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October 27, 2017

## Key water filtration station caught between warring sides in Avdiyivka

BY **ILLIA PONOMARENKO**  
PONOMARENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

**AVDIYIVKA, Ukraine** – Hundreds of thousands of people in the area just to the north of the Russian-

occupied city of Donetsk rely on the Donetsk water filtration station for clean water.

Located just to the east of the government-held city of Avdiyivka, 580 kilometers southeast of Kyiv, the

station supplies water to the populations on both sides of the front line.

But the station itself stands in no-man's land between Ukrainian army positions and those of the Russian-led forces, and is often

caught in the crossfire when fighting breaks out in the area. In 2017 alone, the station has been damaged and has stopped working around a dozen times.

Entire cities in the war zone, pri-

marily Avdiyivka with 35,000 residents, are dependent on its water supplies, as are as parts of Russian-occupied Donetsk and Yasynuvata.

more **Avdiyivka** on page 22

# Bomb Kills 2 In Kyiv



See Story on Page 24

A police officer examines the scene after an explosion in which Ukrainian member of parliament Ihor Mosiychuk was wounded and his bodyguard killed in Kyiv late on Oct. 25. Police said a bomb had been placed on a motorcycle (the burnt wreckage of which can be seen next to the car) and that Mosiychuk was targeted as he came out of the television channel. The bomb attack is the fourth in Kyiv in just over a year. In July 2016, Belarusian-Ukrainian journalist Pavel Sheremet was killed in a car bomb as he drove to work. Colonel Maksym Shapoval, an intelligence officer with Ukraine's Defense Ministry, was blown up in his car on June 27 of this year and, on Sept. 8, Ali Timayev, an ex-militant with Georgian and Chechen connections, was killed by a car bomb. (AFP)

### Opinion

## How Poroshenko will sabotage an anti-corruption court in 7 steps



ANASTASIA KRASNOSILKA

President Petro Poroshenko is being asked to submit his draft law for the creation of an anti-corruption court in a matter of weeks.

After opposing such a court in favor of an anti-corruption chamber within the existing discredited court system, Poroshenko was forced into a policy reversal because of an opinion by the European Commission for Democracy through Law, better known as the Council of Europe's Venice Commission.

At the same time, the president signaled he will not move fast.

Poroshenko has already outlined tactics to delay establishment of an independent anti-corruption court for at least 4-5 months while simultaneously shifting responsibility to parliament and even the Venice Commission.

Apart from that, Poroshenko has also hinted at limiting the independence and effectiveness of any such anti-corruption court.

Here's how the president will stall and manipulate the creation of this much-needed institution:

### Step 1 Create working group in parliament

Instead of submitting his draft law directly, the president called for parliament to create an inter-faction working group, which may spend

more **Poroshenko** on page 30



World in Ukraine: Turkey special coverage inside on pages 6-21

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# Reform Watch

*Editor's Note: The Kyiv Post tracks the progress made by Ukraine's post-EuroMaidan Revolution leaders in making structural changes in the public interest in a broad range of areas, from the defense and energy sectors, to taxation and pensions. Below are the main issues in focus from Oct. 20-27.*

## Summary

Last week's flurry of action from parliament, seen as a direct response to the opposition rally and setting up of a tent camp outside the Verkhovna Rada, ended with the passage of a health reform bill and a questionable victory on ending lawmakers' immunity from prosecution, but no action on electoral reform.

Regarding lawmakers' immunity from prosecution: parliament sent two bills on this — one authored by the Presidential Administration and the other by a group of lawmakers — to the Constitutional Court for consideration. However, the court is short of five members and hasn't made a ruling all year, so the issue has effectively been placed on the shelf for now, until parliament passes legislation that would allow the selection of the full complement of Constitutional Court judges.

While the protests achieved some movement from a government that has been extremely sluggish on reform of late, that came at a cost. The protests sometimes descended into violence, causing several injuries. They failed to mobilize mass public support and, one of the organizers, former Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, looks as isolated and unpopular as ever. He seems more and more to be simply pursuing a personal vendetta against Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko. Moreover, centrist forces like the Samopomich Party have become tainted by their association with what is basically a paramilitary group, an offshoot of the Donbas Battalion, led by the Samopomich Party lawmaker Semen Semenchenko, which was involved in violence at the protest.

Several more moderate opposition figures and civil groups have disassociated themselves from the protests, and the opposition to the incumbent authorities looks as fractious as ever. Meanwhile, parliament convenes again only on Nov. 7, and so no more reform legislation will be passed for the time being.

## Education

Ukraine's new education reform bill, signed by Poroshenko on Sept. 25, raised the hackles of several of Ukraine's neighbors because it ends free state tuition in minority languages in Ukraine. While Poland, Bulgaria and Slovakia expressed mild criticism to the new law, Hungary was vehement in its opposition, even going so far as to declare it would block Ukraine's path to membership of the European Union or even to cooperate more closely with Brussels.

About 157,000 Ukrainians belong to the Hungarian-speaking commu-



Protesters with shoulder patches of the Donbas Battalion attend an opposition rally in front of the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament, on Oct. 19. (Volodymyr Petrov)

nity in Ukraine, mainly in the western Zakarpattia Oblast — fewer than the Romanian-speaking (319,000) and Bulgarian-speaking (234,000) communities, and not much more than the Polish-speaking community (144,000). However, the Hungarian government under its pro-Kremlin Prime Minister Viktor Orban has been one of Ukraine's most troublesome neighbors, and has been playing to a nationalist constituency at home — the most extreme ele-



Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin addresses a joint press conference after his meeting with Hungary's Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto in Hungary on Oct. 12. (AFP)

ments of which see parts of western Ukraine as lost Hungarian territory.

Ukraine, however, went on a diplomatic offensive and seems to have won back some support, with Poland in particular dropping its objections to the education law. Even Hungary,

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin told parliament on Oct. 20, has agreed to "cooperate on the implementation of the law" with Ukraine.

So while Ukraine may have to make some concessions while putting the law into effect for the Hungarian-speaking community, it appears the brouhaha over teaching in minority languages has died down. The rest of the reforms embodied in the law, including a 12-year educational program, increased salaries for teachers, and the rationalization of the network of state schools, creating better conditions for children from rural areas, should go ahead without any objections from abroad.

## Energy

Ukraine will announce the conditions for the selection of a company to operate the Ukrainian gas transmission system (GTS) in November, according to Andriy Kobolyev, the CEO of state oil and gas company Naftogaz.

Speaking at the Oil & Gas 2017 international conference held in Kyiv on Oct. 24-26, Kobolyev said several Western companies were interested in taking over the running of the GTS, and that Naftogaz was in negotiations with four potential operators from the European Union. No Russian companies are allowed to take part in the competition.

The unbundling of the gas transmission system from Naftogaz is the latest stage in the reform of the energy sector. Pawel Dobrowolski, the director of PwC Polska, the Polish company that Naftogaz has contract-

ed to assist in the unbundling, said at the conference that the unbundling was vital if Ukraine were to continue being a gas transit country after 2019.

Dobrowolski said the GTS would be unbundled from Naftogaz in three stages: First, the core of a new operator would be established within Ukrtransgaz, the subsidiary of Naftogaz that currently runs the system; Second, the new operator would be fine-tuned for future operation, with 200-300 staff being hired to perform core functions; Third, the operator would start functioning independently.

The clock is ticking on the reform, as the second stage of Russia's undersea gas pipeline from Russia to Germany, Nord Stream 2, is scheduled to come on line in 2019-2020, doubling the route's transit capacity to 110 billion cubic meters per year. The giant Russian state gas company Gazprom's current transit contract with Ukraine expires in 2019, and Russia has indicated that after 2019 it will slash transit of its gas across Ukraine to just 15 billion cubic meters per year (compared to 82.2 billion cubic meters over the whole of 2016).

While Russia says it will favor the Nord Stream 2 route because it is 2,000 kilometers shorter and is "ecologically safer" than the Ukrainian gas transit system, the move is also intended to put more political pressure on Kyiv, analysts say. According to U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch, Russia's switch to the use of Nord Stream 2 will shave a full 3 percent of Ukraine's gross domestic product.

However, there is opposition to the Nord Stream 2 project in the European Union. The leaders of nine EU countries signed a letter sent to the European Council in 2016 complaining that the project violates EU rules that suppliers of energy should not control energy transmission assets. European Council President Donald Tusk has also said that the Nord Stream project is not in the interests of the European Union, which is seeking to diversify its gas supplies. ■

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Editorials

# Why so scared?

If there is one thing that keeps Ukrainian leaders awake at night, it must be street protests.

The opposition protest that started on Oct. 17 had impressive numbers — several thousand people, at least. A week later it waned to a hundred or so people staying in tents near the parliament building. But still it commands the attention of authorities.

On the surface, they mock it. President Petro Poroshenko smirked as he commented on the small number of participants on Oct. 24. But there are reasons to believe that Poroshenko and his circle are actually unnerved by the protest.

While denigrating the action and the organizers, they charged hard against the protest's headliner, Mikheil Saakashvili, ex-governor of Odesa Oblast and ex-president of Georgia. He is the newest and the most flamboyant leader among the opposition heavyweights.

Poroshenko already stripped Saakashvili of his Ukrainian citizenship in an ill-advised move this summer. But as Saakashvili made himself the face of the anti-government protest near parliament, the authorities also rejected his refugee application, and talked of deporting him to Georgia.

Moreover, three of Saakashvili's former employees and allies, all Georgians, said they were seized by the National Guard in the streets and illegally deported to Georgia on Oct. 21 despite having permanent residency status in Ukraine.

Commenting on this, Prosecutor General and Poroshenko ally Yuriy Lutsenko said that Saakashvili illegally "brought to Ukraine 20 Georgians to help him carry out a coup d'état." He added that the protest is being financed from abroad, curiously echoing the same things ex-President Viktor Yanukovich's circle were saying about the EuroMaidan Revolution, which ousted them after 100 days.

We know a simple way to cure this protest paranoia: cut the corruption and adopt reforms that attract investment and that inspire trust in institutions in a nation aspiring to be a democracy. But something tells us we shouldn't expect this administration to take this medicine.

Just as Poroshenko was warily watching his ex-buddy Saakashvili run around the Verkhovna Rada with a handful of supporters, journalists from the Nashi Groshi investigative reporting series released an investigation into how millions of dollars are being stolen in Ukraine's secrecy-blanketed state defense industry that is overseen by Poroshenko's allies.

The investigation, which wasn't the first one of its kind, arrived just a week after Poroshenko promised to "cut off the hands" of those who were stealing from the army.

Such revelations hurt the president and his circle more than an opponent setting up a tent next to parliament.

Charging against the corrupt top officials — especially the friendly ones — would secure Poroshenko and his party's political future. But it's so much easier to just deport a competitor.

# Bombed out

Tourist ads and pitches aimed at investors say the war in Ukraine is so remote from Kyiv that it doesn't influence city life at all. The implication is that the capital city is perfectly safe and welcoming.

In fact, the city has become more dangerous since Russia's war started. It's not just the steady growth in reported crime (up by 16 percent in 2016 from the previous year), but the high-profile assassinations that now take place. The murderers' favorite weapon is the bomb.

Not long ago people in Kyiv thought car bombs were a thing of the past — a bad memory from the mafia wars of the 1990s. But they're back, with several going off in the city in the last year.

In the latest incident, lawmaker Ihor Mosiychuk of the Radical Party was apparently the target of a bomb that went off in Kyiv on Oct. 26. In early September, a car bomb killed a Georgian-Chechen ex-militant in the very heart of the city. In June, an intelligence colonel was murdered in the same fashion. Just over a year ago, it was a prominent journalist.

Others were gunned down by assassins, with the murder of ex-Russian lawmaker Denis Voronenkov in March the most publicized one.

Most of the high-profile assassinations cases are not solved. The authorities are content simply to point the finger at Russia. That's not good enough. Unless the authorities do more to stop such attacks and solve the crimes, more tourists and investors are unlikely.



NEWS ITEM: Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko accused ex-President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili, who is protesting in Kyiv with a handful of supporters, of trying to conduct a coup d'état. For this purpose, Lutsenko claimed, Saakashvili brought 20 loyal Georgians to Ukraine.



NEWS ITEM: Dogs became an unlikely theme in a spat between two opposition politicians. The leader of the Batkivshchyna Party Yulia Tymoshenko accused the leader of the Radical Party Oleh Lyashko of secretly working for President Petro Poroshenko, saying Lyashko was "Poroshenko's chihuahua." Lyashko returned the insult by posting a photo of himself with two large dogs with an offensive caption addressed at Tymoshenko.



NEWS ITEM: President Petro Poroshenko said that some of his critics are so negative that even if the Ukrainian state symbol, the Trident, was put up on the Kremlin, they'd still be complaining that it didn't hang straight.



NEWS ITEM: Lawmaker Boryslav Rozenblat, who stands accused of bribery, tried to leave Ukraine for Germany on Oct. 19, but was taken off the plane by authorities. Rozenblat had gold and diamond jewelry items with him, which he said were presents for children.

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## Reformer of the week

## Roman Kuybida

Roman Kuybida, a member of the Public Integrity Council, said on Oct. 25 that the High Qualification Commission had failed to explain a single one of its decisions to override the council's vetoes on Supreme Court candidates deemed to be corrupt or dishonest.

Only 120 out of the commission's 373 decisions on candidates, and only 382 out of the candidates' 653 profiles have been published, Kuybida said, adding that the decisions on candidates gave no justifications. The commission has denied accusations of wrongdoing.

In September, the High Council of Justice appointed 111 new Supreme Court judges, including 25 discredited judges who participated in political cases, who have undeclared wealth, or who are under investigation in graft cases. President Petro Poroshenko is scheduled to take a decision on signing their credentials by Oct. 29.

Another blow to the judiciary's image came as Poroshenko on Oct. 6 gave an award to former Kyiv Court of Appeal Judge Grigory Zubets, who jailed dissident Valery Marchenko for criticism of the Soviet authorities in 1984. Marchenko, who was suffering from kidney failure, was sent to a prison camp in Perm Oblast in Russia, and died in a prison hospital in Leningrad. Meanwhile, 52 percent of Kyiv's judges do not meet professional integrity standards, according to a research published by the Chesno civic watchdog on Oct. 26.

— Oleg Sukhov



(Courtesy)

## Anti-reformer of the week

## Maksym Sokolyuk

Maksym Sokolyuk, the head of the State Migration Service, has permitted the deportation of three Georgians from Ukraine under unclear circumstances.

The State Migration Service said on Oct. 21 it had canceled the residence permits of two associates of ex-Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, including a soldier who fought against Russian troops in the Donbas.

State Migration Service spokesman Serhiy Hunko told the Kyiv Post that the service had instructed the two Georgians, and another of their compatriots, to leave Ukraine voluntarily, and there was no court warrant for their forced deportation by Ukrainian authorities.

But the Georgians said that the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), the National Guard and the Border Guard had kidnapped, beaten and illegally transported them to Georgia on Oct. 21. The National Guard and the SBU denied it, while the Border Guard did not comment.

Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko and the State Migration Service said on Oct. 24 that the service had refused to consider Saakashvili's application for asylum and that he can be deported from Ukraine. But the service failed to send any documents on its refusal to Saakashvili, and Hunko at first denied the refusal on Oct. 25, and then said he did not know if it had happened.

Lutsenko also said that the State Migration Service was planning to deport 20 more Georgian associates of Saakashvili.

— Oleg Sukhov



(Ukrainian)

## VOX populi

WITH DARYNA KUZMENKO



## Do you think Kyiv is more dangerous than it used to be?

Editor's Note: Yet another deadly bomb attack took place in Kyiv on the night of Oct. 25 (see Page 1), leaving two people dead.



**Yuriy Filon**  
entrepreneur  
"Kyiv hasn't become more dangerous. I think that such things used to happen before, too, but they weren't publicized as much as now."



**Halyna Chupryna**  
accountant  
"The city has become more dangerous even in the daylight. I can't say it changed or influenced my life. But it is hard to see all the terrorist attacks and attempted murders. What will happen next?"



**Viktor Khlystun**  
retiree  
"It may have become more dangerous, the press is writing about it more and more, but I haven't felt it, as I have never been attacked. However, this time I was very close to it, as I live near the place where the bomb attack against Ihor Mosiychuk took place."



**Saniia Kramarets**  
vendor  
"The capital has become more dangerous, and this year I noticed that attacks were happening more often. The feeling of danger is familiar because I came to Kyiv from Donetsk Oblast after the war started."



**Yevhen Selivanov**  
actor  
"I think the only safe place in the world is home. I can't say such attacks have influenced me consciously, but as a precaution I've started walking farther away from cars."



**Aliona Ruban**  
college student  
"Kyiv hasn't become more dangerous because people have been killed in the city center before. Two years ago, my friend went in a shop and someone hit him on the head and robbed him. He died of the injury."

## Ukraine's Friend &amp; Foe Of The Week

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



Ksenia Sobchak

It's very rare for someone in Russian politics to speak the truth about Crimea.

The Kremlin, of course, covertly invaded this part of Ukraine in late February 2014, sending in its soldiers in unmarked uniforms as the Ukrainian authorities writhed in political upheaval in Kyiv. The soldiers, who came to be known as "Little Green Men" in English and "Polite People" in Russian, appeared outside of key installations such as Simferopol airport, and later a group of armed men took control of the autonomous republic's parliament.

The members of that parliament were rounded up and forced to vote to hold a sham referendum, which was held just 10 days later. With an improbably high turnout of 83.1 percent, an equally improbable 96.77 percent of Crimeans voted to unify the territory with Russia (there was no choice on the ballot to retain the status quo.)

The real support for unification was probably much lower, as was the turnout. But we'll never know because it was a sham election, held at gunpoint, and not following the minimal standards of a demo-

cratic election. But you won't hear the truth about Crimea from the Kremlin.

So it was refreshing, amazing even, to hear Ksenia Sobchak, who on Oct. 18 announced she was running for president in Russia, tell the truth about Crimea, saying that according to international law, Crimea is still part of Ukraine, and Russia violated the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 by annexing the peninsula.

The TV personality Sobchak, 35, has never participated in politics before and has little in the way of a political program. She is generally seen as a stooge candidate for the Kremlin — her candidacy is being used as an air freshener of legitimacy to cover the stench of a rotten, rigged Russian presidential election held to reinstall a dictator.

Moreover, by telling the truth about Crimea, Sobchak is breaking Russia's strict laws on separatism. Some now expect Russian dictator Vladimir Putin to use this to keep her in check should her campaign somehow develop any momentum. That is unlikely, as Sobchak's truth-telling about

Crimea won't appeal to the majority of Russian voters. She also has strong ties to Putin, who served loyally under her late father, Anatoly Sobchak, the former St. Petersburg mayor, who died in 2000. Putin has often talked about his fondness for Sobchak, who served as mayor from 1991-1996. However, she campaigned against Putin's re-election in 2012.

Yet she is Ukraine's Friend of the Week and winner of the Order of Yaroslav the Wise if for no other reason than telling the truth about Ukraine, when Russians hear mostly lies.

— Euan MacDonald



Order of Yaroslav The Wise



Jimmy Carter

Ahead of the U.S. presidential election, a Democratic Party activist was recruited by Russian agents to provide intelligence about the foreign policies the presidential hopeful, according to a report from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, or DNI, from Jan. 6, 2017.

The presidential election was in 1976. The Russian agents may have indeed been Russian, but they were working for the now defunct Soviet Union. And the presidential hopeful, who went on to beat the incumbent, President Gerald Ford, was Jimmy Carter.

The Soviet Union and its successor, the Russian Federation, has often tried to interfere in U.S. elections. During the Cold War, Soviet agents used forgeries and press placements (what we would now call "fake news") to try to damage candidates less favored by the Kremlin, records in KGB archives say.

And the DNI report says Moscow's efforts to influence the 2016 U.S. presidential election were the boldest yet. The Russians would have seen their efforts as a success, as they were perceived as having influ-

enced public discussion, the report concludes.

It's strange then, that the 93-year-old Carter, in a recent interview with the New York Times, played down the idea that Russia may have helped Republican Party nominee Donald J. Trump win the U.S. presidency.

"I don't think there's any evidence that what the Russians did changed enough votes, or any votes," Carter said in the interview, adding that he and his wife had supported Bernie Sanders, the losing challenger to Hillary Clinton in the Democratic presidential primaries.

Carter also, in a 2015 interview with Voice of America, justified Russia's military invasion and annexation of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula as "something that the Crimean people wanted, I believe."

And one of the reasons why Carter lost in his re-election bid in 1980 to Ronald Reagan is his perceived weaknesses in foreign affairs. Reagan's presidency, for all its flaws, did help sink the Soviet Union.

Carter, who is angling for a job with Trump as envoy to North Korea, also said he thinks the media have been harder on

Trump than any other president. It's a ridiculous comment. Evidence is emerging almost weekly that Russia tried to help get Trump elected, using stolen e-mails and other information published through Wikileaks to damage Clinton, as well as a paid campaign on social media to boost Trump and hurt Clinton.

Yet rather than loudly demanding a full investigation into these links, Carter says Trump's relationship with Russian dictator Vladimir Putin doesn't bother him. It should, and that's why Carter is Ukraine's Foe of the Week and winner of the Order of Lenin.

— Euan MacDonald



Order of Lenin



## World in Ukraine

**Editor's Note:** World in Ukraine takes a look at Ukraine's bilateral relations with different nations. To sponsor this news feature, please contact the Kyiv Post's sales team at [advertising@kyivpost.com](mailto:advertising@kyivpost.com) or call 591-7788.

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# Turkish expats on perks, downsides of life in Kyiv

BY MARIYA KAPINOS  
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They moved to Kyiv from the three biggest Turkish cities: warm Izmir, windy Istanbul and the Turkish capital of Ankara. For one of them, Kyiv was love at first sight, while the others disliked the Ukrainian capital at first but grew fond over time.

Meet three Turkish expatriates who, after having their share of good and bad experiences, decided to stay in Kyiv, along with 15,000 other Turkish citizens living in Ukraine.

### **Burak Pehlivan, 39** vice chairman of the International Turkish-Ukrainian Business Association

When Burak Pehlivan came to the Ukrainian capital in the winter of 2004 on a business trip, his first impression wasn't good. It was late and dark outside when a driver brought Pehlivan from the airport to the Soviet-like city outskirts.

"The city seemed colorless," Pehlivan recalls.

However, he changed his mind the very next day, when he saw Kyiv in daylight. Pehlivan thought that he could settle here, which he did five years later. He has been living in Kyiv permanently since 2009, when he decided to start his own business with his Ukrainian business partner.

Pehlivan says there are a few misconceptions about Turkey, and one of them concerns the weather.

"Many people think Turkey is much warmer than Ukraine, when in fact the weather in Istanbul and Kyiv is similar, and although Kyiv is colder, Istanbul is windier," Pehlivan says, adding that cold Ukrainian winters aren't a problem for him.

Pehlivan also says that Istanbul never sleeps and "people sometimes work even on vacations and have

fewer holidays," while Kyiv's lifestyle seems slower and less stressful to him.

He pays special attention to restaurants and how drastically they have changed in the 13 years that have passed since his first visit.

"I remember in 2004 restaurants were expensive and waiters were rude, but now Kyiv cafes are cozy, more affordable, and the staff is polite."

What he does not like in Ukraine is the bureaucracy. But Pehlivan adds that "this problem exists all around the world."

He also believes that the Turkish and Ukrainian mentality are similar, which is why people from these two countries will always get along.

### **Utku Feruz, 30** software engineer at lifecell

Utku Feruz was born in Izmir, a city on the Aegean Sea with lots of seafood and warm weather all year long. Before coming to Ukraine in 2011 for a job opportunity, he lived for two years in Los Angeles. So at first it was hard to adjust to a totally new climate, language and culture.

But after three years, when Feruz accepted a job offer in Turkey, and it was time to leave Kyiv, he wasn't excited about leaving Ukraine.

"In 2014, the economy in Ukraine wasn't stable, the national currency went up and down, and I was invited to work in Turkey," Feruz recalls. "But I tried to postpone the decision to leave for as long as possible."

Due to the shaky political situation and street protests, many of his Turkish friends left at that time. But Feruz insists that he left not because he didn't feel safe in Kyiv, but due to an alluring job offer and adds that "I always felt safe in Kyiv, even during the EuroMaidan protests."

That's why, when he was invited to



**Burak Pehlivan, vice chairman of the Turkish-Ukrainian Business Association, gestures in his office in Kyiv on Oct. 19. He first visited Kyiv in 2004 and has been living in Ukraine since 2009, when he started a business with a Ukrainian partner. A portrait of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk is behind him. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)**

work back in Kyiv, he did not hesitate for long before saying yes.

Coming back to Ukraine in October 2016, Feruz was surprised by how much the city had changed.

"Everything was different," says Feruz, talking about new cafes, cozy parks and renewed buildings.

Feruz likes Kyiv's lifestyle: he plays in a rock band in Kyiv pubs, jogs in Kyiv parks, follows Ukrainian football team, is dating a Ukrainian woman and is considering getting married. He says people in Kyiv are very friendly.

Comparing Izmir and Kyiv, he points out that both of the cities have positive and negative sides.

"The banking system in Kyiv is hard sometimes - in Turkey it is much simpler," says Feruz, commenting on Kyiv's drawbacks. "Clothes here are expensive, and Kyiv is filled with luxury cars that don't follow road traffic rules."

On the plus side, he said that beer in Kyiv is tasty, fitness clubs are cheap, Kyiv trains look better than in Turkey, and the city is filled with green zones.

### **Ali Cura, 39** correspondent for Turkish news agency Anadolu

When he saw Kyiv with his own eyes, Ali Cura was surprised how peaceful the Ukrainian capital was, and immediately liked the city.

Leaving Ankara to work in Kyiv, his perception of Ukraine



**Software engineer Utku Feruz, from Izmir in southern Turkey, walks in central Kyiv on Oct. 21. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)**

was influenced by foreign media reports that the situation in Kyiv was not stable and people there were in danger.

"But life here goes on, Ukrainians work, study and take walks in parks, while in other countries people are convinced that Kyiv is a warzone."

Cura believes that Ukrainians and Turkish people have a lot in common: both nations are friendly, open-minded and always try to come to the rescue.

"When I asked for directions to see Kyiv sightseeing spots, locals showed me where to go and insisted on accompanying me there."

But he has had unpleasant moments too, and suffered from

prejudice and stereotypes.

"I rented an apartment in Kyiv, and one of my neighbors once confronted me near a doorway and started to ask all kinds of questions and even demanded to show my passport," recalls Cura. "When I asked why he was interrogating me, the man answered that he was worried about the safety in the building."

This situation showed Cura that his neighbor perceived him as a threat and that Ukrainians still have certain prejudices against foreigners, imposed on them by the Soviet era.

Still, he likes living in Ukraine, likes the food, and does not regret coming to Kyiv. ■



**Ali Cura, the Kyiv correspondent of Turkish news agency Anadolu, drinks tea in the lobby of the Intercontinental Hotel in Kyiv on Oct. 25. Turks and Ukrainians have a lot in common, he says. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)**

The image is a vertical composition. On the left, a man in a grey suit and blue patterned tie is shown from the chest up. Overlaid on his torso is a large, semi-transparent gear mechanism. To the right of the man, a chain of interlocking grey gears extends from the top towards the bottom. In the background, a factory floor is visible with several silver car chassis on an assembly line. A yellow robotic arm is positioned above the cars. The overall scene is brightly lit, suggesting an industrial environment.

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# Ukraine, Turkey deepen defense cooperation

**BY BERMET TALANT**  
BERMET@KYIVPOST.COM

Turkey and Ukraine started an eighth round of talks over a free trade deal this week, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade Natalia Mykolska announced on Oct. 25.

And while removing barriers for trade is still a work in progress — actually a work in progress since 2011 — the two countries have made concrete progress in enhancing mutually beneficial defense cooperation.

“That is what a strategic relationship is about,” Turkish Ambassador to Ukraine Yönet Can Tezel said of the recent defense agreements signed between the two nations during an Oct. 9 meeting of the two heads of state in Kyiv.

Tezel said the deals are tangible signs that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and their governments trust each other.

Turkey is the sixth largest arms importer in the world, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute.

In 2015, Erdoğan called for the independence of its defense industry from foreign imports. But Turkey’s ambitions spread beyond self-sufficiency. It wants to move up the rankings of global arms exporters — now it’s 16th — and has set the goal of boosting its defense exports to \$10 billion by 2021, as per the international strategy released by the Undersecretariat of Defense Industries.

In 2016, Turkey sold defense and aerospace products abroad for \$1.68 billion, but the capacity of the industry is larger, the government believes. According to the Defense and Aviation Industry Manufacturers Association, arms sales on the Turkish domestic market rose by 21.6 percent and amounted to nearly \$6 billion.

Today the Turkish defense and aerospace industry has a portfolio of more than 400 projects worth \$35 billion, *Hürriyet*, a Turkish newspaper, reported in March, quoting head of the Undersecretariat of Defense Industries İsmail Demir. Among them there are many that Turkey is producing for the first time in



Employees talk at the booth of Turkey’s defense manufacturer ASELSAN at the international arms exhibition in Kyiv on Oct. 15. (Oleg Petراسиuk)

a bid to create its national brands of tanks, corvettes, helicopters, airplanes, missiles, rifles, and other military equipment.

No wonder that Demir accompanied Erdoğan on a dozen of his foreign visits, including the most recent one to Ukraine on Oct. 9.

Ukraine is a good partner for joint production and a potential market for Turkish exports. Ukraine is facing invasion by Russia, spending a record 5 percent of its gross domestic product on security and defense, and is the world’s ninth largest arms exporter.

Erdoğan sees the potential. He brought his top defense and security officials to Kyiv: Chief of the Joint Staff of the Turkish Armed Forces General Hulusi Akar, Minister of National Defense Nurettin Canikli and Secretary General of the National Security Council Seyfullah Hacımüftüoğlu.

Following the visit, the countries’ two defense ministers signed a cooperation protocol. Moreover, Turkey’s defense manufacturer ASELSAN got a \$43.6 million deal on supplying communication systems to Ukraine. Delivery will start in 2018.

“The agreement with ASELSAN communications is significant,” Tezel said. “It’s for wireless military communications equipment... Ukraine has needed this equipment for a few years now. Finally, after trials and trials, Ukraine found that ASELSAN is the best option. We are happy about this.”

ASELSAN was among seven Turkish defense manufacturers that displayed their innovations at the international arms exhibition in Kyiv in October, making Turkey the sec-

ond largest foreign delegation after Poland.

For Ukraine, which aspires to join Turkey as a member of the 29-nation NATO military alliance, Turkey is an attractive partner too.

“One of our priority goals is transition to international standards in arms and military equipment manufacturing,” Ukraine’s state defense manufacturer Ukroboronprom stated in a written reply to the Kyiv Post. “In this sense, Turkey’s membership of NATO is an important factor for deepening the various directions of our military-technical cooperation.”

The IDEF-2017 arms exhibition in Istanbul in May became a break-

through for Ukroboronprom. Not only did it present its latest developments, but it also reached agreements with the Turkish Undersecretariat for Defense Industries.

Turkish air defence manufacturer HAVELSAN and Ukroboronprom signed a memorandum on joint radar production. TUSAŞ Motor Sanayii agreed with Ivchenko-Progress ZMKB, a state design bureau for aircraft engines in Zaporizhzhya, to produce turbojet aircraft engines. and Ukrainian air missile manufacturer Artem signed a cooperation agreement on the ammunition production with MKEK, the Turkish Mechanical and Chemical Industry Company. ■



Turkish defense contractor Roketsan displays models of its missiles at the international arms exhibition in Kyiv on Oct. 15. (Oleg Petراسиuk)

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# TIKA increases its activities in Ukraine



Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) implemented over 300 projects in the fields of education, health care, reconstruction, water and sanitation, development of administrative and civil infrastructure with a total budget of 40 million USD between 1997 and 2017. With a help of TIKA Turkey's aid is reaching every region of Ukraine. From 2014 to 2017 physical infrastructure of 20 health institutions and 55 schools throughout Ukraine has been improved.

As a token of gratitude for Ukrainians, living in Western Regions, who played important role in protecting martyrdoms of Turkish soldiers fallen in World War I, TIKA launched a row of projects in Rohatyn Raion of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast. With TIKA's support school in Pukiv village and Healthcare Centre in Verkhnya Lypitsa village have been renovated. Also renovation works in the premises of a village club in Lopushnya are being currently conducted. With the support of TIKA Rohatyn Municipality switched to the electronic document management system.

In the Kharkiv city, known as the important education and science center of Ukraine, Kharkiv Financial Institute acquired two modern computer classes, fully equipped by TIKA. On the opening

ceremony Rector of the Kharkiv Financial Institute Kostyantyn Serdyukov said: "Our institute is famous for its deep-rooted scientific traditions and spiritual wealth, and our graduates are being employed in various areas of Ukraine's financial and economic sectors. However, despite all our wealth, we had some material difficulties. TIKA opportunely provided us with a very important support. Thanks to TIKA two computer classes have been established in our institute, thus providing solid technical basis for the training process."

Program Coordinator of TIKA Hacı Bayram BOLAT stated: "The financial system is the backbone of the state. The stability in the state begins with the proper functioning of the financial system. In this sense, cooperation with Institute, specializing in education of specialists for the financial sector of Ukraine, was among our priorities. We implemented a similar project at the Odesa Financial Institute. With TIKA's support in the Scientific Research Institute of Informatization and Economic Modeling under the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of Ukraine Center for Economic Modeling and Trade Policy Development has been established. A workshop on fighting financial terrorism was organized in Turkey for experts of

the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine, TIKA also provided the necessary technical equipment for the effective operation of this institution. We are now present at the opening ceremony of the project, with the help of which technical infrastructure of Kharkiv Financial Institute has been improved. I think, that with this support the Institute will contribute to the further development of the public financial system".

One of the most important events was an opening ceremony of TIKA's projects, implemented in the Institute of Philology of Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University, by the first lady of the Republic of Turkey Emine ERDOĞAN.

President Recep Tayyip ERDOĞAN visited Kyiv to participate in the 6th meeting of the Turkey-Ukraine High Level Strategic Council. Emine ERDOĞAN accompanied President ERDOĞAN's visit to Ukraine and opened İsmail Gaspıralı's Chamber and smart classroom in the institute of Philology. She also presented 8 interactive boards to the faculties and institutes, where Turkish is currently being studied or is planned to be introduced into curriculum. Emine ERDOĞAN rewarded with valuable presents most prominent students of the university, who are currently

studying Turkish as main and as optional foreign language.

Emine ERDOĞAN said: "We present İsmail Gaspıralı's Chamber, smart classroom, fully equipped by TIKA, development Agency of our country, as well as interactive boards to your University. I believe these projects will contribute to intensification of the language education at your University". Emine ERDOĞAN stated, that she saw İsmail Gaspıralı's Chamber as a symbol for the common history of projects implemented in University and continued as follows: "The Crimea has a very different place in our history and in our hearts. İsmail Gaspıralı is one of the most important intellectuals from the point of view of modern Turkish language and history of our social journalism. Deeds of Gaspıralı born in Crimea continue to guide us today".

Deputy Rector Petro BEKH expressed his gratitude to the Turkish Republic and personally Emine ERDOĞAN and emphasized that all those valuable contributions and projects have been implemented by TIKA. BEKH also told, that no other country, except Turkish Republic, provides so much support to the University.

# Turkish company hopes to dominate car rental market

BY BERMET TALANT  
BERMET@KYIVPOST.COM

The car sharing culture in Ukraine is in embryonic stage, but at least one Turkish company wants to change that. Automotive giant Otokoç has entered Ukrainian market with its Budget car rental service. The goal is to become the market leader in five years.

Founded in 1928, Otokoç is the oldest automotive company in Turkey and a part of the country's largest industrial conglomerate Koç Holding. Today it combines a wide range of car-related services including dealership, spare parts wholesale, repairing, leasing and rental.

Since the mid-2000s, Otokoç holds a license agreement with an American car rental corporation, Avis Budget Group, and has been operating dozens of offices with a fleet of 35,000 vehicles in Turkey alone.

Ukraine has become the sixth destination of Otokoç's expansion abroad, in addition to car rental services under the Avis and Budget brands in Hungary, Azerbaijan,



A customer chooses a car to rent from Budget Ukraine in Kyiv on Oct. 25. The Turkish company behind Budget Ukraine, Otokoç, plans to lead the market in five years. (Oleg Petrasjuk)

Kazakhstan, Georgia and northern Iraq.

"Although Ukraine's car market isn't big, we see that the automotive sector will steadily grow in the future," general director of Budget Ukraine Murat Gürünlü said in an interview with the Kyiv Post.

According to the data by Auto-

Consulting analytics group, some 9.3 million cars are currently registered in Ukraine. Over the past two decades, the number of car owners in Kyiv has doubled. It now stands at more than 200 cars per 1,000 citizens. Notably, Ukrainians drive old cars. The average age of their vehicles is 19 years.

This year Ukraine has seen some growth in new car sales since they hit bottom in the previous two years, caused by political calamities and the massive hryvnia devaluation in 2014. However, car sales are far from pre-crisis volumes.

In Ukraine, Gürünlü said, owning a car is still a status symbol. But that will change soon.

Car ownership is likely to become less convenient and more expensive due to the higher degree of urban mobility and changing city landscape. Municipalities in major cities seek ways to battle congestion and air pollution by creating car-free zones, imposing additional taxes on old cars, and raising parking fees. Moreover, younger generations are likely to move from city to city and postpone settling down and buying a house or a flat.

While Ukraine is years away from these trends, Budget wants to be number one when the country catches up.

The initial investment of Otokoç into opening a company in Ukraine amounted to \$2.5 million, Gürünlü said. This money went to start off

with the fleet of 120 vehicles and offices in Kyiv and Lviv cities as well as in Boryspil and Zhuliany airports and airports in Lviv and Odesa.

"Ukrainians aren't accustomed to hiring cars, so our primary task is to explain to them the advantages and convenience of renting over owning a car," Gürünlü said. "So far we have seen the highest demand on sedans and 4x4 cars among local customers. We also provide minivans for larger groups and luxury cars."

In addition to short-term car rental, Budget Ukraine is developing other business lines, such as offering to lease and manage automotive fleets for corporate clients.

It also partners with hotels and airlines seeing opportunities in growing tourism to Ukraine. Earlier this year Ukraine approved passport-free travel with Turkey allowing nationals of both countries travel with ID-cards. Kyiv will also host the 2018 UEFA Champions League next May which is expected to attract many first-time visitors to the city.

"Koç Group is interested in Ukraine. There's a lot of potential for our business here," Gürünlü said. ■

## THE VOICE OF TURKISH SMES

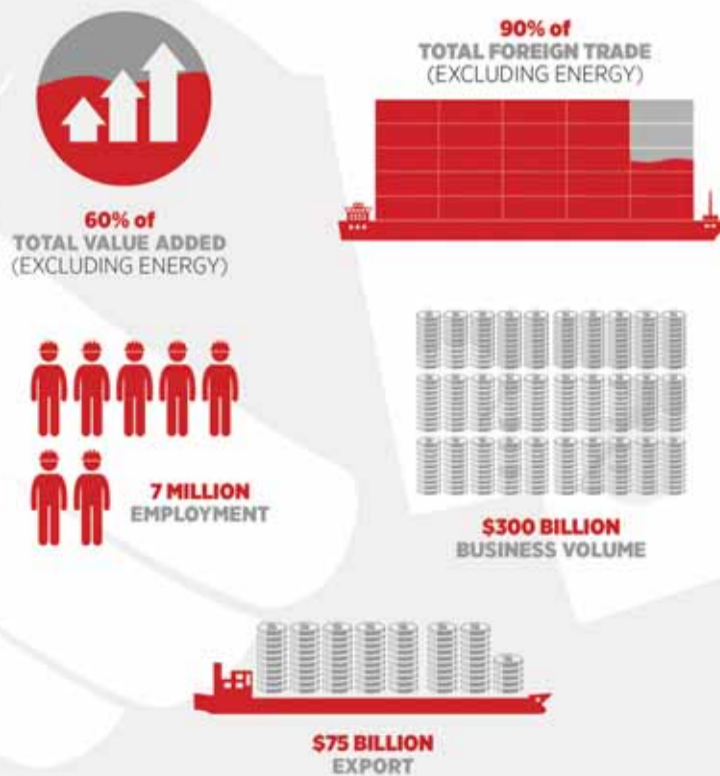
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# Yonet Can Tezel mostly satisfied with Ukraine-Turkey relations

BY BRIAN BONNER  
BONNER@KYIVPOST.COM

When asked if Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan is a democrat or a dictator, the country's normally articulate and fast-talking ambassador in Ukraine, Yonet Can Tezel, hesitated slightly before carefully choosing his response.

"I represent Mr. Erdogan, the president. What I would say is the following in a diplomatic way: Indeed Turkey is going through democratic challenges, the most obvious being the coup attempt last year which, for this or that reason, our allies failed to recognize and give us the democratic support that we need," Tezel told the Kyiv Post in an Oct. 24 interview. "That has eroded some of the confidence."

But democracy is far from dead in Turkey, Tezel said, speaking ahead of the Oct. 29 holiday to mark the 94th anniversary of the start of the modern Turkish Republic with Mustafa Kemal Atatürk as its founding father and first president.

"We know, all too well, that we can develop fully only with democracy," Tezel said.



Turkey's Ambassador to Ukraine Yonet Can Tezel speaks with the Kyiv Post in his office on Oct. 24, five days ahead of the holiday to celebrate the 94th anniversary of the founding of the modern Turkish Republic. (Oleg Petراسиuk)

The deterioration of relations between Turkey and many nations in the West, including the United States and in the European Union, accelerated after the failed coup attempt last year to topple Erdogan. Turkey's government blames Fethullah Gulen, an Islamist cleric living in the United States, for masterminding the coup attempt, and is seeking his extradition.

America's harboring of Gulen has fueled anger among Turks, some of whom blame the United States for backing or even leading the coup, while others blame the U.S. for not warning the Erdogan government about the coup plot. The most benign version is incompetence — that the United States simply didn't know anything about the coup attempt.

The EU also comes in for blame in Turkey because, after the coup attempt, Europe "did not stand up for the very values and principles it wanted to strengthen Turkey. That led to a loss of confidence," Tezel said. Additionally, many Turks are frustrated by what they say is open

more Tezel on page 12

ADVERTISEMENT

## Communication becomes digital, while Ukrainians are to get 4G next year



Mobile phone tariffs on calls and SMS will become a thing of the past; all communications, including calls, will be digitized - this is the forecast by lifecell. The company adopts a strategy of evolving as a digital operator, sees Ukraine as a crucial market and plans to introduce 4G here in the nearest future.

The world of mobile communications is shifting to a new, digital dimension. Keeping pace with progress, the Ukrainian operator lifecell owned by Turkcell, the Turkish telecommunication group, is moving towards a comprehensive digital company.

The company's far-reaching plans were announced at the quarterly strategic session with 100 Turkcell top managers in Kyiv on October 19-20. There, the Ukrainian company was called to be strategically important for Turkcell, as the largest foreign assets of the group. Therefore, Turkcell continues to develop lifecell and invest in the Ukrainian telecommunications market. In particular, 4G is to be introduced here in 2018.

"Our company aims to enrich the lives of the people with new technologies. You can clearly see how 3G has changed the digital experience in Ukraine. 4G is offering even more — we launched it in Turkey in 2016, and a lot of our subscribers, especially the younger generation, began to extensively use the Internet for their communications needs. I think 4G should and must be available for Ukrainians in the nearest future," says Ismet Yazici, lifecell CEO. "And it's not just about technology. The strategy of our

telecommunication group is to move towards a broader range of services, including musik, financial and others," he adds.

Another major focus area for lifecell is the corporate sector. The number of the operator's business subscribers grows twice as fast as the other categories. Introduction of 3G mobile Internet was a significant boost for business users, and the future arrival of 4G opens even broader horizons.

lifecell is actively developing three groups of digital solutions for corporate clients. Those are optimization of internal processes, IoT and other communication technologies, including cloud solutions, and security solutions. A remarkable example of the latter: this September lifecell handed over its system for emergency notifications to the Ukrainian Cyberpolice. The system is a tool for prompt informing certain groups of people about cyber threats through voice calls, SMS and e-mail. "For our corporate clients we are set to become a partner in providing digital services and products that will help their businesses grow," says Nelya Us, CMO lifecell.

By the way, the name lifecell, previously used on the Ukrainian market only, becomes the new international brand for digital services of the Turkcell group. It has already started to be used in Germany, Turkey and Cyprus.



# Ukraine, Turkey seek to triple trade to \$10 billion annually

Tezel from page 11

racism in Europe that is blocking their decades-long aspiration to EU membership.

The West, of course, would say the bad relations are Erdogan's own fault, accusing him of curtailing democratic freedoms to repress critics, imprison journalists and thousands of others and kidnap Americans as hostages to win the extradition of Gulen.

## 'Understand each other'

So it's no wonder that Tezel is happy to be in Ukraine, rather than in one of the many nations with whom Turkey is feuding.

"We don't have crisis. We don't have problems with Ukraine," Tezel said. "I am a very happy ambassador in the sense that my host country and my country have very good relations and they're going upwards... We understand each other."

He blames the news media, including the Kyiv Post, for focusing on Erdogan's exhaustion at the Oct. 9 press conference in Kyiv between Poroshenko and Erdogan. The Turkish president had trouble staying awake.

"He was tired, that was not a big story," Tezel said.

The real story, he said, is that at least 10 ministers from Turkey joined Erdogan on the Kyiv trip and that the two sides held substantive meetings for more than three hours that led to substantial agreements to strengthen the bilateral relationship.

"That's the story," the ambassador said. "When Erdogan and



A general view taken on Jan. 2 in Istanbul shows seagulls flying near the Ortakoy Mosque by the shores of the Bosphorus Strait, the world's narrowest navigable waterway, which connects the Black Sea to the Sea of Marmara. (AFP)

Poroshenko meet, it's always good, always positive, always concrete. Not all is fully shared with the press."

Besides the signing of many defense agreements, Ukraine and

Turkey also took steps to prevent double taxation and to stop tax evasion of citizens and companies working in each other's countries.

Agreements were also signed on the

reciprocal protection of investments, he said.

## No free trade deal

Moreover, both leaders set an ambitious target of hitting \$10 billion each year in bilateral trade. Considering that the current trade is worth only \$3 billion and no free trade agreement has been reached, tripling trade would appear to be an unrealistic goal.

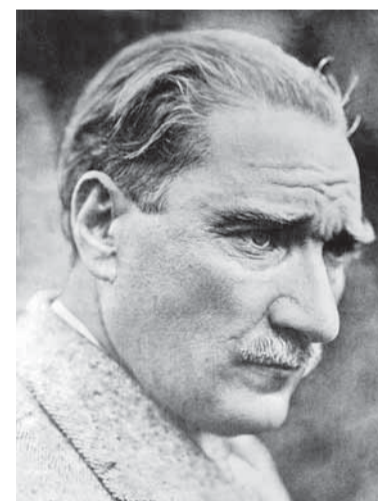
But Tezel called the target "quite achievable, not the least because in 2007-2008, we had \$8 billion in trade with Ukraine. For the last three years, for obvious reasons, mainly problems here (with Ukraine's economy) hitting bottom, but also problems in Turkey, trade has come down. But there are a lot of competitive advantages and complementary (features) between the economies."

Turkish investment into Ukraine, at least \$250 million by some estimates, is ready to go higher.

"Of course, we should trade more," Tezel said. "Turkish Airlines is willing to fly twice the frequency of flights."

Other bright spots are agriculture and the service industry. He also said that Turkish companies "are coming in and looking at investing in renewable energy" in Ukraine.

Trade experts between the two nations are meeting in Kyiv as part of six-year negotiations to reach a free trade agreement. Agricultural tariffs appear to be one of the sticking points as many nations seek to simultaneously protect domestic pro-



Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the father of modern Turkey in 1923.

duction and boost exports.

Tezel suggested that Turkey is not to blame for the slow progress.

"Turkey has negotiated more than 35 trade agreements. Ukraine is relatively new to this," the ambassador said. "In all the cases, in all the agreements, we haven't been able to fully liberalize in agriculture. It's no surprise. Ukraine is looking for a fuller liberalization, which would be not possible at this stage."

Ukraine has a trade surplus with Turkey, so has every reason to reach a trade agreement soon, he said.

"Ukraine has the advantage," Tezel said. "We want to make the pie bigger so each side gets a bigger part of the pie."

He said, however, the Ukrainian



## David J. Kramer comes to Kyiv

Former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor David J. Kramer, who served under President George W. Bush, visited Kyiv on Oct. 26 to promote his new book. Kramer argues that the United States and Europe should contain Vladimir Putin's Russia in the same way that they contained the Soviet Union during the Cold War, in part with tougher sanctions on Russia. Kramer advocates his views in his book, "Back to Containment: Dealing with Putin's Regime." (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)





Mustafa Kemal Atatürk  
(1881-1938)

## THE BUSINESS BRIDGE BETWEEN TURKEY AND UKRAINE

**TUSIB** is a national organization benefiting Turkish and Ukrainian business people in Ukraine, and significantly promoting cooperation among its members and companies who want to invest in Ukraine.

**TUSIB** has a very wide range of members from various sectors including Retail, Banking and Finance, Telecommunications, Home Appliances, Tourism, Aviation, Logistics and Transportation, Construction, Manufacturing, Textile, Pharmaceuticals and etc... whom are the sectorial leaders.

**TUSIB** is a member-driven non-profit international organization that fosters cross-national knowledge - sharing and networking among Turkish & Ukrainian businesses, and professional communities. TUSIB supports free trade, the sharing of ideas benefiting both countries, and personal interaction between business people within Ukraine.

**Main goals of the Organization shall be identified as follows:**

- Functioning as bridge between Turkey and Ukraine.
- Assist new investors to find their way in Ukraine and Turkey.
- Provide an effective platform for networking, information sharing and achieving common goals.
- Advocate for a business environment governed by the fair and transparent application of the rule of law to enable private enterprises to flourish.
- Provide access to information, resources, contacts and business support services to facilitate investments both in Ukraine and Turkey.

**Turkey at a glance (2017)**

**Population:** 80.7 million  
**Government type:** Parliamentary republic  
**President:** Recep Tayyip Erdogan  
**Prime Minister:** Binali Yıldırım  
**GDP:** \$841.2 billion  
**GDP per capita:** \$10,434  
**World Bank's Doing Business Ranking:** 69  
**Credit ratings:** Fitch BB+ (stable), S&P BB (negative), Moody's Ba1 (negative)  
**Member of:** OECD, G-20, NATO, UN, OSCE, WTO, BSEC  
**Main economic sectors:** agriculture, textiles, consumer electronics, tourism, shipbuilding, construction, automotive manufacturing, communications

**Ukraine - Turkey relations**

**Trade:** \$3.15 billion  
**Exports from Ukraine to Turkey:** wheat, raw steel goods, soybean, iron, agricultural machinery, oil plant products - \$1.2 billion in first half of 2017  
**Imports to Ukraine from Turkey:** machinery and equipment, chemicals, plastics, vegetables and fruit - \$576 million in first half of 2017  
 Turkish foreign direct investment: \$250 million

**Turkey celebrates Republic Day**

This year Turkey celebrates the 94th anniversary since proclamation of the Turkish Republic on Oct. 29, 1923, by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, who was elected as the first president of the state. The nationwide celebrations start at 1 p.m. on Oct. 28 and last for 35 hours.

A turning point in Turkey's recent history was July 15, 2016, when a military coup against President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government failed. Erdogan's ally-turned-foe, Turkish cleric Fethullah Gülen, was declared the mastermind behind the plot. Since then, the country has been under the state of emergency, during which more than 50,000 people have been arrested and 150,000 people have been suspended in a crackdown against members of Gülen's network, according to Reuters.

The Embassy of Turkey in Ukraine will host a reception on the occasion of Republic Day on Oct. 30.



Pedestrians walk across the Galata Bridge in Eminonu District in Istanbul on June 20, with the Suleymaniye Mosque in the background. (AFP)

# Ambassador: Tourism industry in Turkey 'is picking up again'

Tezel from page 12

side is "afraid of Turkey coming in too strong in certain sectors" under a free trade pact. "We want them to see the bigger picture."

Consequently, reaching a trade pact could still be many months away, Tezel said.

He added that achieving a deal would "be another bonus, seal of approval, sign of trust on the part of the Turkish and Ukrainian governments. Even without it, I'm encouraging businesses to come to Ukraine and to put Ukraine on their radar, but also to consider realistically the risks."

Turkey has an estimated 15,000 citizens in Ukraine and more than 600 businesses.

But Tezel said he still hears more complaints than success stories.

Ukraine has not achieved a "level playing field" — meaning strong rule of law with trustworthy courts, he said. "The faster it happens, the quicker this trade will grow. If the investment environment is improved as we all want, that's what Turkish businesspeople are looking for. The Turkish business associations share our views on that."

Tezel said Turkey was able to attract record amounts of investment in the last decade by strengthening rule of law and arbitration procedures to resolve business disputes. He said Ukraine must do the same.

**Tourism boom & bust**

Turkey's round of conflicts with many countries have hurt its vital tourism industry, which accounts for 13 percent of the nation's gross domestic product by some estimates. The number of foreign tourists dropped from 36.2 million people in 2015 to 25.4 million people in 2016, a 30 percent fall.

In 2015, after Turkey shot down a Russian warplane near the border with Syria, the Kremlin retaliated by suspending visa-free travel between the two nations and banning some imports, such as tomatoes. The number of Russian tourists coming to Turkey declined.

After conflicts erupted with the EU, Germans and other Europeans

also started bypassing Turkey.

Ukrainians, by contrast, are traveling to Turkey in greater numbers than ever, aided by close proximity to its Black Sea neighbor and visa-free travel. A record 1.1 million Ukrainians are expected to visit Turkey this year, Tezel said.

Tezel said that the tourism industry in Turkey "is picking up again" as more Europeans, Russians and others return.

"Reservations for next year are very good news," Tezel said. "Despite the problems, German reservations have increased for next year. We have to go up above 40 million tourists again (each year). Some of our more traditional European customers went to alternative countries. Now they're coming back because the level of services, infrastructure that Turkey has to offer is so good."

**Russian relations**

Turkey has a complicated relationship with Russia. They have conflicts over Syria and other parts of the Middle East, over the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave in Azerbaijan, over Cyprus and other issues.

But Turkey refuses to join most economic sanctions imposed by the West on Russia for the Kremlin's 2014 military invasion and annexation of Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and the ongoing war in the Donbas, which has left Ukraine dismembered and has killed more than 10,000 people.

An exclusive importer of Turkish food products, such as "TM SIRMA", "TM KURU KAHVECI MEHMET EFENDI", "TM CAYKUR", "TM KOSKA", "TM SERA", "TM IKRAM" Aryaka LLC supplies its goods to two "Istanbul" shops in Kyiv (at 35 Saksahanskoho Street and 5 Spaska Street. The company's products are also sold at gas station AZS "Socar" the "Novus" trade center, and the supermarket "Megamarket," as well as the Internet shop "Eko-bazar" (eko-bazar.com). The company produces its own 100-percent natural milk products Airan (a type of fermented milk product) and yoghurt, using traditional Turkish methods, in the village of Losyatyn in Vasylivsky district of Kyiv Oblast. The company's products are currently sold in many cities of Ukraine, and Aryaka plans to further expand to satisfy demand for Turkish products all over the country.

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- nasal congestion
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- cold
- sneezing

# NOBEL

The company Nobel was founded in 1964 and is a multinational pharmaceutical company headquartered in Istanbul.

Today, the company's products are presented in many countries of Europe and Asia. For example, in 2016 the Tylol Hot brand was registered in 30 countries, including Austria, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and England.



# Anzibel



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# SEMPER PARITERA

Oct. 31, Nov. 2, Nov. 4-5



## 'Good Time'

The new crime drama film "Good Time" received a six-minute standing ovation at the Cannes Film Festival. Directed by two brothers, Americans Joshua and Ben Safdie, the film tells a story of an unsuccessful bank robber's (Robert Pattinson) odyssey to get his brother out of jail. The critics praised Pattinson's performance. The screenings will be in English.

**"Good Time." Kinopanorama (19 Shota Rustaveli St.) Oct. 31, Nov. 2. 3 p.m., 9 p.m. Nov. 4-5. 3 p.m. Hr 50-70**

### Friday, Oct. 27

#### Classical music

**Academic Symphony Orchestra of the National Philharmonic of Ukraine.** Playing Berlioz and Bruckner. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-300

#### Live music

**Harp Jazz.** Palace Ukraine. 7 p.m. Hr 100-200

**Jazz for Adults. Alexey Kogan.** Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 180-470

**AC/DC Tribute.** Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 100-750

#### Clubs

**After Midnight Show.** Elton Clapton Cover Band. Caribbean Club. 10 p.m. Hr 400 for men, Hr 200 for

women

**Halloween Party.** Ukrainian band Motor/Rolla. Docker Pub. 10 p.m. Hr 125-1,050

**Halloween Party.** Highway to Hell. AC/DC Tribute Show. Docker's ABC. 10 p.m. Hr 100-750

**Halloween. Opening of the D.Fleur club with David Vendetta.** D.Fleur. 10 p.m. Hr 200 for men, Free for women. Dress code: Halloween

#### Miscellaneous

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

**Festival of Young Ukrainian Artists.** Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 60

**Anna Mironova. Between Strokes** (graphics). Ya Gallery. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

**Service: USA, 2010 - Ukraine, 2017** (photo exhibition). America House. 12 - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

**Feel the Mood** (art exhibition). America House. 12 - 9 p.m. Free. Bring ID

**Playing the Past** (interactive photo exhibition). Izone. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

**Olga Yakubovskaya. Water** (art exhibition). Nebo. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

**Nomad. She is No Mad** (art exhibition). Tryptykh. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

**International Biennale** (art exhibition). Center of Visual Culture. State Scientific Library of Ukraine. 12 - 8 p.m. Free

**Requiem** (art exhibition). Golden Section. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

#### Movies

**Dancer** (documentary, biography). Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 90-100. Zhovten. 10:35 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 45-85. Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 9:25 p.m. Hr 85-145

**English Movie Night: The Interpreter** (crime, mystery, thriller). America House. 6:30 p.m. Free

#### Shows

**The House of Mysterious Adventures** (musical). VDNH. 7 p.m. Hr 230-2,399

**Jazz for Adults with Alexey Kogan, Jazz in Kyiv Band and dancers.** Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 180-790

#### Theater

**Musical Evening.** Kyiv National Operetta Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50-350

**Dracula Vlad** (musical). Zhovtnevy Palace. 7 p.m. Hr 140-800

### Saturday, Oct. 28

#### Classical music

**National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine.** Playing Mendelssohn, Mozart, Beethoven. National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-300

**Classics for Children.** Cinema House. 11 a.m. Hr 250

**Candlelight Orchestra.** Playing Mozart, Strauss, Miller, Armstrong. Architect's House. 7 p.m. Hr 180-280

#### Live music

**Star and Orchestra with Olya Dibrova.** Caribbean Club. 8 p.m. Hr 290-1,490

**Karl Frierson.** Covers of Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, and more. Freedom. 7 p.m. Hr 500-1,000

#### Clubs

**Puce Mary** (DJ set). Closer. 8 p.m. Hr 200

**After Midnight Show.** The Comixy Cover Band. Caribbean Club. 10 p.m. Hr 400 for men, Hr 200 for women

**Disco Fever Party.** Regenschirm. 10 p.m. - 6 a.m. Free

**Pumpkin Party.** Celebration of Halloween with craft beer. Craft vs. Pub. 7 p.m. Free

**Halloween with DJ Nadine UK and DJ Spookz.** Atlas. 11 p.m. Entrance in Halloween costume Hr 150, without Hr 300

#### Miscellaneous

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

**Festival of Young Ukrainian Artists.** Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 60

**Anna Mironova. Between Strokes** (graphics). Ya Gallery. 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

**Service: USA, 2010 - Ukraine, 2017** (photo exhibition). America House. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free. Bring ID

**Feel the Mood** (art exhibition). America House. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Free. Bring ID

**Playing the Past** (interactive photo exhibition). Izone. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

**Nomad. She is no Mad** (art exhibition). Tryptykh. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

**International Biennale** (art exhibition). Center of Visual Culture. State Scientific Library of Ukraine. 12 - 8 p.m. Free

**Requiem** (art exhibition). Golden Section. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

#### Movies

**Dancer** (documentary, biography). Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 90-100. Zhovten. 10:35 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 45-85. Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 3:30 p.m. Hr 75-140

**Geostorm** (action, sci-fi, thriller). Zhovten. 2:50 p.m. Hr 65-75

**The Omen** (horror). Kinopanorama. 3 p.m. Hr 50

**Generation Startup** (documentary). America House. 2 p.m. Free

#### Live music

**Good Old Jazz.** Playing music by Duke Ellington, Count Basie, Benny Goodman. Cinema House. 8 p.m. Hr 170-420

#### Clubs

**Juicy Beats Party.** Playing r'n'b, swing, country, boogie woogie, Lindy Hop. Caribbean Club. 6 p.m. Hr 100-290

**Crazy Dance Party.** Caribbean Club. 10 p.m. Hr 100 for men, free for women

**Cuban Bachata Kizomba Party.** Salsa Halloween. Habana Bar. 8 p.m. Free

#### Miscellaneous

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

**Festival of Young Ukrainian Artists.** Mystetsky Arsenal. 11 a.m. - 8 p.m. Hr 60

**Playing the Past** (interactive photo exhibition). Izone. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. Free

**Olga Yakubovskaya. Water** (art exhibition). Nebo. 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Free

**International Biennale** (art exhibition). Center of Visual Culture. State Scientific Library of Ukraine. 12 - 8 p.m. Free

**Requiem** (art exhibition). Golden Section. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free

#### Movies

**Dancer** (documentary, biography). Kyiv Cinema. 7 p.m. Hr 90-100. Zhovten. 10:35 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 45-85. Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 9:25

Oct. 24 - Nov. 11



## 'Nomad. She is no Mad'

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan, Tryptykh gallery will exhibit works by Kyrgyz artists - Yuristanbek Shygaev, Aliya Shagieva and Aigul Kas. "Nomad. She is No Mad" praises the nomadic culture and the role of women in the traditions of Kyrgyzstan.

**"Nomad. She is No Mad." Tryptykh (24 Andriivsky Uzviz). Oct. 24 - Nov. 11. 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Free**

#### Shows

**Halloween in the House of Mysterious Adventures** (musical). VDNH. 11 a.m., 3 p.m. Hr 250-2,499

**HVOB** (electronic). Sentrum. 9 p.m. Hr 540-750

**Keiko Matsui (piano) and Lords of the Sound Orchestra.** Palace Ukraine. 7 p.m. Hr 650-2,150

#### Theater

**Henry V** (screening of a play by Shakespeare's Globe Theater). Multiplex (Lavina Mall). 3 p.m. Hr 175-225

**Scheherazade** (ballet). National Opera of Ukraine. 7 p.m. Hr 20-2,000

**Musical Evening.** Kyiv National Operetta Theater. 7 p.m. Hr 50-350

### Sunday, Oct. 29

#### Classical music

**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. From Child Prodigy to Genius.** National Philharmonic. 7 p.m. Hr 70-250

### Monday, Oct. 30

#### Classical music

**Master Piano.** Jesse Mebunu playing popular classical music. Actor's House. 7 p.m. Hr 70-250



## J. Bernardt

J. Bernardt, an alternative Belgian band formed by Jinte Deprez, a lead singer in the famous indie rock band Balthazar, is coming to Kyiv. Belgian musicians will present their first album "Running Days," released this year. The band combines energetic rhythms, deep bass and Deprez's low vocals. Groove it out to the music of J. Bernardt at Sentrum on Nov. 2.

**J. Bernardt. Sentrum (11 Shota Rustaveli St.) Nov. 2. 8 p.m. Hr 420-560**





# Yunus Emre Institute opens to promote Turkish culture

BY JACK EVANS  
EVANSJWM@GMAIL.COM

The Yunus Emre Institute's name hints at its purpose. Considered Turkey's national poet, Emre was a bard and mystic in 13th and 14th century Anatolia, or Asia Minor. This is a side of Turkey that Ender Korkmaz, the director of the Kyiv branch of the institute, said he wants to promulgate.

The Turkish government-backed institute recently opened a center on Pushkinska Street, near the Lva Tolstoho metro stop. This brings the total worldwide to 55 and coincided with 25 years of Turkish-Ukrainian diplomatic relations.

In addition to a conference hall, library and garden, the building has an art gallery displaying the traditional Turkish painting style of Ebru and an exhibit documenting the Ottoman Empire and Ukraine's involvement on the Galician front in World War I. Portraits of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the father of the modern Republic of Turkey, hang from the walls of the four classrooms.

In his comfortably furnished office, under the gaze of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, Korkmaz told the Kyiv Post that the institute's goal is "promoting Turkey, its cultural heritage, Turkish language, culture and art" and "improving the friendship between Turkey and other countries."

The British Council and Goethe Institute are "colleagues," he said. But they are not templates. "It's not the right time, I think. We are similar but we are not emulating them. We have our own character. We have our own ingenuity," he said.

The institute's objectives have a more political edge. Following last year's failed coup and what opposition journalists, human rights organisations and foreign governments denounce as a repressive crackdown on dissent, the director feels that the



A visitor to Yunus Emre Institute takes in a photo gallery documenting the joint participation of Ukraine and the Ottoman Empire on the Galician Front in World War I. (Courtesy)

Turkish government needs to convey its own version of events.

He wants to "ensure that societies around the world" know about Turkey from more "accurate sources. There are so many sources that can lead you to misinformation, so we are doing this through the activities carried out in numerous countries under the categories of culture, arts and Turkish language.

"Last year there was an attempted coup d'etat. The terrorist organisation, which helped this attempt, is

also working to spread misinformation about Turkey."

The institute can "correct this misinformation," he believes. "The terrorist organisation is blaming the Turkish government, the Turkish people for being a dictatorship, a monarchy. But that's not true. Our government is elected in a just way. They're trying to spread misinformation that is why we need people to take their source of knowledge accurately from us."

The Yunus Emre Institute's role is not as a government propaganda

outlet, he says, but a benign way to bolster Turkey's soft power through cultural enlightenment.

Work has already started in Ukraine. The institute supplies teachers of Turkish language to universities offering Turkology courses. Ivano Franko and Taras Shevchenko have faculties in Kyiv. About 200 students are enrolled in the capital, and another 100 nationwide in towns like Odesa and Lviv.

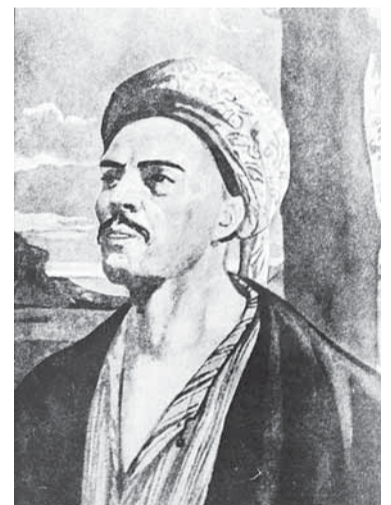
The center will make Turkish culture accessible, Korkmaz stresses.

"The students in the faculties aren't our only aim. We're also aiming at ordinary people who want to learn Turkish languages. We hope these ordinary people will be our many guests," he said.

Besides "this academic interest, there are so many people who are admiring Turkey with its TV series; they are visiting Turkey. They already want to learn Turkish. So we will provide them Turkish lessons in order to satisfy this demand. That's why we are here. Also we will be organising cultural events ... From Turkish theatre to Turkish music and Turkish movies. And we can also bring traditional Turkish army band, orchestra. We are working in many fields to promote our culture."

He is confident interest already exists: "People want to learn Turkish language mainly due to their admiration about Turkish culture and Turkey.

"Also we have a strong trade tradition with Ukrainian people. For example, I met many Ukrainian customers when I was a boy and worked at the Grand Bazaar of Istanbul at my uncle's shop. There were friendships built between the shopkeep-



Turkish poet Yunus Emre (1238-1320)

ers and customers. Today Turkey has even more trade relations in Ukraine," he said.

Food is a Turkish export to Ukraine the center will celebrate. "It is already popular here. Just in this area there are five Turkish restaurants", the director observed. There will be classes showing "how to cook it at home, in a more professional manner. The food culture is a part of cultural heritage."

Korkmaz hopes Turkey and Ukraine's cultural exchange will progress along the same lines as their diplomatic relationship.

"I can say we have a developing relationship ... I see Ukraine as a friend-country. I'm sure they are thinking much the same about us. President Erdoğan visited 10 days ago. They signed many pacts with the Ukrainian government. I think our relations will grow," he said. ■



Over Turkish coffee and Turkish delight in his office, Yunus Emre Institute director Ender Korkmaz speaks with the Kyiv Post on Oct. 24. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

# TUSIB TO UNIT PROFESSIONALS

## Ukraine Business Overview from some of Investors and Executives



**Zafer OZBAY,**  
General Manager  
of UKRTOWER LLC



Ukraine is a country with great business potentials and well-educated people for foreign investors. Ukraine must move faster to realize some of regulations and changes in order to encourage foreign investors to invest more in the country.

Ukrtower is the only passive infrastructure service provider to telecom operators and internet service providers with its 1200 telecom towers in Ukraine.



**Ismet YAZICI,**  
CEO of LIFECCELL



Ukraine is a great country with great potential due to well-educated and open minded people. As Turkcell Group and lifecell we believe in the country and that's why we are committed to continue our investments. Doing business in Ukraine might be a bit tough time to time. There are still bureaucratic barriers which are slowing down the business. Also, it is needed a more welcoming approach towards foreign investment and investor. I believe that these issues are well aware by the leadership of the country and being addressed accordingly.

We have been providing services in the field of mobile communications field for the last 12 years. Our story started with mobile voice and now we are providing high quality and high speed mobile internet/data services to Ukrainian society with 3G technology. Right now we are in the process of massive 4G investment. We are working for being the #1 Digital Operator of Ukraine and committed to providing the best digital mobile services to the people via most advanced technologies.



**Onur ANLIATAMER,**  
Chairman of the Management Board of the CREDIT EUROPE BANK



We believe in Ukraine's great potential and appreciate the improvement in business environment. Together with highly skilled and educated human force and continuation of reforms, Ukraine has a very high chance to accomplish this potential.

Being the preferred bank in all the markets we operate, our main aim is to provide financial services that create value for our customers.



**Seyhan YILMAZ,**  
Regional Director of DOGUS INSAAT TICARET LIMITET SIRKETI LLC



Ukraine has been and still is quite a complicated country for doing business. Unfortunately, European integration is only in words, integration of business into European norms is not really noticeable. Most of the government structures are still highly corrupted. As an example I can mention non recognition of foreign arbitration court awards; law enforcement governmental structures are engaged in order not to execute such awards and to intimidate investors and companies operating in the market.

Facing such reality we are not losing hope that Ukraine will overcome this period and will take its place amidst developed states of law.

Our company Dogus Insaat Ukraine is a construction department of Dogus Holding, third largest conglomerate. We specialize in complicated infrastructure projects for turn-key completion.

We have successfully completed the following projects in Ukraine:

- Construction of the Railway and highway bridge across the Dnipro River in Kyiv City (Darnytsia Bridge)
- Extension and renovation of Waste water treatment plant in Zaporizhzhia
- Construction of Terminal D of Boryspil International Airport



**Emre Hadi ERVERDI,**  
General Manager of MIROPLAST LLC



I am proud to be in Ukraine and to do business in this country. Due to the new reform and regulation business atmosphere is getting better. We still have much to do for taking on European market, but we succeed in it.

Our company is one of the leading PVC profile producers in Ukraine.



**Onur DURAL,**  
General Director of ORION LOJISTIK LLC



Ukraine, a country with great potential, doing business in Ukraine in these turbulent times is extremely difficult (economic problems, political crisis and war), but, on the other hand, it is an invaluable "real-time education" that you can't get anywhere else.

Orion Lojistik LLC provides transportation services for all types of cargo by road between Turkey and Ukraine. Services of export-import operations, full documentary support, delivery of goods to the client's warehouse.



**Sezai PARLAK,**  
President of SEP COMPANY LIMITED



After doing business in Ukraine for 23 years, I believe the potential of Ukraine more than ever these days. Ukraine has every opportunity to reach its financial goals if the reforms are realized as promised.

We are a ceramics distributor/wholesaler located in Kiev and Odessa; we are the official distributor of Seranit in Ukraine. Our company has provided ceramics for facade systems and ceramic flooring for the building projects all around Ukraine.



**Mucahit TURKKAN,**  
Board Member of DNIPOOLIYA LLC



Over the past few years, the role of the agro-industrial complex of Ukraine is growing increasingly. We consider Ukraine - very attractive for investments into its agribusiness, even considering the war in the east of Ukraine. Fertile black soils, high productivity of land, hard work of Ukrainians, a convenient geographic location in terms of export markets, deep-water ports, developed infrastructure and others are attractive here. All of these, sure, are indeed a strong and powerful basis for the competitive agricultural sector development. As to the negative factors, that are affecting to the investment attractiveness of the business, are corruption at all levels of government, raiders seizure, non-transparency of the land reform, problems with the returning of VAT to exporters, an unforeseen policy of minimum prices and perks, annual tax innovations and unstable governmental support for the agrarian sector as well - all this is not increasing investment attractiveness of the sector.

Nevertheless, despite the significant riskiness of agribusiness, as foreign investors, we continue to invest in the agricultural sector of Ukraine, particularly to the production of sunflower oil. Dnipooliya LLC occupies 9th place in the TOP-10 of Ukrainian sunflower processors for the first half of the 2016 season / 17 MY in Ukraine and the 8th place in the ranking of the TOP-10 Largest Ukrainian exporter of sunflower oil. Despite the all risks mentioned ahead, there is reason to say, that the benefits exceed the costs associated with these risks and pressures in agribusiness.



**Enis ATASOY,**  
CFO of BEKO Ukraine



Ukraine is a country with a huge potential in many business spheres. Doing business in Ukraine during the current turbulent times is extremely difficult. However, we believe in Ukraine and its potential and we are going to continue to invest and taking part in development of Ukraine.

We represent Beko brand in Ukraine - the global brand of Ar elik A. . Company, controlled by Ko Holding. Ar elik A. is the largest manufacturer of home appliances, headquartered in Istanbul. We advocate sustainability through the persistent and dynamic improvement of our technologies and processes; the principles of sustainability are intrinsic to our products. We care about the preservation of a healthy environment, the future of energy and water, and tackling over-consumption and food waste.



**Emre KARA AHMETOGLU,**  
Head of Representative Office of ONUR TAAHHUT TASIMACILIK INSAAT TIC. VE SANAYI A.S. in Ukraine



ONUR Group, as being present in Ukraine over 15 years, we have very positive thoughts and find the Country meritorious for doing business. We have been gladly witnessing the significant economic growth and the modernization of the Country over the decade and sure that the coming years will be further success to the business holders and prosperity to Ukraine.

ONUR Group provides a wide range of services in Ukraine which could be summarized as follows;

- \* Contracting transportation projects such as highways, roads, railways, rehabilitation of airfields;
- \* Infrastructure projects,

- \* Building construction;
- \* Production of Industrial and construction products,
- \* Business at agricultural sector.



**Selami GUNER,**  
General Manager of GUNSEL GROUP



Ukraine is a rich country with on ground and underground resources. According to us, main dynamic of Ukraine economy is its young generation. According to statistics %29 of the population is under 25 years old. Its geographic location between Europe and Asia give a positive impact on Ukrainian economic as well. Ukraine young generation is well educated, bilingual and adaptive.

We feel positive results in Ukraine not only in economy but in all aspects of life too. To be exempt from visa regulation of EU is very important and will change the perceptions of young generation and country as well. We believe, all changes will bring new opportunities for all of us. Due to our positive belief, we already introduce new routes from Kiev to Warsaw and to Prague.

We were established on December 1997 in Kiev and have more than 20 years' experience in Ukraine market. Gonsel Group includes GNS Lines & GNS Cargo.

In GNS Lines, we set our targets as providing most comfortable, most

secure and most enjoyable trips all over Ukraine with comfortable busses.

In GNS Cargo, we fully understand our responsibility about your deliveries and have motto - your cargo is under our responsibility. GNS Cargo specialized on packets, parcels, valuable packages, fragile items, as well as items custom sizes and oversize cargo between 12 hours (express cargo) and 24 hours (standard cargo)



**Igor TYKHONOV,**  
Deputy General Manager of CREDITWEST BANK



Over the last 6 years Ukraine made remarkable progress improving its business environment and led the Doing Business rating list among CIS countries as evidenced by the official report of the World Bank.

We see the reforms are being implemented and we support the most of these reforms. Adoption of important laws and legislative acts shows firm intention to follow the chosen direction. The GDP growth in the 1st half of the year proves that the economy keeps recovering. The stabilization of foreign currency market as well as moderate inflation allows the businesses to plan for longer terms.

On top of that, decreasing interest rates make financial resources rather accessible. All these factors allow foreign investors to come to Ukraine. The huge current potential of Ukraine in all key sectors of economy attracts the investors which are ready to allocate billions of US Dollars.

CREDITWEST BANK is the first Turkish bank in Ukraine and one of the most stable, transparent and reliable bank in Ukraine. CREDITWEST BANK is 100% owned by Alt nba Holding, Turkey. The Bank provides full range of banking services for large corporates, SME and private banking customers. CREDITWEST BANK can become a reliable partner on a long term basis for foreign and local businesses.



**M. Cem DEM RC,**  
MD-General Manager of NOBEL in Ukraine



Ukraine is a very young country. Despite this, it is a country with lots of perspective in the CIS region with its geographical position, population and quality and educated business sense. When it is integrated with Europe, when there is no corruption, it will be a very competitive country, especially with its low production costs. Young Ukraine, formed in 1991, will be able to have a solid economic system with the sensible and determined reforms.

Since 2007 Nobel has been dealing with the marketing of the drugs which are being produced in our GMP certified factory in Turkey. Our team has been extensively advertising our medications throughout all the cities of Ukraine. We are the first

and the only Turkish pharmaceutical company in Ukraine. Our aim is to be the one of the leading pharmaceutical companies of Ukraine in the following years as Nobel Turkey achieved. We will do our best to increase the life quality of the people in Ukraine.



**Irina SIDLETSKA,**  
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# Ukraine's next revolution won't be on the streets



DIANE FRANCIS

Deposed President Viktor Yanukovich and the Kremlin continue to create mayhem inside Ukraine but have lost the hearts and minds of most Ukrainians, said security expert Andriy Levus.

"Confiscation of assets in the Donbas finances the military war for Yanukovich and Russia, and it's a cover for smuggling, but only for another year or so," said Levus in an interview in Canada. Their information war, however, is insidious and longer term.

Levus is a member of Ukraine's parliament and helped found a civil society group called Free People who were active during the Revolution of Dignity. He organized the security force that protected protesters in 2013 and 2014, then served briefly as deputy chief of Ukraine's secret police where he learned about Russia's covert activities. He also

fought in the war then won election. He is now chairman of the parliamentary committee on national security and defense.

He believes Russia's dirty tricks inside Ukraine will escalate, but also believes that a critical mass support protection of the Ukrainian language and culture, becoming European, and recognizing Russia as an aggressor.

"You have a huge constituency directly engaged in resisting and winning the war. About 100,000 Ukrainians are veterans of the war, as soldiers, logistical suppliers, families, volunteers then there are internally displaced persons and members of revolutionary parties," he said. "Roughly 30 percent of members of parliament are 'reform' people, who may have tactical differences but strategically they act as one body when it comes to the nation-state and security."

But the run-up to the 2019 elections will be troublesome. Russian meddling in Ukraine's political system is growing. "I see a heightened crisis in Ukraine because (Poroshenko) has decided to take on (Dmytro) Firtash," he said. Firtash has worked closely with the Kremlin. "There is a serious criminal investigation (into Firtash) by the general prosecutor. And (Firtash) is funneling serious money to political rivals to undermine Poroshenko."

Firtash made billions for himself, and for Russian and Ukrainian oligarchs and officials, by controlling the sales of Russian energy through Ukraine. He left Ukraine after the Maidan and lives in Vienna where he has been fighting extradition to the United States on charges of corruption as well as extradition to Spain on charges of money laundering.

Levus said that Russia continues



Activists attach posters reading "They lie for rubles" and "Inter belongs to Putin" on a fence in front of the Inter TV channel building during a rally on Sept. 5. (Volodymyr Petrov)



Lawmaker Andriy Levis speaks at a briefing in parliament on Nov. 3, 2016. (UNIAN)

to ship saboteurs and trouble into Ukraine.

"Two months ago, for example, legal documents showed that dozens of diversionary provocateurs were injected into Ukraine by Russian operations in Russia," he said. "The SBU has identified a center in Kharkiv, an internet storefront, that plans and finances Russian activities."

For instance, Russian-sponsored gangs "vandalize Polish or Hungarian monuments" so that Ukrainians are blamed or they, alternatively, "vandalize Ukrainian monuments" so that Poles are blamed. They also damage synagogues, pit groups against one another, and recently defaced



Exiled Ukrainian oligarch Dmytro Firtash lives in Austria. (AFP)

Russians to hand select sympathizers, based on their posts and information, to participate in groups in order to win the hearts and minds of other users," he said. "These people become unwitting accomplices. They are approached by businessmen with financial help and Russian-controlled media to become better known. These are marginal activists who don't know they're Russian puppets."

Ukraine's traditional media, with few exceptions, is no better and controlled by Russians or oligarchs who censure reformers and spread propaganda and disinformation.

"The largest Ukrainian station is Inter TV, controlled by Firtash who is controlled by the Russians," he said. "There are four more mid-level television or media companies controlled directly or controlled by oligarchs associated with Yanukovich and Russia."

Does this mean the Russians are winning the information war in Ukraine?

"In the context of creating political crises, yes, they are winning," he said. "But in terms of Russian values they are not winning."

"Am I optimistic? No. I'm a realist," he said. "We must engage in grey areas with dark people. I'm a soldier, not a politician, but this is what I must do. We want a new election law, anticorruption court, new constitution, and media reform."

"And the next revolution will never be on the street. It will be when people are free internally. Free of illusions. Free of the Soviet system. Free of the illusion the West will save us. The revolution will be when we are free people."

Diane Francis is a senior fellow at the Atlantic Council's Dinu Patriciu Eurasia Center, editor at large with the National Post in Canada, a distinguished professor at Ryerson University's Ted Rogers School of Management, and author of 10 books. ■



## 'The Eagle and the Trident' have landed

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer returned to Kyiv on Oct. 26 to present his new book on Ukraine-U.S. relations, "The Eagle and the Trident." Pifer (L), now a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, is next to Morgan Williams, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, who is holding up an advertisement in the Kyiv Post honoring all nine U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)



a poster of Pope John Paul II with "anti-Polish slogans." Vandals arrested have often been directly linked to parties or companies still controlled by Yanukovich, he said.

This is an extension of the Kremlin's 2014 strategy designed to reverse the Revolution of Dignity and prevent it from spreading. "Moscow wants to create a neo-Russian republic in eastern and southern Ukraine as a [blockage] to the Maidan," he said.

The military war is a "defensive war" for Russia because "a successful post-revolutionary Ukraine would lead to the collapse of the Russian project." But the information war is aimed at spreading dissatisfaction with whoever is in charge in Kyiv. Protests are populated by Russian operatives and political opportunists in order to give the appearance of unrest as well as to attract the cameras and foment dissatisfaction and violence.

The two Russian-language social media outlets recently shut down should have been closed years ago, he said. But traditional sites and other techniques are problematic as well.

"Social networks gather data on every Ukrainian, and allow the

# Tezel: Turkey will continue to oppose Crimean annexation, war

Tezel from page 14

Additionally, Turkey – a NATO member – has reached an agreement to buy more than \$2 billion worth of S-400 anti-aircraft missiles from Russia. The two nations are reviving trade in other areas. Yet the suspension of visa-free travel remains in place.

Turkey also remains dependent on Russian natural gas, too dependent to curtail trade and impose sanctions.

"Russia has been a big file for us for centuries...with ups and downs and lots of disagreement," he said. "We in many ways disagree with Russia but people still trade."

He noted that Ukraine's biggest single trading partner remains Russia, despite nearly four years of war. The EU, which has imposed sanctions on Russia, is still buying Russian natural gas.

"You still work and trade with

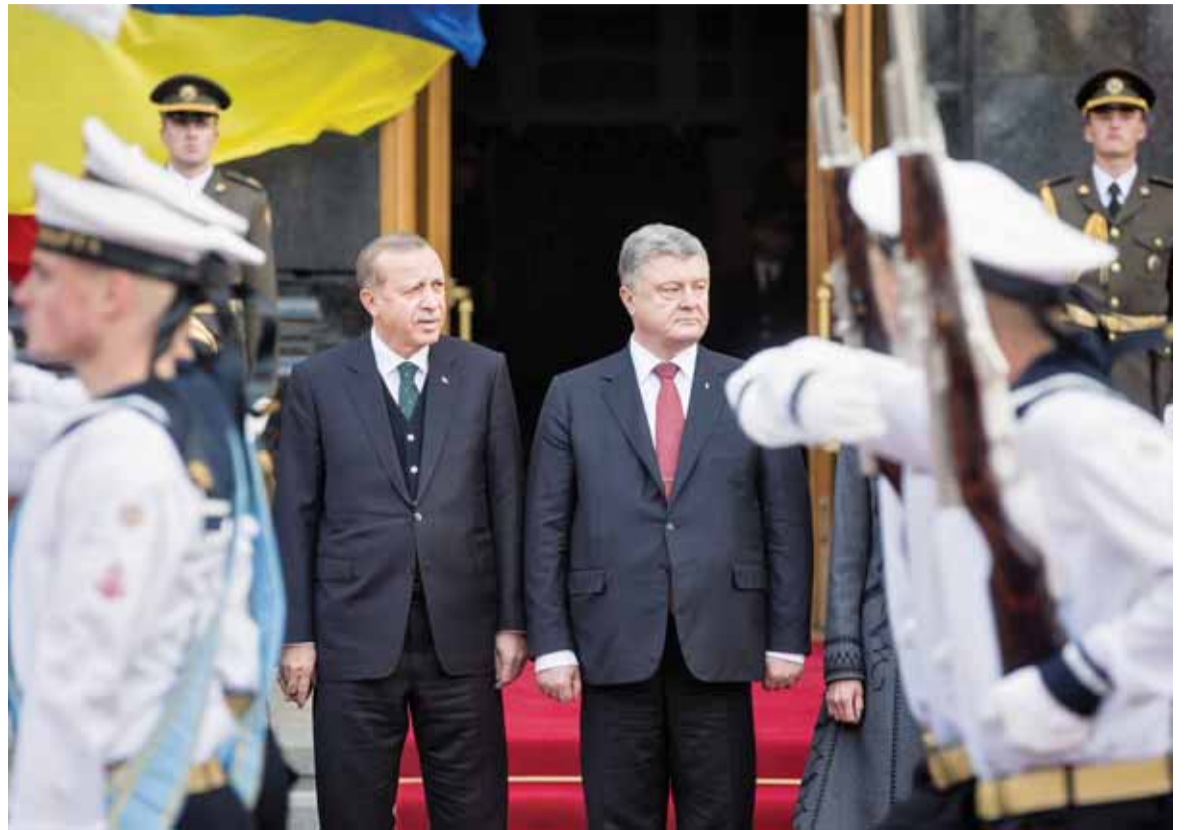
them, without giving up our principles," Tezel said, describing Turkey's foreign policy with Russia.

## Support for Ukraine

Despite Turkey's need for trade with Russia, he said, Turkey "has not moved an inch on our position on Crimea and the Donbas." Turkey condemns the seizure of Crimea and Russia's war and has called on Russia to change its position and resolve the crisis.

While Turkey plays no direct role in the peace talks, it has contributed in other ways. Its intervention persuaded Russia on Oct. 24 to free two imprisoned Crimean Tatar leaders to Turkey. The former political prisoners, Ilmi Umerov and Akhtem Chygoz, were expected to arrive in Kyiv on Oct. 27.

Also, Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan of Turkey has been the chief monitor of the Organization for Security



Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko welcomes his Turkish counterpart, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, as they review an honor guard during a welcome ceremony ahead of their meeting in Kyiv on Oct. 9. (Mikhail Palinchak)

and Cooperation in Europe's Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine since April 2, 2014, almost from the start of the conflict.

Turkey is also in favor of some of the international sanctions.

For instance, Turkey bans ship and airplane traffic between Russian-occupied Crimea and Turkey. Tezel said Turkey also recently moved to more strictly enforce the ban after

Ukraine complained that some ship owners were hiding their movements and their true ownership behind false flags and false documents.

Tezel said Turkey will continue to ensure that it does not legitimize the Russian takeover of Crimea. "Why would Turkey sell out Ukraine and its principles so that a few guys will sell a few tons of tomatoes to Crimea?" he asked.

"We sympathize with the Ukrainian position morally and in international law," Tezel said. "We support them because that's the right thing to do. Strategically and geopolitically, we need Ukraine to be strong and stand on its feet and have democratic, inclusive politics, rule of law, successful reforms and a successful fight against corruption." ■



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# Neither side ready to draw back at Avdiyivka front line

Avdiyivka from page 1

When the fighting surges, they are repeatedly pushed to the brink of a humanitarian disaster.

The opposing lines are just a few hundred meters from the station — and neither the Ukrainian nor the Russian-led forces will agree to retreat, despite mediation by international agencies such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, or OSCE.

Each time the station is damaged, a local cease-fire is arranged so that teams can enter to repair it and relaunch it. And even though neither side gives security guarantees, the civilian staff of the station continue to turn up for work — in the midst of war.

Such is the importance of the plant.

The station itself presents an environmental danger to the area: According to Ukraine's Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources, should the station's chlorine storage tanks be breached by shelling, the resulting chemical contamination would pollute the soil and groundwater of the area.

## Sniper duels

The Ukrainian troops positioned in close proximity to the station say they cannot move back as the enemy would not hesitate to advance in return, and they still have the city of Avdiyivka behind their backs to defend.

Currently, a reconnaissance company of the 72nd Mechanized Brigade — dubbed the "Black Brigade" for its fearsome combat reputation — fends off Russian-led forces east of Avdiyivka, along the deserted strategic H-20 road running just to the west of the station.

Ukrainian reconnaissance troops



An SVD sniper rifle lies on the roof of a dugout on the Ukrainian combat line near the Donetsk filtration station on Oct. 10. The vital station, which supplies water to a wide area around, is located between the lines and regularly damaged in crossfire. (Volodymyr Petrov)

now man an area that used to be a wealthy private housing estate near the station's reservoir ponds. Most of the houses have now been reduced to scorched debris by enemy artillery fire, and the soldiers take shelter in the few relatively intact basements that remain.

One of the key features of the front line in this area is a winding

set of trenches that runs east towards the enemy line. It is nicknamed the "mole rat," as soldiers must scurry along the trenches, heads down to avoid presenting a target in what is a live-fire zone, like a rodent through tunnels.

From the "Mole-rat" trenches, Ukraine's soldiers can see the Donetsk filtration station just a few

hundred meters away, with its chimney rising high into the sky, to the right of their dugouts.

At a machine-gun post in the trenches, a Dragunov SVD sniper rifle with a high-power scope sight sits locked and loaded: Here, the company's sniper platoon takes turns on guard duty, in four-hour shifts.

"In the daytime, we don't have

much work to do," says sniper Roman Gurzhenko as he scans the scrubland of the "gray zone" between the lines. "The sears (separatists) are not so dumb that they'll go over the top to certain death. It's usually quite enough to simply stay vigilant with a finger on the trigger."

more Avdiyivka on page 23

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# Ukrainian snipers dueling enemy in stalemate war near key filtration station

Avdiyivka from page 22

The men on duty are quite calm, even though the thunderous sounds of heavy explosions and machine gun bursts roll across the trenches from all around: Sporadic fighting breaks out periodically at the hot spots near Avdiyivka.

The soldiers say really heavy shelling close to the Donetsk filtration station is now rare. Enemy attacks since the Sept. 1 cease-fire, dubbed the "Back-to-School Ceasefire," have noticeably declined. The soldiers believe the Kremlin has probably pressured its proxy forces to avoid endangering the station and triggering an unnecessary humanitarian crisis in the region.

With the use of heavy weapons such as mortars now infrequent, the Donetsk filtration station has not been seriously damaged since late August, and has worked without interruption for the past couple of months.

Meanwhile, the soldiers play a deadly cat-and-mouse game of infiltration of the area around the station. When darkness comes, enemy soldiers make occasional sorties from the occupied village of Kruta



Ukrainian soldier Roman Gurzhenko surveys the front while on duty near the Donetsk filtration station near Avdiyivka in Donetsk Oblast on Oct. 10. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Balka east of the "Mole-rat" and approach Ukrainian lines.

"At night, sniper teams need to scan almost every square meter of the gray zone in front of us through thermal vision scopes," Gurzhenko says. "That's not an easy thing to do: the eyes get tired very quickly with those devices, and there's always the temptation to pay less attention

when you don't see anything suspicious for many hours."

"And don't forget that our 'colleagues' on the other side are out hunting for us every night."

Sniper duels in the area often cause casualties.

"Recently one of ours took out a militant while his squad was crawling through the bushes to take up an observation position halfway to the village," adds another sniper, Leonid Kucher.

"His body was left in the open for a couple of days before someone decided to try and recover it. We didn't stop them."

"Since then, no one else has messed with us — so far."

## 'Prepare for action!'

Towards the end of the day, the thunder of combat starts to get much louder and closer.

The soldiers, cool-headed and cheerful as usual, get up and stare at the enemy lines through binoculars. If shelling starts, everyone must rush along the line of trenches to take cover inside the nearest of the narrow dugouts that dot the line, which are heavily fortified with a thick layer of concrete.



A Ukrainian soldier sits in a dugout at combat positions near the Donetsk filtration station east of Avdiyivka in Donetsk Oblast, some 580 kilometers southeast of Kyiv, on Oct. 10. (Volodymyr Petrov)

"Everyone, prepare for action! Man the guns!" the radio sets on the soldiers' shoulders buzz. A neighboring combat position has just been fired on by Russian-led forces, and Ukrainian machine guns are quickly authorized to return fire.

This time the firefight lasts only for a couple of minutes. After a several sustained machine-gun bursts from neighboring positions, the fighting dies down steadily, and the soldiers are given the order to cease firing.

Luckily, there are no casualties this time.

"That happens here from time to time as well," says medic Andriy Aliamskyi as he walks along the trenches. "The militants just probe our defenses, checking if we have relocated our firing holes. In return, our guys strike back to let them know we're still paying attention."

"That's just another day in action."

Day after day, the fighting around the Donetsk filtration station goes on, with no end in sight. Neither side is in a position to knock the enemy back and take the crucial asset under their control.

The reconnaissance company deployed near the station will soon leave the area: During his surprise visit to Avdiyivka on Oct. 22, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said the 72nd Brigade would be withdrawn from the war zone, after a year of steadfastly defending the front-line city.

But the fighting for the station continues to take a toll on the Black Brigade's scouts. Mykola Larin, one of the soldiers who was manning the "Mole-rat" trenches when the Kyiv Post visited them on Oct. 10, was killed just six days later in an enemy mortar attack.

He was only 25. ■

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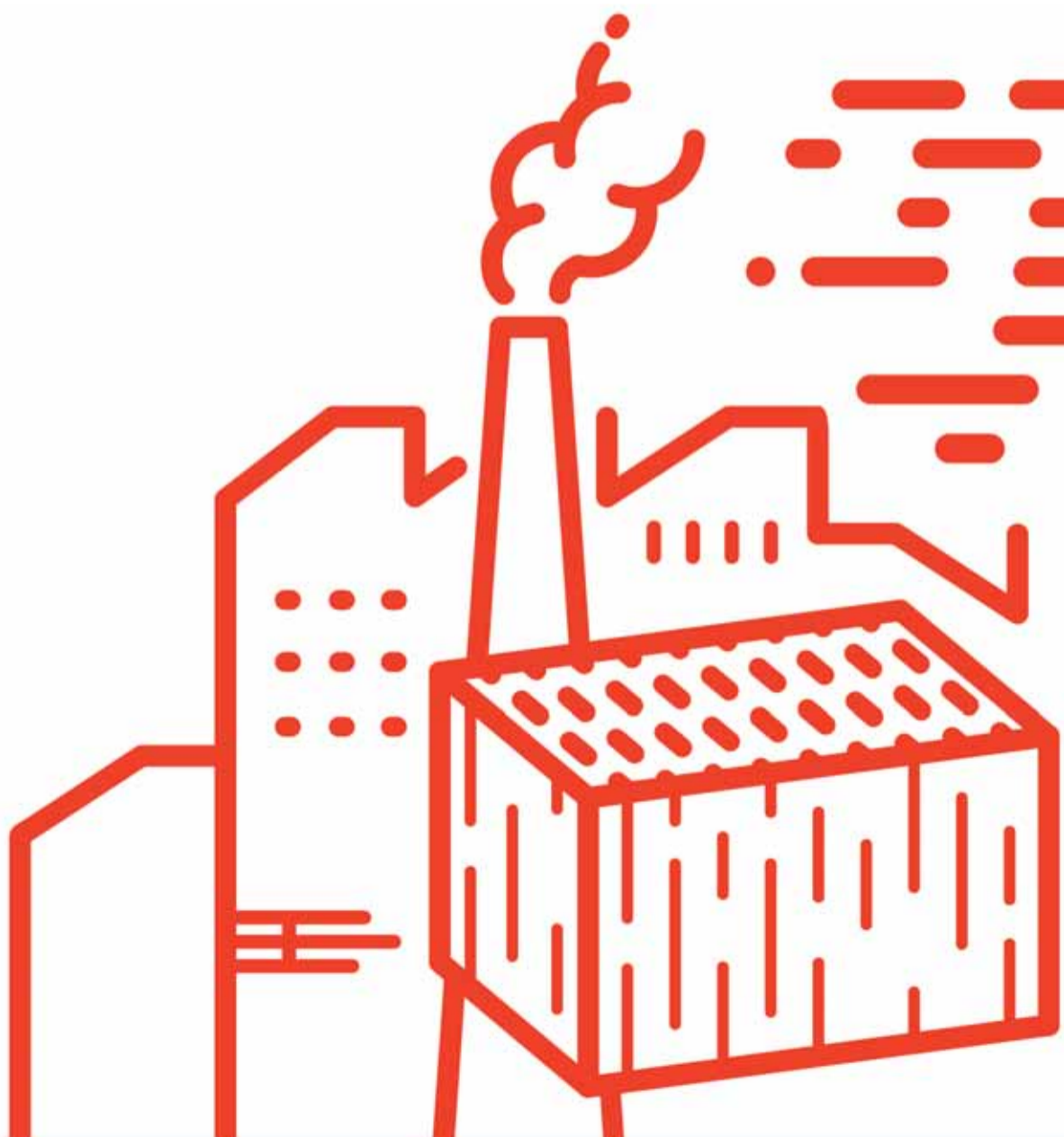
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# Latest bombing incident in capital wounds lawmaker

BY OLENA GONCHAROVA,  
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As Russia's war in the Donbas simmers on, Kyiv is becoming an urban battlefield, with car bombings and assassinations occurring with disturbingly greater frequency, conjuring up memories of the wild and violent 1990s of the early independent years following the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The latest bomb attack in Kyiv, on the night of Oct. 25, killed two people and injured three others. The injured included the bomb's intended target — Ukrainian lawmaker Ihor Mosiychuk of the Radical Party. Political analyst Vitaliy Bala was also injured.

The assassination attempt adds to the spiral of violence and instability that Russia's war against Ukraine has brought to the country.

According to various theories, the crime was the work of the Kremlin or simply the result of political or business conflicts.

The explosion took place at around 10 p.m. as Mosiychuk and several other people were leaving the studio of the television station Espresso TV in Kyiv's Solomyanskiy district.

Ukraine's State Security Service, better known as the SBU, has categorized the incident as a terrorist attack. Officials said that the bomb was planted on a motorbike parked near the exit of the TV station. Video of the blast posted online appears to confirm this report.

Mosiychuk's bodyguard Ruslan Kushnir, 31, and former Interior Ministry employee Mykhailo Mormil, 36, who was passing by, were killed by the blast.

Kushnir, a former officer of unpopular and now disbanded Berkut riot police, leaves a pregnant wife and a four-year-old daughter. After coming out of surgery, Mosiychuk wrote on Facebook that he is alive thanks to Kushnir.

"Life is not black and white: it turned out that a Ukrainian nationalist, a 'fascist' as some call me, was saved by a Berkut (officer). This is a sign that Ukrainians need to unite in the face of a common enemy, and not to seek enemies in one another," Mosiychuk said.

Mosiychuk's press service said that the lawmaker was the target of the blast. He was hospitalized but didn't suffer life-threatening injuries.

Political analyst Bala was hospitalized and required surgery. A female passerby is also in hospital in a critical condition after suffering head injuries.

Experts say such attacks are undermining Ukraine's image abroad.

"Such terrorist acts are aimed at intimidating people," says Oleksiy Holobutsky, an analyst at Situations Modeling Agency, a Kyiv political consulting firm founded by Bala, one of the blast's victims. "In any case, they work to destabilize the situation in the country, regardless of who is the subject of an assassination attempt."

For Western countries, Holobutsky said, such explosions reinforce conclusions that Ukraine is unstable.

## Suspected organizers

Pavlo Kononenko, a deputy chief prosecutor of Kyiv, said investigators of the crime were pursuing three lines of inquiry: Russian intelligence services' involvement, Mosiychuk's political activities and personal motives.

Mosiychuk himself blamed the Kremlin for the assassination attempt. Oleksandr Danylyuk, an activist who served as an advisor to then-Defense Minister Valeriy Geletay in 2014, said on Oct. 19 that Russian intelligence services were planning to kill a Ukrainian opposition lawmaker.

A related theory is that Chechen strongman Ramzan Kadyrov, an ally of Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, could be involved.

In December 2014, Mosiychuk published a video showing him shooting at Kadyrov's photo and pledging to help Chechen rebels overthrow Kadyrov.

Mosiychuk's "puppeteer is based somewhere in Europe or the West," Kadyrov told Russian television channel Rossiya 1 shortly after Mosiychuk published the video. "They're sick of him and want to get rid of him and say that Kadyrov did this. They'll kill him soon unless we get him first."

Kadyrov also said that either Mosiychuk would apologize, or he, Kadyrov, and his associates would "punish (Mosiychuk) according to his crimes."



Lawmaker Ihor Mosiychuk attends a hearing on Mykola Kokhanivsky, leader of the OUN Battalion, at Kyiv's Svyatoshynsky court on Oct. 24. The murder attempt on Mosiychuk could be linked to the conflict between Kokhanivsky, who was backed by Mosiychuk, and Ruslan Kochmala, at whom Kokhanivsky has shot. (Volodymyr Petrov)



Former Interior Ministry employee Mykhailo Mormil (L) and Mosiychuk's bodyguard Ruslan Kushnir were killed by the blast. (Courtesy)



"We don't miss, and shoot on target when necessary and where necessary," Kadyrov added. "If there's a court warrant, we'll get him, and it doesn't matter whether he's in Europe or America."

Some have blamed Kadyrov for the murder of Chechen-Georgian Ali Timayev, also known as Timur Makhauri, in September and for a murder attempt on his Chechen opponents Amina Okuyeva and Adam Osmayev in June. Both crimes took place in Kyiv.

Kadyrov's associates have been convicted of killing Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov and Kadyrov's political opponents Sulim Yamadayev and Umar Israilov. Austrian police believe Israilov's murder was ordered by Kadyrov, which the Chechen leader denies.

Another theory is that the murder attempt on Mosiychuk is linked to a conflict that involves Mykola Kokhanivsky, the leader of the nationalist Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists Battalion.

Mosiychuk defended Kokhanivsky in court after he was detained on Oct. 21 and charged with shooting at

Ruslan Kochmala, a former fighter of the Right Sector, Azov and Odin volunteer battalions, with a non-lethal gun. Kokhanivsky argued that he and his friends had been attacked by Kochmala and his associates.

Kokhanivsky attributed the scuffle to a conflict with Kochmala over control of a house in Kyiv that reportedly belongs to fugitive former Deputy Prime Minister Serhiy Arbuzov. Currently, veterans of Russia's war against Ukraine and refugees from the Donbas are squatting at the house. Several hours after the murder attempt on Mosiychuk, a fire broke out at Arbuzov's house.

## Mosiychuk's biography

Mosiychuk has a checkered past.

During the first years of Ukraine's independence, he worked as a journalist and later became involved in nationalist UNA-UNSO organization in his native Poltava Oblast. Later he moved to Vasylkiv in Kyiv Oblast and was elected to the local city council.

In 2011, Mosiychuk was found guilty of planning to blow up the now dismantled monument to Soviet leader Vladimir Lenin in Boryspil in

what was widely believed to be a politically motivated case.

Mosiychuk, together with his fellows from the nationalist Patriot of Ukraine group, Volodymyr Shpara and Serhii Bevza, were held in pre-trial detention for two years. They were dubbed "the Vasylkiv terrorists." Mosiychuk was released shortly after the EuroMaidan Revolution and later joined Azov Battalion as their press officer. He entered Ukraine's parliament in 2014 on the Radical Party ticket.

Mosiychuk has also been involved in corruption scandals.

In 2015, the Verkhovna Rada stripped Mosiychuk of immunity from prosecution, and he was arrested and charged with bribery. The Prosecutor General's Office released video footage in which he discusses bribes. However, later the courts canceled Mosiychuk's arrest, citing numerous procedural violations.

## Deadly trail

The explosion is the latest in a series of deadly blasts and assassinations targeting politicians, officials, and journalists in the capital. None of the cases have been solved.

The series of high-profile assassinations began in July 2016 when a car bomb killed Ukrainian-Belarusian journalist Pavel Sheremet who worked for the news website Ukrayinska Pravda. He had been critical of both Russian and Ukrainian authorities. One of the most high-profile of the recent murders was that of former Russian lawmaker turned Kremlin critic Denis Voronenkov, who was gunned down in broad daylight in Kyiv in March.

Colonel Maksym Shapoval, an intelligence officer at Ukraine's Defense Ministry, was blown up in his car on June 27 in Kyiv. Ukraine's law enforcement agencies blamed Russia for the murder. ■



Medical workers carry a wounded person to an ambulance after the explosion in Kyiv late on Oct. 25. (AFP)



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October 27, 2017

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## Movie shows contrasting sides of ballet star Polunin



A screenshot from a video of Sergei Polunin dancing to "Take Me to Church" by Irish pop musician Hozier. The 2015 video directed by David LaChapelle got more than 20 million views on YouTube and put Polunin into spotlight. (Courtesy)

BY TOMA ISTOMINA  
ISTOMINA@KYIVPOST.COM

A new documentary film "Dancer," about Ukrainian ballet star Sergei Polunin, portrays the artist's two contrasting personalities — that of a high achiever, and that of a rebel.

At the age of 19, Polunin became the youngest principal dancer in the history of the Royal Ballet in London. But he later scandalized the public and became the company's most controversial principal — getting tattooed, partying and taking drugs.

Directed by U.S. filmmaker Steven Cantor, the documentary combines a series of interviews with Polunin's family and friends, as well as lots of

footage from the dancer's childhood and adolescence.

Polunin, now 27, came to Ukraine to present the movie in his homeland himself on Oct. 24 and to speak about the changes that have taken place in his life since the shooting of the film, which was made around three years ago.

"When I dance, I don't think how I dance. It's who I am," Polunin says early in the movie. But he himself casts doubt of this claim numerous times later in the film.

The director introduces Polunin to the audience through the media headlines popping up on the screen one by one, with rock group Black Sabbath's "Iron Man" playing in the

background.

"He has the elevation, the jump, the spin. It's almost too good to be true," one voice says.

"His walk, his arrogance, he's a god. You cannot keep your eyes off him," another voice adds.

Dynamic and pretentious, the introduction draws viewers in and proclaims Polunin to be a phenomenal artist.

But then Polunin talks rawly and frankly about his poor childhood beginnings, and the audience is given a detailed reconstruction of the artist's early life.

"Dancer" highlights all the milestones of Polunin's life — moving to Kyiv from Kherson, a city in

southern Ukraine, and studying at Kyiv Choreographic Academy, then moving to London and going to the Royal Ballet School, joining the Royal Ballet, becoming its principal dancer, and eventually quitting.

Polunin is outstanding dancer, who has always stood out in any class he attended, and who has been compared to one of the greatest ballet dancers in history, Rudolf Nureyev. Yet he still questions his vocation, and his role in life.

"The audience was shocked. Why is he not happy? What can we do to make him happy? And he was like

more Polunin on page 27

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**Night Owl**

WITH MARIYA KAPINOS  
KAPINOS@KYIVPOST.COM

### First witch bar in Kyiv serves potions for all tastes

Witches are believed to gather at high bald hills at nighttime to cast spells and do the rituals. But Kyiv witches are cooler than that: They just got themselves a bar.

Lysa Hora, or literally "bald hill," opened in April in the quiet part of the city center on Bulvarno-Kudriavska Street.

The spot that calls itself a witch bar has all attributes of a magic community. Its cocktail menu has "magic drinks" that help attract money, love, and health. There are brooms in the corner for the guests who dislike Uber. The entrance is guarded by a raven.

Lysa Hora was opened by three women with interest in magic — PR agent Olesya Ostafieva, 33, journalist Alla Kozakova, 31, and IT company vice president Nadiya Omelchenko, 39.

The bar became popular in an instance.

"We opened on a Tuesday, and on Sunday we had to refuse 62 people because the place was full," recalls Ostafieva.

#### Magic rituals

The bar serves 34 alcohol cocktails. When making an order, one needs to pick a card from a deck offered by a waiter, where every card is a cocktail.

"We let the destiny choose the drink," the bar co-owner Kozakova says with a smile.

Some of the drinks come with more rituals. For example, the Philosopher's Stone cocktail is served with a small bag of enchanted salt which one has to scatter on their way from a bank to home in order to attract wealth.

Nine drinks on the menu are called mystical, because they help attract certain goods, like wealth or love, while 13 drinks are made with herbs according to old Ukrainian recipes, and four drinks are made using all four elements: fire, water, cinnamon which symbolizes earth, and smoke which stands for air.

Surprisingly enough, some cocktails come with a tittle of moral judgment.

"The Seven-Year Love cocktail will help a wife build a stronger relationship with her husband, yet it won't be of any use for a mistress," says Kozakova.

Lysa Hora works with an herbalist who collects herbs for the dishes and drinks in accordance with the moon calendar.

The coffee here is also said to be magical. Coffee with car-

more Bar on page 28

# Life of 'rebel' ballet star Polunin shown in 'Dancer' documentary

Polunin from page 6

'Well — nothing,' another voice says in the movie.

Through interviews with Polunin's family, friends and teachers, the film attempts to unravel the reasons for the dancer's self-doubt and desperate desire to run wild.

## Fighting demons

"When you take off and hover in the air, and your body lets you do that for a couple of seconds, it's worth dancing for," Polunin says in the film.

Despite being gifted with pure, outstanding talent, Polunin, says at times he feels like a prisoner in his own body.

"Every time I dance and I get tired I'm just like 'Why am I doing this?' I cannot skip a day, though I'm in too much pain, my shoulders get stuck, and my back starts to hurt."

Polunin was put under pressure from a very young age.

When he moved to Kyiv with his mother at the age of nine, his father and grandmother had to move abroad and work hard to pay for Polunin's education. He had choreography and theory classes every day, and little opportunity for a normal childhood.

After moving to London at the



A screenshot from the documentary film "Dancer" shows Sergei Polunin performing in the ballet "Giselle" on the stage of the Taras Shevchenko National Opera and Ballet Theater of Ukraine in Kyiv on Nov. 17, 2013. (BBC)

age of 13, he was totally immersed in dancing, with strict limits and rules.

He says that in ballet schools, students learn how to keep quiet and follow orders.

"The teachers were never satisfied if you looked the wrong way or made a wrong step. You constantly have to turn a blind eye to people and muster up courage to take this extra step."

Polunin was torn between loving ballet and hating having no voice. In the end, it led him to quit the Royal

Ballet, yet keep dancing.

The director follows Polunin to Russia, where he performs in theaters, and to Ukraine, where he faces frank conversations with his mother and an emotional meeting with his first trainer.

Finally, "Dancer" reaches its culmination with the video of Polunin dancing to a 2014 song by Irish pop group Hozier, "Take Me to Church." It was another key point in his life — he had planned it to be the final performance in his career as a dancer.

But it didn't turn out the way he expected. The video has now reached over 20 million views on YouTube, received worldwide critical acclaim, and has inspired dancers around the world.

But more importantly, the performance seemed to give Polunin the liberation he desired — after playing hundreds of roles, for the first time he had told his own story, expressing emotion through his dance moves.

"While I was dancing 'Take Me to Church,' I didn't talk to anybody. It was a long shoot, and for almost all of those hours I was crying," Polunin said.

## Polunin today

Polunin is now continuing to perform as a ballet dancer around the world. In addition, he is working on his own educational and dancing project, which aims to inform and support dancers.

He says that unlike opera singers, actors and athletes, dancers don't have agents or managers, and can't travel with performances. Instead, they stay attached to one ballet company, where they have no voice.

"This hinders our development. We cannot stand up for ourselves, and the industry suffers," he said at a presser after the screening of

"Dancer" in Kyiv on Oct. 24.

Polunin is also taking his first steps into the movie business. He appears in the 2017 adaptation of Agatha Christie's "Murder on the Orient Express," starring Kenneth Branagh, Johnny Depp, Judi Dench and Michelle Pfeiffer, and the thriller "Red Sparrow" starring Jennifer Lawrence.

Polunin says that he works even more than he used to, but is now happy. He has learned how to take responsibility onto himself, rather than to blame other people when things go wrong, he says.

"It's more like a teenage state of mind when you blame everything around," he says. "It has changed. When you grow up, you see everything in different colors." ■

## Dancer

Kyiv Cinema (19 Velyka Vasylkivska St.) Oct. 27–30, Nov. 1. 7 p.m. Oct. 31. 9:15 p.m. Hr 90–100  
Zhovten (26 Kostiantynivska St.) Oct. 27–29, Oct. 31, Nov. 1. 10:35 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 8 p.m. Oct. 30. 10:50 a.m., 2:15 p.m., 8 p.m. Hr 45–85  
Multiplex (Lavina Mall, 6D Berkoverstka St.) Oct. 27, 29–31. 9:25 p.m. Oct. 28. 3:30 p.m. Hr 65–145

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# Kyiv getting into spirit of Halloween

BY DARYNA KUZMENKO

There's still time to pick up a Halloween costume and join one of numerous parties in Kyiv celebrating the spookiest day of the year.

And for those who already have plans for Oct. 31, no worries: there are plenty of options on other days. Here are 12 events at which to celebrate Halloween.

## Ball of Evil Forces

To see a parade of evil forces, visit the Outlet Village Manufactura, a shopping center on Kyiv's outskirts designed to look like a village. For Halloween, it will stage a theater show "Dracula," hold science experiments for adults, put on Hogwarts School-themed events for kids, and sell special themed accessories at its market. Visitors will also be able to get zombie make-up, and visit a ball of evil forces afterwards. Everyone wearing a Halloween costume gets a sweet present too.

Meeting at 2 Peremohy Sq., near the National Circus of Ukraine. Oct. 28. 2 - 6 p.m. Free

## Halloween Bike Ride

Biking enthusiasts are invited to dress up in a scary costume and join the Halloween Bike Ride, which is to ride through the central streets of Kyiv and scare people. Those who don't have a bike can rent one at 35 Petra Sahaidachnoho St. Call +38063 639 9377 for more details.

Meeting at Kontraktova Square, near Skovoroda Monument. Oct. 28. 12 - 6 p.m. Free

## Halloween Motorcycle Ride

If bicycles are too slow and too much effort, get on a motorcycle and join the "Halloween Ride Out." There will be a speed limit for the participants for safety reasons though, but not to worry - the slower the riders go, the more passersby will be able to examine their scary outfits.



Men with skull-like makeup celebrate Halloween on Sofiiska Square in Kyiv on Oct. 31, 2015. (Volodymyr Petrov)

Meeting at 2 Peremohy Sq., near the National Circus of Ukraine. Oct. 28. 2 - 6 p.m. Free

## Photo Day in the Library

The Scientific and Technical Library in Kyiv, an Instagram-worthy space with endless corridors, long stairs and floor-to-ceiling book shelves, invites people to a Halloween photoshoot on Oct. 28. Anyone can stop by and join in, as a photographer or a model.

KPI Library, 37 Peremohy Sq. Oct. 28. 1:13 - 5 p.m. Free

## Zombie Walk

Don't freak out if there are mutants, zombies, and other evil creatures to be seen in Kyiv's center on Oct. 28 - a zombie walk will start at the Golden Gate, and march through Taras Shevchenko Park, Khreshchatyk Street, and end up at Poshtova Square. Participants will be offered tea with pumpkin jam and creepy sweets. To get made up as a monster for an additional fee, register beforehand at [www.goo.gl/8DMqJH](http://www.goo.gl/8DMqJH).

Meeting at Golden gate near

Yaroslav the Wise Monument. Oct. 28. 1:30 - 6:30 p.m. Free

## Festival of Fear

To celebrate Halloween at this event, a mere costume will not be enough. One will need to get a real scare. Try to get out of a horrifying quest room, take a selfie near props from a horror movie, participate in a contest of who can put their hands in a box with unknown contents the longest, cry, scream - and have fun.

Kvartal-M Business Center. 14 Ruslana Luzhevskoho Lane, Oct. 28-31. 6 p.m. - 12 a.m. Free

## Mexican Day of Dead

Belgian beer restaurant Brugge in Kyiv will throw a Mexican Halloween party for those who have passion for this country's traditional Day of the Dead. Guests will enjoy food, a dancing show by the Vatan show-ballet, and music by the cover band Tres Deseos.

Brugge. 8 Marshala Konieva St. Reserve table +38067 992 9191 Oct. 28. 8 p.m. - 3 a.m. Free

## Halloween Blood Donation

Those who don't like to celebrate Halloween can instead use the day to do a good deed. The American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine will hold an event called Halloween Blood Donation, and suggests donating blood for the patients of the Kyiv's hospitals. To participate, fill in the application form at [www.bit.ly/2z8GgV1](http://www.bit.ly/2z8GgV1).

Park Inn Hotel, 55 Velyka Vasylykivska St. Oct. 30. 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

## Stephen King Theme Party

The Beef meat & wine steakhouse invites fans of U.S. horror story author Stephen King to a Halloween party over a cocktail and a discussion about their favorite writer. Dress up as one of the characters from his books and come to the restaurant to eat a steak, take pictures at a themed Halloween photo zone, and listen to music.

Editor's Note: This story was produced as part of the Journalism Exchange Program, supported by the National Endowment for Democracy non-profit organization.

Beef meat & wine steakhouse. 11 Shota Rustaveli St. Reserve a table +38044 384 2804. Oct. 31. 8 p.m. - 12 a.m. Entrance free

## Halloween Run

Mere mortals, that is, adults, and little devils, meaning kids, can take part in a 3.4-kilometer and a 66-meter race, respectively. Everyone has to run holding a pumpkin of any size. The aim is to find a character dressed in a Death costume. The one who finds the Grim Reaper will get a tasty present. Registration for adults is already closed. Kids aged 1 to 12 years can still be registered at [www.athletic-events.com/events/448](http://www.athletic-events.com/events/448).

Meeting at Star Burger, 37 Petra Sahaidachnoho St. Oct. 31. 8 - 10 p.m. Hr 13

## Celebration in German-Speaking Club

The German-speaking club invites language-learners to spend Halloween night improving their German listening and speaking skills. The one who brings the most creative object related to Halloween to the meeting and those with the best costumes will get prizes.

Business Center Panorama. 20 Velyka Vasylykivska St., entrance 4, 10th floor. For more details, contact +38097 874 0063 (Olesja). Nov. 2. 7:15 - 8 p.m. Entrance free.

## 'Ghosts of the Circus' show

Clowns, marionettes, dolls, actors, and acrobats won't be making the audience laugh this Halloween during their show "Ghosts of the Circus," but frightening them. At the show, kids will also be able to buy candy - though not the regular kind, but in form of bloody eyes, for example.

National Circus of Ukraine, 2 Peremohy Sq. To buy tickets contact +38044 223 0283. Oct. 31, Nov. 1. 7 p.m. Hr 250-650 ■

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## Night Owl: Witch bar offers 'magical' cocktails, coffee

Bar from page 26

damom and pink salt is supposed to "open up hearts," coffee with honey and pepper promises to attract love, and coffee with thyme and peppermint takes all the troubles away. The food on the menu is mostly Ukrainian traditional.

The three owners are proud with Lysa Hora and believe that it was their destiny to open the first witch bar in Kyiv.

Every day it hosts a special guest: a fortuneteller, a runologist, an herbalist, or a numerologist, who offer their services for additional pay. On Halloween, the bar will have a special entertainment show.

Lysa Hora Bar. 9A Bulvarno-Kudriavska St. Open Mon - Fri, 5 p.m. - 1 a.m., Sat - Sun, 11 a.m., - 1 a.m. Cocktails are Hr 120 on average. To book a table: +38095 8139 599 ■



Visitors of Lysa Hora witch bar in Kyiv drink magic cocktails on Oct. 25. (Kostyantyn Chernichkin)

Principal dancer of the Berlin State Ballet Iana Salenko dances in a performance of "Marlene Dietrich" in the Palats Ukraina concert hall in Kyiv on Oct. 21. (Ksenia Orlova)



# Top ballerina tells what it takes to become the best

BY MARIYA KAPINOS  
KAPINOS@KYIVPOST.COM

When ballet dancer Iana Salenko was just 21, her career in Ukraine was already at a peak: She was a principal dancer at the National Ballet of Ukraine. It was 2005.

But soon it all ended. Later that year, the ballerina moved to Germany to be with her fiancé, a Berlin State Ballet dancer Marian Walter, where she had to start from scratch and work her way up once again.

Two years of eight-hour-long daily training sessions paid back: In 2007, Salenko became the prima ballerina at Berlin State Ballet.

"In Ukraine, I achieved success very quickly. Everything was so easy and I didn't appreciate it," Salenko says, adding that only in Germany did she understand how much she really loved ballet.

Salenko, now 34, returned to her hometown Kyiv on Oct. 21 to dance in "Marlene Dietrich," a performance dedicated to the German actress and singer who was noted for her humanitarian efforts during the World War II.

"Marlene was a very strong woman, but people forgot about her," says Salenko. "And I want to remind them of this amazing woman."

Salenko's partner in the Kyiv performance was her husband Walter, 36.

## New life

Salenko entered a ballet school in Kyiv at the age of 12, which is considered late. At first, she had to work harder than her classmates to catch up with them, yet soon her natural

gift for ballet revealed itself.

She left home at the age of 14 to study at the Pisarev Ballet School in Donetsk in eastern Ukraine. From 2000 to 2002 Salenko performed with the Donetsk Ballet and then joined the National Ballet of Ukraine.

To make a name for herself, she often participated in dance contests abroad.

"I understood that publicity is necessary to achieve success, so I was quite used to competitions," Salenko says.

At one of these contests in Vienna she met Walter, her future husband.

"It was love from the first sight," she says smiling. "He proposed to me two months after we met, and I said yes."

The couple decided to move to Berlin — the city Walter lived and worked in. For Salenko, it was a tough step. She had to leave her career in Ukraine, and her family didn't support her decision to move.

"I was only 21 years old, and my family wondered what I was doing," she says, adding that her husband's family seemed not to like her at first.

"Maybe they thought I just wanted to marry a foreigner," she says. "Of course, as time passed they understood how wrong they were."

While in Kyiv Salenko was a principal ballet dancer, in Berlin she had to start from the very beginning as a demi-soloist. She would receive only up to four leading parts a year. She didn't give up though, and says even became more devoted to her job than she had ever been before.

"When you put effort into something — it always pays back," says the ballerina.

Working hard day by day, in 2006

she was promoted to a ballet soloist and in 2007 — to a principal dancer.

Aside from that, she is also a guest artist with the Royal Ballet in London, and often performs across Europe.

## Family ties

It's been 13 years since Salenko married Walter. The couple has a nine-year-old son Marley.

For a ballerina, having a child is very challenging. Female dancers have to get back in shape really fast. Salenko succeeded: She was back on stage just two months after giving birth to her son.

She and her husband are often paired on the stage. Salenko recalls a staging of "Romeo and Juliet" in 2010, when she and Walter were given the leads in the reserve cast.

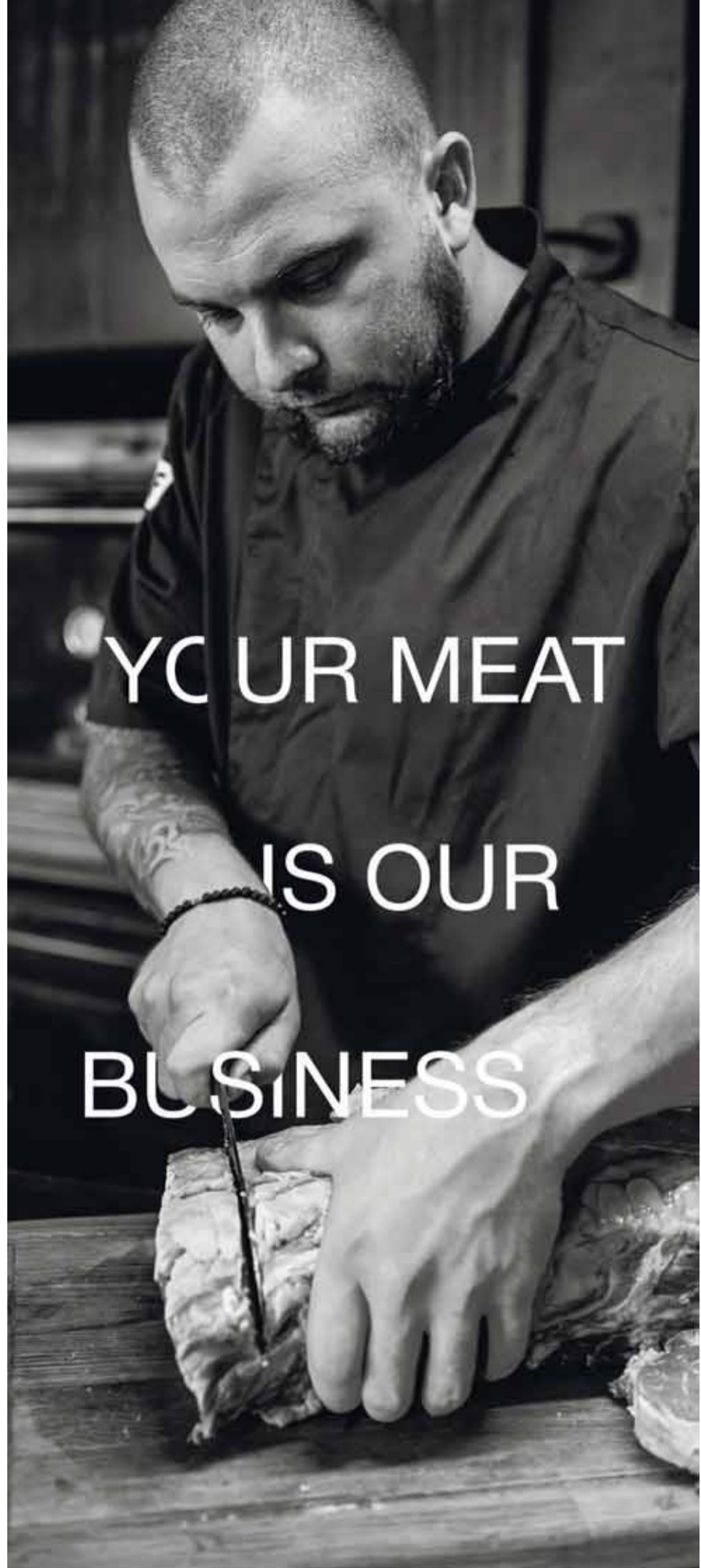
They had so much fun at the rehearsals, and did so well, that two days before the show, the choreographer said that he wanted them as his Romeo and Juliet.

"It was a scandal," Salenko recalls. "Another couple was supposed to dance in the show, they were rehearsing for a much longer time."

Salenko believes that she and her husband got the parts because the choreographer noticed the feelings they have for each other.

The key factor to success is to show emotion on stage, Salenko said. When all the moves are rehearsed and the technique is as close to perfection as possible, emotions and feelings are what distinguishes a ballerina from a prima ballerina.

"When you look at a prima ballerina, you can't take your eyes off her," says Salenko. ■



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# Anastasia Krasnosilska: Poroshenko will do many tricks to block anti-corruption court

Poroshenko from page 1

years in fruitless discussion. The same approach is advocated by the president's official representative in parliament, Iryna Lytsenko, and head of the People's Front faction Maksym Byrbak. The two blocs have 216 seats in the 422-seat legislature.

All other draft laws on judicial reform were submitted by the president without the creation of working groups in the parliament. Moreover, draft laws supported by Poroshenko were adopted by parliament in a lightning-fast manner. For instance, the law on judicial reform was submitted on May 30, 2016 and adopted by parliament already on June 2, 2016. Also, the so-called law on reintegration of the war-torn Donbas was submitted on Oct. 4 of this year and adopted two days later.

It is obvious that creation of an anti-corruption court is at the bottom of Poroshenko's priorities and he is not willing to invest effort into finding support.

## Step II Fail to withdraw draft law 6011 as a pretext to not submit new law

For many months, the Presidential Administration has been trying to excuse the absence of a proposal on the anti-corruption court with the existence of draft law #6011, also involving an anti-corruption court, and submitted by a group of members of parliament. Formally, a new draft law may not be registered if a draft law exists on the same issue. Both the president and parliament have ignored this rule on a number of other occasions, most recently involving the submission of a presidential draft law #7230 on abolishing parliamentary immunity while disregarding registered draft law #6773, from 158 MPs, on the same issue.

Withdrawal of draft law #6011

requires not only the initiative of its authors, but also the consent of parliament. Authors of the draft law #6011 have already submitted a formal request to withdraw the bill, but the ruling parliamentary factions may fail to support.

In such an event, Poroshenko may even refuse to discuss his legal initiative on an anti-corruption court until the spring 2018 session of parliament, when bill #6011 may be withdrawn by authors without prior consent from the parliament. However, formally it will once again be the parliament that does not allow the president to submit a new bill.

## Step III Request another opinion from the Venice Commission

Lytsenko, the president's representative in parliament and wife of Prosecutor General Iryna Lutsenko, announced her plan to send the president's draft law on the anti-corruption court to the Venice Commission for reconsideration. It's another stalling tactic. Adoption of opinions normally takes up to three months by the commission. The legal justification for such a move is even weaker. Unless the president intends to violate the European standards of judicial independence and existing recommendations of the Venice Commission, a new opinion is not required. Existing guidance of the commission is precise enough.

## Step IV Initiate creation of regional anti-corruption courts instead of 1 court with national jurisdiction

While the Venice Commission clearly recommended Ukraine to create on specialized anti-corruption court, the Presidential Administration may offer regional anti-corruption courts

as first instance judicial institutions. This approach has already been voiced by the Prosecutor General Yuriy Lytsenko.

However, such an approach directly contradicts recommendations of the Venice Commission.

The Commission has also analyzed the draft law #6529 on anti-corruption judicial chambers on local and regional level and has made a clear conclusion: rationale and justification of such a far-reaching measure remains unclear. The Commission has underlined, that "the approach of draft law No. 6529 deviates from the international obligations of Ukraine to set up a specialised anti-corruption court and from the original idea to give a response to the inefficient adjudication of cases investigated and prosecuted by NABU and SAPO, i.e. of high-level corruption cases".

Why shall the President's Administration want to establish regional anticorruption courts? Creation of 27 regional anticorruption courts with at least 162 judges (at least 6 for each court) obviously takes much longer, than creation of one court with 70 judges. In the meantime, cases on high profile corruption will remain blocked or will be undermined in existing distrusted local courts.

## Step V Create an appellate anti-corruption court among Supreme Court judges

Since the political class is bound to create an independent first instance, or lower, anti-corruption court, they may attempt to retain control over anti-corruption justice in a different way: Avoid selection of appellate anti-corruption judges by an independent competition with participation of international donors. To accomplish this strategy,

the Presidential Administration may offer to create an appellate anti-corruption chamber in the Supreme Court from recently selected judges – including those with poor human rights records, experience in political persecutions and questionable assets.

However, the Venice Commission clearly recommended that Ukraine select first instance and appellate anti-corruption judges with the participation of international donors.

## Step VI Involve international donors in honorary or advisory roles only

A key recommendation of the Venice Commission: "temporarily, international organizations and donors active in providing support for anti-corruption programs in Ukraine should be given a crucial role in the body which is competent for selecting specialized anti-corruption judges, similar to the role envisaged for them in draft law No. 6011."

In this regard, the commission offered Ukraine two options. The first option is to create a special body for the selection of anti-corruption judges – half nominated by the High Qualification Commission of Judges and the other half by international donors. The second model envisages the role of international donors' nominees as associated members of the High Qualification Commission of Judges, specifically for the selection of anti-corruption judges.

In claiming his support for the creation of an anti-corruption court a few day before the opinion of the Venice Commission was released, Poroshenko said that "Ukrainians are able to form such a court," a clear statement that international participation is not welcome.

To pacify international donors, the Presidential Administration may offer

them roles as observers or honorary consultants as long as they are not allowed to make any decisions. Any advisory recommendation is easily overruled, manipulated or ignored. In the selection of the new Supreme Court, for example, 60 percent of the opinions of the advisory Public Integrity Council were ignored.

The Presidential Administration may also adopt more sophisticated techniques to prevent international participation, such as adoption of unrealistic rules or timelines. Poroshenko may even allow the High Qualification Commission of Judges or even the State Security Service to vet international nominees and block their appointment without any justification.

## Step VII Give anti-corruption court jurisdiction over all corruption crimes

According to the Venice Commission's opinion, jurisdiction of the High Anti-Corruption Court should comply with the jurisdiction of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine.

However, the Presidential Administration may assign the court jurisdiction over all corruption-related crimes and even over cases of administrative misconduct.

According to the official statistics of the Supreme Court, 4,444 corruption crimes and corruption-related administrative misconduct were filed to the courts in the first half of 2017 alone. Among them are only 25 crimes involving high-profile corruption. With a broad jurisdiction, the anti-corruption court will not be able to focus on the most serious and high-profile cases, which have been blocked by the unreformed courts – creating the need for a specialized, independent anti-corruption court.

Anastasia Krasnosilska is project manager for the Anti-Corruption Action Center in Ukraine. ■

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PATH is an international organization that drives transformative innovation to save lives and improve health, especially among women and children. We accelerate innovation across five platforms—vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, devices, and system and service innovations—that harness our entrepreneurial insight, scientific and public health expertise, and passion for health equity. By mobilizing partners around the world, we take innovation to scale, working alongside countries primarily in Africa and Asia to tackle their greatest health needs. Together, we deliver measurable results that disrupt the cycle of poor health.

Ukraine has one of the highest tuberculosis (TB) disease burdens in Europe and Eurasia. Three main factors fuel the epidemic: numerous TB strains resistant to multiple drugs; growing rates of HIV infection, which makes people especially vulnerable to developing TB disease; and setbacks to the health system during years of political, social, and economic transition.

PATH has been providing technical assistance to Ukraine's TB control efforts since 2001. In close collaboration with local, national, and international partners, we're expanding the reach of End TB strategy, the internationally recommended strategy for TB control. We've also worked to increase services for people with TB and HIV and reduce the stigma and discrimination surrounding these conditions.

PATH is seeking above-mentioned staff for its TB control activities to be carried out in Ukraine in 2017-2019 under the Challenge TB (CTB) Project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Also, PATH looks forward to executing TB diagnosis and treatment components to improve the prevention, detection and treatment of tuberculosis (TB) and drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR TB) through technical assistance in harmony with international best practice and national guidelines. Duties may require domestic and international travel and a flexible work schedule to permit for either early morning or late evening teleconference calls or assignments.

**To be considered for the position, please apply [www.path.org/Jobs/JobListings/Europe/Public Health](http://www.path.org/Jobs/JobListings/Europe/PublicHealth)**

Applications submitted elsewhere will not be considered!  
TB Program Officer, CTB Ukraine (Tracking Code 8484)

PATH is dedicated to building an inclusive workforce where diversity is valued.

PATH is an equal opportunity employer. Every qualified applicant will be considered for employment. PATH does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or orientation, genetic information, age, national origin, marital status, disability status, political ideology, military or protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state, or local law.



PATH is currently recruiting for:

**Program Assistant, to provide support to the Serving Life Ukraine project.**

PATH is an international organization that drives transformative innovation to save lives and improve health, especially among women and children. We accelerate innovation across five platforms—vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, devices, and system and service innovations—that harness our entrepreneurial insight, scientific and public health expertise, and passion for health equity. By mobilizing partners around the world, we take innovation to scale, working alongside countries primarily in Africa and Asia to tackle their greatest health needs. Together, we deliver measurable results that disrupt the cycle of poor health.

Ukraine's human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), tuberculosis (TB), and viral hepatitis rates are among the highest in Europe. Rates are especially high within pre-trial detention centers (SIZOs), prisons, and among newly released prisoners and those on probation, due to the dangerous, synergistic interaction of: 1) prison populations drawn largely from marginalized segments of society, many with substance use disorders (SUDs); 2) confined, unhealthy living conditions where airborne transmission of pathogens is facilitated; 3) unsafe drug injection and sexual practices within and outside of prison; 4) interruption of care for TB, HIV, SUDs, and hepatitis upon prison entry, transfer, and exit; and 5) poor quality health care and lack of access to diagnostic and treatment services in closed settings.

PATH is seeking a Program Assistant for the Serving Life project to be carried out in twelve regions of Ukraine in 2017-2022 funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. The overall goal of the project is to reduce HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and Hepatitis C (HCV) transmission through detection, care, and treatment for people living with HIV, TB, DR-TB and HCV in pre-trial detention centers, prisons, and post-prison settings in Ukraine. The activity will increase case detection and enhance linkage, retention in care, and treatment for detainees, prisoners, and ex-prisoners living with HIV, TB and HCV. The activity will be implemented in close cooperation with and in support of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) and the Ministry of Health (MOH) of Ukraine. Duties may require domestic and international travel and a flexible work schedule to permit for either early morning or late evening teleconference calls or assignments.

**To be considered for the position, please apply [www.path.org/Jobs/JobListings/Europe/Administrative](http://www.path.org/Jobs/JobListings/Europe/Administrative)**

Applications submitted elsewhere will not be considered!  
Program Assistant, Serving Life Ukraine (Tracking Code 8445)

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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 Ministry of Health of Ukraine (MoH):**

- Technical Writer.

**For the National Deinstitutionalization Reform Office (NDIRO):**

- Regional DI Implementation Lead;
- Institution Transformation Lead;
- Social Services Specialist;
- Educational Specialist.

**For the Export Promotion Office (EPO):**

- Export Education Sector Lead.

For more detailed information about preferred qualifications and skills, indicative duties and responsibilities, as well as applying procedure, please visit web-site:

[edge.in.ua/vacancies/](http://edge.in.ua/vacancies/)



**The Kyiv Post is seeking the public's help in recovering its lost archives.**

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**Thank you.**

Please contact  
[news@kyivpost.com](mailto:news@kyivpost.com)  
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**PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST  
(TB & Infectious Diseases Specialist)  
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Ukraine  
SOLICITATION NO.: USAID-02-2017**



**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

The USAID Project Management Specialist for TB & Infectious Diseases is posted in the Office of Health (OH), USAID/Ukraine and serves as the foreign service national (FSN) advisor on the tuberculosis (TB) portfolio which includes TB/HIV co-infection and hepatitis C (Hep C). The incumbent will collaborate closely with Office of Health staff and liaise with colleagues from the USG, Government of Ukraine (GOU), UN technical agencies, the World Bank (WB), other donors, and implementing partners. The incumbent will provide strategic, management, and technical advice to the USAID/Ukraine Mission and OH on TB and infectious diseases, serve as a senior technical liaison to the Global Fund (GF), and represent the Mission to the GOU, oblast health authorities, international technical organizations, and other collaborating partners. S/he will serve as a principal TB technical resource on the GF's Country Coordination Mechanism (CCM) and other relevant technical working groups.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:**

**A. Education:** A minimum of master's degree in public health, infectious disease, health systems, health management, or related to HIV/AIDS is required.

**B. Prior Work Experience:** Minimum of five years of managing and implementing public health programs. Technical knowledge of comprehensive TB and HIV treatment and care programs. Experience in donor-funded programs and with key international TB initiatives and organizations.

**C. Language Proficiency:** Level IV fluency in English, Ukrainian and Russian: – fluency in both written and spoken language, including the ability to translate, on occasion when the job holder may need to act as an interpreter. The ability to write highly technical health program-related documentation in English is essential.

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:** November 2, 2017, by e-mail attachment only to Human Resources Office at [KyivHR@state.gov](mailto:KyivHR@state.gov) Include Solicitation number and position title in the subject line of your email. The full package includes: CV, cover letter and DS-174 ([www.usaid.gov/forms/ds-174/pdf](http://www.usaid.gov/forms/ds-174/pdf)) See the full version of this Announcement at: [www.usaid.gov/ukraine/work-with-us/careers](http://www.usaid.gov/ukraine/work-with-us/careers)

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