



# CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

## EuroMaidan Newsletter # 74

### Fighting heats up in eastern Ukraine

At least two more Ukrainian soldiers have been killed and scores wounded following increased shelling by Russian-backed militant groups in eastern Ukraine. The fighting was heaviest around Donetsk and Mariupol in southeastern Ukraine. (Video)

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

The United States is changing how it talks about the conflict in eastern Ukraine to reflect the depth of Russian involvement. The Associated Press reported on April 30 that U.S. officials stated, based on intelligence from the region, that Russia has significantly deepened its command and control of separatist forces in recent months. Since then, the United States has quietly introduced a new term: "combined Russian-separatist forces."

<http://goo.gl/snbTfm>

*"Russia today is occupying Ukrainian land, sending Russian troops, Russian-hired thugs and mercenaries, Russian tanks, Russian missiles into Donbas. This brazen attempt to redraw the boundaries of Europe by force threatens Ukraine and our shared aspiration for*

*a Europe whole, free, and at peace"* Joe Biden.

<http://goo.gl/B78Vps>

Despite a sizeable \$17.5 billion (€15.9 billion) IMF loan to Ukraine in March, there is a disconcerting sense that Western leaders are losing interest in the country. Not surprisingly, no new aid packages for Ukraine were announced at recent IMF and World Bank meetings. Meanwhile, President Obama still refuses to provide military assistance to help Ukraine defend itself against further Russian aggression.

<http://goo.gl/ntrKT8>

John Herbst Speech at JCE Conference: It's Not Russia Against the West, It's Reaction Against the Future. <http://goo.gl/1QUxDm>

Battle-experienced "Pravyi Sector" fighters will enhance the Ukrainian Army, states SBU Head Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, on his return from the anti-terrorist operation zone. <http://goo.gl/Nbkd3M>

Odesa. May 2, 2014: What Really Happened (Video)

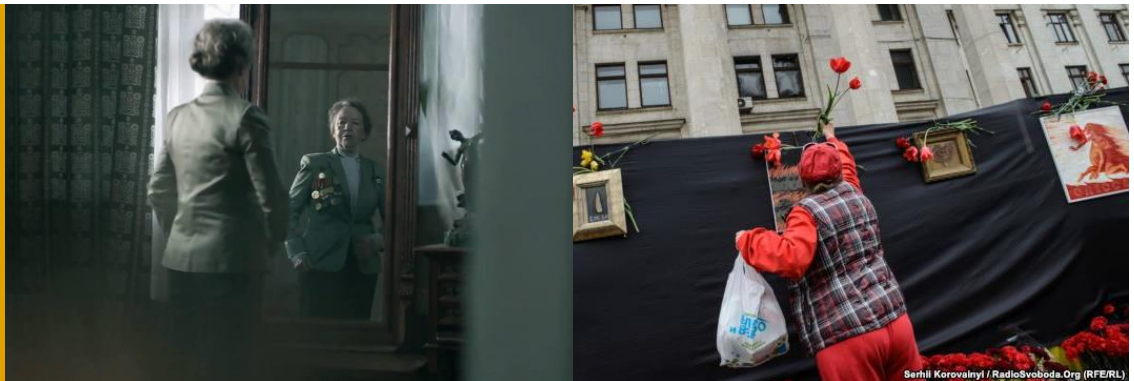
<http://goo.gl/Zq8q6u>

Left: Ukrainian Victory Day videos go viral (VIDEO)

<http://goo.gl/uN494M>

Right: People lay flowers at the labor-union building where a fire killed 43 people a year ago.

<http://goo.gl/9UEaun>



### Ukraine is important to the US as a counterweight to Russia

#### Nothing kills people like ceasefires

The Kremlin changes tactics, convinced Poroshenko won't yield. <http://goo.gl/5LFXfl>

Alexander Motyl: "Ukraine is important to the US as a counterweight to Russia" <http://goo.gl/fhsyog>

"Decommunization": an Academic Discussion. Volodymyr Viatrovych. <http://goo.gl/9Ai7gF>

Volodymyr Yavorsky analyzes the draft law condemning communism and Nazism, and focuses on the degree to which the bill complies with standards and practices in other democratic countries.

<http://goo.gl/UBJvIM>

Has Putin Played All His Cards in Ukraine?

<http://goo.gl/T5ntXs>

The current relative calm in the war in Ukraine may not last. As long as the West refrains from further engagement, Russia can pursue its own military solution. <http://goo.gl/m9cRVY>

Nothing kills people like ceasefires. From experience on the front lines in Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria, Georgia, and Libya. <http://en.censor.net.ua/r334601>

FAQs about Ukraine, the EU Eastern Partnership and the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

<http://goo.gl/qJpfb7>

## Russian forces advance towards Avdiivka, Dontesk region

### Volunteer accuses separatists of killing more Ukrainian prisoners

May 4. Two Ukrainian soldiers were killed and three others wounded by a land-mine explosion in eastern Luhansk region. <http://goo.gl/gP770L>

May 4. A column of heavy weapons drives through Donetsk (Video) <http://goo.gl/xJ2ei8>

May 1. Kremlin-backed separatist leader Oleksandr Zakharchenko said that his forces would take more territory around his home base of Donetsk to “guarantee the safety of our land” from attacks by the Ukrainian military. <http://goo.gl/Ju84QN>

Since before the Minsk 2 ceasefire, there have been daily reports of shelling and small arms attacks on the Ukrainian town of Avdiivka, 3 km north of Donetsk and the biggest frontline town directly bordering occupied Donbas. Recent geo-located footage of Russian forces prove that Ukraine is silently conceding land to the invading army while claiming its forces have been holding this front since the fall of Debaltseve around February 20. <http://goo.gl/JQdItR>

More testimony is emerging that Ukrainian prisoners face murder, kidnapping and torture by Kremlin-

backed forces. New revelations come from relatives of the victims and a volunteer who works to get the prisoners released. <http://goo.gl/WGxGSr>

Volunteers involved in the ongoing exchange of Ukrainian prisoners in separatist-controlled territories are partnering with the Security Service of Ukraine to improve outcomes. <http://goo.gl/5mEC1z>

Putin's mercenaries locate their bases near Donetsk schools and kindergartens (Video) <http://goo.gl/sWDBzr>

The SBU detained a DPR terrorist group planning diversions in Mariupol. <http://goo.gl/bWOqJF>

In Dnipropetrovsk the SBU disrupted the activity of a separatist network coordinated by DPR terrorists and Russian entities. (Video) <http://goo.gl/oer67Y>

‘Men Return Completely Changed’: Ukraine Conflict Fuelling Surge In Domestic Violence. <http://goo.gl/T8WeKd>

Left: walkway paved with artillery shells. <http://goo.gl/24clcB>

Right: Two Mariupol boys near a rally to stop demilitarization of (withdrawal of troops from) the village of Shyrokyne. <http://goo.gl/RCrPfx>



## New reports highlight the worsening human rights situation in Crimea

### Oleg Sentsov: “I feel far freer than most Russians”

New reports highlight the worsening human rights situation in Crimea. <http://goo.gl/QZDKGo>

Ukrainian pilot Nadia Savchenko has been transferred back to a detention center in Moscow after spending just two days in a civilian hospital. <http://goo.gl/dVRg2I>

Ukrainian film director Oleg Sentsov and civic activist Oleksandr Kolchenko are facing 20-year sentences for not cooperating with the FSB and for ‘confessing’ to a Right Sector ‘terrorist plot’. Sentsov’s letter shows yet again that the FSB

misjudged with these Ukrainian hostages. <http://goo.gl/wIACkB>

Russia holds 72-year-old Ukrainian hostage on absurd spying charges. Soloshenko has been held in custody since August 2014. He is being prevented from seeing his own lawyers or the Ukrainian consul, almost certainly because of the gross irregularities they will expose, such as the lack of any case against him. <http://goo.gl/oPWd8a>

Putin’s Crimea film borrows from Nazi propaganda film about Sudetenland. <http://goo.gl/d3I2fE>

## The pace of reform decelerates

### Health Ministry is sabotaging the transfer of state drug procurement

Inconvenient Friends: Shady Real Estate Deal Tests Kyiv Mayor. <http://goo.gl/IJORKY>

Ukraine is seeking more than \$16 billion from Russian energy company Gazprom in its appeal to an arbitration court in Stockholm over a long-running gas-pricing dispute between Kyiv and Moscow. <http://goo.gl/9s7vdl>

*Comprehensive reforms are the key prerequisite for Ukraine to cope with all its challenges, to balance economic positions and to restore growth; and are the top priority for both the National Bank and for the Government of Ukraine. We are now focused on: Reforming the monetary policy; strengthening the banking sector and enhancing banking supervision; improving legislation and intensifying control over compliance; and, reforming the National Bank. Valeriya Hontareva, Chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine. (Audio)* <http://goo.gl/ktVXVg>

The Index of Monitoring Reforms value for April

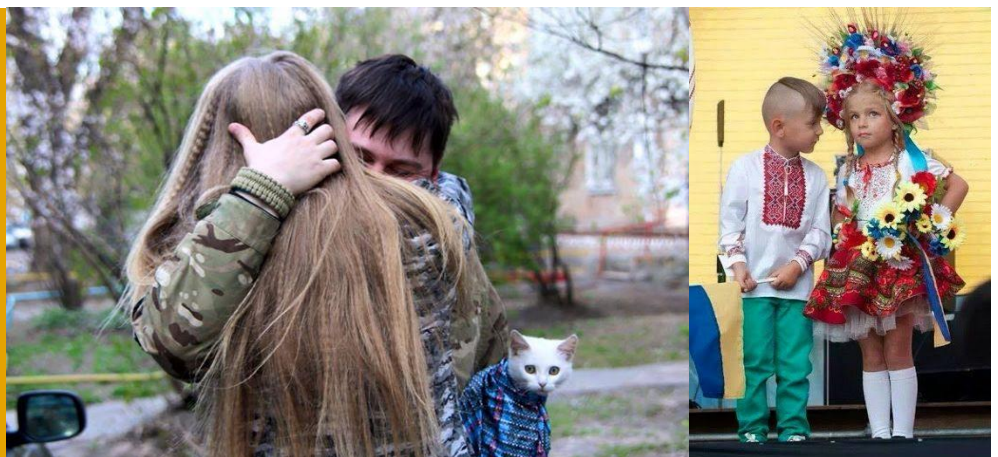
6th – 19th, 2015 showed the pace of reform has decelerated notably. While changes in governance, anti-corruption and deregulation had a positive impact on the Index value, the absence of significant events in Public Finance and Energy Independence areas slowed down the pace overall. <http://goo.gl/DDnL4k>

Health care activists say Ukraine's Health Ministry is sabotaging the transfer of state drug procurement - an Hr 4 billion (\$160 million) a year enterprise -- to international organizations. <http://goo.gl/FgluIy>

The Ukrainian State Emergency Service says a large wildfire that broke out in the exclusion zone surrounding the abandoned Chornobyl nuclear power plant has been fully extinguished. The blaze, which broke out on April 28, occurred in woodlands still partly contaminated by the 1986 Chornobyl nuclear disaster; and raised fears of increased radiation in Ukraine and neighboring Belarus as high winds pushed the fire toward the plant about 20 kilometers away. <http://goo.gl/7Z1Plj>

Left: Azov battalion soldier returns home.

Right: "Talk before performance"



Your Favorite  
Bohemian Garb Is  
Actually Traditional  
Ukrainian Costume.  
VOGUE.  
<http://goo.gl/ZR5mJE>



## Ukrainian boxing champion Vasyl Lomachenko defends featherweight title

Ukrainian two-time Olympian gold medalist Vasyl Lomachenko retained his WBO world featherweight title on Saturday following his victory over Puerto Rican challenger Gamalier

Rodriguez in Las Vegas. (Video)  
<http://goo.gl/yZ6f0T>

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