



CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

EuroMaidan Newsletter # 99

46% of Ukrainians turnout for local elections despite setbacks Business climate improving in Ukraine, says U.S. Secretary of Commerce

According to the preliminary conclusions of international observers and non-governmental organizations, local elections were overall democratic, competitive, and well-organized. <http://goo.gl/CBXOEj> ; <http://goo.gl/nwhvCf>

46.6% turnout in Ukrainian local elections in spite of cancellation in the key port city of Mariupol. Second-round votes to be held for mayors in all major cities; no voting held in occupied regions. (Video) <http://goo.gl/Z9Pq4m>

Ukraine's local elections reveal growing disenchantment with ruling coalition. (live updates, video) <http://goo.gl/G1K8k2>

The head of the OPORA election watchdog warns that Sunday's sabotaged elections in Mariupol and Krasnoarmysk cannot be repeated until after New Year. <http://goo.gl/jebrGb>

Business climate improving in Ukraine, reports U.S.

Secretary of Commerce. <http://goo.gl/iQd7aC>

Ban on direct flights between Russia, Ukraine takes effect. <http://goo.gl/Wob6dR> ; <http://goo.gl/s95wKK>

Canada developing defense cooperation with Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/Vm3ODU>

In its third medical mission, a Canadian medical team is returning to Ukraine this week to conduct a Master Class for Ukrainian military surgeons and to perform reconstructive surgeries on war victims. <http://goo.gl/crVXKJ>

The only trial so far underway of Berkut officers accused of gunning down Maidan protesters in February 2014 is in danger of ending in mistrial. Other investigations are being obstructed in part because the same people responsible for violations during Euromaidan are still in positions of authority. <http://goo.gl/avKyfn>

7 "NO's" and 7 "YES's" at the Paris meeting

Ukrainian delegation asserted national interests and sovereignty over eastern Ukraine.
Key issues solved:

- | | |
|--|---|
|  NOT to revise constitutional amendments on decentralization as Russia-backed militants demanded |  Start withdrawal of tanks, artillery of less than 100 mm caliber and continuing withdrawal of 120 mm mortars |
|  NOT to adopt a new Law on the special order of local self-governance in certain parts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions |  Provide OSCE full and unimpeded access to all occupied areas of Donbas |
|  NOT to adopt a new special Law on local elections in temporarily occupied territories of eastern Ukraine |  Start the withdrawal of Russian military and its proxies |
|  NOT to adopt a new special Amnesty Law |  Hold early local elections in eastern Ukraine |
|  NOT to have a direct dialogue with militants |  Hold discussions on the elections in eastern Ukraine within the Trilateral Contact Group |
|  NOT to hold fake elections in "LPR" and "DPR" |  Restore activities of international humanitarian organizations in the occupied part of eastern Ukraine |
|  NOT to lift sanctions against Russia |  Resume and accelerate POW exchanges (153 Ukrainians are still kept in militant captivity, including 62 civilians) |

Implementation of the Paris agreement shall be guaranteed by the French President Francois Hollande and the German Chancellor Angela Merkel



Left: Local elections in Ukraine held in accordance with international standards - EP mission.

<http://goo.gl/VRfMhV>

Right:

<http://goo.gl/uEwYm6>



'If Poland can have 70% of its trade with the EU, then Ukraine can too' Ukraine should rearm and train while Russia is busy in Syria

'Ukraine must have something to offer, we can't always ask for support' - EU integration expert. (Video) <http://goo.gl/Mq1TWw>

'If Poland can have 70% of its trade with the EU then Ukraine can too'. (Video) <http://goo.gl/JxtqZD>

The state of science in Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/qN1gwz>

Hromadske International co-founder Maxim Eristavi

highlights and debunks the 5 most popular myths about Ukraine and the Ukrainian-Russian war. (article, video) <https://goo.gl/xHK4DV>

Ukraine should rearm and train while Russia is busy in Syria - military expert. <http://goo.gl/mZli8P>

Ukrainian volunteers shine brighter than shallow celebrities - Pop star Karpa. (Video) <http://goo.gl/PCEVCw>

Russian-backed militants expel Doctors Without Borders

Lviv prosecutor defends Donetsk Airport for 5 months

Oct.25. The night in Donbas was very tense as rebels fired repeatedly on Ukrainian positions near Pisky starting at 2.30 a.m. for one hour.

<http://goo.gl/1a5t9f> ; Militants used small arms and grenade launchers in the Donetsk sector. Ukrainian Armed Forces incurred no casualties.

<http://goo.gl/G0W3mU>

Russian/rebel troops have been actively imitating the pull-out of heavy weaponry in some areas.

Weaponry has changed locations but has stayed within the 15-km zone, a definite violation of the Minsk agreements. <http://goo.gl/JLwoQN>

Russian-backed militants expel Médecins sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) from region. Self-proclaimed "DPR" blacklisted the international medical aid charity without giving reasons.

<http://goo.gl/2hiLgr>

OSCE given access to militant-held town of Debaltseve, a strategic transport hub, for the first time in over two months. (Video)

<http://goo.gl/kUePuX>

Oct. 23. The situation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions was relatively calm although a number of explosions were recorded. <http://goo.gl/19mi5X>

"These days, the war is happening on a kind of

political chessboard. It has become a conflict in the mind. In reality, in everyday life, there is no war anymore." Life in Mariupol. <http://goo.gl/vpYMoF>

Breaking stereotypes, Maksym Hryshchuk is the Lviv prosecutor who volunteered to go to the ATO war zone. He served in the Ukrainian Army for a year and spent five months defending Donetsk Airport.

<http://goo.gl/mwq7Wf>

Soldiers of Dnipro-1 Battalion go back to school to improve their Ukrainian language.

<http://goo.gl/jBLyc9>

Moscow sending Chechens to occupied Crimea as draftees in Russian military. <http://goo.gl/rGPgQa>

A Russian cyber spy group might have tried to hack the MH17 investigation. <https://goo.gl/wcptsy>

Russia's Yandex maps accidentally reveal Russia's military bases in Ukraine (VIDEO)

<http://goo.gl/Yq0DxK>

42nd Russian 'aid' convoy crosses Ukrainian border. Ukrainian security officials say Kremlin uses 'aid' to resupply militant forces. <http://goo.gl/mAv2R3>

The Kremlin's other separatist projects in Ukraine.

<http://goo.gl/ZDfVc7>

Left: Useless 'evidence', managed amnesia & mystery witness in Savchenko trial.

<http://goo.gl/Tjp6Jg>

Right: Crimean's right to vote in local elections recognized, 1.5 million others disenfranchised.

<http://goo.gl/XoHjdc>



Back to the future: echoes of Soviet past in modern Russia

Russia seeks to ban Crimean Tatar Representative Assembly as 'extremist'

Russia's Civic Chamber has publicly asked the Prosecutor General to investigate the Mejlis, or Crimean Tatar representative assembly, for so-called 'extremism'. This new move follows a similar threat made a month ago. The Crimean media 'advised' not to mention it at all.

<http://goo.gl/ikFypZ>

To mark Back to the Future day on October 21, RFE/RL took a look at seven aspects of the Soviet era that have reappeared since Russian President Vladimir Putin came to power in 2000.

<http://goo.gl/9wtPdH> <-- Original source

Top officials still get away with corruption thanks to Ukrainian courts

Standard and Poor's upgrades Ukraine's credit rating

Standard and Poor's has upgraded Ukraine's credit rating from "selective default" after Kyiv managed to strike a major debt write-down deal.

<http://goo.gl/VDHCq1>

United States allocates \$1 billion to Ukraine.

<http://goo.gl/nB4pyw>

Kyiv and Dnipropetrovsk prepare for mayor runoff elections. Kharkiv and Vinnytsia have most likely already chosen their future mayors.

<http://goo.gl/HTw1Mt>

237 polling stations failed to open, 205 of them in Mariupol - Interior Ministry. <http://goo.gl/SoUmnj>

The 3rd quarter newsletter of the Reanimation Package of Reforms provides updates on the progress of reforms in Ukraine.

<http://goo.gl/aNBFGx>

The pace of reforms continues to slow down. The index of reform monitoring value is at its lowest value in 7 rounds. Even the highest marks, given to the sectors of Industrial Organization and Trade

Policy and Monetary Policy and Financial Markets, are significantly lower than the acceptable speed of reforms.

<http://goo.gl/MV529F>

Venice Commission approval of Donbas 'special status' draft law may lead to federalisation. If approved by Ukraine's Parliament, the 'special self-governance' rules in the Constitution will become permanent. <http://goo.gl/MTPyWT>

Ukrainians impressed with new police but expect more professionalism. (Poll) <http://goo.gl/AWiiqT>

Ukraine renews efforts to clean up judiciary as deadline for visa-free EU travel reforms looms.

<http://goo.gl/OO8kho>

Only one in five court rulings on corruption charges against high-ranking officials ends with conviction and imprisonment. More often defendants get off with a fine, suspended sentence or even acquittal, despite, as a number of cases, considerable evidence of guilt.

<http://goo.gl/afXs78>

Left: Kharkiv-made electric tractor defeats diesel.

<http://goo.gl/28YW5c>

Right: Video promoting Ukraine's world-beating agriculture industry.

<http://goo.gl/A3oFsC>



Ukrainian inventors design engine that runs on water

Looking West, Lviv models itself as Ukraine's future

Ukrainian scientists have presented a revolutionary water-fuelled engine for motor vehicles. "This hybrid engine runs on a special kind of fuel – 2/3 water and 1/3 gasoline," said the inventor, Serhiy Noskov. <http://goo.gl/5UmClF>

With growing IT and tourist sectors, Lviv setting itself as the model of Ukraine's future.

<http://goo.gl/E5nMYm>

Kyiv and Berlin sign create a Ukraine-Germany Chamber of Commerce. <http://goo.gl/LW65Pj>

Kyiv as one of the largest regional air hubs.

<http://goo.gl/tWzCi0>

Italian manufacturing in Ukraine: Gianluca Sardelli says Ukraine enjoys competitive advantages but investors must take personal lead. <http://goo.gl/gnQwD3>

Ukraine's largest poultry producer, MHP, has enjoyed a boost in sales off the back of the heavy depreciation in the Ukrainian currency.

<http://goo.gl/XSHnvE>

Dragon Capital-run developer commissions first condo high-rise in Kyiv. <http://goo.gl/AjJBhI>

Left: Shedding its Communist past, Odessa converts Lenin statue into a monument to Darth Vader.

<https://goo.gl/OM8f5v> ;
<http://goo.gl/LJUswL>

Right: Chufut-Kale. Ukraine slams Russia's decision to include Crimean monuments on federal property register.

<http://goo.gl/u1f8Jr>



Molodist Film Festival opens in Kyiv

PLAST will play a greater role in the education of Ukrainian youth

Molodist Film Festival opens in Kyiv. (Video)

<http://goo.gl/i6DLyM>

Foreign students inject \$504 million (UAH 11 billion) a year into the Ukrainian economy, or roughly the entire budget for public higher education in Ukraine. <http://goo.gl/lppMYA>

Award-winning Ukrainian journalist denied British visa. No word from UK about why Ekaterina Sergatskova was refused a visa to

collect her Kurt Shork Memorial Award.

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

The PLAST (National Scout Organization of Ukraine) will play a greater role in the education of Ukrainian youth, but it will never be transformed into a state-controlled organization à la Pioneers. <http://goo.gl/HLk9V1>

CHERSONESUS: THE "UKRAINIAN POMPEII"

AN ANCIENT GREEK COLONY FOUNDED APPROXIMATELY 2500 YEARS THE ANCIENT CITY IS LOCATED ON THE SHORE OF THE BLACK SEA AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF SEVASTOPOL ON THE CRIMEAN PENINSULA.

Left: A renowned Nigerian musician shot a video clip about his love of Ukraine. (video Eng, Ukr; text Rus)

<http://goo.gl/SxBHjX>



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