

CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

EuroMaidan Newsletter # 128

Ukraine has fourth highest number of IDPs in world

Crimean Tatar song helps Ukraine fight back against Russian infowar

Crimean Tatar song helps Ukraine fight back against Russian infowar. The final voting of the Eurovision Song Contest 2016 turned into a big drama – and not only in Stockholm.

Poroshenko: Repressions of Crimean Tatars and Ukrainians by occupation authorities of Crimea cannot be ignored by the Council of Europe. Ukraine calls on the U.N. and E.U. to condemn violations of human rights committed by the Soviet Union and by Russia.

<u>Ukraine ranks fourth in IDPs</u>, following Yemen, Syria and Iraq. 1.7 million people have been displaced by conflict in eastern Ukraine.

<u>Ukraine has joined the global declaration against</u> <u>corruption</u> at the Anti-Corruption Summit, the Ukrainian State Fiscal Service reports.

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has told Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko that <u>the United States will move forward with a third 1 million loan guarantee</u>

agreement to support reforms against corruption.

April 28, the National Assembly of France passed a draft resolution against continuing economic sanctions previously imposed on Russia. Although this text is only advisory, the Federation of Ukrainians of France is deeply concerned about such open manifestations of allegiance vis-à-vis the Kremlin, which have lately become more and more widespread in France.

On 12 May 2016, the Ukraine president's ally Yuriy Lutsenko was appointed to the post of Prosecutor General. The appointment was made possible by the controversial passing of a law that abolished requirements for a law degree and work experience in the Prosecutor's office, said to be tailored specifically to appoint Lutsenko.

Ukraine <u>recovers 17 paintings stolen in Italy</u>, including works by Peter Paul Rubens, Pisanello, Caroto, Tintoretto, and Mantegna. <u>Russia's FSB said to have set sights</u> on paintings.

Left: Ukraine's
Jamala wins the 2016
Eurovision song
competition with the
song '1944' about the
deportation of
Crimean Tatars under
Josef Stalin.

Right: Jamala returns to a hero's welcome in Ukraine



The US and EU underestimate the danger of Russian disinformation

Putin, Kremlin 'really thinking about occupying Baltic countries'

The West needs to stop panicking about Russia's "hybrid" warfare and get tough instead.

How to win the battle for a new Ukraine: Reforms, new elites, and old structures.

The US and EU still underestimate the danger of Russian disinformation. Putin's hybrid war tactics rely heavily on a veil of disinformation but <u>Western nations remain vulnerable</u> despite Ukraine experience.

Kremlin 'really thinking about occupying Baltic countries,' former RISI expert says.

<u>Russia's economic woes</u> are the result of structural defects and over-reliance on oil, not Western sanctions. The EU will lose credibility if sanctions lifted now.

<u>Free of charge, but not for nothing</u>. What's wrong with international aid to Ukraine.

How top Ukrainian <u>politicians manipulate the gas</u> issue.

<u>Health care reforms</u> that have been started must not end with the replacement of the minister.

<u>How the BBC tried to stop me</u> from writing about Russia's campaign against the Crimean Tatars.

Militants tried to break through contact line

'I am no hero. I am a part of a heroic nation.'

May 16. Situation in the ATO zone worsens as militants attempt to break through the contact line resulting in damages and casualties. Intelligence reports prove militants plans to expand area they occupy. One Ukrainian soldier killed, one wounded in Donbas in last day. Russian-backed militants continue to violate Minsk agreement.

May 16. Ukraine war updates and daily briefings

May 14. The situation in the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) area continue to escalate. 20 militant attacks reported.

Enemy <u>attack drone with explosives on board</u> leaves Ukrainian soldier shell-shocked. There is no sign of ceasefire on the frontlines in eastern Ukraine.

Although fighting was less than in recent weeks today, <u>violence in Donetsk and the presence of mines meant more casualties</u>.

Drones disseminated Ukrainian leaflets over parade

in occupied Donetsk.

Russians are building infrastructure enabling them to deploy tactical nuclear weapons to Crimea,

"I am no hero. <u>I am a part of a heroic nation</u>," Adriana Susak from Ukraine's Aidar battalion comments when receiving the National Hero of Ukraine order.

Satellite images released by Stratfor show Russian SAM Buk in eastern Ukraine five hours before MH17 downing.

Ukraine's parliament urges international journalists to 'call a spade a spade'. <u>BBC asked not to use term 'civil war'</u> when it comes to Russian aggression in Ukraine.

<u>Cross-European charity cycling tour</u> to start in Lviv. Participants aim to raise funds for families of injured and fallen Ukrainian soldiers.

Left: "If not for the war": 12 photo reports about maternal love and heroism
Left: Tamara Platmir

Left: Tamara Platmir and son Yaroslav wounded near Donetsk Airport on January 30, 2015

Right: Ukraine's next generation, a series of 35 1-minute videos about how Ukrainians changing their country.





Life in annexed Crimea: Protesting Russia's brutal occupation

Persecution of Crimean Tatars ongoing on Russia-occupied peninsula

<u>Persecution of Crimean Tatars</u> ongoing on Russiaoccupied peninsula. Vice Chairman of Mejlis released after detention by Russian FSB agents.

Crimean Tatars detained as 'terrorists'.

Under Putin, Circassians and Crimean Tatars at greatest risk of repression.

Despite the nearly-omnipresent and brutal neo-KGB secret police structures established by Russia in annexed Crimea, pro-Ukrainian Crimeans find the clever ways to protest occupation as well as share news from the peninsula.

8 years for integrity if you're Crimean Tatar.

Crimean Tatars find new home in traditional Lviv.

Predictable cruelty, <u>worrying news on Savchenko's</u> 2nd birthday in Russian captivity.

<u>Alibis as inadmissible evidence</u> in Russia's 'trial' of tortured Ukrainians.

<u>Ukrainian taken hostage</u> and tortured for Russian propaganda.

Poroshenko appoints Lutsenko as prosecutor general

EU to help Ukraine elaborate legislation on energy efficiency

On May 12th, <u>President Poroshenko appointed Yury Lutsenko</u>, head of the Poroshenko Bloc's faction in parliament, as prosecutor general. The President called changes to the law connected with Lutsenko's appointment as <u>necessary "innovations" to increase public confidence</u> in the office.

Impossible to have meaningful <u>reforms in Ukraine</u> <u>when borders unstable</u>, U.S. State Department.

Transparency International: More Ukrainians ready to report corruption to police. <u>National anti-</u>corruption campaign unfolds with success.

<u>Reforms digest April 30 – May 13</u>. Expectations after the holidays. Macrofinancial stabilization. Anticorruption and financial sector reforms.

<u>Unian week's milestones</u>. Holiday provocations, prosecutor general with ambitions, and hasty premier.

<u>iMoRe 34</u>: Unification of gas prices and deregulation of pharmaceutical market failed to speed up overall reform progress.

Unian <u>week's balance</u>: IMF mission in Ukraine, Groysman's "Black Hundred," and battle for

Ukrgasvydobuvannya.

The European Union intends to help the Ukrainian Government to conduct <u>further reform of the country's energy efficiency</u>.

On May 11th, First Deputy Interior Minister
Ekaterina Zguladze-Glucksmann resigns. The
Georgian-born reformer who revamped Ukraine's
distrusted police remains in the Interior Ministry
reformers team despite her resignation. Yet another
blow to those who hope Ukraine can shed its
corrupt ways.

The National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NABU) accepting applications of candidates to a <u>new</u> Council of Public Control.

Moskal, fed up with smuggling, finds Zakarpattia harder than war zone.

65% of <u>Ukrainians aged 14-35 want to go abroad</u> temporarily or permanently, - poll.

"Panama Papers - 2": <u>Ukraine's major confectionery</u> "<u>Konti" registered in tax haven</u>, former PM Azarov's son possesses 26 offshore firms.

Left: one-of-a-kind buffalo farm.
Zakarpattya region offers perfect conditions to raise buffalos.
Right: Ukrainian
Mriia An-225, largest world's aircraft, landed in Australian
Perth.



MarsHopper plane designed by a team from Kyiv

BLOOMBERG: Ukraine Wheat Outlook Perks Up With 'Marvelous' Crop Weather

More than half of the world's <u>sunflower oil supply</u> comes from Ukraine.

Ukrainian <u>agriculture sector</u> is among most interesting to international investors and crucial to country's balance of payments.

Ukrainian startup claims to make <u>content loading</u> four times faster to enhance mobile apps.

Ukrainian project leading in NASA Space Apps

Challenge. <u>MarsHopper plane designed by a team</u> from Kyiv.

The American Economic Association awarded the <u>John Bates Clark medal</u> to 37-year-old economist of Ukrainian origin Y. Sannikov.

Ukraine's arms manufacturer boasts military products in <u>impressive video</u>.

Rare flight for Mriya, the biggest plane in the world.

Left: Sptring/Summer 2016 Ukrainian Valentino

Right: Estonia hands over stolen <u>Viking-era</u> sword to Ukraine.





The Ukrainian who saved Krakow from destruction

'Heavenly Hundred' Garden among finalists of European competition

The <u>Ukrainian who saved Krakow from</u> destruction and other little-known WWII stories.

When <u>Ukrainians came to the aid of Finland against USSR</u> — recalled and celebrated.

<u>French Ambassador takes to the stage</u> in Kharkiv. Isabelle Dumont plays cello with the Symphony Orchestra of the Kharkiv Regional Philharmonia.

Record-breaking <u>military concert underground</u>. Ukrainian army brass orchestra performs national anthem at a salt mine.

Ukraine Exists: Unique art exhibit arrives in

<u>Toronto</u>. Project curator Taras Topolya aims to tell the world about war and peace in his home country.

Ukraine's 'Heavenly Hundred' Garden among <u>finalists of European competition</u>.

Italian artist completes <u>the world's highest mural</u> wall in Kyiv.

Ukraine Paralympic swimmers win a record number of medals in Europe

Ukraine wins and wins in <u>diving</u>, <u>synchronized</u> <u>swimming</u>, <u>karate</u>, and <u>gymnastics</u>.

Left: <u>Synevyr National</u>
<u>Nature Park</u> is home to many endangered species

Right: Ancient seal dated back to X century returns to Ukraine. Artifact is said to belong to Prince Svyatoslav



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