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**Forbes' richest**  
Eight Ukrainians, led by Rinat Akhmetov, make Forbes' magazine's billionaire's list. Meanwhile, Akhmetov's Shakhtar Donetsk soccer team advances in European champions' league quarterfinals. → 9, 23



# KyivPost

vol. 16, issue 10 INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST www.kyivpost.com March 11, 2011



## Runaway Costs

When the games are over, what will Ukrainians be left with from the Euro 2012 soccer championship? For sure, overpriced stadiums, roads and other improvements that will cost taxpayers \$20 billion. Critics say the costs are inflated by at least several billion dollars because of no-bid contracts. Who is benefitting from these uncompetitive practices? Will Euro 2012 turn out to be a national boondoggle?

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH  
RACHKEVYCH@KYIVPOST.COM

When Ukraine and Poland won the bid four years ago to co-host the Euro 2012 championships, even non-soccer fans welcomed Ukraine's new opportunity to attract investment and overhaul its Soviet infrastructure.

Preparations accelerated after President Viktor Yanukovich took office last year. However, progress is coming at a huge cost to the state budget, transparency, → 14



**INSIDE:**

- Faking it with impunity: a way of doing business in Ukraine. Page 8
- Top 10 stories of the week on [www.kyivpost.com](http://www.kyivpost.com) and [www.kyivpost.ua](http://www.kyivpost.ua). Page 2
- Luxury goods flowing into Mezhyhirya? Page 10
- WikiLeaks: Putin does not respect Yanukovich or Ukraine's sovereignty. Page 11

A Jan. 24 view of re-construction efforts at Kyiv's Olympic Stadium, a Soviet-built stadium that will host the championship game for the Union of European Football Associations' Euro 2012 soccer tournament. Four cities in Poland and Ukraine will co-host the tournament. The games had been expected to attract huge investments into construction of hotels and airport terminals in Ukraine, but so far most of the investments into infrastructure improvements have been largely picked up by taxpayers, who are expected to shell out \$20 billion for overpriced stadiums and roads. (AFP)

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# Fact-checking Yanukovych

**Editor's Note:** This is the first in a periodic series of articles that will focus on how well President Viktor Yanukovych's words match his actions.

BY OKSANA GRYTSENKO  
GRYTSENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

How big is the gap between what President Viktor Yanukovych promises and what he delivers, between what he thinks is true and what really is true?

"I don't like talking too much, but every time I speak, I'm responsible for my words," Yanukovych said in an interview with the Financial Times on Jan. 18, 2010, just weeks before he was elected as Ukraine's fourth president.

The Kyiv Post decided to check Yanukovych's promise. Here's what we found:

**1. Soon after becoming president, Yanukovych promised to ink a visa-free regime with the European Union.**

"No later than in a year we will get a visa-free regime and free trade zone with European Union," he told BBC Ukrainian service on March 2, 2010.

But one year later, Ukraine is still bogged down in negotiations with the EU over both; a final agreement that delivers on these promises seems unlikely to come this year.

**2. Yanukovych assured the Wall Street Journal that Ukraine had no intention of banning grain exports.**

"We are never had any export ban. We are not going to have one. We are not going to have quotas either," he



said on Sept. 23, 2010.

But days later, his government shook up the agriculture market, farmers and investors by restricting grain exports and introducing export quotas.

**3. In dealing with Russia, Ukraine will protect its national interests, Yanukovych told France's Le Figaro newspaper.**

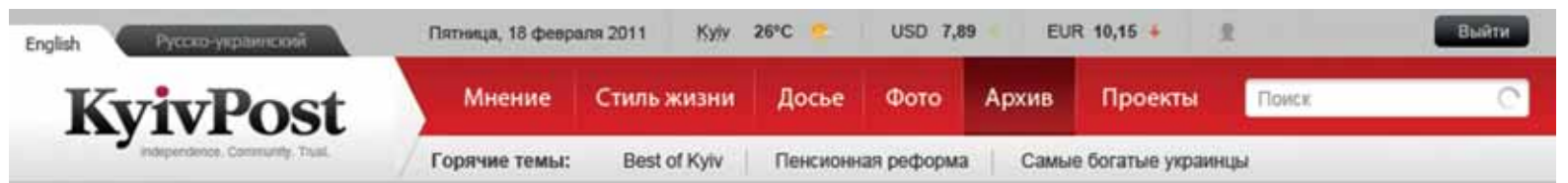
"I insist: We seek development of our economic relations with Russia that would not question the protection of national interest and independence of Ukraine," he said on Oct. 7, 2010.

But months earlier, on April 2010, Yanukovych signed an agreement prolonging the stay of Russia's Black Sea Fleet at Ukraine's Sevastopol port by decades, until 2042. He and his coali-

tion in parliament approved the agreement even though it clearly violated Ukraine's Constitution, which bans the presence of foreign military forces on Ukrainian territory. Critics say the agreement will preserve Russian influence over Ukraine long-term, specifically on the Crimean peninsula, where pro-Russian separatist sentiment runs high.

**4. Yanukovych told a group of German media that billionaire businessman Valeriy Khoroshkovsky is the right person to serve as head of Ukraine's SBU security services.**

"I would say the security chief performs his job in a quite normal manner. This work has no connection at all with the activities of the mass media. Regarding his assets, he has → 10



## www.kyivpost.ua: дайджест статей



На "Бессарабке" - изобилие продуктов, торговля которыми не регулируется.

**Уряд проти ринку: хто кого?**

Оксана Гриценко

В лютому на продовольчих ринках Києва за вказівкою столичної влади з'явилися оголошення зі списками рекомендованих цін на основні товари.

Однак, продавці швидко зметикували, як реагувати на ціновий контроль.

Наприклад, на Бессарабському ринку столиці продавці послухалися адміністрацію там де їм це було вигідно, а там, де не вигідно — вирішили не виставляти

товар на продаж. Так, на ринку неможливо знайти гречку чи борошно, які, згідно із рекомендаціями, мають продаватися за заниженими цінами.

Взаємини адміністрації "Бессарабки" із продавцями ринку — це мікроприклад того, як співпрацює уряд із усім внутрішнім ринком країни, застосовуючи радянські методи контролю до ринкової економіки, яка існує за зовсім іншими правилами. "Жоден бізнес не буде працювати там, де йому не вигідно", - каже Марія Колісник, аналітик консалтингової компанії «ААА»...

**Блины- народу!**

Ирина Сандул

Масленица, старинный славянский праздник провода зимы, забытый многими в советские времена, на всех парах возвращается в меню ресторанов, выпустивших особые Масленичные меню. А еще - на ценники супермаркетов и даже самых завалачщих уличных ларьков с фаст-фудом. На прошлой неде-

ле блины в них продавали стопками.

Оно и понятно: себестоимость блина — чистые слезы, не больше 1 гривны, говорят работники сферы общественного питания. А польза ресторанам или супермаркетам от очередного повода напомнить о себе клиентам и сбыть продукцию неоспоримая.

«Вспомнили, что Масленица - по телевизору так много об этом говорят, что надо блины есть», - говорит 45-летняя Марина Голуб, совладелица Агентства стратегических решений Голуб и Шинкаренко ...

**Ужасающе плохое распоряжение Кабмина**

Виктор Лисицкий

Кабмин всерьез взялся за внедрение системы электронного правительства. Идея эта вызывает горестные недоумения и, соответственно, глубокие сомнения в ее реализуемости.

Кабмин Украины своим распоря-

жением от 13 декабря № 2250 - р о д о б р и л «Концепцію розвитку електронного урядування в Україні».

Казалось бы, украинцы — активные пользователи информационно-коммуникационных технологий (далее — ИКТ) — должны были бы радостно вздохнуть: «Наконец-то!... Наконец-то Правительство стало на путь радикального усовершенствования своей работы».

Однако, ознакомление с текстом документа вызывает сомнения в реализуемости идеи электронного "урядування" в нашей державе...



Полный текст статей и блогов можно прочитать на [www.kyivpost.ua](http://www.kyivpost.ua)

TEN MOST-READ STORIES OF THE WEEK ON

[www.kyivpost.com](http://www.kyivpost.com)



1 New Zealand man wins contest to travel to Ukraine in search of bride



6 Business Sense: Living in era of new tax code - What to expect, what to do



2 Yanukovych's assault on Ukrainian history



7 Gadget Guru: Gadgets are a girl's best friend



3 Desperate Lives



8 WikiLeaks publishes new 'gas war' cables



4 Gaddafi's nurse refuses to talk to journalists



9 Gongadze probe shifts from Kuchma, Lytvyn



5 Gaddafi firing on Libyans with Ukrainian weapons?



10 Movie Listings

ДЕСЯТЬ САМЫХ ЧИТАЕМЫХ СТАТЕЙ НЕДЕЛИ НА

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1 Ужасающе плохое распоряжение Кабмина



6 И где же этот «список»?



2 Уряд проти ринку: хто кого?



7 Апелляционный суд: Убийство Гонгадзе не было заказным



3 WikiLeaks: Гриценко говорит, что Путин не уважает Януковича



8 Медсестра Каддафи розповіла про "кастинг"



4 В Києві у шістнадцятиповерхівці впала кабіна ліфту, загинув чоловік



9 Танки Каддафи приближаються к центру города Эз-Завия



5 В Києве горит здание СБУ



10 Україна передала Росії другого фігуранта у вбивстві в станиці Куцєвська



# European Business Association News

www.eba.com.ua

## Leaders Talk

**Leaders Talk:** The EBA releases results of the 11th wave of Investment Attractiveness Index of Ukraine.

ON MARCH 10, THE EBA RELEASED THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY OF EBA COMPANY'S TOP OFFICIALS THAT ASSESSED ON A FIVE-GRADE SCALE HOW ATTRACTIVE UKRAINE IS IN TERMS OF INVESTMENT AND HOW THE SITUATION HAS CHANGED OVER THE THREE MONTHS PERIOD. IN 1 QUARTER OF 2011 THE EBA INVESTMENT ATTRACTIVENESS INDEX HAS REACHED 3.40 ON A 5 POINT SCALE COMPARED TO 3.28 AT THE END OF 2010.

**Changes were observed in the following Index components:**

- the current investment climate evaluation has slightly increased to 3.7 (+0.2)
- the climate changes during the last 3 months evaluation has reached 3.6 (+0.2)
- the profitability to the new entrants in the next 3 months was evaluated as 3.4 (+0.2)

Future expectations on investment climate in Ukraine as well as in the primary industry, in which the investors operate, remained unchanged and have the lowest scores compared to the other Index components (3.2 and 3.1. respectively)

Evaluating the positive and negative changes that took place in the investment climate during the last 3 months the majority of experts were keen to provide rather negative feedback. Tax Code received contradictory evaluation: whereas 37% mentioned its negative consequences, 13% highlighted the positive changes which are associated with it.

Corruption remains another strong negative trend that is mentioned by almost every fourth expert (23%). Companies also mentioned new negative trends listing difficulties which they face when dealing with the customs office, export quotas introduction, as well as increased number of raids on companies.



Tomas Fiala, Dragon Capital, EBA President

"We are encouraged by the growth of our Index, albeit at a slow pace. Our members appreciate macroeconomic stabilization, conservative fiscal policy and Governments contin-

ued resolve to move forward all encompassing reforms. They remain extremely unsatisfied with the level of corruption and the lack of Rule of Law. Export quotas, tax pressure and implementation of the new Tax Code so far, unfortunately, limit our optimism".

### New openings in the EBA!

The good news is that not only companies can join the EBA!

Young, talented and aspiring candidates are welcome to submit their CVs to [office@eba.com.ua](mailto:office@eba.com.ua) if they have:

- High degree of creativity and the ability to think under pressure with tough deadlines;
- Excellent knowledge of both written and spoken English and Ukrainian;
- Strong academic background;
- Excellent communication, negotiation and presentation skills;
- Ability to deliver high quality outputs within challenging deadlines

Team-players who would like to join a dynamic, versatile and exciting atmosphere of the EBA are strongly encouraged to apply!



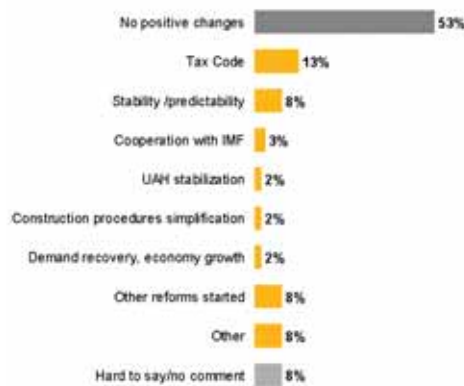
Reinier Schlattmann, CEO Philips Ukraine LLC

"Philips is active in three different markets: consumer products, lighting and healthcare. We recognize the positive trend in our markets, although there was clearly a base effect versus 2009. The recovery is still fragile though and constraints on the business environment can have an adverse effect on the recent positive trend realized. I believe that further improving the business and investment environment is key to unlock the full potential of Ukraine. Today there is still enormous untapped potential".

### Positive Changes in Investment Climate during the last 3 months

When asked about positive changes that took place during the last 3 months a half of investors (53%) underlined that there were no positive changes in the investment climate recently.

Compared to the previous waves where stability was mentioned as the most remarkable positive change in 1/2011 the Tax Code as a positive change was mentioned by a larger number of investors (13%) compared to the gained stability (8%). Other positive changes were mentioned by very small number of the survey participants.



### Negative Changes in Investment Climate during the last 3 months

This time investors mentioned a significant number of negative changes. The key is the Tax Code, which means that its evaluation is contradictory with more negative comments prevailing. Corruption and bureaucracy increase was mentioned by a higher percentage compared to the previous wave (23% to 16%).

Numerous comments were related to worsening of the situation with customs (both imperfect legislation and difficulties with the procedures) and the continuing pressure from state administrations. Among newly mentioned barriers there are opposition oppression, export quotas introduction, raids on companies, and others.



Dario Marchetti, General Director of Danone Ukraine

"The EBA investment attractiveness index now enters its 11th measurement period and the findings are in line with what our membership says. We have a higher overall investment Index reaching a record level and this needs to be recognized. Political Stability and currency stabilization have played an important role. EBA also acknowledges the dialogue we have had with various government agencies that have helped resolve a number of issues. It is also clear that the key focus area for the government needs to be fighting corruption (record number of respondents see this as a major and worsening issue) as well as reform of customs and court system. Tackling these two issues will help spur economic potential of Ukraine".



Maurizio Patarnello, CEO, Nestlé Ukraine and Moldova

"What I want to voice is generally an improved dialogue with authorities, e.g. on customs and other aspects. We also welcome the creation of the Council of local and foreign investors. Our concern is certain attempts that the government makes to introduce kind of price control measures, considering that ahead of us is significant inflation coming from soft commodities. We encourage the government to continue in the direction of building market economy where there is no such restriction like price control, which may have a negative impact on business and foreign investments. On the other hand we welcome the dialogue we have and we see that the government really pays attention to business and is ready to dialog with the business and have a discussion sometimes with positive outcomes but overall we welcome this."



Alexei Kredisov, Managing Partner, Ernst & Young LLC;

"For the third consecutive quarter the EBA investment climate index has shown moderate but steady improvement. Among the most positive indicators that business leaders have noted are newly initiated reforms, including tax reform. The three issues for businesses that are most loudly screaming for improvement are corruption, the ineffective court system and the application of the tax code."

### The Investment Attractiveness Index of Ukraine:

The evaluation of the IAI is conducted by the EBA with the support of the research company InMind. The Index is based on regular monitoring of the investment climate of Ukraine by the first persons of the EBA member-companies. Details of the Investment Attractiveness Index are available at <http://www.eba.com.ua/projects/index.html>

## InFocus



Anna Derevyanko, Executive director of the European Business Association

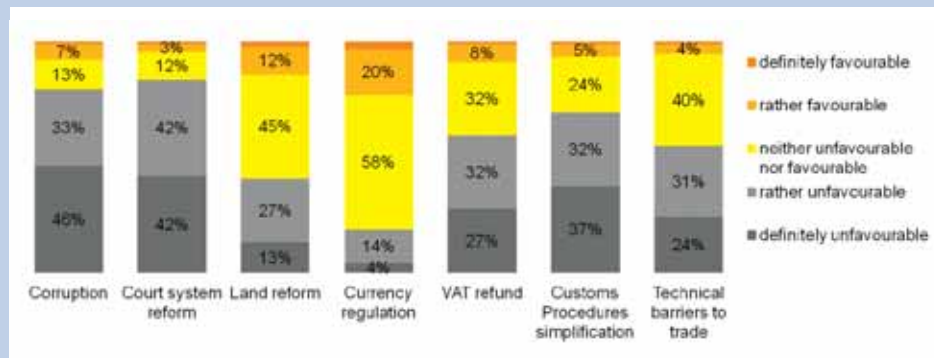
"The Association is extremely grateful to the member companies that took part in the Index evaluation and practical signals regarding investors' mood and perception of the business climate in the country. Currently, we see that due to the ongoing dialogue with state bodies, cooperation with IMF and reform plan, the Index has shown an increase and fixed at its highest mark 3.4. Nevertheless, companies are obviously awaiting tangible positive changes planned by the President's reform programme. It's crucial for the business to see improvements in fighting corruption and establishing rule of law in the country. We are sure, that given the right coordination of reforms progress, it's totally possible to attract the planned volume of investments, and we are ready to cooperate with the state to spread a word about positive changes among our foreign partners in order to improve country's image and realize its potential".

### Estimation of the situation with solving 7 issues

EBA representatives keep measuring the government's progress and give their assessment of the state of resolving the 7 major issues that were raised by the EBA in the context of collaboration between business and government, namely: Fighting Corruption, Judicial Reform, Land Reform, Currency Regulation, VAT Refund, Simplification of Customs Procedures, and Technical Trade Barriers.

Considering progress with 7 key points that EBA raised in the context of business and authorities interaction the situation remains overall unfavourable. The court system reforming and corruption are the most problematic issues: 84% and 79% respectively estimated the situation in these areas as rather or definitely unfavourable.

The most unfavourable situation in solving 7 issues that EBA has raised is observed with corruption and court system reform. Other issues evaluation is rather negative as well. Currency regulation while being evaluated as neither favourable nor unfavourable received slightly higher scores compared to others.



The priority tasks of the EBA in 2011 are: reducing obstacles for investment, support for different instruments promoting economic integration with the EU and facilitating positioning of Ukraine as a country attractive for investment and business partnership.

We look forward to your feedback at

[office@eba.com.ua](mailto:office@eba.com.ua)

## Editorials

## Road to nowhere

Commenting on the fall of dictators in the Arab world, American writer Leon Wieseltier recently wrote: "Stability, the false god of hard hearts, has been revealed to be temporary, chimerical, provisional, hollow, where the social arrangements are not decent or fair. The stability of injustice, though it may last a long time, is essentially unstable."

These words should be a wake-up call for Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich's administration, whose endless boasts of having brought "stability" to the country obfuscates what that actually means and what it is being used for.

By stability, it seems they are referring to the end of political infighting that characterized the rule of President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

The authorities have created a stronger decision-making apparatus to implement their policies.

And here's the point.

The "stability" is allowing the rulers to push through the laws that they want and take decisions that benefit them and their business backers. If the opposition raises its voice in protest, it is criticized for not being constructive or trying to destabilize the country.

But by attempting to silence opposing or critical points of view, the authorities are in fact moving the country towards instability of the kind that exists in Russia.

First, when only one voice is heard, the government has fewer ways of finding out what people actually think and what their problems are, in order to at least in part resolve them.

Second, peaceful methods of opposition – through parliament or the free press – are gradually being eroded, meaning society has fewer valves to let off steam.

Third, the oligarch clans around Yanukovich are entrenching themselves in power and getting richer at the expense of everyone else, leading to widespread disillusionment and frustration.

Nothing has been done to resolve the gaping inequality within the country – between the haves and have-nots, the Mercedes and the Ladas, the deputies and the pensioners.

Until this happens, Ukraine will be an inherently unstable country, where the anger of the powerless burns deep inside until the day it explodes into rage, as has happened in North Africa.

Let's not forget that Egypt, Tunisia and Libya were also "stable" – as Yanukovich himself noted in February – before the whirlwind hit.

## Helipad hogwash

The saga of the helicopter pad being built in the town where national poet Taras Shevchenko is buried continued this week, as the authorities gave another excuse why it needed to be built. At a cost of just over \$10 million, the expense may seem excessive, given the endless struggles to fill the budget.

The first reason given by the authorities was that many foreigners of Ukrainian stock may wish to visit Kaniv and, being rich, would fly in a helicopter.

On March 9, President Viktor Yanukovich's main mouthpiece, deputy chief of staff Hanna Herman, gave reporters a different reason for the elite transport infrastructure.

"We need an area like that as Shevchenko's place should become a place for pilgrimage not just for poor people, but also for famous people from across the world – presidents and prime ministers," she said, adding that a visit should become an "obligatory" part of protocol for visiting foreign officials "as in other countries."

It's not clear which other countries she was referring to, but we're not aware of, say, U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron dragging foreign guests to visit William Shakespeare's grave in Stratford-upon-Avon, or German Chancellor Angela Merkel escorting leaders to see Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's resting place in Weimar.

In short, this sounds like complete hogwash, another reason plucked out of the air to cover up what's really happening.

But perhaps it is getting closer to the truth. The chopper pad will certainly be used by one president who has already shown his predilection for that form of transport by arranging to use one for his daily commute to work (at enormous state expense). Yanukovich, of course, needs to visit the Shevchenko shrine once or twice a year to buff up his credentials as a real Ukrainian president.

And who would want the great one to be inconvenienced by Ukraine's terrible roads, which, incidentally, his government has done little to improve?



**NEWS ITEM:** Ukrainian Alex Krakovsky, who went to Vyshgorod skiing with his family earlier this month, wrote a blog on March 5 saying he had not been able to report the burglary of his car to police despite multiple attempts because he could not "contribute towards buying gasoline" for patrol cars, as requested by the officer on duty. He speculated in his blog that reporting a crime is becoming a paid service in the nation. Commentators, on the other hand, pointed out that the officer on duty violated a number of laws by failing to react to the phone call, and should be held responsible for negligence and extortion.

# Yanukovich gives flowers; I prefer good government



**KATYA GORCHINSKAYA**  
GORCHINSKAYA@KYIVPOST.COM

The President of Ukraine sent me a basket of flowers for Women's Day. The gift presented a number of questions. One of them was: What part of my taxes returned to me in this exotic form?

The form was indeed exotic – an orchid and a bottle of Italian wine were woven into the arrangement. Don't get me wrong, I love flowers, for any reason and without, even on March 8. When I land in the refrigerators of wholesale flower traders, my hands start to shake with anticipation. But that does not answer my questions as to how much my precious flowers required from the state budget.

The arrangement was made by an expensive flower company, Kvitkova Vanil. Designers at their shop on 15 Lva Tolstoho Street said this basket costs Hr 1,000. The question why this expensive flower company was picked as a supplier would also be quite interesting to examine.

The wine that was a part of the arrangement, Chianti Classico from the Italian maker Ruffino, came from Good Wine, a major importer. The retail price is Hr 129, while the wholesale price is Hr 119. By Ukrainian standards, the price is mid-range. Anywhere west of Ukraine the same price for a bottle of wine would be considered high.

Against this background of expensive bucket fillers, the cost of the business card telling me the president's name is negligible, but the fuel it took to deliver it to the office and the work of the courier were certainly worth something.

Even if I was one of only 100 lucky recipients of a wonderful basket, the total sum spent on flowers would be very impressive indeed.

It would be comparable with the money set aside in this year's state budget for production and placement of social

advertisements against alcohol and tobacco; the pensions of 100 retirees receiving marginally more than a minimum pension; and it would be more than five times higher than the sum the 2011 budget sets for emergency water supplies to the settlements that have no centralized water supply.

Even if the arrangement was the only one of its kind, there are more noble ways to spend Hr 1,000.

One of the most recent posts on the website [www.donor.org.ua](http://www.donor.org.ua), which tries to help young people with cancer, says that 19-year-old Andriy Pakhalyuk from Lviv has received only Hr 977 to continue his much more expensive chemotherapy treatments.

At the same time, there were much more economical ways to congratulate many women on March 8, the day that had originated 100 years ago to mark gender equality.

First, the president could have publicly apologized for his sexist remarks at the World Economic Forum in Davos on Jan. 28, when he said: "In order to 'turn on' Ukraine, it's enough to travel to Kyiv and see with your own eyes how the chestnut trees blossom during the spring. This is when it gets warm and women in Ukrainian cities begin taking off their clothes. You will see such beauty! It's wonderful!"

An apology would have been a good present for all Ukrainian women. Regardless of Yanukovich's personal preferences in women's clothes, Ukraine should not be made a destination for short skirts.

Second, he could have held an open press conference, the second since coming to power on Feb. 25, 2010. Thus, he would make a lot of journalists (and other members of his electorate) happy, regardless of their sex.

And third, for me personally, he could invite a specialist in gender issues from any top university of the world, to get a crash course in gender equality. He could invite his Prime Minister Mykola Azarov too – he also seems to have trouble with women.

And I wouldn't even grumble too much if their education was paid for by the taxpayer.

Kyiv Post deputy chief editor Katya Gorchinskaya can be reached at [gorchinskaya@kyivpost.com](mailto:gorchinskaya@kyivpost.com)

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# Is nation making progress?



Ukrainians watch a live question-and-answer session with President Viktor Yanukovich, broadcast on a large outside screen in Kyiv on Feb. 25., the day Yanukovich marked a year in power. (Joseph Sywenkyj)

## VOX populi

WITH SVITLANA KOLESNYKOVA



If you had the possibility to live in any country of the world, which one would you choose and why?



**Anton Zhukov,**  
theatre worker

"I haven't been abroad, and why should I carry out experiments with my own

life? I am fine here in Ukraine. I would think of going only if someone offered me better conditions. But it will not happen in the nearest future."



**Halyna Ivanova**  
health care worker

"Only Russia. I've lived in Ukraine for 20 years. However, I was born in Russia and

have many friends and relatives there. As one saying goes – where you're born, there you turn – and I believe in it. I am longing for Russia. I miss my people there, though I have been living in Kyiv for a long time."



**Anna Bezsmertna**  
pensioner

"Only in Ukraine. I agree the conditions here are hard. I have to pay Hr

460 monthly for my flat while my pension is only Hr 780. Nevertheless, for me, no country is better than Ukraine. We are a rich country. If you work with your own hands, you can even earn for a fur coat, as people say."



**Oksana Padalka**  
event manager

"I want to live in Jamaica. They have a nice, warm climate there. Most

importantly, there are no limitations and rules. For now these are my priorities."



**Arthur Bondar**  
photographer

"I choose Canada. Toronto is a perfect city. I like it. It's the most desired place for me recently.

Because it's cold, and stable. Stability – that is the main factor."

Vox Populi is not only in print, but also online at [kyivpost.com](http://kyivpost.com) with different questions. If you have a question that you want answered, e-mail the idea to [kyivpost@kyivpost.com](mailto:kyivpost@kyivpost.com).

## Democratic backsliding



STEVEN PIFER and WILLIAM TAYLOR

One of the proudest items on the wall of the U.S. ambassador's office in Kyiv from 2006-2009 was a world map showing the Freedom House ranking of free, not free and partly free countries around the world. Visitors could clearly see that Ukraine ranked as the only free country among the post-Soviet states.

Today, however, the Freedom House map shows Ukraine as only partly free. President Viktor Yanukovich, concluding his first year in office, should carefully consider what this means for his oft-expressed goal of integrating his country into Europe.

Ukraine has held a half-dozen parliamentary, presidential and nationwide local elections since the Orange Revolution in late 2004. International observers judged all to be generally free and fair – that is, until the October 2010 election, the first conducted under the Yanukovich administration. Yanukovich made some last-minute attempts to

fix the election law, but the ballot fell short of the standard set by previous elections and was widely condemned as flawed.

Another troubling sign is the apparent effort by prosecutors to target officials from the previous government of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Her minister of the interior, Yuriy Lutsenko, sits in jail awaiting trial. Her minister of economy, Bohdan Danylyshyn, was granted political asylum by the Czech Republic – a friendly country that wants to see Ukraine succeed – on the assumption that he would be unfairly prosecuted by a corrupt, politically-driven judiciary in Ukraine. The former prime minister, still a formidable politician, is being questioned extensively by the prosecutor-general and banned from international travel.

At a Feb. 14 public talk in Washington, Foreign Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko offered an eloquent defense of Ukraine's recent record on democratic practices. To his credit, he also engaged with Freedom House the next day on the question.

The truth likely lies somewhere between the picture drawn by Ukrainian diplomats and that drawn by President Yanukovich's domestic critics. But the fact that the foreign minister felt he had to focus his comments on Ukraine's domestic political scene is a reflection of the impression in Europe and the United States that Ukraine has → 17

## Westerners are biased against Yanukovich



VIACHESLAV PIKHOVSHEK

I have heard a lot of interesting stuff about Victor Yanukovich's first year of presidency in recent days. And often influential politicians in various countries base their conclusions and suggestions on the ratings of specialized Western organizations.

Former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine Stephen Pifer and William Taylor in their op-ed in the New York Times on March 1 quoted last year's report by Freedom House which reduced Ukraine's rating from "free" to "partially free."

French Ambassador Jacques Faure in his interview with Dzerkalo Tyzhnia quotes reports by Reporters Without Borders. This organization issued an annual map of freedom in Ukraine, where Ukraine was marked red, meaning it's in trouble, along with China and Iraq.

There are multiple other ratings, including → 17

# Yanukovich splits Ukraine as gap widens between elite and citizens



ALYONA GETMANCHUK

After the first year of Viktor Yanukovich's presidential term, it is possible to get the impression that Ukraine has been divided in two.

One Ukraine is the one presented by the president and his supporters. This Ukraine is politically stable, and economic reforms are at full speed ahead. The

campaign against corruption is among the most effective in the world. Ukraine is as dedicated to democratic values as ever, and anyone who speaks of authoritarian tendencies is just trying to discredit Ukraine before the world. European integration is the priority of this Ukraine, but at the same time it has managed over the past year to restore damaged relations with Russia.

The other Ukraine is the one presented by the opposition and civil society. It is a state in which authoritarian tendencies are spreading at a furious rate and basic rights and liberties are rapidly deteriorating. In this Ukraine, it took Yanukovich only one year to seize all the levers of power – some- → 17

→ Yanukovich says Ukraine now stable, but most citizens see liberties deteriorating



Ukraine's fast-growing Reikartz hotel chain recently launched the Reikartz Medievale Lviv, its second hotel in the western Ukrainian city of Lviv. (Courtesy)

## Reikartz expands hotel chain

**Kyiv Post Staff** – Reikartz Hotels & Resorts has stepped up its expansion plans in Ukraine, launching three-star hotel services at two new locations earlier this year.

Established in 2003 with the opening of its first hotel in Lviv, Reikartz Dworzec Lviv, the group has recently launched a second hotel in downtown Lviv called Reikartz Medievale Lviv and the Reikartz Pochayiv near the famous Pochayiv Monastery in western Ukraine.

With eight hotels across Ukraine currently operating as part of the chain, the group announced that two more hotels would soon join the group

offering three-star status hotel services in Mariupol and Donetsk. Plans also envision that hotels in Dnipropetrovsk and Kharkiv will start operating under the chain this year.

Reikartz hopes to have a total of 12 hotels and operating throughout Ukraine by the end of 2011 with a total room capacity of 800. Among the cities where the group currently has hotels operating are Kryviy Rih, Mykolayiv and Kirovohrad. Doors are also open to travelers at one hotel in the Carpathian Mountains near Volovets, which is close to some of Ukraine's top ski resorts.

## State privatizes top airline for just \$36 million, identity of new owner unclear

**Kyiv Post Staff** – Ukraine's State Property Fund late in February fetched just over \$36 million for a majority stake in one of the nation's top two airlines

Fund official said a 61.6 percent stake in Ukrainian International Airlines, which operates 19 Boeing passenger planes, was privatized at this price through a privileged sale to three existing minority shareholders.

According to reports, the airline's biggest shareholder is now UIA BeteiligungGesellschaft. It remains unclear who the beneficiary shareholders are. Austrian Airlines and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development had been shareholders of the Ukrainian airline, but sources and reports suggest they have exited the business.

An informed source close to Ukrainian International Airlines could not identify the new owners of the airline, but said they do not support plans to merge with Ukraine's other leading airlines, namely Aerosvit and Dniproavia. Those merger plans are pushed by Ukraine's Privat business group, led by billionaires Igor Kolomoisky and Gennadiy Bogolubov.

The source also said that Ukrainian



Ukraine has recently privatized one of its leading passenger airlines. But it remains unclear who the new owner is of Ukrainian International Airlines, which operates 19 Boeing (above) passenger planes. (UNIAN)

International Airline has big expansion plans for this year. It will increase in- and outbound flights between Ukrainian cities and of country destinations.

Ukrainian International Airlines

President Yuri Miroshnikov was quoted by media recently saying that the carrier last year suffered a net loss – Hr 200 million on hr 2.4 billion in sales – for the first time in 10 years.

## → On the move

Send On the Move news to [otm@kyivpost.com](mailto:otm@kyivpost.com) or contact Kateryna Panova and Oksana Faryna at 234-6500. It should include a photograph of the individual who has recently been appointed to a new position, a description of their duties and responsibilities, prior experience as well as education. Note: The Kyiv Post does not charge for publishing these notices or any news material.



### ANDREI DUBOVSKOV

was appointed president and chief executive officer of MTS, the leading mobile telecommunications provider in Russia, Ukraine and other

former Soviet republics.

Dubovskov had been head of MTS in Ukraine since 2008.

Dubovskov joined the MTS group in 2004 as head of the company's operations in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia. In 2006, he became head of operations in the Urals region.

In connection with Dubovskov's promotion, Vasyl Latsanych, formerly chief marketing director in Ukraine for MTS, has been promoted to head MTS's operations in Ukraine.



### YULIYA NYKONENKO

has been appointed as a senior manager in Ukraine for KPMG, one of the world's so-called Big Four international accounting, auditing and consulting firm.

In her new role, Nykonenko will be in charge of outsourcing and tax compliance services within the group's tax and legal department. Prior to joining KPMG, Nykonenko was in charge of providing similar services in Ukraine for another Big Four firm. She has 10 years of experience in the accounting, auditing and financial management services and three years' experience in tax consulting.

Nykonenko graduated from the economics department of the National University of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy. She also holds a master's degree in bank auditing from Ukraine's National Economic University.



### ALEXEY BONDARENKO

has joined Atlantic Group, a domestic advertising and media holding, as finance director. Prior to this appointment, Bondarenko

served as chief financial officer at Octava Capital. Earlier, he was a managing partner at the National Investment Alliance, worked at leading Ukrainian bank UkrSibbank and served as a board member of INEKO, an investment group. Bondarenko started his career at Westdeutsche Landesbank. Bondarenko is a graduate of the Kyiv Institute for International Relations.



### VLADIMIR YARKOV

joined Law Guild VictoriAI, a Ukrainian law firm, as head of banking and finance. In his new position, Yarkov's task will be to launch the banking and finance

practice for the firm.

Yarkov comes to Law Guild VictoriAI with 10 years of experience he gained at top financial institutions including ING Group, Societe Generale Group, UniCredit Group and Alfa Group.

Yarkov received his law degree from the Law School at Odessa State University. He also holds a master's degree in banking management from Kyiv National Economics University and has an EU Law Certificate from the European Commission.

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# Business Sense

WITH VALERIA GUDIY



**Editor's Note:** Business Sense is a feature in which experts explain Ukraine's place in the world economy and provide insight into doing business in the country. To contribute, contact chief editor Brian Bonner at [bonner@kyivpost.com](mailto:bonner@kyivpost.com)

# Employees have too little power in draft labor code

After the brouhaha surrounding the government's new tax code last year, the latest new piece of legislation to raise people's hackles is the draft labor code.

The government is gallantly fighting for good standing in the international community, telling anyone who'll listen that everything's great here, that the rule of law and democracy are still going strong, that they are observing all principles of international law, the economy is growing and legislation is being improved in line with European standards.

But the draft of the labor code does not correspond with international standards, leaving legal loopholes for employers and others to exploit.

Most outrageously, it includes discrimination against workers by allowing employers to increase the working week to 48 hours (and even 60 hours in agreement with the worker) in spite of the fact that Ukraine has ratified a number of international documents that set the principle of decreasing the working week to 40 hours.

In Ukraine, there are several modes of work, including record of cumulative hours worked, used when there is no possibility to keep a daily or weekly duration of working time. The current labor legislation strictly determines that if this mode of work is introduced (only after coordination with a trade union), then the duration of work shall not be more than 40 hours per week. For example, on Monday and Tuesday the employee works nine hours, on Wednesday and Thursday 10 hours, then on Friday the working day of the employee cannot be more than 2 hours.

The problem with the new bill is that it doesn't say how long the normal

→ Under plan, work week could increase to 48 hours

duration of work should be for employees working according to this scheme.

According to the provisions of the bill there is no need to coordinate with a trade union when introducing the record of cumulative hours worked if the duration of work is not more than 48 hours per week and 12 hours per day. If the employer wants to increase the duration of work, the maximum may be set in its joint agreement with trade union, or, if there is no joint agreement, by order of the employer.

Not all employers have joint agreements with trade unions, thus this is the peculiar loophole that employers may exploit. This means that any firm can set its maximum duration of work per week. By this logic, not only taxi drivers, long-distance truck drivers and nannies can have a 12-hour working day, but everyone else as well.

The bill's authors wanted to make things better by limiting the duration of a worker's shift. But it's turned out as always, by allowing an increase in the working week to 48 or even 60 hours.

Many honest and responsible workers already work more than 10 hours per day without any or proper compensation for overtime. Perhaps the initiators of the bill wanted to legalize such

relations, as the Code of Labor Laws of Ukraine is being violated anyway and it's time to change it.

The key question is: How can the weaker side in labor relations – the worker – be protected without limiting the employer's business activity and interests and, most importantly, allowing everyone to live amicably according to the law?

Many people assert that the remnants of the Soviet system does not protect the worker, instead leaving him alone against the all-powerful employer, thus it needs to be dismantled. Many are casting doubt on whether the current bill being considered is the right one to replace the current code.

Legislators need to carefully consider these factors and eliminate any misunderstandings that could arise in the new labor code. They should

demonstrate and embed the practice of equality before the law, without exception, even for the country's leaders. Otherwise, everything will stay the same under the useless slogan: "The authorities are with the people."

On the surface, the idea of systematizing labor relationships is a good one. The draft proposes, for example, to legalize the procedure of announcing a vacancy, thus increasing competition, and testing the jobseeker matches requirements for the vacancy.

From a legal point of view, of course, the process of "resetting" relations between the authorities and the middle class, between employer and employee, needs to be continued. But that's just part of the story. Included in this package should be a fair justice system, fair taxes, the resolution of questions

in court (not in the office of judges or prosecutors), and compliance with the law for all, and not selectively.

In our case, a sharp change in labor laws could bring about an even greater storm of negative emotions. This could be connected with raising the legal culture of Ukraine's citizens and finally changing Ukrainian mentality and recognizing the need to match up legislative acts with the equality of all citizens before the law.

And we shouldn't forget about the examples of many years of history, which have shown that any new ideas or changes are received gratefully by people only if they are brought in gradually.

Valeria Gudiy is a lawyer with Ilyashev & Partners, a Kyiv-based law firm. She can be reached at [gudiy@attorneys.com.ua](mailto:gudiy@attorneys.com.ua)

In case you missed them, read the last six Business Sense columns by experts online at [kyivpost.com](http://kyivpost.com)



**March 4** with **Pavlo Boyko**, managing director of TMF Ukraine: "Living in era of new tax code: What to expect, what to do"



**March 4** with **Alexei Kredisov**, managing partner of Ernst & Young in Ukraine: "When will nation speak international language of accounting, auditing?"



**Feb. 25** with **Yuri Delikatny**, head of tax at the Kyiv office of Noerr, a German law firm: "New tax code opens dangerous doors; fines could be very high"



**Feb. 18** with **Olga Pikulska**, public relations manager at Paritet law firm: "Facebook, Twitter can help enhance brand, productivity"



**Feb. 18** with **Oleg Chayka**, director in the tax and legal department of the Ukrainian office of KPMG: "Officials' failure on VAT refund fuels corruption, discourages investment"



**Feb. 11** with **Timothy Ash**, global head of emerging markets research at the Royal Bank of Scotland in London: "Ukraine needs to work harder for slice of investment"




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# Faking it with impunity is way of doing business

BY KATERYNA PANOVA  
PANOVA@KYIVPOST.COM

There was one major problem with the air conditioners advertised on the Internet as produced by Japan's Yamaha – the motorcycle and musical instrument manufacturer doesn't make air conditioners.

This didn't stop Saturn TV, a Kyiv-based company, from calling itself the official dealer of Yamaha Electric Co. in Ukraine. In fact, they sold low-quality Chinese goods under the Yamaha logo and had even registered the Yamaha trademark, until they were shut down by a court decision after the Japanese company complained.

"It's business. We thought if we can – then we can," said Andriy Sviridov, Saturn TV's commercial director.

Cheap copies and imitations of famous brands can be easily found in pharmacies, supermarkets, appliance shops and clothing stores across Ukraine. Fake brands trick customers, who think that they are buying a well-known brand, but often receive a low-quality substitute – one that might even be dangerous for their health.

Owners of original brands suffer, as the knock-off brands take away their income and may spoil a hard-won reputation.

"Outrageous counterfeiting is pushing away people willing to invest money in the country. They do not want to launch production here because it is impossible to protect yourself [from the copies]," said Anna Derevyanko, executive director of European Business Association.

Even the world's largest companies with billion-dollar turnovers don't succeed in defending their interests in Ukraine, a country notorious for its weak protection of intellectual property rights.

In January, Italian chocolate-maker Ferrero lost a two-year dispute with Russian confectionery factory Landrin, who sold candies similar in name and packaging to Ferrero's Raffaello. Ukrainian courts refused to grant the white coconut praline legal protection.

Ferrero had won similar lawsuits against Landrin in Russia, Latvia and Georgia. The case in Ukraine caught a lot of attention. Closely watching the court session were the representatives of U.S. and Italy embassies, as well



Closely resembling global fast food giant McDonald's in appearance of its brand, Ukraine's fast food chicken restaurant McFoxy expanded opening venues throughout Kyiv in recent years. (Oleksiy Boyko)

as the European Business Association and the European Commission.

Every year the situation appears to get worse. According to Ukraine's Antimonopoly Committee, the number of appeals against copycat brands increased by 25 percent in the past two years. Alcohol, drugs, food and engine oil brands are the most attractive for brand-stealers.

In one example, a small Lutsk company called Viva was producing Twist, Milka, Success and Bumbo candies, boldly copying the package of Twix, Milka, Snickers and Bounty chocolate bars produced by confectionery giant Mars. Lutsk's candies were selling well until the Antimonopoly Committee shut them down.

## Inexperienced courts

"There are brand imitations in civilized countries as well, but you buy them only at flea markets. In Ukraine, the fake Gucci and Prada can be found in decent shops," said Michael Doubinsky, managing partner at Doubinsky & Osharova patent law firm.

Doubinsky said he was surprised to find fake Mul-T-Lock locks in Nova

Linia, a leading Ukrainian construction materials and home improvement chain. The Israeli producer of the original locks was worried. A fake Mul-T-Lock could break and ruin the company's reputation.

"The situation was so outrageous that we [pursued] a criminal case," Doubinsky said referring to the case. Although the production of fake locks ceased, the criminal case ended in three months with no result.

"So the brand-stealers went unpunished. And that's too bad, because counterfeiting of trademarks is the fourth most profitable business after trading weapons, drugs and prostitution," Doubinsky said.

According to Ukrainian law, a company violating intellectual property law is fined 5 percent of its annual revenue and the fake goods are destroyed. However, many companies don't even dream of monetary compensation. They would just like to get the copycats to stop.

McDonald's, for example, is confused with Ukraine's McFoxy fast-food chain, but – after McDonald's refused to challenge McFoxy in court after los-

ing what it sees as a similar lawsuit years ago with instant coffee retailer MacCoffee.

Surprisingly, the main problem in defending intellectual property rights in Ukraine is not the nation's notoriously corrupt courts. The main cause of "unjust" decisions are judges and state experts who are not experienced in intellectual property issues, according to Doubinsky. To work around such a problem some countries, including Russia, have established specialized patent courts.

## Veterans of copying

Protecting intellectual property in the pharmaceutical industry can be toughest.

Ukrainian drug producers tend to copy foreign brands in every possible way: the packaging, the name and the chemical formula.

When giant pharmaceutical companies come to Ukraine with a new medicine, they have to disclose the formula. Within five years, Ukrainian producers have the right to produce cheap copies, so-called generic drugs. But the manufacturing company is still obliged

to prove that it is able to reproduce the drug's active ingredient and will not cause damage to people's health.

Irina Kirichenko, lawyer at Kyiv's Ilyashev & Partners law firm, is now representing Russian Nizhfarm plant in their lawsuit against Ukraine's Farmak pharmaceutical company. The Russians came to the market with their original medicine Chondraksid against vascular inflammation. Shortly afterward, Farmak started producing a medicine with a similar formula and named it Chondrasil. A spokesman from Farmak said that the company will not comment during the court case.

"I walked through several pharmacies to check it out. Asking for Chondraksid I was offered Chondrasil, sometimes with the comment that the last one is cheaper," Kirichenko said.

The lawyer is not very optimistic about the outcome of this fight, even though she won a similar case when Belgian H. Lundbeck A / S company obliged two companies (Turkey's Trifarma and Ukraine's Farmak) to stop copying its antidepressant Cipralex.

"After winning law suits against these two companies, we had a clones attack from others producers," Kirichenko recalled.

The Belgian producers simply stopped fighting in court. They simply found the Ukrainian market too small and expensive to fight for.

Unless Ukraine's government steps in to improve protection of intellectual property rights, some foreign pharmaceutical companies could simply stop bringing their new and life-saving medicines to Ukraine, warns Kirichenko. Ukraine's citizens could, in such a scenario, suffer by consuming cheap and dangerous fakes.

## Healthy conformism

In some cases, the line is blurred between what is intellectual property theft, and what is fair game.

Roman Belkin, brand manager of FM group, which owns the Coffee Time chain, said he simply ignores the similar network called Coffee Life. "Knowing our country as I do, I see no reasons to sue Coffee Life. Yes, we look alike. But many coffee shops' logos are similar, and almost always they are round. Coffee is in every name. Generally, we are all copying each other," he said.

Another option is to turn potential competitors into friends. That's what Andriy Slabinsky, producer of Jazz Koktebel Festival, did.

His rivals launched a festival named Live in Blue Bay, the same Crimean town his Jazz Koktebel festival is held. It ran the same headlines and was held just a week before Slabinsky's event, which had been there for years. The producer was furious. He first tried to argue, and then sent a claim. His opponents were not ready to make any concessions. And then, all of a sudden, a miracle happened: The owners of an alternative festival came with a peace treaty.

"Now we have a friendly relationship. They try to help us and would even bring chairs," Slabinsky said.

But while pleasant to hear about, such amicable resolutions over intellectual property rights are a rarity in Ukraine, experts say.

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Italy's Ferrero claims that its Raffaello brand chocolate (top) is being copied (bottom) by Russia's Landrin confectionary group.



FM Group, which owns the Coffee Life brand cafes, is not very shaken up by competitors with similar names, such as Coffee Life (above). (Courtesy)

# Akhmetov flies high on Forbes' richest list

BY VLAD LAVROV  
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In yet another display of his might and wealth, Ukraine's richest billionaire made it into the world's top 40 richest people, according to the Forbes latest World's Billionaires ranking.

As the sole owner of leading Ukrainian financial and industrial holding System Capital Management, Rinat Akhmetov left far behind not only his fellow Ukrainian billionaires, but also the wealthiest people from more economically developed countries. According to the rankings released on March 9, Akhmetov's wealth increased three times compared to last year's results, reaching \$16 billion, or 39th place among the world's richest, headed by telecoms mogul Carlos Slim Helu of Mexico, worth a whopping \$74 billion.

Despite being far behind Slim, Akhmetov still has every reason to feel content about the latest Forbes' results. Not only is he richer than the aggregate wealth of the other seven Ukrainian billionaires – Victor Pinchuk, Ihor Kolomoysky, Gennady Bogolubov, Kostyantyn Zhevago, Yuriy Kosiuk, Andriy Verevskiy and Oleg Bakhmatyuk – but he's also one of the richest persons in Eastern Europe.

Alexander Paskhaver, the president of Kyiv-based Center for Economic Development, explains such concentration of wealth in Ukraine compared to its neighboring countries by the transparency of those economies that are open for Western capital that freely competes with local businesses. The division of wealth in Ukraine, on the contrary, is like in third world countries still at the development stage, Paskhaver said, and very risky for foreign investors due to rampant corruption that creates a barrier for any outsiders and hampers economic development.

"Our billionaires who teamed up with the corrupt bureaucracy simply don't want any competition", says Paskhaver. "That's why our nation is so poor." In Paskhaver's view, while their western colleagues very often built businesses from scratch or brought innovations to the market, Ukraine's

## Some Of The World's Top Billionaires

Rank	Name	Net Worth	Source	Country of Citizenship
1	Carlos Slim Helu and family	\$74 billion	telecom	Mexico
2	Bill Gates	\$56 billion	Microsoft	United States
3	Warren Buffett	\$50 billion	Berkshire Hathaway	United States
4	Bernard Arnault	\$41 billion	LVMH	France
5	Larry Ellison	\$39.5 billion	Oracle	United States
14	Vladimir Lisin	\$24 billion	Steel	Russia
29	Alexei Mordashov	\$18.5 billion	Steel	Russia
32	Mikhail Prokhorov	\$18 billion	Investments	Russia
34	Vladimir Potanin	\$17.8 billion	nonferrous metals	Russia
35	Alisher Usmanov	\$17.7 billion	steel, telecom, stocks	Russia
39	Rinat Akhmetov	\$16 billion	steel, coal mines	Ukraine
53	Roman Abramovich	\$13.4 billion	steel, investments	Russia
336	Victor Pinchuk	\$3.3 billion	steel pipes	Ukraine
459	Ihor Kolomoysky	\$2.5 billion	banking, investments	Ukraine
459	Gennady Boholyubov	\$2.5 billion	banking, investments	Ukraine
488	Kostyantyn Zhevago	\$2.4 billion	banking, mining	Ukraine
833	Yuriy Kosiuk	\$1.5 billion	agriculture	Ukraine
1057	Andriy Verevskiy	\$1.1 billion	agriculture	Ukraine
1140	Oleg Bakhmatyuk	\$1 billion	eggs	Ukraine

Source: Forbes

billionaires "got rich out of privatizations and [then their wealth has] multiplied by the corruption."

For the first time, Forbes ranked Akhmetov higher in wealth than notorious London-based Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich. The Chelsea football club owner's wealth was estimated at \$13.4 billion. In a sign of his might, Akhmetov's Donetsk-based Shakhtar soccer team – stacked with high cost players from abroad – has been performing exceptionally in recent years. Both Shakhtar and Chelsea could face each other in the upcoming Champions League quarterfinals.

For Andriy Bespyatov, head of research at Kyiv-based investment bank Dragon Capital, the situation in Ukraine is somewhat similar to Mexico,

where the world's richest person Carlos Slim Helu comes from. The concentration of wealth in Ukraine could even increase, unless the country's business climate becomes friendlier for foreign business.

"Not all the state assets have been privatized and the chances that they will fall into the hands of the same group of people are obvious, given that there remains limited access for foreign investors," says Bespyatov.

While such a scenario could be bad for Ukraine's 46 million ordinary citizens, it could very well help Akhmetov and his fellow oligarchs rise up higher in next year's billionaire ranking by Forbes.

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# Campbell's ponders expansion in Ukraine

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH  
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Campbell's, the world's leading maker and marketer of soup, is mulling the possibility of establishing production in Ukraine, Agra-Net.com reported on March 4.

Media reports said the American food giant is looking to establish a joint production facility with a domestic partner. The company has no plans to start building its own facilities due to unpredictability of the local market, according to Agra-Net.com, a provider of soft commodities, agriculture and food policy information.

Speaking with the Kyiv Post, a Campbell's spokesperson said:

"Campbell's Soup doesn't comment on rumors or speculation in the media." But a source in Ukraine's business community told the Kyiv Post that Campbell's was, indeed, looking at the possibility of stepping into Ukraine.

Campbell's has had a presence on the Russian market since 2007 under the Domashnaya Klassika ("Home Classic") range of broths. As in Russia, soup is one of the most popular foods in Ukraine, often eaten once or twice a day.

The company's products are sold in 120 countries and its annual turnover exceeds \$7 billion.

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# With clinic purchase, leading equity firm makes first investment in Ukraine economy

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH  
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Advent International, a leading global private equity firm, made its first foray onto the Ukrainian market after it acquired a controlling stake in ISIDA, what it described as a cutting-edge private healthcare provider.

The acquisition, announced on March 10 by both companies, comes three years after Advent opened an office in Ukraine.

Part of Advent's Central and Eastern Europe \$1.6 billion investment program, the investment will provide ISIDA with the expertise and financial resources required to expand its healthcare service network to clients in other regions of Ukraine.

Viktor Kozin, CEO and co-owner of ISIDA said at the press conference that \$138 million is required to fulfill the company's business development plans.

Citing an informed source, Ukrainian business daily Kommersant

said that ISIDA was worth \$50-60 million. If the valuation is accurate, it suggests that Advent could have paid tens of millions of dollars for the controlling stake in ISIDA.

Founded 18 years ago and based in Kyiv, ISIDA is unique in providing world class gynecological, maternity and pediatric care services as well as the latest infertility treatment options and genetic research all under one roof.

"Ukraine is a key emerging market in Central and Eastern Europe that has strong demand for high quality healthcare services," said Tamas Nagy, managing director in Ukraine for Advent International.

"The investment in ISIDA is our first in Ukraine and one that holds great promise," Nagy added.

Since its inception in 1984, Advent has raised \$26 billion in private equity capital and, through its buyout programs, has completed over 250 transactions valued at approximately \$50 billion in 35 countries.

See issue #12 of Kyiv Post on Mar. 25

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# Is Yanukovich's pricey mansion getting even more luxurious?

BY YURIY ONYSHKIV  
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A construction boom is under way in Ukraine – at least at the multi-million dollar estate at Mezhyhirya, the 140-hectare estate outside of Kyiv where President Viktor Yanukovich resides.

In 2010, for instance, two firms reportedly active solely in developing the estate have imported goods worth nearly \$20 million from Germany and Russia.

While Yanukovich claims to only own a building on a 1.8 hectare plot on rented land, a trail of documents and individuals links him to tens of millions of dollars being spent to turn the estate into one of the most luxurious in Ukraine.

It's hard for most Ukrainians to judge how much life has improved at the closely guarded lake-front estate. The president has still not delivered on his promise to allow journalists in for a glance.

A series of investigative articles by the Ukrainska Pravda website, however, chronicled how companies close to Yanukovich took control of the former state-owned residence. Yanukovich is one of the few to have access to the estate, which reportedly has its own bowling alley, a big clubhouse, a soon-to-be-built tennis court and nearby hunting ground and shooting gallery.

It appears that two firms – SPS-Grup and Dom Lesnika – are doing a lot of the work, including supplying building materials and expensive furniture. According to Ukrainska Pravda, the firms are run by people close to Yanukovich.

The Kyiv Post found that both firms share the same office in Brovary, a small town east of Kyiv. The office is located in a building built by a firm close to Andriy Kravets, current head of the State Affairs Department within the presidential administration. According to information obtained by the Kyiv Post, his wife manages the firm involved.

Meanwhile, the co-founder of Dom Lesnika is Ivan Tokhtamysh. He is also director of a hunting and fishing club registered at Mezhyhirya that was founded by Energy Minister Yuriy Boyko, along with several other individuals close to Yanukovich. They are former Energy Minister Serhiy Tulub and current head of Ukraine's state road service Volodymyr Demishkan.

SPS-Grup's real owner is a company founded by UkrKyivResurs, which also has office space at the Brovary address and which is also a shareholder in Delphin-2001, a luxurious palace built years ago on Crimea's Black Sea Coast is also registered as belonging to this company.

Many of the aforementioned companies have business relations with UkrBiznesBank. Dom Lesnika and SPS-Grup, for example, have accounts at this bank.

Judging by the increased import volumes by SPS-Grup and Dom Lesnika, construction at Mezhyhirya appears to have shifted into higher gear after Yanukovich was elected president in February 2010.

These two firms imported goods worth \$3.2 million in 2009. But in the first half of 2010, \$5.9 million worth of imports was recorded in government figures, compared to \$13 million in the

→ How much is getting spent on Mezhyhirya estate?

second half of last year.

What were they importing? Just as in 2009, they imported luxurious lumber, furniture and stone used for construction of elite buildings.

Germany's Brunold Innenausbau und Design GmbH is amongst the suppliers. They specialize in exclusive, custom-built furnishings for buildings, company premises and hotels. The other one, Butzbach GmbH Industrietore, is known for development, construction, manufacturing and installation of industrial doors, hangar doors and facade systems.

In July 2010, SPS-Grup imported 11 doors made of softwood worth \$175,000, or almost \$16,000 each. Last September, they imported a pair of doors worth \$37,700. That's enough to buy a small apartment in many Ukrainian cities.

Suppliers include Russia-based Restamp, which specializes in illumination for big buildings. Late in December 2010, SPS-Grup bought an 8 kilogram chandelier worth around \$45,000 from this firm.

Both SPS-Grup and Dom Lesnika did not immediately respond to the Kyiv Post inquiries geared at deciphering who really covered such expenses and for whom. When a Kyiv Post journalist visited their Brovary offices, the doors were closed and nobody was in sight. But representatives of the other firm that is physically located in the same office – separated only by a door – told the Kyiv Post that SPS-Grup and Dom Lesnika representatives stop by once in a while only to pick up mail.

Yanukovich's press service was not able to provide answers to obvious questions that pop up in the minds of millions of Ukrainians regarding the possible conflicts of interest and murky nature of transactions underway at the estate where he resides. And Denys Ivanenko, Yanukovich's press secretary, said the president is too busy with meetings and visits. He added that a trip to the estate for journalists may not be possible until autumn.

Until then, many questions remain to be answered, and citizens that are struggling to survive amidst tough economic realities and a slow pace of reforms want answers, according to Oleh Rybachuk, a former government official turned civic activist.

"Although the president is reportedly earning the lowest salary among other world presidents, he leads a lavish lifestyle," Rybachuk said.

"He says he has nothing to do with Mezhyhirya but it is connected to some of his family members," Rybachuk said adding that such a politician would have no political career in the European Union, to which Yanukovich claims he wants to integrate Ukraine.

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# Vaclav Havel: Ukraine 'a dictatorship in gloves'

BY YULIYA RASKEVICH  
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Vaclav Havel, the former president of the Czech Republic and one of the world's leading democracy activists, said that post-communist Eastern European nations are still stuck in the authoritarian past.

Speaking with CNN about pro-democracy revolts in the Middle East and Northern Africa, Havel went on to point out that democracy is still fragile on the European Union's eastern borders. He described Russia, Belarus and Ukraine as "dictatorships in gloves."

"I think that the authoritarian elements that we can observe in Russia and in a much worse way in Belarus and now in a certain way in Ukraine are of a different nature than the pure totalitarian system as we remember it," Havel said.

Havel added: "They are different because they are more sophisticated and are motivated by economic interests. It's a dictatorship in gloves. But it is also necessary to come to terms with this. I would say it's a typical post-communist phenomenon."

In 1989, Havel helped lead the successful "Velvet Revolution" against communist rule in Czechoslovakia. Later he became president of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, from 1989-1992, and the Czech Republic from 1993-2003. In power, Havel laid the foundations for multiparty democracy and was a staunch proponent of NATO expansion into former Warsaw Pact countries.

Coming from an icon of the anti-



Traditionally dressed women applaud former Czech President Vaclav Havel during Viktor Yushchenko's inaugural ceremony in Ukraine's parliament in Kyiv on Jan. 23, 2005. The triumph of the 2004 Orange Revolution capped months of political turmoil that saw Ukrainians rise up in peaceful protest to overturn a presidential election rigged for Viktor Yanukovich, leading to Yushchenko's victory on Dec. 26, 2004. (AFP)

communist movement, the words of Havel add to growing Western disenchantment with Viktor Yanukovich's first year as Ukraine's president. Since taking over on Feb. 25, 2010, Yanukovich has been accused of reversing democratic gains that Ukraine made following the 2004 Orange Revolution.

During Yanukovich's first year in power, Ukraine was downgraded by U.S.-based Freedom House from being a "free" country to a "partly free" country. Ukraine last fell into this category before the 2004 Orange Revolution, which overturned a presidential election rigged for Yanukovich.

The decade of rule by President Leonid Kuchma, from 1994-2005, was marked by authoritarianism.

Havel has in the past stepped up to defend democracy in Ukraine. On Nov. 23 during the first days of the Orange Revolution, Havel hailed Ukraine's opposition and demanded that results of a disputed presidential election that favored Yanukovich be overturned. "Your country's future 'is in your hands,'" Havel said. "All respectable local and international organizations agree that your demands are just."

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# Yanukovich's words don't match actions

→2 handed over their administration to relatives," Yanukovich said to Deutsche Welle and other German media ahead of his visit to Berlin.

But Khoroshkovsky has obvious and widely recognized conflicts of interest as head of the SBU, starting with his business relations with billionaire Dmytro Firtash. Firtash played a big role in the region's murky natural gas business. Both Firtash and Khoroshkovsky had interests in Ukraine's leading Inter TV group. Moreover, Khoroshkovsky has headed investigations into gas dealings where Firtash's interests are at stake.

5. Yanukovich downplayed probes centering on former Economy Minister Bohdan Danylyshyn, a close ally of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, saying the investigation was not political because Danylyshyn himself was not involved in politics.

"Getting back to the former minister of the economy – Mr. Danylyshyn – he had never been involved in politics. He was a minister in the previous government," he said in interview to Washington Post on Jan 28, 2011.

But the position of government minister is, by default, a political one, according to Ukraine's Constitution. Moreover, Danylyshyn received political asylum in the Czech Republic, a development that clearly suggested the investigation into him was politically motivated.

6. In the same Washington Post interview, Yanukovich called on his main rival in the presidential election campaign, ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, to prove that corruption charges against her were baseless.

"Of course, I very much want to see Ms. Tymoshenko prove that she is innocent if she is innocent," he said.

In saying so, Yanukovich, as guarantor of Ukraine's constitution, expressed disregard for the constitution, which envisions presumption of innocence for the accused.

7. In the same Washington Post interview, Yanukovich claimed that a major anti-corruption campaign was under way in Ukraine under his leadership.

"The country started a major campaign against corruption and violations of the law. It is not a selective approach based on political motivations. This campaign targets members of all political groups," he said, pointing out a recent criminal case against the former chairman of Crimea's parliament, Anatoly Hrytsenko.

But Mustafa Dzhemilev, a Crimean Tatar leader said in a Kyiv Post interview that Hrytsenko was arrested after he fell out of favor with the pro-presidential Regions Party. Critics of Yanukovich in Ukraine and abroad say that country's law enforcement authorities are politically persecuting the opposition, starting with the camp

of Tymoshenko.

8. Yanukovich insists he fairly won the 2004 presidential election, where his allegedly fraud marred victory was overturned by the Orange Revolution.

"I won all the elections which took place in the last 5 – 6 years, including the elections of 2004. Commentary of lawyers confirm that the decision of the [Supreme] Court [in 2004 to hold a repeat vote] was in violation of Ukraine's Constitution," he said in a BBC interview published on Feb. 11, 2010.

But both Ukrainian courts, Western observers and the international community at large concluded that the presidential campaign in 2004 was rigged in Yanukovich's favor.

9. Yanukovich says he doesn't fear anything.

"I'm not scared of anything. I think I do not resemble a person who is frightened. Do you think I look like someone who is frightened?" he said.

But Yanukovich always appears in public encircled by an enormous number of bodyguards and he rarely appears as press conferences. His former political ally, Taras Chornovil, said in an interview with Ukrainska Pravda website that Yanukovich has serious fears.

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# Putin shows no respect for Yanukovych, US cable says

BY PETER BYRNE  
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First the world learned that Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin has no respect for Ukraine's status as a sovereign nation. Now there are revelations that Putin also doesn't think highly of the nation's leader – and hated the last one.

While Ukraine's Foreign Ministry is refusing to comment on one of the latest U.S. State Department cables released by WikiLeaks, the whistleblower site, it is also not denying that the cable's contents accurately reflect the views of current Foreign Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko.

Authored on Jan. 30, 2009 by former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor, the cable quotes Gryshchenko as telling the American representative that Kremlin leaders seek a "regency" in Ukraine, i.e., someone in power who is totally subservient to Moscow.

Taylor also noted that Gryshchenko, then ambassador to Russia, told him that Putin "hates" then-President Viktor Yushchenko and has a low personal regard for President Viktor Yanukovich. But Gryshchenko reportedly told Taylor that Putin saw then-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko as someone perhaps not that he can trust, but with whom he can deal. Gryshchenko also, according to Taylor, made this observation of Kremlin life: That everyone in government seemed to be part of the "security brotherhood," that people are afraid to tell jokes and it is "back to the USSR."

Foreign Ministry spokesman Oleh Voloshyn told the Kyiv Post on March 9 that it is a policy of the ministry not to comment on classified U.S. State Department Cables published by WikiLeaks. "If we comment on one of the cables, then we have to comment on all of the cables," Voloshyn said. But he added that Gryshchenko's views are well-known and have not changed. "Gryshchenko believed at the time that Russian leaders preferred to agree with Tymoshenko rather than negotiate a tougher deal with Yanukovich, who at the time was in the opposition," Voloshyn said.



Kostyantyn Gryshchenko

Gryshchenko was Ukraine's ambassador to Moscow from 2008-2010, when the Kremlin waged a public campaign against Yushchenko, who irked Russian leaders by relentlessly (and fruitlessly) promoting NATO membership and a less Russian-friendly view of Ukrainian history. Gryshchenko has been the top foreign policy guru in Yanukovich's inner circle since the early 2000s.

Vadym Karasyov, a political consultant, speculated on why Putin may have respected Tymoshenko more than Yanukovich. "Tymoshenko would not have hesitated to bring Ukrainian oligarchs to heel [as Putin did soon after coming to power]," Karasyov said. "Yanukovich has been unable to do the same, in part because they put him in office."

Oleskandr Sushko, a political expert with the Kyiv-based Institute for Euro-Atlantic cooperation, said Putin's reputed low regard for Yanukovich and desire to see a subservient leader in Kyiv, as laid out in the Wikileaks documents, illustrates the discomfort of many Russian leaders with Ukraine's independence.

"Russian leaders during the 2000s have gone out of their way not to show respect for Ukraine's leaders and the country's sovereignty," Sushko said. "This remains the prevailing view among many Kremlin leaders. It's part of their political culture."

Putin, as president on the sidelines

of the NATO summit in Bucharest in 2008, reportedly went out of his way to belittle Ukraine's sovereignty. Putin supposedly told then-U.S. President George W. Bush: "Well, you understand, George, Ukraine isn't even a state," according to Russia's newspaper Kommersant, citing a diplomatic source in attendance. "What is Ukraine? One part of its territory is in Eastern Europe, and the other part, the significant portion, was a gift from us."

However, after Russia's invasion of Georgia later that year, Putin – then as prime minister – moved to quell Ukrainian fears of a similar military intervention by saying: "Crimea isn't a disputed territory...Russia has recognized the present-day borders of Ukraine long ago."

Vasyl Yurchyshyn, director of economic programs at the Razumkov Center, said: "My sense is that Kremlin leaders found it easier to deal with Tymoshenko in the economic sphere" while she was prime minister from 2007 to early 2010. But "Yanukovich's willingness to extend the lease of the Russian Black Sea fleet in Crimea" pleased Moscow, but may not have improved the Kremlin's opinion of the Ukrainian president. "The willingness of Yanukovich to seek short-term economic gains by making strategic concessions has not brought more respect," Yurchyshyn added.

Experts say that U.S. State Department cables released earlier have provided insight into U.S. interest in Russia's rocky relationship with Ukraine, top-level government corruption in the transit of Russian natural gas via Ukraine to Europe, Ukraine's plans to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and consequences of Russia's full-scale military invasion of Georgia in August 2008.

Future releases, to take place over the months ahead, are expected to include more than 1,000 diplomatic cables originating from the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv from December 2005 through February 2010.

Despite some controversial information leaking out through the Wikileaks site already, Ukraine's leadership



Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin (L) rides on a Harley Davidson motorcycle decorated with the Russian and Ukrainian national flags as he arrives for a meeting with motorbikers at their camp at Gasfort Lake near Sevastopol on Ukraine's Crimea Peninsula on July 24, 2010. The poster behind Putin of Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich, who, according to U.S. Embassy documents leaked by Wikileaks, the Russian leader does not respect, reads "Yanukovich is our hope." (AFP)

does not seem rattled. Presidential Administration deputy head Hanna Herman in December said Ukraine "has nothing to fear" from the leaked diplomatic correspondence. "What the current authorities say in tete-a-tete

conversations is no different from the official position of our state and those who have power," Herman said. "We do not have double standards."

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# Jailhouse Watch



**Editor's Note:** Experts say excessive pre-trial imprisonment is a major human-rights problem in Ukraine, where suspects can be jailed for up to 18 months before trial. The practice violates democratic principles that call for speedy, fair and public trials as well as the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. More than 40,000 people in Ukraine are imprisoned without trial. The Kyiv Post will keep track of this issue through this new feature called "Jailhouse Watch."

# Many former top officials remain in jail for months

BY PETER BYRNE  
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More than a dozen former officials from the previous government remained in pre-trial detention on March 10, as a Zaporizhia court prepared to try nationalists jailed for defacing statues of Soviet leaders Joseph Stalin and Felix Dzerzhinsky, the first director of the Soviet Union's secret police.

Former government officials currently behind bars include former Interior Minister Yuriy Lutsenko, former acting Defense Minister Valeriy Ivashchenko, former Customs Service Chief Anatoliy Makarenko and Ihor Didenko, former deputy head of Naftogaz.

More than a dozen more former government officials, including former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, have been questioned in various criminal investigations opened by state prosecutors and the Security Service of Ukraine since President Viktor Yanukovich took office on Feb. 25, 2010. Some are being held in pre-trial confinement, while others, such as Deputy Justice Minister Serhiy Korniychuk, have been released pending trial.

A report published on Feb. 28 by the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union and the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group considers many of the cases to be political persecution, a charge that law enforcement agencies and President Viktor Yanukovich's administration deny.

## Trial of Tryzub activists

The prosecutor's office of Zaporizhia region on March 4 announced that its criminal investigation into the Dec. 28 decapitation of a bust of Josef Stalin is complete. Police in January arrested nine members of the Tryzub nationalist group, jailing all but one of them in pre-trial detention.

The men were originally suspected of blowing up the bust of Stalin in Zaporizhya late on Dec. 31, but the suspected perpetrators of that crime have not been identified.

Police on Jan. 9 detained Vasyl Labaichuk, Andriy Zanuda, Edward Andryushchenko, Roman Khmara, Pylyp Taran, Vitaly Vyshnyuk, Yuriy Ponomarenko, Anatoliy Onufriyuk and Vasyl Abramiv for decapitating the Stalin statue days before the explosion. All nine men are jailed on hooliganism charges in January.

The civil society portal Maidan.org.ua on March 7 quoted Andriy Parubiy, a lawmaker within the Our Ukraine parliament faction, as saying Vyshnyuk has been released to a tuberculosis clinic for medical attention pending trial.

Zaporizhia prosecutors on Jan. 10 arrested two members of a second nationalist organization, Svoboda, Yuriy Hudymenko and Artyom Matvieyenko, on similar charges for allegedly daubing paint in May 2010 on the statue of Dzerzhinsky.

Ukraine's criminal code defines hooliganism as "a flagrant violation of public order motivated by overt disrespect for society, accompanied by particular impudence or exceptional cynicism." If

→ Rights groups say many cases amount to political persecution

convicted of the offense, the men could be fined or sentenced to jail for up to three years.

Lawyers for the defense say their clients had no intention of insulting society or expressing disrespect since the overwhelming majority of Ukrainians consider Stalin and Dzerzhinsky as enemies of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union, a human-rights watchdog, says the two cases resemble Soviet-era political show trials, which were aimed at intimidating the population and undermining the law in the country.

## Tax protesters face trial

Lawyers representing eight defendants charged with destroying public property on Independence Square in Kyiv during protests against the tax code last fall said on March 3 that police have finished their criminal investigation.

Serhiy Melnychenko, Oleh Akhtyrskiy, Oleksandr Mandych, Roman Fedchuk, Ihor Harkavenko, Oleh Zaplatkyn, Serhiy Kostakov and Vitaliy Gruzinov are accused of causing \$25,000 (Hr. 200,000) worth of damage to granite tiles on the square with tent pegs, which protesters used on Nov. 22 to erect eight tents.

Some are also accused of doing \$340 (Hr. 2,711) worth of damages to the metal fence on Maidan, making a dent and breaking a mirror of the two cars parked on Maidan.

Oleh Levytsky, a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Council monitoring, said heavy-handed treatment of defendants represents political persecution.

"One of the accused, Ihor Harkavenko, didn't even arrive at the tent city in Kyiv until Nov. 25, after the tents were erected," Levytsky said. "The pre-trial investigation has resembled a public relations campaign to show the 'criminal face' behind the tax code protests."

Artyom Belov, Harkavenko's lawyer, said that "the decision to target these individuals looks like an attempt to frighten other civic activists. I can find no other explanation."

Oleksandr Danylyuk told the Kyiv Post in January that he and other protest organizers were questioned by police in late December. "We have information that the police put pressure on some people to say that opposition deputies paid them to raise a ruckus," Danylyuk said.

Manduch and Harkavenko spent weeks in pre-trial detention before released on appeal. Zaplatkyn and Kostakov remain in jail.

## Former high-ranking government officials in jail



**Yuriy Lutsenko**, former interior minister. Arrested in December for alleged misappropriation of state assets. Pre-trial detention extended to April 26.



**Valeriy Ivashchenko**, former acting defense minister. Arrested in August on suspicion of abuse of office. Kyiv's Pechersk district court is scheduled on March 16 at 3 p.m. to begin hearing the preliminary arguments in the case.



**Hryhoriy Filipchuk**, former environment minister. Arrested in December on suspicion of abuse of office.



**Viktor Kolbun**, former deputy pension fund board chairman. Arrested in November on suspicion of exceeding authority.



**Mykola Petrenko**, director of Ukrmedpostach. Arrested in December on suspicion of abuse of office.



**Tetyana Hrytsun**, former state treasury deputy head. Arrested in July on suspicion of abuse of office.



**Oleksandr Danyevych**, former state treasury deputy head. Arrested in July on suspicion of abuse of office.



**Anatoliy Hrytsenko**, former Crimean Parliament speaker. Arrested in January on abuse of office charges (illegally allocating land plots).



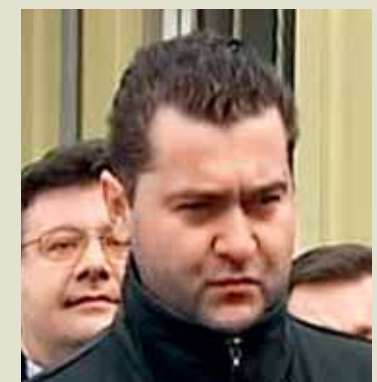
**Volodymyr Rabotnyov**, former deputy transportation minister. Charged with revealing state secrets. Remains under house arrest.

## Ex-Naftogaz, ex-customs officials in jail

Former Naftogaz and State Customs officials have been jailed since last summer for their roles in ex-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's acquisition 11 billion cubic meters of natural gas from RosUkrEnergo. Naftogaz reportedly dropped the claim after Tymoshenko left power, allowing RosUkrEnergo to reclaim the gas.



**Ihor Didenko**, former deputy head of Naftogaz. Arrested in July on suspicion of abuse of office. A Kyiv appeals court on Feb. 7 extended Didenko's pre-trial confinement to March 10.



**Taras Shepitko**, former deputy head of the Kyiv regional energy customs service office. Arrested in July on suspicion of abuse of office.



**Anatoliy Makarenko**, former Customs Service head. Arrested in July on suspicion of abuse of office. Kyiv Appeals Court on Feb. 7 extended Makarenko's pre-trial confinement to March 10.

# Writer takes stand against Tabachnyk

BY OKSANA FARYNA  
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Ukrainian writer Vasyl Shkliar could have marked the March 9 anniversary of Taras Shevchenko's 1814 birth with a \$32,000 prize and honorable celebrations on Cherncha Hill in Kaniv, where the great poet was buried in 1861.

Instead, the 59-year-old author stayed at home, watched the ceremony on TV, wrote a synopsis for his future film, put flowers at Shevchenko's monument in Kyiv and drank coffee.

Shkliar was nominated for the Shevchenko prize for his novel *Black Raven*, or *Zalyshenets*, a story about the fighting between Ukrainian nationalists and the Bolsheviks in the 1920s.

But the author refused to accept the nation's biggest award in culture and art, which was established in 1962, until "Ukrainophobe" Dmytro Tabachnyk, the minister of education and science, youth and sport, loses his job.

"There were a lot of protests against Tabachnyk in society," Shkliar said. "People came out against him in Crimea and Donbas, not to mention western Ukraine. But it turned out that nothing can help. People gave up. Some intellectual stagnation and indifference occurs that we can nothing do anymore."

Shkliar decided to take a stand. After the Shevchenko committee voted for Shkliar's nomination, he wrote to President Viktor Yanukovich after suffering anxiety and sleepless nights.

"Now my sleep is sound, which means that my conscious is clear," he said. "I ... ask you to consider my request in a decree on the Shevchenko prize winners' award to postpone the awarding of my Shevchenko prize until Ukrainophobe Tabachnyk isn't in power in Ukraine," Shkliar wrote in the letter.

Yanukovich did not include Shkliar's name in the list of winners in his decree of March 4. When asked why Shkliar is not on the list, Tabachnyk said he had not even opened the book tagged for the nation's main



Novelist Vasyl Shkliar refuses to accept the Shevchenko Prize, the nation's top literary prize, until Dmitry Tabachnyk is no longer education minister.

literary prize. "I never said a single word about his novel, as I did not read it," Tabachnyk said, according to LigaBusinessInform.

Yanukovich did not comment on his decision and didn't attend the award ceremony because he was still recovering from knee surgery. Russian-speaking Prime Minister Mykola Azarov took the president's place and tried his best to read in Ukrainian the verses by the Great Kobzar, as Shevchenko is known, in Kaniv.

"The ceremony made a sad impression on me," Shkliar said. "No smiles, no big celebrations. I felt a kind of confusion."

One of the Shevchenko prizes worth Hr 250,000 (\$32,000) this year went to literature critics Roman Horak and Mykola-Yaroslav Hnativ for the 10-volume work "Ivan Franko." Another award was given to Taras Shevchenko National Opera directors Mykola Dyadyura and Anatoliy Solovyanenko, opera singers Serhiy Magera and Oksana Kramareva for the opera *Norma*. One more prize was given to Lidiya Zabliasta, singer of Kyiv Operetta Theater.

After the ceremony, Hanna Herman, deputy chief of the presidential administration, said Shkliar still has a chance

to receive an award "when the time comes."

Popular Ukrainian writer Yuriy Andrukhovych, meanwhile, proposed an alternative people's prize for the author by collecting the same sum from ordinary people.

Shkliar agreed to accept money if any comes his way to turn his novel into a movie. He registered a special fund called *Kholodnoyarska Republic* where money for the movie can be sent. For the same purpose, a special account was opened by Yaroslav Val publishing house, which published Shkliar's novel at the end of 2009.

The book tells a little-known page of Ukrainian history – the fight between the Ukrainian National Republic and Bolsheviks in 1917-20 in central Ukraine's Kholodny Yar.

"The Ukrainian national fight was always shown as a phenomenon of western Ukraine only. But, in fact, it started in central Ukraine and east and then continued in the Ukrainian Insurgent Army in western Ukraine," said Shkliar, born in central Ukraine, where the historical episodes took place. "This is the book of my life in which I won't change a single word."

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# Supreme Court judges could oust Onopenko via vote

BY PETER BYRNE  
BYRNE@KYIVPOST.COM

Judges on Ukraine's Supreme Court could vote to sack their chief justice, Vasyl Onopenko, on March 11.

Onopenko is widely regarded as the last top official not subservient to President Viktor Yanukovich and his administration. His ouster would give pro-presidential officials almost complete control over the nation's judiciary.

Some 19 of the 49 judges sitting on the court asked for a vote, which would need a simple majority, or 25 votes, to pass.

"Instead of resolving issues in the sphere of jurisprudence, the activities of the Supreme Court head have mostly been of a political nature, which has politicized the Supreme Court in the eyes of top government officials and, in our view, has induced lawmakers to amend the Law on Judiciary and Judge Status," the initiators of Onopenko's dismissal said in a letter released on March 9.

"We believe that Onopenko as head of the Supreme Court must bear responsibility for the systemic problems in the judicial branch. He is the official who has represented the Supreme Court and country's judicial system as a whole," the statement said.

Onopenko told the Kyiv Post on March 10 that he expects less than half of the Supreme Court's judges will support his ouster.

"I can't predict the outcome of the vote with complete certainty, but I'm confident it won't pass," Onopenko said. "The vote isn't about me, per se. It's about the independence of the Supreme Court."

Serhiy Taran, a political analyst who heads the Kyiv-based International Democracy Institute, on March 10 told the Kyiv Post that Onopenko's removal would give President Yanukovich and his supporters control of the country's last independent judicial institution.

"The Supreme Court is widely seen as the last bastion of judicial independence in Ukraine," Taran said, adding that Onopenko is one of the few remaining top officials associated with



Vasyl Onopenko

→ Chief judge last person in power not allied with president

the political camp of former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko."

During the last Supreme Court session on Feb. 28, Onopenko told journalists that he was unaware of the intentions of some judges on the court to hold a no-confidence vote.

Article 43 of the Law on the Judiciary and Judge Status elaborates the procedure for removing the Supreme Court head, who can be dismissed if more than 10 judges vote to convene a special court session to consider the measure.

According to Ukraine's Constitution, the Supreme Court is the highest judicial body in the system of courts of general jurisdiction.

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**Some critics say that the uncompetitive bidding process used for Euro 2012 improvements has added needless costs to new stadiums**



**Lviv Arena**  
 33,400  
 \$300 million  
 August 2011

**Metalist Stadium (Kharkiv)**  
 38,633  
 \$95 million  
 December 2009

**Donbass Arena (Donetsk)**  
 51,504  
 \$400 million  
 Aug. 29, 2009

**National Stadium (Warsaw)**  
 55,000  
 \$695 million  
 June 2011

**Olympic Stadium (Kyiv)**  
 69,004  
 \$550-\$600 million  
 July 2011

Capacity  
 Estimated cost  
 Completion/Completed

Source: Kyiv Post research

**Wembley Stadium (London)**  
 90,000  
 \$1.2 billion  
 March 9, 2007

**Emirates Stadium (London)**  
 60,355  
 \$721 million  
 July 22, 2006

**Allianz Arena (Munich)**  
 69,901  
 \$438 million  
 April 30, 2005

**Olympic Stadium (Berlin)**  
 74,244  
 \$298 million  
 July 31, 2004

**Olympic Stadium (Athens)**  
 72,000  
 \$326 million  
 July 30, 2004

# Semerak: No-bid Euro 2012 deals 'make it easy to steal'

→1 competitiveness – and, some say – to Ukraine’s already battered image abroad.

Taxpayers are on the hook for \$20 billion or more because private investors have largely stayed away or been kept away. Moreover, critics charge that the public money is not being well-spent. They say contracts are going to hand-picked companies at inflated prices, bypassing the competitive bidding process.

“Let’s be frank. Not holding bids makes it easy to steal money from the state budget via kickbacks,” said Ostap Semerak, a member of parliament’s budget commission and opposition lawmaker with the Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko.

“Unfortunately, Yanukovich and [Prime Minister Mykola] Azarov are not using this as a chance to bring in investment. Their goal is to first steal money, only then prepare for Euro 2012,” Semerak said.

However, Deputy Prime Minister Borys Kolesnikov, who oversees the

nation’s Euro 2012, disputed the allegations and criticism. Kolesnikov said that the previous government of ex-President Viktor Yushchenko and Tymoshenko are to blame, forcing the Yanukovich administration to move quickly to get the nation ready in time.

“Look, if I had the three years to build Euro 2012 objects like the Kyiv stadium that the previous government had, I would’ve chosen the best companies for the jobs who would have done it quicker, better and cheaper,” Kolesnikov said. “But now we don’t have much time left and the previous government left us with no other option.”

Regarding public procurement laws, Kolesnikov said that he welcomes “any legislation that will bring investors in... But look again, the previous government had majorities in parliament. They could have enacted investor-friendly public procurement laws.”

When he came to power, Kolesnikov said, the Union of European Football



Borys Kolesnikov

Associations was on the verge of eliminating Lviv as a host city because of slow progress.

“In the end, we asked parliament, what do you want? Tenders or Euro 2012,” Kolesnikov said. “Parliament



Ostap Semerak

chose 2012.”

Besides, Kolesnikov said, the state agency that oversees tenders for government procurement projects “is a corrupt, non-transparent government institution.”

**No-bid contracts**

Whoever is to blame, taxpayers are on the hook for \$20 billion, according to an April 2010 government plan, and those costs are expected to rise before the matches start.

A series of audits by Ukraine’s Accounting Chamber – the parliamentary body that monitors government expenditures – pinned the blame for runaway costs on managerial decisions and unsatisfactory performance by the Cabinet of Ministers and Kyiv State Administration. In one example, a 2008-2010 audit of Kharkiv’s Metalist Stadium found its reconstruction was inflated by \$29 million.

One decision alone, according to critics, will cost the nation billions of dollars more than necessary. They blame a Cabinet of Ministers resolution passed on April 12, 2010 – the first month after power changed hands from Tymoshenko to Azarov. That fateful decision allowed state spending on Euro 2012 projects to bypass a bidding process, essentially letting orga- →15

# Kolesnikov defends no-bid spending on Euro 2012 as key to making deadlines

→ 14 nizers hand-pick companies and allow single bids.

This is not the way that bankers and other investors hoped it would turn out, at least in the beginning.

Concorde Capital, for example, wrote in an April 23, 2007 report: "The news definitely means acceleration in investments ... Property developers and construction companies will lead the pack, driven by orders to build lacking hotels, sports facilities, airport terminals and highways."

The euphoria started to wane as political infighting between Yushchenko and Tymoshenko persisted until they left power last year. Other internal rivalries surfaced, further discouraging investors. Then the global financial meltdown sapped any remaining investor momentum.

Soon it became clear that the private sector wouldn't bring in the roughly 80 percent of the \$25 billion needed for the 2012 competition.

Although Ukraine is on track to meet Euro 2012 requirements – mainly road and rail transportation links, upgraded

airports, ample hotel rooms and new stadiums – economists and opposition lawmakers say Ukraine's wayward approach is a missed opportunity on all fronts.

"The entire Euro 2012 project is a debacle," said economist Andriy Novak of the Committee of Economists of Ukraine. "It's an investment bust. The people will have to repay the public debt in the coming years at the expense of social standards rising."

Europe's top soccer governing body appears to just want the jobs to get done. "The important things is that things are finished on time. We have no real view how things are actually done," said Martin Kellen, chief operating officer of the Union of European Football Associations.

Expediency, as Kolesnikov claims, may not be the only reason for the government giving itself a free hand in awarding contracts.

One example is AK Engineering. It is a Donetsk-based company which Ukrainska Pravda, a respected online news portal, has linked to associates of

Kolesnikov, which he has strenuously denied.

The firm was the sole bidder for at least \$10 million to renovate the Palats Sportu indoor stadium located alongside the Olympic Stadium. Another company is Altcom, a Donetsk-based road construction conglomerate with unclear beneficiary ownership that Ukrainska Pravda has tracked as far as Belize. It has received nearly \$1 billion in Euro 2012-related infrastructure orders from the Ukrainian state.

The cost of projects keep ballooning on infrastructure overhauls mostly limited to areas where the four host cities of Lviv, Kyiv, Kharkiv and Donetsk are located.

Ukraine spent close to \$1.4 billion on no-bid Euro 2012 jobs in 2010, according to parliamentarian Semerak from the Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko. By contrast, Semerak and others said that bids overseen by the Tymoshenko government to renovate airports and other Euro 2012 projects, for instance, were more competitive than the public spending undertaken since Yanukovich took power.

## High road costs

The 2011 budget earmarked \$2.5 billion for roadwork alone, more than half of which are exempted from bids. Altogether, Ukraine plans to spend \$7.7 billion on Euro 2012 projects this year.

According to the Ukrainian government plan, by 2012, Ukraine plans to build or repair 3,460 kilometers of roads and highways, just 2 percent of all its 165,000 kilometers of paved roads, according to data from the CIA World Fact Book.

The extent of the road network is equal to 281 kilometers of road per square kilometer, which is three to five times below the European average.

The most often cited example is the cost of building a new 84-kilometer, four-lane highway between Krakovets and Lviv in western Ukraine. Costs for the stretch of highway have risen from Hr 1.42 billion to Hr 4 billion (\$500 million), Ukraine's Euro 2012 National Agency said on Jan. 21.

That's close to \$6 million per kilometer of highway. This same job would cost an estimated \$315 million in the United States, where the average cost of constructing a new four-lane highway in rural and suburban areas is \$1.88-\$3.75 million per kilometer, according to the American Road & Transportation Builders Association.

Two local firms are doing much of the roadwork: state-owned Ukravtodor, a company with chronic financial problems that relies on state guaranteed loans, and Altcom, the Donetsk-based conglomerate.

A Donetsk-headquartered company within the Altcom group disclosed that two of its owners are Ukrainian businessmen Serhiy Pavlychev and Oleksandr Tislenko. But Altcom and government officials have not been able to bring clarity to ownership of a Belize-owned firm operating under the Altcom brand which won a large share of Euro 2012 contracts. Altcom denies, however, having any relation to government or ministries.

"There are no civil servants or their relatives among the company's → 16

Ukraine desperately needs to overhaul its roadways, which are notoriously dangerous due to pot holes, poor planning and unclear traffic signs. Accidents (below) are common. Reconstruction is underway, but many suspect corruption is widely at play. The cash-strapped nation often spends several times more per kilometer to fix roads compared to costs in the U.S. (Courtesy)



→ "Look, if I had the three years to build Euro 2012 objects like the Kyiv stadium that the previous government had, I would've chosen the best companies for the jobs who would have done it quicker, better and cheaper". "But now we don't have much time left and the previous government left us with no other option."

– Borys Kolesnikov

→ "Let's be frank. Not holding bids makes it easy to steal money from the state budget via kickbacks. Unfortunately, Yanukovich and [Prime Minister Mykola] Azarov are not using this as a chance to bring in investment. Their goal is to first steal money, only then prepare for Euro 2012."

– Ostap Semerak, a member of parliament's budget commission and opposition lawmaker with the Bloc of Yulia Tymoshenko.

## Euro 2012 spending: benches the price of a car

Probably the most revealing example of conspicuous Euro 2012 procurements was last December's \$79,000 purchase of 10 wooden benches for a Kharkiv metro station, the equivalent of 10 Ukraine-assembled Daewoo Lanos sedans.

A 1+1 TV channel investigation discovered that the single bidder and supplier of the benches was a plastic sewer manhole manufacturer.

"Then why didn't they just purchase 10 Lanoses, remove the roofs and have people sit inside the cars instead," said Verkhovna Rada deputy Ostap Semerak sarcastically.

Despite a tidal wave of public criticism, no criminal case was opened and nobody faced prosecution after a law enforcement investigation into the legality of the bench sale found no wrongdoing.

"The Euro 2012 soccer event will take place nevertheless but we'll be taken for fools and idiots through the whole preparation process," Semerak said.



The controversial Kharkiv metro wooden benches (L) cost about \$8,000 each. (Courtesy)

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# Private investment scarce in Euro 2012 construction

→ **15** founders. There are no high level government patrons associated with the company securing it advantageous orders," an Altcom statement reads. "The company has no political allies or opponents and, as such, has won bids within former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko's government and within Prime Minister Mykola Azarov's government. Altcom isn't afraid of open competitive bids for any job... and has always been and remains open to the press."

Poland, by contrast, has managed to bring down the cost of building one kilometer of highway by 30 percent over the last three years, according to Poland's General Directorate of Roads and Highways.

It accomplished this by breaking up road contracts into shorter segments, allowing a much wider range of companies to compete for bids.

As a result, Polish companies as well as European giants and firms from as far away as China have secured roadwork contracts making Poland a \$10 billion construction site, a Nov. 29, 2010 Financial Times article said.

The 106-kilometer Swiecko-Nowy Tomysl highway, for example is a public private partnership in which the state and a private investor share profits in exchange for using a company's efficient project management skills and expertise.

Put another way, Poland – with smaller territory and fewer people than



Workers from Altcom take part in construction of a new airport in Donetsk on Feb. 9, ahead of the Euro 2012 football tournament which is being co-hosted by Ukraine and Poland. Four cities in each country are hosting games. Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, is hosting the final on July 1. (AFP)

Ukraine – has managed to expand its road system considerably while saving money whereas Ukraine has lagged behind on cost and reach. Moreover, Poland's tracking of spending on Euro 2012 is light years ahead and much more transparent than Ukraine.

## High stadium costs

The differences between the two nations extend to construction of stadiums.

The cost of building and reconstruct-

ing stadiums has also mushroomed. Reconstruction of Kyiv's Olympic Stadium is approaching \$550 million making it one of Europe's most expensive stadiums.

Lviv's stadium – originally slated for a private investor that never emerged – has more than doubled from Hr 1.1 billion to Hr 2.4 billion, said Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovy on Feb. 21 in Kyiv.

In particular, Lviv had originally offered investors 25 hectares of land near the stadium in exchange for building the stadium and the surrounding infrastructure, Sadovy said on March 1. But no investor found it economically beneficial. Instead, municipal authorities asked Austrian construction company Alpine Bau to do project planning for the site, which it completed in August 2008.

According to Alpine, Lviv municipal authorities paid them the \$4.5 million fee for project planning and design only after a lawsuit was threatened in 2009 while the Lviv authorities were using the company's blueprints for construction.

Lviv authorities then took bids later in August 2008 for building the stadium and related infrastructure projects. Alpine offered to build the stadium for \$190.7 million but Lviv named a much modest price of \$115.8 million.

Alpine withdrew its bid because "it was not willing to compromise its outstanding international reputation in stadium construction by signing a contract, knowing beforehand that it cannot be fulfilled."

Azovintex, a company linked to billionaire Serhiy Taruta, was awarded the job instead, agreeing to the \$116 million price tag. Azovintex has since been replaced by Donetsk-based Altcom.

→ "The entire Euro 2012 project is a debacle. It's an investment bust. The people will have to repay the public debt in the coming years at the expense of social standards rising."

– Andriy Novak, economist of the Committee of Economists of Ukraine

→ "This predominant reliance on public funds isn't good ... the general economic impact will be limited because the high infrastructure expenditures are mostly limited to the four host cities,"

– Ihor Burakovsky, chairman of the Institute of Economic Research and Political Consulting.

Sadovy, Lviv's mayor, has regrets.

"Had the Ukrainian government understood in time the simple truth that stadiums are complicated infrastructure projects that need to be financed with state funds, had the contracts been concluded back in 2007 and not have been financed only in 2010, then I think a foreign company could've done this at a cheaper price," Sadovy said. "But our people waited for some benevolent philanthropist to appear and build a stadium."

The current cost of building the Lviv Stadium and surrounding infrastructure sites has approached \$300 million, at least \$100 million more than what the Austrians had offered in 2008.

Economists noted that government has eschewed public-private partnerships and is exacerbating public debt with money that could have gone into improving hospitals or schools.

"This predominant reliance on public funds isn't good ... the general economic impact will be limited because the high infrastructure expenditures are mostly limited to the four host cities," said Ihor Burakovsky, chairman of the Institute of Economic Research and Political Consulting.

Moreover, some spending has taken

place that doesn't appear to be related to the soccer event.

Last year, for instance, the government earmarked just over \$10 million to build landing pads for helicopters in Kaniv of Cherkassy Oblast and \$18.75 million to build ice rinks in cities across Ukraine through a state-owned company called Lyodova Arena.

The Kaniv heliport was justified to draw wealthy Ukrainians living abroad.

"Cherkassy Oblast has a developed historic and cultural heritage," said Serhiy Tulub, the region's governor on Feb. 16. "There are powerful Ukrainian diaspora in many countries. And these are not the poorest people, you know. They'll fly to Boryspil where there'll be a heliport terminal from which the helicopter will fly tourists to Kaniv, to [Taras] Shevchenko's burial place."

Yet nobody knows just how many more public procurement projects will bypass the bidding process under the Euro 2012 umbrella.

"Financial figures and plans keep changing all the time. No one is being held accountable," said Semerak from parliament's budget commission.

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## Poland: A world of difference across the border

On the surface, Poland and Ukraine are doing the same things to prepare to host the Euro 2012 soccer championships. They're building new stadiums and roads, and updating other infrastructure such as airports.

But Poland is undertaking the projects in a vastly more competitive and transparent manner than Ukraine, a difference that should help Ukraine's neighbor minimize corruption and maximize the effectiveness of the spending.

Poland is undertaking 216 infrastructure projects, 81 of which are directly related to Euro 2012. Poland's estimated costs are \$30.4 billion, 40 percent of which are covered by the European Union, according to Poland's Euro 2012 National Agency.

Poland's Euro 2012 agency has devised a "Master Plan" that is updated quarterly at [http://masterplan.2012.org.pl/index\\_en.php](http://masterplan.2012.org.pl/index_en.php). The website provides a detailed timetable of what needs to be done, the stage of project completion and important infor-

mation about the competitive bidding process. All entries are color-coded and easy to follow.

Ukraine doesn't have anything like this.

Poland also puts a premium on accepting the lowest bid, rather than a company's country of origin, as Ukraine is doing. Consequently, Poland has attracted European construction giants and other firms as far away as China, along with Polish companies, to compete for Euro 2012 orders.

As a result, according to Poland's General Directorate of Roads and Highways, the cost of building one kilometer of highway in Poland has dropped by 30 percent over the last three years and compares favorably with Ukraine's per-kilometer costs.

And Poland's Euro 2012 agency and General Directorate of Roads and Highways are accessible and quick to respond to requests for information, unlike the people overseeing Ukraine's preparations for Euro 2012.



Former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko talks to supporters near Ukraine's Prosecutor General's Office in Kyiv on Feb. 16. Prosecutors have launched numerous criminal investigations into how she spent state funds while serving two stints as prime minister. She calls the investigation political persecution. (Oleksandr Prokopenko)

## Pifer, Taylor: Yanukovich should get clear message

→5 turned away from European-style democracy.

This carries significant implications for Kyiv's foreign policy. Ukraine under its previous president, Viktor Yushchenko, and under Yanukovich has sought to integrate fully into Europe, including someday joining the European Union. Ukraine certainly ought to have the chance. Reaching that goal, however, means reforming the economy, restructuring laws, and raising standards to meet E.U. requirements.

While all understood that the process was sure to be long, the effort was seen to be worthwhile and achievable, with time and determination. The U.S. government fully supported this effort. Developments in Ukraine, however, cause Europeans and others to question Ukraine's commitment to broadly-accepted European norms of political behavior.

If Yanukovich is committed to European integration and E.U. membership, his administration's domestic actions make achieving that goal much tougher. The European Union has turned its focus to internal issues and shows little enthusiasm for integrating neighboring states. To the extent that Europeans see Kyiv adopting a more autocratic model of government, it will be that much easier for them to ignore Ukraine's desire to integrate.

So Yanukovich faces a choice. He can continue, or allow the continuation of, current domestic policies and watch his chances of integrating Ukraine into Europe fade. Or he can strengthen democratic institutions — which, by the way, resulted in his own election last year — and restore positive momentum to the relationship between Ukraine and Europe.

For its part, the West can help crystallize this choice. European and American officials should make clear to the president — in plain terms, so that nuance is not misread — that the policies of his administration look like democratic backsliding. They should make equally clear that continuing this course will disappoint Ukraine's well-wishers around the world and produce a growing divide between Ukraine and Europe.

*Steven Pifer, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, and William Taylor, a senior vice president at the U.S. Institute of Peace, served as the third and sixth U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine. This article was first published in The New York Times on March 1 <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/02/opinion/02iht-edpifer02.html?scp=1&sq=pifer&st=cse> and republication rights have been purchased by the Kyiv Post.*

## Pikhovshek: West ignored abuses under Yushchenko

→5 the ones issued by Ukrainian organizations, such as the Democratic Initiatives Foundation. This organization polled a number of experts on Feb. 10-20, which also ended up with a negative assessment of Yanukovich's Ukraine.

I am not denying anyone the right to assess the activity of one politician or another, or the state of affairs in one country or another. Every one of those organizations has developed its own criteria for evaluation, and each one of them has a reputation and history of activities, due to which they gained authority.

But, at the same time, I will be pretty honest in saying that many people in Ukraine, and I am one of them, consider these ratings to be something that should be taken into account, but no more than that. And I certainly do not consider these ratings to be the full truth.

Undoubtedly, Freedom House is a very respectful organization, and so is Reporters Without Borders.

But let's remember our recent history and their record of it:

April 2007. Then President Viktor Yushchenko's decision to disband the parliament was accompanied by an unprecedented dismissal of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine. The head of state dismissed Valeriy Pshenychniy and Suzanna Stanyk, judges of this court. The latter was to present a report on the legitimacy of Yushchenko's decree disbanding the parliament. Right before Stanyk's dismissal, the Security Service of Ukraine found compromising information about her and published it — all timed very suspiciously.

On May 24, 2007, the general prosecutor's office becomes an arena for the clash of two law enforcement bodies, the special unit of Interior Ministry called Titan and the State Guard. As a result, Yushchenko issued a decree making all law enforcement bodies report to him.

Why am I reminding you of all this? These kinds of facts are too solid to just be brushed off. However, neither Freedom House nor any other Western institution (not to mention Western governments) considered it necessary in 2007 to publicly condemn the actions of Yushchenko and his

→ Rights groups play favorites in judging politicians

circle. They simply pretended that they noticed nothing.

As far as freedom of the press goes, at the end of May 2009, four key anchor people were dismissed from 1+1 TV channel, while the channel itself was reoriented toward crime reporting in the news.

On June 12, 2009, the anchor of Novy Kanal, Volodymyr Pavlyuk, was dismissed after airing the video of then Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko saying "Propalo vse," or "Everything is lost." [A video clip shot before an official recording of her speech as a prime minister, in which she prays and argues with support staff about the text of her speech that disappeared from her monitor].

On Sept. 24, 2009, Pechersk district court in Kyiv banned "any unscrupulous information about Yulia Tymoshenko's activities." On Nov. 13, Pechersk district court in Kyiv dismissed an attempt by STB reporter Olha Chervakova to start a criminal case against parliament deputy Oleksandr Tkachenko, who grabbed and then threw down her microphone.

On Nov. 28, 2008, internet journalist Nazar Tsapko was questioned by the State Security Service regarding his articles on daily.ua website.

All these incidents remain unnoticed by the Reporters Without Borders. You can check it yourself — there was not a single reaction.

I once heard that a Western politician once said: "My friends get everything. My enemies get the wrath of law." Perhaps it can be rephrased to say that friends get everything, while enemies get the wrath of standards of international organizations.

*Viacheslav Pikhovshek is a former chief editor of news on 1+1 TV channel. He was also speech writer for former President Leonid Kuchma.*

## Getmanchuk: Another Lukashenko coming?

→5 thing Vladimir Putin required several years to achieve in Russia. The fight against corruption is but a cover for harassing political opponents. This Ukraine managed to repair relations with Russia only after several costly concessions.

The fact that each side presses its version of Ukraine has two advantages.

Firstly, the current Ukrainian authorities are highly conscious of their image in Washington and Brussels — they very much do not want Ukraine to be perceived as "Belarus-lite." They do their best to assure Western leaders that Ukraine is still a democracy, except that under President Viktor

Yushchenko democracy was synonymous with chaos, while now it means order.

It is also important for them that Ukraine not be perceived as a puppet of Russia. They talk a lot about European integration because the sooner they commit themselves to the European Union, the better they will be able to withstand the pressures from the Russians striking to push Ukraine into their economic integration projects.

The second advantage is that the authorities, much as they should like it, can not ignore the "other" Ukraine. Civil society in Ukraine is still much

stronger and more active than those in other countries in the region.

The biggest challenge for Ukrainian civil society is not to become marginalized, as happened in Belarus. This is not easy, given that it has become clear in Yanukovich's first year that the main driving force behind the power of the authorities is fear.

That was made clear by Prime Minister Mykola Azarov at a conference in Yalta last year when he said, "Fear is one of the main human instincts, and it has to be made to work." Every action taken by the authorities — the arrests and interrogations of opposition leaders, the constant visits by the

tax police to private firms — has one goal, to spread fear. And not only in the opposition, but in the ranks of the ruling party as well. It is no secret that senior officials in the party have differing views, but they keep them to themselves.

Which lesson should the West draw from the first year of Yanukovich's presidency?

The West has no choice but to deal with the politicians in power today. And that does not mean dealing only with the presidential administration, but also with other government officials open to effective dialogue.

Everything should be done to make

clear to antidemocratic ideologues that yes, Belarus-like sanctions can not be imposed now, but that can change.

While Ukraine still wants to be perceived as a democratic European state, and Yanukovich does not want to be confused with the president of Belarus, officials in the West must do everything possible to send a clear personal message to the president: They too hope that he will not become the Ukrainian Lukashenko, and if he seriously heeds their concerns and takes certain concrete steps, he will not.

*Alyona Getmanchuk is director of the Institute of World Policy in Kyiv.*

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- MALEV HUNGARIAN AIRLINES**
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## Offices

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- AC Legal Group** (10 Grushevskoho St.)
- American Chamber of Commerce** (12 Amosova St.)
- American Medical Center** (1 Berdychivska St.)
- Beiten Burkhardt** (38 Turhenivska St.)
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- Clifford Chance** (75 Zhylianska St.)
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- Hudson Global Resources** (19/21E Nyzhniy Val)
- KPMG** (11 Mykhailivska St.)
- Manpower Ukraine** (34B Predslavynska St.)
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- Staff Service Solution** (1-3 Frunze St.)
- Student Travel International** (18/1 Prorizna St.)
- Ukraine-Europe Linguistic Centre** (20B Kominterna St.)
- UKRAVTO** (15/2 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- UkrSibbank** (14 Pushkinska St.)
- Via Kiev Lufthansa City Center** (172 Horkoho St.)
- World Staff** (21 Kryvij Zaton St., of.579)

## Restaurants

- Al Faro** (49A Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Amber** (30A Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.)
- Arizona Barbeque** (25 Naberezhno-Khreshchatytska St.)
- ATZUMARI** (17/52 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- AutPab** (3/25 Kominterna St.)
- Babuin** (10 Kominterna St.)
- Babai beer Club** (4 Sofiivska St.)
- Baraban** (4A Prorizna St.)
- Bar BQ** (10/1 Horodetskoho St.)
- BeerBerry** (17/52 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- Belle Vue** (7 Saksahanskoho St.)
- Belvedere** (1 Dniprovskiy Uzviz)
- Bierstube** (20 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Bochka Pyvna** (3B Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.; 19A Khreshchatyk St.; 128 Borschahivska St.)
- "Blind Age" Sport Music Pub** (15 Mala Zhytomyrska St.)
- Brasserie Jean-Claude** (2 Besarabska Square)
- Bulvar Cafe/Shaliapin** (44 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Cabaret "Paradise"** (5-7/29 Taras Shevchenko Blvd.)
- Ciro's Pomodoro** (12 Shota Rustaveli St.)
- Coffee Life** (22 Yaroslav Val St.; 40 Uritskoho St.; 2 Turhenivska St.)
- Dim Kavy** (15 Khreshchatyk St., Passage)
- Dom Bergonie** (17 Pushkinska St.)
- DOUBLE COFFEE** (42 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho; 34B Moskovskiy Avenue St.; 6 Mykhailivska St.; 1/2 Konstantynivska St.)
- Dubki** (1 Stetsenko St.)
- Dva Bobra** (91 Komarova St., village Mila)
- ETNO** (23A Prorizna St.; 25 Pushkinska St.; 8/14 Velyka Zhytomyrska St.)
- Fellini** (5 Horodetskoho St.)
- Fish Market** (24A Volodymyrska St.)
- Fluger** (18D Artema St.)
- Fridays** (5A Besarabska Square)
- Goodman Steak House** (75 Zhylianska St.)
- Grandal** (24B Polyova St.)
- Himalai** (23 Khreshchatyk St.)
- IQ bar** (25 L. Tolstogo St.)
- IL Patio** (112 Saksahanskoho St.; 5A Besarabska Square; 5/13 Naberezhno-Khreshchatytska St.; 57/3 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Izumi** (24A Mykhailivska St.; 46/2 Moskovska St.)
- John Bull Pub** (36 Saksahanskoho St.)

- Kaffa** (3 Shevchenko prov., 22 Saksahanskoho St.; 5 Skovorody St.)
- Klovsky** (16A Mechnykova St.)
- Korifey** (6 Horodetskoho St.)
- Kraina Kavy** (5 Spas'ka St.)
- La Bodeguita del Medio** (21/20 Yaroslav Val St.)
- La Casa Del Habano** (13 Klovskiy Spusk)
- Le Cosmopolite** (47 Volodymyrska St.)
- Leonardo** (2 Besarabska Square)
- Luciano** (33V Dehtiarivska St.)
- Lun Van** (26 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- MaLiina** (27B Sahaidachnoho St.)
- Marokana** (24 Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.)
- Marmaris** (40 Hlybochyt's'ka St.)
- Mare Azzuro** (1/10 Bankova St.)
- Metropolis** (12 Amosova St.)
- Monako** (20A Velyka Zhytomyrska St.)
- Natürlich** (3 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- New Bombay Palace** (33A Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.)
- News cafe** (6 Hetmana St.)
- O'Brien's** (17A Mykhailivska St.)
- O'Connor's** (15/8 Khoriva St.)
- O'Panos** (10 Tereshchenkivska St.)
- Oliva** (34 Velyka Vasylivska St.; 25A Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.; 5 Kominterna St.)
- Panda** (76 Saksahanskoho St.)
- Panorama** (3 Sholudenko St.)
- Pantagruel** (1 Lysenko St.)
- Pizza Vezuvio** (25 Reitarska St.)
- Planet-Sushi** (68 Saksahanskoho, 12 Khreshchatyk St.; 57/3 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Potato House** (6/5 Mala Zhytomyrska St.)
- Repriza** (40/25 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.; 38 Velyka Zhytomyrska St.; 26 Chervonoarmiyska St.)
- Route 66** (87/30 Zhylianska St.)
- Schnitzel Haus** (51 Saksahanskoho St.)
- Shastra** (126A Chervonozoraniy Prosp.)
- Shokoladnitsa** (53/80 Saksahanskoho St.; 48 Velyka Vasylivska St.; 1/2 Baseina St.; 31/27 B.Khmelnytskogo St.; 4 Lunacharskoho St.; 33 Dniprovsk Naberezhna; 12 Luhova St.; 58/2A Artema St.)
- Shooters** (22 Moskovska St.)
- Soho** (82 Artema St.)
- Stina** (2 Besarabska Square)
- Suare** (11 Artema St.)
- Sunduk** (22A Prorizna St.)
- Sutra Bar** (3 Tymofiv St.)
- Svitytsia** (13B Andriyivskiy Uzviz)
- Teatro** (53 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- Tike** (31A Sahaidachnoho St.)

- Timeout** (50 Horkoho St.)
- To Dublin** (4 Raisa Okipna St.)
- Trans Force** (34B Moskovskiy Prosp.)
- Tsarske Selo** (42/1 Ivan Mazepa St.)
- Under Wonder** (21 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Uruk** (11 Yaroslav Val St.)
- Varenichna Pobeda** (14 Sofiivska St.)
- Verona Pizza** (71E Konstantynivska St.; 1 Lv. Tolstogo St.)
- Videnski Bulochky** (25B Sahaidachnoho St.; 14/1 Instyutyska St.; 14 Mechnykova St.; 1-3/5 Pushkinska St.; 107/47 Saksahanskoho St.; 34 Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.; 20 Esplanadna St.)
- Viola's Bar** (1A Taras Shevchenko Blvd.)
- Warsteiner Pub** (4B Horodetskoho St.)
- Wolkonsky Keyzer** (15 Khreshchatyk St.; 5/7-29 Taras Shevchenko Blvd.)
- Yakitoria** (27A Taras Shevchenko Blvd.; 27 Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.)

## Sport Clubs

- 5 Element** (29 Elektyriv St.)
- Favorit** (6 Muzeiniy Lane)
- Kiev Golf Center** (20 Obolons'ka naberezhna)
- Kiev Sport Club** (5 Druzhby Narodiv Blvd.)
- Planeta Fitness** (10 Kropyvnytskoho St.)

## Hotels

- Adria** (2 Raisa Okipna St.)
- Attaché Hotel** (59 Zhylianska St.)
- City Park Hotel** (20A Vorovskoho St.)
- Diarso** (5 Velyka Kiltseva Doroha)
- Domus Hotel** (19 Yaroslavskaya St.)
- Express** (38/40 Taras Shevchenko Blvd.)
- Gorniy Ruchey** (66 Michurina St., village Gora, Boryspil region)
- Hotel Dnipro** (1/2 Khreshchatyk St.)
- Hyatt** (5A Alla Tarasova St.)
- Impressa Hotel** (21 Sahaidachnoho St.)
- Intercontinental** (2A Velyka Zhytomyrska St.)
- Kozatsky** (1/3 Mykhailivska St.; 2/32 Antonova St.)
- Kozatsky Stan** (Boryspilske Shose, 18 km)
- Khreshchatyk hotel** (14 Khreshchatyk St.)
- Lybid** (1 Peremohy Prosp.)
- Mir** (40-richya Zhovtnya Av.)
- Opera Hotel** (53 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- Oselya** (11 Kameniariv St.)

- President Hotel** (12 Hospitalna St.)
- Premier Palace** (5-7/29 Taras Shevchenko Blvd.)
- Radisson Blu** (22 Yaroslav Val St.)
- Riviera** (15 Sahaidachnoho St.)
- Rus** (4 Hospytalna St.)
- Salyut** (11B Sichnevoغو Povstannia St.)
- Senator Apartments** (6 Pirohova St.; 62/20 Dmitriyevska St.)
- Slavutych** (1 Entuziastiv St.)

## Educational establishments

- Business School MIM-Kyiv** (10/12B Shulyavska St.)
- British skylines** (16 Khreshchatyk St.; 10G Larysy Rudenko St.)
- DEC school** (19 Obolonska Naberezhna)
- International Institute of Business** (8A Brest-Litovskiy Highway)
- Kyiv International School** (3A Sviatoshytsky Lane)
- Master Klass** (34 Ivan Mazepa St.)
- Pechersk International School** (7A Viktora Zablyi St.)
- Runov school** (30 Velyka Vasylivska St.)
- Speak Up** (14 Kotsiubynskoho St.; 25B Sahaidachnoho St.; 4 Lunacharskoho St.; 136 Peremohy Prosp.; 14 Vasylivska St.; 26 Lesi Ukrainki Blvd.; 3-A Gryshka St.)
- Sterling Business School** (7 Nesterivskiy prov.)
- The London School of English** (39 Polytehnichna St.)
- Valerie's school** (14 Mykhailivska St.)

## Business Centers

- Arena** (2A Baseina St.)
- Artem** (4 Hlybochyt'ska St.)
- Cubic Cente** (3 Sholudenko St.)
- Diplomat Hall** (59 Zhylianska St.)
- Eurasia Ukraine** (73-79 Zhylianska St.)
- Evropa** (4 Muzeiniy Lane)
- Evropa Plaza** (120 Saksahanskoho St.)
- GOOIOORD B.V.** (34/33 Ivana Franka St.; 36 Ivana Franka St.; 11 Mykhailivska St.; 52B Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St.)
- Horizon Park** (12 Amosova St.; 4 Grinchenko St.)
- Illinsky** (8 Illinska St.)
- Khreshchatyk Plaza** (19A Khreshchatyk St.)
- Kiev-Donbass** (42/4 Pushkinska St.)
- Podol Plaza** (19 Skovorody St.)



Find out about nation's 35,000 Koreans in latest installment of World in Ukraine series.

→24

# Stem cell research advances in Ukraine



After placenta and blood from an umbilical cord are processed, they are frozen and stored at 196 degrees Celsius. (Alexey Furman)

BY YULIYA RASKEVICH  
RASKEVICH@KYIVPOST.COM

Scientists are convinced they have found the key to curing some types of cancer, diabetes and cirrhosis of the liver, growing damaged body parts and beauty procedures to keep you looking young without the need for Botox.

The magical ingredient? Blood from your umbilical cord.

Most of us, of course, have already missed that chance, but scientists say storing blood from our children's umbilical cords, rich in stem cells, which can be transformed into any type of body tissue, will allow them to benefit from rapidly advancing health procedures.

Use of stem cells is still undergoing clinical trials in Ukraine, but scientists

say they should soon be able to use the groundbreaking treatments under research here and abroad.

"We were working with stem cells in the Soviet union in 1985," said Yuriy Gladkykh, director of the Ukrainian Institute of Cell Therapy, a private facility. "We are not behind the West. The opportunity is in our hands."

Scientists say the possibilities are endless. At the end of 2008, Spanish scientists used stem cells to grow a whole new trachea to transplant into a patient.

The advantage of growing organs and other body parts from a person's own stem cells is that it reduces the risk of rejection by the body's own immune system.

Galyna Lobunzeva, director of the Kyiv Cryobank, said stem cells could

help to cure some types of cancer or to recover from other treatments, such as chemotherapy or radiotherapy. Such treatment suppresses the immune system, but stem cell treatment restores the system and helps the patient to recover faster.

Liver cirrhosis, acute pancreatitis, diabetes, ischemia (restriction of blood supply to the arms and legs) and other diseases could also be cured with stem cells.

A lot of research is being carried at the Ukrainian Institute of Cells Therapy, including treatment for diabetes, pancreatitis and hepatitis.

Much of the research has yielded successful results, and clinical trials over the next two-three years will eventually allow the treatments to be registered and used.

"We had a case when a 67-year-old man could not walk. He had critical ischemia of the legs and was set for amputation," said Vasyl Shablyi, deputy director of Cryobank. "His pain was unendurable. But after stem cells treatment he can now walk. His blood vessels were repaired."

Use of placenta from collected material for rejuvenation and regeneration also offers opportunities for beauty treatment without plastic surgery or Botox.

Umbilical cords aren't the only source of stem cells. They can also be taken from bone marrow and embryos, but the former is expensive and the latter hugely controversial.

Blood can be collected from an umbilical cord or placenta by a specialist in a maternity hospital. They →22

## Book Review



WITH SIMON APPLEBY

### In 'Bequest,' Cossack treasures may tilt balance of power between Russia and Ukraine

*Editor's Note: "Bequest" by Ukrainian-born author Anna Shevchenko sets you on a hunt for the world's second-largest unclaimed inheritance through three centuries and across seven countries. Treasures allegedly hidden in the vaults of the Bank of England in the 18th century by Hetman Polubotok set his descendant Andriy on a journey of discovery, drenched in controversial Russia-Ukraine history.*

In Anna Shevchenko's debut novel, the fate of Europe could be drastically altered by the contents of one document – no, it's not Josef Stalin's shopping list or Adolf Hitler's letter to Santa Claus. It's the will of a Cossack general whose audacious theft of treasure from the czar could have repercussions for Russia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom well over a century later if it comes to light.

This book is reminiscent of Robert Harris [English novelist and former BBC journalist], though not perhaps at his best, and takes in settings as far apart as Argentina and Ukraine. Our heroine, young London solicitor Kate, and our ambitious young Russian secret service agent Tara Petrenko, crisscross the globe pursuing their own agendas with regard to the will, with a number of historical flashbacks thrown in for good measure.

Opening with the revelation of the death of a key character is a brave way to start the book, and Shevchenko's occasional repetition of the opening paragraphs of chapters is a clever device that gives a nice echoing effect. The characters are pleasingly three dimensional too: Kate is an average young woman living a slightly chaotic and unsatisfactory life, only involved because she happens to have Ukrainian ancestry; Petrenko starts out as a simple baddy, but is eventually revealed to be quite morally conflicted, more John Le Carre than Robert Ludlum.

The plot twists and turns and may once in awhile succeed in throwing you off the trail completely – so sharp wits are required to get the most out of "Bequest." There are three narrative strands to keep hold of, with flashbacks and switchbacks, but any befuddlement I sometimes felt was offset by the flashes of insight into the indignities and horrors that have been heaped on to Ukraine for centuries by the Russian Empire and Communist tyranny, and by a genuine sense of compulsion to keep turning the pages and see what happened next.

"Bequest" probably won't →27

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Saturday, March 12



## Martial arts competition

Seven boxing platforms will turn into a battle field with various martial arts like sumo, sambo, karate, and jujitsu competitions. Some 600 sportsmen will arrive from 35 countries, but only 18 pairs will qualify for the finals. Ukraine's strongest man Vasyi Virastyuk will compete as well, lifting weights in the hope of breaking world records. Virastyuk is one of very few sportsmen in the world who holds both World's Strongest Man and International Federation of Strength Athletes titles.

**Saturday, March 12: semifinals at 12 p.m. in the Sports center of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, 1/26 Verkhnyoklucheva St. Tickets: Hr 50. Finals at 7 p.m., Acco International, 40B Peremohy Pr-kt., 238-2888. www.olimpics.org.ua (in Russian only). Tickets: Hr 150-300.**

Thursday, March 17



## Swedish jazz family

The Carlings run a full-service family jazz band. It was started in 1983 by Swedes Hans and Aina and their four children. Their daughter Gunhild, 35, is perhaps the most talented of them all. She plays five musical instruments and sometimes even two at a time: while strumming a banjo, a string instrument, she balances a trumpet vertically on her lips. She also sings and performs a tap dance during the shows. The band performs vibrant hot jazz and swing melodies but there is more to their show than just cool music. The Carlings keep you always guessing on what comes next in the show as most family members can switch from one instrument to another and even throw in some acrobatic elements like juggling.

**Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m., National Music Academy, 11 Khreshchatyk St., metro Maidan Nezalezhnosti, 279-1242. Tickets: Hr 130-450.**

## Week of Francophonie highlights

La Francophonie is an international organization that unites French-speaking countries and consists of 56 members and 14 observers, one of which is Ukraine. The organization's criterion for the members is not the language itself but cultural ties to France. In its fourth year now, Francophonie festival will present its arts program in nine Ukrainian cities. See the full program at [www.ifu.com.ua](http://www.ifu.com.ua). Some of the Kyiv highlights include:

A concert by **Swiss singer and actor** Pascal MG with songs by Edith Piaf, Lara Fabian, Jean-Jacques Goldman and others. Wednesday, March 16, 7 p.m., Budynok aktora, 7 Yaroslaviv Val St., 235-2081, [www.actorhall.com.ua](http://www.actorhall.com.ua). Free admission.

**The night of short movies in French** will include the most prominent works from Armenian, Canadian, Belgian, Egyptian and other producers and will last till 2 a.m., Friday and Saturday, March 18-19, Kyiv cinema, 19 Velyka Vasylykivska St., 234-7301.

**Movies by African producers** on Saturday – Sunday, March 19-20, cinema Budynok kino, 6 Saksahanskooho St., 287-7557. Free admission.

**A final concert** with music pieces by Claude Debussy and Igor Stravinsky performed by National symphonic orchestra on Tuesday, March 22, 7 p.m., National philharmonic, 2 Volodymyrsky uzviz, 278-1697, [www.filarmonia.com.ua](http://www.filarmonia.com.ua). Tickets: Hr 20-100.

March 16 – 22



## Best classical picks



Sunday, March 13 – **Belarusian a capella band Camerata** will perform Slavic folk and jazz music pieces at 7 p.m., National Music Academy, 11 Khreshchatyk St., metro Maidan Nezalezhnosti, 095-111-5577. Tickets: Hr 100-300.

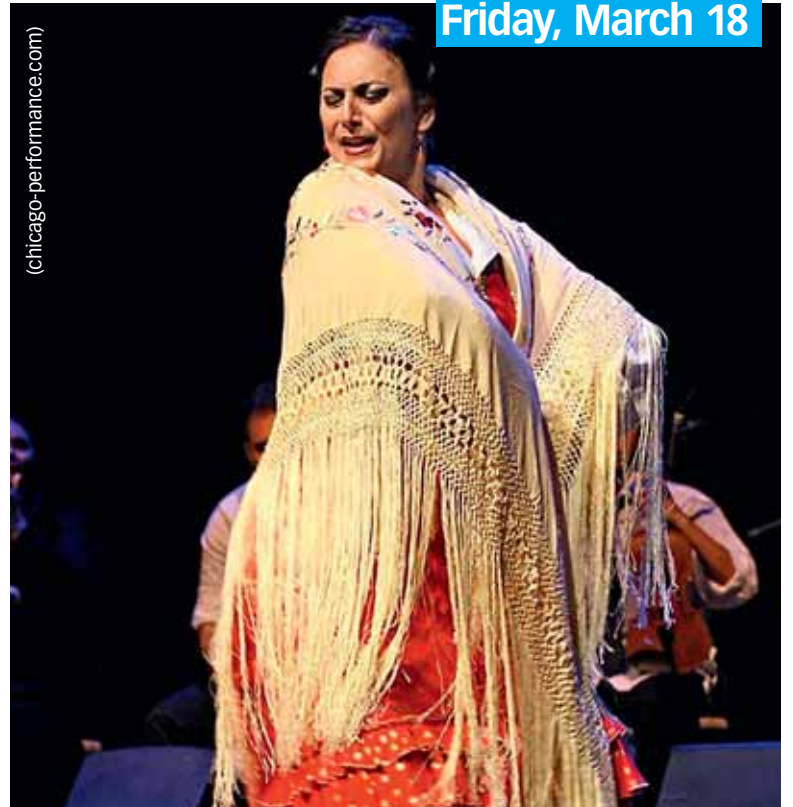
Sunday, March 13 – **Chamber ensemble Kyiv Soloists** will play pieces by Mahler, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Strauss at 7 p.m., National philharmonic, 2 Volodymyrsky Uzviz, 278-1697, [www.filarmonia.com.ua](http://www.filarmonia.com.ua). Tickets: Hr 20-70.

Tuesday, March 15 – **Polish band Kontra-basia** will play ethno-jazz music at 7:30 p.m., Budynok aktora, 7 Yaroslaviv Val St., 235-2081, [www.actorhall.com.ua](http://www.actorhall.com.ua). Tickets: Hr 70-90.

Thursday, March 17 – **"Italian music night"** with pieces by Stradella, Frescobaldi, Albinoni and others at 7:30 p.m., the House of Organ Music, 77 Velyka Vasylykivska St., 528-3186, [www.organhall.kiev.ua](http://www.organhall.kiev.ua). Tickets: Hr 20-50.

Friday-Saturday, March 18-19 – **International jazz festival** with bands from Ukraine, Russia, Israel, Lithuania and Belarus at 7 p.m., Operetta theater, 53/3 Velyka Vasylykivska St. Tickets: Hr 80-300.

Friday, March 18



## Flamenco dance and guitar

Spanish dancer Susana Lupianez, better known as La Lupi, keeps flamenco fans at the edge of their seats. Gracious moves and dramatic dress swish took her over three decades to perfect. La Lupi started dancing at the age of three. She is also a sought after flamenco teacher, conducting classes and workshops around the world.

La Lupi will bring a Spanish band to accompany her with guitar and cajon, the box-shaped percussion instrument.

**Friday, March 18, 7 p.m., Budynok Ofitseriv, 30/1 Hrushevskoho St. Tickets: Hr 100-480.**

Movies



French costume drama 'Lady Chatterley' is a nearly three-hour long adaptation of D. H. Lawrence erotic tale. (lucyinatree.blogspot.com)

**"WEEKEND WITH ARTE" FILM FESTIVAL**

French-German cultural TV channel ARTE TV comes to Kyiv with a nice selection of films and documentaries to be screened in the original language with Ukrainian subtitles. "Weekend with ARTE" opens on March 11 with an all-night French film screening. A high school drama teacher suffering from disrespect of her students finds a gun and ends up holding half of them hostage in "The Skirt Day." Film director Jean-Paul Lilienfeld will hold a discussion after the screening. Documentary "Cleveland Versus Wall Street" follows a trial, which took place in Cleveland two years ago. Josh Cohen and his team filed a lawsuit against 21 banks after a series of foreclosures that had left their city in ruins. Two strangers travel to London after the terrorist attack in 2005 to find their missing children in "London River." The girl believes that her recently dead father lives in a giant fig tree near their house, which is about to be felled in "The Tree." A young woman living in a mansion with her paralyzed husband starts an affair in "Lady Chatterley." The second night of the festival follows the 10-part series "In Face of the Crime" about Russian mafia in Berlin. "Weekend

with Arte" ends with three documentaries about the Berlin Wall, famous Russian pianist Svyatoslav Richter and dissidents from Central Europe.

**IRISHFEST**

The Irish film festival opens on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, with the Oscar-nominated cartoon "The Secret of Kells," which takes you into the world of Celtic mythology. In the comedy thriller "Perrier's Bounty" three fugitives are being chased by another gangster. "Five Minutes of Heaven" drama follows the conflict in Northern Ireland, starring Liam Neeson. Young catholic school girls step into the adult world buying their first 32A-sized bra and falling in love for the first time in "32A." If you are interested in documentaries, check out "His and Hers" – a story about 70 women of different ages reflecting on life, love and family – and a surfing lifestyle in "Waveriders." Six short films awarded by Jameson Dublin International Film Festival will close the festival. All films are screened in Irish and English with Ukrainian subtitles.

**THE QUIET MAN**

Language: English with English subtitles  
Drama/Romance. USA, Ireland (1952)  
Directed by John Ford

Starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Barry Fitzgerald

Disgraced American boxer Sean Thornton comes back home to Ireland, where he falls in love with a wonderful girl Mary Kate. She seems to be his ideal woman but Sean has to comply with local custom before he wins her over. Mary Kate's brother – the main bully in town – desperately tries to ruin their relationship. Sean is willing to do everything in his power to stay with the love of his life, even using his boxing skills if necessary. But he also has a secret, which can turn things upside down.

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**"Weekend with ARTE"**

March 11 at 8 p.m., March 12 at 8:30 p.m., March 13 at 11 a.m.

**MASTERCLASS CINEMA CLUB**

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**The Quiet Man**

March 15 at 7 p.m.

Live Music



The Airchoppers will perform in Bochka Pyvna on Khmelnytskoho on March 17. (Okla Kasyanchik)

**ART CLUB 44**

44B Khreshchatyk St., 279-4137, www.club44.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 8 – 10 p.m.

**March 11** Gurt YoGhurt, Hr 50

**March 12** G Sound, Hr 50

**March 13** Spring Jazz Night: Women Vocal Day, Hr 50

**March 14** The Electric Diorama (Italy), Hr 20

**March 15** Spring Jazz Night: New Generation, Hr 40

**March 16** Ivanna Nechay, Hr 30

**March 17** Mi 100, Boobamara, Hr 50

**DOCKER'S ABC**

15 Khreshchatyk St., 278-1717, www.docker.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 9:30 - 10 p.m.

**March 11** Angie Nears, Red Rocks, Hr 70

**March 12** Mad Heads XL, Animals Session, Hr 70

**March 13** Foxtrot Music Band, free admission

**March 14** Showtime, free admission

**March 15** More Huana, Hr 20

**March 16** The Magma, Hr 30

**March 17** Ruki V Briuki Rockabilly Party, Hr 30

**DOCKER PUB**

25 Bohatyrskya St., metro Heroyiv Dnipro, www.docker.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 9:30 - 10 p.m.

**March 11** Lampasy (Russia), Chill Out, Hr 70

**March 12** Ot Vinta, Karnavalnaya Zhara, Hr 70

**March 13** Vostochny Express, free admission

**March 14** Lemmons, free admission

**March 15** Tres Deseos Latino Party, free admission

**March 16** Rockin' Wolves, free admission

**March 17** Rotoff & Smyslovyie Galucinatsii (Russia), Angie Nears

**BOCHKA PYVNA ON**

**KHMELYNYSKOHO**  
4B-1 Khmelnytskoho St, metro Teatralna, 390-6106, www.bochka.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 9-10 p.m.

**March 11** Hot Guys, Carte Blanche,

**March 12** Chill Out

**March 16** Chill Out

**March 17** The Airchoppers

**PORTER PUB**

3 Mazepy St., 280-1996, www.porter.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 7:30 p.m.

**March 11** D.D. Band,

**March 12** Tartilla

**March 13** Rustam & Co

**March 16** Ivan Bliuz

**March 17** Maks Tavrichesky

**JAZZ DO IT**

76A Velyka Vasylykivska St., 289-5606  
http://jazz-doit.com.ua

Concerts traditionally start at 8:30 p.m.

**March 11** Artem Pogorelov

**March 12** Jazz Inside

**March 16** Olena Nikolska

**Other live music clubs:**

**GOLDEN GATE IRISH PUB**, 15, Zolotovoritska St., 235-5188, www.goldengatepubkiev.com

**TO DUBLIN IRISH PUB**, 4 Raisy Okipnoi St., 569-5531, www.to-dublin.com.ua/

**PIVNA NO.1 ON BASEYNA**, 15 Baseyna St., 287-44-34, www.pivna1.com.ua

**DRAFT 1/2 Khoryva St.**, metro Kontraktova Ploshcha, 463-7330

**KHLIB CLUB** 12 Frunze St., www.myspace.com/xlibclub

**CHESHIRE CAT** 9 Sklyarenko St., 428-2717

**O'BRIEN'S** 17A Mykhaylivska St., 279-1584

**DAKOTA** 14G Heroyiv Stalinhrada St., 468-7410

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# Pre-cooked pancakes take over organic blinis

IRINA SANDUL  
SANDUL@KYIVPOST.COM

It takes a bit of flour, some milk and a couple of eggs to make pancakes at home. A recipe of frozen blinis sold in supermarkets is, however, somewhat different: egg powder, water, coloring agents and some artificial preservatives to make them last a few months.

Pancakes, consumed in large amounts over Pancake Week, or Maslyana, which ended on March 6, is just one example of convenience foods that's been sweeping Ukraine over the last five years. Overwhelmed with an increasing pace of life, many Ukrainians moved their health issues to the back burner. As a result, the number of people with obesity problems has grown as fast as home fridges get stuffed with more boxes of readymade food. What's more, they seem to be eating more and moving less nowadays as many of them now have cars and are walking less as they did in Soviet days.

Nutritionists don't blame just frozen blinis, but point to them as part of a clear trend.

Contrary to Soviet days, when the average Ukrainian was thin and pale, "half of our population [now] has excessive weight," said Natalia Samoilenko, a nutritionist from the state-funded Kyiv Health Center. "Every fifth Ukrainian suffers from obesity," she said.

"Flour and water [blinis' basic components] don't carry any serious threat themselves besides being high on calories," said Samoilenko. "However, producers can add preser-



A woman buys readymade pancakes in Silpo supermarket in Kyiv on Feb. 28. (Oleksiy Boyko)

vatives that prolong the life of dough and ingredients of vegetable origin, which are not quite natural, instead of eggs and milk."

If companies ignore sanitary guidelines, various intestinal bacteria can easily find their way in and "grow and thrive in such micro flora," added Samoilenko.

Valentyn Bezrukiy, president of the non-profit food safety and inspection service Test, however, repels the nutritionists' concerns. Six different brands of pancakes with cottage cheese – widely available in Ukrainian supermarkets – were tested in his laboratory and

returned positive results.

But nutritionist Samoilenko still "votes for home-made pancakes" to preserve the Ukrainian habit of organic eating. Clearly, the temptation to make pasta in three minutes or grab a pancake to go is strong, but the rush often offsets diets and leads to health problems.

Whatever the case, marketing company TNS Ukraine found that 40 percent of Ukrainian respondents prefer buying pancakes and dumplings to cooking them at home and, astonishingly, more than one third of those polled said they eat them twice or three times a week. That's the kind of statistics businessmen are happy to serve.

Vladyslav Bulochkin, the sales director of Kordelia catering, which delivers business lunches to Kyiv offices, said they added pancakes to

their menus after numerous requests during Maslyana holiday.

"It costs only Hr 1 to make a pancake," said Bulochkin. "But we sell [a plain pancake without any filling] for Hr 2.3. The ones with caviar sell for Hr 13 and with jam for Hr 6."

Supermarket chain Fozzy Group stated that since 2008 sales of pre-cooked pancakes during Maslyana week has grown at least 1.5 times compared to non-holiday periods.

Maslyana, the pagan holiday of saying "Good Bye" to winter and remade by Christians into the last week before Lent, is a popular time to eat pancakes – a symbol of the sun. However, despite the old age of this tradition, Ukrainians as of late seem to prefer a modern way of celebrating – by eating readymade cakes.

Kyiv Post staff writer Irina Sandul can be reached at sandul@kyivpost.com

## Stem cell treatments in Ukraine

→ 19 can then be transferred to the Kyiv Cryobank, the only private store in the country.

There, the material is checked for infections and prepared for freezing. A cryoprotector is added to protect the blood cells during storage at –196C. There is no expiry date for the material.

The price for collecting and storing the umbilical cord blood is Hr 5,900 (\$750). You also need to pay \$150 annually for storage.

Right now the Cell Therapy Institute's scientists are trying to cultivate stem cells to make sure they have enough for treatment when needed.

"Unfortunately, we've had a situation when a kid was so sick that the collected material was not enough," said Shablyi.

The problem for the moment is that there is a limited amount of donor material.

Ukraine doesn't have a system of public cryobanks, like the United States and Europe. Blood stored there can then be used as donor material for treatment, saving time and money in the search for a donor, as it's much cheaper than using bone marrow.

Developing Ukraine's own system of banks will give it access to data from European facilities, increasing the possibilities of a match and allowing purchase of donor stem cells from abroad.

The problem, unsurprisingly for Ukraine's chronically underfunded healthcare system, is funding.

Typing of each blood sample costs around \$200. "To enter the international cryobank register we need at least 500 samples, and this means \$100,000 only for collecting, freezing and storing," said Lobunzeva from Kyiv Cryobank.

The use of cryobanks to freeze material is already bringing hope and life in Ukraine. Part or all of a woman's ovaries can be stored using the freezing technique if she has to undergo chemotherapy, which can destroy the chances of having children.

After the therapy is over, the ovary can be implanted back, and the possibility of having kids is very high.

Kyiv Post staff writer Irina Sandul can be reached at sandul@kyivpost.com



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# Shakhtar Donetsk advances in European competition

BY MARK RACHKEVYCH

RACHKEVYCH@KYIVPOST.COM

Shakhtar Donetsk confirmed its advance into European soccer's big time on March 8, routing Italian heavy-weight Roma 3-0 to make the quarterfinals of the Champions League, Europe's premier club competition, for the first time.

The progress of the stylish Pitmen from the unstylish town in Ukraine's industrial east has been made possible in recent years by massive investment from the country's richest man, Rinat Akhmetov, who has helped legendary coach Mircea Lucescu put together a team full of Brazilian flair as well as Ukrainian toughness.

Now, after ending Dynamo Kyiv's dominance of the domestic league, Shakhtar is looking to equal the capital city club's Champions League semifinal appearance in 1999.

"Ukrainians now have one more deserving team that can represent them on the world stage," said Ihor Miroshnychenko, a TV soccer analyst. "Shakhtar has over the years demonstrated stability in achieving its stated goals."

The team's billionaire owner Akhmetov has spared no expense in building an emerging European soccer powerhouse that has already taken the UEFA Cup 2009 and five Ukrainian Premier League Championships since 2000.

Four of those Ukrainian championships have come under the leadership of 65-year old Romanian Lucescu, who took the helm in 2004.

With Akhmetov's deep pockets and Lucescu's international expertise, Shakhtar has been transformed into a squad of speedy South American attackers and stubborn Eastern European defenders.

The price he has paid for his club's steady rise has run at \$70-\$90 million annually in reported operating costs plus the \$400 million for the ultramodern Donbass Arena stadium, which was completed in 2009.

The result has been what any successful European team has undergone with team composition and a globalized world economy. Shakhtar has



Aleandro Rosi (L) of Roma fights for the ball with Yaroslav Rakitskiy (foreground) and Eduardo (R) of Shakhtar during the UEFA Champions League football match in Donetsk on March 8. Shakhtar won 3-0. (AFP)

eight players originally from Brazil on its first squad. The remainder is East Europeans with 29-year old Croat Darijo Srna as captain.

"It's the way things are today for any football club that wants to win," said Jonathan Wilson, an Eastern Europe soccer historian and publisher of soccer quarterly *The Blizzard*. "I understand the frustration of soccer traditionalists who'd like to see more Ukrainians start, but Chelsea, Man United, and others have chosen foreigners over local players in a bid to win."

Lucescu has picked up top young Brazilian talent such as Douglas Costa,

the 19-year-old attacking midfielder, and the speedy Willian. These exciting attackers are combined with a stalwart defense of Ukrainian international defenders Dmytro Chyhyrnsky and Yaroslav Rakitskiy, as well as goalkeeper Andriy Pyatov.

Undefeated at home since 2008, Shakhtar's Brazilians have not disappointed Ukrainian soccer fans. For example, of the 38 goals recorded in 20 Ukrainian Premier League games, 32 were scored by the South Americans. They have also accounted for 13 of Shakhtar's 17 goals in their eight European matches this term.

Fittingly, in a recent interview with the Union of European Football Associations, Lucescu described his side as "the most Brazilian team in Europe."

Experts said Shakhtar is here to stay with only one player – goalie Pyatov – aged over 30 and an emphasis on recruiting talented young players and developing a local soccer academy.

Four of the 10 Shakhtar's first team players who regularly get called up to play for Ukraine's national team are aged 25 or younger.

And some experts say the team can go even further than the quarterfinals.

"I think Western Europe is underestimating Shakhtar; they're a fantastic team to watch and they have every chance of winning the Champions League," soccer historian Wilson said.

Akhmetov also seems to think Shakhtar's next opponent has their work cut out for them: "I don't know who we will play against but I know that these clubs will be happy if they are drawn against our team, but I want Shakhtar to make them regret that afterwards."

Kyiv Post staff writer Mark Rachkevych's can be reached [rachkevych@kyivpost.com](mailto:rachkevych@kyivpost.com)



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## World in Ukraine

**Editor's Note:** The Kyiv Post continues its "World in Ukraine" series with a look at South Korea after its recent March 1 commemoration of the 1919 independence movement. The newspaper will highlight Ukraine's ties with the Baltic nations of Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia on March 25 in honor of Baltic Sea Day.

# Koreans in Ukraine try to reconnect with ancestral homeland

BY KATYA GRUSHENKO  
GRUSHENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

**MALA OLEKSANDRIVKA, Ukraine** – It's hard to guess from where this Asian family in Kherson Oblast originates. Neither their flawless Russian, nor their typical two-story stone house offers any clues. Only when they sit down for lunch and serve kimchi, a traditional Korean dish made of napa cabbage, does their story come to light.

Farmer Trofim Tegay, 63, living in Mala Oleksandrivka village, is the head of the ethnic Korean community of some 1,600 people living in Kherson Oblast. His family story is similar to the ones experienced by more than a million of ethnic Koreans who now live on the territory of the former Soviet Union.

Tegay's grandparents lived in Primorskiy Krai, the coastal land sandwiched between the then Russian Empire and Korea before it split into South and North republics in 1948. As the Soviets ousted the czars in the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, many Korean farmers, who were mostly growing rice in sunny and moist climate, lost their plots. Under the orders of Josef Stalin, thousands of them had to move to the remote steppes of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan to die or survive. "They persecuted mostly educated people," said Tegay, with a sinking expression in his face. "Even in the Kazakh steppes, they tracked down my grandfather, former head of [agriculture] production, and gunned him down on some false accusation."

Looking for a better life, the family then moved to Uzbekistan, where Tegay was raised with little influence from his ethnic Korean roots. In 1997, he moved to Ukraine to make some money picking melons and watermelons during the hot Kherson summer. The harvest was rich enough to convince him to stay for good.

Reaping crops on the Ukrainian fields, he thought little of his fam-



Ethnic Korean Trofim Tegay grows white cabbage in six greenhouses sponsored by the South Korean government. (By Laurent Geslin)

ily background until one trip to the United States in 1991, when he met with Korean diaspora.

"I never felt more embarrassed," he said about his first meeting with his ethnic compatriots. "They all spoke Korean among themselves, went to church and kept traditions alive. I felt like the odd one out [not even knowing the language]."

He came back from the U.S. with a bag full of Korean textbooks and, in two years, he learned to speak the language. In 1997, he made his first trip up north, to the land of his ancestors.

The Korean-Americans also motivated him to bring together Soviet Koreans living in Ukraine. As a community leader, he helped many of them receive Ukrainian citizenship through a legalization program set up by the Korean government after Ukraine's former president, Viktor Yushchenko, met with his Korean counterpart, Roh Moo-Hyun, in 2007.

Among Koreans who took advantage of this program was Lev Khvan, 54, and his wife, Klavdia Lyan, 51, who also came to work on Ukrainian fields from Uzbekistan in 2002, but couldn't receive legal status until 2009.

"For seven years, we had to leave Ukraine once a year, register with the authorities every three months and buy work permits," said Khvan, who rents a land plot where his family grows vegetables and melons. To sow the next season's crop, he has to mortgage his one-room shabby



Lev Khvan (L) and his wife Klavdia Lyan (C) have to mortgage their house to sow the next season's crop. (By Laurent Geslin)

house. His three children, like most youth in their village Kolonchak, left for Odesa, Kherson and Mykolaiv to look for work.

Although in urgent need of bank loans and government agricultural subsidies, the Khvan family still said their life in Ukraine is better than in Uzbekistan. "We have almost nothing here, but at least there is fertile soil and so there is hope," Khvan said.

Their community leader, Tegay said

he is on a mission to improve life for his people. In charge of six greenhouses set up by the South Korean government in 2010, he teaches fellow Koreans innovations in agriculture. There they grow popular in Ukraine white cabbage for sale reserving their own patches for napa kind they need for kimchi.

Kyiv Post staff writer Katya Grushenko can be reached at [grushenko@kyivpost.com](mailto:grushenko@kyivpost.com)

## South Korean ambassador: Ukrainians 'enjoy their lives much more'

BY KATYA GRUSHENKO  
GRUSHENKO@KYIVPOST.COM

After his posting as South Korean ambassador to Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova in May 2008, Park Robyug is about to leave Ukraine soon with a wealth of knowledge about this part of the world.

While promoting the South Korean electronics companies and car makers, the ambassador also lent a helping hand to the ethnic Koreans that live on Ukraine's territory. In his interview to Kyiv Post Robyug explained what it means to be a South Korean nowadays and why Ukrainians should be happy for what they have. He also talked about the philosophy of South Korean investors who are looking into opportunities in Ukraine.

**Kyiv Post: How does the Korean community look like in Ukraine?**

Park Robyug: We have two categories of Koreans here. The first is Korean students, businessmen and protestant pastors who came to Ukraine after its independence. They make up around 300 people. The second category includes so-called "Soviet Koreans" who settled in Ukraine during Soviet times or after its collapse. There are around 35,000 of them and many have already obtained Ukrainian citizenship. Most Soviet Koreans live in southern Ukraine and are involved in agriculture. They are Koreans by ethnicity, but socially and mentally they resemble Ukrainians. Many also don't speak the Korean language anymore.

**KP: Considering that most Koreans in Ukraine are descendants of those who were forcefully deported by Joseph Stalin from the Russian-Korean border to Central Asia, could they repatriate to South Korea now?**

PR: We tried to repatriate them, but it didn't work out. Many of them lost their language and have a different mentality [from modern South Koreans]. South Korea now is a free-market economy where one has to work very hard to survive. I feel that ethnic Koreans are more comfortable in Ukraine than in South Korea. The programs that we have in place now aim to recover some of the lost Korean culture and language. Then they would become the connectors between Ukraine and South Korea.

**KP: What do you think is the difference in mentality between Ukrainians and South Koreans?**

PR: Ukrainian people enjoy their lives much more, I believe. They can take long vacations – for one month or even two months. Unlike South Koreans, they also don't have to worry about a typhoon, an earthquake or other natural disasters. You also don't need to worry about starvation, because you have fertile land. Ukrainians are really blessed by God to have such a natural environment! South Korea has many human resources, but we don't have sufficient natural resources. It reflects in our mentality. That is one of the reasons that Koreans work very hard, long hours and are very serious about their jobs.

- Political system: Democracy with president elected for a single five-year term by direct popular vote.
  - Territory: 100,032 square kilometers, more than six times smaller than Ukraine.
  - Population: 48.6 million.
  - Religion: Buddhism, Protestantism and Catholicism.
  - Major industrial products: Semiconductors, automobiles, ships, consumer electronics, mobile telecommunication equipment, steel and chemicals.
  - Bilateral trade with Ukraine: \$1.5 billion in 2010
  - Imports to Ukraine: Electronic products, cars
  - Exports from Ukraine to South Korea: Steel, wheat, chemicals, fertilizers
- Sources: [www.korea.net](http://www.korea.net) and South Korean embassy in Ukraine

# Park Robyug: Biggest Korean investments did not pan out

→24 KP: Despite the difficulties with the natural environment, South Korea is a developed country. How did you achieve such economic success?

PR: The start was in 1960s-1980s, when South Korea had a cheap labor force. The country focused on manufacturing and exporting cheap goods abroad and then reinvested the profits into business development. In 1997,



Park Robyug



when the Asian crisis came, South Korea was harshly criticized for collusion between government and business. From then on we tried to separate the two sides. The government now oversees and gives some insurance to businesses, but



March 1, 1919, marks the beginning of the Korean Independence Movement. On this day, independence fighters announced Korea's freedom from Japanese colonialism. In response, Japanese police and military forces killed or injured thousands of unarmed protesters. Although it failed, the March 1 Independence Movement created strong bonds of national identity and patriotism among Koreans. (AP)

doesn't influence much of its decisions. That's why, I believe, that the companies like Hyundai, LG Electronics, etc., achieved success on the international level. Now South Korea focuses on developing its domestic market and production of high technology goods or software, which brings good profits.

**KP: What about South Korean investment potential? How could you describe the economic relations between our countries?**

PR: Our largest investment to Ukraine was made in 1994-1995 with Daewoo car maker and telecommunication, but due to the Asian crisis and some changes in Ukraine, this investment is not functioning anymore. Korean investors value Ukraine. If they

open an office in the Commonwealth of Independent States, it's usually headquartered in Kyiv. But they also have to be realistic as Ukraine ranks very low on the ease of doing business.

The Ukrainian side wants to see the immediate starting of factories and investment projects, but South Korean investors would like to see more concrete steps in improving economic management first. It's not easy for Korean businessmen to put a big amount of investment in one or two years. They always go slowly, cautiously, but with a balanced approach.

Some 40-50 mid-ranking Ukrainian officials also had an opportunity to go to South Korea and learn about the economic reforms that South Korea went through. Ukraine also had many western advisers so it's now time for the government to decide which way they want to go.

The positive development that I noticed is the Ukrainian president's will to reforms including the pursuit to simplify the procedure of obtaining construction permits. South Korean companies have been interested in construction of apartments in Ukraine.

Last year we also successfully concluded the delivery of intercity high-speed wagons which will be used for 2012 European Football Championship to connect the four cities where the games will take place.

We try to expand the cooperation in agricultural processing and energy efficiency. South Korea offers Ukraine some electricity saving schemes that would prevent from electricity leakages.

*Kyiv Post staff writer Katya Grushenko can be reached at grushenko@kyivpost.com*

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This Friday welcome Thailand and enjoy the exclusive Thai party at b-hush! Variety of Thai foods, entertainments and live music – don't miss out the best party in town this night! 450 UAH per person



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Permeate your sense of adventure within the steam, smoke and scents as you experience Thai cuisine during this special Thai Sunday brunch. Enjoy classic favorites or try something new and feed your adventurous streak with our delicious recipes. 675 UAH per person



For further information and reservations please call Yevgeniya on 050 351 55 27 or email: yevgenia.asmolikova@ihg.com

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www.intercontinental-kyiv.com





Tarakaniv Fortress is worth a day-long trip for those who want to journey into the czarist Russian Empire past. (Courtesy of [www.polissya.eu](http://www.polissya.eu))

# Tarakaniv Fortress meant to defend Russian Empire

BY VLAD LAVROV  
LAVROV@KYIVPOST.COM

**TARAKANIV, Ukraine** – The ruins of the diamond-shaped Tarakaniv Fortress, tucked away into the hill and surrounded by trees, is hard to spot from far off.

But if you are driving between Kyiv and Lviv, you may want to take a few minutes or hours to stop by and have a look.

The abandoned fortress was built in the 19th century to defend the Russian Empire's Western flank from a possible German or Austro-Hungarian attack.

Now it lies just one kilometer from the Kyiv-Chop highway in Rivne Oblast. And while it has not been kept up, there is plenty to see for anyone interested in history, architecture and a bit of adventure.

The now-abandoned fortress was reportedly built for as much as tens of millions of rubles at the end of the 19th century.

Covering an area of more than five hectares, the fort accommodated nearly 600 soldiers, had its own heating system, sauna, bakery, laundry, electric power station, a 28-bed hospital and even a church.

Despite the large cost, the Tarakaniv Fortress was never used for defense purposes. In 1900, Russian army commanders came to the conclusion that the southern-western border was relatively safe and removed most of the army personnel, turning the building first into a military warehouse and then into a prison.

Even though the complex is nowadays on the books of the Defense Ministry, there's not a lot that gives it away, apart from a warning sign. Perhaps the only exception is the local legend about a guard, paid by the ministry to oversee the place, who miraculously shows up throughout the fortress, using secret passageways, entrances and exits to surprise visitors



The two-story building with arch-shaped window openings back in the fort's heyday housed the living area and the military headquarters. (Courtesy of [www.polissya.eu](http://www.polissya.eu))

and tell them to clear out.

True or not (probably not), this legend makes entering the fortress feel a little uneasy, especially given that to get inside you have to pass through a

tunnel around 30 meters long and five meters wide that goes underneath the two rows of massive defense walls.

But very soon you'll forget about it, because as you come out of the

tunnel you become completely overwhelmed by the incredible ambience of the place. Inside the walls, the first sight is an incredible two-storey building, which, back in its heyday, housed the living area and the military headquarters.

With its myriads of twisting underground corridors and thick concrete walls, the building is said to go five floors underground. It has huge arch-shaped window openings and straight, seemingly endless passageways.

Unfortunately all the surface constructions made of bricks were considerably damaged during military clashes in the 1920s and by the more recent decision of the Soviet military commanders to turn the fortress into a training ground where the soldiers polished their indoor shooting skills – hence the numerous bullet and shell marks on the walls.

This magnificent place looks like a historical movie setting and, if properly rebuilt, would make one of the nicest hotels of Eastern Europe. But it would cost a king's ransom, as you can't miss the widening cracks in the wall, as moisture and ground water are slowly destroying the place. The fort's drainage system, considered to be state of the art when it was built, has long gone out of service.

As a result, walking around requires caution, as there is a danger of falling bricks and in some rooms you can see that entire blocks have fallen off the ceiling.

In contrast, the underground spaces are still incredibly well preserved and in some areas you can even see white paint on the walls. It's worth remembering, however, that the place, and especially its underground areas, was engineered in the way that the enemy soldiers could get trapped in its corridors, passageways and dead ends. So there is a danger of getting lost, or alternately, meeting the mysterious guard.

Yet reasons why Tarakaniv Fortress, which inherited the name from the nearby village Tarakaniv, is a perfect destination for a weekend getaway completely outweigh all the setbacks. It's an amazing journey into the past, a destination well off the usual Kyiv-Lviv-Crimea tourist routine, guaranteeing fresh impressions and discoveries.

Just make sure to keep looking up for the falling bricks and have plenty of spare batteries for your flashlight.

*Kyiv Post staff writer Vlad Lavrov can be reached at [lavrov@kyivpost.com](mailto:lavrov@kyivpost.com)*

## Getting There

Take the Kyiv-Chop highway to the village Tarakaniv, near Dubno – some 400 kilometers from Kyiv. Tarakaniv Fort is located at the exit to Tarakaniv on the way to Lviv, approximately a 15-minute walk up the hill to the left from the highway.

Alternately, train 111 (Kharkiv – Lviv) leaves Kyiv at 4:22 a.m. and arrives in Dubno at 12:02 p.m. Tickets cost Hr 462 in the first class sleeping car or Hr 122 for a place in a four-bed sleeping car.

## Staying There

- \* Zodiak Motel in Tarakaniv may be the best option for those travelling by car. One of the advantages is the in-house sauna – a great way to relax after a day-long adventure in the forest and fortress. Double rooms starting at Hr 150. Tel. 036-565-1331

Alternately, stay in nearby Dubno and visit its rather touristy, yet important attraction – Dubno Castle. A taxi ride from Dubno to the Tarakaniv Fortress is around Hr 40.

- \* Antique House at 17 Zamkova St. is a comfortable small hotel overlooking the castle. Double rooms start at Hr 350, tel. 050-579-5905

- \* Dubno Hotel, a renovated two-star hotel, double rooms start at Hr 258, 9 D. Halyskoho St., tel. 036-564-1086

# What is not right with movie 'The Kids Are All Right'?

BY ALINA SHUMOVA  
SHUMOVA@KYIVPOST.COM

It apparently wasn't the plot about a lesbian family that got Oscar-nominated film "The Kids Are All Right" restricted by Ukrainian censorship.

What really offended the Commission of Experts at the Ministry of Culture was a scene where the couple is shown watching gay porn.

The film – directed by Lisa Cholodenko, an American director of Ukrainian origin – was nominated for four Academy Awards, but that wasn't enough to impress the panel, which restricted showings to adults (18 or older) at unpopular times on a limited number of screens.

Other films to fall foul of curbs from the Ukrainian censor include "Borat," "Saw," and "Hostel." "Bruno" was banned outright.

"Our society and the expert commission itself are not prepared for such movies. I guess that's the reason for banning this film," said Alexandra Kovaleva, a spokeswoman for art-house film distributor Arthouse Traffic, which is distributing the film in Ukraine.

"The Kids Are All Right" is a drama with some ironic elements and funny moments in a lesbian family relationship. Two women – Nic and Jules – are raising two children, teenagers conceived by artificial insemination. The elder daughter Joni is 18 and about to leave for college. Laser is 15 and when he suddenly finds out he was conceived by artificial insemination he wishes to find his biological father.



"The Kids Are All Right" ran afoul of the Ministry of Culture for a scene, in which a lesbian couple watches gay porn. As a consequence, only adults can watch the movie at restricted hours and locations. (sbccfilmreviews.org)

Laser meets his father Paul, who is idling life away without thinking of family and children. Paul is a free man, and his flirtation with Jules soon turns into something more serious, putting the strength of her relationship with Nic to the test.

Cholodenko is herself a lesbian and an avid author of art-house films about homosexual relationships. She is in a relationship with guitarist Wendy Melvoin and has also given birth to son Calder, 5, from an anonymous sperm donor.

The film was critically acclaimed, but Ukrainian censors were unimpressed.

"It is not because of the lesbian couple, it is because of the scene where women are watching a gay porn film. Such scenes are intended for a mature viewer. I have chosen the age limit of 18 and I'm responsible for this decision," said Serhiy Vasilyev, an art critic who is on the Ministry's of Culture's commission.

Ukrainian film critic Alik Shpilyuk, another panel member, disagreed with his colleagues – most of whom voted

for it to be only for over-18s – and tagged the film for anyone older than 16.

"I can imagine that the film about a lesbian family isn't very accessible yet to the immature Ukrainian consciousness," he said. "Everyone can watch the brutal reports and news that are often shown on television, but along comes an artistic film, precise, humanistic, which touches the theme of relationships – and it's a completely different matter."

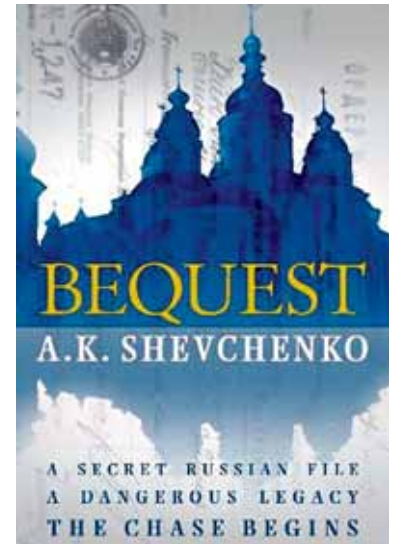
Kovaleva from Arthouse Traffic said the commission also reduced the number of movie theaters showing the film and forced the distributor to reschedule some screenings at inconvenient times, such as early in the morning or late in the evening.

According to the Internet Movie Database "The Kids Are All Right" is an R-rated film in the United States, recommended for people under 17 only with an accompanying adult. In the United Kingdom it can be watched by anyone over 15 and in Germany youngsters over 12 are allowed into theaters.

"It is a stylishly made movie, but I don't understand what it's got to do with children," Vasilyev said. "It probably has something to do with German laws that there are no limits for people from 12. Such things are not acceptable in our country."

The film's being screened in Ukrainian. To watch it in English, buy it online or in DVD stores.

Kyiv Post staff writer Alina Shumova can be reached at [shumova@kyivpost.com](mailto:shumova@kyivpost.com)



'Bequest' is an international thriller by Ukrainian Anna Shevchenko

## Set in Kyiv and Moscow, 'Bequest' carefully entwines fact and fiction

→ 19 win any awards, but as thrillers go, it's a cut above your average airport fare. It succeeds as an adventure story, as an amusing diversion, and a genuinely thought-provoking insight into the casual brutality of Stalin's Soviet Union. It's also genuinely well-written, with well-crafted prose rather than the wince-inducing mangling of the English language that sometimes accompanies this type of exercise. The fact that its author wrote about her home country with a mixture of love and sadness makes "Bequest" well worth a read.

Simon Appleby runs Bookswarm Limited, a company which delivers digital marketing services to publishers and authors. This review first appeared at [www.bookgeeks.co.uk](http://www.bookgeeks.co.uk) and is reprinted with the author's permission.



## A swinging party



→ Kyiv Swing Dance Club celebrated its 10-year anniversary this week with a series of contests and four major parties around the city. Celebrations kicked off on March 5 with a welcome party and culminated on March 7 with three competitions, including Lindy Hop, Balboa and West Coast Swing. All these swing dance types originated in the United States before or during the Swing Era, which lasted from 1935–1946 and made swing the most hip type of music to listen and dance to. The birthday bashes drew a crowd of visitors from Moscow, St. Petersburg and Minsk. Two of three judges for competitions, Jeremy Otth and Laura Keat, arrived from the U.S. and taught a series of master classes to the thriving swinging community in Kyiv. (Joseph Sywenkyj)



Publication of items in Kyiv Post Community Bulletin Board is free of charge. The newspaper will print as many submissions as space permits, but notices must be no more than 30 words, except for the people in need section. Advertising of paid services or commercial ventures is prohibited in this space. Permanent items must be resubmitted every three months. Deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. Friday for the next issue. New listings are boldfaced. Please e-mail [news@kyivpost.com](mailto:news@kyivpost.com) or contact lifestyle editor Yuliya Popova at 234-6500.

## Business clubs – 4 listings



- The Business-English Center meets on Sundays at 3 p.m. for a series of business English skills workshops. For more information, call Alex at 234-0871 or email: [e-club@i.com.ua](mailto:e-club@i.com.ua) or visit [www.etcentre.com.ua](http://www.etcentre.com.ua).
- A new gentlemen's club is always open for well-educated, successful members (free admission) to combine establishing business relationships with unconstrained socializing. Please contact us: [vadyim\\_n@ukr.net](mailto:vadyim_n@ukr.net), [kobserg@yahoo.com](mailto:kobserg@yahoo.com), (067) 7406820 Sergio.
- The British Business Club in Ukraine meets every Saturday for business discussion and once every month for networking. Membership is by invitation only and is open to individuals and companies. Please email: [administrator@bbcu.com.ua](mailto:administrator@bbcu.com.ua).
- Free English discussions about Internet marketing. Bold Endeavors, a British marketing and web development company, welcomes senior marketing managers/directors to an English language discussion group about search engines and Internet marketing at noon on the first Saturday of each month. Call 221-9595, or register online at [www.bold.com.ua](http://www.bold.com.ua).

## Public speaking – 6 listings



- Dnipro Hills Toastmasters Club would like to invite successful-oriented people to learn and develop public speaking, presentation and leadership skills. Join us Sundays from 10 to 11 a.m. at Kyiv Business School, 34 Lesya Ukrainky Street, metro station Pecherska. For detailed information, please, check our website [www.dniprohills.org.ua](http://www.dniprohills.org.ua).
- EBA Toastmasters Club invites enthusiastic, goal-oriented people to learn and improve their communication and leadership skills in friendly learning and supportive environment. We meet every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at American Councils at Melnykova, 63. For more information, contact Svetlana Nesterenko at [iana\\_sv@ukr.net](mailto:iana_sv@ukr.net) or call 067 220 77 55. More information can also be found at: [www.ebatmc.blogspot.com](http://www.ebatmc.blogspot.com).
- Top Talkers Toastmasters Club is happy to invite ambitious and enthusiastic people to learn by doing. Together we will discover inner potential in public speaking and leadership in each of us. We meet every Tuesday at Kraft Foods, 23 Yaroslavl Val St. at 7 p.m. Please check our website [www.toptalkers.org](http://www.toptalkers.org).
- American Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters Club invites English speaking business professionals to advance their presentation and communication skills in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. We meet each Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., at the Microsoft Ukraine office, 75 Zhylivanska St., Floor 4, Business Center Eurasia. To receive further details on the club and its membership, please contact our club vice president for membership, Anton Stetsenko at 093-609-5161.
- Kyiv Toastcrackers Club, a part of Toastmasters International, is a worldwide organization that helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking through effective oral communication. We invite new people to benefit from the meetings on Wednesdays, at 7 p.m. at the House of Scientists, 45a Volodymyrska St. For more information see [www.toastcrackers.kiev.ua](http://www.toastcrackers.kiev.ua).
- Talkers Toastmasters Club invites those interested in improving their public speaking, communication skills, English and creative abilities to join its meetings on Saturday mornings at 11 a.m. Please, check club's website at [arttalkers.wordpress.com](http://arttalkers.wordpress.com), call 096-565-6229 or e-mail: [arttalkers@gmail.com](mailto:arttalkers@gmail.com)

## Religion – 8 listings



- Christ Church, Kyiv. We are the Anglican/Episcopal Church, serving the English-speaking community in Kyiv. We meet Sundays at 3 p.m. at St Catherine's German Lutheran Church, 22 Luteranska Street, a five-minute walk from Khreshchatyk. Bible study on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. Please call Graham at 098-779-4457 for more information, [www.acny.org.uk](http://www.acny.org.uk)/8592.
- You are invited to the St. Paul's Evangelical Church. Roger McMurrin is its founding pastor. Music for worship is provided by the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra and Chorus. Worship services are held every Sunday at 2:30 pm at the House of Artistic Collectives (Verioivka Choir Hall, 4th floor) at 50/52 Shevchenko Blvd. Call 235-4503 or 235-6980.
- International Church, Kyiv. English and Spanish Bible study classes. We invite you to weekly services at 10:30 a.m. Saturdays at 13A Miropolskaya St. (metro Chernigovskaya, second stop by a tram Boichenka. Central entrance of two-story building). Telephone: 38-093-757-6848, 542-3194.
- Word of God Church offers Bible study every Sunday and Wednesday at 7 p.m. Sunday school, nursery for children. For more information call: 517-5193.

- International Baptist Church invites you to our English language worship services (Sundays at 10 a.m.). We are located near Vyrlytsya metro in the downstairs hall of Transfiguration Church, 30B Verbytskoho. <http://livingvinechurch.googlepages.com>.
- The Evangelic Presbyterian Church of the Holy Trinity invites you to our worship service, held in Ukrainian and Russian with simultaneous English translation. We meet each Sunday at 50-52 Shevchenka Blvd., #402 (4th floor). Worship begins at 11 a.m. Sunday school for adults begins at 9:45 a.m. Pastor Ivan Bepalov; tel. (044) 287-0815; (097) 317-9598; e-mail: [ivanbepalov@gmail.com](mailto:ivanbepalov@gmail.com).
- Kyiv International Bible Church, an English-language evangelical nondenominational church meeting at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays at 34A Popudrenka, between Darnytsya and Chernihivska metro stops. Contacts: 501-8082, or [kievIBC@gmail.com](mailto:kievIBC@gmail.com).
- International Christian Assembly meets at 57 Holosiyivska St. Services are held every Sunday; 9 a.m. till 11:30 a.m. For further information contact: Paul, +050-382-2782, [www.icakiev.com](http://www.icakiev.com)

## Support groups – 6 listings

- Jimmy's Psychology Club within the Center 'Australian Council in Ukraine' invites guests to our free problem-sharing and counselling event every Saturday from 5 pm to 7 pm with qualified native speakers at 37Horiva St., Podil district (m. Kontraktova Ploscha). For more information, please contact us at [steda@ukr.net](mailto:steda@ukr.net) or +050 568-8403. <http://vkontakte.ru/club23571290>
- Divorce mediation, commercial mediation, consulting on diagnostics of conflict resolution in organization. Ukrainian Mediation Center, [www.ukrmediation.com.ua](http://www.ukrmediation.com.ua) Please contact Oksana Kondratiuk: 066-758-66-44, [delo2@i.ua](mailto:delo2@i.ua).
- Individual consultations, psychological support in divorce, family relations, stress management, health issues, relaxation, self-esteem, personal development. Call Elena: 097-294-6781.
- Alcoholics Anonymous English-speaking group meets Saturday/Sunday at 12:30 p.m. and Tuesday/Thursday at 7 p.m. at various locations. Contacts: [aakyiv@ukr.net](mailto:aakyiv@ukr.net), 096-460-0137 (friend of Bill) for details of meeting location.
- Counseling/advising in relationships, personal growth, body/mind/spirit matters. Well-known Ukrainian psychologist counsels expats in English and French in the center of Kyiv (Lyuteranska). See [www.hotel.kiev.ua](http://www.hotel.kiev.ua) or call 050-595-3686 between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- Individual psychological counseling for Russian and English speakers. Family issues, mood disorders, anxiety, depression. Psychological Rehabilitation & Resocialization Center. Call Elena Korneyeva, 050-573-5810, between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., or e-mail: [korneyeva@rambler.ru](mailto:korneyeva@rambler.ru).

## Social, sport and health clubs – 3 listings

- Travel Club Kiev meets at metro Lva Tolstogo at 3 p.m. on Saturdays to discuss travel stories and explore new destinations with each other. Meet new people and share your stories. Join us, it's free! For more information contact Olga, 063 351- 6147.
- TRAVEL CLUB KIEV meets at metro Lva Tolstogo at 3 p.m. on Saturdays to discuss travel stories and explore new destinations with each other. Meet new people and share your stories. Join us, it's free! For more information: 063 351- 6147, Olga.
- Volleyball group, expats and locals, seeks new players, male or female. Skill levels, advanced beginner to intermediate. We meet on Sundays, 11 a.m., near Lvoberezhna metro. For more info, send email to [vbkiev@gmail.com](mailto:vbkiev@gmail.com)
- Kiev Hash House Harriers club meets every second Sunday at 1 p.m. at the Lucky Pub, 13 Chervonoarmijska St. (near Lva Tolstoho metro station). For more details, visit the website at <http://hash-househarriers.kiev.ua/>

## International clubs – 10 listings



- Free admission for foreigners to "Russian Speaking Club" on Saturdays, 15:00 in Kiev city center. Call Yana (095897 01 55) to ask for details or go to [www.russianclub.com.ua](http://www.russianclub.com.ua)
- Stolypin Club (Kiev) meets every third Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at various locations. It is a non-profit public organization uniting Kyiv's citizenry, including prominent business representatives, politicians and the liberal professions. The club is private, but opens its doors and its spirit to the wider community, affording the public a chance to partake in certain events alongside club members and guests. Please contact Tamara Avdeyeva at 096-462-4646 or assistant@stolypinclub.org.
- Welcome to the friendly atmosphere of a French-speaking club. We meet once weekly on Saturdays or Sundays for conversation practice and movie sessions. Please contact Svetlana: 067-907-1456 or email: [consonance-s@ukr.net](mailto:consonance-s@ukr.net)
- Student Embassy Project invites students to join intercultural events in Kyiv, Lviv and Ternopil. The initiative is aimed at international students' integration into Ukrainian society, youth leadership development, intercultural dialogue. To learn more please e-mail us at [studentembassy@gmail.com](mailto:studentembassy@gmail.com) or visit: <http://studentembassy.org.ua>.
- The Kyiv Rotary Club meets on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Andreyevsky Prichal restaurant, 6 Bratskaya Str. For more information, please contact Nataliya Rodovanskaya at 067-296-5672 or [n\\_radov@yahoo.com](mailto:n_radov@yahoo.com).
- The International Women's Club of Kyiv (IWCK) welcomes women from around the world to join our support network and participate in our extensive social and charitable programs. For more information, see our website [www.iwck.org](http://www.iwck.org), call or e-mail the IWCK Program Coordinator Galina Timoshenko at 234-3180, office@iwck.org. Address: 39 Pushkinska, #51, entrance 5, door code 250.
- The Rotaract Club Kyiv meets on Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational Center, Prospect Peremohy, #30, apt. 82. For more information, please email: [president@rotaract-kyiv.org.ua](mailto:president@rotaract-kyiv.org.ua) or visit our website [www.rotaract-kyiv.org.ua](http://www.rotaract-kyiv.org.ua).
- Democrats Abroad Ukraine is the official organization of the Democratic Party in Ukraine; connecting Americans with U.S. politics and the Democratic Party; registering, informing, and motivating voters; supporting U.S. candidates, holding events, and fundraising. To join, email [info@democratsabroad.org.ua](mailto:info@democratsabroad.org.ua).
- The Kyiv Multinational Rotary Club welcomes all Rotarians who are in Kyiv and new potential Rotarians. Our meetings are conducted in English and are held every Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, Yaroslavl Val St. 22. For a map and further information please consult our website at: <http://kmrclub.org>.
- The Kyiv Lions Club is one of 45,000 Lions Clubs around the world. We raise funds and provide services to help those most in

need in our community by supporting charities in our chosen sectors of giving: children, the disabled, and the elderly. We meet on the second Monday of every month in the downstairs bar of the Golden Gate Irish Pub at 7 p.m. For more information contact Paul Niland at 044-531-9193 or [paul.niland@primerosfunds.com](mailto:paul.niland@primerosfunds.com).

## English clubs – 13 listings

- Cambridge graduate leads free conversations in British English most Sunday mornings in downtown Kyiv venue. GMAT my speciality, but discussion of a wide range of cultural and commercial issues is encouraged Michael\_Bedwell@hotmail.com
- Free English speaking club A@5! Improve your English speaking skills and have fun. Be prepared to speak in English most of the time with native speakers. Conversational clubs and thematic discussions on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information, please contact Vadyim at [vadik\\_s@ukr.net](mailto:vadik_s@ukr.net) or +066 767-4407
- English-Russian Conversation Club for adults. People of different ages are invited for international meetings. Mini-groups, individual approach. Making new friends. Conversational trainings. Email: [engrugslobe@i.ua](mailto:engrugslobe@i.ua)
- Sprout Christian International School is looking for native English-speaking volunteers who are enthusiastic and love working with children to help in pre-school and English club starting coming September. For more details please call ASAP: Natalie Istomina: +067 501-0406, +093 798-9840.
- Wave Language School offers free English speaking clubs to the public. Join us on weekends from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays and 1 p.m.– 3 p.m. or 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sundays. Please contact us by email if you are interested: [info@wavelanguag-eschool.com](mailto:info@wavelanguag-eschool.com). We hope to see you soon – everybody is welcome.
- Free English practice at conversation club, regular meetings on Fridays at 7 p.m. near Akademgorodok metro. English native speakers. Interesting topics for discussion. Everyone is invited. Join us at 76 Irpenska str., off.31. <http://english.in.ua/>, 229-2838.
- Free book & DVD exchange. Hundreds of English books and movies. Bring one, take one at the Phoenix Center. Address: metro Pecherska, 2 Nemyrovycha-Danchenko, University of Technology and Design, blue 14-storied building, 3rd floor. Hours: Mon-Fri 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Sat noon until 1:30 p.m.
- Native English speakers. Meet the best and the brightest in Kyiv, well-educated, ambitious, and talented young people 20-30 years old. Share your English skills and make new friends. Everyone is welcome to visit for free. We also organize picnics, balls and excursions. Five days a week at different locations. Please contact Mark Taylor at [jmt260@hotmail.com](mailto:jmt260@hotmail.com) for more information.
- Free speaking English club in Irpen on Saturdays at Lan School. Call 093-623-3071.
- Improve your English-speaking skills and have fun. Be prepared to speak English most of the time with native speakers. Conversational club, thematic discussions on Saturdays and Sundays. For more information please contact Vadyim. email: [vadik\\_s@ukr.net](mailto:vadik_s@ukr.net) or call 066-767-4407.
- Free international conversation club on Fridays at 7 p.m. at English Language Center. Interesting topics for discussion, studying the Bible sometimes. Join us at 4B Kutuzova lane office No. 106 (m. Pecherska) and 76 Irpenska, office No. 31 (m. Akademgorodok). The ELC LTD. Tel. 5811989, 229-28-38. <http://english.in.ua>
- Are you a native English speaker? We are glad to invite you to join our English-speaking club. Call 067-620-3120 (Olga) or e-mail [Olga.Bondar@atlantm.com](mailto:Olga.Bondar@atlantm.com)
- Free English/German conversation club on Sundays. Druzhbi Narodiv 18/7, office No. 3. Everyone is welcome. Tel: 529-75-77.

## People in need - 7 listings

- 9-year old Gleb Plisko suffers from epilepsy, and Cerebral palsy since birth. The boy needs urgently a bone orthopedic operation that will give him a chance of restoring some mental and orthopedic functionality. The surgical intervention costs Hr 54,120 and is to be done in a specialized hospital in Evpatoria. The boy's mother is his only supporter, and she hopes for your assistance. Contacts: Mother Natalia Subbotina - mob.tel +38 050 852-8529 Bank details for hryvnia transfer: OSCHADBANK ТОВО 39/098 ОКПО 02761766 МФО 384016 P/C 290990952 J/C И-28782 Bank details for dollar transfer: Beneficiary: Subbotina Natalia Valentynivna Account No.: 2620 7598520000/1025 Bank: OSCHADBANK Bank branch address: 95071, Sympheropol, 30/1 Sevastopolska St. Correspondent bank: Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, New York, USA SWIFT CODE: BKTRUS33 Account with institution: Acc. 04-095-334 SWIFT CODE: COSBUAUKCR JSC Oschadbank
- Twenty-one year old Zhenia Anhel was diagnosed with myelomonocytic leukemia in early January. He is currently treated in the Hematology Department of the Kyiv City Hospital going through the first stage of chemotherapy. Zhenia's relatives contacted several hospitals in Germany, Poland and Israel in hope to continue therapy abroad. The family needs to raise 100,000 euro for the therapy itself and another 150,000 for the bone marrow transplant. The Anhel family pleads for your support and is thankful for any contribution, however small. Contacts: Olena Betliy, Teacher, +38 095 137 7743, [history.ukma@gmail.com](mailto:history.ukma@gmail.com); Egor Stadnyi, Student Committee Head, +38 096 905 5743, [estadnyi@gmail.com](mailto:estadnyi@gmail.com); Iryna Ivanivna Yurechko, Deanery coordinator, (+38 044) 425-14-20; [iriv@ukma.kiev.ua](mailto:iriv@ukma.kiev.ua). Website: <http://www.helpangel.com.ua/> Bank details for individuals: PrivatBank card: 4627087834471890. Account number (Hryvnia): 4149 6050 5082 6437 Account number(EUR): 5457 0820 5027 5655 Bank details for legal bodies (Hryvnia): Recipient: PrivatBank Bank name: PrivatBank Account number: 29244825509100 МФО code: 305299 ЄДРПОУ Code: 14360570 Details of payment: charitable contribution to Anhel Mariya Mykolaivna for medical treatment of her son, Anhel Yevhen # 4627087834471890 Tax ID 1915922443 Bank details for legal bodies (USD): BENEFICIARY: Anhel Mariya Mykolaivna Relief Fund for her son Evhen ACCOUNT: # 26258614433539 BANK OF BENEFICIARY: PrivatBank Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine Swift code: pbanua2x INTERMEDIARY BANK: jp morgan chase bank Chase metrotech center, 7th floor Brooklyn NY, 11245 USA CORRESPONDENT swift code: chasus33 ACCOUNT: 0011000080 Bank details for legal bodies (EURO): BENEFICIARY: Anhel Mariya Mykolaivna Relief Fund for her son Evhen ACCOUNT: # 26258614433443 BANK OF BENEFICIARY: PrivatBank Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine Swift code: pbanua2x INTERMEDIARY BANK: jp morgan AG Frankfurt/main, Germany

Swift code: chasdefx  
CORRESPONDENT  
ACCOUNT: 6231605145  
→ **Katyusha Larionova** is only 4 years old. At the age of 1,9 she was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, 4th stage. Since that time her parents has been fighting for her life. She had been treated in Ukraine without success. Due support of many responsive people Katyusha had a complex surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and bone marrow transplantation in Singapore, and finally went into a remission stage.  
For 1,5 year Katyusha lived as a normal child, studied at development school. But in January 2011 metastases appeared in skull bones. Katyusha's doctor in Singapore recommended a course of complex therapy, including chemotherapy, MiBG therapy, antibodies and repeated marrow ransplantation. To start the therapy is necessary as soon as possible. The cost of it is 87 thousand pounds sterling. Katyusha's parents hope people help them to save their daughter.  
Details on Katyusha's condition you can find at: <http://katylari-ohelp.ucoz.ru/>, or <http://www.donor.org.ua/index.php?module=help&act=show&c=1&id=746>  
Contacts: Larionov Dmitriy, father, +050 501- 9566, Larionova Alina, mother, +050 621-1207, e-mail: [desk@list.ru](mailto:desk@list.ru)  
Or donate in Hryvnia:  
Privat Bank Account #29244825509100  
МФО: 305299  
Code: 14360570  
Details of payment: replenishment of the card # 4149625301417414 Receiver: Larionova Alina Vladimirovna 2926510426



→ **Nastya Kotova**, 15, has been diagnosed with acute leukemia. She had a successful bone marrow transplant in Israel two months ago. Nastya is in a relatively stable condition now for the first time in many months. A step away from recovery, she still has to go through a rehabilitation period. The Kotov family urgently needs \$12,000 to continue the treatment. Please help save their daughter's life.  
More information:  
<http://www.donor.org.ua/index.php?module=help&act=show&c=1&id=1170>  
<http://fondarina.com/ru/child/nastya-kotova?news#72>  
Contact Nastya's volunteer, Iryna: 096-373-89-71.  
Bank details:  
Beneficiary: Kotova Olena Vasylivna (Nastya's mother)  
Deposit money on a banking account: # 4405885014676768 PrivatBank  
Account #: 29244825509100  
MFO: 305299  
Code: 14360570



→ **Maksym Nalivkin**, 12 years old, needs your help. The boy had suffered from cerebral haemorrhage and further subarachnoid hemorrhage, which led to 3 brain surgeries and constant artificial pulmonary ventilation. Since March 2010 the boy has been held at the resuscitation department, for 2 months he's been out of coma, there are slight positive changes that give hope. He still needs a long-term rehabilitation; however his family already spent their savings on treatment. In case you have any possibility to support them, Maksym's family would much appreciate it.  
Contacts:  
Mother Elena Nalivkina - mob.tel.: +380 99 625-2475  
Father Arkady Nalivkin - mob.tel: +380 50318-5499; tel: +380 552 22-2806; email: [nag.box@gmail.com](mailto:nag.box@gmail.com); skype: [arkady\\_g.nalivkin](mailto:arkady_g.nalivkin); ICQ: 8423832  
Webpage: <http://nag.pp.net.ua/>  
Bank details for hryvnia transfer:  
Bank: Черноморское отделение Херсонского филиала «Приватбанк»  
МФО Code: 305299  
ОКПО Code: 14360570  
Account: 29244825509100  
Purpose of payment: 4627085825848787, Nalivkina Elena Nikolaevna, ИИН: 2596602804  
Multicurrency account (U.S. dollar, euro):  
BENEFICIARY: NALIVKIN ARKADYY, Kherson, Ukraine  
ACCOUNT: 2620001696644  
BANK NAME: JOIN STOCK COMPANY "THE STATE EXPORT-IMORT BANK OF UKRAINE" (UKREXIMBANK), KHERSON BRANCH  
SWIFT: EXBSUAUXXHE  
BANK ADDRESS: 46, RADJANS'KA STR., KHERSON  
Maksym's family also appeals for advice - any useful contacts of rehabilitation professionals, recovery programs, as well as charity organizations or grant programs for such cases.  
→ Two-year-old Vanya Chornozub from Kherson Oblast has brain cancer. Since no clinic in Ukraine was able to cure him, he has been transferred to Germany for further treatment. Due to the efforts of many people, two years of therapy brought very good results. Vanya is getting better. But his parents are very short of money to pay for further treatment. His parents appeal to anyone who can help support Vanya's treatment.  
Contact person: volunteer Olga Kopylova: +380-67-234-1225  
Webpage: [www.donor.org.ua/index.php?module=help&act=show&c=1&id=870](http://www.donor.org.ua/index.php?module=help&act=show&c=1&id=870)  
Details for money transfers:  
PrivatBank  
Account: 29244825509100  
Bank branch location code: 305299  
Code: 14360570  
Details of payment: card replenishment: 4405885012914724, Chornozub A.A., support for son's treatment



→ **Sofia Sydorчук**, 3,5 years old, needs your help urgently. The girl has recently been diagnosed with myeloblastic leukemia, she is in hospital, the intensive chemotherapy department. Sofia needs to undergo a course of medical treatment that consists of 4 blocks of chemotherapy (one block has already been done). It is difficult to determine the exact cost of the treatment at this stage; our best estimate is around Euro 200,000. After chemotherapy Sofia needs to move to a specialised rehabilitation clinic in Israel or Germany. Sofia's family hopes for your support, each day they do treatment and tests.  
You can make a donation via one of the following options:  
(1) Donations made through a bank transfer  
Banking details for transfers in Hr:  
Beneficiary: АО "Ukreksimbank"  
Account: 2924902234  
Bank of the beneficiary: АО "Ukreksimbank"  
MFO code: 322313  
EDRPOU code: 00032112  
Payment purpose: receipt of funds to the account of Sydorчук D.V. 0001025541  
(2) Donations via web-money  
Z351457992891  
R639870369876  
E252216931289  
U585571766822  
(For instructions on transferring the money via web-money please refer to: <http://webmoney.ua/withdrawfunds/>)  
→ The Down Syndrome Ukrainian Organisation gathers parents who have trisomic children, in order to help them raise their kids, and aims at changing the public perception of the disease. The Organisation is now opening a Center for Early Development of the Children with Down Syndrome in Kyiv. The association has recently launched the operation "Serebrenaya Monetka" (Silver Coin) in order to raise funds for the center. Transparent boxes have been displayed in the 100 branches of UkrSibBank (the subsidiary of the French BNP Paribas group) in Kyiv, in order to collect the small coins that everybody has in their pockets. All donations are welcome. Details can be found at <http://www.downsyndrome.com.ua/>; <http://www.ukrsibbank.com>. The operation will end on March 19th. All the proceeds of the operation will be used to buy equipments and furniture for this Center."  
Hryvnia account:  
BENEFICIARY: Vseukrainskaia Bkagodiyna Organizatsia Down Syndrome  
ACCOUNT: 26007265663400  
MFO 351005  
UKRSIBBANK



Government of Canada  
Embassy of Canada

**The Embassy of Canada**  
invites applications for the positions of  
Assistant Accountant, Contracts Manager, Junior Program Officer, Receptionist

Political, Economic and Public  
Affairs Programme (PERPA) /  
International Experience Canada  
(IEC)

**Assistant Accountant**  
#11-AG-001

**Starting Salary:** 112,863 UAH per annum (plus benefits)  
**Screening Requirements:**  
**Education:** University degree in the field of accounting or a relevant discipline from a recognized institution.  
**Language:** Strong command in both written & verbal English & Ukrainian. Proficiency in written and/or spoken Russian and French is an asset.  
**Experience:** Minimum 3 years of work experience in an accounting or financial office environment. Demonstrated experience working on a PC in a network environment and an ability to type at a minimum of 30 words per minute. Experience in dealing with the general public or internal clients and responding to inquiries.

**CIDA Contracts Manager**  
#11-DA-002

**Starting Salary:** 163,729 UAH per annum (plus benefits)  
**Screening Requirements:**  
**Education:** University degree from a recognized institution.  
**Language:** Strong command of written and spoken English and Ukrainian. Proficiency in Russian and French is an asset.  
**Experience:** At least two years of experience managing contracting processes, including consultant selection processes, drafting contracts or agreements, and monitoring contract implementation. Demonstrated experience managing budgets. Demonstrated experience working on a PC in a network environment. Experience in technical cooperation programming (with a donor agency, an implementing partner, or other capacity) is an asset.

**CIDA, Junior Program Officer**  
#11-DA-003

**Starting Salary:** 163,729 UAH per annum (plus benefits)  
**Screening Requirements:**  
**Education:** University degree from a recognized institution.  
**Language:** Strong command of written and spoken English and Ukrainian. Proficiency in Russian and French is an asset.  
**Experience:** At least two years of experience in technical cooperation programming (with a donor agency, an implementing partner, or other capacity). Demonstrated experience managing budgets and writing reports or other documents in English. Demonstrated experience working on a PC in a network environment.

**Receptionist**  
#11-AG-004

**Starting Salary:** 99,708 UAH per annum (plus benefits)  
**Screening Requirements:**  
**Education:** Graduation from a government recognized college/university. Secretarial training sufficient to be familiar with text preparation and formatting, as well as general handling of correspondence including letters, faxes, and e-mails is an asset.  
**Language:** Fluency in English, French and Ukrainian language (speaking, reading and writing). Ability to read & speak Russian is an asset.  
**Experience:** At least 2 years of relevant work experience in a position with a focus on client service. Experience working with telephone switchboard systems in general office environment is an asset. Demonstrated experience working on a PC in a network environment and with general office software. Experience in dealing with the general public.

The Embassy of Canada seeks a full time (37.5 hour/week) PERPA Assistant to work on the IEC application process for a 3 to 5 month term position. **Salary:** 8,200 hryvnia/month

**Responsibilities:**  
Under general supervision, helps with the processing of applications; liaises with applicants, verifies documents; works with Programme Assistant and Manager; provides consecutive interpretation and written translation between Ukrainian and English and/or French; acts as computer "super user"; and performs other duties as required.  
**Requirements:**  
• Advanced knowledge of Word, Excel, Outlook  
• Excellent written and spoken English and Ukrainian (French and Russian an asset)  
• Excellent organization and communication skills

■ Please send a resume and covering letter by e-mail to [sergiy.sklyarenko@international.gc.ca](mailto:sergiy.sklyarenko@international.gc.ca)  
Fax submissions cannot be accepted. Successful candidates for interview will be contacted by phone.

**Closing date for this competition is Thursday, March 17, 2010 at 5:00 P.M**

Detailed competition notices & job descriptions are available upon request from: [kyiv-ag@international.gc.ca](mailto:kyiv-ag@international.gc.ca)

■ Applications must be received by March 25, 2011 at 17:00 at the address indicated. Please ensure that the competition name and number is indicated in the covering letter. As well clearly indicate how you meet the screening requirements. Failure to do so may result in rejection. Only applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.

■ Mail to:  
Management Officer  
Embassy of Canada, PO Box 205  
Kyiv, Ukraine 01901

■ Or E-mail to:  
[kyiv-ag@international.gc.ca](mailto:kyiv-ag@international.gc.ca)

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 Needed for a leading Music School in Dubai- UAE, Must speak English

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- 🎵 Premier Palace Hotel/Tarasa Shevchenko Boulevard 5-7/29, 01004 Kyiv
- 🎵 Please send your CV and photo to [bmmteachers@yahoo.com](mailto:bmmteachers@yahoo.com), [bmmcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:bmmcenter@yahoo.com), [www.brooklynmelodies.com](http://www.brooklynmelodies.com)



The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Kyiv has a vacancy as a **LOCALLY EMPLOYED VISA OFFICER/PROJECT ASSISTANT**

The position is open for a qualified citizen from a member country of the European Economic Area (EEA)<sup>1</sup>

The vacancy is a combined position where the employee will be working about 50% for the Embassy's visa section and about 50% with the administration of the Embassy's project portfolio.

Please visit the Embassy's web page for more information: [www.norway.com.ua](http://www.norway.com.ua). Closing date 3. April 2011.

<sup>1</sup>Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein and the 27 member countries of the European Union



PATH is a US-based international nonprofit organization with the mission to improve the health of people around the world by advancing technologies, strengthening systems, and encouraging healthy behaviors.

**PATH is seeking:**

**Finance Assistant** (req. 4497) • **Program Assistant** (req. 4503) • **Program Officer / Tuberculosis Clinical** (req. 4516) • **Program Officer / Tuberculosis Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist** (req. 4515) • **Program Officer – Tuberculosis Laboratory Specialist** (req. 4514)

Positions to be based in Kyiv and to provide support in implementation of the TB Control Partnership Project in Ukraine funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and TB diagnosis and treatment components of the TB Program to be funded by the Global Fund to Fight HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GF) to improve the prevention, detection and treatment of TB and drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR TB) through training and technical assistance in harmony with international and national best practice.

For more details and to apply online (in English) please go to [www.path.org](http://www.path.org) Jobs section.

## Kyivpost.ua

IS LOOKING FOR A

# SPORTS EDITOR

FOR ITS ONLINE UKRAINIAN/ RUSSIAN LANGUAGE VERSION

**THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE MUST:**

- Be knowledgeable about a wide range of spectator and participatory sports popular to Ukrainians;
- Be willing to get exclusive interviews on a regular basis;
- Have experience working for online news sites;
- Have fluency in Ukrainian, Russian and English languages.

Please send CV, three writing samples, three story ideas and an explanation of why you want to work for the Kyiv Post, one of Ukraine's top news sources, to: **Brian Bonner, chief editor, Kyiv Post** at [bonner@kyivpost.com](mailto:bonner@kyivpost.com)

# make your mark

Our Global Business is now offering exciting opportunities for Commercial Trainees to join our Oilseeds operation in a number of our key European locations.

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**The Role**

At ADM, we actively foster employee development at every career stage. Our traineeship programme facilitates an understanding of all aspects of our business in preparation for a future management role in our Commercial team. During your development, you will spend time in at least two of our European locations (which could include Germany, Holland, Poland, Ukraine and the UK) following a structured learning plan, while gaining practical experience in the trading business. Throughout your traineeship, you will be provided support by a dedicated mentor from our senior commercial team.

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- A degree in a Business / Commercial discipline ideally with an agricultural focus.
- Internship or some work experience up to two years ideally in commodity trading or production company.
- Good communication and presentation skills; fluent in English, with German a strong asset.
- Eager to work for a professional and international organisation with a focus towards Trading coupled with a drive for success and continuous improvement.
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- Willingness to travel and relocate

We offer great career opportunities with a competitive remuneration package in a very international environment.

Every day, the 29,000 people of Archer Daniels Midland Company (NYSE: ADM) turn crops into renewable products that meet the demands of a growing world. At more than 240 processing plants, we convert corn, oilseeds, wheat and cocoa into products for food, animal feed, chemical and energy uses. We operate the world's premier crop origination and transportation network, connecting crops and markets in more than 60 countries. Our global headquarters is in Decatur, Illinois, and our net sales for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, were \$ 62 billion. For more information about our Company and our products, visit [www.adm.com](http://www.adm.com).

If you are interested in this position, please e-mail your application and your CV to [Oleksandra.Gulakova@adm.com](mailto:Oleksandra.Gulakova@adm.com).

For more information please call +38 048 7965722

[www.adm.com](http://www.adm.com)



**USAID-funded Public Private Partnership Development Program (P3DP) has immediate openings for:**

### Manager of Transaction Services

**Responsibilities:**

Manage program resources focused on overseeing assistance to take at least ten (10) public private partnership (PPP) projects through the various stages of implementation:

**Key Skills and Experience**

- A college degree or equivalent relevant experience in law, finance, engineering, accounting, business or project management, with preference given to an MBA;
- Extensive, successful experience working in senior positions on USAID economic development projects and hands-on exposure to PPP development are both highly desirable;
- Broad experience in dealing with the governmental entities (both national and local) and demonstrated interpersonal skills to work comfortably and well with personnel in various levels of social, political and organizational hierarchy;
- Experience with project management and government and/or commercial sector contracting;
- Ability to develop and execute plans, systems and procedures that are designed to reach or exceed programmatic goals of formal Work Plans and incremental plans as may be approved by P3DP or USAID from time to time;
- Able and willing to frequently travel throughout Ukraine as required to achieve program results; and
- Advanced oral and writing skills in both English and Ukrainian are required for interpersonal communications, report writing, and presentation preparation and delivery, with additional skills in Russian being preferred.

### Receptionist/Administrative Assistant

**Responsibilities:**

General administrative and secretarial support to the COP and project staff, such as faxing, e-mailing, making copies, directing incoming calls, distributing and filing documents, receiving visitors, and other clerical support.

**Key Skills and Experience**

- Diploma from an accredited college as a minimum;
- Fluent writing and speaking English skills (must have);
- Good administrative and interpersonal skills; and
- Previous experience with donor-funded projects in related position is a plus.

### Translator/Interpreter

**Responsibilities:**

Interpretation and translation in spoken and written words from English to Ukrainian/Russian and vice versa

**Key Skills and Experience**

- A college degree in linguistics;
- Fluency in English, Ukrainian and Russian;
- Previous experience working as an interpreter or translator;
- Good social and interpersonal skills; and
- Excellent listener.

Interested parties, **meeting the above key skills and experience**, should send a CV in English to [p3dp@mail.ru](mailto:p3dp@mail.ru) not later than March 18, 2011. Only short-listed applicants will be contacted for further consultations with P3DP.

## JOB VACANCY

We are seeking highly qualified and motivated candidates to join us for the Local Staff position.

**Requirements:**

- Male, with age between 23-30 years old
- Bachelor's degree, graduated from a reputable university or academy, preferably in International Relations, Administration, Law or Philology;
- Proficient in English, Russia and Ukraine both oral and written, Indonesian language is an advantage;
- Computer literate on Microsoft office application (Word, Excel, and Powerpoint);
- Excellent in interpersonal and communication skills, high motivation, trustworthy, and hard worker;
- Strong ability to work individually and with team.

Please submit your application letter, CV, transcripts, recent photograph, health certificate, and portfolio in English, not later than 18 March 2011 to:

Ul. Nagornaya 27-B, Kyiv 04107, Ukraine

For further information please check our web: [www.deplu.go.id/kyiv/](http://www.deplu.go.id/kyiv/)

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for selection test and interview.

Place for your

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## IS LOOKING FOR A NEWS EDITOR

### THE IDEAL CANDIDATE SHOULD:

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- Have experience in news editing.

Please send CV, three writing or editing samples and an explanation of why you want to work for the Kyiv Post, one of Ukraine's top news sources, to:

**Brian Bonner, chief editor,**  
Kyiv Post at [bonner@kyivpost.com](mailto:bonner@kyivpost.com)

# The KyivPost

INDEPENDENCE. COMMUNITY. TRUST

One of Ukraine's top news sources, has an ongoing student internship program. We have openings for students who are:

- majoring in journalism or mass communications
- OR
- studying to become translators

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MINI

RESUME

Degree in management and finance. Top & senior management experience. Sales & marketing, building distribution network. Experience of working abroad (USA, CIS). Start ups. PR, advertising & event management, B2B, customs & logistics. Good track of successful international projects. Work with authorities, good network of contacts.

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[profession09@ukr.net](mailto:profession09@ukr.net)  
+380 50 443-04-41

### PR/Creative Director

MINI

RESUME

CIM diploma in Marketing. 3 years of marketing experience. 1 year as PR Director. Developing projects abroad, PR campaigns. Good relations with Media market. Fluent English. Ready to travel. Result oriented, very flexible, excellent communication skills.

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+380 50 353-03-83  
Katerina

## POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

**Chemonics International Inc.** seeks a highly-qualified, creative and dynamic Ukrainian professional for the following position on the USAID Agrolinvest Project:

## COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION MANAGER

### Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversee the development and implementation of Agrolinvest's communications program, with an emphasis on public education on agricultural land rights;
- Identify and disseminate core project messages, results and successes to target audiences through effective communication channels;
- Organize media events including press conferences, TV/Radio programs, public discussions, opinion surveys, and other presentations;
- Draft communications materials such as press releases, event reports and success stories and update project website;
- Oversee technical implementation of grant programs related to public awareness.

### Job Qualifications:

- Degree in communications, journalism, social sciences, or related field required.
- At least five years experience dealing with mass media, and in designing, delivering and evaluating communications products and campaigns required.
- Ability to communicate clearly and effectively in English and Ukrainian required.
- Previous international donor experience preferred.

Please submit resume and cover letter to [UkraineAgrolinvest@chemonics.com](mailto:UkraineAgrolinvest@chemonics.com) by **March 19, 2011** with the position in the subject line. No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

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# Saying goodbye to winter the old-fashioned way

The cheerful crowd filled the hills and valleys of the Pyrohovo folk museum to celebrate Maslyana, or Pancake Week, an ancient pagan sun holiday remade by Christians into the last week before Lent. The last day of Maslyana is the symbolic "farewell party" to winter. Despite long lines to buy tickets, many people did come and had Ukrainian traditional fun (1,5). Folk bands from all over Ukraine were singing ceremonial Maslyana songs and recreating ancient Ukrainian rituals (3), while those who froze were trying to warm themselves up with home-distilled vodka and fast Ukrainian traditional round dancing (4). Young men got a chance to demonstrate their dexterity and strength climbing to the top of the high pillar to get a ribbon (1). Those who succeeded were given presents from the museum's administration. In conclusion of the day there was a traditional burning of "Kostrubaty did" – a straw creature, symbolizing severe winter – the main Maslyana ritual of welcoming so desired spring and saying goodbye to cold. Almost all the participants of the celebration gathered together on the main field to watch the symbolic winter 2011 dying in the fire and to welcome the spring sun, which finally came out at the end of the holiday.

*Text by Daryna Shevchenko  
Photos by Yaroslav Debelyi*



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