



# CIVIC SECTOR OF EUROMAIDAN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

## EuroMaidan Newsletter # 258

### Ukraine forms unified Orthodox Church, free from Moscow

#### EU may close ports for Russian ships

Ukraine forms [unified Orthodox Church](#).

The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople will hand over a [decree granting independence to the local Orthodox Church in Ukraine on January 6](#).

An act of spiritual independence. On [Ukraine's first steps towards its national Orthodox Church](#) by Rostyslav Pavlenko.

[Profile of new Metropolitan](#) of Kyiv and all Ukrainian Orthodox Churches Epiphanius.

Petro [Poroshenko press-conference](#): Only two of ten 10 hierarchs of UOC MP, who signed the list to Ecumenical Patriarch, managed to reach the Council.

[United States and Canada express common position](#) in support of Ukraine.

[EU may close ports for Russian ships](#) - amendment to resolution.

[EU Parliament calls to stop NordStream2, impose](#)

[sanctions](#) if Russia doesn't release captured sailors.

EU Council [sanctions nine persons for sham "LDNR elections"](#): who they are.

Ukraine provides [evidence of Russian violation of international law at UN](#).

When Moscow talks of '[deep integration](#)' of Belarus, it means [annexation](#), Lukashenka says.

How Russian [propaganda denigrates Ukraine with disinformation](#).

Russian [state TV caught using fake 'disillusioned Ukrainian Maidan activist'](#).

Kerch incident proves Ukraine & NATO "prepare for war against Russia" – [Russian propaganda in Czech & Hungarian media](#).

[StopFake #214](#) with Marko Suprun. Fake: Moscow Patriarchate church in Vinnytsia seized. NATO brigade arrives in Donbas. Ukrainian security forces on western payroll.

Left: History in the making: [future Ukrainian Orthodox Church elects its Primate](#).

Right: [Sanctions against Russia don't damage the EU](#). But Italy, Hungary, and Austria might try to get them scrapped



### Putin's 'Russian world' continues to contract

#### Why Europe's security depends on a strong response to Russia

'A [church without Putin](#), without Kirill, and without prayers for the aggressor'.

Putin's '[Russian world](#)' continues to contract.

Putinism – a [greater threat to humanity than anything the West has faced before](#), Yakovenko says.

Kremlin's targeting of messages makes '[ideology of hybrid war](#)' more effective and dangerous than [Soviet predecessor](#), Eidman says.

[Europeans will continue or even boost sanctions on](#)

[Russia](#) even though many don't want to, Portnikov says.

[Putin regime is a crime syndicate masquerading as a state](#) – Interview with Brian Whitmore.

Why [Europe's security depends on a strong response to Russia](#), immediately.

[24 years ago, Moscow attacked Chechnya](#), triggering a war that changed everything.

When the League of Nations [expelled the USSR for bombing Finland](#).

## Female soldiers share experiences on frontlines

### Commander of Russian-led terrorist forces eliminated

Seized Ukrainian [naval commander refuses to give any testimony until Russia releases his men](#) and recognizes them all as POWs.

[Yevhen Semydotskyi](#): 20 yo Ukrainian sailor captured by Russia near Kerch Strait.

[Conflict in the Kerch Strait, Information War](#), and Destabilization of Ukraine by Informnapalm.

[Ukraine forces "close Donbas sky"](#) with S-300 systems.

[Commander of Russian-led terrorist forces eliminated](#) in Donbas.

[Russia readies itself for Ukraine's "provocation"](#) by year-end, threatens with "retaliation".

Poroshenko: [Medvedchuk de facto "Putin's representative"](#) in Minsk talks.

[Girls cutting their braids](#): book explores female soldiers' experiences on frontlines.

['Hard times produce strong people'](#): Ukraine's women warriors.

[Front line cat gives life for soldiers](#). Front line animals are valued not only for relieving stress, but also for their help in combat. Many times, the pets warned soldiers about attacks, when they heard saboteurs approach Ukrainian positions.

[Propaganda contractors](#): Russian TV finds workarounds after ban on working in Ukraine.

Left: [Russia's long-term disinformation plan](#) for the Azov Sea.

Right: [Ukrainian flag raised in occupied Crimea](#) in support of captured sailors. Video

### TIMELINE: AZOV SEA FAKES

- 2017  
SEP UKRAINE IS DEEPENING THE SEABED FOR A **NATO FLEET** AT THE AZOV SEA
- 2018  
JUL UKRAINE INFECTED THE AZOV SEA WITH **CHOLERA**
- 2018  
SEP WEST-INSPIRED **PROVOCATIONS** ON THE AZOV SEA SHORE
- 2018  
OCT AZOV SEA IS A RUSSIAN **"INLAND SEA"**
- NOV THE SEIZED SHIPS WERE GIFTED BY THE **USA**



## Oleh Sentsov awarded Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought

### Crimean activist Edem Bekirov suffers inhumane conditions

The European Parliament has awarded imprisoned Ukrainian film director Oleh [Sentsov its 2018 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought](#).

["It's doesn't matter when you die, but how and for what."](#) Sentsov's address at Sakharov Prize ceremony.

Russia abducts one Ukrainian [political prisoner](#), now INTERPOL is helping to arrest his friend.

Crimean Tatar [lawyer Emil Kurbedinov released from detention center](#). People gathered from all

over annexed Crimea to greet the public defender.

Arrested Crimean [activist Edem Bekirov suffers inhumane conditions](#).

Russia [jails disabled Crimean Tatar activist on grotesquely absurd charges](#).

Russia sentences Crimean to [14 years for 'revealing state secrets' to Ukraine' 15 years ago](#).

## Ukraine, EU sign four financial agreements

### The ups and downs of Ukraine's fight against corruption

Poroshenko's press-conference, reaction of Moscow Patriarchate and more – [uacrisis weekly update](#) on Ukraine #83, 10-16 December.

[Euromaidanpress last week's highlights](#): Ukraine's new church, Russian threat remains, Germany wants Nord Stream 2.

[Week's balance](#): Failure to sell Centrenergy, Nasirov's reinstatement, and higher heating tariffs.

[Ukraine, EU sign four financial agreements](#) for energy efficiency projects; raising the skills of employees of government agencies; the modernization of the vocational education system; and, the promotion of contacts between people from the EU and Ukrainian society.

CEPEJ president: Ukraine demonstrates [unprecedented level of transparency in judicial reform](#).

[Poroshenko Sunday press conference](#) summary.

Government [completes reforming 8 pilot](#)

[ministries](#) – Sayenko.

[Court reinstates Ukraine's highest-profile corruption suspect](#) as Fiscal Service chief.

[Government to appeal against ruling reinstating Nasirov](#), - Cabinet's representative to parliament Denysenko.

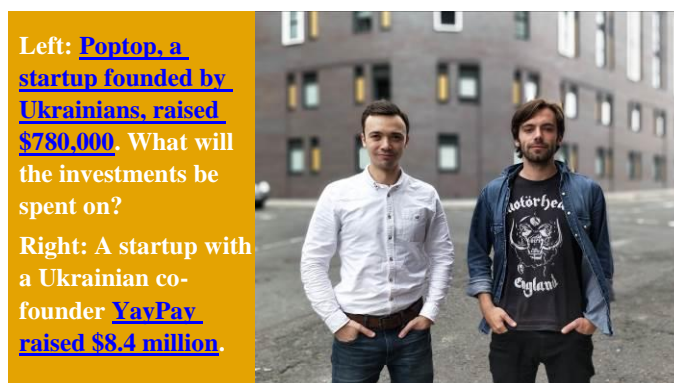
EU disburses [500M Euros in macro-financial assistance](#) to Ukraine.

[Environmental Performance Index](#): Ukraine leader among post-Soviet states.

Ukraine [invests in Green Energy and Energy Efficiency](#). 238 certificates for professional auditors in spheres of energy efficiency certification and engineering survey have been issued till present day.

SBU names head of [Russian NGO as person who ordered hits of activists in Kherson](#).

The [ups and downs of Ukraine's fight against corruption](#).



Left: [Poptop, a startup founded by Ukrainians, raised \\$780,000](#). What will the investments be spent on?

Right: A startup with a Ukrainian co-founder [YavPav](#) raised \$8.4 million.



## Ukrainian IT companies in top 500 global software providers

### How much do Ukrainian game developers earn

[Ukrainian IT companies are in the top 500 global software providers](#), along with IBM, Amazon and Apple.

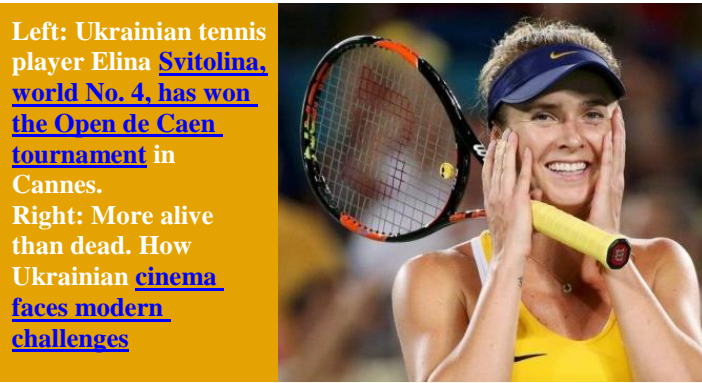
How [DreamTeam conducted ICO and received \\$5 million from Mangrove](#): interview with CEO Alexander Kokhanovskyy.

David Brown's company launched Draftium, a

[service for website prototyping in 15 minutes](#).

How [much do Ukrainian game developers earn](#): salaries in 2018.

[Bank Lviv, German-Ukrainian fund](#) sign agreement for 3M Euros.



Left: Ukrainian tennis player Elina [Svitolina](#), world No. 4, has won the [Open de Caen tournament](#) in Cannes.  
Right: More alive than dead. How Ukrainian [cinema](#) faces modern challenges



## Meet the winners of “Top 30 Under 30” of 2018 “Weightlifter” gets four awards at International Film Festival

BBC Ukraine [Book of the Year Winners](#): Yuriy Andrukhovych, Sashko Dermanskiy and Andriy Bondar.

[“Weightlifter” gets four awards](#) at International Film Festival.

The winners of the mini-project [competition for the museums of Donetsk and Luhansk regions](#) in the framework of the project “Under construction: Museum open”.

Meet [the winners of “Top 30 Under 30”](#) of 2018 awarded to young Ukrainians achieving outstanding results in different fields.

Left: Svirzh Castle. [Ten best photos](#) of Ukrainian monuments in 2018  
Right: [Lviv’s first monument](#): Stanislaw Jablonowski’s missing shadow



### CONTACT INFORMATION

Press-center of Civic Sector of EuroMaidan  
Kateryna Maksym +38(066) 6906927  
katerynamaksym69@gmail.com

To subscribe to the newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/bByY49>

[www.facebook.com/hrom.sektor.euromaidan](http://www.facebook.com/hrom.sektor.euromaidan)  
Follow us on twitter [@maidan\\_go](https://twitter.com/maidan_go)

Previous issues of our newsletter are available at National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy electronic repository <http://goo.gl/twRkKw>

If you wish to receive this newsletter, or if you would like to unsubscribe, please email Kateryna Maksym at [katerynamaksym69@gmail.com](mailto:katerynamaksym69@gmail.com)