

# CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

# **EuroMaidan Newsletter # 109**

# EU-Ukraine free trade agreement comes into force

20 Russian soldiers involved in downing MH17

Ukraine's free-trade agreement with the European Union came into force on January 1, coinciding with the start of Moscow's food embargo against Kyiv. <a href="http://goo.gl/7GfWiO">http://goo.gl/7GfWiO</a>; <a href="http://goo.gl/dS0JbM">http://goo.gl/dS0JbM</a>

Ukraine bans Russian food products. <a href="http://goo.gl/Vls9Xz">http://goo.gl/Vls9Xz</a>

Russia says it is suing Ukraine for defaulting on a \$3 billion Eurobond debt owed to Moscow. <a href="http://goo.gl/Rzb1YM">http://goo.gl/Rzb1YM</a> ; Russia and Ukraine face off in London court over loan dispute. (Video) <a href="http://goo.gl/Kf4x3S">http://goo.gl/Kf4x3S</a>

Ukraine's 2016 military strategy with record 5% of GDP. <a href="http://goo.gl/T1eHA4">http://goo.gl/T1eHA4</a>

Ukraine officially assumes duties as UN Security Council member. (Video) <a href="http://goo.gl/UUnKlo">http://goo.gl/UUnKlo</a>

Major gas pipeline explodes in Ukraine's

Transcarpathian region. The pipeline carries Russian natural gas to Europe. (Video). <a href="http://goo.gl/9MrjTE">http://goo.gl/9MrjTE</a>; Ukrainian police name cause of explosion. <a href="http://goo.gl/WMFYDj">http://goo.gl/WMFYDj</a>

Bellingcat: 20 Russian soldiers involved in downing MH17. <a href="http://goo.gl/I4oQkc">http://goo.gl/I4oQkc</a>; <a href="http://goo.gl/9V4mzb">http://goo.gl/9V4mzb</a>

2015 in numbers. One Russian combat aircraft was destroyed by the army of a NATO member state; Three former MPs from the Party of Regions committed suicide; 177 countries voted to elect Ukraine as non-permanent member of the UN Security Council; 900 300 Ukrainians chose to move to other countries. <a href="http://goo.gl/muKjrw">http://goo.gl/muKjrw</a>

Residents of Crimea face several more months of power shortages as Russia appears to have ended a contract with Ukraine to deliver electricity to the peninsula it annexed in 2014. <a href="http://goo.gl/oQa80q">http://goo.gl/oQa80q</a>

Left: Crimean student draws Ukrainian flag instead of Russian. Parents called. http://goo.gl/rkqGTh Right: Charlottenburg palace illuminated in colors of the Ukrainian flag. Cultural diplomacy in a festive mood: celebrating Ukrainian style. http://goo.gl/YBXXkX





# When crises become permanent

Is Putin preparing to expand war into Kherson?

Man is not a pig, Dostoevsky observed; he can get used to anything. But the process of adapting to something new changes him in ways he may not even be aware of. In Russia and Ukraine, albeit in different ways, each nation has adapted itself to the idea that the crises it faces are not temporary but permanent. http://goo.gl/oyHA5w

What Russia's been doing in Ukraine since you stopped paying attention. <a href="http://goo.gl/YoIKMM">http://goo.gl/YoIKMM</a>
Decommunization as a way to decolonise the visual

space of Ukrainian cities. <a href="http://goo.gl/8QPEdg">http://goo.gl/8QPEdg</a>

Is Putin preparing to expand the war to Kherson (the Ukrainian mainland region bordering Crimea)? The blockade and blackout of Crimea got the Kremlin's attention. Putin may be preparing a response to expand his hybrid war to Kherson Oblast. Russian propaganda trumpeted the formation of supposed "self defense groups" or "partisan bands" in Crimea, Donbas, and Kharkiv right before Russia attacked these regions. The same pattern seems to be repeating in Kherson Oblast. http://goo.gl/RiNzPr

# The Kremlin's puppets. The war road in Donbas

Ukraine military can return fire

Jan 4. Ukraine servicemen in Donbas can use arms allowed by the Minsk agreements when their and civilian lives are endangered by the enemy. <a href="http://goo.gl/wE1Xkw">http://goo.gl/wE1Xkw</a> ; 'Unknown special forces' attempt to contain militant infighting. <a href="http://goo.gl/65Xu9N">http://goo.gl/65Xu9N</a> ; Ukraine intel spots militant self-propelled guns near Makyivka, Mospine. <a href="http://goo.gl/i0zBKr">http://goo.gl/i0zBKr</a>

Jan 3. Situation settles in the ATO zone. 11 cases of shelling recorded in ATO zone (MAP) <a href="http://goo.gl/7GHAcX">http://goo.gl/7GHAcX</a>

Jan 2. Militants concentrate armed provocations in area of Donetsk airport and on outskirts of Horlivka on the first day of 2016. <a href="http://goo.gl/4lhOZg">http://goo.gl/4lhOZg</a>; Militants use 82mm and 120mm mortar launchers near Donetsk airport. <a href="http://goo.gl/4bHh1X">http://goo.gl/4bHh1X</a>

Jan 1. Aidar fighter Nazar Holyuk killed on eastern front. <a href="http://goo.gl/iWKUEp">http://goo.gl/iWKUEp</a>; Ruslan Yurchyshyn, National Guard sniper is no more. <a href="http://goo.gl/q2p3W6">http://goo.gl/q2p3W6</a>

Dec 31. Situation in Kominternove is a clear violation of the Minsk agreement – OSCE SMM. <a href="http://goo.gl/xHfzOM">http://goo.gl/xHfzOM</a>

Minsk peace deal extended. <a href="http://goo.gl/n9UxVi">http://goo.gl/n9UxVi</a>

New OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Foreign Minister of Germany Frank-Walter Steinmeier is satisfied with the ceasefire in Donbas. <a href="http://goo.gl/2TE1W4">http://goo.gl/2TE1W4</a>

Combat Readiness. Level..? How Ukraine's Army would face a hypothetical new escalation of war in the East. <a href="http://goo.gl/1UB1ix">http://goo.gl/1UB1ix</a>

The Kremlin's puppets. The war road in Donbas. Special investigative report into 2013-2015 Donbas events and an analysis of Russian military forces' and local terrorist groups' participation. <a href="http://goo.gl/YNJw59">http://goo.gl/YNJw59</a>

Militants refuse to follow Russian command's orders. Several units sent to disarm them, - MoD Intelligence. <a href="http://goo.gl/xqFCo2">http://goo.gl/xqFCo2</a>

11 months after Russian President Putin's agreed in Minsk that all prisoners must be released, Kremlinbacked militants continue to hold prisoners, including many civilians, like 31-year-old Luhansk journalist Maria Varfolomeyeva.

http://goo.gl/KBtyXO

Satirists rip into Russia's 'Humanitarian Convoys' bearing death & grenades as 'children's toys'. http://goo.gl/4WWe0j

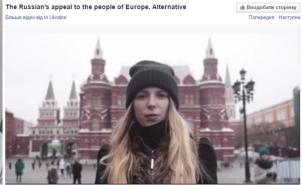
Left: 18-yo Sasha Koval was killed on Jan.1, 2016. A true patriot, brave and caring, a young man who volunteered to defend Ukraine and dreamed of a better future for his country.

http://goo.gl/Je2.JrT

Right: The Russian's appeal to the people of Europe (Video)

https://goo.gl/n8DyMw





# Crimeans asked to reject Ukrainian electricity

**Embattled Crimean children's theater shuts down** 

The vast majority of Crimeans are willing to forego electricity rather than sign a contract in which Crimea is referred to as part of Ukraine. At least according to a 'survey' carried out, processed and reported less than 24 hours after Russian President Putin decreed that Crimeans' opinion should be asked. <a href="http://goo.gl/pTY1Q2">http://goo.gl/pTY1Q2</a>; Local blackouts continue at peak hours in Crimea. Russian-occupied peninsula remains mostly without power. <a href="http://goo.gl/EOY1HK">http://goo.gl/EOY1HK</a>

A popular children's drama school that staged Ukrainian-language plays in Crimea is shutting down after what its founders describe as a campaign of harassment from local officials on the Russia-annexed peninsula. <a href="http://goo.gl/45nrqx">http://goo.gl/45nrqx</a>

Ukrainian Orthodox Church may be forced to close in Russian-occupied Crimea. http://goo.gl/xqggQh

35-year-old Vadim Tyumentsev from Tomsk is the latest Russian to receive a serious prison sentence for calls to peaceful protest and critical comments on the Internet regarding Russian military aggression in Ukraine and pro-Russian separatists. <a href="http://goo.gl/AhtKO4">http://goo.gl/AhtKO4</a>

#### Ukraine launches counterattack in trade war with Russia

How Serhiy Kvit is reforming Ukraine's higher education system

Ukraine launches counterattack in trade war with Russia. <a href="http://goo.gl/G8BRlt">http://goo.gl/G8BRlt</a>

Poroshenko okays transfer of reduced social spending to local budgets. <a href="http://goo.gl/Vbg4CD">http://goo.gl/Vbg4CD</a>

Two years have passed since the mass shootings on Feb. 20, 2014, when more than 100 EuroMaidan Revolution protesters were killed. Those who were responsible have still not been put on trial, bolstering claims that the government is incapable of prosecuting the killers. http://goo.gl/ZemfpA

Unpunished for Maidan pacification, Berkut militia becomes Ukraine's New Police. <a href="http://goo.gl/aVB79J">http://goo.gl/aVB79J</a>

Ukraine's war-torn economy sees prices soar as it plans to ease capital controls following IMF bail-out. <a href="http://goo.gl/xMnAk9">http://goo.gl/xMnAk9</a>

2016 should be the year Ukraine's economic collapse ends, but real incomes and the sectors that work predominantly on the domestic market could continue contracting. <a href="http://goo.gl/LnX37X">http://goo.gl/LnX37X</a>;

http://goo.gl/E38EoH

EU Bank supports development of Ukraine's economy through EUR 400m loan to strengthen the country's agri-food sector. <a href="http://goo.gl/RnVi5r">http://goo.gl/RnVi5r</a>

In 2016, while Ukraine may benefit from adverse economic conditions to push economic reforms forward, Russia may suffer another devastating body blow. https://goo.gl/JHvYSW

Ukraine's traumatised soldiers struggle with civilian life. <a href="http://goo.gl/VG1Lkt">http://goo.gl/VG1Lkt</a>

How Serhiy Kvit is reforming Ukraine's archaic higher education system. The former university rector has been praised as one of the country's most effective politicians for driving his ambitious reform programme forward. <a href="https://goo.gl/17WjhY">https://goo.gl/17WjhY</a>

Slow pace of reform hinders rewilding projects in Carpathians. <a href="http://goo.gl/y8YUTk">http://goo.gl/y8YUTk</a>

Left: The 2015 Ukraine Viewing List. Voxukraine. <a href="http://goo.gl/GSHBgG">http://goo.gl/GSHBgG</a>

Right: "My father has returned home!" photos of soldiers returning from war in Eastern Ukraine.

https://goo.gl/mHcZmj





### BrainBasket to launch TV channel on technology

Moldova green-lights food products by 35 Ukrainian producers

Ukraine's BrainBasket Foundation, a tech-sphere non-governmental organization, is to set up the first television channel in Ukraine about the tech industry. <a href="http://goo.gl/SCK8tz">http://goo.gl/SCK8tz</a>

Thirty-five Ukrainian companies that make dairy, meat, fish, eggs products have received permits for exports to the Republic of Moldova. http://goo.gl/Xr1PPh

Left: Mother Ukraine by Alla Horska (early 1960s). Dissident artist Alla Horska murdered 45 years ago. http://goo.gl/vj47fP

Right: Shevchenko by Alla Horska, stained





# Usyk among top promising boxers

Is there an art renaissance underway in Ukraine?

Is there an art renaissance underway in Ukraine? Artists coming back from the frontline portray soldiers' accounts of 22-month-old conflict. (Video) http://goo.gl/9Z7d9P

The American composer Matthew Brown has written a symphonic piece to commemorate the Ukraine's Euromaidan revolution. http://goo.gl/jbya7K

Ukrainian artist Alla Horska was found murdered under mysterious circumstances in her father-in-law's apartment in Vasilkiv, Kyiv oblast on November 28, 1970. Alla Horska was a renowned Ukrainian dissident artist.

British BoxNation TV channel has revealed its top five most promising boxers, led by Ukrainian heavyweight Oleksandr Usyk. http://goo.gl/lgdGNs

Left: ATO soldiers love their battalion cats, share food with them, give them shelter and even dedicate poems. (photos) <a href="http://goo.gl/fqdi0Y">http://goo.gl/fqdi0Y</a>

Right: "Summertime", the melody taken by George Gershwin from a Ukrainian folk lullaby. Seven Gifts from Ukraine to the World. http://goo.gl/OmDcGS





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