes erupted.

“The thunder flashes, smoke bombs were flying all through the air,” Soykina remembers.

A young man gave her his helmet. Activists started using Molotov cocktails, then unexpected gunfire rang out.

Police cordons were of little help. “On May 2, state authority wasn’t present in Odesa,” activist Vitaliy Ustymenko, who leads the Odesa branch of the Automaidan protest movement, told the Kyiv Post.

Within an hour, Soykina saw EuroMaidan activist Andriy Biriukov with a gunshot wound to his chest. It proved to be fatal. Right Sector’s Ihor Ivanov, with whom Soykina had traveled to Kyiv’s EuroMaidan protest, received a fatal bullet wound to his stomach.

“They killed my friend,” Soykina said.

A YouTube video shows that pro-Russian activist Vitaliy Budko was shooting from behind the police cordon.

Later, four pro-Russian activists were shot dead amid street fights, while several police officers and journalists were wounded.

“Why did they kill him? He loved life so much,” said Iryna Petrova, mother of Hennady Petrov, a 29-year-old pro-Russian activist, who was fatally wounded.

With fights still raging, some pro-Ukrainian activists headed to Kulykove Field to demolish the pro-Russian encampment.

How it happened: Kulykove Field

Vera Butuk, 62, a pensioner, came early on that day to the pro-Russian

camp at Kulykove Field with her brother and a small placard reading “EuroMaidan will kill Ukraine.” By late afternoon, the pro-Russian activists had received word of the killings downtown. They were told that pro-Kyiv activists were coming for them, and they began to panic. Many fled.

Others decided to hide in the Trade Unions House. Butuk was one of them. “This building is so big, with thick walls,” she said. “We didn’t think something would happen there. At a maximum, the windows would be smashed.”

The pro-Russian activists broke into the building and brought some Orthodox icons, clothes, papers, plywood and even a petrol generator that was producing electricity for the tent camp. All these items were stored by the stairs on the first and second floors, which later helped the fire to spread quickly.

There were about 400 people hiding in the building. At least some of them were armed with guns and Molotov cocktails.

The pro-Ukrainian activists came to the camp at about 7:20 p.m. and started smashing the tents, setting them on fire, throwing stones and Molotov cocktails at the Trade Unions House. Those inside threw Molotov cocktails back. Gunfire came from both sides.

Butko said a Molotov cocktail ignited the curtains of a window in the second-floor room where she was hiding, but someone was able to extinguish the fire.

The main fire, however, started on the left side of the first floor at 7:44 p.m., according to the findings of the May 2 Group. It spread rapidly as people smashed windows for air, according to the May 2 Group’s investigation. Some died from fire or smoke inhalation. Some died after falling or jumping from windows.

Firefighters began to extinguish the blaze only 40 minutes after the fire started, despite dozens of emergency calls and a fire station located just around the corner.

Butko said she and dozens of other people hid in a back room in the right wing of the building. They closed the door to the main corridor and opened a window. She believes some type of gas was deliberately used to kill people.

But experts of the May 2 Group — which includes doctors, chemists, and toxicologists — found no evidence of gas or any other toxic chemicals that could cause the deaths.

Butko managed to descend from the second floor using a ladder brought by firefighters. That saved her life.

Many pro-Ukrainian activists rescued people from the fire. Others, however, beat and insulted those who escaped from the Trade Unions House, according to videos from the scene.

Top 5 myths about Odesa May 2 tragedy

1. Hundreds were killed in Trade Unions House

Truth: Although many pro-Russian activists still talk about hundreds of victims in the May 2, 2014 fire, law enforcement, medics and experts of the independent May 2 Group have concluded that 42 people died there out of 48 killed that day.

2. There were many Russian nationals among victims of the fire

Truth: The majority of the people who died in the Trade Unions House were residents of Odesa or Odesa Oblast, according to the investigation of the May 2 Group. There were no Russian nationals among them.

3. Gas or another toxic substance was used in Trade Unions House to spread the fire

Truth: The experts of the May 2 Group — including medics, chemists and toxicologists who inspected the building — say there was no sign of gas or other toxic substances deliberately spread there. They suggest the fire spread rapidly because of the building’s high ceilings and the air flow, which intensified after people smashed windows to be able to breathe. The temperature there reached 400-600 degrees Celsius, which caused many deaths from burns or from breathing in the extremely hot air.

4. People were killed by firearms in Trade Unions House

Truth: Pro-Russian activists still share stories that many of those who died in the Trade Unions House were shot dead by pro-Ukrainian activists in the building. But medics and experts of the May 2 Group who examined the bodies say none of the people killed there had gunshot wounds.

5. Pro-Ukrainian protesters cut the firehoses, prevented the work of firefighters

Truth: Pro-Russian activists and some former state emergency officials say that pro-Ukrainian protesters prevented the firefighters from getting to the burning Trade Unions House and even cut the firehoses. Experts of the May 2 Group say that many pro-Ukrainian activists were actually trying to save those trapped in the burning building and helped the firefighters. YouTube videos prove this version of the story.

Fiery deaths came during peak of fears about Russia

Odesa from page 14

Shock

On the next morning, May 3, 2014, anybody who wanted could come to the Trade Unions House and see dozens of dead bodies. Some bodies of pro-Russian activists lay on the asphalt, covered in Ukrainian national flags.

Gerasyimova of the May 2 Group remembers a city in silent shock. People even did not talk on public transport.

The youngest victim of the fire was Vadym Papura. He was just 17.

Most of the victims of the fire turned out to be residents of Odesa or Odesa Oblast.

"Young boys were killed. This tragedy, this pain has sharply divided us," Butuk said. She says she mourns victims on both sides.

But Soykina doesn't have any sympathy for victims of the fire. "They attacked us first," she said. "Do you ask soldiers if they feel sorry about their enemies? This is the same."

Soykina, who fought against Russia in the Donbas in 2014-2015, now heads Right Sector in Odesa.

Investigation

On May 4, 2014, a crowd of about 1,000 city residents came to the police detention center in Odesa to demand the release of pro-Russian activists who had been arrested. With shouts of "Freedom!" they smashed the small windows of the detention center's front gate and achieved their goal. The gate opened and 67 people walked free.

After the incident, the city police chief, the head of the detention center and a police officer on duty that day were arrested for allowing these people to leave. Gerasyimova believes they were made scapegoats. "They just needed to punish someone," she said.

She believes the former Odesa Oblast deputy police chief, Dmytro Fuchedzhy, ordered the release of the pro-Russian protesters. Fuchedzhy also coordinated police efforts on



Tetiana Soykina of the Right Sector nationalist group stands on May 10 by the street corner featuring portraits of two pro-Ukrainian activists killed in street fights with pro-Russian activists in Odesa on May 2, 2014. One of those killed was Soykina's friend. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

May 2. Later, the three former police officers were released on bail. Their case has been stalled since 2014.

On May 7, 2014, Ukraine's top cop, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, reported that Fuchedzhy had gone into hiding in Transnistria, the Russian-controlled part of Moldova. In interviews with Russian media, Fuchedzhy accused Ukraine's state and regional authorities of masterminding the violence on May 2.

The former deputy chief of the regional emergency services, the head of the emergency duty shift and the emergency phone operator also all became scapegoats. They have been accused of delaying the dispatch of fire brigades to the Trade Unions House on May 2. But a police investigation found that they acted on the orders of oblast emergency chief Volodymyr Bodelan, who fled Ukraine. Their cases — along with that of Ruslan Velyky, Bodelan's former deputy — have been stalled in court since 2016.

In 2017, Ukrainian media reported that Bodelan had obtained a high position in the emergency services of Russian-annexed Crimea. In a statement to the May 2 Group, Bodelan claimed that protesters hindered the work of firefighters.

In 2015, prosecutors also opened a case against Petro Lutsiuk, the former Odesa Oblast police chief, accusing him of not taking efforts to stop the bloodshed on May 2 and falsifying documents to indicate that he supposedly implemented a special police operation to stop the street fights.

Lutsiuk now lives in Lutsk, a city of 217,000 people roughly 400 kilometers to the west of Kyiv, and only visits Odesa for court hearings, which are still ongoing. In an interview with the NewsOne TV channel, Lutsiuk said he had done all that he could to stop the violence, but many police officers were "demoralized" after EuroMaidan in Kyiv and were scared to act more decisively.

"Fuchedzhy, Bodelan, and Lutsiuk are the main people responsible," said Pavlo Polmarchuk, an Odesa activist who contributed to the May 2 Group investigation. He also blames Dmytro Tsvetkov, a former chief investigator of the Odesa police, for allowing anybody to enter the Trade Unions House after the fire, possibly destroying or tampering with evi-

dence. A downtown cleaning crew had also removed evidence of the shootings. In 2018, Ukrainian media reported that Tsvetkov was hiding in Moscow.

Gerasyimova believes a court made the right decision in September 2017 to release 19 pro-Russian activists accused of involvement in the bloodshed downtown on May 2 due to a "lack of evidence of their guilt." She says prosecutors had indeed failed to prove they were guilty.

However, the court immediately ruled to re-arrest two of these 19 people — Dolzhenkov, who directed a crowd to attack a pro-Ukrainian march on May 2, and Russian national Yevgeny Mefedov. Both men have been accused of instigating anti-government riots in Mykolaiv, a city 130 kilometers to the northeast of Odesa, where they now remain in custody.

In their research, the May 2 Group experts say that it is still unclear why Dolzhenkov decided to start the violence in Odesa, by redirecting his march toward the pro-Ukrainian protest.

Activist Ustymenko calls Dolzhenkov an "honest enemy" and a true believer in the so-called Russian World.

"I presume his coordinators in Russia may have called him and ordered him to start those actions," Ustymenko said. "He led his group,

with arms, relying on the neutrality of the police and hoping to change the situation."

Pro-Ukrainian activist Sehiy Khodiyak is now on trial for killing pro-Russian activist Yevhen Losinsky and wounding several other people. The trial has been ongoing since 2015. Meanwhile, Khodiyak remains free and has occasionally attacked critics of Odesa Mayor Gennady Trukhanov, Ustymenko said. Gerasyimova said she had received threats from Khodiyak.

Pro-Russian shooter Budko, who is suspected by May 2 Group experts of killing Ivanov, reportedly went into hiding in Russian-controlled Transnistria.

The Odesa tragedy has only resulted in one criminal sentence so far: a five-year prison term in absentia for Denys Yatsiuk, one of the leaders of the pro-Russian Odesa Squad. He is currently hiding in Russian-occupied parts of the Donbas and calls himself a "war correspondent" in interviews with Russian media.

Meanwhile, some relatives of those killed on May 2 are now planning to lodge a complaint with the European Court of Human Rights.

Gerasyimova says national courts often just imitate work. Thus, domestic court proceedings are "just a waste of time and money," she said. ■



Odesa's Trade Unions House burns on May 2, 2014. Forty-two people were killed in the fire there, following street fights between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian activists. The total number of people killed that day on both sides was 48. (UNIAN)



On May 2, 2014, 48 people were killed in Odesa clashes between pro-Russian and pro-Ukrainian demonstrators. Six deaths came after street fights downtown. Following the fights, pro-Russian protesters hid in the Trade Unions House, where another 42 people were subsequently killed in a fire. Source: Google, Kyiv Post

Ukraine now knows how dangerous life is outside NATO alliance

NATO from page 1

Twenty-five years of close relations between the alliance and Ukraine have not yet ended in a happy marriage — despite the fact that Kyiv has never given up on courting Brussels. But why?

Western envoys to Kyiv debated that on May 28 during “25 Years of NATO Engagement in Ukraine: The Way Ahead,” a discussion hosted by the Ukrainian Transatlantic Platform organization and moderated by Kyiv Post chief editor Brian Bonner.

'Ups and downs'

Barbora Maronkova, the direc-

tor of NATO's Information and Documentation Center in Kyiv, said that the alliance and Ukraine have had a very long and sometimes rocky history.

“In every relationship, you have ups and downs,” she said.

“And if you want a relationship to work and advance, both sides have to make it work. And the essence of every successful relationship is trust. And it is extremely important for an organization like NATO, which is a collective defense organization, because you have to trust your allies, and you have to be committed to the defense of your ally with your own men and women.”



Visitors take selfies near the "NATO 70" sign during celebrations devoted to the alliance's 70th anniversary in central Kyiv on May 21, 2019. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

In 2014, a new chapter in the relationship began. It came amid difficult times in Ukraine — a Russian invasion of the country's Crimean peninsula and eastern Donbas region — but started on a much more promising note.

Need for NATO

The war with Russia drove home the need for both NATO member-

ship and military reform. Now, with its ambitious defense transformation plan, which aims to achieve full inter-compatibility with NATO by the end of 2020, Ukraine is demonstrating a “strong will and commitment” to reform, Maronkova said.

While Ukraine is on its way to NATO, everyone should optimistic, but prudent. As Canadian Ambassador Roman Waschuk said, Kyiv still has a lot of work ahead.

Meanwhile, NATO should have a more strategic approach to Kyiv, the Canadian diplomat said.

“Ukraine has developed, considerably, its military capacity (since 2014),” he said.

“But it's developed it largely doing it the way it knew how to. In other words, you double the size of the military, but doing it largely with post-Soviet methodology because there was no time in 2014–2015 to certainly do it any different way.”

From his trips to Brussels, Waschuk has noticed that NATO, just like any major organization, tends to “ultimately reduce things to checklists.”

It expects Ukraine to gradually meet different criteria that make it compatible with NATO's universal practices. But there is also a bigger picture on the ground when it comes to military standards and instructions.

Caring for troops

“Command and control are important issues, and there has been major progress achieved at the very end of (former President Petro) Poroshenko's term on this between the General Staff and the Ministry of Defense,” Waschuk said. “But, for example, improving living conditions and catering for troops is also important. It may not fall entirely (within the framework of the defense reform), but, for a soldier, better boots, better food, a place to sleep can be really important.”

So, for Brussels, there needs to be a more holistic approach to what Ukraine is doing, he added.

In this respect, some NATO nations have been embarking on a more effective course: helping teach Ukraine's defense and security sector skills that can make the country more desirable in the ranks of the alliance someday.

For this reason, the United States,

Canada, and the U.K. are helping Ukraine to equip and train soldiers, officers and military police personnel — aid that brings Ukraine a significant step closer to NATO standards.

Achieving 'critical mass'

“I think we will come soon to a point where these individual contributions will start to achieve a critical mass,” Waschuk said. “And that will allow Ukraine to present its case and contribution to European security in a more compelling way.”

But, then again, cooperation with NATO is a two-way street. While receiving new knowledge, Ukraine must be a diligent and fast-learning student, which will allow it to be gradually embedded into NATO's strategic defense landscape.

And Ukraine has a lot to offer.

Ukraine has already been making contributions to NATO operations, British Ambassador Judith Gough noted.

And even now, Ukraine has strong military capabilities that many other nations fall short of — but the problem here is that not all NATO members are aware of this and are not as open to Ukraine as Canada or the United Kingdom.

“I think there is something in our communication in this that says: here is Ukraine... and here's what we bring to the table,” Gough said. But that message must reach other NATO members.

“You are, after all, a nation that is engaged in a confrontation with Russia — that is the knowledge and understanding that other alliance allies (would appreciate and value),” she added.

As Ukraine pushes ahead with reforms, it is important to remember that, while the frontline of Russia's war in Donbas is 2,000 kilometers from Berlin, it is not simply a Russo-Ukrainian war, Verkhovna Rada Deputy Speaker Oksana Syroid said. Rather, Russia's war is on the Western world.

“From this perspective, it is a core interest of NATO to have Ukraine on board,” Syroid said. “Under any conditions — if not a full-scale member, then as a bilateral agreement, a multilateral agreement.

“Because as history shows, if only Ukraine falls...its resources will be used against the West.” ■



Okean Elzy plays on Kyiv Day

One of the most famous Ukrainian pop-rock bands, Okean Elzy, headed by musician-turned-politician Sviatoslav Vakarchuk, has given another impressive show in Kyiv. On May 26, Kyiv Day, the band performed on a 360-degree round stage located in the center of the capital's VDNH exhibition center. Thousands of fans surrounded the stage as the band was performing.

Okean Elzy announced on their Facebook page that almost 100,000 people attended the event. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)



Saakashvili returns to Ukraine with high praise for Zelenskiy

Saakashvili from page 2

was not included in Rating Group's recent poll.

Sakvarelidze said that the Movement of New Forces was not in talks on placing its candidates on Zelenskiy's Servant of the People party's list in the election.

Political analyst Oleksiy Minakov wrote on Facebook on May 28 that Saakashvili's return was beneficial for Zelenskiy because he would attack Poroshenko and his party in the run-up to the parliamentary election.

Zelenskiy's team

After arriving in Ukraine, Saakashvili thanked Zelenskiy for restoring his citizenship and lavished praise on him. He called Zelenskiy's presidential campaign and his governing style political "rock-and-roll" and said that "this president will surprise many people in the good sense."

"President Zelenskiy showed that he's capable of brave and fast decisions and that he's an independent politician who doesn't listen to anyone," Saakashvili said.

He added that "a lot of people wouldn't want to see me in Ukraine" — a possible reference to Poroshenko, Interior Minister



Ex-Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili poses for a photo after arriving in Ukraine on May 29, 2019. He returned to Kyiv after President Volodymyr Zelenskiy restored his Ukrainian citizenship. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Arsen Avakov, Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko and oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky. All four have clashed with Saakashvili.

"I did not come here to take revenge on anyone, punish anyone or destroy anything," he said. "I came

back here to do what I've always been best at doing: to build. To do what they blocked me from doing in Odesa."

He also argued that the whole political class, including Avakov and Lutsenko, would soon be replaced.

Criminal case

Saakashvili still faces a criminal case opened during his conflict with Poroshenko.

In December 2017, the Prosecutor General's Office arrested Saakashvili and charged him with complicity in

fugitive tycoon Serhiy Kurchenko's criminal group for allegedly receiving money from the businessman to finance protests against Poroshenko.

The prosecutors' alleged evidence against Saakashvili was dismissed by independent lawyers as weak, and he was released from custody by Pechersk Court Judge Larysa Tsokol. She ruled that Saakashvili's detention by the Security Service of Ukraine without a court warrant and any other legal grounds was unlawful.

Prosecutor Kostyantyn Kulik, who was in charge of the case, told the Kyiv Post that Poroshenko had interfered in the Saakashvili case and tried to order prosecutors to investigate and arrest allies of the former Georgian president. Poroshenko's office did not respond to a request for comment on the matter.

When asked about the case, Lutsenko wrote on Facebook on May 28 that he still considered Saakashvili a "traitor." Saakashvili said that he couldn't take Lutsenko's statements seriously.

Fesenko said the Saakashvili case would likely be dropped under Zelenskiy. "I think nobody will push this case, although they might keep it in case they need it in the future," he added. ■

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Zahoor wants Zelenskiy to attack Ukraine's corruption

DIANE FRANCIS

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy must distance himself from recent statements by billionaire oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky that Ukraine should default on its International Monetary Fund commitments, said businessman Mohammed Zahoor, who owned the Kyiv Post from 2009-2018.

"He should have the balls to say this openly," said Zahoor. "He must personally and strongly say that Kolomoisky is a detached oligarch and has nothing to do with us. We are running our own government and he's not involved in any way."

Kolomoisky made his controversial remarks recently in an interview with *The Financial Times*. The next day, key Zelenskiy team member, former Finance Minister Oleksandr Danylyuk, dismissed the oligarch's comments about the IMF.

Cut off Kolomoisky

Zahoor said it wasn't enough. "Zelenskiy himself must do this," he said. "This is because the business community and foreign investors are worried now that Kolomoisky has returned to Ukraine and started to speak out like this. If only once Zelenskiy personally undermines Kolomoisky, and whatever he's saying, then the weight of his words will fade away. Now everyone thinks that Kolomoisky is behind Zelenskiy."

Zahoor is a successful Pakistani-born businessman who owned the Kyiv Post for nine years. The English-language newspaper has crusaded



President Volodymyr Zelenskiy walks off the stage after his speech at iForum on May 23, 2019. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

for nearly 24 years on behalf of democracy, the rule of law, free markets, and Western integration. He spoke at length about the mood of the country, and its business community, as well as what he believes the oligarchs are up to.

"My impression is that these guys are not going to give it up at all unless some of those are sent to jail for a long time," he said.

"For instance, Kolomoisky has just returned, which is alarming to me and everybody else because he was not here for years."

The oligarchs are re-positioning themselves to win more seats in the parliamentary elections. Others from the odious regime of Viktor Yanukovich, overthrown as president by the EuroMaidan Revolution in 2014, have returned. And pro-Rus-

sian oligarchs and politicians, like Dmytro Firtash, Rinat Akhmetov, Yuri Boyko, and others, are each organizing to win more seats in the upcoming parliamentary elections, he speculated.

Americans and Europeans became worried about Kolomoisky's power after Zelenskiy appointed the oligarch's long-time lawyer, Andriy Bohdan, to head the government's administration.

"Nobody's happy with his appointment so openly, which looks like he needs to comfort Kolomoisky," said Zahoor. "He has a conflict of interest because Kolomoisky is fighting the government to get back his bank or to get billions in compensation. And here his lawyer is in the government."

If Zelenskiy proves he's not Kolomoisky's puppet or connected in any way, he could do a great deal of good, said Zahoor.

Zelenskiy's popularity

So far, the polls for the parliamentary elections show that Zelenskiy's party will get roughly 40 percent of votes. With another 10 percent support, he will control parliament. Compatible coalition prospects include Yulia Tymoshenko's Fatherland Party at 9.6 percent; former Minister of Defense Anatoliy Hrytsenko at 4.3 percent; and Voice led by famous singer Svyatoslav Vakarchuk.

"Ukrainian people are romantic people so they are in the mood of romance and right now they love Zelenskiy. I'm thinking Tymoshenko may be the next prime minister; she's backing him up in everything he says. She might consider going together with others," he said. "But she was not a good prime minister

before. But if she's changed, that's different."

If Zelenskiy gets control over the parliament, then the judges and prosecutors must be culled, and he must go after the culprits.

"If he does not put them in jail, and confiscate their properties and bank accounts, then everyone will think there aren't any real changes and keep on looting the country," said Zahoor. "Putting one high-profile person—Kolomoisky for instance—in jail will send a huge signal to foreign investors and Ukrainian businesses and individuals, big or small."

Other priorities include stopping the theft of billions by customs officials at the entry points, and commencing actions against those, like Yanukovich, who have stolen at least \$60 billion from the country.

Zelenskiy must also clarify his 5 percent amnesty policy—designed to bring capital back to the country. "If Yanukovich came back to claim this, people would not accept it. This must be clarified so that people who have sold the country off to Russia or whoever cannot come back and get away with it," he said.

Turning around Ukraine will be a daunting task that can only be tackled by a team of people.

"We have one person, Zelenskiy, who puts the country ahead of his interests. Now he has to find a team of such people," he said. "Ukraine has only had leaders and officials who put their interests ahead of Ukraine's."

Diane Francis is a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center and a member of the Kyiv Post's international advisory board. The article is reprinted with the Atlantic Council's permission. ■



Book fair in Kyiv attracts record crowd of bibliophiles

The Book Arsenal, the main event of the year for the Kyiv book lovers, took place in the art space Mystetskiy Arsenal on May 22-26. This year, the book fair attracted some 57,000 visitors, showing a little growth compared to the 2018 turnout of 53,000 people. The Book Arsenal features book presentations, autograph sessions with authors, and exhibitions. The fair is one of the two biggest book events in Ukraine, competing with the annual Publishers Forum in Lviv. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Join a 10-hour dance marathon by the beach with the U.K. DJ Boddika at the UBK Club on Trukhaniv Island in Kyiv on June 2. Party starts at 1 p.m. Entrance fee Hr 250



Enjoy summer in Ukraine at these music festivals

City Life

WITH DARIA SHULZHENKO
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Kyiv in 1 day: Here are the top 10 sights

The summer vacation season gives a chance to explore new places. For visitors who are pressed for time but still trying to see as much as possible, the Kyiv Post offers a one-day exploration guide to the Ukrainian capital's most fascinating sites.

1. Maidan Nezalezhnosti

Start the journey at Kyiv's central square — Maidan Nezalezhnosti (or Independence Square in English), where the Independence Monument is located. The lively square full of shops and cafes is also the staging ground of all the biggest protests in independent Ukraine, including the EuroMaidan Revolution that drove President Viktor Yanukovich from power in 2014. It is the epicenter of human activity and historical changes.

Stop by nearby Instytutska Street, where memorials exist to the more than 100 anti-government protesters killed during the revolution. One can still see portraits, candles and flowers honoring the "Heavenly Hundred," as the slain protesters are known. Then cross the road from Maidan Nezalezhnosti, pass by the Globus monument and Globus shopping mall, and walk up Sofiivska Street to head to Saint Sophia Cathedral.

2. Saint Sophia Cathedral

Only a seven-minute walk from Maidan Square would take one to a UNESCO World Heritage site — Saint Sophia Cathedral. The cathedral was built in the 11th century, and currently is one of the seven cultural and historical monuments of Ukraine, called the Seven Wonders of Ukraine. The cathedral is located nearby the Sofiyivska Square and includes the bell tower and the House of Metropolitan. Apart from that, some live music shows often take place on the cathedral's territory in summer. Saint Sophia Cathedral is also a part of the National Sanctuary "Sophia of Kyiv," along with St. Andrew's Church.

3. St. Andrew's Church, Andriyivsky Descent

To get to the other must-visit destination in Kyiv, one should pass by Sofiiska Square, and

more Kyiv on page 21

British jazz-pop musician Jamie Cullum performs at the Leopold Jazz Fest on the Eddie Rosner Stage in Lviv on June 27, 2018. (Oleg Petrasjuk)



BY DARIA SHULZHENKO
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There are many ways to enjoy summer to its fullest. For those who are tired of sightseeing, exploring cultural spots, beaches and the countryside, the Kyiv Post has a guide to the best music festivals taking place in Ukraine.

Leopolis Jazz Fest

For those who enjoy live jazz music shows, the annual Leopolis Jazz Fest will be held in Lviv at the end of June, turning the western Ukrainian city into a jazz capital, at least for a couple of days.

Earlier known as Alfa Jazz, the Leopolis Jazz Fest will kick off on June 26 and will last until June 30.

This year, the festival's lineup features Lisa Stansfield, the Adrien Brandeis Quintet, Etienne Mbatia & the Prophets, Peter Cincotti, Claudia Campagnol, Florian Favre Trio, Nils Wogram's Nostalgia Trio and more.

Following tradition, the festival's performances will be held on three stages. The main stage, where tickets are required, is named after jazz musician Eddie Rosner and is located at Lviv's Bogdan Khmelnytsky Park.

The two other stages are at Lviv's central Rynok Square and near Pototskykh Palace. Both are free and open to the public.

Even though some tickets for performances on the Eddie Rosner stage are sold out, entrance to the park where the stage is located is free, so

anyone who wants to hear some live jazz still has a chance.

Apart from that, the festival's organizers promise to set up some seats and screens in the park for those who don't want to miss the jazz shows on the Eddie Rosner stage.

Alongside the live performances, the Leopolis Jazz Fest welcomes all to its workshops, film screenings, jams, and autograph sessions. Lviv, a city of 721,000 people, is located 539 kilometers west of Kyiv.

Leopolis Jazz Fest. Lviv. Eddie Rosner stage (4 Bolharska St.), Rynok Square, Pototskykh Palace (15 Mykoly Kopernyky St.) June 26–30. One-day pass – Hr 450–5,000.

Buy tickets at www.leopolisjazz.com/en/tickets.

Atlas Weekend

This summer, music legends the Black Eyed Peas, along with The Chainsmokers, Tom Odell, Liam Gallagher, Michael Kiwanuka, and many other world-renowned musicians will hit the stage of Ukraine's biggest music festival — Atlas Weekend.

The festival, which has been held annually in Kyiv since 2015, features musical performances in genres like pop, electronic, rock, rap and hip-hop.

This year, the six-day festival's lineup will feature over 80 musicians, including British indie-rock star Tom Walker, U.S. electronic duo Slander, Dutch DJ Cesqaux, British trip-hop

more Festivals on page 22

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'Balcony Chic' captures the obsession with extensions

BY ARTUR KORNIENKO
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Balconies extend into Ukraine's cities right from the walls of its Soviet past.

Often built and designed by the residents themselves, they dot the literal walls of the cramped residential houses built by the Soviet state. And psychological walls — as well as a lack of government regulation — still drive Ukrainians to expand their balconies and construct new ones. Sometimes the end result can be rather bizarre.

Now, these ubiquitous structures are the heroes and villains of a new book by Osnovy Publishing. Wittily titled "Balcony Chic," it documents do-it-yourself balconies in all their beauty and ugliness in 92 photographs taken in 13 Ukrainian cities, including Kyiv.

The book's short introduction looks at the origins of what it calls "perhaps the most characteristic feature of the post-Soviet city."

Extra space

The author of the book, Oleksandr Burlaka, 36, inherited an apartment with a balcony in a 16-story building built in 1976. At the time, it was no more than a platform with balustrade panels open to the elements, a construction standard for the Soviet Union.

Burlaka's relatives installed a frame and windows themselves, despite not being architects or builders. They obtained the materials through means considered unsanctioned in the Soviet, planned economy. In fact, this was the norm.

Families also hired construction brigades that would build balconies in their spare time at the risk of prosecution, since private enterprise was a criminal offense. Enclosed balconies with glass windows became a physical representation of the Soviet shadow economy, Burlaka says.

People simply needed more living space in the free but cramped apartments provided by the Soviet mass housing program. This was especially true for the millions who relocated from villages and who used to live

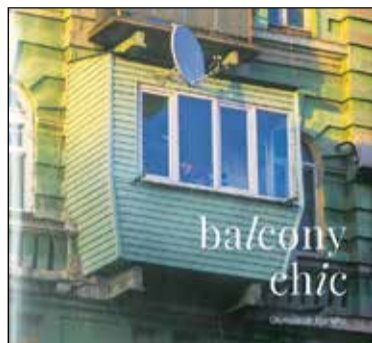


Photo book "Balcony Chic" features photographs of balconies in cities across Ukraine. (Balcony Chic / Oleksandr Burlaka)

in relatively large farmhouses. They tried to make the new apartments their own.

People used the few extra square meters provided by the balcony as a veranda or a workshop, an extra kitchen or a bedroom in the summertime. But mostly they were used as storage space — something overlooked in Soviet housing regulations.

Burlaka's balcony is now also a storage space: it's filled with books, sports equipment, a vacuum cleaner, tools and construction supplies, he says. His father renovated the balcony in 2000, bringing it into the modern world with a "rational design": aluminum walls and windows with plastic frames.

But this is just one of a legion of enclosed balcony types in Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities. Old and modern, wooden and plastic, simple and kitsch — these balconies reflect sociopolitical history, technological development, fashion trends and, of course, the individual personalities of the owners.

Despite the diversity of these balconies, Burlaka started to notice design patterns after he began working on "Balcony Chic" purposefully in 2018. In the book, he tried to present the different distinct forms of balcony architecture, he told the Kyiv Post.

"Thanks to this mass of motley additions and upgrades, the facades of residential buildings do not resemble their blueprints, instead turning



This Kyiv balcony, featured in the "Balcony Chic" photo book, qualifies as an annex to the second floor of the building.



An enclosed balcony in Chernihiv was fitted into a concrete frame. (Balcony Chic / Oleksandr Burlaka)

into what architectural theorist Cuba Snopek called 'collective sculptures,'" Burlaka writes.

Balcony psychology

Pimples, polyps, tumors, warts and rashes — these are some of the names people call do-it-yourself balconies on the Facebook page "Tsar-Balkon" (or Czar Balcony in Russian). Tsar-Balkon collects photographs of DIY balconies from Ukrainian cities, some of which are large enough to be called annexes to the buildings. There are even balconies with their own balconies!

TV news editor Yaroslava Artiushenko, 36, created the page a year ago to share photos of balconies she had accumulated. The page now has almost 2,500 followers and users send their own photos of balconies for Artiushenko to share.

But while Burlaka looked for subtle beauty and diversity for his photo book, Artiushenko usually posts photos of balconies that are downright bizarre. There are currently over 230

photographs.

"The criteria are absolutely subjective: you look at it and you're either amused or not," Artiushenko told the Kyiv Post.

Viewers usually express astonishment at the photographs, Artiushenko says. Another common reaction is outrage — they don't like how the balconies' owners infringe on common areas, block the view and spoil the buildings' facades.

By building balconies, the apartment owners extend their private space into the public sphere, disturbing the people around them. Artiushenko believes this is a psychological problem.

"The balcony is a reflection of what's in the person's head. If he thinks he has less than he's due, if he's offended and doesn't care what others think, he will construct a 4-meter overhang, build himself another room and block out the sun for the neighbors without asking anyone," Artiushenko says.

Ukrainians inherited the desire for

their own balconies from the Soviet era, when people truly needed more space, Burlaka argues.

"Balconies appeared because of difficult conditions. But now they have entered the psychology of the Ukrainian. He or she expects to have an (enclosed) balcony with glass windows in his or her apartment — as if it were a bathroom or a bedroom," Burlaka told the Kyiv Post.

Balcony laws

Both Burlaka and Artiushenko agree that Ukrainian DIY balconies are just a fact of life that can be both good and bad. Still, they say that the construction of such balconies should be regulated by law.

In "Balcony Chic," Burlaka argues that Ukraine's wild balconies first appeared because they were not regulated by any construction laws in the Soviet Union, "a product of unregulated space."

In independent Ukraine, this architectural form has only recently been officially acknowledged. In October 2018, new building standards came into effect in Ukraine recognizing enclosed balconies as an official architectural feature.

This made it possible to include enclosed balconies in the designs of new buildings — meaning they will now be increasingly standardized. But the enclosed balconies installed in older buildings remain illegal, since the old building designs did not have provisions for them, Burlaka says.

"There are millions of such DIY balconies, and they cannot be regulated in practice. It's impossible to do," he told the Kyiv Post.

Artiushenko stresses the importance of using fines to limit the number of the outrageous balconies — a method that has proven effective in Europe, she says.

"We have formal restrictions, but no one ever gets punished for it, so people keep doing it," she added.

Currently, the fines in Ukraine for illegal construction by individuals are quite small — from Hr 340 to Hr 1,360 (\$12 to \$50). Taras Panchiy, an official from the Kyiv City Administration, has said that changes should be made to the Code on Administrative Offenses to raise the fine to Hr 40,000 (\$1,500). He believes this will happen in the future.

In April, Panchiy also said that Kyiv's department of urban improvement had prepared a draft decision for the Kyiv City Council that would establish a quicker mechanism for removing illegal constructions like balconies. But according to the City Council's website, the draft decision still hasn't been registered for a vote.

While there are millions of DIY balconies across Ukraine and hundreds of thousands in Kyiv, city authorities plan to dismantle only 21 this year, according to Panchiy. Thus, "Balcony Chic" will likely remain relevant for a very long time.

Buy "Balcony Chic" for Hr 500 at www.osnovypublishing.com/en/balcony-chic. ■



Oleksandr Burlaka, the author of photo book "Balcony Chic," gives a lecture about the state of Ukrainian architecture in Bratislava, Slovakia in 2018. (Courtesy Oleksandr Burlaka)

City Life

In a hurry? These landmarks can all be easily visited in less than 1 day

Kyiv from page 19

take up to 10 minutes to walk along Volodymyrska Street until reaching Andriyivsky Descent, which connects the higher central part of Kyiv with its historic lower neighborhood Podil, near the Dnipro River. The great baroque St. Andrew's Church was constructed in the 18th century. It greets visitors of the descent and offers a picturesque view at the capital. Restaurants line the walk down Andriyivsky Descent. So does writer Mykhailo Bulgakov's house, which is now a museum, as well as theaters and other monuments. And don't miss Vozdvizhenka, the recently-built neighborhood of luxury houses that copy historic buildings of the capital.

4. Kontraktova Square

Walk down Andriyivsky Descent for less than 20 minutes and head right to historic Podil neighborhood, where Kontraktova Square is situated. One of the oldest Kyiv squares now features fairs and festivals, as well as a Ferris wheel that offers a great view of the Podil neighborhood. Tourists can also find dozens of cafes, bars, and restaurants nearby the square. Apart from that, for those interested in architecture Kontraktova Ploshcha also locates ancient buildings like the Pyrohoshcha Church, Samson's Fountain or one of the oldest universities in Ukraine – Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

5. Poshtova Square

No need to leave the historic part of Kyiv to see the Dnipro River. Take a 15-minute walk from Kontraktova Ploshcha along Petra Sahaidachnoho Street, and head to the capital's embankment area and Poshtova Square, where Kyiv's main River Station is located. The River Station was closed for seven years due to the reconstruction of Poshtova Square, and re-opened in May 2019, featuring an art exhibition inside the old building, as well as a food court nearby. After walking along the Dnipro River embankment, take a funicular near Poshtova Square, which connects Podil with Kyiv's center and offers a great view of the capital. The funicular works Monday-Sunday from 6 a.m. – 11 p.m. The ride will cost Hr 8 and will take one to St. Michael's Monastery.

6. St. Michael's Monastery

St. Michael's is another historic site. Located three minutes from the funicular upper station, the monastery gives a chance to see a combination of Ukrainian baroque and byzantine architectural styles. Although the monastery was demolished by Soviet Union authorities in the 1930s, it was reconstructed and re-opened in 1999. When leaving St. Michael's Monastery, one can also stop to visit the Holodomor

memorial that commemorates the millions of people who starved to death because of Josef Stalin's forced famine genocide in 1932–1933.

7. Mariinsky Palace

Those who are still not tired of walking can go along Trokhsviatytelska Street, which starts at St. Michael's Monastery. Walk down the street and then change to Mykhaila Hrushevskoho Street. In some 20 minutes is Mariinsky Palace, an official presidential residence. This baroque palace was designed by Italian architect Bartolomeo Rastrelli and constructed in the 18th century. Nowadays, the palace's visitors can rest at the park nearby.

8. Government district

Take some pictures at Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada, located close to Mariinsky Palace and keep walking to enjoy the beauties of the capital. Turn left to Mykhaila Hrushevskoho Street after seeing Mariinsky Palace and the Verkhovna Rada and spend some time exploring the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, as well as the National Bank of Ukraine.

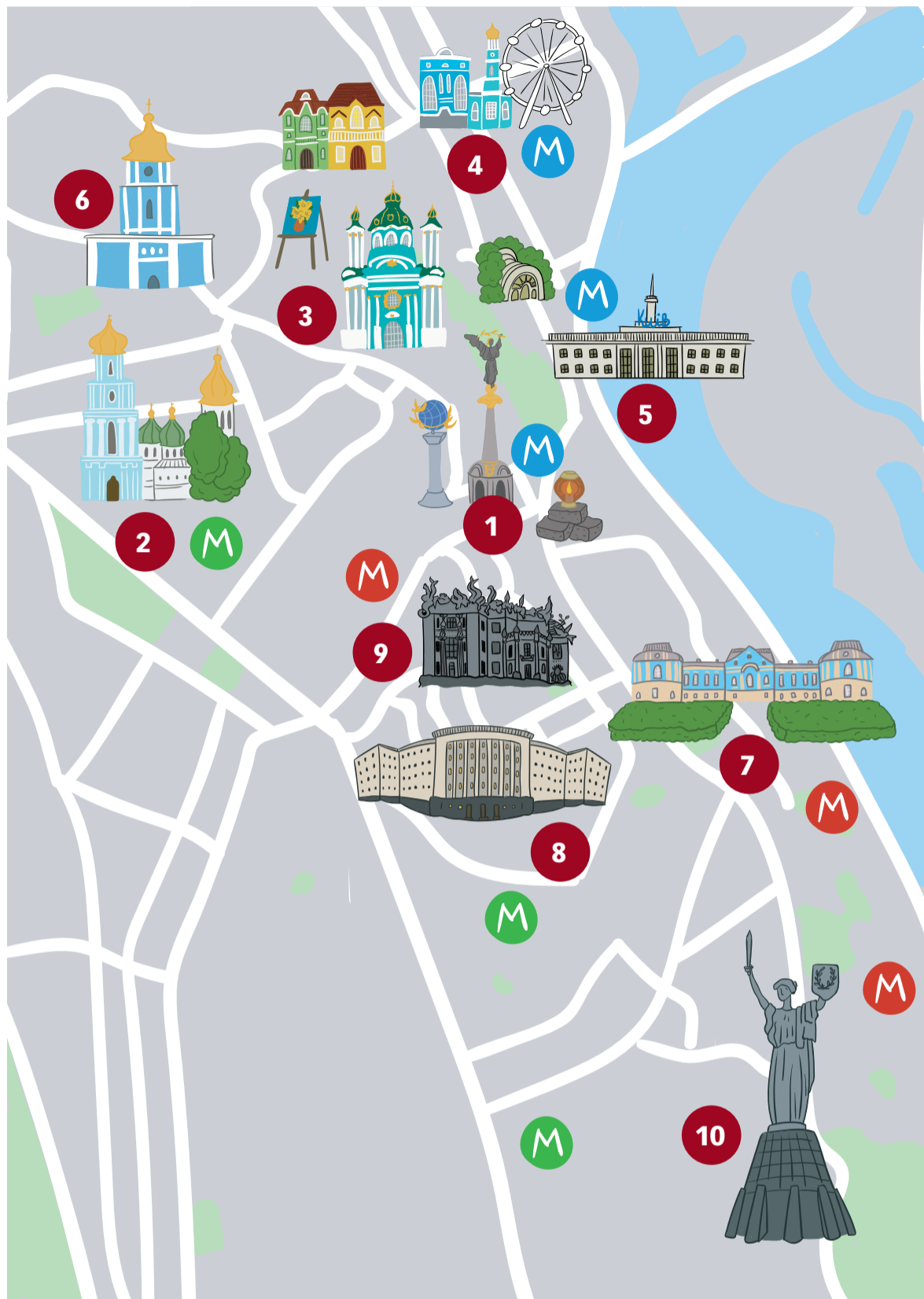
9. House with Chimeras

A short five-minute walk from the National Bank of Ukraine down the Bankova Street will lead to the Horodecki House, often referred to as the House with Chimeras. The House with Chimeras was situated in 1903 and is now located in front of the Presidential Administration. The building got its name due to the decorative elements that reflect exotic animals and some hunting scenes. The decorations were designed by Italian architect Emilio Sala. Eventually, the unusual design of the House with Chimeras has given rise to a number of rumors and mystical legends about ghosts and the building's bad luck.

10. Motherland Monument (Rodina Mat)

To end the day in Kyiv, one should definitely see the 102-meter Motherland Monument (Rodina Mat). It is especially beautiful at sunset. The Motherland Monument is located a bit far from the capital's center, so to get there one should go down to Khreshchatyk metro station, and take a train to Arsenalna metro station, and then have a 20 minutes walk directly to the monument. The monument was built in 1981 and is now a part of the World War II Museum complex. Nowadays, some people joke that since the Motherland Monument faces towards Moscow, it protects Ukraine from Russia's aggression.

And as the day in Kyiv comes to an end, stop by the Dnipro River, a 15-minute walk from the Motherland Monument. Enjoy the sunset and make a wish to come back to Kyiv for more, because the city has a lot to show. ■



In Kyiv for only a day but want to see as much as possible? These 10 essential sights are all easily accessible on foot. (Map by Alyona Zhuk)



A new and scenic place to walk

A view of the crowded pedestrian bridge that opened in Kyiv on May 25, 2019. The 212-meter bridge connects the area near the People's Friendship Arch and Volodymyr Hill. From a height of 22–32 meters, it offers panoramic views of Kyiv's left bank skyline over the Dnipro River as well as the city's historic Podil neighborhood. (Oleg Petrasjuk)

Enjoy summer in Ukraine at these music festivals

Festivals from page 19

band Unkle and the winner of 2018 Eurovision Song Contest, Israeli singer Netta.

Other than that, Atlas Weekend will host not only foreign musicians but also Ukrainian ones like The Hardkiss, O. Torvald, Druga Rika, Odyn v Kanoe, as well as Ukraine's new star rapper Alyona Alyona.

The festival will kick off in Kyiv on July 9 with performances by Ukrainian musicians only. The entrance to the first day of the festival is free.

For those who have to travel to the capital to hear some great music, Atlas Weekend will also set up a camping area where festival guests can stay and enjoy the summer to its fullest.

Atlas Weekend. VDNH (1 Akademyka Hlushkova Ave.) July 9-14. Festival pass – Hr 2,600, camping – Hr 500.

Buy tickets at www.atlasweekend.com/en/tickets.

UPark Festival

The UPark Festival will definitely rock the capital this summer, as the lineup of this three-day festival includes such iconic bands like U.S. rock group Thirty Seconds to Mars, South African hip-hop duo Die Antwoord, British rock bands Bring Me The Horizon and Nothing But Thieves, Danish pop singer MØ and many others.

The Ukrainian singer and DJ Ivan Dorn will also perform at the UPark Festival. But the festival's full lineup has yet to be announced.

This year, UPark will take place at Kyiv's Sky Family Park. Apart from music shows by top bands, the UPark Festival will also feature a 1,500 square meters swimming pool where the festival's guests can cool down from the summer heat, as well as food courts, a fair, and various entertainment programs.

UPark Festival. Sky Family Park (2



People attend the Atlas Weekend music festival in Kyiv on July 3, 2018. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Henerala Vatutina Ave.) July 16-18. One-day pass – Hr 1,499-2,299. Festival pass – Hr 3,499-6,099.

Buy tickets at www.uparkfestival.com/dates.

Faine Misto

This four-day festival annually brings together thousands of people from all over Ukraine, who are looking for good music and some fun.

The festival is named after its location: Ternopil, a city of 212,000 people located more than 400 kilometers west of Kyiv. Ukrainians often refer to Ternopil as "faine misto" (meaning the fine city).

Founded in 2013, the Faine Misto festival became known for diverse musical genres, as well as the number of its participants. Last year, the festival brought together nearly 80 bands and musicians from all over the world.

This summer, Faine Misto will feature German metal band Powerwolf, Swedish rock band Avatar, Swiss folk metal band Eluveitie, German rock band Eskimo Callboy, and Kadebostany, a DJ from Switzerland.

Apart from the foreign musicians, the festival will also feature local performers, including The Hardkiss,

Boombox, Latexfauna, Yuko, Qarpa and many others.

A tent camp with food courts is also available at the festival.

Faine Misto. Ternopil Oblast. Ternopil racetrack (7 kilometers from Ternopil along the Ho2 road). July 25-28. Festival pass – Hr 1,240, two-day pass – Hr 1,040, one-day pass – Hr 810, camping – Hr 350.

Buy tickets at www.fainemisto.com.ua/tickets.

ZaxidFest

For those who are tired of big cities and dream of escaping loud urban areas to enjoy some good music in a calm atmosphere, ZaxidFest is the perfect choice.

The annual music festival will kick off on Aug. 16 and will last until Aug. 18. It will feature some great foreign and Ukrainian musicians.

This summer, the festival's three stages will host such groups as British rock bands You Me At Six and Cradle Of Filth, Finnish metal band Apocalyptica, Italian rock band Lacuna Coil, as well as the U.S. bands After the Burial, Caspian and Eyes Set To Kill.

ZaxidFest's full lineup has yet to be announced.

As usual, the festival will take place at a picturesque spot near the Rodytychi village, some 40 kilometers from Lviv. Although the festival's venue is surrounded by nature, for an additional cost its guests will be provided with everything needed for a comfortable rest.

The festival's organizers will set up a camping area with food courts, a parking zone, showers, and some spots to charge gadgets – which all

makes ZaxidFest the perfect place to escape the summer heat.

ZaxidFest. Lviv Oblast, Rodytychi Village. Aug. 16-18. Festival pass – Hr 1,100, camping – Hr 500-750.

Buy tickets at www.concert.ua/en/booking/zaxidfest.

Brave Factory Festival

Since people keep comparing Kyiv to Berlin, the world's biggest stage for electronic music, Ukraine's capital has taken a step forward and now hosts not only techno parties but also festivals of electronic music.

Brave Factory Festival was launched in 2017 and is one of Ukraine's youngest music festivals. The first event took place at an old factory decorated with street art.

As in the last two years, the festival's venue is still a secret and has yet to be announced by the organizer. Unlike the venue, Brave Factory's lineup is already known. The festival will feature such foreign electronic music artists as the American performers Dubfire, Solar, and Model 500; British artists Jane Fitz & Carl H and Neil Landstrumm; French artist dOP; German performers Anthony Rother and Oscar Offermann & Edward, and many more.

Along with foreign musicians, local performers like DJ Nastia, Spekulant, Youra and hip-hop singer Alina Pash will also perform at Brave Factory, making a festival a great place to spend the last days of summer.

Brave Factory Festival. Location to be announced. Aug. 24-25. Festival pass – Hr 1,545.

Buy tickets at www.brave2019.ticketforevent.com. ■

British hip-hop band Young Fathers perform at the UPark music festival in Kyiv on July 26, 2018. (Courtesy of UPark)



Election Watch

With no electoral reform, some pin hopes on more female lawmakers

Election from page 3

Zhuravlyov, a beginner politician from Mariupol. It is so little-known that polling agencies haven't even been including it in the polls.

Some celebrity names can pop up in the ranks of Vakarchuk's party. The party's chief of staff, Yulia Klymenko, told the Kyiv Post that they are in negotiations with some celebrities to join. She didn't reveal their names but said these are people already involved in activism.

Meanwhile, Olga Polyakova, a flamboyant pop singer omnipresent on Ukrainian television, said on May 29 that she wanted to start an all-women political party.

"We live in a country where men set the rules. Does it help our country? Why are we tolerating the roles they assigned us?" Polyakova said at the Women's Partnership Forum in Kyiv on May 29.

She added, though, that she won't have the party assembled in time for the July 21 election.



Ex-President Petro Poroshenko speaks at the forum of his party members and supporters on May 24, 2019 in Kyiv. Poroshenko announced his party, Petro Poroshenko Bloc, will be running in the July 21 election under a new name, European Solidarity. (Mikhail Palinchak)

under-represented in the Ukrainian parliament.

In fact, while women constitute more than half of the Ukrainian population, they form less than 12 percent of the parliament. In that regard, Ukraine ranks last in Europe and 156th out of 193 countries globally, according to the Ukrainian office of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems, or IFES, an international non-profit supporting elections in new and emerging democracies.

So IFES called on the parties running for parliament to include more women in their lists of candidates.

"At an absolute minimum, two women in every five candidates on the list," the May 28 IFES statement reads.

Even that, however, would only bump the number of women in parliament to approximately 20 percent.

To increase it further, IFES called on the parties to nominate women candidates in "winnable" single-member districts, which generate half of the parliament.

In the current parliament, out of 198 lawmakers elected in single-member districts, only four are women. ■

Lack of women

As far as the pop singer Polyakova stands from politics, she is right about the fact that women are

Employment / CV



Building Capacity and Opportunities for Change

Agriteam Canada Consulting Ltd., an International consulting company is seeking candidates to fill the following position on International Technical Assistance Project funded by the Government of Canada

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

for the e-Health project under the Ministry of Health of Ukraine:

- Knowledge Base Manager.

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

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

Procurement/Grants Officer in Ternopil

Procurement/Grants Officer will assist in administrative and operations-related procurement, assist in procurement tracking and management systems and ensure that procurement functions are efficient, compliant with internal policies and donor regulations. The position is based in Ternopil.

Full job description is available at: [Procurement/Grants Officer Ternopil https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/procurement-grants-officer-4](https://www.kyivpost.com/classifieds/jobs/procurement-grants-officer-4)

Candidates are asked to provide their CVs and Cover Letters in English to: UkraineHR@globalcommunities.org indicating "Ternopil Procurement Officer" in the subject line by COB **June 12, 2019**.

Only applicants selected for interviews will be contacted. No telephone inquiries will be accepted. Qualified candidates will be invited for the interviews on a rolling basis.

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The U.S. Embassy will hold a motor vehicles closed bid sale at 44 Mashinobudivna St. on Wednesday, 10 April, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

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

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