



CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

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Poroshenko Unveils Changes to Constitution of Ukraine Russia questions legality of Baltic independence

President Petro Poroshenko has proposed constitutional changes designed to give broader powers to Ukraine's regions. The law would trim presidential power over the provinces and give local government the right to oversee how their tax revenues are spent. <http://goo.gl/UZGD2O>

Ukraine is grateful to the European Parliament for its assistance on the track to European integration – meeting between Presidents Poroshenko and Schulz. <http://goo.gl/oZi88B>

In the past six months, over 11,000 children from eastern and central Ukraine have received psychological and social support through a programme co-run by UNICEF, the Ministry of Education of Ukraine, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and Ukrainian Scientific Centre of Practical Psychology. After two group sessions psychologists have managed to halve the negative consequences of traumatic stress. (Video) <https://goo.gl/GrjL5U>; <http://uacrisis.org/27835-kvit>

The SBU has prepared evidence of what it calls "Russian aggression against Ukraine." The report alleges there are some 9,000 Russian troops deployed in Ukraine, forming 15 battalion tactical groups. The force includes more than 200 tanks, 500 armored fighting

vehicles, and 150 artillery systems. <http://goo.gl/AuzRmZ>

The German Army will participate in two military exercises in Ukraine. The soldiers will be involved in the Rapid Trident and Sea Breeze exercises under the leadership of the United States. <http://24today.net/open/462242>

Canada slams Russian 'invasion' of Ukraine and imposes new sanctions. Gazprom, Transneft, and other Kremlin-controlled organizations targeted. <http://goo.gl/Im5pKs>

The Russian Prosecutor General found that the transfer of Crimea from the RSFSR to Ukraine in 1954 was unconstitutional. Now this same office is questioning the legality of the independence of the Baltic States. Lithuania reacted quickly, calling this a provocation. <http://goo.gl/K5DDiC> ; <http://goo.gl/0pcR1n>

Russian state TV has recently been trying to create the impression that the separatists in east Ukraine enjoy widespread sympathy in major European capitals. One TV report even spoke of "mass rallies" in their support. The reality, though, appears to be somewhat different. <http://goo.gl/FXOMw7>

Left: Siemens set to violate sanctions, helping build power stations in Crimea. <http://goo.gl/rnXMBB> ; Inquiry needed into Siemens alleged violation of Crimea sanctions. <http://goo.gl/b05O3i> ; <http://goo.gl/LXRMLj>

Right: East Ukraine city of Kramatorsk celebrates anniversary of liberation from Russian-backed militants. (Video) <http://goo.gl/S5wBTc>



Ukraine needs tax reform

Whoever succeeds Putin is not going to pull out of Ukraine

The Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area between the EU and Ukraine could boost the Ukrainian economy. However, to achieve this, the instability created by military and economic aggression must decrease, and ongoing reforms need to deliver results on corruption, rule of law, etc., in order to improve the business climate. <http://goo.gl/IXxkev>

In Ukraine, where tax evasion is a norm rather than a deviation, honest taxpayers are at a disadvantage. Ukraine's institutional weakness requires a tax system that is as simple, straightforward and non-discretionary as possible. <http://goo.gl/BY98g6>

'Whoever succeeds Putin is not going to pull out of Ukraine'. Yale professor Timothy Snyder tells UT why Ukraine is not 'a bridge' between the West and Russia. (Video) <http://goo.gl/R7Hu6L>

UN: 6,500 people killed in Russia-Ukraine war over past year

Rebels withdraw from front-line villages near Mariupol

UN: 6,500 people killed in Russia-Ukraine war over last year. With the ceasefire existing only on paper the number of killed and wounded continues to rise. (Video) <http://goo.gl/KYKmRg>

Jul.6. Skirmishes continued throughout the day. Two civilians were wounded in Shchastya. Other tense areas included Krymske and Zolote, Luhansk region. <http://goo.gl/k6hQyn>

Jul. 5. Pro-Russian rebels withdrew from front-line villages near Mariupol. <http://goo.gl/5Mgxhv>; Five Ukrainian soldiers were killed by a landmine in Luhansk region. Minsk ceasefire violations continue. (Video) <http://goo.gl/350Epe>

Jul. 4. Ukrainian troops fought off a militant attack near Shchastya, Luhansk region. <http://goo.gl/cMwJMV>

Jul. 3. The SMM continued monitoring the implementation of the Minsk agreements. The situation at and around the Donetsk airport remained volatile. Military hardware was spotted in and around Komsomolske. <http://goo.gl/z48gAz>

Barely a day has gone by in recent months without sensational headlines warning of an “impending Russian attack” on Ukraine – but analysts warn that this is exactly what Russia wants. <http://goo.gl/v5CQMt>

Many don't think twice about their posts on social media. For Ukrainian soldiers in the Donbas war zone, what they do online could be a matter of life and death. <http://goo.gl/dfc1Mt>

Clinic uses stem cells to help heal soldiers. <http://goo.gl/ydR4bj>

Ukrainian volunteer battalions call for all-out-war against Russia's Donbas army. Protesters denounce Minsk agreements and demand cessation of diplomatic ties with Russia. (Video) <http://goo.gl/xtB2LK>

A 64-year-old Urzuf resident whose son, a volunteer soldier with Ukrainian forces, was killed by Russian militants, recorded testimonies of former prisoners of war (POWs) who witnessed Bezler's militants torture his son. <http://goo.gl/RJA3Wy>

Drones find Russian base inside Ukraine. Aerial footage finds smoking-gun evidence of Russian army involvement in the conflict. <http://goo.gl/v9CXuA>

The Great Patriotic War was chosen as a central foundational myth by the leadership of the USSR. It continues to serve this function in modern Russia, but has received a new life since the start of Ukraine's Euromaidan revolution in November 2013. <http://goo.gl/pGizFF>

Left: “I am a rebel of the 20th of February on Maidan. I have risen. My blood runs for freedom”. “Komu vnyz” group song. <https://goo.gl/ldXakC>

Right: «Wounds” photo projects. Wounds of Ukraine. <http://rany.com.ua/en/>



Children learn about ‘patriotism’ and Kalashnikovs in occupied Crimea

Savchenko material shows how Russia concocted ‘case’ and what it can’t conceal

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345 children from the Donbas and Luhansk oblasts have been adopted since 2014. Evacuated orphanages in areas under militant control are filling up again, and the chances for those children

to be adopted appear to be close to nil. <http://goo.gl/KZEEOY>

Saniye Ametova and village imam Yunus Nemetelluyaev were harshly fined over authorized May 18 meetings in memory of the victims of the Deportation of the Crimean Tatar People. <http://goo.gl/kjWMa2>

In Russian-occupied Donetsk, debate heats over use of child soldiers in war against Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/1eMqxm>

Government has not complied with demands for reform

Ukrainian e-government initiatives progressing despite challenges

The recent spate of dismissals or resignations of high-ranking officials in Ukraine is a sign that the country's reform drive is stalling just 16 months since the EuroMaidan Revolution, analysts say. Those being expelled include Western-educated specialists who had successful careers in the private sector but who wanted to help change Ukraine after the corrupt Viktor Yanukovich fled power. The ruling coalition in Parliament contends that the officials failed to carry out major reforms and combat corruption. But critics argue that President Petro Poroshenko, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk and Parliament share the blame for this failure. <http://goo.gl/CizYuy>

Ukraine's Finance Minister Natalie Jaresko has disclosed that the government failed to get \$3 billion in loans from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank this week because it has not complied with their demands for reform. <http://goo.gl/Q2a8WY>

President Petro Poroshenko introduced newly appointed Head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Vasyl Hrytsak. <http://goo.gl/2R7VrJ>

Ukraine is embracing e-government and is placing the services of more than 60 ministries and agencies on one portal: iGov.org.ua. <http://goo.gl/5oBvT4>

The fallout of a controversial law on converting dollar loans into hryvnia looks to have claimed its first political casualty on July 3 as head of the pro-presidential Bloc of Poroshenko faction in parliament Yury Lutsenko announced his resignation. <http://goo.gl/ZIijKK>

Democratic Initiatives Foundation is critical of what it calls the closed and non-transparent nature of the Constitutional Commission's work drafting decentralization amendments. <http://goo.gl/5NNn3m>

Russia and Ukraine both blamed for gas talks breakdown. EU Commission official says he regrets lack of political will on both sides. <http://goo.gl/zclgMn>

The total number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) from Crimea, Sevastopol, and the conflict area in the Donbas has now exceeded 1.37 million people. <http://goo.gl/0vLWeM>

'Ukrainian universities do not know how to raise money'. National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy President speaks about new opportunities for Ukrainian universities. (Video) <http://goo.gl/CcnWMs>

Jul. 6. New patrol police came out on the streets of Kyiv.

Number: 2000

Previously in "militisa": only 38

Average age: 25

<http://goo.gl/MVvC1G> ; (Video)

<http://goo.gl/yuHl25>



Wives, children, and mothers of Ukrainian warriors in Ukrainian folk costumes. "Treti Pivni" project from Maisternya.
<https://goo.gl/3aEsXB>



Coffee culture brought to Europe by Ukrainian

Luhansk native's Zen Assets makes its way into British financial technology industry

Yuriy Kulchitskiy, a Ukrainian descendant from a village some 100 km from Lviv, became a hero of the 1683 battle for Vienna and opened the first coffee shop in the city of Vienna. (Video)
<http://goo.gl/mfHwoi>

Suitsi Sakuma is a Japanese who calls himself Charlie Sakuma in Canada, and pan Sakumchak in Ukraine. He is a bandura and kobza player whose performances are appreciated in Ukraine, Canada

and Japan. <https://goo.gl/yORPfb>

Sergii Sosnov's 10-year journey started from a local bank in Luhansk in eastern Ukraine to the Goldman Sachs office in London, and from there to a bootstrapped startup in the hot British financial technology industry. Today he is the CEO and founder of Zen Assets, a wealth management firm offering customers transparent and inexpensive tools for personal investment.
<http://goo.gl/ObdHoa>

Kyiv-Mohyla Academy students create a co-working space. (Rus)
<http://goo.gl/NXuGHC>



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