



## Monitoring of Xenophobia and Extremism in Ukraine April 2016

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### Introduction

The country has received a new government, which should solve a number of strategic objectives for the exit of Ukraine's economic and political crises. Defense Minister Stepan Poltorak and Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin were not changed. Protracted debates about the coalition and the division of ministerial portfolios influenced economic situation in the country. Against the backdrop of political instability negotiations on financial assistance were almost stopped, while international donors started to revise their forecasts for Ukraine's economy. Odessa Governor Mikhail Saakashvili urged President Petro Poroshenko to deploy in Odessa National Guard because of the night attack on the "Antimayor Maidan".

Famous journalist Savik Shuster's permission to work in Ukraine was canceled. The reason of cancellation of the work permit for Schuster was the letter of the criminal proceedings against the broadcaster. Few days late the permission was renewed. However, it is still not clear who and why needed that.

Crimea Supreme Court recognized Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars an extremist organization and banned its activities on the peninsula and in Russia.

Politically, the issue of releasing Ukrainian officer Nadia Savchenko resolved. Russian commandos Eugene Yerofeyev and Alexander Alexandrov were sentenced to 14 years with confiscation of property.

OSCE Mission announces record number of attacks since September 2015 in the Donetsk area. According to the Chairman of the Special OSCE monitoring mission in Ukraine Ertugrul Apakan, the mission is particularly concerned about the use of heavy weapons and artillery. In addition, because of the constant shelling cities can not restore the infrastructure.

## Prognosis

### **Russia Drops Out of EU'S Top Three Trading Partners, 01.04.2016**

Russia's share in trade with the European Union dramatically reduced last year, pushing the country out of the top three main trading partners of the EU, the European statistics agency Eurostat reported. According to data from Eurostat, the Russian share in the total volume of EU trade dropped to 6 percent or 210 billion euros (\$238 billion). It has been decreasing since 2013, Eurostat said. Meanwhile the share of the United States — the EU's biggest partner — accounted for 18 percent or 619 billion euros (\$702 billion). The U.S. is followed by China, whose share totaled 15 percent or 521 billion euros (\$591 billion) and Switzerland with 7 percent — 253 billion euro (\$287 billion). The EU remains Russia's main trade partner.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/business/article/russia-drops-out-of-eus-top-three-trading-partners/564571.html>

### **Dutch referendum says No with 61.1%, turnout 32.2%: preliminary count over, 07.04.2016**

Preliminary results of the voting say it's 38.1% of Yes votes against 61.1% of votes opposing the Association Agreement, with another 0.8% of the ballots recognized as void. The final results of the referendum will be announced on April 12. The Dutch government is yet to decide on ratification of the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement given the non-binding nature of the referendum, which is advisory to the authorities.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said the government would analyze step by step what its response should be to the outcome of the referendum, adding that he will consult with the EU partners and the Dutch parliament. It may take weeks, or even months, according to Rutte.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1311846-dutch-referendum-turnout-29-preliminary-data.html>

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/73609/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/73609/view/)

### **Number of crimes in Kyiv rose by 45% – National Police, 13.04.2016**

"Analyzing the situation, I can say that there are a number of problems requiring special attention. We are concerned about the increase in the number of certain types of crime: robberies, thefts from vehicles and GTA. Therefore, we must develop an integrated approach to stabilize the crime situation," Dekanoidze said at the meeting of the General Directorate of the National Police of Ukraine. In turn, Chief of Kyiv Police Andriy Krysnychenko spoke about the growth trends of certain crimes. "During the last three years, we have actually recorded growth in numbers of certain offenses. We have repeatedly talked about the reasons: the Anti-Terrorist Operation, socio-economic situation in the country, increase in the number of population in the capital, and system reformatting.

<http://www.unian.info/kyiv/1318024-number-of-crimes-in-kyiv-rose-by-45-national-police.html>

## Statements of officials

### **US General: NATO To Switch 'Assurance To Deterrence' in E. Europe, 01.04.2016**

NATO and the United States are switching their defense doctrine from assurance to deterrence in Eastern Europe in response to a "resurgent and aggressive Russia," the top US general in Europe said Thursday. The comments by Gen. Philip Breedlove in the Latvian capital Riga come a day after the Pentagon said it would begin continuous rotations of an additional armored brigade of about 4,200 troops in Eastern Europe beginning in early 2017. "We are prepared to fight and win if we have to ... our focus will expand from assurance to deterrence, including measures that vastly improve our overall readiness," Breedlove said following talks with Baltic region NATO commanders.

<http://www.defensenews.com/story/defense/2016/03/31/us-general-nato-switch-assurance-deterrence-europe/82495752/>

## **Biden to Poroshenko: Formation of new government opens possibility of additional financial support, 01.04.2016**

"According to Joseph Biden, the formation of a new government, oriented on reforms and cooperation with the IMF, opens possibilities for providing the third loan guarantee of \$1 billion, as well as for assistance of other international financial institutions," Poroshenko's press service said. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry was present at the Poroshenko-Biden meeting. The parties discussed recent developments in Donbas in the context of Russian aggression. The parties agreed that Russia needs to meet security-related conditions to implement the political provisions of the Minsk agreements. Biden also announced a U.S. decision to provide additional \$335 million for reforms of the security sector of Ukraine, in particular of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the National Guard of Ukraine and the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine. Poroshenko and Biden also talked about possibilities of deploying an international security mission in Donbas.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/334887.html>

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/obama-meets-with-poroshenko-in-washington-confirms-possibility-of-granting-1-bln-loan-622410.html>

## **Poroshenko says Ukraine hopes OSCE will send armed police mission to Donbas, 02.04.2016**

"One of the most likely and acceptable options to resolve this problem is an international security component in the form of an armed OSCE mission. For this we definitely need an OSCE decision, extension of the mandate, and we are now effectively conducting negotiations with our partners to ensure this security component," the president said at a press conference in Washington. Poroshenko stressed that Ukraine insists on the full implementation of the Minsk agreements. "This is Ukraine's firm position that for the implementation of the Minsk agreements in full it is necessary to ensure a security component. This component includes the fact that we must ensure ceasefire, an effective regime of monitoring weapons withdrawal and effective control over the uncontrolled section of the Ukrainian-Russian border," Poroshenko stressed.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/poroshenko-says-ukraine-hopes-osce-will-send-armed-police-mission-to-donbas-411187.html>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/335036.html>

## **U.S. to continue to encourage anti-corruption reforms in Ukraine – White House, 05.04.2016**

The United States will continue to encourage the Ukrainian authorities to follow through with implementing anti-corruption reforms, White House press secretary Josh Earnest said.

<http://www.businessnewsworld.com/news/us-to-continue-to-encourage-anticorruption-reforms-in-ukraine-white-house.html>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/04/04/press-briefing-press-secretary-josh-earnest-4416>

## **Statement on “Russia’s ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violations of OSCE principles and commitments”, 05.04.2016**

In the last two meetings of the OSCE Forum for security co-operation the Delegation of Ukraine drew attention to the Budapest Memorandum of 1994 in which the signatories provided security assurances to Ukraine in connection with its renouncement of the world’s third largest nuclear arsenal and accession to the Non-Proliferation Treaty as a non-nuclear state. Last week the Ukrainian Foreign Minister renewed Ukraine’s proposal to hold consultations of all parties to the Memorandum. We look forward to the reaction of Moscow which until now ignored such earlier formal proposals, based on a specific para 6 of the Budapest Memorandum and thus constituting an integral part of the undertaken commitments. Intensified international efforts are required as the developments in Donbas remain far from our expectations for de-escalation and stabilization. The initial provisions of the Minsk Agreements remain unimplemented. Moreover, we register significant increase of the number of ceasefire violations by the militants, including with the use of heavy weapons that must have been withdrawn in line with the Minsk Agreements.

<http://peru.mfa.gov.ua/ua/press-center/comments/5005-zajava-delegaciji-ukrajini-shhodo-trivajuchoji-agresiji-proti-ukrajini-z-boku-rosiji-i-porushennya-principiv-ta-zobovjazany-v-ramkah-obse-movoju-originalu>

### **Poroshenko rules out use of force for de-occupation of Crimea, 06.04.2016**

"In any case, when there is a certain international conflict, it is impossible to solve it by military forces, because this could lead to more threatening consequences. We should use the language of diplomacy in order to resolve new or old problems," he said at the Japan National Press Club. "We have never said that we will use the language of force and violence in order to liberate Crimea, but an effective mechanism for the global coordination of efforts can help us find a solution to this complex problem," Poroshenko said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1310897-poroshenko-rules-out-use-of-force-for-de-occupation-of-crimea.html>

### **Poroshenko promised to make it impossible to use offshore companies in Ukraine, 06.04.2016**

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, who after the publication of "the Panama document" is suspected of creating multiple companies overseas to evade paying taxes in their own country, promised to make impossible the use of offshore companies at home. Meanwhile, the faction of "Batkivshchyna" demanded from the Verkhovna Rada to adopt a "global law" on de-offshorisation. The statement about offshore Poroshenko said while on an official visit in Japan. "I plan to carry out significant reforms, which will make impossible the use of offshore accounts in Ukraine", – said the President of Ukraine. "We transformed my assets, and they (the Rothschild Bank. – Approx. NEWSru.com) has agreed to manage on a blind arrangement of my assets, to be separated from my work on the presidency", – says Poroshenko. He stressed that "did not do it for tax avoidance, and that it was transparent activity".

<http://news.webplatinum.co/poroshenko-promised-to-make-it-impossible-to-use-offshore-companies-in-ukraine/>

### **Poroshenko: Even unpopular measures to be used to bring peace to Donbas, 06.04.2016**

"We will ensure peace in Donbas, even if we have to use some steps that are unpopular with Ukrainian society," Poroshenko said at the Japan National Press Club on Wednesday. Ukraine has been waging war for the second year in a row, facing "barbaric Russian aggression." About 10,000 people have been killed and 21,000 Ukrainian citizens have been injured in the war. Over 1.7 million people have become internally displaced persons. "This is the price Ukraine has been paying for the right to be a free, democratic and European country," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1311010-poroshenko-even-unpopular-measures-to-be-used-to-bring-peace-to-donbas.html>

### **Dzhemilev: 22 people reported missing in Crimea, primarily Crimean Tatars, 06.04.2016**

"According to our data, the number of missing people in Crimea is 22 at the moment, most of them are Crimean Tatars. These are the cases we are aware of, but there can be more..." wrote Dzhemilev. Dzhemilev said there were cases when the fact of the disappearance of individuals was used a threat during interrogations by security forces. "The disappearance of people is often used by security officials as a threat during interrogations. If the people questioned by the FSB retain their dignity, they can be asked whether they are afraid that they or their children may disappear as well," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1311564-dzhemilev-22-people-reported-missing-in-crimea-primarily-crimean-tatars.html>

### **Dutch Foreign Minister: Whatever referendum's outcome, we need to remain friends with Ukraine, 06.04.2016**

"It remains important to keep very friendly relations between our countries we have, I've seen that in the last couple of days. The campaign that we have seen has actually made it possible for many Ukrainians and Dutch people to meet and to talk," Koenders said. Koenders urged Dutch citizens not to vote No guided by the issues which are not subject of this referendum. He stressed that this is not a vote for Ukraine's membership in the EU, but the vote on "cooperation." He added that it is not a vote about the Dutch government, emphasizing that if the citizens want to evaluate their government's work, they should come to the polls next year.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1311730-dutch-foreign-minister-whatever-referendums-outcome-we-need-to-remain-friends-with-ukraine.html>

<http://www.newsjs.com/url.php?p=http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/world-news/dutch-voters-reject-euukraine-deal-in-referendum-34606537.html>

<https://www.government.nl/latest/news/2016/04/06/statement-by-prime-minister-rutte-on-the-outcome-of-the-referendum-on-the-eu-ukraine-association-agreement>

### **Gryzlov warns of possible escalation in Donbas if OSCE police mission deployed, 06.04.2016**

"Unfortunately, in the case of an offer for a so-called "international police mission" none of the basic principles of the Ukrainian settlement are observed. A set of measures for the implementation of the Minsk agreements contains no mention of the creation of such a structure," Gryzlov has told. "In addition, we know the position of the second side of Ukraine's internal conflict, which sees in such actions an attempt to foreign occupation of their territory. This means that these calls will not only fail to help in the search for a peaceful solution, but on the contrary, they will only provoke escalation. I am convinced, that neither Ukraine, nor the EU, nor Russia are interested in this," he said. Gryzlov said that all parties should be careful in promoting any initiatives in the issues of security. "We should follow the principle of "do no harm," in order not to destroy what has been achieved," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1311667-gryzlov-warns-of-possible-escalation-in-donbas-if-osce-police-mission-deployed.html>

### **Japan calls for full implementation of Minsk agreements to settle Donbas conflict, 06.04.2016**

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said. "President Poroshenko and I are calling for full implementation of the Minsk agreements as the only approach to the settlement of the situation with the country, and also for intensifying the reforms in Ukraine," the Japanese prime minister said, following negotiations with the Ukrainian president in Tokyo on Wednesday. "I have received from Mr. Poroshenko promises to speed up the implementation of reforms in Ukraine, and I value the President's decisive intention," Abe said. He added that Japan will continue fulfilling its obligation to provide assistance to Ukraine with the implementation of reforms in the amount of \$1.85 billion.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/335994.html>

### **Ukraine says it will push towards EU despite rejection by Dutch voters, 07.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said on Thursday his country will continue moving towards the European Union despite a resounding rejection by Dutch voters of a treaty on closer ties between the European body and Ukraine. The broad political, trade and defense treaty is already provisionally in place but has to be ratified by all 28 EU member states for every part of it to have full legal force. The Netherlands was the only country that had not done so. Many Ukrainian politicians feel their country deserves the treaty and are keen to show they have made progress in aligning their country with EU standards since the 2014 uprising that toppled pro-Russian president Viktor Yanukovich.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/poroshenko-ukraine-continue-moving-towards-eu-despite-dutch-052737312.html>

### **Japan to allocate almost \$14 mln for re-building Ukraine`s east, 07.04.2016**

"I would like to thank the government of Japan and Mr. Prime Minister for provision of financial, technical and humanitarian aid to Ukraine," Poroshenko said.

In particular, the Ukrainian president said he appreciated Japan`s decision to provide a new tranche of humanitarian aid to the tune of \$13.6 million for re-building the eastern regions in Ukraine. "Ukraine is a major beneficiary of Japan`s financial assistance," Poroshenko added.

<http://uaposition.com/latest-news/japan-to-allocate-almost-14-mln-for-re-building-ukraines-east/>

### **Groysman says Dutch referendum "very disturbing" signal to Ukraine, 07.04.2016**

"Unfortunately, the results of the referendum in the Netherlands have proved to be unfavorable to Ukraine. We respect the will of the citizens of the Netherlands. We understand that this referendum is only advisory in nature, though it is an extremely disturbing signal to Ukraine," Groysman wrote. At the same time, he stressed it is important for Ukraine not to stop on its path towards European integration and to analyze mistakes. "There is only one way for us to defend our European future – we need to work on improvements and to give clear signals both to the citizens of Ukraine and the international community that we are steadily moving along the path of European reforms.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1312403-groysman-says-dutch-referendum-very-disturbing-signal-to-ukraine.html>

### **Cameron: I hope Dutch rejection of Ukraine deal will not affect EU referendum, 07.04.2016**

David Cameron has said he hopes the rejection by Dutch voters of a trade deal between Brussels and Ukraine will not affect the outcome of Britain's referendum on EU membership. Strong opposition to an agreement has been seen as a reflection of wider anti-EU sentiment in the Netherlands and was seized on by Brexit campaigners as a signal to wavering Britons that it is "moderate and normal" to oppose Brussels. Far-right anti-Islam Dutch MP Geert Wilders said the result could help secure a vote for Britain to leave the EU in the referendum on June 23, suggesting it could be "the start of the end of the European Union as we know it".

[http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/14411122.Cameron\\_I\\_hope\\_Dutch\\_rejection\\_of\\_Ukraine\\_deal\\_will\\_not\\_affect\\_EU\\_referendum/](http://www.heraldsotland.com/news/14411122.Cameron_I_hope_Dutch_rejection_of_Ukraine_deal_will_not_affect_EU_referendum/)

### **Merkel wants Ukraine on path towards EU despite Dutch 'no' vote, 07.04.2016**

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Thursday the Netherlands would work out with Europe's institutions how to proceed with a Ukraine-EU treaty on closer political and economic ties that Dutch voters rejected in a non-binding referendum. "We of course have every interest that Ukraine's way towards the EU, and above all towards certain standards that are agreed on in the treaty of association, is a continuous way," Merkel told reporters after a joint Franco-German cabinet meeting.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-france-germany-ukraine-merkel-idUSKCN0X41YQ?mod=related&channelName=worldNews>

### **Rothschild says Ukraine president's trust up to international standards, 07.04.2016**

The wealth management arm of Rothschild Group set up a trust it handles for Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko in line with international standards for the treatment of assets of politicians in office, the company said. Poroshenko has had to defend himself repeatedly against accusations he tried to evade tax after the "Panama Papers" data leak on Sunday showed he had placed his Roshen confectionary business assets in an offshore account. Rothschild said Poroshenko had appointed it as a trustee of a blind trust to hold his shares in Roshen. "The trust has been modelled on international standards for politicians requiring trusts to hold their assets while they are in office," it said in emailed comments.

<http://mobile.reuters.com/article/idUSL5N17A24A>

### **Russia may transfer to Ukraine Sentsov, another 3 political prisoners, 08.04.2016**

At the same time, the Ministry of Justice noted that the final decision will be made by Russian federal courts. According to the press service, on April 7, at the Ministry of Justice received a request for the transfer to Ukraine of A.A. Kolchenko, G.S. Afanasyev, O.G. Sentsov, Yu.D. Soloshenko for serving the rest of their prison terms in Ukraine. "Based on the applications received from the Ukrainian side March 10, 2016, the Russian Ministry of Justice with its letters dated March 25 sent to the Federal Penitentiary Service the instructions to draft necessary documents for resolving the issue of the transfer of these convicts, as well as to check if there are any grounds preventing this transfer. The Ukrainian Justice Ministry was informed the same day," said the press service.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1313946-russia-may-transfer-to-ukraine-sentsov-another-3-political-prisoners.html>

### **Dutch referendum outcome won't prevent Ukraine from receiving visa-free travel with EU, 09.04.2016**

The outcome of the recent referendum in the Netherlands on the ratification of the European Union-Ukraine association agreement, should not be an obstacle for Ukraine to be granted visa-free travel with the EU countries, says Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin. "There are clear assurances [by European politicians] that visa-free travel is an absolutely separate way. And, if the European Commission gives the go-ahead - and the European Commission has already drawn up a relevant decision that Ukraine has fully complied with all of the requirements on its way toward visa-free travel - we are moving ahead toward visa-free travel," Klimkin said on Ukrainian television.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/336626.html>

## **International conflicts cannot be settled without Russia's participation — Germany's FM, 10.04.2016**

"I would not like the G7 format to be a long-term one; we need to create conditions for return to the G8 format," the minister said. "However, such conditions have not yet formed this year," he added. Speaking about conditions for Russia's return to the Group of Eight, Steinmeier stressed the need for Russia's contribution into reaching a "political solution" for the crisis in Ukraine and the "constructive role in establishing piece in Syria." "Not a single major international conflict can obviously be settled without involvement of Russia," Steinmeier said. Remaining months of this year should demonstrate whether Russian intends to continue playing a constructive role in eliminating the conflict in Syria, the minister said. "Certainly, a discussion will be held within the G7 framework when and on what conditions the return [of Russia to G8] is possible, he added.

<http://tass.ru/en/world/868543>

## **Statement by the Spokesperson on the latest developments in eastern Ukraine, 10.04.2016**

The significant increase of ceasefire violations in the Donetsk region represents an unprecedented level of violence since the sides recommitted to the ceasefire in 2015. We back the call by Special Representative of the Federal Government of Germany for the OSCE Chairmanship, Gernot Erler, and urge all sides to take steps to de-escalate the situation and to fully honour their commitments. A sustainable ceasefire is urgently needed, not least to ensure progress at last in implementing the political obligations from the Minsk agreements. The recent incidents of targeting the OSCE SMM monitors are unacceptable. We call on all sides to refrain from such actions.

[http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2016/160410\\_01\\_en.htm](http://eeas.europa.eu/statements-eeas/2016/160410_01_en.htm)

## **Ex-deputy prosecutor general Kasko says he won't flee Ukraine, despite pressure, 11.04.2016**

"I have information that not the first month all these actions were made for me to leave the state. I categorically refused to leave Ukraine and am ready to defend my rights in any courts and to any law enforcement agency," he said at a briefing in Kyiv on Monday. He also denied issued against him accusations from the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine, adding that the investigation launched against him meant to discredit him.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/336820.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1318201-ex-prosecutor-kasko-says-pgo-eager-to-lock-him-up.html#ad-image-0>

## **G7 calls on Moscow to comply with Minsk accords, influence militants, 11.04.2016**

At a meeting in Hiroshima, the leaders urged Moscow to put influence on the militants in eastern Ukraine and re-emphasized direct link between the lifting of Western economic sanctions against the Russian Federation with the compliance of the Minsk agreements. According to the communique, the annexation of the Ukrainian peninsula of Crimea by the Russian Federation is regarded by G7 countries as a violation of international law. "We expect that Russia will respect its obligations," the report says.

All interested parties should fully implement the Minsk agreements to solve the problem through peaceful and diplomatic means, G7 foreign ministries said. At the same time, diplomats have expressed interest in a dialogue with Moscow.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1315467-g7-calls-on-moscow-to-comply-with-minsk-accords-influence-militants.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1316696-g7-donbas-elections-should-be-held-under-ukrainian-law-monitored-by-osce.html>

## **United Nations calls for immediate release of its staff member held captive in Donetsk, 13.04.2016**

"The United Nations is deeply concerned about this fact, and has mobilized all channels to ensure his immediate and unconditional release," the UN press service said in a statement. According to the information available to the organization, the captive is being treated well. "The UN appeals to all parties, including the media, to respect the staff member and his family in this sensitive phase of the discussion around his release," the statement reads.

<http://uatoday.tv/crime/united-nations-calls-for-immediate-release-of-its-staff-member-held-captive-in-donetsk-630020.html>

### **Yuriy Lutsenko: Agreement reached on PM's candidacy, new Cabinet, 13.04.2016**

Head of the Petro Poroshenko Bloc's parliamentary faction Yuriy Lutsenko announces agreement that has eventually been reached on the candidacy of prime minister and the composition of a new Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers. "Yesterday, on Cosmonautics Day, I was going to establish an agency for the search of extraterrestrial intelligence. As it doesn't exist here. But at midnight signs of intelligence revealed themselves on our hills," Lutsenko sarcastically wrote.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/yuriy-lutsenko-agreement-reached-on-pm-s-candidacy-new-cabinet-629723.html>

### **Russia has asked Ukraine to extradite convicted six Russians, 13.04.2016**

Employees of the Ministry of justice of the Russian Federation appealed to the Ukrainian colleagues with the request to issue six Russians are sentenced to deprivation of liberty, but wanting to serve his sentence in Russia. This is stated in the answer of the Russian authorities. «The necessary documents in respect of the said persons were sent to the Ministry of justice Of Ukraine for consideration, responses as of April 12, 2016 not received», — explained in the Ministry of justice. Neither the names who wrote the letter to items for which they were convicted, the Agency has not resulted and the Ukrainian Ministry of justice to call the Agency did not respond.

<http://en.news-4-u.ru/russia-has-asked-ukraine-to-extradite-convicted-six-russians.html>

### **CHUBAROV CALLS FOR EXTRAORDINARY UN SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING AS MEJLIS BANNED, 14.04.2016**

"I presume that the President shall immediately apply to the UN Secretary-General, as well as the leaders of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe demanding urgent meeting of the UN Security Council, as well as of the executive bodies of the European Union and the Council of Europe aimed at forestalling the threat of direct reprisals coming from Russia, which has occupied the peninsula, against the indigenous people of Crimea," Chubarov wrote. Ehe decision taken on the "suspension of activities" of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people by a "prosecutor" of the occupied peninsula, Natalia Poklonskaya, is initially void, but it will still be executed by the punitive organs of the Russian Federation, which have occupied Crimea.

<http://x-news.com.ua/chubarov-calls-for-extraordinary-un-security-council-meeting-as-mejlis-banned-130826/>

### **Putin agrees to the deployment of armed OSCE mission to the Donbas, 14.04.2016**

"Recently I had a conversation with Petro Poroshenko: he proposed to strengthen the presence of the OSCE and that the OSCE observers on the contact line should be armed in order to achieve the ceasefire. I think it is the right position, we support it," Russian President Vladimir Putin stated. According to Putin, the OSCE has to increase the number of observers in eastern Ukraine and prescribe in the mandate that they have firearms. When speaking about the implementation of the Minsk Agreements, Putin expressed the conviction that Russia is implementing them and that clashes on the contact line are the barrier for the realization of most of the provisions. He assures that there will be no intense fighting in the Donbas.

<http://uawire.org/news/putin-agrees-to-the-deployment-of-armed-osce-mission-to-the-donbas>

### **Kremlin suppresses opponents of Crimea annexation: U.S. Department of State, 14.04.2016**

"Individuals and organizations that professed support for the government of Ukraine or opposed the Russian government's activities in Ukraine were especially targeted," reads the report. "The government increasingly instituted a range of measures to suppress dissent. The government passed new repressive laws and selectively employed existing ones systematically to harass, discredit, prosecute, imprison, detain, fine, and suppress individuals and organizations engaged in activities critical of the government, including NGOs, independent media outlets, bloggers, the political opposition, and activists," the U.S. State Department wrote.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1318896-kremlin-suppresses-opponents-of-crimea-annexation-us-department-of-state.html>

<http://www.state.gov/j/drl/rls/hrrpt/humanrightsreport/#wrapper>



### **U.S. Vice President Biden, new Ukraine PM discuss reforms: White House, 14.04.2016**

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden spoke on Thursday to new Ukrainian Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman, emphasizing the need to move quickly on reforms and implementing the Minsk ceasefire agreement with Russia, the White House said.

"The vice president stressed that, in order to maintain international support for Ukraine, the new team should move forward quickly on Ukraine's reform program, including fulfilling its IMF commitments, as well as on Minsk implementation and the confirmation of a new, reformist prosecutor general," the White House said in a statement.

<https://www.yahoo.com/news/u-vice-president-biden-ukraine-pm-discuss-reforms-205228780--business.html>

### **Kerry says Russian flights near U.S. warship provocative, 14.04.2016**

Secretary of State John Kerry on Thursday condemned as dangerous and provocative a military encounter in the Baltic Sea that the United States has described as a simulated attack on a US destroyer by two Russian warplanes. "We condemn this kind of behavior. It is reckless. It is provocative. It is dangerous. And under the rules of engagement that could have been a shoot-down," Kerry said in an interview: "People need to understand that this is serious business and the United States is not going to be intimidated on the high seas. ... We are communicating to the Russians how dangerous this is and our hope is that this will never be repeated." The repeated flights by the Sukhoi SU-24 bombers on Tuesday, which also flew near the ship, the USS Donald Cook, a day earlier, were so close they created wake in the water, a U.S. official said. It was one of the most aggressive interactions between the two former Cold War foes in recent memory, the official said, although the planes carried no visible weaponry.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-russia-flights-idUSKCN0XB2IS>

### **Statement of the MFA of Ukraine on the ongoing repressions against Crimean Tatars, 14.04.2016**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine expresses its strong protest against the so-called decision of the occupying prosecution office on the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea to suspend the activity of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatars. This decision has become yet another step in the chain of crimes of the Russian occupying authorities against representatives of the Crimean Tatar people, indigenous people of Crimea. We consider it as a blatant violation of Russia's commitments as an occupying power under international law, including under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. During the last two years, Kremlin has turned the Ukrainian peninsula into the area of oppressions, intimidations and persecutions, massive violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Against this backdrop, accusations of the Mejlis of the extremist activity look particular cynical.

<http://mfa.gov.ua/en/press-center/news/46464-zajava-mzs-ukrajini-u-zvjazku-z-prodovzhennyam-utiskiv-krimskykh-tatar>

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/871870>

### **RUSSIA SETS NEW DEMANDS TO «ALL-FOR-ALL» PRISONER SWAP, 14.04.2016**

"The exchange of detainees on an "all for all" basis still requires solutions. Due to the events in the south-eastern Ukraine, a significant number of people are imprisoned not only in the Donbas conflict zone, but also in Kharkiv, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv, and other parts of Ukraine. We do not receive adequate information from the Ukrainian side about the fate of Russian citizens, who come to visit their relatives and then go missing," Lukashевич said.

<http://x-news.com.ua/russia-sets-new-demands-to-all-for-all-prisoner-swap-131235/>

### **Klimkin: Local election in Donbas impossible without OSCE police mission, 15.04.2016**

"OSCE must monitor Russia-Ukraine border. We believe that OSCE mission must be armed, otherwise, it will be incredibly hard for them to implement the mission. Observers, on the other hand, will not be armed. OSCE police and observation missions must be strictly distinguished", - Klimkin explained.

<http://112.international/conflict-in-eastern-ukraine/klimkin-local-election-in-donbas-impossible-without-osce-police-mission-4053.html>

### **Russia denies wrongdoing after jet barrel-rolls over U.S. aircraft, 17.04.2016**

A U.S. Air Force reconnaissance plane was barrel-rolled by a Russian jet over the Baltic Sea during a routine flight in international airspace, U.S. European Command said Saturday, but Russia disputed that account. The incident Thursday occurred when a Russian jet "performed erratic and aggressive maneuvers" as it flew within 50 feet of the U.S. aircraft's wing tip, Danny Hernandez, a spokesman for U.S. European Command, said. The Russian Su-27 began the barrel roll from the left side of the U.S. RC-135 and went over the top of it to end on the right side of the aircraft, European Command said.

The RC-135 aircraft was "intercepted by a Russian SU-27 in an unsafe and unprofessional manner," Hernandez said, adding that the U.S. plane never entered Russian territory. "The unsafe and unprofessional actions of a single pilot have the potential to unnecessarily escalate tensions between countries," said Hernandez, who added the United States is protesting with the Russian government.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/04/16/politics/russian-jet-barrel-rolled-us-aircraft/>

### **Polish Minister Says Russia More Dangerous Than Islamic State, 18.04.2016**

Poland's foreign minister has said that Russia is an "existential threat" to European countries and is more dangerous than the Islamic State (IS) militant group. Witold Waszczykowski said "Russia's activity is a sort of existential threat because this activity can destroy countries." The migration crisis and terrorist organizations such as IS, he added, are "not an existential threat for Europe." At the same conference, Czech Defense Minister Martin Stropnický urged strengthening NATO cooperation but added that Russia "should not be isolated." Stropnický said Russia has been actively "testing the defensive capabilities of NATO in the Baltic region." The comments come days after Russian warplanes buzzed a U.S. Navy ship that was conducting joint exercises with the Polish military in the Baltic Sea.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/polish-minister-says-russia-more-dangerous-than-islamic-state/27677667.html>

### **Ukraine may get \$1.7 bln IMF tranche by July – First Vice-Premier, 18.04.2016**

First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine Serhiy Kubiv says that Ukraine hopes to complete talks with its key lenders, the International Monetary Fund, on the second review of the Extended Fund Facility program and receive the third tranche worth about \$1.7 billion of an IMF loan by the end of the second quarter of 2016. A preliminary plan of work with the IMF should be finalized and approved until May 1, 2016, as instructed by newly appointed Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman, Kubiv said. "There was a meeting of an ad hoc group last night where the Finance and Economy Ministries were present. They discussed the structure of communication [with the IMF]. There is a certain time frame for the fulfillment of instructions, including the preparation of bills for adoption by the Verkhovna Rada," Kubiv said.

[http://joinfo.com/world/1016042\\_ukraine-may-get-1-7-bln-imf-tranche-by-july-first-vice-premier.html](http://joinfo.com/world/1016042_ukraine-may-get-1-7-bln-imf-tranche-by-july-first-vice-premier.html)

### **Poroshenko expects consensus with Putin on Savchenko" s release, 19.04.2016**

"A telephone discussion was accepted Putin on my effort the other day. Going by specific initial contracts, I believe we have actually handled to learn a specific design for the release of Nadia," he stated at an interview with Danish Head of state Lars Rasmussen. "As you understand, the other day the court revealed a decision on Russian GRU policemen [Yevgeny] Yerofeyev as well as [Alexander] Alexandrov, as well as this court judgment recommends specific opportunities for utilizing a system of exchange," he included. Read likewise Russian GRU policemen Yerofeyev, Alexandrov punished to 14 years behind bars "Nevertheless, I wish to ask everyone to avoid conjectures regarding this, regarding the regards to the return [of Savchenko house] as well as regarding any kind of additional actions—this problem could not refer political gaming," he stated.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/poroshenko-hopes-for-consensus-with-putin-on-savchenkos-release/>

### **Polish minister says Russia preparing aggression against NATO, 19.04.2016**

Poland's defence minister has said Russia continued to pose a serious threat to NATO and that Moscow was systematically preparing for aggression against the alliance.

"So far, all Russian behaviour attests to systematic preparation for aggressive action," Defence Minister Antoni Macierewicz told the Rzeczpospolita daily in an interview published on Tuesday. "And it's time to talk about it openly."

<http://in.reuters.com/article/poland-russia-nato-idINKCN0XG10A>

### **"Hybrid annexation" in eastern Ukraine, 20.04.2016**

Russia has conducted a "hybrid annexation" of the conflict territories in eastern Ukraine. It is a result of a proxy war the Kremlin declared against Kyiv, that's according to the PACE rapporteur from Germany Marieluise Beck. "Russia's influence in Donbas has increased drastically. We have information that the Kremlin has created 5 "ministries" which control the so-called LPR and DPR," Beck said. The PACE rep insists recent escalation in eastern Ukraine allows for no possible elections in the nearest future. Beck adds the E.U. "is not interested enough" in what is going on in the country. The Council of Europe officials also confirm that Donbas is becoming more and more isolated from Ukraine. Nils Muiznieks, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, says Russia is increasing its control of the territory.

<http://en.uazmi.com/news/post/6ZsqA6DXLUzHD6Q2rhBNS>

### **NATO: There is no civil war in Ukraine, 20.04.2016**

"Many allies also passed a very strong message that we do not agree with how Russia is trying to portray it (the crisis) as a civil war. This is Russia who destabilizes Eastern Ukraine by supporting the separatists with ammunition, money, equipment, and also provides management and control. Therefore, we have a deep disagreement related to the crisis in Ukraine, but we agreed on the importance of rapid and full implementation of the Minsk agreements, which means respect for the ceasefire, the withdrawal of all heavy weapons, and also, no doubt, (providing) full access to international observers for monitoring the situation on the ground," – said Stoltenberg.

<http://realrussiatoday.com/2016/04/22/nato-there-is-no-civil-war-in-ukraine/>

### **Putin, Merkel Agree to Continue Normandy Format Work for Donbass Settlement, 20.04.2016**

Merkel and Putin agreed to continue political and diplomatic efforts for Ukraine peace settlement, "first and foremost in the Normandy format [Russia, Germany, France, Ukraine], as well as within the OSCE." The two leaders discussed "the development of the situation in Ukraine with an emphasis on the need for the parties to the internal Ukrainian conflict to fully implement the Minsk agreements of February 12, 2015," the press service said in a statement.

<http://sputniknews.com/politics/20160420/1038338844/putin-merkel-donbass.html>

<http://en.kremlin.ru/events/president/news/51759>

### **EU sanctions against Russia to remain in place until full implementation of Minsk-2: Juncker, 20.04.2016**

"The parties have discussed the deterioration of the security situation in Donbas. The president of the European Commission assured that the EU kept firmly advocating for Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty," reads the report. In this regard, Jean-Claude Juncker "emphasized the importance for the sanctions against Russia to stay in place until full implementation of the Minsk agreements by Moscow." The Ukrainian president informed Juncker on the progress of Ukraine on the track of reforms that got a new boost due to the formation of new pro-European coalition and Government.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1325482-eu-sanctions-against-russia-to-remain-in-place-until-full-implementation-of-minsk-deal-juncker.html>

## **Part of Crimea report presented in Council of Europe distorts real situation - Chubarov, 21.04.2016**

Part of the report on human rights in Crimea, presented at the meeting of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on April 13 does not show the real situation on the peninsula, according to Refat Chubarov, head of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people and MP from the Bloc of Petro Poroshenko, who spoke at a briefing on Thursday.

<http://www.technewscoverage.com/news/part-of-crimea-report-presented-in-council-of-europe-distorts-real-situation-chubarov.html>

## **PACE calls for release of all prisoners in Donbas, punishment of those responsible, 21.04.2016**

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has adopted a resolution in which it pointed at the inhumane treatment of prisoners captured during the war in the east of Ukraine and called on all parties to the conflict to do everything for their release.

The corresponding resolution was voted on Thursday in Strasbourg during the meeting of the PACE after the report titled "The humanitarian concerns with regard to people captured during the war in Ukraine" was presented by a Latvian deputy Nellija Kleinberg.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/pace-calls-for-release-of-all-prisoners-in-donbas-punishment-of-those-responsible-635787.html>

## **Russia's Decision To Suspend the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, 22.04.2016**

We call on the Russian Federation to reverse the Ministry of Justice's recent decision to designate the Crimean Tatar Mejlis as an "extremist" organization and the decision by de facto authorities in Crimea to suspend this democratic institution. The Mejlis has long been a representative body for the traditionally under-represented and historically oppressed Crimean Tatar population. It has also served as an important independent voice in preserving their culture and protecting them from discrimination. Russian authorities have no basis or jurisdiction to assert Russian law over Tatar conduct in Ukraine. A ban on the Mejlis would prohibit it from convening, publishing its views in mass media, or holding public events, which contravenes basic democratic principles. This action is the latest in a series of abuses perpetrated by de facto authorities against those in Crimea who oppose the occupation, including Crimean Tatars and members of other ethnic and religious minorities in Crimea. Such abuses include arbitrary detentions, beatings, and police raids on their homes and places of worship.

<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2016/04/256480.htm>

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/871870>

<http://www.trendingnewsbulletin.com/update/879329/dzhemilev-fsb-plotted-to-destabilize-crimea-starting-2011.html>

## **Obama, Cameron discuss Ukraine's issue, 23.04.2016**

US President Barack Obama during a meeting with British Prime Minister David Cameron stressed the need to resolve the conflict in Ukraine. "We have to resolve the conflict in Ukraine and reassure allies who are rightly concerned about Russian aggression," Obama said. He noted the need to continue to invest in NATO so that "we can meet our overseas commitments, from Afghanistan to the Aegean." "All NATO allies should aim for the NATO target of spending 2 percent of their GDP on defense," the US President said.

<http://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-politics/2005814-obama-cameron-discuss-ukraines-issue.html>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/04/22/remarks-president-obama-and-prime-minister-cameron-joint-press>

## **Obama says Russia sanctions must stay in place until Minsk implemented, 25.04.2016**

U.S. President Barack Obama said on Monday that the West needed to uphold the sanctions it has imposed against Russia over the Ukraine crisis until Moscow fully implements the so-called Minsk peace agreement. "I want good relations with Russia and have invested a lot in good relations with Russia but we need to keep sanctions on Russia in place until Russia fully implements the Minsk agreements," he said during a visit to a trade fair in Hanover.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-germany-obama-russia->

[idUSKCN0XM10K?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FtopNews+%28News+%2F+US+%2F+Top+News%29](http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-germany-obama-russia-idUSKCN0XM10K?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FtopNews+%28News+%2F+US+%2F+Top+News%29)

<http://x-news.com.ua/merkel-obama-call-on-quick-minsk-implementation-133617/>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/04/25/readout-presidents-meeting-british-prime-minister-david-cameron-french>

### **Poroshenko: Russia agrees to OSCE armed police mission in the Donbas, 25.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko stated that Russia has agreed to deploy an armed OSCE mission in the Donbas. "I'm very glad that Ukraine's firm position is supported by our partners in The Normandy Group, both the U.S.A. and Russia has agreed to this format. I think we will do it right," Poroshenko said in an interview with Ukrainian TV channels on Sunday evening. The President emphasized that despite the Herculean efforts of the SMM OSCE, firing, especially in Avdiivka, Marinka and in some areas of the Luhansk region, still continues. "And we have anywhere from 30 to 70 firings in one area per day," he said. He also emphasized that the absolute majority of violations are the responsibility of the occupying forces. "Our troops are just firing in response. But the SMM OSCE monitors cannot record it as they are not armed [and cannot protect themselves under fire]. They can only record the firings and it is not always possible to determine from which side it was fired," Poroshenko said.

<http://uawire.org/news/poroshenko-russia-agrees-to-osce-armed-police-mission-in-the-donbas>

<http://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-defense/1993421-ukraine-negotiating-on-deployment-of-osce-police-mission-in-donbas-poroshenko.html>

### **Obama reveals Putin's attitude to NATO, 26.04.2016**

Barack Obama said how the Russian President treats NATO and the EU from his point of view. According to the American leader, Putin sees the North Atlantic Alliance as "a threat to Russian power". "Mr. Putin has generally viewed NATO, EU, trans-Atlantic unity, as a threat," Obama said. However, the Russian leader "is mistaken about that". "I've indicated to him that, in fact, a strong, unified Europe working with a strong, outward-looking Russia - that's the right recipe. So far, he has not been entirely persuaded," Barack Obama claimed. As Pravda.Ru reported, Vladimir Putin had accused Europe of losing part of its sovereignty. The EU rejected its independent foreign policy and submitted to the US. However, as Putin stated, Russia can have a deal with any of its partners.

<http://www.pravdareport.com/video/26-04-2016/134274-obama-0/>

### **Russian Prosecutor General says Right Sector plots coup in Russia, 26.04.2016**

"We have blocked access to pages in VKontakte social network, through which the supporters of the Ukrainian Right Sector nationalist group "attempted to organize mass riots and unauthorized public rallies in order to commit the coup d'etat in the Russian Federation," according to the Russian Prosecutor General's report sent to the Federation Council. It is noted that Chaika will present his report on the state of law and order in Russia in 2015 at a meeting of the Federation Council on April 27.

<http://www.unian.info/world/1330416-russian-prosecutor-general-says-right-sector-plots-coup-in-russia.html>

### **Poroshenko: RF places elements of nuclear potential in Crimea, 26.04.2016**

"At the summit (on nuclear security in Washington - Ed.) I have also said, and I repeat it today, that the Kremlin is now deploying the elements of its nuclear potential in the Ukrainian Crimea occupied by Russia. We and our partners have to decide how to improve the security guarantees by the nuclear-weapon states for the countries that do not possess weapons of mass destruction," Poroshenko said. "In the history of Ukraine the tragedy of Chernobyl is located about halfway between the Nazi occupation and the Russian aggression. It has become the biggest challenge for us in the period between World War II and war against Ukraine launched by Moscow," he said.

<http://gha.com.ua/en/politics/poroshenko-rf-places-elements-of-nuclear-potential-in-crimea/136961/>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/340130.html>

### **Nuland calls for special status for Donbas, militant amnesty, local election, 26.04.2016**

The Samopomich Party's press service says that the United States insists on introducing amendments to Ukraine's Constitution, pressing for the so-called special status of the militant-occupied areas in Ukraine's Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts, militant amnesty, local elections in July.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/unian-nuland-talks-special-status-for-donbas-militant-amnesty-local-election-412752.html>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/340441.html>

## **Actions of Ukrainian Authorities**

### **Poroshenko, Biden discuss Donbas peacekeepers, Minsk Protocol, anti-Russian sanctions, 01.04.2016**

The possibility of deploying an international mission in Donbas and the implementation of the Minsk Protocol with ways of greater involvement of the United States were on the agenda of a meeting between Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. Vice President Joe Biden in Washington, D.C., according to the Ukrainian president's press service.

<http://www.breakingnewspoint.com/story/2819331/poroshenko-biden-discuss-donbas-peacekeepers-minsk-protocol-antirussian-sanctions.html>

### **Ukraine's Prosecutor General dismissed officially - President signs the order, 03.04.2016**

"After Tuesday voting [by Ukraine's parliament to authorize Shokin's dismissal], the Verkhovna Rada sent the documents and an order to dismiss Prosecutor General Viktor Shokin was signed," Poroshenko said. "As of today he has been dismissed under my order," the Ukrainian president added. Poroshenko also said that the Ukrainian parliament should appoint a new prosecutor general in the coming plenary week, scheduled for April 12-15.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/ukraine-s-prosecutor-general-dismissed-officially-poroshenko-signs-the-order-623751.html>

### **Poroshenko wants Normandy Four to consider OSCE police mission in Donbas, 04.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has asked Germany chairing the OSCE in 2016 to consider the deployment of an OSCE police mission in Donbas and says he wants the Normandy Four to discuss this issue in the near future. "The OSCE posts must also be armed. As when unarmed representatives are under attack, this means inability to effectively perform their duties. I addressed [this issue to] the leadership of Germany, which chairs the OSCE now. And I plan to raise this question at talks in the Normandy format soon, as the OSCE's armed police units should guarantee preparations for elections, the voting itself, as well as the transfer of power to officials to be chosen by democratic, fair and transparent elections under the Ukrainian legislation," the president said.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/73413/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/73413/view/)

### **Poroshenko founded three offshore companies for restructuring Roshen, 04.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has not mentioned in his declaration of income, expenses and financial obligations for 2014 that he had established a company in the British Virgin Islands, according to an investigation by Ukrainian journalist Anna Babinets as part of the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project (OCCRP).

"On August 21, 2014, the Prime Asset Partners Limited (BVI) company, which is owned by Petro Poroshenko, was registered in the British Virgin Islands," the journalist said. When asked why this company was not included into Poroshenko's income declaration, Makar Paseniuk, managing director of ICU investment company who is authorized by the Ukrainian presidential administration to communicate with media in the matters related to Poroshenko's business affairs, said the shares of the Prime Asset Partners Limited have no par value. In accordance with the requirements for the declaration of incomes and property as of 2014, only the shares which had some nominal value needed to be included in the declaration, he added.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/335301.html>

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/poroshenko-responds-to-offshore-scandal/>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/335558.html>

[http://int.hromadske.tv/en/articles/show/poroshenko\\_ukraine\\_offshore](http://int.hromadske.tv/en/articles/show/poroshenko_ukraine_offshore)

### **Large-scale raid in three regions: terrorist acts of sabotage group prevented, 04.04.2016**

The department's press service said that with the help of recruited individuals, saboteurs smuggled weapons and explosives from the occupied territory into the peaceful parts of Ukraine. "Allies of terrorists planted caches in designated locations for the purpose of further use of weapons and explosives to destabilize the situation in Ukraine's major cities, according to the local police chief Vyacheslav Abroskin. The investigation continues to establish all individuals involved in subversive activity of this group.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/large-scale-raid-in-three-regions-terrorist-acts-of-sabotage-group-prevented/>

## **Ukraine prime minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk resigns and opens way for new government, 10.04.2016**

Ukraine's embattled prime minister has announced he will resign, opening the way for the formation of a new government to end a drawn-out political crisis. Arseniy Yatsenyuk said his resignation would be formally submitted to parliament on Tuesday. "I took the decision to resign as prime minister of Ukraine," he said.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraine-prime-minister-arseniy-yatsenyuk-resigns-a6977421.html>  
<http://uatoday.tv/politics/poroshenko-s-ally-groysman-set-for-ukraine-s-next-premier-628166.html>

## **Poroshenko expects creation of coalition and introduction of Hroisman as PM on April 12, 11.04.2016**

"I expect that not later than next week, desirably on Tuesday, we hear good news from the parliament... Those responsible MPs, I hope that there will be a majority of them in the parliament, that they will create the coalition, it should happen on Tuesday, that they will present a candidacy of the prime minister; I have stressed many times that I will work with any prime minister," the president said. Poroshenko expects that Volodymyr Hroisman will be proposed as prime minister. "In addition, I believe that the parliament will vote the action program of the government," the president said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/383628/poroshenko\\_expects\\_creation\\_of\\_coalition\\_and\\_introduction\\_of\\_hroisman\\_as\\_pm\\_on\\_april\\_12](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/383628/poroshenko_expects_creation_of_coalition_and_introduction_of_hroisman_as_pm_on_april_12)  
<http://www.unian.info/politics/1316469-groysmans-spox-almost-all-positions-in-new-cabinet-agreed.html>  
<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/groysman-becomes-new-prime-minister-411971.html?flavour=full>

## **Notice of suspicion served against Kasko, whistleblower who exposed prosecutorial corruption, 11.04.2016**

The notice was brought by Dmytro Stus, an investigator at the anti-corruption department supervised by Deputy Prosecutor General Yuriy Stolyarchuk.

Sergii Leshchenko, a critical member of the Bloc of President Petro Poroshenko, has argued that the department is effectively subordinated to the president and is overseen by influential Poroshenko allies Ihor Kononenko and Oleksandr Hranovsky. Leshchenko, who was present at the scene, said Kasko's car had been smeared with an unknown substance to prevent him from driving away. Kasko is suspected of illegally receiving two apartments.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/kasko-whistleblower-against-corruption-in-general-prosecutors-office-now-faces-investigation-411729.html>

## **Groysman names his candidates for new government, 12.04.2016**

According to the proposal, Vitaliy Kovalchuk will become First Deputy Prime Minister, whom Groysman opposed last evening. The following candidates were also proposed:

Deputy Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs – Pavlo Rozenko;

Deputy Prime Minister for European Integration – Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze;

In addition, the new Cabinet will have the post of Deputy Prime Minister for ATO affairs and the occupied territories, which will be held by Volodymyr Kistion. Minister of the Cabinet of

Ministers – Oleksandr Saenko;

Minister of Education – Liliya Hrynevych;

Minister of Social Policy – Maksym Nefyodov;

Finance Minister – Oleksandr Danylyuk;

The post of Minister of Economy is vacant, but the faction has determined with First Deputy Minister of Economy – Yuliya Kovaliv.

Health Minister – Oleksandr Reva;

Infrastructure Minister – Volodymyr Omelyan;

There is still no candidate for the post of Minister of Energy.

Ecology Minister – Ostap Semerak;

Foreign Minister – Pavlo Klimkin;

Defense Minister – Stepan Poltorak;

Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food – Taras Kutoviy;

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/groysman-names-his-candidates-for-new-government-629038.html>  
<http://tass.ru/en/world/759733>

### **Rada Tuesday meeting closed without vote on Yatsenyuk, new Cabinet, 12.04.2016**

The evening meeting of the Verkhovna Rada on Tuesday was closed without debating the resignation of acting Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk or the appointment of his proposed successor, incumbent Parliament Speaker Volodymyr Groysman along with new Cabinet.

<http://www.newsreality.com/post/rada-tuesday-meeting-closed-without-vote-on-yatsenyuk-new-cabinet.html>

### **Rada appoints Iryna Gerashchenko as first deputy speaker, 14.04.2016**

Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has passed a resolution to appoint MP from Bloc of Petro Poroshenko Iryna Gerashchenko to the post of first deputy chairman of Verkhovna Rada. The respective decision was backed by 260 parliamentarians during the plenary sitting.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/337691.html>

### **Prosecutors request 15 years in prison for Russian GRU officers, 15.04.2016**

Prosecutor Maksym Krym requires the court to sentence Russian GRU officers Alexander Alexandrov and Yevgeniy Yerofeyev to 15 years in prison each, with the confiscation of property and a ban to on military service within three years.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/73959/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/73959/view/)

<http://en.uazmi.com/news/post/cZ9H6UASBIVluWiOPf0j8>

### **PGO fires Odesa region prosecutor Stoianov pursuant to lustration law, 15.04.2016**

Acting Prosecutor General Yurii Sevruk has dismissed Odesa region prosecutor Mykola Stoianov as falling under lustration. Prosecutor Vladyslav Kutsenko said at a briefing.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/384591/pgo\\_fires\\_odesa\\_region\\_prosecutor\\_stoianov\\_pursuant\\_to\\_lustration\\_law](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/384591/pgo_fires_odesa_region_prosecutor_stoianov_pursuant_to_lustration_law)

### **Poroshenko dismisses Haiduk as Naval Forces commander, 16.04.2016**

The president signed relevant decree No. 161/2016 on Friday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/338040.html>

### **POROSHENKO EXPECTS NEW PROSECUTOR GENERAL IN MID-MAY, 24.04.2016**

"This is an extremely important stage of building a new system of power, and I'm firmly confident that we should obtain a new prosecutor general during the first plenary meeting of the Verkhovna Rada [on May 10-13]," he told TV channels on Sunday.

"It's not only our commitment to the Ukrainian people, but it's also the confirmation of the position before financial organizations and others so that we could receive financing from our partners," the president said.

<http://x-news.com.ua/poroshenko-expects-new-prosecutor-general-in-mid-may-133625/>

### **Poroshenko to deploy 1,000 law enforcers in Odesa to prevent provocations, 27.04.2016**

"The President instructed Head of the National Police and Chief of the National Guard to bring an additional 1,000-strong force in Odesa for the protection of public order in the city," Saakashvili wrote. On April 26, Saakashvili called on the President to bring the National Guard units in Odesa due to the night events in the city – a demolition of a tent camp set up by the protesters in front of the City Hall against Odesa mayor Hennadiy Trukhanov, as well as an explosion in the Odesa-based branch of Pivdennyi Bank.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1331456-poroshenko-to-deploy-1000-law-enforcers-in-odesa-to-prevent-provocations.html>

### **SFS opens another case against Shuster for grand tax evasion, 27.04.2016**

Shuster has been living in Ukraine since 2005. In 2008, he received an interest bearing loan in the amount of EUR 1.34 million on his foreign currency account, but failed to repay it within a specified period. In addition, Schuster did not report his income declaration to the tax office and evaded paying tax on income of individuals in the amount of more than UAH 2.1 million. The SFS also plans to conduct a tax audit of Savik Schuster regarding the completeness of payment of taxes on the amount of the outstanding loan.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1331579-sfs-opens-another-case-against-shuster-for-grand-tax-evasion.html>



## Terrorism / Separatism

### **Latest from OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, 01.07.2015**

The SMM monitored the implementation of the "Package of measures for the implementation of the Minsk agreements". Its monitoring was restricted by third parties and security considerations\*. The fighting at and around Donetsk airport continued with increased intensity compared to previous days. The security situation within Shyrokyne deteriorated during the day. The fighting at and around Donetsk airport continued with increased intensity compared to the previous days. Between 9:03 and 13:00hrs, at the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) observation point at Donetsk central railway station ("Donetsk People's Republic" ("DPR")-controlled, 8km north-west of Donetsk city centre), the SMM heard and saw 168 explosions consistent with mainly mortar and tanks rounds. Of those, 109 explosions occurred north and north-west of Spartak and of Donetsk airport (both "DPR"-controlled), in the area between government-controlled and Opytne, Butrovska mine and Muraveynyk (both government-controlled) at a distance of 3-7km from the SMM position. Another 39 explosions occurred 10-15km north-east of the SMM position.

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/168011>

### **Avdiyivka still epicenter of militant attacks, 01.04.2016**

"By focusing mortar and artillery fire on the Ukrainian defenders, the enemy struck 30 powerful blows, using banned heavy weapons from 82mm to 152mm calibers," the report says. In the Donetsk sector, the militants repeatedly attacked ATO forces near the villages of Zaitseve, Mayorsk, and Butivka coal mine. The town of Avdiyivka remains the epicenter of hostilities. "The enemy fired cannon artillery, mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms 16 times on our positions there. The illegal armed groups also used heavy weapons against the local people in the so-called industrial zone. The militants are aimed to weaken the positions of our troops and spread panic among the people, accusing the Ukrainian side of neglecting the peace agreements," the press center said.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1306377-avdiyivka-still-epicenter-of-fighting-militants-fire-grenade-launchers-mortars-on-ato-forces.html>

### **Russians plan provocations against ATO forces, civilians Apr 4-9: Ukraine intel, 01.04.2016**

"The plan is to carry out armed provocations against the Armed Forces of Ukraine in order to accuse the Ukrainian side of violating the Minsk agreements and the international humanitarian law. The provocations will be led by Commander of the 2nd Army Corps Armed Forces, Major-General Yevgeny Nikiforov," the report says. According to the collected intelligence, in order to divert the attention of the OSCE monitors, the occupation forces are planning to conduct simulation of military drills of the 2nd separate motorized rifle brigade (Luhansk) with the participation of the commander and mediators from among the commanders of units and formations near the villages of Shymshynivka and Uspenka.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1306803-russians-plan-provocations-against-ato-forces-civilians-apr-4-9-ukraine-intel.html>

### **Zaitseve and Avdiyivka remain 'hot spots' in ATO zone – Lysenko, 02.04.2016**

The most tense situation, as before, remains in Ukrainian settlements of Zaitseve and Avdiyivka in Donetsk region, presidential administration spokesman for ATO Colonel Andriy Lysenko said.

<http://www.primenewshub.com/newsfocus/zaitseve-and-avdiyivka-remain-hot-spots-in-ato-zone-lysenko/673175.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1308074-donbas-militants-use-120mm-and-82mm-mortars-to-shell-avdiyivka.html>

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/73411/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/73411/view/)

<http://uatoday.tv/news/over-20-attacks-on-ukraine-troops-in-last-day-avdiyivka-remains-hot-spot-623934.html>

### **Ukraine doesn't confirm report on mass grave of ATO soldiers near Debaltseve, 04.04.2016**

Chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces' civil-military cooperation department Oleksiy Nozdrachiov does not confirm reports about the discovery of a mass grave of Ukrainian soldiers near the militant-held town of Debaltseve.

<http://www.onlinenewsplanet.com/news/2157627/ukraine-doesnt-confirm-report-on-mass-grave-of-ato-soldiers-near-debaltseve.html>

### **Two Ukrainian Military Captured Near Horlivka, 04.04.2016**

According to Motuzianyk, further information about the incident will be given after the special events that are not disclosed for the reasons of safety of our soldiers. Reportedly, militants carried out a series of provocations nearby Horlivka and next to the Donetsk airport. It should be recalled that according to the Security Service, as of mid-March, 124 citizens of Ukraine were in captivity of the pro-Russian separatists in Donbas, 692 citizens were considered missing.

<http://ukraineunderattack.org/en/62177-two-ukrainian-military-captured-near-horlivka.html>

### **Russian proxies committed 61 assaults yesterday. Ukrainian troops repulsed enemy subversive group attack near Hranitne, - Staff, 05.04.2016**

According to the Staff, the Russian mercenaries carried out attacks on the positions of the Ukrainian Armed Forces using mortars of various calibers almost along the entire demarcation line: "The enemy committed four mortar strikes on the defenders of Avdiivka, three strikes in the direction of Novhorodske and two more ones on Zaitseve at the Donetsk section of the front." The militants keep providing high-intensity fire along the front line using a variety of weapons simultaneously including mortars, large-caliber machine guns, and grenade launchers. Besides, the enemy snipers' attacks are also recorded. "The enemy has also cranked up effort at the Mariupol section of the front employing weapons prohibited by the Minsk agreements there. In particular, our positions near Talakivka were shelled with 120-mm mortars while 82-mm mortars were used near Shyrokyne.

<http://en.censor.net.ua/news/382681/russian-proxies-committed-61-assaults-yesterday-ukrainian-troops-repulsed-enemy-subversive-group-attack>

<http://en.censor.net.ua/news/382741/two-ukrainian-soldiers-killed-10-injured-over-past-day-ato-speaker>

<http://en.censor.net.ua/news/382827/positions-near-avdiivka-came-under-massive-mortar-attack-ato-press-center>

### **DPR militants use artillery to attack Avdiivka's residential area, 05.04.2016**

The DPR militants launched an artillery strike on the residential sector. Near Nakhimov Lane. House No. 9 has been partly damaged," he wrote on Facebook on Tuesday.

Investigators from the Avdiivka police station are working on the site. "Information about casualties is being verified," Abroskin said. The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine 61 times in the past 24 hours, which is almost half more than in the previous day and night.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1309783-dpr-militants-use-artillery-to-attack-avdiivkas-residential-area.html>

### **Two Ukrainian soldiers killed, two wounded in Donbas in last day, 05.04.2016**

Two Ukrainian soldiers were killed and another two were wounded in the Donbas conflict zone in the last 24 hours, presidential administration spokesman for the Anti-Terrorist Operation Colonel Andriy Lysenko said.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/two-ukrainian-soldiers-killed-two-wounded-in-donbas-in-last-day-614854.html>

### **Donbas seeing escalation with 76 attacks on Ukraine in last day, 06.04.2016**

"The situation was most tense in the Donetsk sector. Ukrainian soldiers have survived massive fire strikes from heavy weapons, rocket-propelled grenades, machine guns and small arms. They efficiently fired back, and the enemy had not the slightest chance of success," the report says. The town of Avdiivka remains an unassailable fortress for the enemy. During this period, the illegal armed groups opened fire 22 times on ATO forces there.

<http://www.worldnewsmagazine.com/news/1861016/donbas-seeing-escalation-with-76-attacks-on-ukraine-in-last-day.html>

### **Over 1.2 mln people from Donbas relocated to other regions, 06.04.2016**

IDPs include 169,408 children and 498,677 people with disabilities and the elderly. Of all the IDPs, there are nearly 1.7 million people from Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and 22,142 people from the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. The State Emergency Service of Ukraine says that local executive authorities are constantly searching for premises suitable for IDPs. Nowadays, 647 objects of various forms of ownership have been identified for the accommodation of 10,990 IDPs.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1311261-over-12-mln-people-from-donbas-relocated-to-other-regions.html>

### **Russian proxies attack Ukraine 67 times, intensify fire near Maryinka, 07.04.2016**

The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine 67 times in the past 24 hours, using weapons of different caliber, according to ATO press center.

<http://www.onlinenewsplanet.com/news/2175794/unian-russian-proxies-attack-ukraine-67-times-intensify-fire-near-maryinka.html>

### **ATO HQ closes Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint in Donbas, 07.04.2016**

"In order to preserve the lives and health of civilians who cross this checkpoint, the ATO headquarters in Donetsk and Luhansk regions have decided to temporarily close the Stanytsia Luhanska checkpoint from April 8," the report says. The checkpoint will open as soon as the Russian proxies cease provocative attacks and the situation is stabilized.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1312080-ato-hq-closes-stanytsia-luhanska-checkpoint-in-donbas.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1312536-militants-occupy-southern-outskirts-of-avdiivka-ukraine-intel.html>

### **Spot Report by the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, 07.04.2016**

while an SMM patrol, comprised of four SMM members in two armoured vehicles, was 3.5km north-east of Snizhne ("DPR"-controlled, 72km east of Donetsk) near the administrative boundary between Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the driver of the front SMM vehicle heard the trunk window crackling. After stopping to inspect the vehicle, the SMM noted on the lower right part of the trunk window a hole, 5mm in diameter, assessed to be caused by a bullet. This window was not bullet-proof, whereas a bullet-proof glass divides the trunk and the passenger cabin of the car. On the latter the SMM noted a small chip, 3mm in diameter, possibly caused by the same bullet. The SMM further observed a bullet exit point on the left side of the trunk window, a hole 15mm in diameter. No bullet or projectile was recovered from inside the vehicle. No SMM members were hurt and the patrol returned safely to its base in Luhansk city at 12:30hrs. Due to the fact that no shot was heard, the SMM cannot ascertain at what time and location it was hit.

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/231901>

### **Russian proxies attacked ATO forces 70 times yesterday, employed mortars and SP-guns near Mariupol, - Staff, 08.04.2016**

The armed conflict in eastern Ukraine continues escalating. With the support of the aggressor country, the illegal armed groups committed 70 assaults on the ATO forces over the past day using various types of weapons. According to the Staff, the cease-fire violations were recorded near Avdiivka, Luhanske, Pisky, Opytne, Nevelske, Verkhniotoretske, Artemove, Kamianka, Svitlodarsk, and Bohuslavske at the Donetsk section of the front: "The enemy continues using 120-mm and 82-mm mortars along with grenade launchers, machine guns, and small arms." "In violation of the Minsk agreements, the militants employed banned self-propelled artillery in addition to mortars against Pavlopil defensive lines near Novotroitske at the Mariupol section of the front," the report reads.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/383290/russian\\_proxies\\_attacked\\_ato\\_forces\\_70\\_times\\_yesterday\\_employed\\_mortars\\_and\\_spguns\\_near\\_mariupol\\_staff](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/383290/russian_proxies_attacked_ato_forces_70_times_yesterday_employed_mortars_and_spguns_near_mariupol_staff)

### **Militants shell Avdiivka outskirts with incendiary mines, civilian woman killed, 08.04.2016**

"Smoke is tight over the area around the industrial zone of Avdiivka. Suburban summer houses are on fire as well as gardens and grass. Pro-Russian illegal armed groups continue to fire on positions of Ukrainian troops in the area, but now with the special, incendiary, mines," reads the statement. The ATO Headquarters noted that by using such mines, the militants are deliberately and cynically destroying property of civilians. "They also want to cause outrage among local residents, trying to present this as the actions of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. But these are provocations of mercenaries, because the real miners would not have burned the property of their fellow citizens.. In the day time, people see well: who is shelling the city and from what directions," the message says.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1314051-militants-shell-avdiivka-outskirts-with-incendiary-mines-civilian-woman-killed.html>

### **Ukraine calls for OSCE's "mirror" monitoring of area near Avdiyivka as hostilities escalate, 09.04.2016**

The Ukrainian side urges the international monitors in Donbas to resume the practice of "mirror" patrolling missions by OSCE SMM and JCCC in the area of Avdiyivka to de-escalate the situation, according to the press center of the Anti-Terrorist Operation.

<http://www.morningnewstime.com/update/1841440/ukraine-calls-for-osces-mirror-monitoring-of-area-near-avdiyivka-as-hostilities-escalate.html>

### **OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine Fired On in Zaytsevo, 10.04.2016**

The OSCE SMM issued a spot report today noting that their mission was fired upon while they were patrolling in Zhovanka, the Ukrainian-controlled part of Zaytsevo (Zaitseve). On 9 April, an SMM patrol, comprised of five members in two armoured vehicles, was in Zhovanka, a government-controlled part of Zaitseve (50km north-east of Donetsk). The patrol was accompanied by the Ukrainian Armed Forces head of the Joint Centre for Control and Coordination (JCCC) office in Toretsk.

<http://www.interpretermag.com/day-782/Injuries>

### **Russian proxies attack Ukraine troops 64 times in last day, 11.04.2016**

"The Armed Forces of Ukraine recorded 16 militant attacks with the use of mortars. The occupiers fired 120mm mortars on the Ukrainian positions near the villages of Troyitske and Luhanske, as well as 82mm mortars near the villages of Talakivka, Shyrokyne, Mayorsk, and Novoselivka. The enemy activity was observed in the outskirts of the town of Avdiyivka, where the militants fired the mines of both calibers on the Ukrainian soldiers in the industrial zone," the report says.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/73735/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/73735/view/)

### **Russian proxies attack Ukraine troops 79 times in last day, 12.04.2016**

The illegal armed groups fired 120mm and 82mm mortars 16 times on ATO forces. The terrorists were most active near the town of Avdiyivka, where the enemy fired mortars and smaller caliber weapons 19 times on our positions.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/russian-proxies-attack-ukraine-troops-79-times-in-last-day-628936.html>

### **Militants attack Ukraine troops 87 times in last day, hot spot in Avdiyivka, 13.04.2016**

"Violating the ceasefire, the enemy fired mortars 22 times, having launched 114 mines in the direction of the Ukrainian troops. Most attacks, namely nine, were carried out on our positions in the town of Avdiyivka.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1317718-militants-attack-ukraine-troops-87-times-in-last-day-hot-spot-in-avdiyivka.html>

### **Pro-Russian militants storm Ukrainian forces in Donetsk region, 14.04.2016**

The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine 104 times in the past 24 hours, which is 20% more than the previous days, according to ATO press center

<http://uatoday.tv/news/pro-russian-militants-storm-ato-forces-in-novotroytske-631421.html>

### **Russia starts recon, strike drills in Black Sea ahead of NATO-Russia meeting – Ukraine Intel, 15.04.2016**

On the eve of the Russia-NATO Council at the ambassadorial level to be held on April 20, the Russian Federation shows determination to use military force to prevent deployment of NATO naval group in the Black Sea, according to the Main Directorate of Intelligence at the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine. "On April 14, Russian air and space forces and aircraft of the Russian Black Sea Fleet worked out in the airspace of the Krasnodar region and the Black Sea the elements of a comprehensive air reconnaissance and strike operation on blocking the Black Sea straits," reads a statement.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/russia-starts-recon-strike-drills-in-black-sea-ahead-of-nato-russia-meeting-ukraine-intel-631893.html>

### **OSCE reports extension of geography of violence in Donbas, 15.04.2016**

“We are deeply worried that the geography of violence has actually once again been encompassed locations in southerly Donetsk area. In Kominternove, on April 9 the SMM listened to a minimum of 15 unknown surges in a two-minute duration. On April 13, while my group as well as I remained in the location, within a hr– some 17 surges were tape-recorded,” he stated throughout a skype rundown from Monitorings Direct No. 1 at militant-controlled Donetsk’s main train terminal, ignoring the Donetsk flight terminal, on Friday. Baseding on him, the degree of ceasefire infractions signed up by the SMM stayed regularly high. “The location of government-controlled Avdiivka as well as supposed ‘DPR’-managed Yasynuvata stayed one of the most unstable with most of infractions in Donetsk area taped there. On April 8, the SMM taped 979 unknown surges as well as several ruptureds of small-arms as well as heavy-machine-gun fire. Simply the other day [April 14] in the Donetsk area the SMM taped an overall of 4,372 CFV [cease-fire infractions], showing a sharp boost in battling in the Avdiivka/Yasynuvata location,” Caress stated.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/osce-reports-extension-of-geography-of-violence-in-donbas/>

### **Donbas: Avdiivka under intensive fire from anti-tank missile launchers, 15.04.2016**

Russian proxies used mortars to fire at Ukrainian positions near Avdiivka, Berezove and Taramchuk, all in Donetsk region. “The enemy used grenade launchers, heavy machineguns and anti-tank missile launchers, which made it more difficult to hold the positions in these areas”, the message reads. In Luhansk region, Pro-Kremlin mercenaries repeatedly opened fire near Stanytsia Luhanska and Krymske. In Donetsk region, they also attacked Ukrainian emplacements near Mayorsk, Verkhnyotoretske, Shyrokyne, Luhanske and Butivka coal mine.

<http://112.international/conflict-in-eastern-ukraine/donbas-avdiivka-under-intensive-fire-from-anti-tank-missile-launchers-4068.html>

### **Russian proxies attack Ukraine troops 61 times in last day, 16.04.2016**

The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine 61 times in the past 24 hours, according to the ATO press center.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/unian-russian-proxies-attack-ukraine-troops-61-times-in-last-day-412144.html>

### **Avakov has for the first time sounded losses of the National Guard and the Ministry of Internal Affairs in two years of military operations on Donbass, 18.04.2016**

According to Avakov, for these two years in divisions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Guard: 308 people have died. Including from dobrobat - 205 (108 - national guardsmen from Donbass, Azov, Bath. Of Kulchitsky, 97 - from battalions of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.); have got wounds of 1228 people. Including from structure of dobrobat - 701; were missing - 41 fighters; in captivity (according to our information) - 10. «It is dishonest and unfair to be silent about the children who have given life and health on this war! To meanly underestimate their feat! Already it seems to someone inconvenient in series of peaceful life of the capital and other peace cities to remember. But it is necessary to remember - just because war still goes - and it is finished nothing», - Arsen Avakov summarized

<https://news.pn/en/RussiaInvadedUkraine/158920>

### **Latest from OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, 19.04.2016**

The SMM recorded a higher level of violence in Donetsk and Luhansk regions compared with both 16 and 17 April. The Mission followed up on allegations of shelling in areas near the contact line. It noted weapons in violation of withdrawal lines and others absent from storage sites. The SMM facilitated and monitored adherence to the ceasefire to enable repairs to essential infrastructure. It observed long queues at checkpoints along the contact line. The Mission monitored one border area outside government control and was denied access to another. The SMM’s freedom of movement was restricted further in areas not controlled by the Government, including access to a site known as a heavy weapons holding area.\* The SMM was threatened by armed men in areas outside of Government control.\*

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/234761>

<http://iamukrainian.com/2016/04/19/more-shellings-in-eastern-ukraine-russian-proxies-attack-ukraine-troops-46-times-in-last-day/>

### **OSCE SMM says pro-Russian militants threaten to open fire at monitors if near to Ukraine Army, 19.04.2016**

"The SMM got dangers from armed guys. While in "DPR"-managed Donetsk city, a "DPR" participant approached an SMM patrol, declaring that he had actually seen SMM cars near a Ukrainian Army excavator as well as stated he would certainly open fire at the monitors if this were to occur once again," checks out the file. Following this, the militant left the scene. In a different occurrence, equipped "LPR" participants in "LPR"-managed Parkhomenko (29km eastern of Luhansk) endangered to apprehend SMM monitors. OSCE reports expansion of location of physical violence in DonbasIt is kept in mind that armed "LPR" participants quit the SMM at a checkpoint near the entryway to "LPR"-managed Parkhomenko boundary crossing factor as well as requested the SMM patrol strategy. "When the SMM chose not to reveal the patrol strategy, the "LPR" participants informed the SMM to leave as well as endangered to apprehend the SMM if it drew away from the highway after separation," the OSCE SMM stated. "The SMM informed the Joint Facility for Synchronisation as well as Control, which stated that the boundary location is not under its territory as well as recommended the SMM to leave."

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/osce-smm-says-pro-russian-militants-threaten-to-open-fire-at-monitors-if-close-to-ukraine-army/>

### **OSCE records militant heavy weapons in Luhansk, Donetsk, 20.04.2016**

"In violation of the respective withdrawal lines, the SMM saw seven multiple launch rocket systems (MLRS; BM-21 Grad, 122mm), seven self-propelled howitzers (2S1 Gvozdika, 122mm), and ten towed howitzers (five 2A65 Msta-B, 152mm, and five D-30 Lyagushka, 122mm) in Luhansk city," the OSCE SMM said in its daily update based on information received as of 19:30 local time on Monday, April 18, 2016. At the same time, at a military-type compound in Leninskyi district of DPR-controlled Donetsk city, the SMM observed five surface-to-air missile systems (9K35 Strela-10, 120mm). The SMM also observed one surface-to-air missile system (9K33 Osa, 120mm) in an area east of Avdiyivka.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1324507-osce-records-militant-heavy-weapons-in-luhansk-donetsk.html>

### **Sajdik: Around 4,700 ceasefire violations in Ukraine a day, 20.04.2016**

"The coordinator of the working group on security expressed concern over a sharp increase in the ceasefire violations. Around 4,700 such violations are registered every day," Ambassador Martin Sajdik said. The OSCE representative noted with regret that the parties to the conflict have started using heavy weapons, including artillery and mortars. Contrary to the existing agreement, the weapons have been taken out from storage sites. "All parties violate their commitments," he noted.

<http://eng.belta.by/society/view/sajdik-around-4700-ceasefire-violations-in-ukraine-a-day-90696-2016/>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces 33 times in last day, 21.04.2016**

"Nine attacks were launched with the use of heavy weapons. Violating the Minsk agreements, the militants fired 120mm mortars in the direction of the town of Popasna, as well as 82mm mortars on the Ukrainian fortified positions near the village of Zaitseve. The situation was also tense near the town of Avdiyivka, where, in addition to both caliber mortars, the enemy fired grenade launchers of various systems, machine guns and small arms," the report says.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1325722-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-33-times-in-last-day.html>

### **Russia supplies SPV to Donbas militants– Ukrainian border guards, 21.04.2016**

the Russian side introduced the unapproved shipment of a big set (over 100 SPVs) to different locations in Donetsk as well as Luhansk areas with the [formally] shut Dovzhansky checkpoint apparently for the requirements of the supposed 'Ministry of Emergency situation Circumstances' of the separatist quasi-state," he stated at a rundown in Kyiv on Thursday. Read likewiseUkraine's intel: New armed forces equipment shows up in Donbas from RussiaThe set includes fire engine, storage tank vehicles, as well as rescue cars, Slobodian stated.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/russia-supplies-spv-to-donbas-militants-ukrainian-border-guards/>

### **Russian proxies attack Ukrainian forces 30 times in last day, 22.04.2016**

The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine 30 times in the past 24 hours, using banned weapons seven times, according to the press center of the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO). "The activity of the militants in the Donbas conflict zone remains high in all areas of defense, especially in the Donetsk sector," the press center said. The occupiers fired mortars, machine guns and grenade launchers on the Armed Forces of Ukraine near the villages of Zaitseve, Verkhniotoretske and the town of Avdiyivka. Near the village of Luhanske, the militants fired on our positions from infantry fighting vehicles. The enemy snipers were active near the town of Maryinka.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/russian-proxies-attack-ukrainian-forces-30-times-in-last-day-635883.html>

<http://uatoday.tv/society/ukrainian-troops-eliminate-militant-mortar-detachment-in-donbas-636296.html>

### **The militants have reduced the intensity of the attacks, but they are using prohibited weapons, 23.04.2016**

The militants of illegal armed groups violated the regime of silence, applying against the forces of ATO banned weapons. The number of attacks of the Ukrainian divisions in comparison with the similar period of the past day has decreased from 30 to 19.

«From mortars caliber 82 mm, the Pro-Russian mercenaries suffered 5 fire blows. Three of them defenders of the Town, one each in the areas of Happiness and zaytsevo. During the bombardment of positions near Trekhizbenka, Shirokino and Birch the enemy used rocket launchers, machine guns of large caliber and small arms», — stated in the message.

According to the press center, for the purpose of defense Ukrainian servicemen had 9 time to return fire.

<http://en.reporter-ua.ru/the-militants-have-reduced-the-intensity-of-the-attacks-but-they-are-using-prohibited-weapons.html>

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/russian-planes-spy-on-ukrainian-positions-in-four-regions-ukraine-intel-636752.html>

### **Russian proxies attack Ukraine 41 times, Avdiyivka remains the hottest spot, 24.04.2016**

"The ATO pressures have actually handled to preserve their placements in spite of [Russian proxies'] shooting strategies when they utilized various kinds of tools at the same time as well as increased their assaults along different stretches of the frontline. [When they utilised various kinds of tools all at once as well as magnified their assaults along different stretches of the frontline, shooting techniques. The opponent has actually installed 41 assaults over the duration under evaluation," the ATO HQ composed. "The hottest spot remained in the Donetsk market, where militants were shelling the community of Avdiyivka, utilizing 120mm as well as 82mm mortars. The unlawful armed teams likewise terminated grenade launchers, machine-guns as well as little arms on Ukrainian protectors," the resource stated.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/russian-proxies-attack-ukraine-41-times-avdiyivka-remains-the-hottest-spot/>

### **Militants shell Ukrainian troops 42 times over past day, 25.04.2016**

"Militants used 82mm mortars to shell ATO troops. Despite the considerable efforts of militants, the positions of Ukrainian troops remain unchanged.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/74359/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/74359/view/)

### **2,818 Ukrainian military, 120 law enforcers killed since 2014, 25.04.2016**

According to the Prosecutor General's Office (PGO) of Ukraine, seven soldiers were killed in 2013; 1,600 in 2014; 1,130 in 2015, and another 88 people - within three months of this year. Regarding deaths among law enforcement officers, 23 people were killed in 2013, 77 in 2014, 42 in 2015, and one person within three months of this year.

The PGO also said that the formation of the official reporting on KIAs began on January 1, 2013. In addition, the PGO said its current reporting did not provide information about the number of dead military or cause of their death (combat, non-combat, suicide, accident, hazing). The information was provided on the reporting form titled "Unified report on criminal offenses."

<http://www.unian.info/war/1329168-2818-ukrainian-military-120-law-enforcers-killed-since-2014.html>

## **Explosion rocks Odesa Pivdennyi Financial institution" s building late on Monday, 26.04.2016**

"An explosion in the lift shaft of Pivdennyi Financial institution's office complex was reported to the authorities at 23:28 regional time on April 25. Private investigators, canine trainers, dynamites professionals, criminalists of the National Authorities's primary division in Odesa area have actually left for the website," it stated. No casualties have actually been reported. Odesa community information portal Timer stated that the blast had actually been triggered by an assault on the building with using a Mukha short-range, non reusable light anti-tank rocket launcher. A vacant launch tube was apparently discovered in the shrubs nearby not much from the building.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/explosion-rocks-odesa-pivdennyi-banks-building-late-on-monday/>

## **Latest from OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, 26.04.2016**

In Donetsk region, the SMM continued to observe a high level of violence. Luhansk region remained relatively calm, with the exception of Stanytsia Luhanska. The SMM conducted crater analysis. SMM-facilitated and -monitored repair work was suspended in Marinka due to nearby violence. Large numbers of people were observed crossing the contact line. The SMM's freedom of movement was restricted on two occasions, one on each side of the contact line.

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/236446>

## **OSCE Confirms 4 Civilians Killed in Donbass Shelling, 28.04.2016**

Four people were killed, an unconfirmed number of people were injured and three vehicles were damaged, according to the mission's preliminary assessment.

The incident took place near the Elenovka checkpoint of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic. Pro-Russian separatists said the victims were in their cars hoping to cross the checkpoint at the time of the attack. The OSCE has said that fighting between the separatists and Ukrainian government troops has increased in recent weeks despite a year-old peace agreement.

<http://www.themoscowtimes.com/article/567486.html>

<http://tass.ru/en/world/872873>

## **Pilot Savchenko**

### **Savchenko may go on 'dry' hunger strike if not extradited to Ukraine, 01.04.2016**

Nadia will take this step if she is not extradited to Ukraine after the verdict in a Russian court. Savchenko has been on hunger strike for more than 60 days, and if she is not returned home in ten days after the verdict, she will refuse to eat and drink. Savchenko is being accused of murder and also of attempted murder, according to the PGO statement. The Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation also accused Savchenko of illegal border crossing.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1279167-savchenko-may-go-on-dry-hunger-strike-if-not-extradited-to-ukraine.html>

### **Savchenko starts serving sentence, to resume "dry" hunger strike on April 6, 05.04.2016**

Savchenko was sentenced to 22 years in prison by Russian-based Donetsk City Court on March 22, 2016. She announced he had decided not to appeal the verdict and would renew her "dry" hunger strike from April 6, demanding her return to Ukraine.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1309593-savchenko-starts-serving-sentence-to-resume-dry-hunger-strike-on-april-6.html>

### **Savchenko Begins 'Dry' Hunger Strike, 06.04.2016**

Ukrainian military pilot Nadia Savchenko, who has been sentenced by a Russian court to 22 years in prison, has started a "dry" hunger strike, refusing to consume both food and water. Savchenko's lawyer, Mark Feigin, said on April 6 that his client's demand is "her immediate return to Ukraine."

<http://www.rferl.org/content/ukraine-russia-savchenko-dry-hunger-strike/27657448.html>



### **Doctors monitoring condition of Savchenko on dry hunger strike – Russian Federal Penitentiary Service, 07.04.2016**

"She [Savchenko] is under constant medical surveillance," the press bureau said. Lawyer Mark Feygin said earlier on Thursday, that Savchenko, who had gone on a dry hunger strike, had demanded that foreign doctors be permitted to visit her.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/336258.html?>

### **Savchenko asks Poroshenko to act more resolutely for her release, 11.04.2016**

According to her, after she has been freed, there will be a chain reaction, which will trigger the release of other Ukrainian political prisoners from Russian jails. According to Polozov, Savchenko also addressed to her supporters. "She knows that there will be a televised call-in show with President Putin on April 14, and she asks them to raise one issue. Not about if she is freed or not, but when President Putin is going to return her home, to Ukraine," the lawyer said. Polozov said neither he nor his client was aware of her health condition because the results of medical checks conducted by Russia's Federal Penitentiary Service (FSIN) on Monday were withheld from her.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1316383-savchenko-asks-poroshenko-to-act-more-resolutely-for-her-release.html>

### **Russia conceals results on Savchenko's medical check – lawyer, 13.04.2016**

"Nadia is not given the results of analyzes or results of medical checks. They are not given to relatives or lawyers either. They offer us to trust the Penitentiary Service only," Polozov said. One of the lawyers of Nadia Savchenko Ilya Novikov is going to visit her at Novocherkassk detention center (Russia), and Vira Savchenko also hopes to see her sister on April 14.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1317798-russia-conceals-results-on-savchenkos-medical-check-lawyer.html>

### **Poroshenko, Merkel, Hollande call on Kremlin to immediately release Savchenko, 14.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande called on the Russian leadership to immediately release illegally convicted Ukrainian pilot, MP and member of the Ukrainian delegation to PACE Nadia Savchenko, the president's press service reported.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1320442-poroshenko-merkel-hollande-call-on-kremlin-to-immediately-release-savchenko.html>

### **Kerry calls on Russia to immediately release Savchenko, implement Minsk obligations, 16.04.2016**

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry did speak on Friday over the phone with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov and urged Russia to immediately release Nadia Savchenko and all other remaining hostages, as well as to fully implement its Minsk obligations.

<http://www.theworldnewstimes.com/post/2220434/kerry-calls-on-russia-to-immediately-release-savchenko-implement-minsk-obligations.html>  
<http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/dpb/2016/04/255860.htm>

### **Polozov: Savchenko's transfer may lead to her death, 16.04.2016**

The Russian government may convoy Ukrainian pilot Nadiya Savchenko, but it can lead to her death, - stated Savchenko's lawyer Nikolai Polozov : "According to the law the Russian authorities may transfer Savchenko under guard especially because she is not hospitalized. Hospitalization is an exception in concern with such actions, but taking into account the current state of her health - such transfer can cause her death, she simply will not sustain..." - Nikolai Polozov said. According to the lawyer's words, on the 11th day of the dry fasting Savchenko's health is in severe condition. "On Thursday, the intravenous infusion was carried out. This infusion makes the blood less viscous, but do not improve the condition of her inner organs." – the lawyer said.

<http://112.international/russia/savchenkos-transfer-may-lead-to-her-death-polozov-4070.html>  
<http://www.unian.info/society/1321474-do-not-wait-for-savchenkos-fast-swap-lawyer.html>

### **Savchenko" s lawyer Novikov says Nadia on drip, condition critical, 18.04.2016**

"If Nadia's sibling, Vira, had actually not convinced her the other day right into consenting to the mixtures, her condition would certainly be incredibly critical. She is totally tired," Novikov informed. Vira Savchenko verified airborne on Ukraine's 112 network that Nadia was having intravenous mixture leaks. "However the capillaries are so delicate that they damage," she stated. Novikov says on Monday there will certainly be a much better understanding of potential customers for Nadia's exchange for 2 Russian policemen, Alexander Alexandrov as well as Yevgeniy Yerofeyev, that are on test in Ukraine. Read likewise District attorneys ask for 15 years behind bars for Russian GRU policemen In his words, there are "basically sensible ground to believe she may hang on for a couple of even more days up until we have a much better understanding of potential customers for her swap."

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/savchenkos-lawyer-novikov-says-nadia-on-drip-condition-critical/>

### **President Agramunt calls for release of PACE member Nadiya Savchenko, 18.04.2016**

"At the beginning of the April 2016 part-session, I have to reiterate once again my serious concerns about the situation of our member, Nadiya Savchenko, who remains in detention in the Russian Federation. I deplore her continued detention and call once again for her release, including in line with the provisions of the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Council of Europe, and Russia's commitments under the Minsk agreements," the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Pedro Agramunt, said today. "This is especially important in the light of reports about her continuing hunger strike and her deteriorating health condition. I urge the Russian authorities to take the necessary steps in order to address – urgently – this humanitarian issue, including in the context of a possible prisoner exchange with the Ukrainian authorities" he stressed.

<http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/News/News-View-EN.asp?newsid=6106&lang=2&cat=15>

### **SAVCHENKO REQUIRES CONVENTION ON TRANSFER OF SENTENCED PERSONS BE APPLIED TO HER, 18.04.2016**

In her letter Savchenko asked to be transferred to Ukraine within the framework of the Council of Europe Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons of 1983.

The appeal is dated April 7. Petrenko said he would do everything possible under international conventions to return Savchenko home.

<http://x-news.com.ua/savchenko-requires-convention-on-transfer-of-sentenced-persons-be-applied-to-her-131972/>

### **Savchenko stops full hunger strike – Poroshenko, 19.04.2016**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has had a telephone conversation with Ukrainian military aviator Nadia Savchenko, who is being held at a Russian detention facility after a Russian court convicted her to a lengthy prison sentence, and asked her to stop her hunger strike, which he says she agreed to do. "I have called Nadia Savchenko and personally offered her my words of support. We will be doing all we can for Nadia's liberation. Together with Nadia Savchenko's mom, Maria Ivanivna, and her sister Vira, I asked Nadia to stop her hunger strike. Thank her for agreeing," Poroshenko said. <http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/338648.html>

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/up-to-date-news-on-the-health-of-ukrainian-pilot-illegally-imprisoned-and-convicted-in-russia-629792.html>

<http://www.kyivpost.com/article/content/ukraine-politics/unian-ukrainian-consuls-visiting-savchenko-lawyer-412301.html>

### **Ukrainian justice minister: All measures being taken to return Savchenko home, 19.04.2016**

Ukraine is taking all possible measures to return Nadia Savchenko home, Ukrainian Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko says: "All diplomatic, legal, and political measures are being taken so that Nadia Savchenko should be returned to Ukraine," Petrenko said at a news briefing in Kyiv.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/338657.html>

### **Federation Council speaker: Russia has political will for Savchenko exchange, 20.04.2016**

Russian Federation Council Speaker Valentina Matviyenko said: "The discussion is underway on the legal formula of possible exchange. I do not rule it out, every opportunity to save the lives of our citizens should be used," Matviyenko said. "Political will is needed on both sides for this to happen, and there is political will on our side," she added. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said that he agreed an "algorithm of freeing" former Ukrainian pilot Nadezhda Savchenko by exchanging her for Russian nationals Alexander Alexandrov and Yevgeny Yerofeyev in a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Commenting on Poroshenko's statement, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Tuesday that "Russia will act in strict accordance with national legislature" in this case. "Only the president can make a decision on this. I cannot say which (decision he will make)," Peskov noted.

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/871301>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/339358.html>

<http://en.reporter-ua.ru/ukraine-is-considering-the-mechanisms-for-the-return-of-savchenko-the-request-for-the-issuance-of-grushnikov-the-ministry-of-justice-has-not-received.html>

<http://www.technewscoverage.com/news/savchenko-to-be-swapped-for-russian-gru-officers-by-late-may-media.html>

### **Savchenko's case may be appealed in ECHR – lawyer, 26.04.2016**

Feygin tweets: "I would like to let you know that currently I am negotiating with my British colleague Ben Emerson on submitting a joint petition regarding Savchenko's case to the ECHR." He added that another Savchenko's lawyer Nikolai Polozov will visit her in prison one of these days.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/savchenko-s-case-may-be-appealed-in-european-court-of-human-rights-lawyer-638160.html>

<http://www.euronews.com/2016/04/27/savchenko-extradition-is-underway-lawyers/>

### **Russian authorities attempt to detain Nadia Savchenko's sister in Moscow, 27.04.2016**

"Russian authorities detain Vira Savchenko. Our Emb in Moscow as well as consul on the ground are functioning to release her," Dmytro Kuleba tweeted. "I really hope the apprehension of Vira Savchenko does not indicate Russia is taking a brand-new captive as well as we will not need to use #FreeSavchenko to both siblings," he included. "She is currently resting in a polite vehicle along with the [Ukrainian] consul. The automobile has actually been obstructed. We really hope that the Russian side will not cross the red line," the ministry composed.

<http://journalfocus.com/2016/04/russian-authorities-attempt-to-detain-nadia-savchenkos-sister-in-moscow/>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1332666-vira-savchenko-not-allowed-to-return-to-ukraine-at-ukraines-consulate-now.html>

## **National Minorities**

### **35 Crimean Tatars detained in Russian-occupied Crimea, 02.04.2016**

On April 2 police detained 35 Crimean Tatars in the Crimean village of Pionerske, according to Radio Liberty. They were in the coffee shop "Baghdad" at the time.

All detainees were taken to the Department for Countering Extremism for 'preventive reasons'. According to Crimean lawyer Emil Kurbedinov persons of Slavic appearance, who were at the coffee shop, were immediately released. The Crimean Tatars were released after samples for DNA analysis and fingerprints had been taken. No official reports or comments about the incident were made by the occupying authorities on the peninsula.

<http://uatoday.tv/society/35-crimean-tatars-detained-in-russian-occupied-crimea-623253.html>

### **Crimean court bans Tatar Majlis, 26.04.2016**

Crimea's Supreme Court on April 26 designated the Crimean Tatar Majlis as an extremist entity and banned its activity in Russia, ruling in favor of a lawsuit filed by Crimean Prosecutor Natalia Poklonskaya, an Interfax correspondent has reported.

Crimean Supreme Court Judge Natalia Terentyeva ruled that "the entity called the 'Majlis of the Crimean Tatar People' be designated an extremist organization and its activity be banned."

The court's ruling can be appealed within a month.

[http://rbth.com/news/2016/04/26/crimean-court-bans-tatar-majlis\\_588323](http://rbth.com/news/2016/04/26/crimean-court-bans-tatar-majlis_588323)

## Mass Media

### **SBU DEPORTS RUSSIA'S FIRST CHANNEL JOURNALIST FOR ANTI-UKRAINIAN ACTIVITY, 01.07.2015**

Cherepnina will be denied entry to Ukraine for the next three years, according to the SBU press service. The SBU officials add that the journalist has been filming anti-Ukrainian videos and even used schoolchildren in her clips.

<http://x-news.com.ua/sbu-deports-russias-first-channel-journalist-for-anti-ukrainian-activity-42492/>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/336229.html?>

### **Kremlin says no new comments on Savchenko's possible swap, 07.04.2016**

"I have nothing to add to what I have already said on this issue," Russian presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters. Ukraine's Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko said earlier that "the political talks continue" on Savchenko's fate. Peskov refused to comment on the statement. Savchenko's lawyers say that the Ukrainian authorities are taking efforts to have her transferred to Ukraine. Russia's justice ministry said on Wednesday it has not yet received a request from the Ukrainian side on handing over Savchenko to Kiev.

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/868020>

## Ukraine Worldwide

### **Kremlin propagandists spotted in anti-Ukrainian campaign in Netherlands, 01.04.2016**

According to the report, many Russian propaganda theses can be heard at such events, in particular, that Ukraine is integrated into the EU against its will, about "a coup d'etat" during Maidan events, about the need to respect the interests of Russia. Another propagandist mantra is that the Netherlands will "save the EU from Putin's anger" if the Dutch stall the Association Agreement with Ukraine. Another propagandist, Polish citizen Tomasz Maciejczuk, nicknamed by the Ukrainian community in the Netherlands "the Russian Embassy's in-house provocateur," has also been seen in anti-Ukrainian events. Maciejczuk goes from one to another panel discussion, calls himself a journalist but he does not name his media outlet, and accuses Ukraine of oppressing Russian-speaking people and those who disagree with the Ukrainian authorities.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1308917-kremlin-propagandists-spotted-in-anti-ukrainian-campaign-in-netherlands.html>