



# CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

## EuroMaidan Newsletter # 161

### Obama extends sanctions on Russia until March 2018

Poroshenko, Biden meet one last time in Kyiv

"Ukraine will not remain under Russian influence anymore, because the [authorities and people are working to build a new state](#)," President Petro Poroshenko noted after meeting with U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden.

[Biden hopes next U.S. administration will support Ukraine](#), says Ukrainians still to do hardest work.

Freeland, tough [Putin critic, becomes Canada's foreign minister](#). [Canada will not lift sanctions against Russia](#) - Chrystia Freeland.

U.S. President Barack Obama on January 13 [extended all U.S. sanctions on Russia over its annexation of Crimea and aggression in Ukraine by one year](#) through March 2018.

The [UK treats the Budapest Memorandum as a worthless piece of paper](#) – Ukrainian Ambassador in London.

Nations in Europe, where Germany and France this year hold elections, are erecting [defenses to counter possible Russian cyberattacks and disinformation](#) to sway Western politics.

[StopFakeNews #116](#) with Paul Niland. This week's fakes include Russia media claims that US Secretary of State nominee Rex Tillerson named conditions for recognizing Crimea as Russian territory, Ukraine's gas consumption doubles, and thousands attend anti-NATO German protests.

Moscow analyst Yuri Christensen: [Moscow plans to "export separatism" across the entire former Soviet space, including Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania](#) to break those countries to its will, confident that it can do so.

Reinforcing NATO's borders: [Poland welcomes another 300 American military](#).

Left: [Demobilized fighters of 28th Brigade repair military equipment](#).

Right: Khrushchev gave us 'sputnik,' Gorbachev 'perestroika,' and Putin ... 'kompromat'.



### PrivatBank nationalized. What comes next?

Ukraine was the testing lab for Russia's information war against the US

After a 2016 of doom and gloom across the world, [can Ukraine unleash its potential in 2017?](#)

[Why Pinchuk's plan would be a disaster](#) for Ukraine and the West.

Russian invasion [brought too many guns to Ukraine for any future protest to remain entirely peaceful](#). Bekeshkina.

How Ukraine was the [testing lab for Russia's information war against the United States](#).

Eternal Memory: [The Great Terror in Ukraine, narrated by Meryl Streep](#).

Compromising [information on Trump is powerful regardless of whether or not it is true](#). Portnikov.

Ten new and [discouraging statistics perfectly capture Putin's Russia](#).

[Sanctioning the GRU, a decent step, but](#) hamstrung by the need for symmetry.

Russians dream of ["Syrian scenario" for Ukraine](#). A. Piontkovsky.

A Super State Bank: [PrivatBank has been nationalized. What comes next?](#) VoxUkraine

# Savchenko's lists of POWs, MIAs may be incorrect, harmful

## Ukraine to join verification group, check Russian border military

Jan 15. Russia-backed [militants hit a residential area in Zalizne](#) in the Donetsk sector.

Jan 14. Russian [militants shell Ukraine positions in Donbas 62 times](#) with mortars, grenade launchers, artillery.

As Russia's war against Ukraine approaches third anniversary in April, [fighting rages on](#).

Ukraine to join [verification group, check military facilities in Russia's border zone](#).

Yurii Tandit, a representative of the Security Service special center on hostage release, says the [lists published by Nadiia Savchenko of fighters who are POWs or missing in action \(MIA\) are "incorrect"](#)

[and may harm the families of captives.](#)

[Russian members of OSCE in Donbas are GRU or FSB officers](#) – Ukrainian Major General.

Russian [S-400 anti-aircraft missile system in Crimea](#) takes up combat duty.

"[War goes on. Putin seeks to hurl Ukraine into chaos](#)," - opposition member Yashin presents report on Russian aggression.

Russian [military aircraft crash: who were its passengers?](#)

FrolovLeaks: [Kirill Frolov, religion as a tool, and agents of influence](#). Episode 1.

Russian involvement in Ukraine's Donbas "republics": [10 things you should know](#).

**1 THOUSANDS OF RUSSIAN SOLDIERS HAVE DIED IN UKRAINE**  
OSCE monitors observe vehicles carrying the dead from Ukraine to Russia, Russian activists investigating the number of soldiers killed in Donbas are silenced, there is an excess mortality in regions neighboring Donbas.



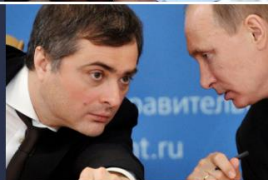
**6 INTERNATIONAL MEDIA PRODUCED NUMEROUS REPORTS ABOUT RUSSIA'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE WAR**  
About the ammunition, equipment, and funding coming from Russia, as well as Russian instructors training militants.

**2 MANY FORMER / CURRENT LEADERS OF "DNR"/"LNR" ARE RUSSIAN CITIZENS**  
Like: Igor Girkin (Strelkov) - a former FSB officer and Russian citizen. Warlords Motorola, Bezler, Babai are also Russian citizens.



**7 REPUTABLE THINK TANKS HAVE ALSO PRESENTED PROOF OF RUSSIA'S INVOLVEMENT**  
Example: Atlantic Council, "Hiding in Plain Sight: Putin's War in Ukraine."

**3 LEAKS OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH KEY KREMLIN FIGURES PROVE THEIR ROLE AS TRUE MASTERS OF THE "REPUBLICS"**  
Example: Leaked emails from the account of Putin's aide Surkovleaks, which reveal how the Kremlin manages its "puppet republics" in Donbas and Georgia.



**8 OPEN SOURCE RESEARCH REVEALS THAT RUSSIA SHELLED UKRAINE IN THE SUMMER OF 2014**  
"Thousands of artillery projectiles were fired by the Russian military on targets inside Ukraine in the summer of 2014." Bellingcat, 2016 report.

**4 DONBAS SEPARATISTS RECEIVE SIGNIFICANT MILITARY SUPPORT FROM RUSSIA**  
31 weapons systems in Donbas are used only by Russia  
75 regular Russian military units were spotted Donbas.



**9 THE MH-17 CATASTROPHE ALSO PROVES THAT RUSSIA HAS BEEN ACTING IN DONBAS SINCE EARLY DAYS OF WAR**  
Open-source research and the international Joint Investigation Team report conclude that the plane was shot down by a Russian missile from a Russian Buk brought by a Russian military brigade to Donbas.

**5 THE ECONOMIES OF THE "REPUBLICS" DEPEND HEAVILY ON RUSSIAN MONEY**  
Russia channel money to the "republics" primarily through banks in the Georgian region of Arkadia. A Bild report estimated that Russia spends €79.1 million per month to pay salaries in the republics.



**10 RUSSIA ALLEGEDLY USES FORCE TO KILL "DPR"/"LPR" MILITANTS WHO HAVE BECOME AN INCONVENIENCE**  
Arseny Pavlov (Motorola, a Russian citizen).  
Also: Alexander Bushuev, Alexander Nemogay, and Alexander Osipov.

## Survey results: Human rights violated badly in Crimea

### Russia recognizes only punitive psychiatry

Russia recognizes only [punitive psychiatry while driving tortured Ukrainian political prisoner insane](#).

[PEN International should expel Russian 'partner' for betrayal of Oleg Sentsov](#).

Which [repression in Russian-occupied Crimea is 'smart', Mr Trump?](#)

Survey results: [Human rights violated badly in Crimea](#).

Although Ukrainian [terrorism non-existent in Crimea](#), Russia uses show arrests.

Russia's FSB is preparing '[extremism](#)' charges [against yet another pro-Ukrainian Crimean, a young mother of two small children](#), with the pretext this time being a post on the social network VKontakte.

Russia's [Crimea bridge could collapse anytime](#).



# 100 days of health care reform in Ukraine

## Ukrainian transparency site ProZorro takes top Europe prize

Supreme Council of Justice, [a reorganized state agency responsible for nomination of judges](#), starts its work in the context of wider judicial reform in Ukraine.

[100 Days of Health Care Reform](#) in Ukraine. The country's minister of health explains why the prognosis is improving for care standards.

Latvian Raivis [Veckagans to head Ukraine's sea port](#) authority.

Prozorro has saved taxpayers \$315 million in less than a year and as a result was awarded [1st prize at the Open Government Awards in Paris](#).

Ukrainian civic activists monitoring the [ProZorro electronic state procurement system say they found plenty of violations](#) in December that indicate corrupt practices are still going on.

Ukraine boasts [record grain harvest in 2016 at 66](#)

[mln tonnes](#).

On 16-17 February 2017, [Ukrainian Food Export Board \(UFEB\) will hold the Fish and Seafood Conference](#) for professionals in the field of aquaculture and fish processing.

Top [anti-corruption post for persecutor of well-known Ukrainian human rights activist?](#)

[NABU investigating cases against Ukroboronprom officials](#).

Despite repeated promises of support and visa-free travel, Ukraine feels its enthusiasm for the EU is unrequited. [Ukrainians' fervor for the EU has been steadily waning](#).

Ukrainian Catastrophe: [No large group of people has seen its income grow compared to 1989](#).

Left: Dnipro will not let [Ukraine's space glory](#) be forgotten.

Right: Ukraine to develop [wind farms in the Carpathians](#). Danes deliver turbines, Turks and French invest millions in new plants



## Doing business index analysis

### Investment in Chornobyl becoming formalized

Doing [business index analysis](#).

Nova Poshta, Ukraine's leading e-commerce shipping company, has teamed up with SF Express, a major Chinese logistics provider, to [ship goods from Chinese online stores to Ukrainian customers](#).

Investment in Chornobyl is formalized, [Kyiv gets more happy airport returns](#), and Ukraine has a new

most expensive city.

Chinese, Germans seek to [turn Chornobyl into solar park](#).

An end to overhearing annoying phone calls? This Ukrainian company's [Hushme mask silences private conversations](#)

Left: 12 January is the birthday of Mariya Prymachenko, a legendary Ukrainian folk painter.

Right: Oleg Shuplyak "Surrealist Salvador Dali". Ukrainian Art and Ukrainian painters.



## Happy Old New Year! Origins and meanings of Ukrainian names

A Ukrainian Christmas music playlist from Euromaidan Press.

In 19th century Ukrainian poetry stayed on three main pillars: Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko and Lesya Ukrainka. But in the beginning of the 20th

century a whole galaxy of new young and talented poets entered and enriched national literature.

Origin and meanings of Ukrainian names.

Happy Old New Year! Orthodox New Year 2017 celebrated in Christian communities.

Left: Villages in Ukraine: history, characteristics.

Right: Ukrainian varenyky: history, recipes, interesting facts



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