



CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

EuroMaidan Newsletter # 54

US passes the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014

Ukrainian Parliament calls on Russia to release Savchenko and all political prisoners

Dec 12: The Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 passed both the Senate and House chambers, granting lethal military and non-military assistance to Ukraine and expanding sanctions against Russia. The Ukraine Freedom Support Act also would provide Ukraine with energy, defense sectoral, and civil society assistance, and expand broadcasting programs to counter Russian propaganda. <http://goo.gl/4nNF6V>

A \$1.1 trillion spending bill that includes provisions to assist Ukraine and punish Russia for its annexation of Crimea has passed the U.S. House of Representatives. <http://goo.gl/H1PgLR>

Angela Merkel: *“What’s been happening for months in Ukraine threatens Europe’s peaceful order.”* She accused Russia of violating international law and criticized it for thinking in terms of “spheres of influence.” <http://goo.gl/IEo6qc>

‘Russia has negotiated a peace plan, and then systematically undermined it at every step’. Remarks by Ambassador Samantha Power, U.S. Permanent Representative to the United Nations, at a Security Council Meeting on Ukraine, November 12, 2014. <http://goo.gl/t8K5p9>

Ukrainian parliament to prepare bill declaring anti-terrorist operation in Donbas a war. <http://goo.gl/Xu3kzv>

Dec 11: Three Ukrainian soldiers were killed and eight injured in attacks by Russian irregulars over the previous 24 hours -- the first casualties since a fresh truce deal in Eastern Ukraine went into effect on December 9. <http://goo.gl/XdXptR> ; <http://goo.gl/9AyPb1>

“Over the past few days we have seen unprecedented activity by the Russians in the Baltic Sea, both the Baltic fleet and Russian aircraft” Polish Defense Minister. <http://goo.gl/MtjtaW>

Austrian surgeon arrives to Ukraine to volunteer. <http://goo.gl/EKjn12>

300-strong Kremlin-loyal Chechen 'Death' squad joins Putin's proxies in Donetsk. Leader confesses 70% of unit joining militants in East Ukraine are formal Special Forces. <http://goo.gl/2eTyFa>

SBU: Yanukovich and Kurchenko financing terrorism in Donbas. <http://goo.gl/CgNnT6>

Dec 11: Ukraine’s Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution calling on Russia to release Ukrainian MP and military pilot Nadiya Savchenko and all other prisoners. On the same day Savchenko’s lawyers have expressed concern over her state of health in Russian detention. <http://goo.gl/Rj8Dbj>

Left: Putin Is Infiltrating European Politics With Shocking Effectiveness.

<http://goo.gl/0Ea9th> ; <http://goo.gl/V4DXgH>

Right: “Here resides Putin’s puppet” on President’s Administration in Prague. Dec. 7 <http://goo.gl/MD47o1>



2014: the worst and the best year in modern Ukrainian history

How much worse can it get for the Russian bear?

2014: the worst and the best year in modern Ukrainian history. <http://goo.gl/YMDwCq>

Anders Aslund: A new reformist offensive in Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/5b5Bic>

Poroshenko’s choices after parliamentary elections in Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/IUKU8J>

<http://goo.gl/RWQkWz>

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn: Self-imposed impotence. <http://goo.gl/mUfDuI>

When will Europe’s gas supplies exceed Russia’s? (infographic) <http://goo.gl/xx5kH3>

Ukraine wants EU to ban sale of its goods in Crimea. <http://goo.gl/glmraO>

The new temporary cease-fire disputed

Center for Assistance to Ukrainian Soldiers blown up in Odesa

Dec 14: The situation in the eastern regions of Ukraine.

<http://goo.gl/jYK3Cb>

Dec 14: Poroshenko, Merkel and Hollande discussed ceasefire in Donbas and the release of more than 600 POWs. <http://goo.gl/dt32HT>

Dec. 12. Separatists Fail To Agree On New Round Of Peace Talks. <http://goo.gl/fBb5ll>

Dec 15: The Ukrainian Defense Ministry reports 917 servicemen and women killed and 3,318 wounded in Donbas fighting. <http://goo.gl/1HPzme>

With peace talks faltering, both sides in Russia's war against Ukraine continue to trade accusations of cease-fire violations as the death toll in the 10-month conflict mounts. According to Kyiv Post accounting, at least 1,266 soldiers killed. <http://goo.gl/CMqkSx>

The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission acknowledged that one of the Donetsk airport terminals has been completely destroyed. <http://goo.gl/wcFO1m>

Ukrainian forces have withstood months of bombardment and remain in control of Donetsk airport. The latest temporary ceasefire around Donetsk International Airport gave us the chance to explore what has become the hottest spot in the East Ukraine conflict. <http://goo.gl/C1pPTt>

The First Volunteer Mobile Hospital consists of about 25 surgeons and doctors from various Ukrainian cities. They rely on support from donors around the world. <http://goo.gl/iBuPjR>

The Center for Assistance to Ukrainian Soldiers was blown up in Odesa. <http://goo.gl/gkUDWd> ; (Video) <http://goo.gl/btALXv>

Eugen Dykyi, 41, a volunteer soldier with the Aidar Battalion, speaks quickly and seems to be a bit in a rush. He nearly died after a neglected injury in the war zone but has found a way to keep fighting while back home in Kyiv. Now he is an army supply volunteer and has plenty of work to do. <http://goo.gl/7nvgpv>

The Donetsk Syndrome. Ukrainian war veterans return from the Donbas. And face a new war. <http://goo.gl/mbLPKp>

Left: 12.12.14. Novosibirsk (Russia) Ukrainian colours painted on Soviet monuments by unknown artists.

Right: New Zealand designer Sam King made a video depicting the top 75-fakes of Russian propaganda. <http://goo.gl/U4wycB>



Occupied Crimea on high-alert against human rights

Ukraine regained control over Crimean border in Kherson region

Interpol fails to add ex-President Yanukovich to international wanted list. <http://goo.gl/yCmNkW>

Donbas before and after Putin: 4,000 casualties, 9,000 wounded, 435,000 refugees, and a devastated infrastructure across the entire region. (Infographics) <http://goo.gl/MUbgTI>

Missing, believed denounced: hundreds held prisoner by Kremlin-backed militants. <http://goo.gl/zLUBmQ>

Ukraine regains control over Crimea border in Kherson region.(Video) <http://goo.gl/Ebq77i>

More evidence of insurgents using human shield tactics in East Ukraine. (Video) <http://goo.gl/dfDWTR>

Luhansk used to be called poetically the "city of roses and

fountains." Now it has become the city of glum faces. Sad, glum, exhausted. And extremely tired... <http://goo.gl/kpkhQW>

Letters from Donbas. What is day-to-day life really like in Ukraine's separatist-held territories? <http://goo.gl/K1tHMD>

Tatars disappear in unexplained circumstances; relatives of the victims make serious allegations against Russian police. <http://goo.gl/aaXLMS>

Russian-occupied Crimea on high alert against human rights. <http://goo.gl/hGJ1kB>

80-year-old Crimean Tatar summoned for 'questioning' by Russian FSB. <http://goo.gl/Mdw1Vu>

Left: “Men fight wars, and women mourn them,” documentary photographer Anastasia Taylor-Lind. With stark, arresting images from the Maidan protests in Ukraine, the TED Fellow shows us intimate faces from the revolution. (Video)

<http://goo.gl/4mNx6M>

Right: Amnesty International: support Ukrainian political prisoners illegally held in Russia. Write a letter!

<http://goo.gl/dZ7SIU>



Parliament adopts ambitious reform program for 2015

Defence Minister wants to triple Ukraine’s military budget in 2015

Ukraine's new Cabinet of Ministers has a year to perform. It received this generous time allowance when parliament gave a green light to the plan of action presented by Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk on Dec. 11, a plan which allows ministers to stay untouchable for 365 days.

<http://goo.gl/Gb31g7>

Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk's ambitious reform program to attack corruption and stifling Soviet-era bureaucracy won quick approval in parliament on Dec. 11. <http://goo.gl/mZpRVZ>

The Ukrainian government plans to implement healthcare reforms and introduce health insurance.

<http://goo.gl/iWcJaq>

Former Georgian politician Eka Zguladze appointed Deputy Minister of Interior of Ukraine. Watch video at <http://goo.gl/mrXbCx>

Defense Ministry wants UAH 50 bln budget in 2015.

<http://goo.gl/Gqw0RJ>

Default does not threaten Ukraine – Finance Minister of Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/cLndQc>

First female deputy speaker hopes to make parliament more transparent. <http://goo.gl/AuKIRx>

Daniel Bilak: Nine quick wins for the Ukrainian justice system. <http://goo.gl/ihXNCo>

Human Rights Activists: Creation of the Ministry of Information Policy Officially Introduced Censorship. <http://goo.gl/65ji8V>

Ukraine’s new parliament has the highest number of female lawmakers in history. With 50 out of 421 lawmakers, they make up 12 percent of the Verkhovna Rada. They are also more educated, eloquent and elegant than ever before. <http://goo.gl/Rbw86o>

Ukraine saves USD 500 million by importing gas from Europe. <http://goo.gl/biuTjE>

Ukraine's brittle economy contracted by 5.3 per cent in the third quarter compared to the same period in 2013, the steepest quarterly contraction since 2009.

<http://goo.gl/jESpOi>

Ukraine's grain harvest this year surpassed experts' expectations, reaching 57.2 million tons, an increase of 13.6 percent from last year, despite the loss of agricultural land in Crimea and part of the Donbas. Many experts see the sector as the most promising on Ukraine's economic scene as it contributes as much as 10 percent to the nation's gross domestic product.

<http://goo.gl/C0bGI0>

The stumbling stones on the lustration path.

<http://goo.gl/y0pjgH>

Ukraine’s decentralization explained.

<http://goo.gl/0zOIqD>

Ukraine, trolling and the phenomenon of the Twitter war. <http://goo.gl/MN9EJh>

STOPFAKE: Russian Swindler and “Actress on Tour” Mariya Tsytko Came out with a New Role.

<http://goo.gl/vGG9JB>

Left: 11-year old Ukrainian Timur Landrev made a video to support the Ukrainian Army. Watch video at <http://goo.gl/xLYZ8j>

Right: Ukrainian 9-year-olds win youth dancing competition. Artem Panasenko and Darya Yasenovska performed in Paris. (Video) <http://goo.gl/WR5JyG>



An oral history archive of Maidan to be created “Donbasophobia” detrimental to Ukraine

Graphic novels about the Holodomor (Famine) and life in the former USSR have been published in France. The author, famous Italian artist Igor Tureri: *“It all started as a project about Chekhov’s home in Yalta. But in Ukraine I was shocked by what I saw and heard. Nothing like that had ever happened to me. I called my publisher to let him know that I want to do a different book...”*
<http://goo.gl/WCSM65>

The Ukrainian Institute of National Remembrance announced the all-Ukrainian project “The Maidan: Oral History”, calling all participants to record and

share their personal memories of the events of early 2014. A national memory archive of the Maidan will be created. The deadline for submission is December 19. More information (Ukr) at <http://goo.gl/cBFS1M>

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, Archbishop Emeritus of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church: our new task is to incarnate Maidan ideals in all areas of our life.
<http://goo.gl/8zidA6>

“Donbasophobia” is detrimental to Ukraine, says Ukrainian writer Serhiy Zhadan. <http://goo.gl/MFLplz>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Press-center of Civic Sector of EuroMaidan
Kateryna Maksym +38(066) 6906927
katerynamaksym69@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/hrom.sektor.euromaidan

<http://euro-revolution.org>

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