



Monitoring of Xenophobia and Extremism in Ukraine June 2014

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Introduction

As one would expect, June 2014 was rich in events in Ukraine. Unfortunately, most of them were far from positive.

An official inauguration of the elected president Poroshenko, which was attended by 60 official foreign delegations, including 23 heads of states, governments, parliaments and heads of international organizations, as well as representatives of the diplomatic corps accredited in Ukraine, took place in Kiev.

Even before the inauguration Peter Poroshenko met with world leaders in Europe, which demonstrated the international recognition of the choice of Ukrainian people.

At the same time, there were endless gas negotiations with the Russian Federation with the participation of EU representatives, which ended in mutual accusations, the pathetic rhetoric and claims to the international court from both sides. As a result, Ukraine is looking for alternative sources of gas and concern regarding the coming heating season is increasing in the country. Constantly calls to introduce the state of emergency in the energy sector are proclaimed.

All of the above happened against the background of continuing military operations in the east along with the capture of hostages, killing of journalists, the flow of refugees to Russia and other regions of Ukraine and infinite anti-Ukrainian propaganda from the Russian side ... As a result pogrom of the Russian Embassy in Kiev, rallies near the Russian consulates in other cities.

10-day cease-fire and negotiations with representatives of the country's east, with the participation of the second President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma, initiated by President Poroshenko also failed, since the cease-fire took place only on the Ukrainian side, and

militants continued to shot down Ukrainian planes, to attack the Ukrainian roadblocks and border checkpoints and terrorized the civilians... They did not put down their arms... In the end of the month a historic event happened for the country - the signing of the economic part of the association with the EU.

Late at night on June 30 Peter Poroshenko, despite the appeal of leaders of Russia and the EU, decided to resume ATO. The truce ended, an active phase of the operation began.

Prognosis

Situation in Donbas may hamper visa free regime - expert, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. Military actions in Donbas may hamper introduction of the visa free regime with the EU, since Ukraine will be accepted there as the country of origin of a great number of refugees.

Scientific Director of the Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Oleksandr Sushko told a round table at Ukrinform: "Second chance for Ukraine: could Ukrainians travel to the EU without visas by 2016."

"At the beginning of the 1990ies, Yugoslavia was the only post-Soviet country, having a visa free regime with Western European countries. It lost the visa free regime due to the war. We must understand: if over a year we fail to solve the war issue (in the east - Ed.), there are great challenges - there will be serious arguments against introduction of the visa free regime with the EU," Sushko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/situation_in_donbas_may_hamper visa_free_regime_expert_322403

Fesenko: If terrorists are not destroyed, they will go to Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. A unilateral ceasefire by the Ukrainian security forces in Donbas would only exacerbate the conflict.

Such a belief is expressed by political scientist, Chairman of the Board of the Center for Applied Political Studies Penta Volodymyr Fesenko on air of the program Shuster Live on Tuesday.

"Now I can tell you what will be the outcome of a unilateral ceasefire: the Ukrainian military will be shelled. Attacks will be on the Ukrainian military: from Sloviansk they will go to Iuzium, then to Kharkiv, then to Berdiansk and Odesa. This will be inevitable. No unilateral ceasefire will help, it will only aggravate the conflict. Moreover, it will be regarded as a sign of weakness," the expert said, commenting on the appeal of people's deputy Nestor Shufrych about the unilateral ceasefire by Ukrainian law enforcers.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/fesenko_if_terrorists_are_not_destroyed_they_will_go_to_kharkiv_zaporizhzhia_322369

Most Ukrainians want early parliamentary elections this year, poll finds, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Nearly 70 percent of Ukrainians believe that early parliamentary elections should be held this year, Iryna Bekeshkina, the director at Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation (DIF), said at a press conference citing the findings of a survey conducted by the think tank.

"Nearly 70 percent of citizens believe that early elections should be held this year, and this point of view prevails in all regions, among the supporters of all political forces," Bekeshkina said.

The survey found that a total of 69% of Ukrainians want early parliamentary elections before the end of the year. In western regions there are 82% of supporters of this idea, in central regions - 71%, in southern - 69%, in eastern - 73%, in Donbas - 49%, and 30% oppose the elections. Moreover, if such elections are held, 49% of Donbas residents intend to go to the polls.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/most_ukrainians_want_early_parliamentary_elections_this_year_poll_finds_322462

Attitude of Russians to Poroshenko: from distrust to hate, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. New Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko enjoys the sympathy of only 1% of Russians. Another 2% of respondents feel trust in him and the same percentage feel hope.

These are the results of a survey conducted by the All-Russian Public Opinion Research Center (VTsIOM).

"Only some people feel towards Petro Poroshenko trust (2%), hope (2%), and sympathy (1%)," reads the survey.

Poroshenko, first and foremost, causes distrust among Russians - 29% of respondents. One in five respondents (22%) said that they are completely indifferent to the personality of the new Ukrainian president. Others feel aversion to him (19%) and even condemn him (17%). One in ten respondents is disappointed (11%) in him or is skeptical (10%) about him. And 7% of respondents said that they feel hatred towards Poroshenko.

Some 43% of Russians believe that Poroshenko, first and foremost, represents the interests of the United States and the EU, and 37% believe that he is lobbying the interests of big business. According to one in five respondents (21%), the Ukrainian president is close to nationalists and Bandera supporters. Another 17% of those polled believe that Poroshenko is interested only in his own interests. Some respondents think that he represents intelligence services (12%).

Six percent of respondents believe that the president represents the western and central regions of Ukraine. Only 2% of respondents suggested that the new president defends the positions of residents in eastern and southern Ukraine, and only 1% think that he represents the interests of all Ukrainians.

The all-Russian poll was conducted on May 31 through June 1, 2014. A total of 1,600 people were interviewed in 130 communities in 42 regions of Russia. The statistical margin of error does not exceed 3.4%.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/attitude_of_russians_to_poroshenko_from_distrust_to_hate_322545

Gazprom delaying talks to discredit Ukraine - expert, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The Russian side is interested to disrupt gas negotiations and to arrange a gas blockade for Ukraine.

Energy expert, head of the Committee of Ukraine's energy independence Ivan Nadein expressed this opinion to Ukrinform.

"The talks can succeed only if the two sides want to negotiate. It is not the case with Russia, the goal of Gazprom is to bring the situation to the point of absurdity, to discredit Ukraine as a transit country and drag the EU to its side and then no choice will be left for us. Either we play with Russia on its terms, or stay on a starvation gas ration, that's what they want," Nadein said.

Just this, according to him, can explain the behavior of the Russian delegation at the talks, their constant delays, the so-called technical transfers and other methods.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_delaying_talks_to_discredit_ukraine_expert_322738

Statements of Officials

Putin suffers defeat in Ukraine, Romanian expert says, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Cristian Ghinea, Director of the Romanian Center for European Policies (CRPE), believes that Putin has suffered defeat in Ukraine, as he underestimated it as a state.

The expert said this in an interview with the Romanian edition ziare.com (ziare.com/international/ucraina/ucraina-dincolo-de-propagada-ruseasca-putin-a-pierdut-se-naste-o-natiune-interviu-1300580) after his visit to Kyiv and Chisinau, Ukrinform's correspondent in Moldova reported.

"If we carefully analyze the Ukrainian events, we can say with confidence that in Ukraine Putin has suffered defeat because he underestimated it as a state and not fully realized that Ukraine is not Russia," Ghinea said.

Speaking about the patriotism of the Ukrainian people, the expert emphasized that it was Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine that played, paradoxically, an important role in uniting Ukrainians and "Putin today practically promotes the formation of a strong Ukrainian nation."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_suffers_defeat_in_ukraine_romanian_expert_says_322263

Kadyrov ready to send tens of thousands of Chechens to Ukraine, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov said he is ready to send 74,000 residents of Chechnya to Ukraine to "put things in order" there if there is such order.

He told this to the Russian TV channel Ren TV in an interview.

When asked about the Chechens in Donetsk region, Kadyrov said that according to his information, in eastern Ukraine there were really 14 Chechens. "I was interested.

Whether from the Yug battalion, or Vostok. One was killed - a young man was killed by shrapnel near the airport," he said, adding: "Yes, if I sent, it would not be 14 people, and not to Donetsk Why Donetsk, if the enemies are now in Kyiv."

Kadyrov assured that the Chechen authorities hinder volunteers who would like to go to Ukraine. "If we did not hold them, there would not be 14, but 4,000. The war for Chechens is in blood. They like it. I myself love this thing. And I can kill you, but I don't think about it," Kadyrov confessed, according to the RBC - Russia.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/kadyrov_ready_to_send_tens_of_thousands_of_chechens_to_ukraine_322273

PGO: Russia's actions bear marks of supporting international terrorism, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Supporting illegal armed groups in Ukraine by Russian high-ranking officials bears the marks of supporting international terrorism, reads a statement made by the Ukrainian Prosecutor General's Office (PGO) regarding a criminal case opened by Russia's Investigative Committee against the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

"The Russian side's appeals to the rules of international humanitarian law is surprising given the inaction of Russian officials, who are actually contributing to the smooth penetration of illegal armed groups into the territory of Ukraine through the border.

These actions may have signs of supporting international terrorism," the PGO said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/pgo_russias_actions_bear_marks_of_supporting_international_terrorism_322275

Russia wants to close sky over Donbas, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Head of the Russian Communist Party Gennady Zyuganov proposes via the UN Security Council to introduce a no-fly zone over Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine.

He told this to reporters on Monday in Moscow, Ukrinform's correspondent in Russia reported.

"We believe that the United Nations Security Council has already taken a decision on the no-fly zone, and with the participation of Russia. We have every right as a member of the Security Council to declare a no-fly zone over the territory [Luhansk and Donetsk regions - ed.] and help ensure that any military object, which will appear over the territory, is eliminated," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_wants_to_close_sky_over_donbas_322286

Putin not going to meet Poroshenko in Normandy, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin during his visit to France on June 6 to participate in the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of the Allied landings in Normandy has no plans to meet with newly elected president of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, Putin's spokesman, Dmitry Peskov, told reporters on Monday, according to RIA Novosti.

"This meeting is not scheduled," Peskov said.

However, he found it difficult to say whether Putin's meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama is possible.

As reported, British Prime Minister David Cameron on Friday during his visit to France is scheduled to meet Russian President Vladimir Putin to discuss the events in Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_not_going_to_meet_poroshenko_in_normandy_322292

Tsariov promises to harm Poroshenko from Crimea, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. MP Oleh Tsariov said that he is in Crimea and intends to continue fighting with the current government of Ukraine.

RIA Novosti informs.

"I am now in Crimea," Tsariov told RIA Novosti.

Answering the question of what he would do in this situation, the MP said: "Fighting with the current government. I'm not going to change my plans."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/tsariov_promises_to_harm_poroshenko_from_crimea_322324

Evacuation of Donetsk residents impossible - city mayor, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. It is impossible to currently evacuate the 1 million city, in which there are many children and pensioners.

City Mayor Oleksandr Lukianchenko appraised the situation today, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"Currently, it is actually impossible to evacuate 1 million citizens," the city mayor said. According to him, by some estimates, the regional center was left by 10,000-15,000 residents. At the same time, dozens of thousands of children, schoolchildren are still in the city. 23,000 schoolchildren are at school summer camps, 24,000 kids attend kindergartens. School graduates are being prepared for the independent external testing. In Donetsk, there are also 270,000 pensioners, many of them are chairbound. The mayor also noted that there are no places, where this number of people could be removed. He called not to think about the evacuation and opening various "humanitarian corridors," but to stop the war and search for the ways of peaceful settlement of the conflict.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/evacuation_of_donetsk_residents_impossible_city_mayor_322326

"Russians steal gas" - Yatseniuk, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Russia stole more than 2 billion cu m of gas from Ukraine, which is in Crimea.

Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said in his speech in the Verkhovna Rada, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"Do you remember discussions of 2005, when the Russian Federation said that Ukraine allegedly steals gas from Russia. Now I can safely say: Russians steal gas! They

stole the territory from us, they stole Chornomornaftogaz from us, they stole 2.2 billion cu m of gas, which is now in Crimea. So, who is stealing?" Yatseniuk said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russians_steal_gas_yatseniuk_322330

EU leaders congratulate Poroshenko on his election, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Heads of the EU governing bodies congratulated Petro Poroshenko on his election as President of Ukraine, reads a message of congratulations of European Council President Herman Van Rompuy and European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso <

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/143025.pdf>.

"On behalf of the European Union, we would like to congratulate you on your election as President of Ukraine. The conduct and the outcome of the elections underlined the aspirations of the Ukrainian people to democracy and prosperity, unity and stability," the message reads.

Van Rompuy and Barroso said Ukraine is confronted with considerable challenges in the pursuit of such goals, not least in the field of security. "But today we want to express our confidence that, working together with the Ukrainian Government, and on the basis of an inclusive national dialogue, you will be able to carry forward the political reforms, including at constitutional level, and economic modernisation that your country is calling for," the statement said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_leaders_congratulate_poroshenko_on_his_election_322332

Ukraine calls on EU to block South Stream, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian government calls upon the European Union to block the construction of a joint with Russia gas pipeline South Stream, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said in the Verkhovna Rada on Tuesday.

"We believe that South Stream is a project aimed to increase Europe's energy dependence, remove Ukraine from a common energy policy with the EU, strengthen the position of the Russian Gazprom in Europe. Therefore, we call on the European Union to block South Stream," the head of government said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_calls_on_eu_to_block_south_stream_322337

Putin sees no Russian military in southeast Ukraine, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin again resorted to his cut-and-dried statements about the absence of the Russian military in the east of Ukraine.

He said in an interview to the French TV channel TF1 and the Radio station Europe1.

"There are neither military forces, nor Russian instructors in southeast Ukraine," the Russian President assured journalists, quoted by RIA Novosti.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_sees_no_russian_military_in_southeast_ukraine_322389

Obama says world should support Poroshenko, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. The international community should support the new president of Ukraine confronting separatists in the country's east, U.S. President Barack Obama said at a joint briefing with President-elect of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko in Warsaw on Wednesday.

"Ukraine has gone through a very challenging time. And what we have seen has been an incredible outpouring of democracy in the face of actions by Russia as well as armed militias in certain portions of the east who violate international law and international sovereignty," Obama said.

Obama said Poroshenko's election represented the rejection of violence and corruption by the people of Ukraine and called his election a "wise selection".

"We stand together because we believe that people and nations have the right to determine their own destiny - that includes the people of Ukraine," the U.S. leader noted.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/obama_says_world_should_support_poroshenko_322397

Rasmussen: NATO to offer comprehensive measures to reinforce Ukraine's defence capacity, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. NATO is finalizing the development of a comprehensive package of measures to promote reforms and strengthen the Ukrainian Armed Forces, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said after the NATO-Ukraine Commission meeting in Brussels on Wednesday, according to a Ukrinform correspondent in Belgium.

"Over the coming weeks we will complete the development of a long-term comprehensive package of measures for more effective implementation of reforms in Ukraine and strengthening of its armed forces," the Alliance chief said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/rasmussen_nato_to_offer_comprehensive_measures_to_reinforce_ukraines_defence_capacity_322393

US committed to help Ukrainians to build thriving, vital democracy – Obama, 04.06.2014

U.S. President Barack Obama and President-Elect of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko discussed the future plans of new president during their meeting in Warsaw.

"In my discussions with him today it's clear that he understands the aspirations and the hopes of the Ukrainian people. And when I say the Ukrainian people, I mean all of the Ukrainian people," Obama said following the meeting with Poroshenko on Wednesday.

According to Obama, at the meeting the presidents discussed further plans of Poroshenko for bringing order to the east, economic plans and the importance of rooting out corruption.

"We discussed issues of energy, making sure that Ukraine becomes a more energy-efficient economy, but also one that is less dependent, solely on energy sources from Russia, and I have been deeply impressed by his vision, and partly because of his experience as a businessman in understanding what is required to help Ukraine grow, and to be effective," the U.S. president said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207953.html>

Komorowski: Independent Ukraine important for Poland's security, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. An independent and West-oriented Ukraine is an important element for the security of Poland, Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski said on Wednesday during a joint meeting of the Sejm and Senate of Poland, according to Ukrinform's Warsaw correspondent.

"Independence, development and orientation to the West of our important neighbor, which Ukraine is and will remain, are of great importance for Poland's security," Komorowski said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/komorowski_independent_ukraine_important_for_polands_security_322422

Poroshenko vows to present peace plan for southeastern Ukraine immediately after inauguration, 04.06.2014

Ukrainian President-elect Petro Poroshenko vows to present a plan for the peaceful settlement of the situation in the southeastern part of Ukraine immediately after his presidential inauguration.

"From the very beginning, from the first day of the inauguration, we are ready to present a plan for the peaceful resolution of the situation in the east," Poroshenko told

journalists following a meeting with U.S. President Barack Obama on Wednesday.
<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207929.html>

Putin not averse to meeting with Poroshenko in Normandy, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. A meeting with President-elect of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko may take place at the celebrations in Normandy, France, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in an interview with the French television channel TF1 and Europe 1 radio station, foreign media reported.

"Putin is ready to talk to Poroshenko in Normandy," the report says.

Asked by a French reporter whether Putin will be working with Poroshenko, if he would be "under the influence of the U.S.", the Russian president said: "He can be influenced by anyone. People voted for him, and it's his choice how to build his policies."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_not_averse_to_meeting_with_poroshenko_in_normandy_322426

Queen Elizabeth II supports united Ukraine, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Britain's Queen Elizabeth II has expressed support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

The Queen said this in her annual speech during the State Opening of Parliament in the House of Lords at the Palace of Westminster on June 4, 2014 in London.

"My Lords and members of the House of Commons!

The United Kingdom will work for peace and security on Europe's borders, and for stable relations between Russia and Ukraine based on respect for national sovereignty, territorial integrity and international law.

My government will host the NATO summit in Wales as a sign of the United Kingdom's commitment to the alliance."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/queen_elizabeth_ii_supports_united_ukraine_322431

Kerry privately urges Poroshenko to provide evidence of Kremlin involvement with separatists in Ukraine's east, 05.06.2014

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry in a private talk with Ukrainian President-Elect Petro Poroshenko urged him to provide evidence of Russian involvement with separatists in the east of Ukraine, The New York Times reported on Thursday.

According to the newspaper, Kerry asked Poroshenko for the information so as "to know what to confront Russian officials with."

As reported, on Wednesday Poroshenko met with Kerry and U.S. President Barack Obama in the Polish capital Warsaw.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208027.html>

Merkel says won't hesitate to toughen Russia sanctions if it won't help to defuse crisis in Ukraine, 05.06.2014

German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she would not hesitate to impose economic sanctions on Russia if the situation in Ukraine were further destabilized, urging President Vladimir Putin to help by using his influence on pro-Russian separatists.

"It is decisive that President Putin to use his influence to get the separatists to refrain from violence and intimidation, hand over their weapons and stop the occupations," she said in a speech in parliament ahead of G7 summit. "If this doesn't happen ... we won't shrink from imposing further sanctions," Associated Press cited Merkel as saying.

Merkel called in a speech to parliament for stiffer border controls by Russia to stop fighters or weapons crossing into Ukraine.

She stressed, however, that the punitive measures were not "ends in themselves".

"We don't want them [sanctions], we want a close partnership with Russia. But if they were to be unavoidable then we will decide them unanimously," the German chancellor stressed.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207985.html>

We will know about imposing martial law in Donbas Friday, official says, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. On the instruction of Acting President, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Oleksandr Turchynov, NSDC Secretary Andriy Parubiy, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, acting Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval, as well as Chairman of the State Border Service Mykola Lytvyn have to prepare their positions on imposing of martial law in the east of Ukraine by June 6.

Acting Head of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine Serhiy Pashynsky told reporters during a final briefing, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"Today, Acting President Oleksandr Turchynov instructed NSDC Secretary, Interior Minister, Defense Minister and Chairman of the State Border Service by Friday to prepare their position on the introduction of martial law in this area," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/we_will_know_about_imposing_martial_law_in_donbas_friday_official_says322450

Zurabov to represent Russia at Poroshenko's inauguration, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Russia at the inauguration of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko on June 7 will be represented by Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman Aleksandr Lukashevich told a press briefing on Thursday in Moscow.

"Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov will participate in the inauguration of the new President of Ukraine," he said.

According to Lukashevich, Russia returns Zurabov to Kyiv to perform his functions as Russia's ambassador to Ukraine.

"He is returning to Kyiv to continue the performance of his functions," the Russian diplomat said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/zurabov_to_represent_russia_at_poroshenkos_inauguration_322454

Turchynov will instruct authorities to check Yefremov, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Acting President, Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Oleksandr Turchynov required verifying information that Party of Regions leader Oleksandr Yefremov ordered Luhansk airport management to prevent the landing of Ukrainian military.

Turchynov said from the parliament presidium, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"I will instruct the relevant authorities to check Yefremov's involvement in the situation," Turchynov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/turchynov_will_instruct_authorities_to_check_yefremov_322456

Global donors to discuss aid to Ukraine next month, Barroso says, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. A meeting of the high-level donor coordination group for assistance to Ukraine will be held next month in Brussels, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said after the G7 Summit in Brussels on Thursday, Ukrinform's Belgium correspondent reported.

He said G7 took the following concrete step: the European Commission will host a meeting of the high level donor coordination group next month in Brussels to help Ukraine overcome the economic difficulties and carry out reforms.

He added that Russia should also fully recognize the new leadership of Ukraine, in particular President-elect Petro Poroshenko, and start cooperation with them.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/global_donors_to_discuss_aid_to_ukraine_next_month_barroso_says_322468

PM Yatseniuk vows Donbas to be freed from terrorists, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Donetsk and Luhansk regions will be freed from Russia-paid terrorists, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said in the Verkhovna Rada on Friday while

reporting on his Cabinet's 100 days in office.

"Ukraine will get rid of terrorists. We will liberate Donetsk and Luhansk from those who infringe the future. Banditry and terrorism, sponsored by Russia, will be destroyed," the head of government assured.

According to him, Ukraine over 100 days under the new government still managed to resist, despite the Russian aggression: "Russia embarked on this war, annexed the Ukrainian territory - namely, Crimea. Having not stopped at Crimea, they try to go further. Everything that is happening in Donetsk and Luhansk is the Russian military intervention."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/pm_yatseniuk_vows_donbas_to_be_freed_from_terrorists_322492

Ukraine avoids default, Yatseniuk says, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian government has managed to avoid bankruptcy of the state, Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said this in the Verkhovna Rada in his report on the first 100 days of his Cabinet of Ministers.

"We have managed to avoid a default, or more simply - the bankruptcy of the state. All social payments, all pensions and wages, all social standards under the applicable law, the state budget, are paid," the Governmental portal quoted Yatseniuk as saying.

The prime minister recalled that Ukraine has received financial assistance from Western partners, in particular, renewed cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, received assistance from the World Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the governments of the United States, Canada, Japan, a macro-financial assistance from the European Union.

"It has enabled Ukraine to continue to pay people, not to declare a default and not to fall into an economic abyss, from which we have to go out not for years but decades," Yatseniuk said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_avoids_default_yatseniuk_says_322500

Merkel, Putin discuss Ukraine, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Russian President Vladimir Putin at a meeting on Friday in Deauville, France, discussed the situation in Ukraine, German government spokesman Steffen Seibert told reporters.

"German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Russian President Vladimir Putin during a meeting on Friday in Deauville discussed the situation in Ukraine," he said.

According to him, the head of the German government "expressed her belief that after the internationally recognized presidential elections in Ukraine it is necessary to use time to achieve stabilization in the east of the country." Russia, however, Merkel said, "should realize its great responsibility" in the process of normalization of the situation in Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/merkel_putin_discuss_ukraine_322502

Belarus leader says he is ready to cooperate with Ukraine's new president, 06.06.2014

Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko has announced his readiness to cooperate with the new Ukrainian leadership.

Lukashenko's press service told Interfax that the Belarusian leader had made this statement on Thursday during a meeting with Valentina Matviyenko, speaker of the Federation Council, the upper chamber of Russia's parliament, and the heads of Russian regions attending the first regional forum of Belarus and Russia.

"A new president has been elected in Ukraine. I believe we will cooperate with the new president and the new authorities because our people live there. These people are just like us - these people, who are kind and hardworking, have simply found themselves in such a situation," he said.

"Certainly, we can say that we have nothing to do with them, but people will only suffer more in this case," Lukashenko said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208213.html>

Ukraine's course to Europe is irreversible, says Ukrainian prime minister, 06.06.2014

Ukraine's course to integrate with the European Union is irreversible, Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has said.

"Our course to Europe is irreversible. Yes, the political, economic, legislative and democratic [course], as Ukraine is a European state in its principles," he said speaking in the parliament on Friday with a report on 100 days of the work of the Ukrainian government.

The premier said that the economic part of the Association Agreement with the EU is to be signed as soon as possible.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208241.html>

Donetsk militants holding over 200 citizens of different countries hostage - Donetsk Regional Administration head, 06.06.2014

More than 200 people, who are citizens of various countries, are currently held by unlawful armed groups in Donetsk region, says Serhiy Taruta, the head of Donetsk Regional Administration.

"The negotiations are currently focused on releasing the hostages," Donetsk Regional Administration quoted Taruta as saying on Friday.

Donetsk Mayor Oleksandr Lukianchenko is representing the authorities at the negotiations, he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208321.html>

Poroshenko: I came in peace, I don't want revenge, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President Petro Poroshenko offers a plan of peaceful settlement in the east of Ukraine.

He said this in his inaugural speech in the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday, according to Ukrinform.

"I do not want war, I do not want revenge. Although I see great sacrifices made by the Ukrainian people. I want peace and I will achieve unity of Ukraine. So I begin with a peaceful plan proposal. I strongly encourage anyone who illegally took up arms to put them down. In response I guarantee, first, exemption from criminal responsibility of those whose hands are not in blood of Ukrainian soldiers and civilians, and those who are not involved in the financing of terrorism. Secondly – a controlled corridor for Russian mercenaries who want to return home. Third – a peaceful dialogue," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_i_came_in_peace_i_dont_want_revenge_322516

Poroshenko promises elections, Russian language, jobs in Donbas, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko said he is ready to declare early elections in Donbas to form legitimate local authorities.

The head of state said this in the inaugural speech in the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday, according to Ukrinform.

"Today we need a legitimate partner for dialogue. We will not negotiate with bandits. And we are ready to declare early local elections in Donbas to form partners for dialogue," the president said.

Poroshenko also announced his intention to pay a visit to Donbas soon for dialogue with its citizens.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_promises_elections_russian_language_jobs_in_donbas_322517

Poroshenko vows to strengthen Ukraine's unity, 07.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko says the preservation of Ukraine's unity is the main goal of his presidency.

"I am taking up the presidential office to preserve and strengthen Ukraine's unity," Poroshenko said in his inaugural speech at the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday.

Poroshenko started his speech with the words "Glory to Ukraine!"

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208379.html>

Poroshenko: Ukraine will remain unitary country, 07.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko says Ukraine has been and will remain to be a unitary state.

"Dreams about federalization have no grounds in Ukraine," Poroshenko said in his inaugural speech at the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208381.html>

Poroshenko: Ukrainian must be the only official language in Ukraine, 07.06.2014

The Ukrainian language will remain the only official language in Ukraine, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said.

"Living in a new way means that you cannot ignore the people's will, and living freely means speaking freely in the native language and being guided by Article 10 of the Constitution, which stipulates that the Ukrainian language is the only official language, which guarantees free development of the Russian and other languages," Poroshenko said in his inaugural speech at the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208382.html>

Lukashenko: Ukraine will be united, integral, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko believes that Ukraine should start negotiations with Russia.

The Belarusian leader told this to reporters after the inauguration, according to Ukrinform.

"Ukraine should agree with everyone - and also Russia. Because so our lives are today," Lukashenko said.

Lukashenko believes that currently it is primarily important that Ukrainians come out of the crisis: "so that my dear people get out of this situation." He expressed the belief that the situation in Ukraine is not catastrophic – it's rather heated up.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/lukashenko_ukraine_will_be_united_integral_322518

Poroshenko: Crimea belongs to Ukraine. That's that, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. Crimea is and will be Ukrainian, and in this regard there can be no compromise, President Petro Poroshenko said in his inaugural speech on Saturday.

"Russia invaded Crimea, which was, is and will be Ukrainian. Yesterday during a meeting in Normandy I just told President Putin - Crimea is Ukrainian. And that's that," the head of state said.

According to him, "there can be no compromise with anyone in matters of Crimea, and the European choice of the government system. And everything else should be discussed and resolved at the negotiating table."

At the same time, the president emphasized: "Any attempt of external and internal enslavement of Ukrainians see and will see the most resolute rebuff."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_crimea_belongs_to_ukraine_thats_that_322519

Grybauskaite says dialogue needed in Ukraine, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaite urges to seek a way

out of the situation in Ukraine through dialogue and listen to the eastern regions. She told this to reporters after Poroshenko's inauguration.

"War is not an option. All problems should be solved through dialogue at the table. The main thing is to hear, including the eastern regions, they too have a right to their individuality," Grybauskaite said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/grybauskaite_says_dialogue_needed_in_ukraine_322520

Poroshenko wants to replace Budapest Memorandum, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President Petro Poroshenko promised to make every effort to sign an international agreement that would replace the Budapest Memorandum.

He said this in his inaugural speech in the Verkhovna Rada.

"I will use my diplomatic skills to ensure the signing of an international treaty, which would replace the Budapest Memorandum," the head of state said.

He added that such a treaty should provide direct and reliable guarantee of peace and security – up to the military support in case of threat to territorial integrity.

"Any aggressor at the Ukrainian border must remember the wisdom of the Gospel: those that come with a sword, shall die from the sword!" the president noted.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_wants_to_replace_budapest_memorandum_322521

Poroshenko ready to sign association deal soon, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko is ready to sign the economic part of the Association Agreement with the European Union soon.

He said this in his inauguration speech in the Verkhovna Rada on Saturday, according to Ukrinform.

"What we need to do specifically to live freely, live comfortably, live in peace and security? It's all written in the agreement on political association and free trade area with the European Union. Together we have made efforts to prepare this document. I am dreaming now to implement it, and for this we need to sign the economic part of the agreement as soon as possible. My pen is already in hand, and once the EU decides, the signature by the Ukrainian President will immediately appear under this momentous document. We have no right to delay the signing of the economic part of the agreement," Poroshenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_ready_to_sign_association_deal_soon_322522

Poroshenko vows to hold early parliamentary elections, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko promised to hold early parliamentary elections because the parliament does not meet the moods in society.

"Let's be frank. The present composition of this honourable assembly does not meet the moods of society. Because it has substantially changed since 2012," the head of state said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_vows_to_hold_early_parliamentary_elections_322523

NATO believes Poroshenko to stabilize Ukraine, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko will insure stabilisation of the country and the inclusive political dialogue, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said in a statement on Saturday.

"I am confident that President Poroshenko's leadership will contribute to the stabilisation of the country, building on the inclusive political dialogue launched ahead of the elections. NATO remains committed to supporting Ukraine in its wide-ranging reforms within the framework of the NATO-Ukraine Commission," Rasmussen said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nato_believes_poroshenko_to_stabilize_ukraine_322525

EU supports Ukraine, Poroshenko – Rompuy, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. The European Union reiterates its support to Ukraine's new President Petro Poroshenko and the country in its modernization and democratization, President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy said in his statement on Poroshenko's inauguration.

"In attending the inauguration of President Poroshenko in Kiev, I wish to reiterate the European Union's continued support and commitment to Ukraine," Rompuy said.

"The European Union will be at Ukraine's side and remains ready to work with those that share these objectives of democracy, prosperity and stability," the European Council President emphasized.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_supports_ukraine_poroshenko_rompuy_322526

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208421.html>

Poroshenko wants to stop fighting in eastern Ukraine this week, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is determined to stop the fighting in eastern Ukraine this week.

He said this at a meeting of the trilateral contact group on the implementation of a peace plan for eastern Ukraine, the press service of the head of state reported.

"We have to stop the fire this week. For me every day when people are dying and every day when Ukraine is paying such a high price is unacceptable. So, first, we need to resume the work of Ukraine's state border in order to ensure the safety of every citizen of Ukraine who lives in the Donbas, regardless of his or her political preferences," Poroshenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_wants_to_stop_fighting_in_eastern_ukraine_this_week_322529

NATO not to recognize annexation of Crimea - Rasmussen, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. NATO will not recognize the annexation of Crimea and considers it illegitimate.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said this in an exclusive interview with TSN. Tyzhden (Television News Service. Week).

We will not recognize the annexation of Crimea, he said. It's illegal, illegitimate annexation, he added. For the first time since the Second World War we have seen a European country that grabs land by force, he said. This dramatically changed the security situation in Europe, Rasmussen said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nato_not_to_recognize_annexation_of_crimea_rasmussen_322537

Avakov to send all Interior Ministry patrol units to eastern Ukraine, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov has decided to send for participation in the anti-terrorist operation all employees of the combat and patrol units of the Interior Ministry.

He wrote this on his page on Facebook.

"I have made the decision - all 100% of the combat and patrol units of the Interior Ministry will participate in the anti-terrorist operation. This not only a necessity, this is also a test of aptitude, true spirit and patriotism. The training of units in terms of real threats and challenges is a factor in creating a new police who society will trust," the minister said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/avakov_to_send_all_interior_ministry_patrol_units_to_eastern_ukraine_322541

EU now not ready to accept Ukraine - French Foreign Ministry, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius has said that Europe disagrees with a remark made by new Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko that the signing of an association agreement should be a first step towards Ukraine's full membership of the EU, Deutsche Welle has reported.

"EU countries do not share Poroshenko's idea that the Association Agreement with the EU will be the first step towards full membership, Fabius said on the evening of Saturday, June 7, live on French television channel i-Tele," reads the report.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_now_not_ready_to_accept_ukraine_french_foreign_ministry_322543

Minister explains why gas negotiations with Russia fail to bring any results, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. A mechanism for realization of a gas discount, proposed by the Russian side, is unacceptable for Ukraine. Therefore, the next round of tripartite negotiations with participation of the EU was inefficient.

The Segodnia newspaper informs, quoting Energy and Coal Industry Minister Yuriy Prodan.

"Actually, we remained at the level of June 2 agreements (the previous round of negotiations)," the Minister told journalists on a Tuesday night in Brussels, following the end of a seven-hour meeting.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/minister_explains_why_gas_negotiations_with_russia_fail_to_bring_any_results_322549

Gas talks between Ukraine and Russia again fruitless, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. The next round of Russian-Ukrainian gas talks involving the EU, which took place in Brussels, have ended without a final agreement reached.

European Energy Commissioner Gunther Oettinger said this after a seven-hour meeting.

"Our Ukrainian partners and our Russian partners have to speak with their governments and their heads of states, and they are meeting to discuss the situation. For they will meet us again maybe [on Tuesday] in the evening at nine o'clock, or maybe on Wednesday at nine o'clock in the morning," the Ukrainska Pravda online newspaper quoted him as saying.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gas_talks_between_ukraine_and_russia_again_fruitless_322551

Germany sees daylight in Ukrainian crisis, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier says about positive dynamics in the Ukrainian crisis and sees signals of improvement of the situation between Ukraine and Russia.

Deutsche Welle informs.

"A week light at the end of the tunnel started to be seen in the conflict in Ukraine," a statement by Steinmeier reads, published on the website of the German Foreign Ministry on Monday. "We are still not close to solving the Ukrainian crisis. However, after weeks and months of intensive diplomatic efforts, the parties in conflict finally directly communicate with each other."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/germany_sees_daylight_in_ukrainian_crisis_322559

Poroshenko: I am not very interested in what Putin thinks of my state, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that he do not care what Russian President Vladimir Putin thinks of Ukraine.

He said this in an interview with Time.

"To be honest, I'm not very interested in what Citizen Putin thinks of my state," Poroshenko said.

He said that if the Russian leader doubts Ukraine's right to exist within its current borders, the best way to convince him otherwise is to build a powerful army and a thriving economy.

"No one would allow himself to doubt the existence of small countries like Singapore, because when a country is strong, effective, comfortable, monolithic, such doubts would

never enter anyone's minds," Poroshenko said.

<http://time.com/2848477/exclusive-ukraines-president-seeks-understanding-with-russia/>
http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_i_am_not_very_interested_in_what_putin_thinks_of_my_state_322561

Acting Defense Minister: "All those, who dreamt about civil war, should forget about it", 10.06.2014

It is said in the congratulation of Koval to personnel of Armed Forces on election of new President of Ukraine - Supreme Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko. The text of congratulation is posted at the web site of the Defense Ministry.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/926960-acting-defense-minister-all-those-who-dreamt-about-civil-war-should-forget-about-it.html>

Poland urges Russia to stop sending terrorists to Ukraine, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. If Russia really supports the de-escalation of the conflict in east Ukraine, it must stop the influx of mercenaries and weapons across the Russian-Ukrainian border.

Polish Foreign Minister Radoslaw Sikorski said this in St. Petersburg on Tuesday after a trilateral meeting with the foreign ministers of Russia and Germany, a Ukrinform correspondent in Russia reported.

"We believe that if Russia wants to prove that they it supports the de-escalation of the situation in Ukraine, the best way to do this is to stop the influx of separatists and weapons across the Russian-Ukrainian border," he said.

Sikorski also denied Russian media reports that Poland allegedly trained fighters for the Maidan and sent mercenaries to eastern Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poland_urges_russia_to_stop_sending_terrorists_to_ukraine_322601

Russia speaks about dialogue with President Poroshenko, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Russia is ready to support a dialogue with participation of all regions of Ukraine for settlement of the crisis in the country and hopes that President Petro Poroshenko also "will act in this direction."

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told a press conference by results of negotiations with German and Polish counterparts Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Radoslaw Sikorski, the ITAR-TASS informs.

"We are convinced and our partners share such an approach that irrespective of different interpretations of what occurs in Ukraine today, it is necessary to concentrate on the immediate and unconditional cessation of bloodshed, ending the use of force and start a dialogue with all regions of Ukraine in order to agree on the future political structure of the country," the Russian minister said.

He assured that Russia supports the agreements, fixed in the Geneva Statement of April 17, and the Road Map, proposed by OSCE head Didier Burkhalter. "We hope that elected President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, who declared a task to stop the conflict and find an acceptable solution to the crisis, will act in this direction," Lavrov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_speaks_about_dialogue_with_president_poroshenko_322591

Russia not against Ukraine's association with Europe, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Russia will not mind if Ukraine completes the signing of an association agreement with the European Union.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said this at a press conference following an informal meeting with the foreign ministers of Poland and Germany, according to Interfax.

"We are not obsessed with 'the sanction itch' typical of some of our partners. We will not introduce sanctions against Ukraine and we will get back to a normal, most-favored nations trade regime," Lavrov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_not_against_ukraines_association_with_europe_322595

Interior Ministry: Ukraine's border with Russia to be closed, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine's border with Russia will be closed, and the search for the necessary methods and means is currently underway.

The Ukrainian interior minister's adviser, Anton Herashchenko, said this live on Channel 5.

"Different methods should be considered, but, of course, we will close the border immediately. For this purpose the necessary means and methods are being established," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/interior_ministry_ukraines_border_with_russia_to_be_closed_322603

Ukraine to avoid new gas trap from Kremlin - Yatseniuk, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Russia offered Ukraine a \$100 discount on gas, but Kyiv will not accept it and is demanding the revision of the gas contract.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said this at a Cabinet of Ministers meeting on Wednesday, Ukrinform reported.

"The Russians made us an offer to reduce the gas price by \$100, with the so-called 'discount.' I immediately want to officially state that we know these Russian traps: the discount is set by the decision of the Russian government and cancelled by the decision of the Russian government," Yatseniuk said.

He said that this is why "our proposal was, is and remains the same: changes to the contract."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_to_avoid_new_gas_trap_from_kremlin_yatseniuk_322612

Imposition of martial law in eastern Ukraine not on agenda now - acting defense minister, 11.06.2014

Acting Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval has said that the question of imposing martial law in the eastern regions of Ukraine is currently not on the agenda.

"Such a question is not on the agenda," he told reporters in Kyiv on Wednesday, when asked whether the subject of imposing martial law in the eastern regions of the country is relevant.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208770.html>

All participants in anti-terrorist operation to get status of combatants - Koval, 11.06.2014

Servicemen involved in the anti-terrorist operation in east Ukraine will receive the status of combatants after the operation is over, Acting Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval has said.

"As for the status of combatants, we have all legal documents, but the process of issuing such certificates is not underway now, it will be happen after the end of all activities that we are conducting," he told reporters in Kyiv on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208812.html>

Putin threatens Ukraine with transition 'to different dimension', 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin has said that if Ukraine declines Russia's proposal on gas, "relations will move to another stage," RIA Novosti has reported.

"If our proposals are rejected, this means we will switch to an absolutely different stage and this is not our choice. If so, we will live in a different dimension," Putin said.

He said that Russia was driven by the desire to "help," and the conditions are the same as under Viktor Yanukovich presidency: a discount on the contract price and the final price of \$385 per thousand cubic meters.

At the same time, Putin said he did not understand on what basis Ukraine in general speaks about a discount.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_threatens_ukraine_with_transition_to_different_dimension_322633

Ukraine and Russia repeatedly fail to agree on gas, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine and Russia once again failed to agree on the terms of natural gas supply, and Kyiv continues to insist on determining a fair market price. Energy and Coal Industry Minister Yuriy Prodan said after the current round of tripartite talks on the terms of Russian gas supplies in Brussels, Wednesday, a special correspondent of Ukrinform reported.

"Ukraine wants to have a fair market price, which is formed based on market mechanisms and is consistent with the rules and mechanisms that operate in the European Union today. Unfortunately, the Russian side proposed a mechanism for formation of the gas price for Ukraine, which I would call political. Russia has proposed a so-called "discount." We have already seen how it works... Such a mechanism is unacceptable for the Ukrainian side. So, unfortunately, we could not agree on a package deal today," the Ukrainian Minister said.

He stressed that the Ukrainian side wants to have a mechanism to set a "non-discriminatory, fair and non-political" price.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_and_russia_repeatedly_fail_to_agree_on_gas_322635

Russia guarantees annual discount on gas for Ukraine - Novak, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Russia is ready to legally guarantee a \$100 discount on the price of gas for Ukraine.

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said this in Brussels on Wednesday after the next round of trilateral talks on the terms of Russian gas supplies, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"As for guarantees on the provision of the discount, we've accommodated the European Commission's proposals, and for a period of one year we're prepared to provide the relevant guarantees or sign the necessary documents in the form of protocols to inter-governmental agreements. That is a legal formula can be found," he said.

He recalled that a package proposal from Russia envisages a return to the \$100 discount for Ukraine in the price per thousand cubic meters, which was in effect earlier.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_guarantees_annual_discount_on_gas_for_ukraine_novak_322642

Nemtsov: Putin wants to cheat Ukraine with gas again, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. A gas war between Ukraine and Russia is inevitable, and it will be costly for Russia and Gazprom.

Russian opposition leader Boris Nemtsov wrote on his Facebook page.

"The gas war is inevitable. Putin has invited Ukraine to buy gas at USD 385. This is approximately the price for Germany and higher than the gas price for China (Putin wants to sell gas at USD 350 for Chinese friends, although the gas field is not mastered and there is no the gas pipeline). Given that transit from Ukraine to Germany is USD 80, the price for Ukraine should be around USD 300," Nemtsov said.

According to him, he has a feeling that Russia and Ukraine will not agree on gas prices.

"And it will be a gas war that will be costly for Russia and Gazprom. Disruptions of gas supplies to Europe will be the most important argument why it is necessary to move away from Russian gas. Putin and Gazprom have not learnt anything from the previous war of 2009," the Russian oppositionist said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nemtsov_putin_wants_to_cheat_ukraine_with_gas_again_322644

No offer to put off signing of Association Agreement with Ukraine from European Commission – Fule spokesman, 11.06.2014

The European Commission has denied that it proposed to put off signing of the Association Agreement with Ukraine for whatever reasons.

"No, the European Commission didn't make such offer," spokesman for EU Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighborhood Policy Stefan Fule, Peter Stano, told Interfax-Ukraine in Brussels on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208868.html>

Poroshenko doesn't rule out roundtable in Donetsk involving parties to conflict, 12.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has not ruled out the holding of the roundtable in Donetsk involving various parties to the conflict, who support his peace plan.

Poroshenko said this at a meeting with Head of Donetsk Regional State Administration Serhiy Taruta, the president's press service reported.

"We do not need talks for the sake of the talks, Poroshenko stressed adding: "Our peace plan should be the basis for the further de-escalation of the conflict. Terrorists must lay down their arms," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208898.html>

U.S. Vice President Biden supports Poroshenko's peace plan for eastern Ukraine, 12.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko during a telephone conversation briefed U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden about the progress made by the trilateral contact group for implementing Ukrainian president's peace plan for eastern Ukraine.

For his part, U.S. vice president expressed his country's readiness to continue supporting steps to ensure Ukraine's territorial integrity and to take joint steps to resolve the situation in eastern Ukraine, Poroshenko's press service reported on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208910.html>

Merkel advises Ukraine to be friends with Putin - for good relations with Europe, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said that Ukraine should not expect a good relationship with the European Union without maintaining friendship with Russia.

She said this at a traditional reception for diplomats, Deutsche Welle reported.

Merkel said that Europe stands for dialogue with Russia. She said the Eastern Partnership program with such countries as Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia was clearly not directed against Russia. She said that building good relations with the EU implies good relations with Russia.

She also said that ceasefire was needed for reforms in Ukraine. Only after that the new Ukrainian president will be able to focus on the necessary reforms, Merkel said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/merkel_advises_ukraine_to_be_friends_with_putin_for_good_relations_with_europe_322646

Jemilev: There is every indication that Mejlis will be banned in Crimea, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Crimean Tatar leader Mustafa Jemilev said that after the annexation of Crimea Moscow counts on "the old Soviet policy of separating the Crimean Tatars."

He said in an interview to Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty that after the attempts to convince the Mejlis of Crimean Tatars to cooperate have failed, "now, there is every indication that the Mejlis will be closed and banned" in Crimea.

According to Jemilev, the Kremlin still relies on "the old Soviet policy of separating the Crimean Tatars."

Jemilev says that Russian annexation of Crimea is "detrimental to the interests of Russia and the Russian people" and is "a way to disaster, isolation and loss of respect" to this country.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/jemilev_there_is_every_indication_that_mejlis_will_be_banned_in_cri_mea_322658

Russia calls Ukrainian gas requirements insolence, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine does not agree with Russia on a gas price of USD 268/1,000 cubic meters.

Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the State Duma of the Russian Federation Alexei Pushkov is convinced.

"Yatseniuk believes in vain that he will push his unrealistic price. Any patience has limits. If Kyiv wants to see this, they will make sure," he wrote on his Twitter account.

The deputy called insolence the conditions put forwards by Ukraine at gas talks:

"Yatseniuk decided that the "market price" for gas is USD 268/1,000 cubic meters, and dictates a fictitious price, counting on help from the West. Insolence, however."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_calls_ukrainian_gas_requirements_insolence_322666

Kyiv waiting for Moscow's response to proposals of contact group on settling situation in Ukraine's east - Deschytsia, 12.06.2014

Ukraine is waiting for Russia's response to the proposals worked out by a trilateral contact group on settling the situation in Donbas, but so far it has received none, Acting Foreign Minister of Ukraine Andriy Deschytsia has said.

"We are waiting for a response and Russia's position on this concept paper, but so far all we get is growing tension on the eastern borders and support for separatists by Russia with military equipment," Deschytsia said at a press conference on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209020.html>

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry not preparing meeting between Putin, Poroshenko for now, 12.06.2014

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry is not preparing a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko for now.

"We are not talking about a meeting between the presidents for now, we are not working out such a meeting now," acting Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Deschytsia said at a news conference in Kyiv on Thursday.

High-level Russian-Ukrainian talks are not being planned in the short term, Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on June 11.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209030.html>

OSCE wants to participate in negotiations with terrorists, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. The OSCE is ready to observe and participate in negotiations between terrorists in east Ukraine and the Kyiv authorities.

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier said this in Rostov region of Russia at a meeting with Ukrainian refugees, RIA Novosti reported.

"We will control this process [the negotiations], observe and participate in it," Zannier said.

He said that OSCE representatives were making every effort to resolve the conflict in east Ukraine, despite the fact that they themselves have become hostages of the situation.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/osce_wants_to_participate_in_negotiations_with_terrorists_322676

Salary will be doubled to fighters with terrorists today or tomorrow, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Deputy Director of the Defense Ministry's Finance Department Serhiy Vinnyk told a briefing at Ukrinform Thursday.

"We begin to pay remuneration for May in June. We received the resource from the Finance Ministry and this resource - partly the previous day, partly today - was brought to financial departments that participate in the ATO. Today, accrual of the appropriate cash payment is held, and people will start receiving it actually tomorrow or the day after tomorrow," he said.

He reminded that the security forces will receive additionally 100% of their salary.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/salary_will_be_doubled_to_fighters_with_terrorists_today_or_tomorrow_322678

Putin thinks capture of Crimea was in line with international law, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin has said in his speech on the occasion of Russia Day that there was a "peaceful" and "legitimate" reunification with Crimea.

He said this on Thursday at a reception in the Kremlin on the occasion of Russia Day, RIA Novosti reported.

"There was a reunification with Crimea, peacefully, with the will of the peoples and in accordance with international law," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_thinks_capture_of_crimea_was_in_line_with_international_law_322682

Ukrainians actively seeking asylum in Germany, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The number of asylum seekers from Ukraine significantly increased in Germany, compared to last year.

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees in Germany told a special correspondent of Ukrinform.

"From January to May this year, 276 Ukrainian citizens filed a petition for asylum in Germany," said office spokesperson Christiane Germann.

This five-month figure exceeds almost twice the total number of relevant applications, received from Ukrainians by Germany last year. According to the Federal Office for Migration, 152 citizens of Ukraine asked to grant them asylum in Germany in 2013.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainians_actively_seeking_asylum_in_germany_322704

Ukraine will ask for more sanctions against Russia if latter ignores situation on east – foreign ministry, 13.06.2014

Ukraine is waiting from Russia to take steps to de-escalate the situation in Donbas, otherwise, it will ask the international community to apply the next wave of sanctions, Acting Foreign Minister of Ukraine Andriy Deschytsia has said.

"If Russia at the highest political level doesn't facilitate the de-escalation of the situation in the east [of Ukraine], then there is nothing left for us to do but to call on the whole of the international community to apply new pressure – new sanctions against Russia. Because, unfortunately, Russia understands just words of force and reacts only when one speaks with it as an equal, or by using force," Deschytsia said at the press conference in Kyiv on Thursday.

He said that the Ukrainian side still expects Russia to fulfill the obligations it undertook at the Geneva talks, as well as the promises voiced by Russian President Vladimir Putin during his last visit to France.

"We hope Russia will promote implementation of the peace plan for the settlement of the situation in the eastern regions [of Ukraine]," the minister said.

According to the minister, Russia should stop supporting terrorism to allow the successful settlement of the situation in the east of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209050.html>

Churkin: Russia presents draft on Ukraine for UN Security Council consideration, 13.06.2014

Russia has presented a draft resolution on Ukraine for the UN Security Council consideration, Russian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Vitaly Churkin said on Thursday.

"We have presented a draft resolution for the [UN Security Council] consideration today," he told reporters on Thursday.

The document urges the Ukrainian conflicting sides to abstain from actions that may jeopardize the civilian population, Churkin said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209117.html>

Ukraine's Foreign Ministry confirms reports of abduction of 16 orphans from Snizhne to Russia, 13.06.2014

The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has stated that reports of the illegal transportation of orphans from the town of Snizhne (Donetsk region) to Russia have been confirmed and added that Russia has violated a number of agreements by passing them through its border without proper permits.

"According to the information proved by Ukraine's consul general in Rostov-on-Don and confirmed by the Ukrainian competent authorities, on June 12 this year the Russian side illegally allowed to transport to the territory of the Russian Federation without proper permits, but only on copies of birth certificates, 16 orphans from a group of Ukrainian citizens kidnapped in Snizhne by armed representatives of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic," the ministry said in a statement on Thursday evening.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209128.html>

Ukraine's border with Russia to be completely under Ukrainian security forces' control by Saturday – Interior Ministry, 13.06.2014

The Ukrainian interior minister's assistant, Anton Heraschenko, has said that starting from Saturday, June 14, Ukraine's state border with Russia will be completely under the control of the Ukrainian security forces.

"Last night, the Armed Forces, with the support of the National Guard, marched from south to north and from north to south in order to cover that part of the border that remained open after massive terrorist attacks.... I think that by tomorrow the state border will be covered by the Armed Forces of Ukraine, and all roads will be exposed to fire from armored vehicles, so if there are any attempt by militants to penetrate, they will be destroyed," he said at a press conference.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209147.html>

Ukrainian president orders Donetsk administration to be temporarily moved to Mariupol, 13.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has ordered Donetsk regional state administration head Serhiy Taruta to temporarily move the administration's office to Mariupol.

"Thanks to heroism exhibited by Ukrainian servicemen in Mariupol, the situation in that city has stabilized. So, I think it will be expedient to move the Donetsk regional state administration there," the presidential website quoted Poroshenko as saying.

The head of the regional state administration and his staff should start to fulfill their duties in the new place already on Friday, the president underscored.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209156.html>

Citizens probably to be removed from war zone through Krasny Lyman – Interior Ministry, 13.06.2014

A corridor for the removal of civilians from the counter-terrorist operation zone will

probably be set up on the road to the town of Krasny Lyman (Donetsk region), advisor of Interior Minister of Ukraine responsible for temporary resettlement of Donbas residents from the conflict zone Zorian Shkiriak said.

"Now I can't say exactly where this corridor will be created, but provisionally it will be to the direction of Krasny Lyman," he said at a briefing at the Ukrainian Interior Ministry <http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209178.html>

US urges occupation authorities to stop violence in Crimea, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The United States is concerned about the cases of the disappearance of Crimean Tatars in Russia-occupied Crimea and is calling for an end to violence against civilians.

U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt said this on his page on Twitter, Ukrinform reported.

"We echo Mejlis's concern on 'disappearances' of Crimean Tatars and call on occupying authorities to stop the violence," he wrote.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/us_urges_occupation_authorities_to_stop_violence_in_crimea_322728

Ukraine ready to pay compromise price for gas - Kobolev, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. Naftogaz of Ukraine CEO Andriy Kobolev considered a price of USD 326/1,000 cubic meters acceptable in settlements for gas, delivered by Gazprom - until a final decision is taken on the price.

He told a briefing in Kyiv, Friday, Ukrinform reports.

"As part of searching for a reasonable compromise, in our opinion, the European Commission proposed a good compromise: the price ranging within USD 385, the average price - USD 326," Kobolev said.

However, according to him, the Russian side rejected this proposal.

The Naftogaz CEO also noted that the price of USD 326 may be "intermediate." "As the price proposed by the European Commission can be used as intermediate, it can be agreed for 1.5 years, during which Ukraine will use it for [gas] settlements," Kobolev said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_ready_to_pay_compromise_price_for_gas_kobolev_322730

Yatsenyuk instructs Govt to prepare for shutdown of Russian gas, Ukraine files lawsuit on "Gazprom" in the Stockholm court of arbitration, 13.06.2014

Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk instructed the relevant ministries, oblast state administrations and the leadership of the National Joint Stock Company "Naftogaz of Ukraine" from Monday, June 16, to go over to a plan on functioning of the energy sector in the conditions of the termination of deliveries of Russian gas.

Moreover, "Naftogaz Ukraine" and the Ministry of Justice were instructed to finalize the procedure of preparation to defend the interests of Ukraine in relations with Russian gas monopoly "Gazprom" in the Stockholm arbitration court.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928504-yatsenyuk-instructs-govt-to-prepare-for-shutdown-of-russian-gas-ukraine-files-lawsuit-on-gazprom-in-the-stockholm-court-of-arbitration.html>

Russian tanks in east frighten Merkel's representative, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The German government is concerned about reports that separatists in Ukraine's east received tanks and other heavy military equipment from Russia.

German government spokesman Steffen Seibert said on Friday in Berlin, a special correspondent of Ukrinform in Germany reports.

"If this is confirmed, it will be, of course, a very serious development (of the situation - Ed.), which causes concern," Seibert said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russian_tanks_in_east_frighten_merkels_representative_322734

Ukraine to sue Russia for children from Snizhne, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian Justice Ministry has filed a lawsuit at the European Court of Human Rights concerning the kidnapping by terrorists of orphans from the town of Snizhne in Donetsk region

Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko said this at a briefing at the Cabinet of Ministers.

"The Justice Ministry, together with our human rights defenders, has prepared and filed a lawsuit at the European Court of Human Rights in the manner specified by the 39th rule of the Convention. It foresees urgent measures of response if there is a threat to human life, rights and freedoms. In this application we are demanding that the European court take measures against Russia in terms of the obligation of the Russian competent authorities to ensure the transfer of these orphans to the Ukrainian authorities," he said.

Petrenko said that thus Russia had violated not only the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, but also a number of agreements on the movement of people across the border.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_to_sue_russia_for_children_from_snizhne_322732

NATO Secretary General concerned about reports of crisis escalation in Eastern Ukraine, 13.06.2014

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said he is concerned over the recent reports from the eastern Ukraine that mark a serious escalation of the crisis in the region, NATO press service told Interfax-Ukraine.

"I am concerned about reports that pro-Russian armed gangs are acquiring heavy weapons from Russia, including Russian tanks. We have seen reports that Russian tanks and other armored vehicles may have crossed the border into eastern Ukraine. If these reports are confirmed, this would mark a serious escalation of the crisis in eastern Ukraine," Rasmussen said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209242.html>

Ukrainian, Russian ombudsmen to meet in Kharkiv to discuss Snizhne orphans' fate - Lutkovska's spokesman, 13.06.2014

Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada's Human Rights Commissioner Valeriya Lutkovska and Russian Human Rights Commissioner Ella Pamfilova will meet in Kharkiv to discuss the fate of children from an orphanage in the town of Snizhne, Donetsk region, after they were moved to Russia.

"This matter is being dealt with directly by the commissioner (. . .) She is discussing this matter with her Russian counterpart," Lutkovska's spokesman Yuriy Belousov said at a briefing in Kharkiv on Friday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209219.html>

Ukraine's Interior Ministry says it is not impeding investigation into massacres on Maidan, 14.06.2014

Ukraine's Interior Ministry has refuted the statements of Acting Prosecutor General of Ukraine Oleh Makhnitsky that the officers of the former Berkut Special Forces to avoid responsibility for the events on Maidan were sent to participate in the anti-terrorist operation to the eastern regions of the country.

"On June 13 some online editions spread information with reference to the statement by Acting Prosecutor General of Ukraine Oleh Makhnitsky regarding the sending of the officers of the former Berkut Special Forces to participate in anti-terrorist operations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions to avoid responsibility. The information is untrue," reads a statement posted on the Interior Ministry's Web site.

The Interior Ministry stressed that under the order of the head of the Anti-Terrorism Center under the Security Service of Ukraine, in accordance with the requirements of

the law of Ukraine on combating terrorism, the Interior Ministry allocated "necessary forces and means" for the areas of anti-terrorist operations in the eastern regions. In particular, virtually all special units formed on the basis of the former Berkut Special Forces were involved in ATO tasks in Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209324.html>

Plane with Ukrainian servicemen could be shot down due to betrayal of air traffic controllers, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. One version of the destruction of a Ukrainian military transport aircraft in Luhansk with 49 servicemen on board is a betrayal on the part of air traffic controllers.

Ukraine's acting Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval said this live on the Ukraina television channel.

"The criminals who fired at this plane were very well prepared. This crime was prepared professionally. There could be a betrayal among air traffic controllers who tracked the flight. Militants wanted to shot down the plane as two missiles were launched and fire was opened with a large-caliber machine gun to destroy the aircraft," Channel 5 quoted Koval as saying.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/plane_with_ukrainian_servicemen_could_be_shot_down_due_to_betrayal_of_air_traffic_controllers_322762

Shutov suspended because of downed Il-76 plane near Luhansk – Koval, 16.06.2014

The chief of the main operational command of the General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Major-General Oleksandr Shutov, has not been dismissed, but suspended from office, as have a number of other servicemen, pending an investigation into the tragedy of the downed Il-76 plane in Luhansk, Acting Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval has said.

"The investigation into the tragedy that happened yesterday is now underway, and General Shutov, among others was suspended from office during the investigation," Koval said in an interview with TSN on Sunday, June 15.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209426.html>

Russia shuts gas for Ukraine, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Russia completely stopped gas supplies to Ukraine, Naftogaz head Andriy Kobolev said.

He told a government meeting, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"Yes, today at 10:00 a.m., Gazprom completely restricted gas supply. Ukraine no longer receives gas for its needs," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_shuts_gas_for_ukraine_322790

Yatseniuk orders to prepare for emergency situation in Ukraine's energy sector, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has instructed the Energy Ministry and the Justice Ministry to prepare a draft law on the emergency situation in Ukraine's energy sector.

He said this, while opening a government meeting on Monday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"The Energy Ministry and the Justice Ministry should prepare a draft law on the emergency situation in the energy sector. We must be prepared for the most difficult times," Yatseniuk said.

He also instructed the energy, justice, foreign ministers and the Naftogaz chief to take all measures to protect the interests of Ukraine in the Stockholm court and send a

government delegation to Brussels and to the EU member states with a clear explanation of the Ukrainian position.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_orders_to_prepare_for_emergency_situation_in_ukraines_energy_sector_322792

Yatseniuk sees through Moscow's gas plan, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Prime Minister Yatseniuk is convinced that Russia intended to temporarily set the price of gas for Ukraine at USD 385/1,000 cubic meters, and then, in early winter, raise the price to USD 500, as it had done twice already.

He said on Monday at a government meeting, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"The Russian plan was obvious and understandable - to declare that the interim price of USD 268 has grown to nearly USD 500, and then temporarily set USD 385. And so, sometime in November-December, the Russian government had to say, you know, we changed our mind, Ukraine did something wrong again, USD 500 is needed. They are ready for it, buying time for the winter to put us in a situation where they had put us twice already," the Prime Minister said.

However, he assured that "the third time will not work."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_sees_through_moscows_gas_plan_322794

Russia did nothing to distance itself from terrorists - Foreign Ministry, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Russia has done nothing to distance itself from bandits operating in eastern Ukraine and condemn terrorist attacks against the Ukrainian people and servicemen, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has reported.

"Russia has made no step to distance itself from bandits and condemn terrorist acts committed by them against the Ukrainian people and the military. Instead, fearing that, Russia has dropped to the point that it blocked the appearance of a statement by the chair of the UN Security Council, which proposed condemning terrorists," the ministry said.

"Russia's hypocritical policy is not interested in the safety and lives of people in Luhansk and Donetsk regions. The primary cause of the dramatic situation in east Ukraine is Russia's blatant political and military support for Russian terrorists," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_did_nothing_to_distance_itself_from_terrorists_foreign_ministry_322802

Kyiv waiting for Moscow to stop supporting militants and publicly call on them to lay down arms, 16.06.2014

Ukraine wants Russia to stop its propaganda campaign about the situation in eastern Ukraine and publicly call on members of illegal armed groups to lay down their arms, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has reported.

"Peace and security in the east of our country will come only after the terrorist threat, which is supported by the Kremlin, is overcome. Together with the entire international community, Ukraine is demanding that Russia stop the false propaganda campaign, put an end to the bloody support for killers, stop the supply of weapons and military equipment and publicly encourage terrorists to immediately lay down their arms," the ministry said in a statement on Monday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209506.html>

Donbas will get money from budget after liberation from terrorists – Turchynov, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Budget payments in Krasny Luch, Snizhne, Sloviansk and other cities of Donbas will be renewed only following their liberation from terrorists.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Turchynov said at the Conciliation Council in the parliament, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

“On budget payments in Krasny Luch, Snizhne, Sloviansk and other [cities], as well as on rendering assistance to victims of terrorists. This will be possible only when these cities are free from terrorists. There are no official authorities there and, correspondingly, representatives of terrorist groups control finances and the Treasury. In this format, it is impossible to carry out budget payments in these cities,” Turchynov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/donbas_will_get_money_from_budget_after_liberation_from_terrorists_turchynov_322798

There is no decision on introducing of martial law in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast – Parubiy, 16.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine Andriy Parubiy said this during the press conference today.

“No. There has not been such decision yet”, - said Parubiy.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929237-there-is-no-decision-on-introducing-of-martial-law-in-donetsk-and-luhansk-oblast-parubiy.html>

Parubiy: 20,000 militants operating in Donbas, half of them Russians, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Around 15,000-20,000 armed militants are currently operating in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, and more than half of them arrived from Russia.

Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council Secretary Andriy Parubiy said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Monday.

"According to our current data, between 15,000 and 20,000 militants are in Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Nearly half of them are people who arrived in Ukraine from the Russian Federation," he said.

According to Parubiy, there are natives of the Caucasus and special units of the Russian Armed Forces among the militants.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/parubiy_20000_militants_operating_in_donbas_half_of_them_russians_322806

Poroshenko orders prompt completion of military operation, 16.06.2014

Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council Secretary Andriy Parubiy said it is now too early to speak about a date when the operation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions will end.

"I can only say that the president of Ukraine [Petro Poroshenko] has ordered a prompt solution of these tasks," he told a briefing in Kyiv on Monday.

Another reason why the date of the end of the operation in eastern Ukraine cannot currently be given is that "there is a real combat operation going on there," Parubiy said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209513.html>

Poroshenko vows to sign draft of constitutional amendments this week, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is planning to sign a draft of amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine this week.

He said this in his opening remarks at a meeting of the National Security and Defense Council, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"We have discussed constitutional amendment with Ukraine's prime minister and the Verkhovna Rada chairman. And I think that I will sign a draft of the constitution this week," Poroshenko said.

He also expressed hope that this week a draft of amendments to the new constitution would be submitted to the Venice Commission.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_vows_to_sign_draft_of_constitutional_amendments_this_week_322812

Russia redeploys military equipment, servicemen to Ukrainian borders – Parubiy, 16.06.2014

National Security and Defense Council Secretary Andriy Parubiy has said that a significant amount of military equipment and soldiers of the Russian Armed Forces have been deployed close to the territories that border with Ukraine, and that they are prepared to act at any moment.

"In just the last twenty-four hours, despite Russian President Vladimir Putin's saying there had been a withdrawal of Russian troops from our eastern border, we have the information that on June 15 the Russian armed forces redeployed close to the borders of Ukraine some subdivisions of the 76th Pskov Guards Air Assault Division, and also redeployed personnel using four Il-76 military transport aircraft – about 150 servicemen and equipment of the 76th Air Assault Division at airdrome Millerovo, which is 20 kilometers from the border with Ukraine," he said at a briefing in Kyiv on Monday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209542.html>

Poroshenko plans to regain control on Ukrainian-Russian border within a week, 16.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has announced the authorities' intention to regain control of the Ukrainian-Russian border this week.

"We are going to take decisive action to renew security on our national border this week. I hope we will fully succeed in doing so," Poroshenko told a National Security and Defense Council meeting on Monday.

He said that the situation on the border is the only obstacle to a ceasefire in the east of Ukraine.

"As soon as the border is closed, we could immediately proclaim a fire cease. It is irresponsible to announce a fire cease with an open border, given the situation in Donetsk and Luhansk," the president said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209543.html>

Russia again finds no support at UN Security Council, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Moscow's attempt to present at the UN Security Council a second, updated draft resolution on Ukraine has received no support from Security Council members. Moreover, the document was fairly criticized by the Lithuanian delegation during consultations.

Spokesman for Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the UN Yehor Pyvovarov told this to Ukrinform, while commenting on the results of a closed UN Security Council meeting on Monday.

"Today there was a second attempt by Russia to present a draft of the revised resolution on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine. Again it found no positive response from other members of the UN Security Council," the Ukrainian diplomat said.

Pyvovarov said that Ukraine, in line with the procedure, had not attended the Security Council meeting.

"However, the Ukrainian side again emphasizes that another attempt by Russia to adopt this resolution is immoral due to the fact that we regard Russia as an aggressor country. Therefore, we regard all its attempts to create the impression that it may allegedly make decisions on its own regarding the conflict in eastern Ukraine and be an 'anti-crisis manager' as absolutely unacceptable, as confirmed by the positions of UN Security Council members," the Ukrainian diplomat said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_again_finds_no_support_at_un_security_council_322820

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929482-un-security-council-declines-draft-resolution-on-situation-in-ukraine-submitted-by-russia.html>

Poroshenko forbids cooperation with Russia in military area – Yarema, 17.06.2014

First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine Vitaliy Yarema said this on the air of “Svoboda Slova”.

“At sitting of the National Security and Defense Council the President of Ukraine strongly forbade cooperation in military area. From this day forth we ceased any cooperation in military-industrial complex area with the Russian Federation”, - said the first Vice Prime Minister.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929503-poroshenko-forbids-cooperation-with-russia-in-military-area-yarema.html>

Poroshenko states about support of initiative of factions on carrying out of early parliamentary elections, 17.06.2014

According to the web site of the head of the state, he said this at the meeting with heads of the factions of the Batkivshchyna All-Ukrainian Union Serhiy Sobolev, Party of Regions Oleksandr Yefremov, UDAR party Vitaliy Kovalchuk, Svoboda All-Ukrainian Union Oleh Tyagnybok, chairman of lawmaker group “Economic Development” Anatoliy Kinakh and authorized representative of the “Sovereign European Ukraine” group Ihor Yeremeev.

During the meetings the head of the state discussed a coordination of actions in carrying out of early parliamentary elections. Poroshenko noted that inquiry for a full reloading of power remains urgent in society.

“I support it”, - said the head of the state.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929483-poroshenko-states-about-support-of-initiative-of-factions-on-carrying-out-of-early-parliamentary-elections.html>

Parubiy: Ukraine decides on one-side demarcation of border with Russia, 17.06.2014

The National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine ordered the government to carry an one-side demarcation of the Ukrainian-Russian border in terms of existing threats to national security, said NSDC Secretary Andriy Parubiy.

"The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine was charged to organize the one-side demarcation of the Ukrainian-Russian state border, to provide its proper technical arrangements in accordance with today's threats to the national security," he said after a meeting of the NSDC in Kyiv on late Monday.

NSDC decision takes an effect under the decree of the President of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209597.html>

Yatseniuk says he will struggle for fair gas price for Ukraine, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has promised that he will struggle for a fair gas price for Ukraine.

He said this in the Verkhovna Rada on Tuesday, Ukrinform reported.

"I did not give up without a fight. We will wrest a market-oriented and fair price [from Russia]," Yatseniuk said.

As reported, Yatseniuk described the "gas talks" disrupted by Russia as part of a strategy to destroy Ukraine. He said that Ukraine would not pay for Russia's gas debt and would not finance the purchase by President Vladimir Putin of new tanks, missiles and warships.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_says_he_will_struggle_for_fair_gas_price_for_ukraine_322834

Yatsenyuk: Breakdown of gas talks by RF is connected with Poroshenko's visit to Brussels for signing of economic part of Association Agreement with EU, 17.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, the Prime Minister of Ukraine said this at the sitting of the parliament.

He noted: "It goes without saying that all this bacchanal concerning the gas was arranged before the visit of the President of Ukraine to Brussels, where he will sign the second part – economic part of the Agreement with the EU".

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929572-yatsenyuk-breakdown-of-gas-talks-by-rf-is-connected-with-poroshenkos-visit-to-brussels-for-signing-of-economic-part-of-association-agreement-with-eu.html>

Soros tells Poroshenko about initiative to draw up strategic plan of reforms for Ukraine, 17.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko held a meeting with the founder of Open Society Foundations George Soros, at which Soros informed the head of state about the initiative of the strategic plan of reforms for Ukraine.

"We set up a strategic consultative group for immediate reactions to challenges as they arise," the press service of the Ukrainian president reported on Monday, citing Soros.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209680.html>

Terrorists get information from Russian satellite – NSDC, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Militants in the Donbas receive information about the sites of the deployment of Ukrainian servicemen via a Russian satellite.

The spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council, Volodymyr Chepovy, said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Tuesday.

"Terrorists get the coordinates of the sites of the deployment of Ukrainian security forces from a Russian satellite," he said.

Chepovy also said that near the Dovzhansky crossing point, not far from the town of Biriukove, Luhansk region, border guards were engaged in the fight with terrorists.

There were no losses among Ukrainian servicemen, however, according to the NSDC, militants are planning to continue firing at anti-terrorist operation forces in this area.

He said that more than 80 militants had been killed over the last 24 hours.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_get_information_from_russian_satellite_nsdс_322840

Steinmeier fears split in EU over Ukraine, 17.06.2014

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier has expressed fears of a possible split in the EU because of the situation in Ukraine.

"Against the background of what is happening now in Ukraine, the most significant risk for us is a breakup of Europe," he said at a press conference in Tallinn on Tuesday after meeting with the foreign ministers of the Baltic countries.

"Everything that has recently been taken together by the EU and the OSCE shows that Europe is far from reaching political agreement. A sign of this is the failed talks on gas supplies to Ukraine and the downed military plane in Ukraine," Steinmeier said.

He said it was important that international efforts make Russia change its activity in Ukraine. He said that one cannot also ignore "the violation by Russian military aircraft of Baltic airspace."

He expressed the solidarity of Europeans with the Baltic countries: "Your problems are our problems."

Steinmeier also said that the failure of gas negotiations would influence the EU member states as they will have to partially use their fuel reserves.

"The failure of negotiations directly affects Europe. We hope that Russia will be open to negotiations, and it was stated by Gunther Oettinger," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209744.html>

Recent actions by Russia require third package of sanctions - Foreign Ministry, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. The international community should react more harshly to Russian aggression against Ukraine, in particular, the West should not delay the use of the so-called third package of sanctions against Russia.

Ukrainian Foreign Ministry information policy department director Yevhen Perebyinis said this at a briefing in Kyiv on Tuesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"We hope that the international community will take new measures of effective pressure on Russia to help stop subversive activities against Ukraine, stop violence by terrorists, which would be consistent with the spirit of the Geneva agreements," Perebyinis said. In this regard, he said that "recent actions by Russia must trigger Western action in the form of sanctions, the third stage of which has long been announced by both the United States and the EU."

"Terrorists and their curator in Moscow should not feel impunity and permissiveness," Perebyinis said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/recent_actions_by_russia_require_third_package_of_sanctions_for_ign_ministry_322850

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209745.html>

Ukraine gas pipeline blast caused by pressure loss, sabotage not ruled out, 17.06.2014

The explosion on the Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline in the Poltava region was caused by a loss of pressure, a spokeswoman for the regional office of the State Emergency Situations Service, Svitlana Rybalko, told Interfax-Ukraine on Tuesday. Specialists have found that a loss of pressure occurred, she said.

"At this moment, the main gas authority is doing the repair work to discontinue gas supplies by way of closing the caps," Rybalko said.

Meanwhile, a law enforcement source told Interfax-Ukraine that the gas pipeline explosion (in the village of Pestychevske, Lohvytsia district, Poltava region) might have been the result of a sabotage attack.

"The area covered by the fire is reaching one kilometer. The preliminary theory is sabotage," the source said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209765.html>

Ukraine loses 10 million cu m of gas through yesterday's explosion on pipe, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The gas transportation system of Ukraine has lost about 10 million cubic meters of gas through yesterday's explosion at the gas pipeline Urengoy-Uzhgorod-Pomary in Poltava region.

The press service of the Energy and Coal Industry Ministry informs.

"June 17, 2014, about 2:00 p.m., the pipeline Urengoy-Uzhgorod-Pomary exploded in the villages Bezsal and Krasne of Lohvytsky district, Poltava region, resulting in the loss of about 10 million cubic meters of natural gas. Law enforcement authorities consider an act of terrorism as a key version of events," the ministry said.

They noted that the explosion coincided in time with the cessation of Russian Gazprom deliveries for the needs of Ukraine and the actual withdrawal of the Russian Federation from negotiations with participation of the European Commission.

"There is reason to believe that such a coincidence ... is not random, and the explosion is a planned sabotage, which aims to discredit the Ukrainian gas transportation system and the Ukrainian route of transporting natural gas to the EU," the Energy and Coal Industry Ministry noted and again hinted at the possible involvement of Russia due to promotion of South Stream.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_loses_10_million_cu_m_of_gas_through_yesterdays_explosion_on_pipe_322856

Gazprom predicts new terrorist attacks on Ukrainian pipe, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Russian Gazprom predicts subsequent accidents at the Ukrainian GTS.

Gazprom deputy chairman Vitaly Markelov told a news conference in Moscow.

"The gas transportation system was created as a single system. We have heavily invested in its repair and reconstruction, which cannot be said about the Ukrainian side. The pipe is aging and consequently the breaks occur. This is not the only incident, there were also others. I think that they will be," RBC Ukraine quoted Markelov.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_predicts_new_terrorist_attacks_on_ukrainian_pipe_322860

Poroshenko plans to unilaterally cease fire in eastern Ukraine, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is planning to order Ukrainian law enforcement officers to cease fire in the Donbas.

He told this to reporters on Wednesday, according to ukraneews.

"The plan starts with my order of unilateral ceasefire. We should gain support to the president's peace plan by all the participants in the Donbas events immediately after that. Very quickly," Poroshenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_plans_to_unilaterally_ceil_fire_in_eastern_ukraine_322867

Terrorists send two Russian tanks to Donetsk, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists have moved two Russian T-72 tanks to Donetsk.

The spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council, Volodymyr Chepovy, said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Wednesday.

"We emphasize that this type of tanks is not in the service of the Ukrainian Armed Forces," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_send_two_russian_tanks_to_donetsk_322874

Poroshenko: not only military, but also political operation is needed in east of Ukraine, 18.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko believes that today not only military, but also political operation is needed in east of Ukraine.

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he said this, delivering a speech in National University of Ukraine n.a. Ivan Chernyakhovskyi at celebrations dedicated to graduation of students of operative-strategic and operative-tactical levels of preparation and the 100th anniversary of beginning of preparation of military specialists in training buildings of the university.

"The war became possible not only because of a strength of the Russian propaganda, but also because of weakness of local powers", - stressed Poroshenko.

According to his words, the Ukrainian power should be strong and tough. "We need not only military, but also military-political operation", - he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930051-poroshenko-not-only-military-but-also-political-operation-is-needed-in-east-of-ukraine.html>

Poroshenko expects VR to vote to dissolve itself, 18.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, Poroshenko said this to journalists.

"I am waiting for a decision of the parliament", - said the head of the state.

He said that the Ukrainian people had initiated the early parliamentary elections.

"According to opinion polls, 70% of Ukrainians are demanding a reboot of power,"

Poroshenko said, adding that nobody has the right to ignore people's opinion.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930064-poroshenko-expects-vr-to-vote-to-dissolve-itself.html>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209864.html>

Investigation views terrorism as priority theory in Ukrainian gas pipeline blast - interior minister, 18.06.2014

The investigation is exploring several possible causes of the Tuesday explosion on the Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline in the Poltava region, with priority given to a terrorist attack, Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said.

"An Interior Ministry operational team is conducting investigative actions to determine

the causes of the blast. Several theories of the incident are being explored, including the key theory of a terrorist attack," the Interior Ministry Web site quoted Avakov as saying.

"Gas supply through this gas pipeline branch has been blocked now, the danger of a major disaster has been averted, and the fire had been extinguished as of 16:40. Gas is being transported fully through a reserve branch," Avakov said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209776.html>

Dnipropetrovsk governor Kolomoisky, Crimean Tatar leader Jemilev sign cooperation memo, 18.06.2014

Chairman of Dnipropetrovsk Regional Administration Ihor Kolomoisky and Ukrainian MP (the Batkivschyna parliamentary faction) and former leader of the Mejlis (parliament) of the Crimean Tatar People Mustafa Jemilev (Cemilev) on Tuesday signed a memorandum of cooperation to develop relations, strengthen friendship and respect between Crimean Tatars and residents of Dnipropetrovsk region.

"The memorandum we've signed today is about one-side assistance to be provided by Dnipropetrovsk region to the residents of Crimea. The document is quite comprehensive, it covers very important aspects, including accommodation of refugees, their education. Grievs bring people closer. We're very glad to have signed an agreement with the person who has managed to resist that occupation regime that has come to our country. I hope that the document will yield good results," Jemilev told reporters.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209804.html>

OSCE roadmap for Ukraine de-escalation not proper substitute for negotiating process - Kyiv, 18.06.2014

Ukraine considers the Geneva accords the basic instrument for de-escalating the situation in the country's east, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry said.

"The Geneva Memorandum adopted on April 17, 2014, which contains clearly defined obligations of the parties and was supported by all participants in the Geneva format constitutes the basic agreement for de-escalating the situation in east Ukraine," Ukrainian Foreign Ministry spokesman Yevhen Perebyinis said at a briefing on Tuesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209806.html>

Army will always be No. 1 priority for Ukrainians - Poroshenko, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that the army will always be the No. 1 priority for the state.

"I can assure you and the Ukrainian army will be the number one priority for me, for the Ukrainian government, the Ukrainian budget, and the Ukrainian population," he said during a graduation ceremony for the students of the National University of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209848.html>

Ukraine involved in new type of warfare - Poroshenko, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that Ukraine is involved a new type of warfare.

"Ukraine is in a state of war. This is a new type of warfare – with the use of professional subversive groups, mercenaries, volunteers, and the local population. And these volunteers and the local population have very 'washed' brains in a huge part due to the information war," he said during a graduation ceremony for the students of the National University of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209849.html>

Poroshenko to make corridor for terrorists to escape, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. President Petro Poroshenko says about creation of the corridor for the withdrawal of Russian mercenaries to Russia as part of his peace plan for resolving the situation in the east.

Petro Poroshenko told reporters.

"For my part, I will provide a corridor, so that the Russian mercenaries with weapons could leave the territory of Ukraine," Poroshenko said, quoted by ukanews.

The President said he hopes to implement the plan as soon as possible.

He also reminded that participants in the events in the east, who have not committed serious crimes, will be offered amnesty.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_to_make_corridor_for_terrorists_to_escape_322876

Poroshenko: Sloviansk to be encircled, armed opposition to be liquidated, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian law enforcement units will encircle Sloviansk to liquidate the armed opposition and regain full control over the state border in eastern regions, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said.

"We are taking resolute steps and conducting successful operations towards the restoration [of control] over the state border," the president told reporters in Kyiv on Wednesday.

"We will do our best today to encircle Sloviansk; we are moving on and the circle is tightening in order to liquidate the militants led by the so-called Shooter [defense minister of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic Igor Girkin (Strelkov)] who are resisting Ukrainian servicemen with arms," Poroshenko said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209906.html>

Poroshenko gives government five days to designate ATO soldiers combatants, 18.06.2014

Kyiv, June 18 (Interfax-Ukraine) – President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has ordered the government to within five days settle the issue of granting the status of combatant to servicemen involved in the counter-terror operation.

"The day before yesterday at the meeting of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, I set a task to National Guard commander and interior minister to, within five days, make sure that everybody fighting in the area of the counter-terror operation obtains the status of combatant," the president told the journalists in Kyiv on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209915.html>

Avakov "thanks" Russia for launching criminal inquiry against him, Kolomoisky, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov views the criminal inquiry launched by the Russian authorities against him and the head of the Dnipropetrovsk regional state administration, Ihor Kolomoisky, as a high praise of their work for the benefit of Ukraine.

"The Russian Investigative Committee has opened a criminal case against the governor of Dnipropetrovsk region, Ihor Kolomoisky, and Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov.' ... Thank you for highly rating my and Ihor Vasylyovych's work," Avakov wrote on his Facebook page.

Avakov also said he is set to continue to serve Ukraine in good faith.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209930.html>

Ukrainian army creates buffer zone at border - Defense Ministry, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian armed forces are about to complete restoring control at the state border, acting Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval has said.

"The Ukrainian Armed Forces virtually complete restoring the state border in close cooperation with border guards. The Ukrainian Armed Forces operate at the range of 10 to 15 km, thus creating a buffer zone, while border guards and we restore all subdivisions of the State Border Service and checkpoints," Koval told reporters in Kyiv on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209941.html>

Number of deputies becomes less in Verkhovna Rada, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Individual deputy Vladyslav Atroshenko lays down his deputy mandate.

He said at a briefing in the Verkhovna Rada, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"I wrote an application in response to a discussion about the Verkhovna Rada reboot. I hope that by my example I will urge other people's deputies to a similar act and count that other people's deputies will support the UDAR resolution tomorrow about the Verkhovna Rada's voluntary dissolution," the MP said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/number_of_deputies_becomes_less_in_verkhovna_rada_322882

Svoboda against Deshchytsia's dismissal, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The Svoboda faction does not support the dismissal of Andriy Deshchytsia as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

A Ukrinform correspondent reported Svoboda leader Oleh Tiahnybok as saying on the parliament sidelines.

"The Svoboda faction does not support dismissal of Andriy Deshchytsia," Tiahnybok said.

Batkivshchyna MP Andriy Pavlovsky also does not support this dismissal.

"I personally will not vote for Deshchytsia's dismissal, but this is my personal opinion and not the opinion of the faction," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/svoboda_against_deshchytsias_dismissal_322886

Astakhov says when wall should be built on border, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. A wall on the border with Russia should be built only following completion of all military actions and the return of control over the border by Ukrainian border guards.

Serhiy Astakhov, Assistant to the Chairman of the State Border Guard System of Ukraine, told a briefing, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"First, it is necessary that the military went to the border, fixed it as the Ukrainian territory, and then developed and improved the system of its protection," Astakhov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/astakhov_says_when_wall_should_be_built_on_border_322893

Russia will not calm until Ukraine joins NATO - deputy, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Only Ukraine's participation in NATO can safeguard Ukraine against a long conflict with Russia.

MP and member of the VR National Security and Defense Committee Serhiy Kaplin believes.

"A conflict between Russia and Ukraine in its different forms will develop over next 15 years... We should conduct a very serious dialogue on the east, in every corner of the country and to make Ukraine closer to understanding of the fact that without Ukraine's participation in NATO we will never end this story of confrontation with Russia. This is a difficult and unpopular decision. But by postponing this decision, we close the lid of the coffin, in which our security is buried," Kaplin stressed at the round table at Ukrinform. He also noted that military potentials of Ukraine and Russia are incommensurable. "We are the 21st in the world on defense, Russia - the second," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_will_not_calm_until_ukraine_joins_nato_deputy_322909

Biden supports Poroshenko's actions in eastern Ukraine, 19.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. Vice President Joe Biden discussed on the phone early on Thursday the implementation of a peace plan of the head of state, the presidential press service has reported.

"Biden strongly supported the persistent efforts of the head of the Ukrainian state in restoring peace and calm in eastern Ukraine," reads the report.

Biden also expressed his sincere condolences over the death of Ukrainian servicemen during the anti-terrorist operation.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210000.html>

Yatseniuk frightens MPs with fireworks in Kremlin, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. According to Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk, a bill must be immediately voted on bringing the management of the Ukrainian gas transportation system in line with the EU regulations.

He told the parliament on June 19.

"The Ukrainian GTS is and remains the property of the state. If someone wants that the Ukrainian GTS turns into a scrap, they will not vote for this law. We need to create a company operating with 51% of state property, and 49% - only the companies of the EU member states that are the parties to the Energy Community, or the U.S. company that wins the tender," Yatseniuk said.

Yatseniuk also said if Europe goes into this business, then Russia will not build the South Stream, but "if the law is not adopted, the Kremlin will salute because they will build the South Stream, and if it is built, then we will, at best, pump up to 40-50 billion cubic meters of gas, and we will have to fund pumping of Russian gas from our budget," the Prime Minister said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_frightens_mps_with_fireworks_in_kremlin_322923

Germany sees no Ukraine in NATO, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier supports an idea of Ukraine's military neutrality, which was earlier aired by his Austrian counterpart Sebastian Kutz.

Steinmeier said in an interview to the Austrian newspaper Kurier.

"I share this opinion of my counterpart Kurz," the politician said, answering a question of a reporter about his attitude to a proposal of the Austrian diplomat about military neutrality of Ukraine.

The German Minister stressed that, like U.S. partners of Germany, he "does not see Ukraine in the western union (NATO - Ed.) in the nearest future."

At the same time, he added that Ukrainians should decide by themselves on their foreign political orientation.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/germany_sees_no_ukraine_in_nato_322931

Russia allots major role to Klimkin in ending conflict, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. Russia is ready to cooperate with new Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin.

Russian State Secretary - Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin said on Thursday, RIA Novosti reported.

"We wish the new Minister success and are ready for contacts with him," he said.

According to Karasin, Klimkin is well known to the Russian side as "one of the most experienced and prominent diplomats of Ukraine."

Russian diplomat wished Klimkin to effectively start activities on the new responsible position.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_allots_major_role_to_klimkin_in_ending_conflict_322935

Poroshenko hopes Yarema to establish order in east, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko introduced new leader Vitaliy Yarema to the Prosecutor General's Office personnel.

As the President said during the presentation, he primarily expects that the newly appointed Prosecutor General will effectively combat corruption.

"I expect from you not only decisive steps in initiating criminal cases, but that all the figures of these cases found themselves in the dock," Poroshenko said, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

He also expressed hope that the prosecution can establish order in eastern Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_hopes_yarema_to_establish_order_in_east_322937

Yarema: Investigation into mass murders on Maidan is case No. 1 for PGO, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. Investigation into mass murders during active protest processes on the Maidan in Kyiv is a priority for the Prosecutor General's Office. Newly appointed Prosecutor General Vitaliy Yarema told a briefing, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"A criminal case on investigation into mass murders in February 2014 is the case No. 1 in the country," Yarema said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yarema_investigation_into_mass_murders_on_maidan_is_case_no_1_for_pgo_322939

Poroshenko hopes for close cooperation with Verkhovna Rada, 19.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he said this, delivering a speech during the sitting of the Verkhovna Rada.

Poroshenko expressed hope that a working process of constructive interaction between the parliament and the head of the state will be continued.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930547-poroshenko-hopes-for-close-cooperation-with-verkhovna-rada.html>

Ukraine to present president's peace plan at EU Foreign Affairs Council meeting on June 23 – Poroshenko, 19.06.2014

Ukraine will present the president's peace plan for resolving the situation in the east of the country at the EU Foreign Affairs Council meeting in Luxembourg on June 23, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said.

"I believe that on June 23 you will be expected in Luxembourg at a meeting of the EU foreign ministers, where we will present a peace plan for Ukraine," Poroshenko said while introducing the newly appointed foreign minister, Pavlo Klimkin, on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210144.html>

Turchynov and Koval say border with Russia 'actually' closed, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. The units of the Ukrainian Armed Forces have actually completed the operation to shut down the border with Russia.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Turchynov said this at a parliament meeting on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"I spoke with the Defense Ministry and would like to inform you that our Armed Forces have reached the village of Izvaryne [an urban-type village in Luhansk region] and actually completed the operation to shut down the border," he said, thanking the military for the decent performance of their duties.

"At this moment we have received official information that the troops surrounded the troubled region and resumed control over Ukraine's border jointly with the State Border Service," Koval said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/turchynov_says_border_with_russia_actually_closed_322951

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_takes_border_with_russia_under_control_defense_ministry_322961

NSDC says border with Russia still not closed, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) has not confirmed a report by the Defense Ministry that Ukrainian security forces have regained full control of the state border with Russia.

NSDC information center spokesman Volodymyr Chepovy said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"If the entire border were controlled by our troops, we would be the first to announce this news, and it would be really the first stage of victory and switch to a clear plan declared by the president. But it's not so now," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nsdc_says_border_with_russia_still_not_closed_322963

Anti-terrorist operation suspended for a week, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. The anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine has been suspended for a week - until June 27.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said this while talking with residents of Sviatohirsk in Donetsk region on Friday, the press service of the Interior Ministry reported.

According to the head of state, this is done so that terrorists could lay down their arms and those who do not will be destroyed.

"The fighting will only be conducted in response, that is if insurgents attack our forces," the ministry quoted the president as saying.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/anti_terrorist_operation_suspended_for_a_week_322977

EU welcomes Poroshenko's plan, wants concrete actions from Russia, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton said this on June 20, a Ukrinform correspondent in Brussels reported.

"We very much welcome the announcement by President Poroshenko of a ceasefire and a 15-point plan for the peaceful settlement of the crisis in eastern Ukraine," she said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_welcomes_poroshenkos_plan_wants_concrete_actions_from_russia_322983

Russia planning provocations on Ukrainian border, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. Tanks with Ukrainian insignia and people in Ukrainian uniforms have been seen near the village of Millerovo, Russia, 20 kilometers from the Ukrainian-Russian border.

The spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), Volodymyr Chepovy, said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Saturday.

"This could be aimed at committing provocations in Ukraine or even in Russia," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_planning_provocations_on_ukrainian_border_322985

State Department says why Russia accumulating tanks on border with Ukraine, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. The United States does not rule out that Russia is accumulating tanks on the border with Ukraine in order to support separatist militants. State Department spokesperson Jen Psaki said this at a briefing on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"We are confident, as we said last Friday, that Russia last week sent tanks and rocket launchers from a deployment site in southwest Russia into eastern Ukraine. We have information that additional tanks have been prepared for departure from this same deployment site, and that's more recently," Psaki said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/state_department_says_why_russia_accumulating_tanks_on_border_with_ukraine_322991

Putin puts his troops on full combat alert, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. The troops of the Russian Central Military District have been put on full combat alert.

Such a decision was approved by President Vladimir Putin, according to ITAR-TASS. Putin's order was announced by Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu at a meeting at the Defense Ministry on Saturday.

"In line with his [Putin's] order, the Central Military District's troops and also units and garrisons deployed on its territory have been put on full combat alert since 11.00 Moscow time today," the minister said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_puts_his_troops_on_full_combat_alert_322989

Lithuanian president: Putin behaves in Ukraine like Hitler or Stalin, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaite has compared the actions of Russian leader Vladimir Putin with tactics used by Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler.

She said this in an interview with German newspaper Focus.

"When asked whether she believes such comparisons are too harsh, Grybauskaite explained: the Russian president is using the national issue as a pretext for the seizure of foreign territories - as the aforementioned dictators did," reads the report.

Grybauskaite also expressed fears that Moscow would try to convince the Baltic States to withdraw from NATO in exchange for a reduction in prices for oil or gas.

She said that Russia wants to expand its influence on the countries that were formerly part of the Soviet Union.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/lithuanian_president_putin_behaves_in_ukraine_like_hitler_or_stalin_322997

Biden to Poroshenko: World supports you, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. U.S. Vice President Joe Biden has said in a telephone conversation with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko that the whole world supports his peace plan, the press service of the Ukrainian president has reported.

Biden said the United States is amazed at how well Ukraine performs the peace plan and cease-fire.

He said that all were closely watching the situation in Ukraine and that today it was a priority for the United States.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/biden_to_poroshenko_world_supports_you_323001

Putin hails Medvedchuk's talks with terrorists, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin has welcomed the reports of the beginning of talks between the leader of the Ukrainian Choice public movement, Viktor Medvedchuk, and terrorists in eastern Ukraine.

"Putin welcomes reports about the beginning of Viktor Medvedchuk's preliminary contacts in Donetsk and Luhansk," RIA Novosti quoted Putin's press secretary Dmitry Peskov as saying.

He said that during negotiations with terrorists from the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic "Medvedchuk received the go-ahead to a meeting with the OSCE mission regarding the establishment of a dialogue between Kyiv and southeastern Ukraine, which Russia supports at ambassadorial level."

Putin is the godfather of Medvedchuk's daughter.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_hails_medvedchuks_talks_with_terrorists_323003

Russian militants planning to break into Ukraine - NSDC, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Russian mercenaries are planning soon to break into Ukraine to take part in terrorist attacks.

Spokesman for the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) information center

Volodymyr Chepovy said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Monday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Russian mercenaries from militants' training camps located in the Russian Federation are planning soon to break into Ukrainian territory to engage in terrorist and subversive activities and provide militants' forces with weapons," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russian_militants_planning_to_break_into_ukraine_nsd323011

EU waits real actions from Russia in support of Poroshenko's plan till Friday, otherwise sanctions to be applied – Foreign Secretary of Great Britain, 23.06.2014

Foreign Secretary of Great Britain William Hague states that till Friday, June 27, the EU "has an opportunity to see how Russia reacts" on the peace plan of President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin should not have doubts that the EU "can adopt further sanctions".

Hague said this in Luxemburg today before the sitting of the Foreign Affairs Council of the EU.

"Till Friday we will have an opportunity to see how Russia reacts on the peace plan. Russia, President Putin should not have doubts that in the EU we are ready to take measures. A lot of work has been done (on preparation of sanctions). If it is necessary, we are ready to take these measures", - he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/931808-eu-waits-real-actions-from-russia-in-support-of-poroshenkos-plan-till-friday-otherwise-sanctions-to-be-applied-foreign-secretary-of-great-britain.html>

Russia torpedoed obligation to ensure security of border with Ukraine – Foreign Minister of Lithuania, 23.06.2014

Foreign Minister of Lithuania Linas Linkevičius believes that Russia torpedoed its obligation to ensure security of border with Ukraine.

"In spite of feeble hope, the situation is worsening. We see an influx of not only armed people, but also heavy armament, such as tanks, via the border. An obligation to ensure the security of the border was torpedoed, and I am afraid that it will continue", - said Linkevičius.

According to his persuasion, in the European Union "we should be united and stand firmly to support the Ukrainian government, Poroshenko's peace plan, which is efficient".

"It is way out of the crisis. Today we will have a good opportunity to discuss these issues with minister (Foreign Minister of Ukraine Pavlo) Klimkin", - stressed the Foreign Minister of Lithuania.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/931810-russia-torpedoed-obligation-to-ensure-security-of-border-with-ukraine-foreign-minister-of-lithuania.html>

Hague: If Russia does not back Poroshenko's plan, EU will strengthen sanctions, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. British Foreign Secretary William Hague has said he believes that the EU will strengthen restrictive measures against Russia if it does not favor the implementation of a plan for peaceful settlement in eastern Ukraine, which was proposed by President Petro Poroshenko.

He said this ahead of a meeting of the EU Foreign Affairs Council in Luxembourg on Monday, Ukrinform reported.

"President Poroshenko has presented a strong plan, a very good peace plan. We hope now everybody, including Russia, will work with that... In the absence of that, the European Union will be able to take further measures, further sanctions on Russia, and those measures are already prepared," Hague said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/hague_if_russia_does_not_back_poroshenkos_plan_eu_will_strengthen_sanctions_323015

Germany expects Russia will concretely support Poroshenko's plan, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. The German government expects the Russian leadership to support a peace plan put forward by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko to resolve the situation in the east of the country, not only in words, but also in deeds.

German government spokesman Steffen Seibert said this in Berlin on Monday, a Ukrinform correspondent in Germany reported.

"Given the need to stop violence by separatists and yet poor security situation on the border we expect more than just words. We expect clear positions and actions from the Russian side," Seibert said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/germany_expects_russia_will_concretely_support_poroshenkos_plan_323021

Ukraine moves to second phase of visa liberalization with EU, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. The European Union has recognized the full implementation by Ukraine of the first phase of benchmarks of the action plan on visa liberalization and moved the state to the second phase.

This decision was made at a meeting of the EU Foreign Affairs Council in Luxembourg on Monday, according to Ukrinform.

"The Council shares the analysis that Ukraine has fulfilled all the benchmarks under the first phase of the Visa Liberalization Action Plan and decides to launch the assessment of the benchmarks under the second phase," the foreign ministers of EU member states said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_moves_to_second_phase_of_visa_liberalization_with_eu_323027

Ukraine controls situation on border with Russia - National Security Council, 23.06.2014

The Ukrainian-Russian borderline has been taken under control thanks to which not a single military vehicle has been noticed crossing the border in the past two days, spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine Volodymyr Chepovy has said.

"This means that the entire borderline is controllable. And data for the past two days prove that no vehicles even in attempted cases of breakthrough crossed it either way," he said at a Sunday briefing.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210455.html>

Obama calls Putin, warns him of sanctions, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. U.S. President Barack Obama called on his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in a phone conversation on Monday to take concrete action to support peace in Ukraine. Otherwise, Russia will face new sanctions.

White House spokesman Josh Earnest said this in Washington on Monday.

"The president spoke to President Putin and once again urged him to support peace instead of allowing the provision of arms and materiel across the border and continuing support for militants and separatists who are further destabilizing the situation in Ukraine," Earnest said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/obama_calls_putin_warns_him_of_sanctions_323032

Ukraine should prepare for trade war with Russia - economy minister, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Russia may soon use all available mechanisms to obstruct free trade with the EU.

Ukrainian Economy Minister Pavlo Sheremeta said this on the Freedom of Speech program on the ICTV television channel.

"In the short term, it's obvious that we need to prepare for a possible trade war scenario," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_should_prepare_for_trade_war_with_russia_economy_minister_323034

Putin plans to reinforce terrorists to strike decisive blow - Saakashvili, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Former Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili has said he believes that Russian President Vladimir Putin allegedly declares a truce to reinforce militants in eastern Ukraine to strike a decisive blow.

Saakashvili wrote this on his Facebook page.

"By announcing the truce today, Putin most likely sets three objectives. The first task is to avoid sectoral sanctions from the West, which would be inevitable if no agreement was reached now. Secondly, Putin failed to create new subjects in the form of bandits from the DPR, which will help in future refer to the conflict between Ukraine and the DPR, rather than between Ukraine and Russia. And the third task is to try to reduce the vigilance of the Ukrainian government, secretly reinforce bandits to strike a decisive blow and expel Ukrainian troops from Donetsk and Luhansk," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_plans_to_reinforce_terrorists_to_strike_decisive_blow_saakashvili_323040

Donetsk talks result in agreements on ceasefire, release of hostages – Parubiy, 24.06.2014

A trilateral group to implement Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's peace plan in the east of Ukraine has reached a ceasefire agreement in Donetsk on Monday, Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council Andriy Parubiy said.

"Agreement has been reached to cease fire, release the hostages and ensure the possibility of rebuilding infrastructure in the region," Parubiy said on ICTV on Monday. The ceasefire agreement was reached during the Donetsk meeting of the Ukraine-Russia-OSCE contact group on settling the situation in Donbas, he said.

"Literally during these hours Ukrainian specialists have been repairing the water supply in Sloviansk," he said.

As was reported, representatives of Ukraine, the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) and Luhansk People's Republic (LPR), and the Russian Federation held multilateral talks at Donetsk Regional State Administration on Monday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210638.html>

Donetsk mayor hopes hostages will be released after agreement on truce in east Ukraine, 24.06.2014

Donetsk Mayor Oleksandr Lukyanchenko has said he appreciated the consultations held in the regional center on June 23 and hopes for the effectiveness of the announced ceasefire.

"I support this initiative and hope that this meeting will lead to fruitful negotiations... We know that a truce was declared. I hope that hostages and prisoners will be released during the truce. I also hope that in the period of truce we will be able to finish the repairs to the Siversky Donets-Donbas canal," he said at a press conference in Donetsk on Tuesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210692.html>

Donbas separatists promise not to shoot until June 27, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Second Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, who attended negotiations in Donetsk on the settlement of the situation in east Ukraine, has said that the parties managed to agree on a cease-fire until the morning on June 27, the News of Donbass online newspaper has reported.

"We agreed on a bilateral cease-fire until 10.00 on June 27," Kuchma said at a press briefing after the talks on Monday.

OSCE representatives, who also attended the meeting, in turn, said that they would conduct joint work to find the group that disappeared in the Donetsk region.

On Monday, the Donetsk Regional State Administration hosted multilateral negotiations between representatives of Ukraine, the OSCE, the self-proclaimed "Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics" and Russia.

The talks were attended by Russia's Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov, envoy of the OSCE chairperson-in-office Heidi Tagliavini, and Kuchma.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/donbas_separatists_promise_not_to_shoot_until_june_27_323048

Putin decides not to use Russian army in Ukraine, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin, before flying to Vienna, has sent a letter to Russian Federation Council Head Valentina Matviyenko requesting the cancellation of a resolution on the use of the Russian army on Ukrainian territory, Russian presidential press secretary Dmitry Peskov has said.

"This was done to normalize the situation in the eastern regions of Ukraine and comes in response to the launch of trilateral negotiations on this matter," RIA Novosti quoted Peskov as saying.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_decides_not_to_use_russian_army_in_ukraine_323052

Poroshenko reacts to Putin's appeal to cancel decision on using Russian troops in Ukraine, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko thinks that the cancellation by President Vladimir Putin of his decision to use the Russian army in Ukraine is the first practical for the settlement of the situation in Donbas, the press service of the head of state has reported.

"The Ukrainian president considers Vladimir Putin's appeal to the Federation Council - on cancelling the decision to use the Russian Armed Forces in Ukraine of March 1, 2014 - to be the first practical step after the official support by the Russian president of the Ukrainian plan to settle the situation in Donbas," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_reacts_to_putins_appeal_to_cancel_decision_on_using_russian_troops_in_ukraine_323054

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210739.html>

NSDC says Medvedchuk not representing Ukraine at peace plan talks, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. The National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) cannot say what Ukrainian Choice public movement leader Viktor Medvedchuk does at negotiations between Ukrainian representative Leonid Kuchma and terrorists.

NSDC information center spokesman Volodymyr Chepovy said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Tuesday.

"This is not the Ukrainian side," he said, when commenting on Medvedchuk's role in the talks.

Chepovy also could not explain whom Nestor Shufrych represents. "Second Ukrainian President [Leonid] Kuchma represents the Ukrainian side in the work of the trilateral contact group," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nsdc_says_medvedchuk_not_representing_ukraine_at_peace_plan_talks_323058

Militants may attack Kharkiv and Odesa – Hrytsenko, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Former Ukrainian Defense Minister Anatoliy Hrytsenko has said he believes that militants are not going to lay down their arms. Moreover, he thinks they may attack Kharkiv and Odesa.

"The president's peace plan has been disrupted literally since the first day. Obviously, you have to think of plan 'B,' which, he said, has been worked out in detail... Time is just delayed, and terrorists can regroup in order to then strike blows in Kharkiv or Odesa, or in other regions," he said in an interview with Radio Liberty.

He recalled that according to negotiator Leonid Kuchma, terrorists had allegedly promised not to shoot until June 27. "This means that they are not even talking about

laying down their arms. This was a key position in Poroshenko's plan. In other words, this position has been disrupted," Ukraine's former defense minister said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/militants_may_attack_kharkiv_and_odesa_hrytsenko_323060

Ukraine needs to regain control over eastern border – Steinmeier, 24.06.2014

German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier has stressed the importance of Ukraine's regaining control over its eastern border.

"Ukraine should regain control over its borders, which it has lost," he told reporters after talks with his Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko in Kyiv on Tuesday.

Steinmeier said that it also depended on Russia's readiness to cooperate.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210740.html>

EU welcomes intention of Putin to cancel permission on use of troops in Ukraine, 24.06.2014

Official representative of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Catherine Ashton Maja Kocijancic said this to RIA Novosti.

"The EU constantly called on Russia to cancel permission of the Council of Federation on use of force in Ukraine. We welcome the steps undertaken by President Putin in this direction and we hope it will be implemented without delay", - said Kocijancic.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/932462-eu-welcomes-intention-of-putin-to-cancel-permission-on-use-of-troops-in-ukraine.html>

Medvedchuk says not representing interests of terrorists, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Choice movement leader Viktor Medvedchuk has said that he did not represent the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic, which were recognized by the Ukrainian authorities as terrorist organizations, during consultations in Donetsk on June 23, his press office has reported.

"I have never represented the interests of the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic. In a group of negotiation mediators involving MP Nestor Shufrych, we have conducted negotiations with representatives of the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic to achieve a peaceful settlement of the conflict in eastern Ukraine... The information allegedly disseminated on behalf of the OSCE is untrue," Medvedchuk said.

A report posted on the OSCE website on Tuesday said that Medvedchuk represented the Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic in peace negotiations on June 23.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/medvedchuk_says_not_representing_interests_of_terrorists_323076

Draft changes to Ukrainian Constitution on decentralization of power will be submitted to Rada on June 26 - Poroshenko, 25.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said the draft changes to the Ukrainian Constitution dealing with the decentralization of power will be submitted to the parliament on June 26.

"Tomorrow this draft version of the Constitution will be registered in the Ukrainian parliament and sent to the Venice Commission, which will make its conclusions," Poroshenko said while meeting with representatives of local self-government bodies and state administration bodies in Kyiv on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210864.html>

Foreign Ministry: Terrorists encouraged by Russia feel impunity and want war, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian Foreign Ministry believes that terrorists in eastern Ukraine came to wage war and will stop at nothing to destroy peace and safety

in Ukraine.

The ministry issued such a statement on Wednesday, while commented on the killing of Ukrainian servicemen and violations by terrorists of the ceasefire, the ministry's press service reported.

"Once again we see that terrorists do not need peace, they came to wage war and will stop at nothing to destroy peace and safety in Ukraine," reads the statement.

The Foreign Ministry said that more than 40 incidents with the use of weapons by terrorist had been recorded since June 20. In particular, nine Ukrainian servicemen were killed after a Mi-8 helicopter was shot down with MANPADS near Sloviansk on June 24. According to the Foreign Ministry, two more servicemen were killed and four injured during the day after terrorists opened fire on a roadblock of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

"All these horrible cases show that despite declarative statements by the Russian Federation, Russian terrorists feel impunity and promotion. Moscow has never once condemned terrorist attacks and as a matter of principle does not express regret over numerous deaths committed by militants and terrorists," the ministry said.

In this regard, the ministry urged Ukraine's international partners and the whole civilized world to show solidarity in countering aggression in eastern Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/foreign_ministry_terrorists_encouraged_by_russia_feel_impunity_and_want_war_323078

Ukrainian interior minister says series of terror attacks averted in Odesa, 25.06.2014

A number of young men contemplating terror attacks in Odesa have been apprehended, the Ukrainian Interior Ministry press service quoted Minister Arsen Avakov as saying. Avakov said the detainees had tried to destabilize the situation in the city.

"The young men planned to carry out their plot during a demonstration near the Russian Consulate General in Odesa but the police detained them," the report runs.

The police seized explosive devices, one of which the plotters tried to bring to the demonstration site near the Russian consulate. The other two devices were found later, the minister said.

Avakov assured the people that the local police force and the Ukrainian Interior Ministry were set to provide law and order in the region.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210841.html>

NATO: Russia has invented new type of warfare, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen has called Russian aggression against Ukraine a new type of warfare.

He said this before a meeting of the North Atlantic Council at the level of foreign ministers, which takes place in Brussels on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"We have seen Russia using a new different type of warfare against Ukraine," Rasmussen said.

He said that NATO now needs to determine how to deal with this threat in the longer term.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nato_russia_has_invented_new_type_of_warfare_323080

Ukrainian will remain sole state and constitutional language in Ukraine - Poroshenko, 25.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that the Ukrainian remains the only official language in Ukraine.

"Ukrainian was, is and will be the only state and constitutional language of Ukraine," he said at a meeting with representatives of local government agencies and state

authorities in Kyiv on Wednesday.

He said that the decentralization of power would also concern the linguistic and cultural spheres.

"Local communities will have the full right to use all other languages, including Russian, on a par with Ukrainian," Poroshenko said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210865.html>

Poroshenko promises to adapt Ukrainian laws to European standards after signing association agreement with EU, 25.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said he is confident that the association agreement with the European Union can be successfully implemented.

"Ukraine will become a full-fledged associated member of the EU in the presence of 28 heads of states and governments of the EU countries in Brussels on Friday, June 27.

This is what we have fought for the recent months and years, since 2007," Poroshenko said during a meeting with representatives of public administration and local self-government bodies in Kyiv on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210869.html>

Ukrainian army lost 142 troops since March - Koval, 25.06.2014

Ukraine has lost 142 troops since the exacerbation of the situation in Ukraine in March 2014, acting Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval said.

"A total of 142 our troops were killed," he told reporters in Kyiv on Wednesday.

Koval specified that he is talking about the losses of the Ukrainian army from the beginning of the events in Crimea in spring 2014, when two Ukrainian troops were killed, to this day.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210915.html>

Poroshenko answers those, who demand "tough" and fact military actions in east, 25.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko believes that a beginning of a dialogue in east of the country is a positive fact.

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he said this, delivering a speech at the meeting of representatives of local self-governmental bodies and state power bodies "Day of dialogue".

"I know that the sheer fact of these consultations sparked multivalued reaction in society. There are "hawks", who demand fast tough military actions. Others demand scale compromises "just to prevent a war". I will answer both sides: our goal is not a war, not we, not Ukraine of its beginning. Our goal is a peace. But I stress: a peace is not at all hazards and not under all conditions. We will not hesitate to repulse adequately armed aggressor, who encroaches on unity and integrity of our state", - said Poroshenko.

Poroshenko noted that he had to made a rather difficult decision on unilateral cease-fire in east of Ukraine.

"A dialogue on implementation of presidential plan on settlement of the situation in Donbass has started", - said Poroshenko and he reminded that the peace plan consists of 15 items and one the main item is an immediate demilitarization of the region and a renewal of control over the Russian-Ukrainian border.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/932758-poroshenko-answers-those-who-demand-tough-and-fact-military-actions-in-east.html>

Ukrainian government to have deputy prime minister for European integration, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian government could introduce the post of deputy prime minister in charge of European integration.

Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk said this at a Cabinet of Ministers meeting on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"I think it is necessary [to introduce the post of] deputy prime minister for European integration at the Cabinet of Ministers, who will head the EU department," Yatseniuk said.

He also instructed government members to speed up the process of appointment of deputy ministers responsible for European integration. "Please urgently speed up the competition [for the selection of candidates] and appoint new people," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_government_to_have_deputy_prime_minister_for_european_integration_323093

President: We need peace, but not at any cost, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has set the goal of establishing peace in eastern Ukraine, but not at any cost and not on any terms.

The head of state said this at a meeting with representatives of local and state government agencies in Kyiv on Wednesday.

"I know that the fact of such consultations was perceived by the public ambiguously. So-called 'hawks' want quick and tough military action, while others are demanding large-scale compromises - so that there was no war. Let me tell both sides: the war is not our goal. It was not us, Ukraine, who started it. Our goal is peace, but let me point out - peace cannot be won at any cost and on any terms," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/president_we_need_peace_but_not_at_any_cost_323095

Over 22,000 forced migrants officially registered in Ukraine - social policy minister, 25.06.2014

As of today, about 22,000 forced migrants from Crimea and Sevastopol, the Donetsk and Luhansk regions are officially registered in Ukraine, Ukrainian Minister for Social Policy Liudmyla Denisova said at a news conference in Kyiv.

"As of today, 10,500 people - forced migrants from Crimea and Sevastopol - are registered and 11,777 people are forced migrants, who registered in regional headquarters, from the Donetsk and Luhansk regions," she said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210934.html>

Russia sending fighter aircraft to Ukrainian border, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. Russia has sent a squadron of MiG-29 fighter aircraft to the border with Ukraine and is conducting reconnaissance flights.

Spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council Volodymyr Chepovy said this at a briefing on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"A squadron of MiG-29 fighter aircraft has arrived in the city of Millerovo in the Rostov region of Russia, 30 kilometers from the border with Ukraine," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_sending_fighter_aircraft_to_ukrainian_border_323103

NATO to set up trust fund to strengthen Ukraine's defense capacity, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization has agreed to establish a trust fund and outlined concrete measures for further assistance in strengthening Ukraine's defense capacity.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said this in his opening remarks at a meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission in Brussels on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"NATO and individual allies have already provided advice, as well as technical and material support. We have now endorsed a package of additional measures. This includes the establishment of new trust funds to support defense capacity building," he

said.

Rasmussen said that NATO allies would continue supporting Ukraine in its efforts to build a strong army and to reform the security sector to defend a sovereign, united and democratic Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nato_to_set_up_trust_fund_to_strengthen_ukraines_defense_capacity_323105

European companies should start purchasing gas on Russian-Ukrainian border - Prodan, 25.06.2014

European companies should start purchasing gas on Ukraine's border with Russia in order to guarantee that there are enough reserves at Ukrainian underground gas storage facilities (UGSF) by winter, Ukrainian Minister of Energy and the Coal Industry Yuriy Prodan said.

"We have invited European companies to buy gas from Gazprom at the Ukraine-Russia border. European companies have all the legal groundwork to purchase gas and store it at Ukrainian UGSFs. Of course the answer here rests with Gazprom, but we don't think Gazprom can refuse European companies in such a situation. And in any case, Ukrainian UGSFs will be provided with a reliable volume of gas," Prodan said at a briefing in Brussels on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/210982.html>

Putin should publicly call on separatists in Ukraine's east to lay down their arms – Kerry, 26.06.2014

U.S. State Secretary John Kerry has said that they expect Russian President Vladimir Putin to publicly call on pro-Russian fighters in Ukraine to lay down their arms and to take concrete steps to stop the flow of weapons and equipment across the border to Ukraine.

Speaking after a meeting of the foreign ministers of NATO member states in Brussels on Wednesday, he praised Putin's decision to retract the law which empowered Russia to take action in Ukraine, but noted that "it could be reversed in 10 minutes."

"The greatest difference will be made by the president publicly calling for the separatists to lay down their arms, by President Putin engaging his diplomatic service actively in the effort to help empty buildings, helping to get people to disarm, helping to convene the meetings that need to take place in order to negotiate and to move forward," the press service of the U.S. Department of State quoted Kerry as saying.

"There are concrete actions – moving forces out, not allowing tanks and rocket launchers to actually cross the border," he added.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211012.html>

Militants turn lake in Sloviansk into mass grave, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Hundreds of the bodies of Russian mercenaries have been found in a lake in Sloviansk, Donetsk region.

The acting chief of the directorate for work with personnel of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Major-General Oleksandr Rozmaznin, said this on June 24, TSN reported.

"In Sloviansk, a diver plunged into the water and saw hundreds of corpses in a lake. These are unwept and unburied sons of the Russian fatherland. They bury those militants like this. These are unknown mass graves that are filled with militants from Russia. And they, unfortunately, will be considered missing," he said.

Earlier, regional media reported about crowded local morgues, fresh graves in forests, and mass removal of "cargo 200" to Russia.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/militants_turn_lake_in_sloviansk_into_mass_grave_323112

Lavrov advises Ukraine to inform militants about routes of its helicopters, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov has said that amid a truce the conflicting parties in Ukraine have to notify each other about the movement of military vehicles to avoid incidents.

He said this, while commenting on the situation with a Mi-8 helicopter of the National Guard of Ukraine downed near Sloviansk on Tuesday, ITAR-TASS reported.

"The Ukrainian president has announced that he may terminate this regime [ceasefire] earlier than expected after the helicopter was shot down. Of course, that would be a tragedy, it should be avoided. But when people, engaged in fierce fighting for many months, are holding the positions around the towns in which civilians live, and here a military helicopter is flying," Lavrov said.

He also added: "If there had been medicines or some food or some other civilian goods to be delivered, communications channels should probably have been used. There are such channels there."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/lavrov_advices_ukraine_to_inform_militants_about_routes_of_its_helicopters_323123

Ukraine leader seeks clergy's role in peace plan implementation, 26.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has called on representatives of different churches and faiths to help implement his plan to restore peace to the country's Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the head of state's press service said.

"Our Church should not stand on the sidelines. It seems to me that in these conditions the Church's involvement and its charitable mission would be increasingly important," Poroshenko was quoted as saying by his press service.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211020.html>

Kuchma calls not to disrupt the tripartite consultation contact group to resolve the situation in the Donbass, 26.06.2014

Second Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, who is a member of the tripartite contact group, has said that on behalf of the Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, he and other members of the group are ready to hold another meeting to resolve the situation in Ukraine's east.

"While the trilateral contact group is ready to seek ways to peace, the consultations have not started, no signals have arrived from the other side, whereas 32 hours remain until the ceasefire ends," Kuchma said in a statement made available to Interfax-Ukraine on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211055.html>

Turchynov refutes that he invited Medvedchuk and Shufrych to negotiations on settlement of situation in east in Donbass, 26.06.2014

Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Oleksandr Turchynov refuted information that he had invited ex chief of staff of the Administration of President Victor Medvedchuk and lawmaker of the Party of Regions Nestor Shufrych for mediation in talks concerning settlement of the situation in east of Ukraine.

"Having been at position of acting President of Ukraine, Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada Oleksandr Turchynov did not hold negotiations with terrorists. Oleksandr Turchynov publicly said this during attempts of terrorists to present Ukrainian authorities with ultimatums. That is why he did not need any mediators", - the press service noted.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/933161-turchynov-refutes-that-he-invited-medvedchuk-and-shufrych-to-negotiations-on-settlement-of-situation-in-east-in-donbass.html>

Poroshenko hopes early parliamentary elections in Ukraine will take place in October, 26.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said he hopes early elections to the Verkhovna Rada will be held in October.

"The most democratic way is early parliamentary elections, which I intend to call, and I hope they will be held in October this year," Poroshenko said at a Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) session in Strasbourg on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211079.html>

Eighteen troops were killed during unilateral ceasefire in eastern Ukraine - Poroshenko, 26.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said Ukrainian troops are still being killed by members of illegal armed groups in eastern Ukraine despite the unilateral ceasefire declared by the Ukrainian administration.

"A total of 174 of our troops are now held hostage, almost 150 have been killed, and over 300 have been wounded. Eighteen troops were killed and 27 were wounded in less than a week since the ceasefire was declared. A ten-month-old baby was killed in a grenade attack the day before yesterday," Poroshenko said at the PACE session in Strasbourg on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211095.html>

Kerry expects Moscow to prove it helps disarm illegal armed groups in eastern Ukraine, 26.06.2014

Russia must prove that it is working to help disarm illegal armed groups in the east of Ukraine, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has said.

"We are in full agreement that it is critical for Russia to show in the next hours, literally, that they are moving to help disarm the separatists, to encourage them to disarm, to call on them to lay down their weapons and begin to become part of a legitimate political process," Kerry told reporters in Paris on Thursday after a meeting with French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211109.html>

Interior Ministry demands gunmen urgently release children held captive in eastern Ukraine, 26.06.2014

Ukrainian law enforcers have demanded that members of illegal armed formations immediately release the children who are held captive by militants in eastern Ukraine.

"I want to appeal to those who currently hold our children as hostages... These shameful actions are not just inhumane, these are the actions of obscurants and godless people," the Ukrainian interior minister's adviser, Zorian Shkiriak, said at a briefing in Kyiv on Thursday.

He said: "We are demanding the immediate release of our children. These are Ukrainian children, and the state wants and will worry about them. We are waiting for them and demanding their immediate return."

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211122.html>

Poroshenko: Peace Plan to work only with Russia's support, 26.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko called on Russia again to support the peace plan on settlement of the situation in Donbass by actions, which are not enough for the present.

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he said this, delivering speech at sitting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

The President reminded that the peace plan was supported by all world countries and Ukraine is grateful for that.

"At the same time it is obvious that this peace plan will work only with support of Russia. Unfortunately, this support is absolutely not enough for the present", - he stressed.
<http://www.unian.info/politics/933348-poroshenko-peace-plan-to-work-only-with-russias-support.html>

Poroshenko: DPR, LPR show interest in negotiations, 26.06.14.

Representatives of the self-proclaimed Donetsk and Luhansk people's republics have shown an interest in peace talks, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said.

"We have received a confirmation that they demonstrated an interest in participating [in the negotiations] practically half an hour ago," Poroshenko said at a session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) in Strasbourg.

"If this [option] is rejected tomorrow we will make a very important decision," the chief of state said declining to specify what decision that might be.

Kyiv did its best to achieve peace by presenting a peace plan and drawing up amendments to the constitution and an amnesty bill, the president stressed.

"If the hands we stretch out in a gesture of peace hang in the air it will be hard to keep our position for long," Poroshenko said in answer to the question whether gunfire would resume in the case the militia refused to lay down arms.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211078.html>

Poroshenko sets deadline for terrorists, otherwise 'logical decision' will be made, 26.06.14.

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has set a deadline for terrorists in eastern Ukraine to cease fire and join his peace plan. Otherwise, "a logical decision will be made."

The head of state said this, while responding to questions from PACE parliamentarians in Strasbourg on Thursday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Yesterday [on June 25] we agreed [with the leaders of Germany, France and Russia] to continue the work of the commission on peaceful settlement. This commission is trilateral, comprised of an OSCE representative, Ukraine and the Russian ambassador. Separatists are not interested in this, they have yet shown no interest. If our proposals are rejected, a very important decision will be made," he said, without specifying which decision should be expected.

Poroshenko recalled that ATO forces had unilaterally ceased fire, while separatists had not done that and are continuing to attack Ukrainian units.

"We were the first to offer reconciliation, and if this offer is rejected, it will be difficult for us to understand it. We will act appropriately," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_gives_terrorists_12_hours_otherwise_logical_decision_will_be_made_323139

NSDC confirms Russian border guards killing militants who flee from Ukraine, 26.06.14.

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. The Russian border service does not let into the country the terrorists returning from the combat zone.

National Security and Defense Council information center spokesman Andriy Lysenko said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Thursday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Border guards let militants who leave Russia for Ukraine without noticing them, but in the opposite direction they eliminate them," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/nsdc_confirms_russian_border_guards_killing_militants_who_flee_from_ukraine_323129

Terrorists in eastern Ukraine killing those who are ready to surrender, 26.06.14.

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Some militants are ready to lay down their arms, but the leaders of terrorist groups severely suppress these attempts, killing them on the spot.

The interior minister's adviser, Zorian Shkiriak, said this at a briefing in Kyiv on Thursday.

"Yes, we have such information. Some militants are really prepared to lay down their arms," he said, while answering a question from a Ukrinform reporter.

According to Shkiriak, now these issues are within the competence of concerned persons.

However, he said that the leaders of terrorist groups were suppressing attempts by certain individuals to surrender.

"As far as I know, there was a shooting by the commanders of terrorist groups of their subordinates who tried to lay down their weapons," he added.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_in_eastern_ukraine_killing_those_who_are_ready_to_surrender_323141

Interior Ministry demands gunmen urgently release children held captive in eastern Ukraine, 26.06.14.

Ukrainian law enforcers have demanded that members of illegal armed formations immediately release the children who are held captive by militants in eastern Ukraine.

"I want to appeal to those who currently hold our children as hostages... These shameful actions are not just inhumane, these are the actions of obscurants and godless people," the Ukrainian interior minister's adviser, Zorian Shkiriak, said at a briefing in Kyiv on Thursday.

He said: "We are demanding the immediate release of our children. These are Ukrainian children, and the state wants and will worry about them. We are waiting for them and demanding their immediate return."

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211122.html>

Poroshenko urges Russia to stop flow of lies, 26.06.14.

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has called on Russia to stop the flow of lies and hatred spread by the Russian media regarding the events in Ukraine.

He said this in his speech at a plenary meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg on Thursday.

"Ukraine is monolithic. It is necessary to stop the flows of lies and hatred spread by the Russian media, as it does not help establish peace," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_urges_russia_to_stop_flow_of_lies_323137

Ukraine cannot normalize relations with Russia without return of Crimea, says Poroshenko, 26.06.14.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has said that the talks with Russia are aimed at achieving peace in Ukraine, but bilateral relations cannot be normalized unless Crimea is returned.

"Our relations cannot be normalized without the return of Crimea. But we are peaceful people. And so the Ukrainian authorities, and I, as president, have offered a peace plan," he said at a session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) in Strasbourg on Thursday.

Poroshenko said that on Wednesday during a telephone talk with Russian President Vladimir Putin, French President Francois Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Putin expressed his support for the Ukrainian president's peace plan.

However, Kyiv expects such support in deeds, not just in words, Poroshenko said.

"We are waiting for such actions. Step up the border protection, put an end to the illegal flow of equipment, stop recruiting mercenaries and lastly, withdraw the troops," the Ukrainian president said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211091.html>

Ukrainian authorities have evidences that Yanukovich finances terrorists – Klimkin, 26.06.2014

The press service of the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine disclosed to UNIAN that Foreign Minister of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin said this in an interview with Die Presse newspaper. "We have a lot of evidences that former President Yanukovich supports terrorists. We also pressure the Russian party in order to block these sources of financing", - he said. According to his words, this aid has increased during recent days: recruiting centers function in Rostov-on-Don, terrorists gets heavy armament again.

"Yesterday I informed ministers of the EU member-states about the following fact: In Rostov-on-Don you can simply call on phone and sign up. It should be stopped. Otherwise, we have no chances for de-escalation", - said Klimkin.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/933337-ukrainian-authorities-have-evidences-that-yanukovich-finances-terrorists-klimkin.html>

Kuchma calls for swift arrival of Russian monitors to Donbas, 26.06.14.

Ukraine's second president Leonid Kuchma has said that observers must urgently arrive to the Donbas region as was agreed earlier at consultations between members of the contact group.

"Unless we urgently ensure monitoring there, by observers from the OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe), Russia and so on, each side will be blaming the other, and nothing will come out of it," he told journalists in Kyiv on Thursday.

Kuchma added: "If we don't resolve the border issue today, if they do not give us back those three points (checkpoints) they seized after Poroshenko signed the decree ... then this issue will have to be resolved militarily."

"But the 28th is a deadline from which Ukraine, primarily its president, cannot walk away. No one is going to play a blind man's buff with them," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211123.html>

Naftogaz dismisses DPR's claims of controlling GTS, UGS in Donbas, 26.06.14.

Naftogaz Ukrainy has dismissed claims by representatives of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) about having gained control over the gas transportation system (GTS) and underground gas storage (UGS) facilities in the Donbas area.

"This is not true," Naftogaz chief Andriy Kobolev told Interfax-Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/211140.html>

Signing of Association Agreement with EU is one of historical moments for years of independence of Ukraine – Poroshenko, 27.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko said this to journalists in Brussels before the signing ceremony of the agreement.

"I believe that it is one of the historical days after independence. I believe that we should use this opportunity to modernize the country. We need a peace and security for that. We also expect that today the EU will demonstrate the same solidarity as before", - said the President of Ukraine.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/933605-signing-of-association-agreement-with-eu-is-one-of-historical-moments-for-years-of-independence-of-ukraine-poroshenko.html>

Barroso calls signing of Association Agreement with Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova historical, 27.06.2014

President of the European Commission José Manuel Barroso said this to journalists before the signing ceremony of the agreement.

"It is a historical moment for these countries. In spite of all the difficulties, we will sign the agreements with Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia. I believe that it is a victory situation not only for all the countries, but for whole Europe", - stressed Barroso.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/933608-barroso-calls-signing-of-association-agreement-with-ukraine-georgia-and-moldova-historical.html>

Terrorists have only several hours to lay down arms - Avakov, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov has promised an adequate, but tough response to terrorists who do not lay down their arms in the next few hours.

He said this in the events on the occasion of the graduation of students of the National Academy of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"I think all those who are adequate might get a few more hours to meet the conditions set by Ukraine. Otherwise we will act appropriately and toughly," Avakov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_have_only_several_hours_to_lay_down_arms_avakov_323155

Ukraine to ratify Association Agreement with EU as soon as possible - Poroshenko, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine is ready to ensure as soon as possible the speedy ratification of the Association Agreement with the European Union and expects the same steps from European capitals.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said this at the ceremony to sign the agreement in Brussels on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"We are ready to hold the ratification as soon as possible. We also very much hope for quick ratification in European capitals," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_to_ratify_association_agreement_with_eu_as_soon_as_possible_poroshenko_323161

Hrytsenko: Sons of all high-ranking officials should be sent to Donbas, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. The sons of all high-ranking officials - from the president to the governor and lower officials - have to serve in the area of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO), and then problems with provisions will be quickly resolved.

Civil Position Party leader Anatolii Hrytsenko said this on the ZIK television channel.

"They have to feel what is going on there and say, for example, that there are only 50 bulletproof vests for a unit of 300 persons, that there's lack of weapons, drinking water and medicines. Then they would have completed the ATO more quickly... The war should be for everyone. It cannot be so that the adult sons of high-ranking officials are somewhere aside, whereas the others are at the front. There must be unity," the politician said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/hrytsenko_sons_of_all_high_ranking_officials_should_be_sent_to_donbas_323179

Gazprom not to be involved in Ukrainian GTS modernization, 28.06.2014

KYIV, June 28 /Ukrinform/. Russia's Gazprom will not be involved in the modernization of Ukraine's gas transportation system (GTS).

Gazprom CEO Alexei Miller said this at a press conference following an annual meeting of Gazprom stockholders on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"As for Gazprom's position on the modernization of the Ukrainian gas transportation system with Americans, Europeans etc, you know, we currently have no interest in this project. That boat has already sailed and it did not sail yesterday. We will not be involved in the modernization of Ukraine's gas transportation system," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_not_to_be_involved_in_ukrainian_gts_modernization_323183

Putin names condition for negotiations between Kyiv and eastern Ukraine, 28.06.2014

KYIV, June 28 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin believes that Ukraine should continue the ceasefire regime and resume dialogue with militants in the Donbas. He said this at the presentation of credentials to the ambassadors of foreign countries, the Kremlin's press service reported.

"Ukraine needs to return to the path of peace, dialogue and reconciliation. The main thing is to secure a long-term ceasefire as a necessary condition for holding in-depth talks between the Kyiv authorities and representatives of the southeastern region," Putin said.

He noted that Russia favors "the complete cessation of bloodshed on the whole territory of the conflict, especially along the line of our borders."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_names_condition_for_negotiations_between_kyiv_and_eastern_ukraine_323189

Kuchma does not see sense in holding next meeting of trilateral contact group on settling of situation in east Ukraine until Monday, 28.06.2014

Second Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has said that there is no sense to hold consultations on settling the situation in the east of the country until Monday.

"The decision of the European Union was made and President [of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko] announced [another] 72 hours [of ceasefire], why should we baby them? Why should we hold talks with them today? We're waiting until Monday," he told reporters in Kyiv on Saturday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211365.html>

Renewed Constitution to lay foundation for formation of modern political nation, says Ukrainian president, 28.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is convinced that the renewed Constitution of Ukraine will strengthen the grounds of public unity and lay the foundation for the formation of modern political nation.

"However, a common vision of all political and social forces of common purpose and a responsible attitude to the solution of urgent challenges of state building will be the key to further progress and prosperity of Ukraine," reads an address of the Ukrainian President to the people of Ukraine on the occasion of the Day of the Constitution of Ukraine.

"I call on all citizens to unite efforts for conciliation in the society, successful development of the country, happy future of current and next generations," he said.

"Currently, Ukraine is probably coming through the most difficult challenge in the days of its independence – a challenge for unity and territorial integrity," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211377.html>

Medvedchuk hopes compromise to be found during consultations on settling situation in east Ukraine, 28.06.2014

Viktor Medvedchuk, the head of the Ukrainian Choice movement, who is participating in consultations on settling the situation in the eastern part of Ukraine, has expressed hope that the consultations will be success.

"First results of the negotiations in Donbas inspire. Four OSCE observers – citizens of Switzerland, Turkey, Estonia and Denmark – are released. Hope that a compromise will be found has appeared and we'll manage to find a way of the present situation, retaining the territorial integrity of Ukraine and restoring peace," he wrote on his Facebook page on Saturday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211382.html>

Residents of eastern Ukraine actively resisting militants - NSDC, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Civilians are more actively resisting militants in the anti-terrorism zone.

National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) information center spokesman Andriy Lysenko said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Monday.

"For example, yesterday in Sloviansk civilians held a rally demanding that terrorists move their fighting positions outside the district area and stop firing at the ATO forces. The protest was halted by armed militants with threats, some protesters were detained and sent to the forced construction of defensive structures of the town," Lysenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/residents_of_eastern_ukraine_actively_resisting_militants_nsd_323215

Kolomoisky supports Medvedchuk as governor of Donetsk region - media, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Head of Dnipropetrovsk Regional State Administration Ihor Kolomoisky has said he is confident that Viktor Medvedchuk's appointment as governor of the Donetsk region is the last chance to avoid a full-scale war in the Donbas. Oleksandr Tkachenko, the director general of the 1+1 media holding owned by Kolomoisky, reported this on his Facebook page.

"I'm not just for Medvedchuk's appointment as governor of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions. I am aggressively for this. If the leaders of separatists do not agree with his nomination, this means that they ignored [Russian President Vladimir] Putin [who is believed to be godfather to Medvedchuk's daughter]," Kolomoisky said in a telephone conversation with Tkachenko.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/kolomoisky_supports_medvedchuk_as_governor_of_donetsk_region_media_323193

Poroshenko soon to switch to Plan B - Hrytsenko, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has declared a truce with terrorists under pressure from Western countries and may soon switch to the so-called Plan B.

Former Ukrainian Defense Minister and MP Anatoliy Hrytsenko said this on the Inter television channel on Sunday evening.

"I think Poroshenko realizes that negotiations [with separatists] will end in nothing. Obviously, it was pressure from the West... The president will finally say: 'I've done everything you wanted, so you see how all this ends. I am implementing Plan B,'" he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_soon_to_switch_to_plan_b_hrytsenko_323217

Actions of Authorities

CEC DECLARES POROSHENKO PRESIDENT, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. The Central Election Commission (CEC) declared Petro Poroshenko the President of Ukraine elected in the early presidential elections on May 25.

The protocol was signed by all CEC members at a meeting on Monday, according to the Ukrainska Pravda on-line edition.

The document was also signed by authorized representatives of some presidential candidates.

Poroshenko scored the majority of votes - 54.7% (9,857,308 people). Thus, the elections are declared valid in one round.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/cec_declares_poroshenko_president_322297

Verkhovna Rada gives go-ahead to Tsariov's arrest, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. MPs passed bills to prosecute and detain MP Oleh Tsarev, who is suspected of supporting separatists.

226 and 235 MPs voted in favor of the bills, a Ukrinform reporter said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/verkhovna_rada_gives_go_ahead_to_tsariovs_arrest_322314

Poroshenko to swear allegiance to Ukrainians on June 7, 3.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Newly elected President Poroshenko will swear allegiance to the Ukrainian people in the session hall of the Verkhovna Rada on June 7.

300 MPs voted for the decision, a Ukrinform reporter said.

According to the document, a solemn session dedicated to taking the oath by the elected head of state will be held on June 7 at 10.00 in the session hall of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_to_swear_allegiance_to_ukrainians_on_june_7_322318

Turchynov orders NSDC to reflect on martial law in ATO area, 3.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. Acting President of Ukraine/Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Oleksandr Turchynov ordered Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council (NSDC) Andriy Parubiy together with a number of agencies to immediately consider the need to impose martial law in the area of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO).

Turchynov said this in his decree available on the presidential website.

"I order to immediately work out with the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Security Service of Ukraine, Administration of the State Border Guard Service the need to impose martial law in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where the terrorist operation is carried out, to prevent further development and cessation of the armed conflict in Ukraine, prevent mass civilian casualties and the military and law enforcement personnel, ensure stabilization of the situation and resume normal life in these regions of the state," the document says.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/turchynov_orders_nsdcs_to_reflect_on_martial_law_in_ato_area_322366

SBU blocks bank accounts of terrorists, 3.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine jointly with the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine blocked the source of funding of terrorist activities in the east of the state.

The SBU press center informs.

They indicated that a radical activist of the Luhansk Guard organization, resident of Luhansk region "P" placed in social networks calls for citizens to provide financial support to this organization for organization of separatist and terrorist actions in Luhansk region. To this end, he has opened three individual accounts in one of the banks.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sbu_blocks_bank_accounts_of_terrorists_322416

Akhmetov Foundation evacuates 1,400 people from Donetsk region, most children, 04.06.2014

The Rinat Akhmetov Foundation for the Development of Ukraine has evacuated about 1,400 people from Donetsk region, most of them children, SCM communications director Natalia Yemchenko has said.

"Here is an interim report on the progress of evacuation from the cities of Donetsk region. We [The Foundation for the Development of Ukraine] have evacuated some 1,400 people - most of them are children. The main focus of the foundation is the cities of Donetsk region, in which the situation is most complicated, the key priority is children and families with children," she wrote on her Facebook page.

Yemchenko noted that it was planned on June 3 to evacuate another 200 people, including those from Sloviansk.

"But in Sloviansk the fight density is such that we won't be able to take anybody. Generally, every day it becomes more difficult to physically evacuate people from Sloviansk – gunmen in the city are doing everything to keep as many people as possible, in particular they are intimidating drivers. The day before yesterday they seized one of the drivers, involved in the evacuation, and according to our information he is in the SBU office of Sloviansk. We are trying to free him," she said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207952.html>

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http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_to_swear_allegiance_to_ukrainians_on_june_7_322318

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Turchynov said this in his decree available on the presidential website.

"I order to immediately work out with the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Security Service of Ukraine, Administration of the State Border Guard Service the need to impose martial law in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where the terrorist operation is carried out, to prevent further development and cessation of the armed conflict in Ukraine, prevent mass civilian casualties and the military and law enforcement personnel, ensure stabilization of the situation and resume normal life in these regions of the state," the document says.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/turchynov_orders_nsdcc_to_reflect_on_martial_law_in_ato_area_322366

SBU blocks bank accounts of terrorists, 3.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine jointly with the State Financial Monitoring Service of Ukraine blocked the source of funding of terrorist activities in the east of the state.

The SBU press center informs.

They indicated that a radical activist of the Luhansk Guard organization, resident of Luhansk region "P" placed in social networks calls for citizens to provide financial support to this organization for organization of separatist and terrorist actions in Luhansk region. To this end, he has opened three individual accounts in one of the banks.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sbu_blocks_bank_accounts_of_terrorists_322416

Akhmetov Foundation evacuates 1,400 people from Donetsk region, most children, 04.06.2014

The Rinat Akhmetov Foundation for the Development of Ukraine has evacuated about 1,400 people from Donetsk region, most of them children, SCM communications director Natalia Yemchenko has said.

"Here is an interim report on the progress of evacuation from the cities of Donetsk region. We [The Foundation for the Development of Ukraine] have evacuated some 1,400 people - most of them are children. The main focus of the foundation is the cities of Donetsk region, in which the situation is most complicated, the key priority is children and families with children," she wrote on her Facebook page.

Yemchenko noted that it was planned on June 3 to evacuate another 200 people, including those from Sloviansk.

"But in Sloviansk the fight density is such that we won't be able to take anybody. Generally, every day it is becomes more difficult to physically evacuate people from Sloviansk – gunmen in the city are doing everything to keep as many people as possible, in particular they are intimidating drivers. The day before yesterday they seized one of the drivers, involved in the evacuation, and according to our information he is in the SBU office of Sloviansk. We are trying to free him," she said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207952.html>

SBU looking for Hubarev and his Luhansk "counterpart", 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine declared self-proclaimed governor of the so-called "DPR" (Donetsk People's Republic) Pavlo Hubarev and prime minister of the "Luhansk People's Republic" Vasyl Nikitin wanted.

Relevant information was in the "Persons fleeing from authorities" on the Interior Ministry website.

To remind, Hubarev was accused of trying to capture state power.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sbu_looking_for_hubarev_and_his_luhansk_counterpart_322471

Ukrzaliznytsia trying to fully meet travel demand for citizens from Donbas, 05.06.2014

State Railways Administration of Ukraine Ukrzaliznytsia is trying to fully meet the demand of citizens for travel from Donbas, first deputy head of Ukrzaliznytsia Maksym Blank wrote on his Facebook page.

"In manual mode we are adding passenger seats under the rush for emigration. All the time, the dispatching service is monitoring ticket sales to timely add more cars in all directions. The demand is growing quickly, it is peak, but are working to the maximum to prevent citizens failing to leave Donbas," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208149.html>

Acting Ukrainian President Turchynov repeals 82 presidential decrees signed by Kuchma, Yushchenko, Yanukovich, 06.06.2014

Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada Chairman and interim President Oleksandr Turchynov has repealed 82 presidential decrees signed by former Ukrainian presidents and put into effect a National Security and Defense Council resolution on repealing 59 of its previous resolutions.

The official presidential Web site reports that Turchynov signed decree No. 504/2014 titled 'On National Security and Defense Council resolution dated April 28, 2014 'On repealing some National Security and Defense Council resolutions' and putting an end to some decrees by the president of Ukraine' on June 6.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208323.html>

Siumar resigns as NSDC deputy secretary, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Deputy Secretary of the National Security and Defence Council (NSDC) Victoria Siumar resigned.

She wrote this on her Facebook page.

"I wrote a voluntary resignation letter, as promised immediately after the appointment. The task was to keep the situation in the transition period. Now the information policy should be built by the team of the elected President at the Presidential Administration. At a time when people every hour are waiting for explanations from the authorities, everything should be well coordinated at the highest level," Siumar wrote.

She believes that 100 days of her work have laid the structural changes in the field of information security, while addressing a bulk of urgent problems related to the war.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/siumar_resigns_as_nsdg_deputy_secretary_322486

Poroshenko meets Putin in Normandy without handshake - Reuters, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President-elect Petro Poroshenko met with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday on the sidelines of the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy, France, Reuters reported <

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/06/06/us-dday-anniversary-ukraine-idUSKBN0EH1AZ20140606>>.

"Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke with Ukrainian president-elect Petro Poroshenko on Friday on the sidelines of D-Day commemorations in France as they met with German Chancellor Angela Merkel," a Reuters reporter said.

The reporter added that Putin, Poroshenko and Merkel talked together as they walked into the Chateau de Benouville, in Normandy, where world leaders had lunch together. The Reuters reporter did not, however, see any handshake between the two men.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_meets_putin_in_normandy_without_handshake_reuters_322510

Poroshenko swears in as President of Ukraine, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine's President-elect Petro Poroshenko at a solemn session of the Verkhovna Rada took the oath of allegiance to the Ukrainian people on the Peresopnytsia Gospel in Kyiv on Saturday.

"I, Petro Poroshenko, elected the President of Ukraine by the will of the people, taking this high office, solemnly swear allegiance to Ukraine," he said.

Thereafter Poroshenko received the certificate of taking the office of President and official symbols of the head of state – the Sign of the President of Ukraine, Seals and the Mace. Immediately thereafter, the President signed the oath and gave it to Chairman of the Constitutional Court Yuriy Baulin.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_sworn_in_as_president_of_ukraine_322513

Poroshenko signs his first presidential decree, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. President Petro Poroshenko after taking the oath has signed his first decree on assuming the powers of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Its text is published on the official web site of the President of Ukraine.

"In connection with taking the oath of the President of Ukraine on June 7, 2014, in accordance with paragraph 17 Part 1 Article 106 of the Constitution of Ukraine I assume this day the powers of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine," the document reads.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_signs_his_first_presidential_decree_322514

Poroshenko tasks to set up corridor in Donbas to withdraw civilians, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko tasked to create a corridor for peaceful population, wishing to leave the ATO territory.

The Presidential press service informs.

"In order not to allow new victims in the area of the anti-terrorist operation, the President of Ukraine tasked law enforcers to create all necessary conditions for peaceful population, who wishes to leave," a statement reads.

During a meeting with heads of Security Service of Ukraine, Interior Ministry, Defense Ministry and State Emergency Service of Ukraine, Poroshenko also tasked the government to undertake organization of transportation of people, measures on medical servicing and to establish a mobile network to provide peaceful population with drinking water, food and medicaments.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_tasks_to_set_up_corridor_in_donbas_to_withdraw_civilians_322555

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208525.html>

Poroshenko appoints his first assistant, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko appointed Yuriy Onishchenko his first assistant.

A relevant decree is posted on the presidential website.

Before this, Onishchenko was released from the post of Ukrainian Ambassador to Norway.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_appoints_his_first_assistant_322577

Lozhkin appointed head of presidential administration, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has appointed Borys Lozhkin head of the presidential administration.

A respective decree has been posted on the website of the head of state.

Poroshenko earlier dismissed from this post Serhiy Pashynsky, who had previously tendered his resignation.

Lozhkin also received his first deputy - Hennadiy Zubko - and deputy head - Oleh Rafalsky.

Lozhkin was previously engaged in media business and served as president of the Ukrainian Media Holding. In 2013, the Focus magazine evaluated Lozhkin's fortune at \$126.4 million (101st spot in the ranking of the 200 richest Ukrainians).

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/lozhkin_appointed_head_of_presidential_administration_322581

Tseholko becomes presidential press secretary, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Channel 5 journalist Sviatoslav Tseholko has become press secretary of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

A respective decree was posted on the website of the head of state on Tuesday, according to the president's website.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/tseholko_becomes_presidential_press_secretary_322583

State Affairs Department headed by Berezenko – order, 10.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has appointed Serhiy Berezenko as head of the State Affairs Department.

The president's Web site posted the relevant order on Tuesday. Previously Hennadiy Zubko led this post, but on June 10 he was appointed as first deputy head of the presidential administration.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208703.html>

Situation on border with Russia remains tense, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Over the past day, the situation on the Ukrainian-Russian border has not changed significantly and remains tense.

The State Border Guard Service of Ukraine informs.

"The border guards continue to improve defense of their units, checkpoints and border areas in threatened areas. The situation in the borderland remains difficult," a statement reads.

Over the day, 27,000 persons and 6,000 vehicles crossed the border with Russia by the established order. In general, the intensity of passenger traffic in this sector decreased by 12%, while the vehicles - by 8%.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/situation_on_border_with_russia_remains_tense_322625

Poroshenko instructs Govt to send savings of presidential elections to financing of needs of military men, 11.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko instructed the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to send the savings of the presidential elections to ensuring of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and urgent needs of military men-participants of antiterrorist operation.

The press service of the President of Ukraine reports this.

The head of the state notes that due to the fact that elections took place without necessity of carrying out of repeated voting, saving of budget means made up more than UAH 600 million. Due to this fact, Poroshenko offers the government to send the mentioned means to financing of military men.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/927374-poroshenko-instructs-govt-to-send-savings-of-presidential-elections-to-financing-of-needs-of-military-men.html>

Yatsenyuk instructs to create single database concerning temporary housing and work for immigrants, 11.06.2014

Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk instructed to create a single database for immigrants, where they can get information about temporary housing and work.

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he said this, opening the sitting of the government.

He stressed that people should find all necessary information in online regime.

"It is necessary to do it urgently", - said the head of the government.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/927414-yatsenyuk-instructs-to-create-single-database-concerning-temporary-housing-and-work-for-immigrants.html>

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http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/situation_on_border_with_russia_remains_tense_322625

State Sanitary Epidemiological Service notes threat of epidemic in Sloviansk, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. The epidemic situation in Ukraine is generally under control, but there is a risk of complications because of damage caused to the main water pipeline in Sloviansk, Donetsk region.

Acting Head of the State Sanitary Epidemiological Service of Ukraine Oleksandr Kravchuk said this at a briefing at the Ukrainian Health Ministry on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"The epidemic situation in Ukraine and in the areas of the anti-terrorist operation is generally controlled, and group cases of diseases have not been recorded.

Unfortunately, we have a problem due to the fact that the main water pipeline was damaged in Sloviansk, and it may get worse," Kravchuk said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/state_sanitary_epidemiological_service_notes_threat_of_epidemic_in_sloviansk_322627

Ukrainian army, border guards restore control of 100 km along border with Russia, 13.06.14

The Ukrainian military forces and border guards have carried out a military operation and restored control of a 100-km-long stretch of the state border with Russia, the Ukrainian president's press service reported on Thursday.

"The military forces report that as a result of a well-prepared operation, the Ukrainian military forces and border guards regained control over a 100-km-long stretch of the state border, even amid fighting with tanks," the press service said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209050.html>

Poroshenko, Putin discuss on phone former's peace plan to resolve situation in Ukraine's east, 13.06.14

Presidents of Ukraine and Russia, Petro Poroshenko and Vladimir Putin, have discussed the peaceful settlement of the situation in Ukraine's east.

"During the conversation, the presidents discussed Poroshenko's peace plan to resolve the situation in Ukraine's east," the Ukrainian president's press service reported on Thursday.

In addition, the two presidents spoke about the steps, which should be taken to stop hostilities and address the situation peacefully.

At the same time, the Ukrainian president's press secretary, Sviatoslav Tseholko wrote on his Facebook page: "During a telephone conversation, the president of Ukraine has called unacceptable the situation, when tanks are entering the territory of our country through the Ukrainian-Russian border."

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209088.html>

State Border Service head continues to fulfill his duties, 13.06.14

Mykola Lytvyn continues to perform his duties as chairman of the State Border Service of Ukraine, the service's press office has told Interfax-Ukraine.

"He is at his workplace and performs his duties," the press service said.

Media reported on Friday that Lytvyn had allegedly tendered his resignation after the State Border Service building was blocked by activists who are dissatisfied with the work of the service leadership.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209091.html>

Poroshenko's security service finds explosives in Bankova Street, 14.06.14

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. Poroshenko's security service found explosives in Bankova Street.

Tonight, an outfit of the Administration of the State Guard of Ukraine found an

improvised explosive device at one of the entrances to the building of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine in Bankova Street.

The SBU told Ukrinform.

"An examination continues. New information will be reported," SBU Spokesperson Maryna Ostapenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_declares_sunday_a_day_of_mourning_322758

Poroshenko declares Sunday a day of mourning, 14.06.14

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko offered condolences to the families of the Ukrainian military and border guards, who died June 14 during the ATO, and declared a day of mourning on Sunday.

The head of state said in a message.

"On Sunday, I declare a day of mourning for our military. This is a great loss not only for the families, but also for the whole country. Ukraine mourns, but we resolutely continue the struggle for peace," Poroshenko said.

The President stressed that all those involved in the death of Ukrainian military will be punished.

"All those involved in the cynical act of large-scale terrorism must necessarily be punished. Ukraine needs peace. Terrorists, however, will receive an adequate response," the head of state said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenkos_security_service_finds_explosives_in_bankova_street_322760

Ukrainian, Russian ombudspersons creating mission to evacuate civilians from combat zone in eastern Ukraine, 14.06.14

The ombudspersons of Ukraine and Russia are creating a joint mission to evacuate civilians from the combat zones in Donetsk and Luhansk regions to safe regions.

"We, the ombudspersons of Ukraine and the Russian Federation, announce the creation of a joint human rights mission to preserve the life, health and safety of civilians caught in the war zone in Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine. The first and most important task is the liberation of forcibly detained persons and the evacuation of civilians to safe zone," reads a statement made in Kharkiv after a meeting of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Commissioner for Human Rights Valeria Lutkovska and her Russian counterpart Ella Pamfilova with the participation of human rights defenders of the two countries.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209321.html>

Poroshenko speaks for new EU sanctions against Russia, if situation in eastern Ukraine does not stabilize, 16.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko hopes that the EU will make an immediate decision on sectoral sanctions against Russia, if the situation in eastern Ukraine does not stabilize.

He spoke of that during a telephone conversation with French President Francois Hollande, the presidential press service reports.

"The president of Ukraine voiced hope that if the unlawful armed formations refuse to stop fire in the territory of Ukraine but continue actions aimed at destabilizing the situation, including illegal border crossing from the Russian side, deliveries of armaments, military hardware etc, the EU decision on the introduction of sectoral sanctions against the Russian Federation, including the termination of military-technical cooperation, should be shared and immediate," the report says.

Poroshenko stressed that he is set on signing the Ukraine-EU association agreement in the nearest future and has given instructions to prepare his visit to Brussels on June 27.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209399.html>

Police open proceedings due to pogrom at Russian Embassy, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Law enforcement officials started criminal proceedings because of a pogrom at the Russian Embassy in Kyiv.

The press service of the Interior Ministry informs.

"Three protesters were detained and their actions are qualified as hooliganism. A container with liquid with a pungent odor that was sent for examination was seized from young men," the ministry said.

Russia is extremely outraged by this picket, and it appealed to the OSCE with a request to resolve the situation. Russia also applied to the UN Security Council with an appeal about condemnation of the pogrom at the embassy, but the West blocked it.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/police_open_proceedings_due_to_pogrom_at_russian_embassy_322769

Naftogaz demands \$6 bln from Gazprom in Stockholm arbitration, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Naftogaz of Ukraine has also filed a lawsuit at the Stockholm arbitration court against Gazprom, the Ukrainian company's press service has reported.

"National Joint-Stock Company Naftogaz of Ukraine has filed a lawsuit at the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce. The company is demanding the establishment of a fair and market-oriented price for gas, which OJSC Gazprom supplies to Ukraine," the company said.

It added that the lawsuit also contains the demand to collect from Gazprom overpayment for the gas supplied by Russia's monopoly in 2010. "According to the company, such overpayment is \$6 billion," Naftogaz said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/naftogaz_demands_6_bln_from_gazprom_in_stockholm_arbitration_322780

Poroshenko renews NSDC membership, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko approved a new personal membership of the National Security and Defense Council.

A relevant decree appeared on the Presidential website Monday.

The new NSDC membership is as follows: President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, head of the Foreign Intelligence Service of Ukraine Viktor Hvozd, Acting Foreign Minister Andriy Deshchytsia, Acting Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval, NBU Governor Stepan Kubiv, head of the Presidential Administration Borys Lozhkin, Acting Prosecutor General Oleh Makhnitsky, SBU Chairman Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, NSDC Secretary Andriy Parubiy, Verkhovna Rada Speaker Oleksandr Turchynov, Finance Minister Oleksandr Shlapak, Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko, First Vice Prime Minister Vitaliy Yarema and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_renews_nsdg_membership_322796

Sobolev officially heads Batkivshchyna faction, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. MP Serhiy Sobolev, who until now served as acting head of the Batkivshchyna faction, has officially become its head.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Turchynov said this while opening a parliament meeting on Tuesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"I am announcing the election of MP Serhiy Sobolev as head of the Batkivshchyna faction. MPs Kyrylenko, Kozhemyakin and Kniazevych were elected his deputies," the speaker said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sobolev_officially_heads_batkivshchyna_faction_322826

Kniazevych to represent Ukrainian president in parliament

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has appointed Ruslan Kniazevych as his representative in the Verkhovna Rada.

The text of a respective decree was posted on the website of the head of state on Tuesday.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/kniazevych_to_represent_ukrainian_president_in_parliament_322828

Poroshenko appoints Lutsenko his out-of-staff advisor, 17.06.2014

This decree appeared at the web site of the head of the state.

"To appoint Lutsenko Yuri Vitaljevich out-of-staff advisor of the President of Ukraine", - it is said in the decree.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929519-poroshenko-appoints-lutsenko-his-out-of-staff-advisor.html>

UDAR MP Heraschenko becomes Poroshenko's envoy for peaceful settlement in southeastern Ukraine, 17.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has appointed UDAR party MP Iryna Heraschenko to the recently established post of presidential envoy for the peaceful settlement of the conflict in the country's Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

A corresponding decree was posted on the president's Web site on Tuesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209628.html>

Ukrainian MPs call on foreign journalists to condemn Kremlin propaganda, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian lawmakers have approved a resolution envisaging an appeal to a number of international organizations of journalists regarding the information and psychological aggression of the Russian media against Ukraine.

A total of 233 MPs voted for this decision on Tuesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

The resolution foresees an appeal to the International Federation of Journalists, the European Federation of Journalists, the Association of European Journalists, and the Reporters without Borders international organization on "combating information provocations and unconfirmed reports that are distributed through the Russian media, ensuring the awareness of the international community of the real state of affairs in Ukraine, calls on Russian journalists regarding compliance with the rules of journalistic ethics and profession, as well as recommendations for the media to present accurate, objective and reliable information."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_mps_call_on_foreign_journalists_to_condemn_kremlin_propaganda_322842

Rada decides to protect ethnic Ukrainians in Russia, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. The Verkhovna Rada has adopted a resolution on oppression of the rights of Ukrainians in Russia and urgent measures to meet national, cultural and linguistic needs of foreign Ukrainians.

A total of 229 MPs voted for this decision on Tuesday.

In particular, stressing the unsatisfactory situation with the rights and freedoms of the Ukrainian minority in Russia, oppression of the rights of Ukrainians in Russia, the parliament instructs the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to create a central executive body for cooperation with foreign Ukrainians within the funds allocated for the maintenance of the executive authorities and to ensure its effective functioning.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/rada_decides_to_protect_ethnic_ukrainians_in_russia_322844

Kernes returns to Kharkiv, 17.06.2014

Kharkiv Mayor Hennadiy Kernes has returned to Kharkiv after undergoing treatment in Israel.

Kernes was taken to the steps of the local airport in a wheelchair at 1540. People who gathered in front of the airport greeted him with applause and shouts "Kernes."

Kernes thanked the people, as well as the doctors who treated him.

However, he noted that he still had problems with his feet.

"But I promise you all that I'll definitely walk, because I have such a desire," he said.

The mayor also said he was not afraid of those who tried to kill him.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209741.html>

State Penitentiary Service (SPS): Terrorists will not manage to seize prisons in Donbas, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. All detention centers and prisons in the area of the anti-terrorist operation are under the control of the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine. SPS Chairman Serhiy Starenky said this during a conference call of the Cabinet of Ministers.

"Prisoners remain calm and regard with understanding what is happening around. They serve their sentences in the legal regime established by law," Starenky said.

There are 20 and 16 SPS institutions in Donetsk and Luhansk regions respectively.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/state_penitentiary_service_terrorists_will_not_manage_to_seize_prisons_in_donbas_322848

Poroshenko, Putin discuss ceasefire in Donbas, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian and Russian Presidents Petro Poroshenko and Vladimir Putin have discussed a possible ceasefire in the area of combat operations in eastern Ukraine, the press office of the Russian president has reported.

According to the report, the sides discussed the issue on the phone.

Ukrainian presidential press secretary Sviatoslav Tseholko wrote on Facebook that during the phone conversation Poroshenko had called on Putin to assist in the release of all detained journalists and activists.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_putin_discuss_ceasefire_in_donbas_322852

Verkhovna Rada thinks to ask overseas aid in fight against terrorists, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Submission of draft resolutions for consideration of the parliament is planned today on petitions for assistance in combating pro-Russian terrorism.

This is stated in the agenda of the meeting, the NBN writes.

In particular, the MPs plan to address the UN General Assembly and the UN Security Council, the Council of Europe and the OSCE in connection with the Russia's support of terrorism in the eastern regions of Ukraine, and with a call to help protecting state sovereignty.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/verkhovna_rada_thinks_to_ask_overseas_aid_in_fight_against_terrorists_322862

Yatsenyuk instructs Interior Ministry, SBU and Naftogaz to strengthen guard of gas pipelines, 18.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, he gave this instruction at the sitting of the government.

"I ask the Interior Ministry of Ukraine, the SBU, Naftogaz company and Ukrtransgaz company to strengthen a guard of the Ukrainian gas pipelines urgently. We forecasted some weeks ago that there would be the planned diversions, the goal of which is to undermine a reputation of Ukraine as a reliable transit partner", - he said.

Yatsenyuk assured that Ukraine remains a reliable transit partner.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930042-yatsenyuk-instructs-interior-ministry-sbu-and-naftogaz-to-strengthen-guard-of-gas-pipelines.html>

Poroshenko orders inquiry into Russian journalist's death near Luhansk, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko insists at the request of the OSCE on a thorough inquiry into the death of Igor Kornelyuk, a journalist of the Russian broadcaster VGTRK, near Luhansk, the presidential press service said on Tuesday evening,

"The OSCE will be informed about the inquiry outcomes," it said.

The chief of state presented condolences over the journalist's death.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209817.html>

Poroshenko asks Merkel for help in bolstering border control, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has asked the European Union and the United States to assist in bolstering control over the Ukrainian state border.

Poroshenko made the request in a telephone conversation with German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel, the Ukrainian presidential press service reported on Tuesday night.

Speaking of the peace plan principles, Poroshenko mentioned "the creation of a ten-kilometer buffer zone along the border, the pullout of illegal armed units, the liberation of all the illegally occupied administrative buildings and the resumption of activities of local power bodies and central television and radio stations."

It is also necessary to decentralize the authorities and to hold early local and parliament elections, the president stressed.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209819.html>

Poroshenko proposes to Verkhovna Rada to replace Deshchytisia, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. President Petro Poroshenko proposes to the parliament to appoint Pavlo Klimkin Foreign Minister.

Poroshenko submitted a relevant presentation to the Verkhovna Rada Wednesday.

Klimkin occupied a post of Ukrainian Ambassador to Germany.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_proposes_to_verkhovna_rada_to_replace_deshchytisia_322872

Poroshenko nominates First Vice-Premier Yarema for prosecutor general, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has proposed that the Verkhovna Rada agree to the appointment of First Deputy Prime Minister Vitaliy Yarema as Ukraine's prosecutor general.

A respective draft resolution was registered on the parliament's Web site on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209881.html>

Ukrainian president dismisses Makhnitsky as acting prosecutor general, 18.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has dismissed Oleh Makhnitsky as acting prosecutor general of Ukraine following his request to resign.

A relevant decree was posted on the president's Web site on Wednesday.

Poroshenko then appointed Makhnitsky to the post of his adviser.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209973.html>

NBU head resigns in order to continue his public, political activities, 18.06.2014

Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) Stepan Kubiv has resigned from his post and intends to continue his public and political activities.

"Please accept my resignation from the post of the NBU governor in connection with my plans to continue public and political activities for the sake of the full and uncompromised implementation of the values of the Maidan," Kubiv said in a statement, a copy of which was posted on his Facebook page on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209991.html>

Prosecutors open case against defense officials over plane shot down near Luhansk, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The main department for supervision over the observance of laws in the military sphere has launched criminal proceedings against officials of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the SBU Anti-Terrorist Center, who could be involved in the downing of an Il-76 plane near Luhansk, in which 49 people were killed, the press service of the Prosecutor General's Office has reported.

The Prosecutor General's Office learned that and officials of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the operations headquarters for the management of the anti-terrorist operation had ignored reports on the activity of a group of terrorists near Luhansk airport and the presence of man-portable air-defense systems, and had not taken any measures for a safe landing in the area of the anti-terrorist operation.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/prosecutors_open_case_against_defense_officials_over_plane_shot_down_near_luhansk_322890

Ukraine to have new branch of troops, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The Ukrainian army will have the fourth branch of the Armed Forces. Special Operations Forces will be added to the Ground, Air and Naval Forces. Acting Ukrainian Defense Minister Mykhailo Koval said this during celebrations at the National Defense University of Ukraine, TSN reported.

He said that it had been decided to create such troops due to the latest developments in eastern Ukraine.

"Special operations forces will continue to work out the skills of rapid response to such attacks on the country. New Armed Forces will be formed on the basis of some military units that are currently not named," reads the report.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_to_have_new_branch_of_troops_322899

Government approves state of emergency in energy sector, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The Cabinet of Ministers at a meeting on Wednesday approved a bill on the state of emergency in the energy sector and the involvement of European and U.S. investors in the upgrading and joint exploitation of the Ukrainian gas transportation system.

Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers Ostap Semerak told this to reporters after a government meeting on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"They [the bills] were registered in the Verkhovna Rada, and a meeting of a parliamentary committee is underway to consider these bills. These bills were prepared in fast mode, and they will probably be submitted for consideration by parliament this week," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/government_approves_state_of_emergency_in_energy_sector_322907

Verkhovna Rada appoints Yarema Prosecutor General, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. First Vice Prime Minister Vitaliy Yarema appointed Prosecutor General of Ukraine.

329 deputies voted for this decision.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/verkhovna_rada_appoints_yarema_prosecutor_general_322925

Parliament approves Ambassador to Germany Klimkin's appointment as Ukraine's foreign minister, 19.06.2014

The Verkhovna Rada has appointed Pavlo Klimkin as Ukraine's foreign minister.

A total of 335 MPs on Thursday voted for Klimkin's candidacy, which was proposed by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210047.html>

National Bank headed by Valeria Hontareva, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. The parliament approved Valeria Hontareva as governor of the National Bank of Ukraine.

349 deputies voted for this decision at the VR meeting Thursday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

Prior to this, the Parliament of Ukraine by 302 votes dismissed Stepan Kubiv, previous governor of the National Bank.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/national_bank_headed_by_valeria_hontareva_322929

Parliament dismisses Riabchenko as head of State Property Fund, 19.06.2014

The Ukrainian parliament has supported a motion from the prime minister to dismiss Oleksandr Riabchenko as head of the State Property Fund.

An Interfax-Ukraine reporter said that 320 MPs out of the 387 registered in the session hall had voted for such a decision.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210080.html>

Valeriy Chaly appointed deputy head of Ukraine's presidential administration, 19.06.2014

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has appointed Valeriy Chaly as deputy head of the Presidential Administration.

The relative order dated June 19 was posted on the president's Web site.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210125.html>

VR supports draft law on free economic area of Crimea in first reading, 19.06.2014

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted in the first reading the draft law on tax and customs control in free economic area of Crimea and peculiarities of carrying out of economic activity in temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine (№4032a).

According to an UNIAN correspondent, 241 out of 330 lawmakers registered in the session hall voted for this decision. Moreover, lawmakers supported a decision on reduced term of preparation of the draft law for the second reading.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930650-vr-supports-draft-law-on-free-economic-area-of-crimea-in-first-reading.html>

Financing of separatism in Ukraine be punished by criminal liability, 19.06.2014

The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the country's parliament, has made amendments to the Criminal Code of Ukraine regarding criminal liability for the financing of separatism. A total of 238 MPs accredited for the voting backed the relative bill, a correspondent of Interfax-Ukraine reported.

According to the amendments introduced into Article 110 of the Criminal Code, financing of the actions committed to changing the state border of Ukraine will be punished by imprisonment from 3 to 5 years with confiscation of the property and with deprivation of the right to hold definite posts or deal in business for a two year-term.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210112.html>

Poroshenko, Putin discuss situation in Ukraine, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko had a phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin on June 19, the press service of the Ukrainian president has reported.

The Ukrainian president outlined the key positions and schedule for the implementation of a peace plan for resolving the situation in the east of the state.

Poroshenko stressed the need to free hostages and establish an effective regime of control on the Ukrainian-Russian border.

He said that along with a ceasefire, he relies on support for the peace plan.

Putin, in turn, supported the efforts on de-escalation of the situation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the process of the ceasefire and the implementation of the peace plan of the Ukrainian president.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_putin_discuss_situation_in_ukraine_322947

Ukrainian special service terminates all agreements with FSB, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has suspended and terminated all agreements and bilateral treaties with Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB).

SBU Chief Valentyn Nalyvaichenko told this to Ukraine's Day newspaper. "All contacts with the aggressor have been ceased. Moreover, bilateral agreements and treaties have been terminated. The only our 'contacts' is opposing the subversive actions of FSB agents," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_special_service_terminates_all_agreements_with_fsb_322959

Over 90 saboteurs arrested, 20.06.2014

YIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Employees of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) have arrested more than 90 terrorists and saboteurs, including 13 Russian citizens. SBU Chief Valentyn Nalyvaichenko told this to Ukraine's Day newspaper.

"More than 90 terrorists and saboteurs, including 13 Russian citizens (not counting mercenaries, these are professional intelligence agents) have already been arrested. One of the latest detentions in Kyiv was that of an accomplice of a leader of sabotage groups in Horlivka and Sloviansk," Nalyvaichenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/over_90_saboteurs_arrested_322957

Lavrov, Klimkin discuss Poroshenko's peace plan, border control, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin in a telephone conversation with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov agreed to focus on support for a peace plan of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, including the effective control of the Ukrainian border, the information policy department of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry has told Ukrinform.

"Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin had a telephone conversation with Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the initiative of the Russian side on June 20," reads the statement.

Lavrov congratulated Klimkin on his appointment as Ukraine's foreign minister, the ministry added.

"During the conversation the sides agreed to focus on support for the peace plan of Ukrainian President Poroshenko, particularly with an emphasis on the effective control of the Ukrainian border," the ministry said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/lavrov_klimkin_discuss_poroshenkos_peace_plan_border_control_322969

Poroshenko presents 15-point peace plan for eastern Ukraine, 21.06.2014

KYIV, June 21 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, during his first working trip to the Donbas on Friday, has presented a peace plan to resolve the situation in the eastern regions of the country, the press service of the head of state has reported.

"The plan consists of 15 steps and envisages security guarantees for all negotiating parties, exemption from criminal liability for those who laid down arms and did not commit serious crimes, as well as the release of hostages," reads the report.

In particular, it is planned plan to create a ten-kilometer buffer zone on the Ukrainian-Russian border.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_presents_15_point_peace_plan_for_eastern_ukraine_322979

Poroshenko tells Merkel terrorists breaking truce, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko had a telephone conversation with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Sunday, June 22, the presidential press service has reported.

"The assistance and personal involvement of Angela Merkel and other world leaders is critically important for the settlement of the conflict in eastern Ukraine," Poroshenko said.

Poroshenko told Merkel that over the last 24 hours fighters in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions violated a ceasefire over 20 times.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_tells_merkel_terrorists_breaking_truce_322999

Yatseniuk orders probe into procurement for army, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has ordered an official investigation into the procedures on procurement for the army, and concerned officials have been suspended from office pending the investigation.

The investigation must be conducted in the shortest possible terms, according to the government's press service.

Representatives of law enforcement agencies and fiscal services will be involved in the investigation.

"All procedures will be analyzed. Those responsible will be punished according to the laws of Ukraine and in the shortest possible time," the Cabinet of Ministers said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_orders_probe_into_procurement_for_army_323007

Kravchuk, Kuchma and Yushchenko support position of Poroshenko concerning re-election of Rada, 20.06.2014

Three former presidents of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk, Leonid Kuchma and Victor Yushchenko supported re-election of the Rada in autumn, 2014.

It is said in the statement of the presidents as a result of the joint meeting, publicized by head of the political council of the "Our Ukraine" party Iryna Vannikova in her page on Facebook.

Former Presidents addressed the EU and USA with an appeal of further sanctions against Russia.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930906-kravchuk-kuchma-and-yushchenko-support-position-of-poroshenko-concerning-re-election-of-rada.html>

Law enforcers detain Ukrainians who helped 'Donetsk People's Republic', 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) and the Interior Ministry have ceased the activity of a group of Ukrainian citizens, residents of Mariupol, who provided assistance to a terrorist organization - the so-called "Donetsk People's Republic," SBU's press center has reported.

"A group of four persons was headed by Mariupol 'people's mayor' Natalia Hruzdenko. The purpose of the group was to collect and transfer to DPR separatists the intelligence data on Ukrainian units involved in the anti-terrorist operation," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/law_enforcers_detain_ukrainians_who_helped_donetsk_peoples_republic_323017

Poroshenko, Rompuy coordinate positions on association, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko had a telephone conversation with European Council President Herman Van Rompuy during which they coordinated their positions ahead of a meeting of the European Council, the press service of the head of state has reported.

Poroshenko informed Rompuy about the completion of preparations for the signing of the Association Agreement with Ukraine in Brussels on June 27 and thanked him for supporting Ukraine's European course.

"They discussed the signing of the economic part of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU and coordinated their positions ahead of a meeting of the European Council on June 27 this year," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_rompuy_coordinate_positions_on_association_323019

Donetsk regional administration denies rumors of 40 children killed in ATO area, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Donetsk Regional State Administration has denied reports in the media of 40 children killed since the beginning of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine.

Such a statement was posted on the temporary website of the regional administration. "Today Ukrainian media reported that 40 children were killed during the anti-terrorist operation in the Donbas. As for the Donetsk region, we state that four children have been killed in the region since the beginning of the ATO - two boys and a girl in Sloviansk and a girl in the Shakhtarsk district," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/donetsk_regional_administration_denies_rumors_of_40_children_killed_in_ato_area_323023

OSCE representative, Kuchma, Zurabov go to Donetsk to implement president's peace plan, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. A trilateral contact group on the implementation of a peace plan of the Ukrainian president, which will include the special representative of the OSCE chairperson-in-office and Russia's ambassador, will hold its second meeting in Donetsk on June 23, the presidential press service has reported.

"It is expected that the negotiations in Donetsk will be attended by Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office Heidi Tagliavini and Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov. At the initiative of the head of state, the meeting will be attended by second Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/osce_representative_kuchma_zurabov_go_to_donetsk_to_implement_presidents_peace_plan_323025

Poroshenko, Biden discuss peace plan for east Ukraine, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden discussed the implementation of a peace plan for eastern Ukraine during a phone conversation on June 23, the press service of the Ukrainian president has reported.

Biden assessed the actions of the Ukrainian authorities as correct and highly professional.

Poroshenko, in turn, said that the ceasefire by militants must be accompanied by the release of hostages and the closure of the border to stop the flow of mercenaries, weapons and drugs from Russia to Ukraine. Poroshenko said that Russia now has to demonstrate real steps forward.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_biden_discuss_peace_plan_for_east_ukraine_323036

Border guards say not controlling Izvaryne checkpoint, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. The State Border Service of Ukraine (SBS) has said that it has no control over the Izvaryne border checkpoint in Luhansk region, SBS spokesman Oleh Slobodian has told RBC-Ukraine.

"No, there's no control," he said.

However, while commenting on reports in the media that this border checkpoint came under fire and was captured by militants last night, Slobodian said: "No, this is the old information. It came under fire on [June] 21."

As reported, spokesman for the information analytical center of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine Volodymyr Chepovy said on June 23 that Ukraine's border with Russia had been shut down.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/border_guard_say_not_controlling_izvaryne_checkpoint_323042

Poroshenko, Biden, Merkel discuss situation in eastern Ukraine, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko had a telephone conversation with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden on Tuesday, the presidential press service has reported.

"During the call the U.S. vice president and the German federal chancellor expressed their condolences to the Ukrainian president due to the death of nine Ukrainian servicemen after a helicopter came under fire outside Sloviansk," reads the statement. http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_biden_merkel_discuss_situation_in_eastern_ukraine_323074

Poroshenko appoints Klitschko head of Kyiv city administration - decree, 25.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has signed a decree appointing Vitali Klitschko as head of Kyiv City State Administration (KCSA).

The decree was posted on the Web site of the head of state on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210904.html>

Court returns land in Mezhyhirya to state, says PGO in Kyiv region, 25.06.2014

The economic court in Kyiv region has satisfied the claims of the regional Prosecutor General's Office against Vyshgorod district administration on the cancellation of resolutions and declaring invalid state acts and reclaims of land transferred to Tantalit LLC and Renaissance of Ukraine charity fund on which the Mezhyhirya residence is located in favor of the state, the press service of the Prosecutor General's Office in Kyiv region has reported.

The press service said that in general, 135 hectares of land on which the Mezhyhirya residence is located has been returned to state ownership via court.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210932.html>

Poroshenko, Putin agree to Medvedchuk's mediation, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Choice leader Viktor Medvedchuk will act as a mediator to ensure the work of a trilateral contact group in eastern Ukraine.

Such a proposal by German Federal Chancellor Angela Merkel was accepted by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, French President Francois Hollande and Russian President Vladimir Putin during a telephone conversation in a quadripartite format on Wednesday.

"The German federal chancellor proposed that Medvedchuk fulfill the functions of a mediator to ensure the work of the trilateral contact group consisting of [second Ukrainian President Leonid] Kuchma, [envoy of the OSCE chairperson-in-office Heidi] Tagliavini and [Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail] Zurabov. The Ukrainian president and other participants in the conversation accepted Angela Merkel's proposal," the press service of the Ukrainian president reported.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_putin_agree_to_medvedchuks_mediation_323110

Poroshenko suggests granting status of regions to Crimea, Kyiv, Sevastopol, creating new political subdivision of 'community', 26.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has proposed changing the political division of the country, which should include regions, districts and "hromadas" (communities).

"The country's administrative-territorial structure includes such administrative units - regions, districts and communities," read draft constitutional amendments put forward by the Ukrainian president and made available to Interfax-Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211043.html>

Authorities in Ukrainian regions may be allowed to determine status of national minority languages, 26.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has proposed allowing the local authorities to determine the status of national minority languages, including Russian.

"Village, city, district and regional administrations will be able to determine the status of the Russian language and other national minority languages of Ukraine in accordance

with the procedure established by the law and within the borders of their administrative and territorial units," according to Ukraine's draft constitutional amendments. Ukrainian remains the one-and-only state language of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211041.html>

Ukraine, EU sign Association Agreement, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine and the EU have completed the signing of the Association Agreement, particularly its economic part, which foresees the creation of a deep and comprehensive free trade area, a Ukrinform correspondent in Brussels has reported.

The signing ceremony took place at a meeting of the European Council in Brussels on Friday.

The document was signed by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, European Council President Herman Van Rompuy, European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso, and the heads of state and government of the 28 EU member states.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_eu_sign_association_agreement_323153

President prolongs truce in east of Ukraine until 2200 Kyiv time Monday – press service, 28.06.2014

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has prolonged a truce in the east of Ukraine until 2200 Kyiv time on June 30 in keeping with a decision by the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC).

"The president held a meeting with law enforcement agencies, and extended the ceasefire until 2200 Kyiv time on June 30 in keeping with NSDC resolution No. 548/2014," the presidential press service reported.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211352.html>

Ukraine cannot accept 'humanitarian aid' from Russia, says foreign ministry, 28.06.2014

The Foreign Ministry of Ukraine on Saturday sent a response note to the Russian Foreign Ministry pointing at the impossibility of accepting 'humanitarian aid,' taking into account the indefiniteness of its end addressee.

The department of the information policy of the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine reported that on June 27, 2014, the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine received a note from the Foreign Ministry of Russia with information that Russian plans to send 'humanitarian aid' to Donetsk and Luhansk regions and maybe other regions where displaced persons are staying.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211366.html>

Terrorism

Border guards kill 5 terrorists, wound 8 in Luhansk, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Luhansk border guards, who have been stormed since last by about 500 terrorists, killed five militants, the State Border Guard Service (SBGS) reported.

"According to updated information, seven border guards have been wounded. Tentatively, five terrorists have been killed and eight wounded," the border authorities said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/border_guard_kill_5_terrorists_wound_8_in_luhansk_322279

ATO aircraft destroy two terrorist mortars in Luhansk region, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian military aircraft in a battle in Luhansk region destroyed two militant mortars, spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov told the Ukrainian Crisis Media Center by phone on Monday. "When aviation began working in the area, militants started to hide in homes. Once the aircraft left the area, the insurgents took up their positions and continued shelling the Ukrainian military unit. However, Ukrainian pilots managed to destroy two mortars of separatists," Selezniiov said.

According to him, the activity of the ATO forces is complicated by the fact that apart from the terrorists at there are locals at roadblocks.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ato_aircraft_destroy_two_terrorist_mortars_in_luhansk_region_322281

Shakhtar may move to another city due to tensions in Donetsk, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. FC Shakhtar Donetsk may move to another city because of the tense situation in the east of Ukraine and Donbas capital in particular, the club's general director Serhiy Palkin told the Vesti newspaper.

"We will participate in the Ukrainian league anyway. If in Donetsk the situation does not improve, we will train and play in another city. Particular options are not being considered yet. Still have time. Hopefully before the start of the season the situation will change for the better," Palkin said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/shakhtar_may_move_to_another_city_due_to_tensions_in_donetsk_322284

No air strike on Luhansk administration building, militants themselves to blame for blast, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 2 /Ukrinform/. The Kremlin propaganda has distributed another fake report to discredit the Ukrainian troops in the area of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO): a warplane allegedly fired Luhansk Regional State Administration building.

ATO spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov told Ukrinform there has been no air strike on the administration building.

"Our aircraft have not flown over Luhansk Regional State Administration," he said. Selezniiov added that what has happened to the administration is due to the militants themselves. "The incident is likely either the careless handling of weapons or the militants who were trying to somehow work on our aircraft and hit the administration building," he suggested.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/no_air_strike_on_luhansk_administration_building_militants_themselves_to_blame_for_blast_322295

Avakov: Roadblocks of separatists destroyed, offensive continues, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian units destroyed the roadblocks and other engineering structures of separatists in the area of Semenovka, near Kramatorsk, and continue the offensive.

Interior Minister Arsen Avakov writes on his page on the social network Facebook.

"Roadblocks and engineering facilities of ??militants in the area of Sememivka are destroyed. Movement continues," the Minister said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/avakov_roadblocks_of_separatists_destroyed_offensive_continues_322301

Donbas battalion commander to terrorists: You're not in Luganda or Donbabve, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. The volunteer battalion Donbas is preparing to join the border guards in eastern Ukraine to prevent the entry of terrorists into the territory of the country.

Battalion commander Semen Semenchenko wrote on his Facebook page. The locked down border is the priority, any attack on the frontier will be quickly suppressed. Border

guards really need our help, especially given the events of recent days. Another task is the fight against terrorist groups that are already on the territory of Ukraine, they will not be walking between the cities as at home. This is our land, not Luganda or Donbabve," he stressed.

According to Semenchenko, currently the volunteers continue enhanced combat training, the staff is being formed. "By the end of the week, the battalion will be formed and recruitment of patriots for Luhansk region will start," he added.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/donbas_battalion_commander_to_terrorists_youre_not_in_luganda_or_donbabve_322305

Terrorist base destroyed near Severodonetsk, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. A hidden terrorist base was destroyed during the ATO in Severodonetsk.

Acting President, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksandr Turchynov said opening the parliament's meeting, where 321 deputies registered.

"Near Severodonetsk, in the industrial zone, the hidden terrorist base was destroyed. Now, the ATO releases north Donbas," Turchynov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorist_base_destroyed_near_severodonetsk_322307

Ukrainian APC attacked near Sloviansk, one killed, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian troops suffered losses in an attack of militants on a convoy of vehicles heading from Iziurm to Sloviansk, coordinator of the Information Resistance Group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"During the armed clashes the attack has been repulsed. One Ukrainian has been killed, 13 wounded," he said.

According to the Information Resistance Group, in the attack on the convoy of ATO forces, which was going from Iziurm to Sloviansk, a Ukrainian armored personnel carrier has been hit.

There is no detailed information about the losses of terrorists.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_apc_attacked_near_sloviansk_one_killed_322310

ATO active phase continues in Donetsk Oblast, more than 300 fighters eliminated – Seleznev, 03.06.2014

According to an UNIAN correspondent, speaker of the ATO Vladyslav Seleznev said this on the phone for participants of press conference in Kyiv.

"ATO continues in a zone of disposition of forces of antiterrorist operation, means and forces, which are to ensure peace and security in the region are involved in it...As of now an active phase of ATO continues, it takes place in some regions, in particular, an active phase continues in the regions of Krasnyi Liman and Semenovka... Forces of fighters are melting, there is a preliminary information that 300 fighters have been eliminated in a result of actions of forces of antiterrorist operation", - said Seleznev.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/924957-ato-active-phase-continues-in-donetsk-oblast-more-than-300-fighters-eliminated-seleznev.html>

Terrorists kill 181 persons, kidnap - 220 - Makhnitsky, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. As a result of terrorist activities in the east of Ukraine, 181 persons were killed, including servicemen.

Prosecutor General of Ukraine Oleh Makhnitsky told a press conference.

"In total, in Luhansk and Donetsk regions, as a result of terrorist activities, 181 persons died and 293 - wounded, including 59 servicemen were killed," Makhnitsky said.

In addition, terrorist groups seized 35 state departments. "Following the annexation of Crimea by Russia, terrorists seized a number of premises of the local authorities and law enforcement bodies of Ukraine, out of these, 35 departments remain occupied". At

the same time, terrorists continue kidnapping people. "More than 220 persons, out of these 15 foreigners, were kidnapped," Makhnitsky noted.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_kill_181_persons_kidnap_220_makhnitsky_322339

ATO forces kill over 300 militants, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov said that more than 300 militants have been killed during the active phase of the ongoing ATO in Donetsk region, the LB.ua online edition reported.

"At the moment, the ATO active phase is in progress. Particularly fierce battles are occurring near Semenivka and Krasny Lyman (Donetsk region). Terrorist forces are melting. According to our information, about 300 militants have been killed," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ato_forces_kill_over_300_militants_322343

Luhansk border detachment prepares to repel new assault, 03.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. A large number of gunmen, including the so-called Russian "Cossacks," again gathered around Luhansk border detachment. They are armed with heavy weapons - mortars, grenade launchers, heavy machine guns.

It is reported by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.

"In fact, at any moment, an assault of the unit can begin as an act of revenge for the fact that the border guards did not lay down their arms and did not give up and continue to do their duty," a statement reads.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/luhansk_border_detachment_prepares_to_repel_new_assault_322355

Shell suspends work in Donbas, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. The company Royal Dutch Shell suspended exploration for shale gas in eastern Ukraine. Head of the company finance division Simon Henry says. As the reason for the suspension, he called fears for the safety of employees. Henry also said that the company does not intend to withdraw from the project completely.

"This is not a withdrawal, but we take a break for our ground operations," the top manager said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/shell_suspends_work_in_donbas_322357

New convoy of trucks formed in Rostov Oblast to break through Ukrainian border, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. New militant groups are being formed in border regions of Russia in order to penetrate into Donbas, coordinator of the Information Resistance Group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"Once the ATO forces resumed active operations, reports appeared about the formation in the border areas of Russia of new militant groups in order to penetrate into Donbas. Today we have revealed the formation of convoys with terrorists and weapons in Rostov Oblast of the Russian Federation," he writes.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/new_convoy_of_trucks_formed_in_rostov_oblast_to_break_through_ukrainian_border_322359

Sloviansk cut off water, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. Sloviansk has been cut of water supply due to damage of the central conduit. However, the repair is not possible because of the continued fighting, the OstroV online edition reported on Wednesday.

"In Sloviansk the water supply has been interrupted as a result of damage of the central conduit. The repair is not possible because of the continued fighting," the report reads.

The local water supply office told OstroV that the water conduit is not repaired because of the militia. Meanwhile, the local authorities said that it is the National Guard of Ukraine that does not permit the conduit repair.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sloviansk_cut_off_water_322391

SBU says OSCE monitors abducted by Russian Cossacks. Video, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has established a direct involvement of Russian Cossack structures to supply weapons to terrorist organizations operating in the east of Ukraine, as well as the kidnapping of OSCE monitors on May 29 this year, according to a video posted on the SBU website.

Ataman of the "Almighty Don Host" Nikolai Kozitsyn says in the video that all his actions on the detention of the hostages he agrees with the Kremlin.

"This is a command from the top. From afar, from afar ... Everything is agreed," the SBU press center quoted him as saying.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/sbu_says_osce_monitors_abducted_by_russian_cossacks_video_322410

Donetsk railroad reports mass damage to facilities in Krasny Lyman, wound of local surgeon, 04.06.2014

Administrative, production and social facilities of the Krasny Lyman railroad junction sustained considerable damage following airstrikes on June 3.

Krasny Lyman railroad hospital was damaged the most by airstrikes - intensive care, clinical, surgical unit buildings were damaged, roofs and walls were destroyed, windows and doors knocked out, operation rooms, laboratory, medical devices and equipment sustained significant damage, the Donetsk railroad press office said on Wednesday.

Krasny Lyman station surgeon Vasyl Shistka sustained a serious fragment wound to the head and is in a critical condition. Three patients were wounded.

The airstrike damaged administrative buildings and outbuildings of Krasny Lyman track maintenance train, platforms and rails.

Due to this seven trains were cancelled in the schedule.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207912.html>

50 trucks with Russian militants on border with Ukraine, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. Russia has brought to the border with Ukraine's Donbas 50 trucks with militants to break into Ukraine, head of the Center for Military-Political Studies Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"In the border areas of Russia near Donetsk region convoys with gunmen totaling up to 50 trucks have been formed," he wrote.

Reinforcements with Caucasians are also coming to Luhansk, but their number and route of the breakthrough are yet unknown.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/50_trucks_with_russian_militants_on_border_with_ukraine_322412

Bolotov wants to turn Luhansk region into "scorched earth", 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukraine/. Head of the self-proclaimed "Luhansk People's Republic" (LPR) wants to turn Luhansk region into the scorched earth through turning off the lights, water, and by destroying everyone.

He told a press conference.

"We must do scorched earth underfoot of these fascists. We need to disable the light, if possible, water - everything about life support of these fascist barbarians. I urge the entire population, young and old, to call, if possible, to destroy or report to military units of the Luhansk People's Army. We must not leave them a chance," Bolotov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/bolotov_wants_to_turn_luhansk_region_into_scorched_earth_322420

Ukrainian border station in Donbas region comes under fire, 04.06.2014

The Marynivka border checkpoint in Shakhtarsk district in Donetsk region came under fire in the early hours of Wednesday morning, according to the Web site of the Ukrainian State Border Guard Service.

"A car stopped at around 0235 within 300 meters of the checkpoint. Several individuals, who emerged from the vehicle, opened fire at the checkpoint," the statement said.

The men managed to fire several bursts of gunfire with automatic rifles, the statement

said. "Border guards instantly opened return fire. After that the assailants quickly vanished from the scene," the statement said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/207928.html>

ATO forces destroy bus with terrorists, ammunition depot, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists attacked a convoy of the ATO forces, however, the Ukrainian troops destroyed the attackers' bus by return fire, coordinator of the Information Resistance Group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page. According to him, the night in the ATO area passed without major hostilities, no losses from security forces, only two soldiers were wounded.

"Over the past hours in the north of Luhansk region two roadblocks of the Ukrainian troops have been attacked. The militaries opened returned fire, there are no losses among them. Upon returning to the camp a convoy of the ATO forces was shelled. By the returning fire a minibus with terrorists was destroyed," Tymchuk wrote.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ato_forces_destroy_bus_with_terrorists_ammunition_depot_322436

Gunfire heard in Donetsk last night, situation generally "stable" – city administration, 05.06.2014

The situation was relatively quiet in Donetsk last night, the city administration said in a press release.

As of 9:00 a.m., the situation in the city was "stable", it said.

However, residents of the village of Shyroke claim to have heard gunfire last night, the city administration said.

A roadblock recently appeared at an intersection of Pukhova and Odeska Streets.

"Measures are now being taken to dismantle this roadblock," according to the press release.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208018.html>

About 10,000 terrorists acting in Donbas - Tymchuk, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. About 10,000 armed terrorists are in Donbas and up to 10% of the local population sympathizes with them.

Coordinator of the Information Resistance group Dmytro Tymchuk said at a briefing in Kyiv, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"About 10,000 terrorists are estimated by our special services in Donbas, 10% of the population is sympathetic to them," he said.

Tymchuk also noted that the Ukrainian government was not ready, including as regards the law, to oppose such a challenge. Now the parliament, although with considerable delay, modifies these gaps in the legislative framework.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/about_10000_terrorists_acting_in_donbas_tymchuk_322460

Terrorists moving to Amvrosiivka on APCs, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. Several hundred of militants on armored personal carriers (APCs) and 10 KamAZ trucks are moving to settlement of Amvrosiivka, Donetsk region. "Novosti Donbasa" (News of Donbas) informs.

According to the publication, the DPR ("Donetsk People's Republic") terrorists are moving from the side of Donetsk, Shakhtarsk and Torez.

Besides, local media informed about five KamAZ trucks with terrorists in Snizhne, probably the Chechens.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_moving_to_amvrosiivka_on_apcs_322475

Battle begins on border with RF: border guard are stormed by APC and KamAZ with machineguns, 05.06.2014

From the side of the RF border guards are stormed by APC and KamAZs with machineguns, more than a hundred fighters are moving up in the rear.

According to operative data of "Information Resistance" group, Ukrainian border are fighting a battle on the border with the RF in a region of "Marinovka" checkpoint. Head of the Center of Military-Political Studies, coordinator of "Information Resistance" group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote this on his Facebook page.

Tymchuk noted that border guards eliminated 1 KamAZ, which penetrate in territory of Ukraine.

"More than a hundred fighters are moving up in the rear from the Ukrainian territory. The battle is taking place".

<http://www.unian.info/politics/925925-battle-begins-on-border-with-rf-border-guard-are-stormed-by-apc-and-kamaz-with-machineguns.html>

15 militants killed at Marynivka checkpoint on border with Russia, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. As a result of the fierce fighting near Marynivka checkpoint in Donetsk region on Thursday evening Ukrainian troops annihilated 15 terrorists, Adviser to Interior Minister Anton Herashchenko said on the Shuster LIVE television show.

Also, he added that Ukrainian troops destroyed military hardware of the militants - Ural truck, two KamAZ trucks and an APC.

As reported, Ukrainian border guards clashed with a group of terrorists near Marynivka checkpoint on the border with Russia. From the Russian side the border unit was stormed by a terrorist group with 1 APC, 4 KamAZ trucks with mounted NSV heavy machine guns and 4 minibuses. Also, in the Ukrainian territory more than a hundred militants pulled up from the rear.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/15_militants_killed_at_marynivka_checkpoint_on_border_with_russia_322479

<http://www.unian.info/politics/926015-battle-near-marinovka-is-over.html>

Terrorists from "DPR" seize hospital in Donetsk, 06.06.2014

Fighters seized the building, having stated that their hospital will be situated there, from now.

In Donetsk separatists of self-proclaimed "Donetsk People's Republic" seized a department in the hospital n.a. Kalinin.

The department of health of Donetsk Oblast State Administration disclosed this to UNIAN.

They noted in the report that today representatives of so-called "Donetsk People's Republic" seized one of the departments of Donetsk Oblast Clinical Territorial Medical Union (hospital n.a. Kalinin), which employees of state institutions and organizations of the region attend.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/926254-terrorists-from-dpr-seize-hospital-in-donetsk.html>

Aviation bombs out two terrorist bases in Luhansk region, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Last night Ukrainian aircraft destroyed two terrorist bases in Luhansk region, director of the Center for Military Political Studies Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/aviation_bombs_out_two_terrorist_bases_in_luhansk_region_322483

Terrorists use antitank rifles against Ukrainian militaries, activist says, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Militants in Sloviansk use antitank rifles against Ukrainian militaries, activist Yuriy Kasianov wrote on his Facebook page.

"Sloviansk. Militants have been actively using antitank rifles. A powerful weapon, in fact - it's a small caliber antitank gun. Long firing range. Excellent armor - no body armor can withstand. This soldier is lucky: the bullet tangentially crumpled the ACV armor (airborne combat vehicle) and by rebound broke the load bearing vest. He wasn't hit ..." the activist said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_use_antitank_rifles_against_ukrainian_militaries_activist_says_322488

Ukrainian militaries mortared by terrorists near Sloviansk, one killed, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Near Sloviansk militants mortared roadblocks of the Ukrainian troops with two law enforcers seriously wounded, and one killed, Deputy Interior Minister Serhiy Yarovy said on Friday.

"Near Sloviansk terrorists opened mortar fire from the territory of one of the local churches. They hit roadblocks of Interior Ministry units, which are part of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO)," Yarovy said.

In the attack the terrorists killed a policeman from Ivano-Frankivsk special police unit, two other were seriously wounded.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_militaries_mortared_by_terrorists_near_sloviansk_one_killed_322504
<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208310.html>

Terrorists in Sloviansk encircled by ATO tanks, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. Roadblocks around Sloviansk and Kramatorsk are reinforced by Ukrainian tanks, spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov told reporters on Friday.

"The roadblocks that are most often exposed to shelling and attacks of terrorists, who are trying to escape from the tight encirclement, are reinforced by armored vehicles. One of the tanks, for example, stays near the turn to Krasny Lyman. The task is to strengthen the protection and avoid the breakthrough of terrorists from the encirclement," Selezniiov said, according to the UNN online edition.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_in_sloviansk_encircled_by_ato_tanks_322506

Pilot of crashed An-26 killed, 07.06.2014

KYIV, June 7 /Ukrinform/. A pilot from the crew of the An-26 plane with humanitarian aid that was shot down over Sloviansk has been killed, coordinator of the Information Resistance Group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"Tragically, yesterday not all the crewmen of the downed over Sloviansk An-26 were able to leave the plane. Three crew members left the aircraft, one of them was killed. Data regarding the remaining crew members are being specified," the expert said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/pilot_of_crashed_an_26_killed_322515

A Russian Special Forces commando died in Donetsk, 07.06.2014

InfoResist has information that among killed terrorists from the DPR ("Donetsk People's Republic") there is serviceman from the Russian Armed Forces. It is Alexander Yurin, born in 1993, a Russian citizen, lived in town Mojaisk in Moscow region.

He served in 45th Special Forces Airborne Regiment. Was recruited by the FSB. Died in the battle for the Donetsk airport.

Here is his page in VKontakte <https://vk.com/id143829513>

<http://inforesist.org/a-russian-special-forces-commando-died-in-donetsk-photo-18/?lang=en>

Servicemen repel terrorists' attack in Artemivsk, seize grenade launcher, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. Last night the terrorists tried to storm a military unit in Artemivsk, Donetsk region.

The coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, wrote this on his page on Facebook.

"Last night a group of terrorists attempted to assault a military unit in Artemivsk. The gunmen drove up to the unit on two cars and a KamAZ. They opened fire on the military unit with automatic weapons and grenade launchers. Ukrainian troops fired back, and the terrorists fled," Tymchuk said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/servicemen_repel_terrorists_attack_in_artemivsk_seize_grenade_launcher_322527

"Donetsk Republic" doesn't trust Poroshenko's pledge to stop fighting, 09.06.2014

The leadership of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic said they do not trust Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko's pledge to put an end to the fighting in Donbas this week.

"We don't know exactly what Poroshenko said concerning ceasefire. But we doubt that he will pull back the troops. Sloviansk was shelled with Grad launchers last night and fighting is continuing in Kramatorsk," the republic's first deputy prime minister, Andriy Purhin, told Interfax.

In his words, the mobilization of volunteers is going on in Donetsk.

"Exactly what Poroshenko meant by his statement on stopping the hostilities is a question to be addressed to Poroshenko. As for us, we continue the mobilization and the volunteers continue preparations for the defense of Donetsk," Purhin said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208491.html>

Border guards in Luhansk region rebuff terrorists' attack, 09.06.2014

KYIV, June 9 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists opened fire on the Izvaryne checkpoint in Luhansk region last night, the press office of the State Border Service of Ukraine has reported.

"Gunmen drove up to the checkpoint on several vehicles. During the fire they made several shots with small arms in the direction of the checkpoint and also one shot from a grenade launcher that exploded nearby. The border unit immediately gave fire resistance to the attackers, and the latter disappeared in the direction of the community of Izvaryne," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/border_guards_in_luhansk_region_rebuff_terrorists_attack_322533

Eight-year-old child killed in anti-terrorist zone, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. An eight-year-old child was killed in the area of the anti-terrorist operation in Sloviansk, Donetsk region, on Sunday.

Donetsk Regional State Administration confirmed this report to the Ostrov online newspaper.

According to the report, the child was died of a shrapnel wound.

The regional administration said that this was the first death of a minor since the outbreak of hostilities in Sloviansk.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eight_year_old_child_killed_in_anti_terrorist_zone_322547

Terrorists bombard airfield in Kramatorsk, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Last night, terrorists bombarded the airfield in Kramatorsk.

"The ATO forces returned the fire. As a result, according to preliminary data, two mortar shells of militants were destroyed, and one combat engineer vehicle, which was used by militants. No casualties among the security forces. According to preliminary data, about 40 militants were killed," Coordinator of the Information Resistance group Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_bombard_airfield_in_kramatorsk_322553

Gunshots heard in area of Donetsk airport at night, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. The press service of the Donetsk City Council informs.

"On the night of June 9 to June 10, according to residents, gunshots were heard in the area of the Donetsk airport. To remind, the perimeter of the airport and the area of the shopping center Metro are still dangerous. In this regard, we once again appeal to residents, asking them not to approach to these places," the City Council sources noted.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gunshots_heard_in_area_of_donetsk_airport_at_night_322563

Terrorists seize eastern border checkpoint, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. The militants arranged the border checkpoint Dovzhansky, Luhansk region, temporarily closed by the Cabinet's decision.

The 112 Ukraine publication reports.

"A decision on the border crossing was taken by the local police representatives, who switched on the side of the militants," the publication notes.

The militants, who took control of the border checkpoint Dovzhansky, call themselves representatives of the first Luhansk Cossack hundred. They check documents and goods of the people, crossing the border.

According to Yuriy, "head" of the checkpoint, the passenger traffic is extensive in this area.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_seize_eastern_border_checkpoint_322565

Ukrainian Armed Forces repel attack on Luhansk airfield, 10.06.2014

Militants have attacked an airfield in the city of Luhansk, eastern Ukraine, Vladyslav Selezniiov, spokesman for the Ukrainian Armed Forces' anti-terrorist operation in the southeast of the country, has said.

"Militants opened fire on an airfield in Luhansk. Having arrived in eight trucks equipped with mortars and large-caliber submachine guns, the militants started to shoot at the positions of Ukrainian servicemen," Selezniiov said on his Facebook account on Tuesday morning.

The Ukrainian soldiers repelled the attack. None of them was killed or injured, he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208544.html>

Two children killed in Sloviansk, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. A boy and a girl have been killed in an explosion in Sloviansk, Donetsk region.

According to preliminary reports, the children's deaths occurred due to fragmentation wounds, Deputy Donetsk Regional Governor for Health Issues Olena Petriayeva told TSN.

"Yes, the children were killed. Not one child. Two children, one of preschool age and another of school age, passed through a forensic medical examination. All this is blast injury. We do not know the circumstances," she said.

Meanwhile, spokesman for Donetsk Regional State Administration Illia Suzdalev specified the age and gender of the children to the 112 Ukraine television station.

"Two children were killed - a boy and a girl, 12 and 6 years old. According to the preliminary results of a forensic examination, the death occurred as a result of fragmentation wounds," Suzdalev said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/two_children_killed_in_sloviansk_322573

Kyiv defense battalion leaves for Donbas to fight terrorists, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. The Kyiv territorial defense battalion is leaving for the Donbas on Tuesday.

Head of Kyiv City State Administration Volodymyr Bondarenko said this at a press conference on Tuesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Today our battalion is leaving for the east - rotation is underway there, and the guys who passed the training are today leaving for the war," Bondarenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/kyiv_defense_battalion_leaves_for_donbas_to_fight_terrorists_322587

Security forces get no orders to cease fire - Selezniiov, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. The forces of the anti-terrorist operation are ready to execute any order from the top political leadership of the country, but they have not yet received any new instructions.

Anti-terrorist operation spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov said this, while commenting on a statement by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko that fire in eastern Ukraine must be ceased within a week, according to the Novosti Donbassa online newspaper. "If we get respective instructions, we will act in accordance with them," Selezniiov said. http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/security_forces_get_no_orders_to_cease_fire_selezniiov_322593

Terrorists start fighting each other - Selezniiov, 10.06.2014

KYIV, June 10 /Ukrinform/. Among the terrorists, staying in Sloviansk and Semenivka, shooting emerges with mortars and artillery, and there is a salt lake in Sloviansk, where gunmen dumped the bodies of killed terrorists.

ATO Speaker Vladyslav Selezniiov says.

"According to live data, sometimes, armed conflicts emerge among the terrorists, who remained in Semenivka and Sloviansk. They bombard each other from mortars and artillery. However, the ATO forces do not respond to this. The only thing is that this is a serious threat to peaceful citizens, who may suffer from such "conflicts."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_start_fighting_each_other_selezniiov_322597

Over 200 civilians killed in ATO area - Health Ministry, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. More than 200 civilians killed in the area of anti-terrorist operations in eastern Ukraine in the period from April 15 to June 11.

Deputy Health Minister Ruslan Saliutin told a briefing at the Health Ministry on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"According to updated operational information, unfortunately, during the implementation of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine, more than 200 civilians were killed. Out of these - 15 women and two children," Saliutin said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/over_200_civilians_killed_in_ato_area_health_ministry_322623

State Sanitary Epidemiological Service notes threat of epidemic in Sloviansk, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. The epidemic situation in Ukraine is generally under control, but there is a risk of complications because of damage caused to the main water pipeline in Sloviansk, Donetsk region.

Acting Head of the State Sanitary Epidemiological Service of Ukraine Oleksandr Kravchuk said this at a briefing at the Ukrainian Health Ministry on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"The epidemic situation in Ukraine and in the areas of the anti-terrorist operation is generally controlled, and group cases of diseases have not been recorded.

Unfortunately, we have a problem due to the fact that the main water pipeline was damaged in Sloviansk, and it may get worse," Kravchuk said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/state_sanitary_epidemiological_service_notes_threat_of_epidemic_in_sloviansk_322627

Terrorists fire at two checkpoints of security forces last night, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Militants last night fired at two checkpoints of the forces involved in the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine.

The coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, reported this on his Facebook page.

"The terrorists fired at two checkpoints of the anti-terrorist operation forces, one with automatic firearms and another with an AGS-17 automatic grenade launcher. Security forces fired back. There are no casualties among them. There are no data on casualties among militants," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_fire_at_two_checkpoints_of_security_forces_last_night_322607

Seleznev: Ukrainian military men check who leave ATO area, 11.06.2014

Ukrainian military men check people, who are leaving an area of antiterrorist operation (ATO) in Donbass, in order to make moving of raiding parties far inland impossible. Head of group of informing about process of operation Vladyslav Seleznev said this during communication between the HQ of ATO and crisis media center.

"Corresponding forces and services, which are in the ATO, are carrying out this work. This work will be carried out also in case of opening of humanitarian corridor", - noted Vladyslav Seleznev, answering question of Radio Svoboda.

He also underlined that immigrants are also checked at roadblocks of the ATO on order of the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblast with neighbouring oblasts.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/927556-seleznev-ukrainian-military-men-check-who-leave-ato-area.html>

Over 200 civilians killed in ATO area - Health Ministry, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. More than 200 civilians killed in the area of anti-terrorist operations in eastern Ukraine in the period from April 15 to June 11.

Deputy Health Minister Ruslan Saliutin told a briefing at the Health Ministry on Wednesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"According to updated operational information, unfortunately, during the implementation of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine, more than 200 civilians were killed. Out of these - 15 women and two children," Saliutin said.

He added that one of the dead boys was 4 years old, the other, whose body is being identified, is about 14. "Now, appropriate actions continue on the identification of this deceased," Saliutin said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/over_200_civilians_killed_in_ato_area_health_ministry_322623

Separatists disrupt gas production in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Separatists seized equipment of five rigs of PJSC Ukgazvydobuvannia in Donetsk and Luhansk regions that may stop production of hydrocarbons in the region.

The company's press service told Ukrinform.

"Now, there is a threat of malfunction of the drilling rig Burgaz and the state enterprise Shebelynkagazvydobuvannia and complete transition of the fields under control of separatists and, as a result, suspension of hydrocarbons' production in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, jeopardizing not only fulfillment of the financial plan for gas exploration, drilling and production, but also the functioning of the fields in general," a statement reads.

The company management is preparing to appeal to Naftogaz of Ukraine, Energy and Coal Industry Ministry of Ukraine, Prosecutor General's Office, Interior Ministry and Security Service, for them to take action and to influence the situation in order to prevent suspension of the industry operation.

To date, the company has suffered damage, which is estimated at more than UAH 86 million.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/separatists_disrupt_gas_production_in_donetsk_and_luhansk_regions_322631

Prosecutor's office seized in Lysychansk, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Gunmen seized the building of the prosecutor's office in Lysychansk, Luhansk region, early on Wednesday.

The Novosti Donbassa online newspaper, citing law enforcement officers, reported that the invaders broke into the building of the prosecutor's office at about 0300.

"About two dozen men armed with assault rifles entered the building. They surrounded the building and then penetrated into the premises," the police said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/prosecutors_office_seized_in_lynychansk_322637

Luhansk RSA demands to withdraw mandates from Party of Regions deputies and bring them to justice, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Acting chairman of the Luhansk Regional State Administration (RSA) Iryna Veryhina said about the involvement of deputies of the Party of Regions and the Communist Party in terrorism in the east.

The acting chairman of the Luhansk Regional State Administration wrote on her Facebook page.

"I saw the performance by Horokhov (Party of Regions member - Ed.) in the Russian parliament, who called the Kremlin to concrete actions against Ukraine. Oleksandr Yefremov set in the presidium. This is direct evidence, linking these deputies to terrorism in the east," she said in a social network.

According to Veryhina, these elected officials "are trying to turn Luhansk region in the ghetto in order to protect their business interests."

"Some of them openly support Russia's aggression and terrorism, and other deputies of the Party of Regions and the Communist Party secretly funded terrorist groups in Luhansk, Severodonetsk," the official says.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/luhansk_rsa_demands_to_withdraw_mandates_from_party_of_regions_deputies_and_bring_them_to_justice_322640

Ukrainian Health Ministry: death toll of confrontation reaches 225 in Donetsk region, 45 in Luhansk, 12.06.2014

Since the beginning of armed confrontation in Eastern Ukraine in April, 225 people have died in Donetsk region and 45 in Luhansk region, the press service of the Ukrainian Health Ministry reports.

"Since the beginning of confrontation in the east of Ukraine to this day according to the Donetsk regional administration's health department, 225 people have died in Donetsk region (confirmed by forensic medicine bureau), eight of them women. There are also tentative reports of the death of two children," the ministry says.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208903.html>

Special groups trained in Rostov region for subversive activity in Donbas - Tymchuk, 12.06.2014

The head of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, has said that special groups formed of 80 residents of Crimea have been trained at the base of the Russian special services in Rostov region.

"All these citizens are members of the so-called Crimean 'self-defense' who were involved in the seizure of state facilities during the annexation of the peninsula in March this year," he wrote on his page on Facebook early on Thursday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208909.html>

Security forces kill sniper in Sloviansk, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. The past 24 hours in Donetsk region in the area of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) passed relatively peacefully, ATO spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov has reported on his Facebook page.

He said that in the afternoon the Ukrainian security forces' checkpoint located at the corner of roads leading to Krasny Lyman and Sloviansk came under fire three times with small arms, grenade launchers and 80-millimeter mortars.

"But the Ukrainian military were most harassed by a sniper who 'worked' on the upper floors of a plant in the industrial part of the town. The sniper was eliminated with accurate shots in response, and the fire from the specified position stopped," TSN reported.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/security_forces_kill_sniper_in_sloviansk_322652

Activists block border guards, demand Lytvyn's lustration, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. The building of the State Border Guard Service is blocked since 6:00 a.m. by representatives of civic organizations, including the Maidan Council and the Right Sector, demanding lustration in the office and resignation of its leader Mykola Lytvyn.

"We demand the resignation of Lytvyn and lustration in the office," one of the Right Sector representatives, who did not call his name, said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/activists_block_border_guardes_demand_lytvyns_lustration_322656

Terrorist Pushylin says Russia takes 15,000 refugees from Ukraine's east, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. One of terrorist leaders in eastern Ukraine Denys Pushylin said about an allegedly large-scale flow of refugees from the east of Ukraine to Russia. The Moscow Echo reports.

The resource notes that, according to Pushylin, mostly women and children fled.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorist_pushylin_says_russia_takes_15000_refugees_from_ukraines_east_322664

Terrorists trying to get to Russia with children from Snizhne, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. The bus with children, hijacked in Snizhne, Donetsk region, is found on the border with Russia, on the checkpoint Dovzhansky.

The press service of the Donetsk Regional State Administration reports.

"According to data, available at the family and youth affairs department of the Regional State Administration, the bus with children from Snizhne went to Krasny Luch, Luhansk region, where it headed for the checkpoint Dovzhansky. "Now, the children are at the border. Nothing is known about the plans of people, who seized the bus," a statement reads.

The Donetsk Regional State Administration reminds that children and persons accompanying them have no necessary documents for crossing the state border.

To remind, June 12, 25 children left Snizhne by bus for health improvement in Dnipropetrovsk region, including orphans and foster children of the family-type children's home. At the exit from the city, the bus with children and the police car, accompanying them, were stopped by terrorists. They seized the bus and sent it in the direction of Crimea.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_trying_to_get_to_russia_with_children_from_snizhne_322674

Children from Snizhne are in Russia, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Children, who are kidnapped by terrorists of the so-called "Donetsk People's Republic," are already on the territory of the Russian Federation, from where they will be sent to Crimea.

Head of the criminal police for children's affairs of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine Oleksiy Lazarenko told a press conference at Ukrinform.

"They (the bus with kidnapped children - Ed.) went via Luhansk region, Krasny Luch, the Dovzhansky checkpoint and are now in Russia. They will be sent to Crimea across the Kerch Strait," he said.

According to Lazarenko, all the children are alive and healthy, but the militants disembarked from the bus two out of three adults, who accompanied them.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/children_from_snizhne_are_in_russia_322692

National Guard detains self-proclaimed Mariupol 'mayor', 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian National Guard servicemen have detained self-proclaimed "people's mayor" of Mariupol Oleksandr Fomenko and two activists of the so-called Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) during a special operation, the press service of the National Guard has reported.

"It is known that Oleksandr Hryhorovych Fomenko is the organizer of terrorist activity and separatist actions in Donetsk region. The 'chief of a DPR committee in Mariupol,' Mykola Vasyliovych Lysohor, and DPR activist Serhiy Oleksandrovykh Zymnysky were detained together with citizen Fomenko," reads the statement.

Large amounts of campaign materials for distribution, as well as an arsenal of weapons and ammunition, were seized during the arrest, which took place in the city center.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/national_guard_detains_self_proclaimed_mariupol_mayor_322680

Semenchenko wants Donbas 2, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Donbas battalion commander Semen Semenchenko approached the National Guard command and Interior Minister Arsen Avakov, requesting the formation of the battalion Donbas 2.

He wrote on his Facebook page.

"Due to the presence of more than 1,500 patriots in the reserve, who wish to defend the country as part of the battalion Donbas, we solicit for formation of the battalion Donbas 2. If the decision is approved, the officers agree to form and train it as soon as possible," Semenchenko writes.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/semnchenko_wants_donbas_2_322684

Three Russian tanks cross Ukraine's border, fight ongoing with Ukrainian security forces near Snizhne – media, 12.06.2014

Russia has sent three tanks to Donetsk region, but they were intercepted by Ukrainian troops near the town of Snizhne, Donetsk region, the Censor.NET online newspaper has reported, citing Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov.

"Tonight, three T-72 tanks crossed Ukraine's state border from Russia. One tank is in the town of Snizhne. Two other tanks moved out of the town. In the vicinity of Snizhne these tanks were intercepted by Ukrainian troops. The fight is ongoing. There are reports that a Russian T-72 was hit," the newspaper quoted Avakov as saying.

According to Censor.NET, the Russian military in the immediate vicinity of the border with Ukraine have additional forces - armor and Grad BM-21 multiple rocket launcher systems - that could also be sent into Ukraine at any time.

Earlier, the head of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, wrote on his page on Facebook that illegal armed groups in Snizhne had received two tanks, thought to be T-72s.

"In Ukraine, these tanks were decommissioned from the arsenal of the Armed Forces. However, they are in service with the Russian army. There is also evidence that APCs available to militants in Snizhne were previously captured by Russian soldiers in Crimea at the military units of Ukrainian coastal defense troops," Tymchuk said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209017.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/927993-terrorists-have-tanks-in-snezhnoe-tymchuk.html>

SBU creates life corridor for leaving for civilians from areas of ATO, 12.06.2014

Antiterrorist Center of the SBU creates a life corridor for leaving for civilians in the area of antiterrorist operation in Luhansk and Donetsk Oblasts.

The press center of the SBU disclosed to UNIAN that in order to ensure the necessary conditions for citizens, who leave the area of anti-terrorist operation, the head of the ATO was given a number of instructions.

In particular, to determine roadblocks, through which will be the maximum safe movement of civilians from the area of the ATO will be carried out.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928057-sbu-creates-life-corridor-for-leaving-for-civilians-from-areas-of-ato.html>

Tanks leave Snizhne for Horlivka, get resistance, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. Russian tanks that were sent to Snizhne on Thursday have moved to Horlivka, but a "warm reception" was staged for them there.

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov said this at a briefing in Kyiv on Thursday. He said that immediately after the tanks crossed the Ukrainian-Russian border they arrived in Snizhne, where two of them left for Horlivka, where they were stopped by the Ukrainian army.

"The tanks were attacked by our Armed Forces. The fighting is going on. I cannot announce its result, but part of this column [the tanks that broke through the border] has been destroyed," he said.

According to Avakov, a column of three tanks passed through the Dyakovo border checkpoint that was earlier seized by terrorists.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/tanks_leave_snizhne_for_horlivka_get_resistance_322694

Azov storming second stronghold of terrorists in Mariupol, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The assault battalion group Azov broke into the premises of the bank, where there are militants of the terrorist organization "Donetsk People's Republic" (DPR).

Fighter of the battalion, deputy of the Kyiv Council from the Radical Party Ihor Moseichuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"The assault group entered the premises of the bank in Gretska Street, where the group of militants is located. They started mopping up of the bank. There is a strong smell of gas around. The gas pipeline burst," Moseichuk says.

According to him, before, the terrorists fled from their headquarters - Ukrainian units are already in the building. The combat reconnaissance patrol vehicle of terrorists is also destroyed.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/azov_storming_second_stronghold_of_terrorists_in_mariupol_322700

Soldiers take all key strongholds of terrorists under control in Mariupol – Avakov, 13.06.2014

Ukrainian soldiers took all key strongholds of terrorists under control in Mariupol.

Interior Minister of Ukraine Arsen Avakov said this on his Facebook page.

Operation started at 04.50 am and takes place successfully, noted Avakov.

"Four special unit servicemen are injured, and one is in serious condition," the report runs.

"The operation was successful. Over 30 terrorists have currently been detained, and they have been taken to a safe place," Herashchenko said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928296-soldiers-take-all-key-strongholds-of-terrorists-under-control-in-mariupol-avakov.html>

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209099.html>

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/mariupol_operation_successfully_completed_30_terrorists_detained_interior_ministry_322720

ATO forces damage two tanks, three APCs, seize two trucks with militants, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. According to the Information Resistance group, in the area of the anti-terrorist operation there have been some clashes between the ATO forces and terrorists, group coordinator Dmytro Tymchuk has reported on his Facebook page.

"Ukrainian security forces damaged two tanks that came earlier for fighters from Russia. The ATO forces also destroyed three armored personnel carriers; two trucks carrying militants and weapons; two vehicles mounted with heavy machine guns," the expert said.

He said that in the border regions with Russia the ATO forces had blocked and captured three motorcades that invaded from Russia. The vehicles carrying ammunition and weapons for terrorists were captured.

"During the clashes, according to our data, four Ukrainian servicemen were killed. Thirty-one were injured. There are no exact data on casualties among terrorists," Tymchuk added.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ato_forces_damage_two_tanks_three_apcs_seize_two_trucks_with_militants_322708

Terrorists beat and kidnap police chief in Luhansk region, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists beat and kidnapped the chief of the police department in the town of Sverdlovsk, Luhansk region.

The Interior Ministry told UNN yesterday.

"Yesterday, terrorists have beaten and kidnapped the police chief from the town of Sverdlovsk, Luhansk region.

According to preliminary data, currently the officer is kept at the checkpoint Dovzhansky, captured by terrorists.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_beat_and_kidnap_police_chief_in_luhansk_region_322710

Black Hundreds from Maidan assault prosecutor's office, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. About 20 activists stormed the building of the Kyiv prosecutor's office.

Head of the press service of the Kyiv prosecutor's office Olena Yakhno said, Ukrainska Pravda reports, referring to Ukrainski Novyny (Ukrainian News).

"The so-called Black Hundreds from the Maidan ... they are trying to break inside (the prosecutor's office)," she said.

The Black Hundreds from the Maidan are demanding lustration of the public prosecutor's office.

The prosecutor's office, according to Yakhno, is protected by the Right Sector activists.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/black_hundreds_from_maidan_assault_prosecutors_office_322712

Terrorists from "DPR" and "LPR" start attacking each other in Luhansk, 13.06.2014

In the night of 12-13 June representatives of self-proclaimed "Donetsk People Republic" committed an armed attack on HQs of similar "Luhansk People Republic", which are situated in the premises of oblast departments of the SBU and Traffic Police Department in Luhansk.

Sources of the SBU disclosed this to UNIAN.

In a result of clashes one of the fighters of LPR dies and three of them got injuries.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928344-terrorists-from-dpr-and-lpr-start-attacking-each-other-in-luhansk.html>

Chief fighter of "DPR" Pushylin confirms getting 3 tanks from Russia, 13.06.2014

On the air of Russian state-run television channel "Russia-24" Pushylin said that tanks "give hope to protect the city". At the same time he noted that for negotiations with authorities of Ukraine "they need guarantees from mediators, from our the most serious mediator – the RF".

Pushylin also said about necessity of bringing into the region "a peacemaking contingent".

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928349-chief-fighter-of-dpr-pushylin-confirms-getting-3-tanks-from-russia.html>

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/dpr_confirms_receiving_three_tanks_322722

Defense Ministry confirms loss of aircraft and paratroopers, 14.06.2014

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. The military transport aircraft of the Air Force of Ukraine IL-76 was hit by terrorists while landing at the Luhansk airport.

The press service of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine informs.

"On the night from June 13 to June 14, while landing at the Luhansk airport, terrorists, by shooting from anti-aircraft and heavy machine gun installations, cynically and insidiously hit the military transport aircraft of the Air Force of Ukraine IL-76, which performed transportation of personnel for the purpose of rotation. Military personnel, machinery, equipment and food were onboard the aircraft," a statement reads. Leadership of the Defense Ministry of Ukraine, the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and command of the Air Force of Ukraine expresses their sincere condolences to parents, relatives and friends of killed servicemen in connection with the tragic and irreparable loss.

As reported, about 30 paratroopers were onboard the aircraft.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/defense_ministry_confirms_loss_of_aircraft_and_paratroopers_322740

Over 300 corpses of Russian mercenaries in Dmytrivka and Diakovo- Tymchuk, 14.06.2014

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. In settlements of Donetsk region Dmytrivka, Diakovo and Saur-Mohyla there are more than 300 corpses of Russian mercenaries, killed in the anti-terrorist operation.

Coordinator of the Information Resistance group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on his Facebook page.

"In the settlement of Diakovo, about 80 dead terrorists are ready for delivery to Russia. These are Russian mercenaries, killed during the ATO counteractions. In settlements Saur-Mohyla and Dmytrivka about 250 killed terrorists are concentrated and about 300 wounded," he informed.

According to the Information Resistance group, now, attempts are made on the Russian side to penetrate the territory of Ukraine for the evacuation of those dead and wounded. For the past day, infiltration of columns of vehicles for 3-6 kilometers of the inland, supported by the aviation technology of the Russian Armed Forces, was marked in the state border areas, controlled by terrorists.

"In the settlement of Anratsit, panic is in the ranks of the terrorists, columns of those wounded are formed in order to evacuate to the east, the same sentiments are seen in Severodonetsk. So-called "Cossacks," who act on the side of the terrorists, quickly leave their positions in the settlements of Dmytrivka and Diakovo," Tymchuk noted.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/over_300_corpses_of_russian_mercenaries_in_dmytrivka_and_diakovo_tymchuk_322744

Terrorists bring up additional forces to Luhansk, 14.06.2014

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists accumulate additional forces in Luhansk, reinforcements are brought up. Civil TV reports.

"At night, a convoy of ten trucks covered with tarpaulin and UAZ vehicles entered Luhansk from the side of Khriashchuvate village (southern suburbs). The convoy moved toward the downtown. Three passenger buses moved in the same direction," a statement reads.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_bring_up_additional_forces_to_luhansk_322746

Car with border guards shot in Mariupol, there are victims. Video, 14.06.2014

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. On Saturday, around 10:00 a.m., gunmen fired from a grenade launcher at the vehicle Gazel with border guards in Mariupol. Two soldiers were killed and there are wounded soldiers.

"Unidentified persons fired at the car with border guards from a grenade launcher. The automobile was moving towards the border. The gunfire was opened up from the village of Adzhakhy. Five dead are reported, and there are wounded," the publication says.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/car_with_border_guardes_shot_in_mariupol_there_are_victims_video_322748
http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/three_border_guardes_killed_in_mariupol_322750

Aircraft rout command post of terrorists in Horlivka, 14.06.2014

KYIV, June 14 /Ukrinform/. The ATO forces inflicted an airstrike on the building of the Horlivka city police department, seized by separatists.

It was reported by Gorlovka.ua.

"This morning, after an airstrike on the building of the Horlivka city police department, two people were killed on the spot and six wounded were taken by the ambulance to the hospital No. 2," the publication wrote with reference to the press service of the Donetsk Regional State Administration.

As a result of air strikes, there was a fire on the third and fourth floors. The terrorists claim that at dawn, two fighter bombers attacked and flew away.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/aircraft_rout_command_post_of_terrorists_in_horlivka_322752

People picketing Russian Embassy in Kyiv as sign of protest against Russia's policy, 14.06.2014

About 200 people on Saturday afternoon are picketing the building of the Russian Embassy in Kyiv.

About 200 people gathered near the main entrance of the diplomatic mission, blocked by various improvised means, in particular, old doors, and tires.

Several people are standing along the lattice fence of the embassy with slogans against Russia, with the appeals not to negotiate with the leadership of the Russian Federation and stop Russia's interfering in the internal affairs of Ukraine.

In addition, the activists painted the sign reading "The Embassy of the Russian Federation" in the colors of the national flag of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209335.html>

About 150 terrorists attempted to leave Svatove, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. A group of about 150 terrorists attempted to make a breakthrough near Svatove through the checkpoint of anti-terrorist operation forces.

The coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, reported this on his page on Facebook.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/one_150_terrorists_attempted_to_leave_svatove_322764

Problems with water in Donetsk, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. The stable situation is in Donetsk as of the morning, June 16. The night passed quietly, but there are problems with water in the city.

The press service of the city council reports.

"Water shortages are observed. This is due to the fact that repairs continue at the pumping station of the Siversky Donets - Donbas channel in the village of Semenivka and supply of water is not restored in normal mode," the city council explained.

The food supply situation is stable in Donetsk.

The public transport went to the city routes and fully meets the needs of residents.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/problems_with_water_in_donetsk_322782

Security forces guarding 'green corridors' for refugees, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. The anti-terrorist operation (ATO) forces are ensuring the safety of humanitarian corridors through which civilians may leave the areas that are now controlled by militants.

ATO spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov said this at a press conference in Kyiv.

"We are ensuring the safe movement of civilians wishing to leave the area that is now controlled by militants," he said.

In addition, additional checkpoints were set up on the roads on which columns with civilians are moving.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/security_forces_guarding_green_corridors_for_refugees_322804

Terrorists seize Treasury, National Bank offices in Donetsk, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists from the so-called "Donetsk People's Republic" have seized the buildings of the regional Treasury and the central department of the National Bank of Ukraine in Donetsk.

According to Novosti Donbassa, gunmen are on duty around the perimeter of the NBU building.

"Nobody is let in the building itself, but aggressors allowed employees to leave the premises," reads the report.

Earlier, the press service of the Donetsk Regional State Administration reported the seizure of the Treasury.

"This action will have implications for residents of the region. The payment of all salaries to state employees, pensions, and allowances will stop," Chairman of Donetsk Regional State Administration Serhiy Taruta said.

He demanded that the work of the Treasury be immediately unblocked.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_seize_treasury_national_bank_offices_in_donetsk_322810

Terrorists release NBU, Treasury branches in Donetsk, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Donetsk Mayor Oleksandr Lukyanchenko has said that militants from the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic have unblocked the buildings of the National Bank of Ukraine and the central office of the State Treasury of Ukraine in Donetsk region, according to the website of the Donetsk mayor.

"As a result of negotiations between Donetsk Mayor Oleksandr Lukyanchenko and DPR representatives the buildings of the National Bank of Ukraine in Donetsk region and the central office of the State Treasury of Ukraine in Donetsk region have been unblocked.

Tomorrow these agencies will resume their work. Traffic on Myru Avenue was restored, and public transport in this area is moving freely," reads the statement.

Lukyanchenko's press service reported that as of 17.00 the situation in Donetsk remained tense - reports of car theft are coming from residents of Donetsk.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_release_nbu_treasury_branches_in_donetsk_322816

Football fans rally outside Russian Consulate General in Kharkiv ends peacefully, 17.06.2014

EuroMaidan supporters and Metalist football club fans held a march from the Shevchenko monument to Russia's Consulate General in Kharkiv, Ukraine.

The action drew up to 400 people, the police department has reported.

During the march and the rally in front of the consulate protesters sang the infamous song of the Metalist fans about Russian President Vladimir Putin and shouted obscene chants addressed to the Russian president. The participants in the rally in front of the consulate also thanked the Russians who support the integrity and independence of Ukraine, chanted "Well done, Deschytisia!" etc. At the end of the rally, the activists sang the national anthem of Ukraine.

Police officers accompanied the demonstrators along the itinerary of the procession.

No provocations or incidents were reported.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209605.html>

Terrorists fire at Ukrainian roadblock in Donetsk Oblast at night; there are injured people – Tymchuk, 17.06.2014

According to operative data of "Information Resistance" group, some attacks of fighters on ATO forces were fixed in antiterrorist operation area during last night.

In particular, an attack was committed on joint roadblock of border guards and ATO forces near Alekseevskoe village (the Donetsk Oblast), coordinator of the group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote this on his Facebook page.

As a result of firing from grenade launchers ammunition in roadblock exploded. About dozen of soldiers got injuries.

There also was an attack on a roadblock of ATO forces at the turn of the road to Krasnyi Liman and Slaviansk. The soldiers opened fire in response. There are no losses among military men.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929494-terrorists-fire-at-ukrainian-roadblock-in-donetsk-oblast-at-night-there-are-injured-people-tymchuk.html>

30 terrorists killed or injured in Luhansk region - Seleznirov, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists attacked an anti-terrorist operation (ATO) unit in Luhansk region. About 30 militants were killed or injured and a Ukrainian soldier was injured in the fighting.

ATO spokesman Vladyslav Seleznirov wrote this on his page on Facebook.

"Yesterday a unit of ATO forces saw a large column of militants in the east of Luhansk region. The number of militants significantly exceeded the strength of the ATO forces unit. Gunmen opened fire. Ukrainian troops occupied the perimeter defense. A combat reserve of support forces arrived in the area to support the unit," Seleznirov said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/30_terrorists_killed_or_injured_in_luhansk_region_seleznirov_322830

ATO forces free village of Metalist in Luhansk region from militants, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. On June 16, Ukrainian soldiers were engaged in fighting near Luhansk, whereas National Guard units freed the village of Metalist from terrorists. The anti-terrorist operation (ATO) forces destroyed the checkpoints and two amphibious vehicles of militants. No house in the village was damaged, and there are no civilian casualties, informator.lg.ua reported.

After the operation Ukrainian troops retreated to their previous positions.

In addition, security forces destroyed a stronghold of terrorists located near the village of Shchastia.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ato_forces_free_village_of_metalist_in_luhansk_region_from_militants_322822

125 Ukrainian soldiers killed in anti-terrorist operation - Yarema, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. As many as 125 Ukrainian servicemen have been killed since the beginning of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine.

First Deputy Prime Minister Vitaliy Yarema announced this on the Freedom of Speech program on the ICTV television channel.

"One hundred and twenty-five Ukrainian servicemen were killed during anti-terrorism measures in Ukraine. Among them 96 are servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 22 employees of the Interior Ministry, as well as border guards and employees of the Security Service of Ukraine," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/125_ukrainian_soldiers_killed_in_anti_terrorist_operation_yarema_322818

Yatseniuk says he will struggle for fair gas price for Ukraine, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatseniuk has promised that he will struggle for a fair gas price for Ukraine.

He said this in the Verkhovna Rada on Tuesday, Ukrinform reported.

"I did not give up without a fight. We will wrest a market-oriented and fair price [from Russia]," Yatseniuk said.

As reported, Yatseniuk described the "gas talks" disrupted by Russia as part of a strategy to destroy Ukraine. He said that Ukraine would not pay for Russia's gas debt and would not finance the purchase by President Vladimir Putin of new tanks, missiles and warships.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/yatseniuk_says_he_will_struggle_for_fair_gas_price_for_ukraine_322834

Pushylin names his Moscow consultants, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. The leader of the self-declared Donetsk People's Republic, Denys Pushylin, has said who consults him among top Russian officials. He stated this at a press conference in Moscow on Tuesday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"As for the contacts, support is provided in consultative terms. We interact with Babakov, Matviyenko, Glazyev and Zhirinovskiy. That is, these are politicians who provide support," he said.

According to Pushylin, now he deals with the settlement of "economic issues" of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic, among them the nationalization of enterprises in the region. In addition, the separatist said that "the republic also needs to build a military bloc."

He added that the issue of the DPR joining Russia would be resolved after the end of hostilities.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/pushylin_names_his_moscow_consultants_322836

Donetsk health department reports six deaths in Kramatorsk on June 16, 17.06.2014

Six people died in clashes in Kramatorsk on June 16, the Donetsk regional administration press office said in a statement on Tuesday citing health department. Thirteen people have sought medical attention, the health department said. "Eight of them have been hospitalized in different condition. The issue of transporting some to regional treatment and preventive facilities is being resolved," the document said. At the same time, no people dead or injured were registered in local medical facilities following the forceful operation in Horlivka on June 16, the regional administration said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209693.html>

Water reserves in Donetsk enough only for two weeks – NSDC, 17.06.2014

Water reserves are left for two weeks in Donetsk, in Makeevka for 19 days. According to an UNIAN correspondent, representative of information center of the NSDC Volodymyr Chepovoy said this at press conference.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/929688-water-reserves-in-donetsk-enough-only-for-two-weeks-nsdc.html>

Explosion on Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline in Poltava region of Ukraine, 17.06.2014

An explosion has occurred on the Urengoi-Pomary-Uzhgorod gas pipeline in the Lokhvytsia district of the Poltava region of Ukraine, the press service for the Ukrainian Interior Ministry's department in the Poltava region told Interfax.

"A report on the explosion came at around 1420. Fortunately, no one was hurt. Firefighters are still working," the press service said.

According to the police, the explosion occurred on the section of the pipeline located in a field and the nearest populated area is some one kilometer off.

"According to eyewitnesses, the flame came as high as some 200 meters," the press service reported.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209742.html>

Over 30 militants killed and injured near Luhansk - Selezniiov, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Security forces have killed and injured in the town of Shchastia near Luhansk over 30 gunmen who tried to break out of the encirclement. Spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov reported this on his Facebook page.

"Near the town of Shchastia the ATO forces met fierce resistance from militants. Security forces conducted a series of coordinated joint actions to destroy this

professionally trained group of militants. According to preliminary estimates, more than 30 militants were killed and wounded," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/over_30_militants_killed_and_injured_near_luhansk_selezniiov_322858

Russia concentrates another group of terrorists on border, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. According to live data of the Information Resistance group, for the past day, large groups (of more than 50 people) of saboteurs or mercenaries from Russia were not observed penetrating the territory of Ukraine.

Information Resistance group coordinator Dmytro Tymchuk said.

"Now, in the border regions of Russia (Rostov region), similar groups of mercenaries are really identified - totaling up to 600 people. They consist of about 20 armored vehicles and automotive engineering. However, information on their crossing the state border of Ukraine is not supported," he wrote on Facebook.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_concentrates_another_group_of_terrorists_on_border_322870

Centralized water supply suspended in Kramatorsk, 18.06.2014

According to "Kramatorsk.info", from June 18 a filter station can not centrally supply water to the city because of its absence. Water supply will be organized by efforts of city enterprises by trucks and its distribution points near schools will be also organized.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930005-centralized-water-supply-suspended-in-kramatorsk.html>

Ukrainian Security Council: Four servicemen killed near Luhansk

Four servicemen were killed in an attack by members of illegal armed groups in the vicinity of Luhansk on June 17, Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council Secretary Andriy Parubiy said.

"Ukrainian military attacked Russian militants in the vicinity of Luhansk. There are significant losses among the invaders, but there are also casualties among our soldiers. Four servicemen of the legendary 24th Aidar territorial defense battalion comprising Maidan self-defense fighters died in that battle," Parubiy wrote on Facebook early on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209810.html>

Nearly 150 soldiers killed in fighting in east Ukraine; almost 360 injured – ministry, 18.06.2014

A total of 147 military servicemen have been killed and 267 injured since the armed standoff began in the eastern Ukrainian regions, the Director of the Military-Medical Department of the Defense Ministry, Medical Service Colonel Vitaliy Andronaty, told a parliamentary healthcare committee on Wednesday.

Ninety-two soldiers have suffered traumas in the anti-terrorist operation zone since March 8, including 14 sustaining combat traumas, he said. Of the 267 injured, 247 sustained combat injuries. Currently, 13 injured personnel are in critical condition.

Terrorists knock out Ukrainian tank, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists have knocked out a T-64B tank of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov has said.

"There were several clashes between the ATO forces and militants, including mercenaries from the Russian Federation, in the area of the anti-terrorist operation over the last 24 hours. The ATO forces sustained losses as a result of the fighting, and a T-64B was damaged," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209943.html>

Privatbank offices set afire in Odesa, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. In Odesa, on the night of June 18, unknown assailants set afire two Privatbank offices, located on Dnipropetrovsk Road and in Pasteur Street. This was reported in the Public Relations Department of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine in Odesa region.

"When the investigation group went to the scene, it was found that at 3:32 a.m. on Dnipropetrovsk Road, an unidentified person smashed the window glass and committed an arson of the bank branch office on the area of four square meters," the Public Relations Department reported, adding that a similar message about the fire in the Privatbank premises, this time in Pasteur Street, was received at 4:35 a.m. The fire was eliminated.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/privatbank_offices_set_afire_in_odesa_322903

Terrorists knock out Ukrainian tank, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. In Odesa, on the night
KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists have knocked out a T-64B tank of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) Vladyslav Selezniiov has said.

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http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_knock_out_ukrainian_tank_322888

Borrowers protesting near Verkhovna Rada want to return foreign currency loans at lower rates, 19.06.2014

KYIV, June 19 /Ukrinform/. Local organizations of borrowers protesting near the Verkhovna Rada need to enact legislation for repayment of foreign currency loans at the rate, which was at the time of signing the agreement.

Activists hold flags of Ukraine, the European Union, and banners reading: "The rate as of the date of signing the contract!" "The deputies are not yet ready!" "No to monetary slavery!" People shout - "Our law - 4895", "No law - no payments!" "Our rate is 5.05!" The police are on duty near the entrances to the Verkhovna Rada to avoid provocations.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/borrowers_protesting_near_verkhovna_rada_want_to_return_foreign_currency_loans_at_lower_rates_322915

ATO forces start active actions against terrorists near Krasnyi Liman – Tymchuk, 19.06.2014

Forces of antiterrorist operation started active actions against terrorists, who refused to lay down arms near Krasnyi Liman.

Head of the Center of Military-Political Studies coordinator of "Information Resistance" Group Dmytro Tymchuk wrote this on his Facebook page.

According to his words, terrorists refused to fulfill terms of ultimatum.

"Having received a refusal to fulfill the demands, the ATO forces started active actions", - said Tymchuk.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930484-ato-forces-start-active-actions-against-terrorists-near-krasnyi-liman-tymchuk.html>

Dnipropetrovsk military source confirms arrival of bodies of pilots and paratroopers shot down in Luhansk, 19.06.2014

The bodies of paratroopers and aircrew in the downed Il-76 military transport plane of the Ukraine's Air Forces in Luhansk on June 14, have already been delivered to Dnipropetrovsk.

"The remains of the paratroopers have been delivered and now they're in Dnipropetrovsk," a source in the military circles of Dnipropetrovsk told Interfax-Ukraine on Thursday morning.

No other details were reported.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210091.html>

Terrorists send tanks and armored vehicles to Luhansk, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. A convoy of terrorists' armored vehicles, including two tanks and five APCs, has entered the eastern Ukrainian city of Luhansk.

Director of the Center for Military and Political Studies Dmytro Tymchuk wrote this on his page on Facebook.

"The convoy of militants' armored vehicles has entered Luhansk. The convoy includes two T-64 tanks and five armored personnel carriers," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_send_tanks_and_armored_vehicles_to_luhansk_322945

Security forces eliminate 300 militants near Yampil and Zakotne, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian security forces have eliminated about 300 terrorists in a battle outside Yampil and Zakotne, anti-terrorist operation (ATO) spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov has reported on his Facebook page.

"About 300 militants were eliminated during the fighting near the villages of Yampil and Zakotne over the past day... The surprise actions of Ukrainian security forces, aimed fire of artillery, and point airstrikes ensure the effectiveness of the actions of ATO participants," he said.

Selezniiov said that security forces had managed to capture a BRDM amphibious vehicle and a Kamaz truck, with a DShK heavy machine gun, MANPADS, mortars and small arms installed on board. All weapons and equipment were produced in Russia, he said.

Earlier reports said that about 200 terrorists had been killed in battles for Yampil and Zakotne.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/security_forces_eliminate_300_militants_near_yampil_and_zakotne_322949

Twelve Ukrainian paratroopers killed near Krasny Lyman, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Twelve soldiers of the 25th Dnipropetrovsk Airborne Brigade were killed and another 25 injured in fighting near Krasny Lyman, Luhansk region, the national defense headquarters of Dnipropetrovsk region has reported.

"The fighting continues. The headquarters will report on the progress of events.

Remotely the headquarters is also coordinating the transportation of those wounded to hospitals in nearby regions and engaged volunteers in providing first aid to those who heroically defends the territory of Ukraine from Russian aggressors," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/twelve_ukrainian_paratroopers_killed_near_krasny_lyman_322955

Thirteen Ukrainian servicemen killed near Yampil - NSDC, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Thirteen Ukrainian servicemen have been killed when releasing from terrorists the villages of Yampil and Kirovsk in Donetsk region and taking control of a bridge over the Siverskyi Donets River.

The spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), Volodymyr Chepovy, said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Twelve servicemen of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and one National Guard soldier were killed in this fighting," Chepovy said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/thirteen_ukrainian_servicemen_killed_near_yampil_nsd_322965

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210211.html>

Residents of Luhansk ask terrorists to go away, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Leaflets are being distributed in Luhansk in which local residents ask terrorists and saboteurs to leave the city.

The spokesman for the information center of the National Security and Defense Council, Volodymyr Chepovy, said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Residents are demanding that [militants] remove barricades from the central streets of the city, not hide behind the backs of civilians and leave the city," he said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/residents_of_luhansk_ask_terrorists_to_go_away_322967

Ukrainian soldiers repel attack of terrorists on military unit in Artemovsk – Defense Ministry, 20.06.2014

Ukrainian soldiers repelled an attack of terrorists on military unit in Artemovsk.

The press service of the Defense Ministry reports.

Ukrainian military men successfully repelled an attack of fighters again, having paid maximum attention to security of peaceful residents, who live in neighbouring dwelling houses.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/930960-ukrainian-soldiers-repel-attack-of-terrorists-on-military-unit-in-artemovsk-defense-ministry.html>

Luhansk airport comes under fire, militants' combat vehicles enter Luhansk – Information Resistance, 20.06.2014

Kyiv's Information Resistance group coordinator, Dmytro Tymchuk, has reported that local militants opened fire on the Luhansk airport, which is currently under the control of the anti-terrorist operation forces.

The shooting continued from 0430 to 0440 local time, he said.

Ukrainian servicemen fired in response. None of them was killed or injured, Tymchuk said.

According to Tymchuk, a convoy of armored combat vehicles belonging to the militants has entered Luhansk.

"The convoy consists of two T-64 tanks and five armored personnel carriers," he added.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210210.html>

Semenchenko: 'Crimea' special volunteer battalion to be formed shortly, 20.06.2014

The new "Crimea" special volunteer battalion will be formed at the current location of Donbas battalion, units of which are going to eastern Ukraine, commander of the Donetsk region Donbas volunteer territorial defense battalion Semen Semenchenko has said.

"This decision was made by the command of the National Guard of Ukraine in response to addresses by over 2,000 reservists from Donbas. After the departure of the last Donbas unit (I think it's a matter of 5-6 days), within a month, the available group of instructors, educated and decent officers and patriots of Ukraine from Donbas battalion, will create a volunteer battalion using the same training system as the one used on Donbas. I take personal responsibility for it," Semenchenko wrote on Facebook.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210305.html>

Two of 48 killed in May's Odessa violence unidentified - official, 23.06.2014

Two of the 48 people who were killed during violence in the Trade Union House in Odessa on May 2 remain unidentified, the head of the Odessa Regional Forensic Medicine Bureau, Hryhoriy Kryvda, said on Saturday.

Kryvda said at a meeting of a commission investigating the violence that eight of the 48 of the victims had died of bullet wounds, nine of carbon monoxide poisoning, two of

burns, three of burns affecting their respiratory organs, four of burns and carbon monoxide poisoning, and 14 of poisoning with unidentified gases or fumes. Kryvda said no traces of narcotic drugs or other medicines had been detected in any of the bodies. Nor, he said, had any of the bodies borne traces of blows inflicted with blunt objects. This gave the lie to allegations in the media that some of the more than 200 people who were injured were clubbed to death, Kryvda said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210446.html>

Three killed in helicopter crash near Kharkiv, 23.06.2014

Three crewmember were killed when a Mil Mi-8 helicopter of the Ukrainian Emergency Situations Service crashed in the Kharkiv region, the Kharkiv police reported.

The helicopter went off radar screens at about 10 a.m. on Saturday.

"It was later established that the helicopter departed from the Nizhyn air field in the Chernihiv region to the Chuhuyiv airfield. It went off radar screens at 0955," the police said.

The helicopter was found in a forest near the town of Lazunivka in the Zmiyiv district on Sunday morning.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210460.html>

Two injured, about 30 detained in Kharkiv demonstrations, 23.06.2014

Two people were hurt in an attempt of the ultras and supporters of an integral Ukraine to break through police cordons towards the Lenin Monument on Kharkiv Freedom Square where pro-Russian activists were holding a demonstration.

"A woman and a young man were hit on their heads and several persons were detained," eyewitnesses told Interfax-Ukraine on Sunday.

The police confirmed detentions of the demonstrators to Interfax-Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210470.html>

Aidar commander: Terrorists know everything, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. The commander of the Aidar territorial defense battalion, Serhiy Melnychuk, has said he is confident that there are traitors in the leadership of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO).

He said this on the Freedom of Speech program on the ICTV television channel, the Ukrainska Pravda online newspaper reported.

"I am confident that there is betrayal in the ATO. The prisoners that we capture laugh and say that 'we know each flight of your plane, each flight of your helicopter, and we know all your instructions.'"

"When there are bombings or other events, we simply move away from our positions and then come back," Melnychuk quoted militants as saying and added: "There is a complete leak of information. The enemy knows everything."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/aidar_commander_terrorists_know_everything_323038

Fighters do not follow terms of truce and keep on firing at ATO forces' positions – Seleznev, 24.06.2014

The ATO forces follow the demands of the Peace Plan on settlement of the situation in east of Ukraine and do not carry active actions, conduct checkpoints, ensure guard and defense of the specified parts of the state border of Ukraine.

Spokesman for the ATO forces Vladyslav Seleznev said this in the social network.

There are no losses among Ukrainian military men.

Fighters fired from small arms at roadblock on way of Severodonetsk-Starobelsk last night. An attack was repulsed by response fire. There are no losses among the Ukrainian military men.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/932227-fighters-do-not-follow-terms-of-truce-and-keep-on-firing-at-ato-forces-positions-seleznev.html>

Rail bridge blown up in Zaporizhzhia region, 24.06.2014

KYIV, June 24 /Ukrinform/. Unknown persons blew up a rail bridge outside the town of Orikhiv in Zaporizhzhia region early on June 24, halting the traffic of passenger trains, a law enforcement source has told a Ukrinform correspondent.

"The explosion occurred at about three o'clock in the morning. Unidentified persons blew up the support structure of the railway bridge. Nobody was killed or injured just because the incident occurred late at night," the source said.

The region's high-ranking police officers, detectives, explosives experts, canine service units, criminologists and investigators are working at the scene.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/rail_bridge_blow_up_in_zaporizhzhia_region_323044

Donetsk railway damaged by blasts in two places, 24.06.2014

A single-track section of the Donetsk Railway was damaged in two places between the stations Kondrashevska Nova and Horodniy (959 km) at 0530 on Tuesday and between the stations Krasnozerivka and Horodniy at 0600 on Tuesday. Three and one meters of the railway were damaged, respectively.

No one was hurt in the explosions and traffic was expected to resume on the railway by 1100 on June 24, the Donetsk railway press service told Interfax-Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210711.html>

OSCE calls for release of observers captured in Ukraine, 24.06.2014

OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and Swiss President Didier Burkhalter on Tuesday called for the immediate release of the organization's employees who were captured in eastern Ukraine.

He said at a security conference in Vienna that the detention of members of the OSCE special monitoring mission in Donetsk and Luhansk was unacceptable and illegal.

This undermines efforts to overcome the crisis, he added.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210710.html>

Ukrainian helicopter shot down near Sloviansk, nine killed, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. A Ukrainian Mi-8 helicopter was shot down with MANPADS near Sloviansk, Donetsk region, on Tuesday, June 24, the Information Resistance group has reported.

Nine servicemen, including three crew members, were killed in the crash, group leader Dmytro Tymchuk reported on his Facebook page.

The Ukrainian Security Service has confirmed that the Mil Mi-8 helicopter shot down in Sloviansk was carrying its officers.

"The helicopter crash killed four employees of the Ukrainian Security Service - three officers and one warrant officer," the press center told Interfax-Ukraine on Tuesday.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_helicopter_shot_down_near_sloviansk_nine_killed_323066
<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210843.html>

Baby killed in Antratsyt with shot from grenade launcher, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. A ten-month-old baby was killed in the town of Antratsyt in Luhansk region on June 24 with a shot that was probably made from a grenade launcher, a source in the leadership of the anti-terrorist operation has told the Ukrainska Pravda online newspaper.

"The shot was made at 25 Parkova Street in the direction of a playground at around 20.00. Ten-month-old boy Yehor Oleksandrov was killed," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/baby_killed_in_antratsyt_with_shot_from_grenade_launcher_323068

Checkpoint comes under fire near Antratsyt, 250 terrorists approaching ATO positions near Kramatorsk, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists have shelled a checkpoint of the anti-terrorist

operation (ATO) forces near Antratsyt, Luhansk region, the coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, has reported on Facebook. "According to the Information Resistance group, terrorists opened fire on a checkpoint of the ATO forces near Antratsyt. According to preliminary reports, an artillery attack was made. There are no casualties among security forces," reads the report. In addition, about 250 terrorists were seen moving to the positions of the ATO forces near Kramatorsk.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/checkpoint_comes_under_fire_near_antratsyt_250_terrorists_approaching_ato_positions_near_kramatorsk_323070

<http://www.unian.info/politics/932666-about-250-fighters-move-to-positions-of-ato-forces-near-kramatorsk-expert.html>

Two more Ukrainian servicemen killed, three wounded on Tuesday, despite truce, says Selezniiov, 25.06.2014

Members of illegal armed groups ignoring the peace plan to resolve the situation in the east of Ukraine opened fire at two checkpoints of the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) forces, killing two Ukrainian soldiers and injuring three others, according to the ATO spokesman Vladyslav Selezniiov.

Due to mortar shelling and launches of anti-tank missiles, an infantry fighting vehicle was damaged, two Ukrainian soldiers were fatally injured and three others were wounded, Selezniiov wrote on his Facebook page.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210816.html>

Ukrainian law enforcers accuse militants of peace plan violations, 25.06.2014

Ukrainian law enforcers have deployed equipment for monitoring and recording the activity of members of illegal armed groups who aim to destabilize the region, spokesman for the anti-terrorist operation in southeastern Ukraine Vladyslav Selezniiov said.

The shooting at roadblocks and positions of Ukrainian law enforcement units is being filmed in the online regime, he said.

"There is irrefutable evidence of flagrant violations of the peace plan provisions by the militants in eastern Ukraine," Selezniiov wrote on Facebook early on Wednesday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210862.html>

Fighters violate cease-fire regime in ATO area 44 times during three days – Seleznev, 25.06.2014

Representative of ATO Vladyslav Seleznev said this on his Facebook page.

Seleznev stressed that "existing incontrovertible evidence indicate that fighters violated the terms of the peace plan on settlement of the conflict in east of Ukraine".

"The leadership of ATO insists on following the terms of peace plan on settlement of the situation in east of Ukraine. At the same time it records frequent cases of provocations and criminal actions from the side of fighters", - said the ATO representative.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/932707-fighters-violate-cess-fire-regime-in-ato-area-44-times-during-three-days-seleznev.html>

Militants open fire on security forces checkpoint in Kramatorsk, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Insurgents fired with mortars on a checkpoint and positions of the anti-terrorist operation forces near the airfield in Kramatorsk late on June 25.

The coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, reported this on his Facebook page.

"Since last evening militants violated the conditions of a temporary ceasefire four times. In particular, from 22.30 to 23.20 on June 25, militants fired with mortars on a checkpoint and positions of the ATO forces at the Kramatorsk airfield," he wrote.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/militants_open_fire_on_security_forces_checkpoint_in_kramatorsk_323121

Fighters attack airdrome in Kramatorsk – journalist, 26.06.2014

Fighters are attacking an airdrome in Kramatorsk, which was under control of forces of antiterrorist operation.

Journalist Artem Shevchenko wrote this on his Facebook page.

"This time, an enemy decided to seize a strategic springboard - alignment of forces in his favour 1:3. About three hundred storming fighters against about a hundred of those, who try to defend themselves. All types weapons are being used", - wrote journalist.

"Our people need urgent and efficient support, including from air", - added Shevchenko.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/933173-fighters-attack-airdrome-in-kramatorsk-journalist.html>

Police department attacked in Donetsk region, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Militants attempted to capture the department of police in the town of Novohrodivka, Donetsk region, but police officers managed to repel the attack.

National Security and Defense Council information center spokesman Andriy Lysenko said this at a briefing at Ukrinform on Thursday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"Thanks to their skillful actions Interior Ministry employees detained the attackers after the shooting," Lysenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/police_department_attacked_in_donetsk_region_323127

Terrorists seize military unit in Donetsk, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. National Guard soldiers defended a military unit in Donetsk to the last cartridge, but eventually had to leave it, the National Guard's press service has reported.

"After a long, nearly seven-hour battle between the personnel of the convoy battalion of military unit No. 3004 of the National Guard of Ukraine (Donetsk) and armed terrorists, the ammunition possessed by the military has been completely used. As a result of this, the territory of the unit was seized by armed terrorists with great resistance from the servicemen," reads the statement.

It also notes that the battalion commander is now in captivity, whereas the personnel of the battalion were moved to another military unit for safety reasons.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_seize_military_unit_in_donetsk_323147

Russian tanks stormed Ukrainian roadblock and military unit last night - Tymchuk, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists carried out a massive assault on roadblock No. 1 near Kramatorsk in the early hours of Friday, using eight Russian tanks, the coordinator of the Information Resistance group, Dmytro Tymchuk, has reported on his Facebook.

"The terrorists carried out a massive assault on roadblock No. 1 near Kramatorsk last night. Eight Russian tanks were used in the assault. There was simultaneous mortar fire on the roadblock. Law enforcers retaliating against the attack destroyed one tank of the terrorists and seized another tank. Four servicemen were killed and five were wounded. The militants blew up four armored personnel carriers and one mortar of ours," reads the statement.

There are no figures about casualties among the terrorists, Tymchuk wrote.

The militants also fired at the positions of the anti-terrorist operation forces on Mount Karachun near Sloviansk, with a sniper wounding one soldier.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russian_tanks_stormed_ukrainian_roadblock_and_military_unit_last_night_tymchuk_323151

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211172.html>

Border guards fire at Russian drone, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. On June 26, near the populated center of Nykonorivka, Ukrainian border guards revealed a drone that was moving in Ukraine's air space from the direction of Russia along the Ukrainian-Russian border.

Spokesman for the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) information center Andriy Lysenko said this at a briefing on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported. "Ukrainian border guards opened fire on a drone, and a Russian intelligence mission was disrupted," Lysenko said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/border_guardes_fire_at_russian_drone_323169

Terrorists promise to observe ceasefire until June 30, 28.06.2014

KYIV, June 28 /Ukrinform/. The self-proclaimed Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, which were recognized by the Ukrainian Prosecutor General's Office as terrorist organizations, have promised to cease fire until June 30.

"Donetsk People's Republic Prime Minister" Alexander Borodai said this after consultations held in Donetsk on Friday regarding de-escalation of the situation in eastern Ukraine, RIA Novosti reported.

"We learned that [Ukrainian President Petro] Poroshenko had decided to cease fire until [June] 30th, and we, for our part, will cease fire for the same term," Borodai said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_promise_to_observe_ceasefire_until_june_30_323185

Fighting underway on Mount Karachun, terrorists firing with mortars, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Militants are firing with mortars at Ukrainian servicemen on Mount Karachun, Director of the Center for Military and Political Studies Dmytro Tymchuk has reported on Facebook.

"From 06.00 till now, terrorists were firing with mortars at the positions of the anti-terrorist operation forces on Mount Karachun," Tymchuk wrote.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/fighting_underway_on_mount_karachun_terrorists_firing_with_mortars_323197

Terrorists seize chemical plant in Donetsk to produce grenades instead of fertilizers, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Terrorists have seized Donetsk Plant of Chemical Products and plan to begin the production of fragmentation hand grenades.

"Yesterday [on June 28] terrorists seized Donetsk Plant of Chemical Products. Terrorists are planning to use it to start the production of fragmentation hand grenades," National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) spokesman Andriy Lysenko said. According to him, the plant produces fertilizers and has the necessary chemical raw materials for the production of such grenades.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_seize_chemical_plant_in_donetsk_to_produce_grenades_instead_of_fertilizers_323201

Ukrainian border guards shot down another Russian drone in Luhansk region - NSDC, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Ukrainian border guards have shot down a Russian unmanned aerial vehicle in the Luhansk region.

"Yesterday [on June 28], at about 18.00, a border unit in the Luhansk region saw a drone that crossed the Ukrainian-Russian border and plunged into Ukrainian territory for 300-500 meters," National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) spokesman Andriy Lysenko said.

He said that the border service had stopped the aircraft's reconnaissance mission with fire from small arms.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_border_guardes_shot_down_another_russian_drone_in_luhansk_region_nsdcc_323203

State Service on Emergency Situations says 25,000 people resettled from Donbas, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. More than 25,000 people have been resettled from the area of the anti-terrorist operation in eastern Ukraine by the interagency coordinating

headquarters, the press office of the State Service on Emergency Situations (SSES) has reported.

"Among those resettled nearly 10,000 are children and nearly 3,000 are disabled and elderly. Most of them were accommodated in Kyiv, as well as the Kyiv, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, Odesa and Dnipropetrovsk regions," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/state_service_on_emergency_situations_says_25000_people_resettled_from_donbas_323207

Ukrainian Security Council confirms death of eight civilians in Sloviansk, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. The National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine (NSDC) has confirmed the reports of eight civilians killed in Sloviansk on June 29.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukrainian_security_council_confirms_death_of_eight_civilians_in_sloviansk_323209

Crimes on National Grounds

Mejlis calls on UN, OSCE to protect civilians in Crimea, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. The Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people has appealed to the UN, the OSCE and the international community in general with the request to reinforce their efforts to prevent the escalation of violence against the civilian population in Crimea, the BBC reported on Friday.

"The appeal is stipulated by the disappearance of pro-Ukrainian activists on the peninsula: three members of the Ukrainian House public organization have disappeared since the end of May - residents of Simferopol Leonid, Timur Shaymardanov and Seyran Zinedin," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/mejlis_calls_on_un_osce_to_protect_civilians_in_crimea_322718

Mass Media

Newspapers Donbas, Vecherny Donetsk will not write for terrorists, 02.06.2014

KYIV, June 3 /Ukrinform/. Popular Donetsk newspapers Donbas and Vecherny Donetsk (Evening Donetsk) suspended their issue.

A decision was taken by their personnel, following demands put forward by representatives of the self-proclaimed DPR ("Donetsk People's Republic") to change the editorial policy, a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

According to journalists of those publications, their workers were sent to unpaid leaves. Readers are warned about suspension of the newspapers' issue.

Representatives of the so-called DPR visited the editorial offices of Donbas and Vecherny Donetsk, took their editors for negotiations, from whom they demanded to write more about the republic and to change the editorial policy.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/newspapers_donbas_vecherny_donetsk_will_not_write_for_terrorists_322316

Russian TV crew handed over to Ukraine's Security Service for 'spying on checkpoint', 07.06.2014

Two journalists with the Zvezda (Star) channel seized by the National Guard near Slavyansk, eastern Ukraine, have been handed over to the Ukrainian Security Service. They are accused of spying. The station's management calls the charges ridiculous.

<http://rt.com/news/164432-zvezda-journalists-sbu-captured/>

Russia launches proceedings into capture of journalists in Ukraine, 11.06.2014

MOSCOW, June 11. /ITAR-TASS/. Russia's Investigative Committee has launched a criminal case on the capture of Russian TV Channel Zvezda journalists in Ukraine, the committee's spokesman Vladimir Markin said Wednesday.

The journalists, Andrey Sushenkov and Anton Malyshev, came to Ukraine to cover the inauguration of President-elect Petro Poroshenko. They stopped getting in contact in the evening of June 6 after they arrived at a checkpoint in the eastern Ukrainian Donetsk Region.

They were later released.

The Investigative Committee has organised a specialised department on investigation of crimes against civilians in Ukraine.

<http://en.itar-tass.com/world/735789>

<http://en.ria.ru/russia/20140617/190580466/Russian-Investigators-Launch-Probe-into-Zvezda-Journalists.html>

Zvezda TV journalists beaten up after detention - reporters' chief, 16.06.2014

The Zvezda television channel reporters, captured in Ukraine, were beaten up after their detention, said Krasnaya Zvezda media holding director, Alexei Pimanov. According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, the correspondents, Yevgeny Davydov and Nikita Konashenkov, were released in Dnepropetrovsk on June 16 and are now returning to Moscow.

"The guys were beaten up. Our correspondent Yevgeny Davydov now suffers from partial loss of hearing," Pimanov told Interfax on Monday evening.

http://voiceofrussia.com/news/2014_06_16/Zvezda-TV-journalists-were-beaten-up-after-detention-reporters-chief-9997/

Zvezda TV crew freed after harsh interrogation, ransom demands by Ukraine radicals, 17.06.2014

Reporters from Russia's Zvezda TV channel have been freed from captivity in Ukraine, where Right Sector fighters detained, interrogated, and beat them for ransom. Risking their lives, they didn't turn off their phones, which was crucial for their release.

A plane carrying Evgeny Davydov and Nikita Konashenkov landed at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport at 15:44 GMT on Monday. A few hours before their arrival in the Russian capital, the two journalists were handed over to Russian naval attaché Eduard Belashev in the city of Dnepropetrovsk.

The journalists spent two days in captivity, and were subjected to long questioning, intimidation, and beatings.

Recent images of the two men show the areas around their eyes covered in bruises. Their colleagues say Davydov complained of pain in his ear and partial hearing loss.

<http://rt.com/news/166356-zvezda-crew-freed-ukraine/>

2 Russian journalists killed in Ukraine military shelling, 17.06.2014

Kiev's army shelling near Lugansk, eastern Ukraine, took the lives of two Russian journalists – Igor Kornelyuk and Anton Voloshin, who were filming refugees leaving the scene when a shell hit amidst their small group.

The two journalists working for Rossiya TV died from their wounds, with reporter Igor Kornelyuk passing away on the operating table. Later in the day, the death of Anton Voloshin, a sound engineer, was also confirmed by the channel.

According to RT's sources, Voloshin died immediately at the scene. But as the fighting was ongoing and it was not possible to approach the body, the report took several hours to verify.

<http://rt.com/news/166496-journalist-dies-ukraine-shooting/>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/06/17/world/europe/russian-journalist-killed/>

Terrorists release two journalists in Makiyivka, photojournalist from Donetsk remains in captivity, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. Two journalists captured in Makiyivka have returned home, whereas a photojournalist abducted in Donetsk is still held captive by militants, the OstroV online edition has reported, citing the Vechirnia Makiyivka online newspaper. At around 20.00 on June 17, terrorists from the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic released Director General of the Presa Makiyivky Publishing and Printing Complex Larysa Butova and Editor-In-Chief of Vechirnia Makiyivka Maria Semenova, who were abducted from the editorial office by separatists at about 10.00. The editorial office is not commenting on the situation, but noted that it was "very serious."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_release_two_journalists_in_makiyivka_photojournalist_from_donetsk_remains_in_captivity_322854

OSCE says two Ukrainian journalists abducted in Donetsk region, 28.06.2014

OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media Dunja Mijatovic has expressed her concern about the abduction of two Ukrainian journalists in Donetsk region.

The statement was published on the OSCE Web site on Saturday, June 28.

Mijatovic noted cases of abduction in Donetsk region of Borys Yuzhik, the editor of Druzhkovskiy Rabochii newspaper, on 28 June, and Sehiy Dolhov, the editor of Mariupol's Vestnik Priazovya newspaper on 18 June.

"Dolhov was allegedly beaten and detained by the Ukrainian Security Service," reads the report.

Also on 26 June, the editorial office of ProGorod newspaper in Torez in Donetsk region was attacked. The perpetrators destroyed and seized all equipment, and threatened journalists.

"I call on the Ukrainian authorities to swiftly and thoroughly investigate these attacks and bring the perpetrators to justice," Mijatovic said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211369.html>

Worldwide

French reporters see in Putin features of diffident dictator, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. French journalists of Europe1 radio station and TF1 television channel Jean-Pierre Elkabbach and Gilles Boulet, who had the opportunity for a few hours to talk to Russian President Vladimir Putin in Sochi, saw in him the features a shamefaced dictator.

Elkabbach told this to French listeners, announcing an interview with Putin, which will be broadcast in the evening, Ukrinform's Paris correspondent reported.

"Energy without unnecessary emotions, hardness and rigidity and sudden shyness," the French reporter described his conversation with the Russian leader.

According to the journalists, Putin does not seem to be a "caricature, but one needs to be careful with him." "He is a master and can improvise," Elkabbach said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/french_reporters_see_in_putin_features_of_diffident_dictator_322405

UNICEF concerned at situation with children in Donbas, 04.06.2014

KYIV, June 4 /Ukrinform/. UNICEF is deeply concerned that the recent escalation of violence is now having a greater impact on children in eastern Ukraine.

The organization said this in a statement, according to the UN News Center.

"Seven children have sustained gunshot and shrapnel injuries during violent clashes in East Ukraine since May 9. "In one instance, a 15-year-old was shot at a roadblock while

being in a car. The child is wounded in the abdomen and intestines and remains in serious condition. The youngest of the injured children is four years old and suffered shrapnel wounds while walking with his grandmother," UNICEF reported. A UNICEF rapid assessment in Donetsk also shows nearly half the children surveyed have been exposed to violence or a terrifying event.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/unicef_concerned_at_situation_with_children_in_donbas_322361

G7 calls ATO measured, urges separatists to surrender, 05.06.2014

KYIV, June 5 /Ukrinform/. The Group of 7 (G7) leaders urged separatists in the south-east of Ukraine to surrender and encouraged the Ukrainian authorities to maintain a measured approach in pursuing the anti-terrorist operation (ATO), reads the G7 Leaders' Communique on Foreign Policy made on June 4 in Brussels.

"In the face of unacceptable interference in Ukraine's sovereign affairs by the Russian Federation, we stand by the Ukrainian government and people. We call upon the illegal armed groups to disarm. We encourage the Ukrainian authorities to maintain a measured approach in pursuing operations to restore law and order," the statement says.

G7 commended the willingness of the Ukrainian authorities to continue the national dialogue in an inclusive manner. "We welcome the "Memorandum of Peace and Unity" adopted by the Verkhovna Rada on 20 May and express the wish that it can be implemented rapidly," the document says.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/g7_calls_ato_measured_urges_separatists_to_surrender_322424

International experts advise Poroshenko to sell Channel 5, 06.06.2014

KYIV, June 6 /Ukrinform/. President-elect of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko should decide on media ownership. Ideally, this issue should be clarified legislatively, international experts said at a roundtable in Ukrinform referring to the relevant experience of European countries.

"We know that the current president, president-elect is the owner of some of the mass media, and this needs to be reflected on," director of the National Democratic Institute office in Ukraine Catherine Cecil noted delicately.

The head of the ENEMO Mission to Ukraine, Peter Novotny, also sees a problem there.

"In the media situation there is a problem - media ownership. For example, in countries such as Slovakia, where people simultaneously hold any elected office and have their own media, it causes difficulties. Therefore, the issues of media monopolization, issues of media ownership should be clarified to legislatively," Novotny said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/international_experts_advise_poroshenko_to_sell_channel_5_322496

Putin promises Merkel to agree with Ukraine on gas, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin promised German Chancellor Angela Merkel to reach a "mutually acceptable agreement" on gas with Ukraine.

The Kremlin press service told Wednesday, a special correspondent of Ukrinform in Russia reports.

"Vladimir Putin held a telephone conversation with Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany Angela Merkel. They discussed a progress of the ongoing consultations in Brussels in the Russia-EU-Ukraine format to resolve the situation with payment of debt for Russian natural gas by Kyiv," a statement reads.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_promises_merkel_to_agree_with_ukraine_on_gas_322619

Crimean "parliament" to be reelected, 11.06.2014

KYIV, June 11 /Ukrinform/. Elections of deputies of "the State Council of the Republic of Crimea" first convocation are scheduled for September 14, 2014.

The appropriate resolution was taken on June 11 at a meeting of the Crimean "parliament," Krym. Realii informs.

As stated by the "parliament's" press service, the decision was taken in accordance with the Federal Constitutional Law of March 21, 2014 No. 6-FKZ "On admission to the Russian Federation of the Republic of Crimea and formation of new subjects of the Russian Federation - the Republic of Crimea and the federal city of Sevastopol."

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/crimean_parliament_to_be_reelected_322621

OSCE observers stop monitoring Luhansk due to security situation, 11.06.2014

A group of observers of the OSCE special monitoring mission has stopped monitoring Luhansk due to the security situation in the city, according to the latest report of the mission published on the OSCE Web site.

"In Luhansk the situation remained tense. Due to security measures the special monitoring mission did not monitor its area of responsibility," reads the report.

With regard to Donetsk, the report notes that in this city there was no substantial change to the security situation.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/208814.html>

OSCE Mission to stay in Luhansk and to continue monitoring, 11.06.2014

It is said in the report of the OSCE SMM on "Twitter". "In response to media inquiries our team remains in Luhansk, has not suspended operations and continues to monitor", - it is said in the report.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/927668-osce-mission-to-stay-in-luhansk-and-to-continue-monitoring.html>

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http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/crimean_parliament_to_be_reelected_322621

Poland temporarily closes consulate in Donetsk, 12.06.2014

KYIV, June 12 /Ukrinform/. The Polish Foreign Ministry temporarily suspends work of its Consulate General in Donetsk because of the events in the east.

The Polish Foreign Ministry informed Thursday, a special correspondent of Ukrinform reports.

"A decision was taken on temporary suspension of work of the Polish Consulate General in Donetsk. Due to this problem, the Consulate General in Kharkiv will fulfill the tasks," the Polish Foreign Ministry notes.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poland_temporarily_closes_consulate_in_donetsk_322672

Ukraine not to host EuroBasket 2015, 13.06.2014

KYIV, June 13 /Ukrinform/. Ukraine will not host the EuroBasket 2015 European Basketball Championship, according to the official Twitter page of FIBA Europe.

"The Board of FIBA Europe decided to relocate EuroBasket 2015 from Ukraine to a new destination(s)," reads the report.

Until recently, the Ukrainian authorities tried to keep EuroBasket 2015 for Ukraine, in particular, during a recent visit by FIBA Europe President Turgay Demirel to the country. The circumstances were higher than the aspirations of the Ukrainian organizers.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_not_to_host_eurobasket_2015_322736

Ukraine to host Eurobasket-2017 - Basketball Federation of Ukraine, 13.06.2014

Ukraine will host Eurobasket-2017, the Basketball Federation of Ukraine disclosed this to UNIAN.

It is noted in the report that during today's meeting in Munich Board of FIBA Europe has decided to carry the Eurobasket 2015 from Ukraine to another place. The decision was made after careful consideration of the current political situation and on the basis of safety in Ukraine.

According to Basketball Federation of Ukraine, during next two weeks President of FIBA Europe Demirel and Secretary General Novak will arrive in Ukraine for signing of agreement on carrying out of Eurobasket-2017.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/928481-ukraine-to-host-eurobasket-2017-basketball-federation-of-ukraine.html>

OSCE sends special envoy Tagliavini to help to settle situation, 13.06.2014

The OSCE has sent to Ukraine special envoy Heidi Tagliavini to help to settle the situation on the east of the country.

At the request of Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko, it was decided to send a very experienced ambassador, Ms. Tagliavini, who has already arrived in Ukraine and will work together with Ukraine and Russia in view of the present situation, spokesman for the OSCE's special monitoring mission in Ukraine Michael Bociurkiw said on Friday. He said that OSCE representative has already met with head of Ukrainian state and prime minister of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209220.html>

European Court of Human Rights orders Russia to provide explanation of story involving children taken from Snizhne, 14.06.2014

The European Court of Human Rights on June 13 ordered Russia to immediately return to orphaned children and their educators who were illegally taken to Russia from the city of Snizhne, Donetsk region of Ukraine, to Russia on June 12.

The lawsuit was filed by the Ukrainian Justice Ministry.

The court has also ordered Russia to provide explanations of the circumstances surrounding the illegal crossing of the Russian border by "the abducted orphans and their educators" by June 17, the press service for the Ukrainian Justice Ministry reported on Saturday.

The European Court of Human Rights has given this case priority status.

The Justice Ministry has also confirmed that the Ukrainian orphans are now being taken to Ukraine. However, Justice Minister Pavlo Petrenko said this does not exempt the people responsible for illegally taking them abroad from responsibility.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/209301.html>

Gazprom imposes advance payment requirement for gas supplies to Ukraine, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Russia's Gazprom imposed advance payment requirements on Naftogaz of Ukraine for gas supplies as of 0900 Kyiv time, according to a report posted on the website of the Russian monopoly.

"Today at 1000 Moscow time (0900 Kyiv time), Gazprom, in full accordance with the current contract, switched Naftogaz of Ukraine to advance payments for gas supply," the company said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_imposes_advance_payment_requirement_for_gas_supplies_to_ukraine_322766

Gazprom brings case before Stockholm arbitration, requires USD 4.5 billion from Naftogaz, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Russian gas monopoly Gazprom appealed to the Stockholm international arbitration with a claim against Naftogaz of Ukraine to recover the debt of USD 4.5 billion.

A statement of the Russian company on its website reads.

"OJSC Gazprom has appealed to the Stockholm international arbitration with a claim against Naftogaz of Ukraine to recover the debt of USD 4.5 billion due to the improper performance of obligations by Naftogaz of Ukraine under the contract number KP of 19.01.2009 on the purchase/sale of natural gas in 2009-2019 (Contract), a great debt for delivered natural gas under the contract, gained by this company, and the lack of payments for the current supply," a statement reads.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/209409.html>

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_brings_case_before_stockholm_arbitration_requires_usd_45_billion_from_naftogaz_322771

Smoke bombs hurled at Ukrainian embassy in Moscow, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Representatives of the unregistered Other Russia party have thrown smoke bombs on the Ukrainian embassy in Moscow, the Ukrainian embassy told Ukrinform on Monday.

"Today, at around 10.00 [09.00 Kyiv time], four people passing by the embassy threw three smoke bombs on the territory of the embassy," an embassy representative said. According to him, the attackers tried to throw two more smoke bombs on the territory of the embassy, but Russian police prevented this attempt. All the attackers were detained and taken to the police station.

The Russian unregistered Other Russia party, headed by Eduard Limonov, claimed responsibility for the attack.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/smoke_bombs_hurled_at_ukrainian_embassy_in_moscow_322773

Advance payment for Ukraine causes fall of stocks in Russia, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. Following the advance payment requirement for Russian gas was imposed on Ukraine, the index of the Moscow Interbank Currency Exchange (MICEX) fell by 2.11%. Currently, it is 1,469.44 points.

Novaya Gazeta informs.

The RTS index fell by 2.71% to 1,337.54 points.

A price of Gazprom stocks falls by more than by 2.15%.

To remind, Gazprom imposed advance payment requirement on Ukraine since 9:00 a.m., Monday, as well as filed a claim to the Stockholm arbitration, requiring USD 4.5 billion from Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/advance_payment_for_ukraine_causes_fall_of_stocks_in_russia_322775

Russian delegation not invited to Eurosatory 2014, 16.06.2014

KYIV, June 16 /Ukrinform/. One of the largest military exhibitions and sales Eurosatory 2014 was opened at the exhibition center Paris Nord Villepinte in the Paris suburbs on Monday, which runs through to June 20. The Russian delegation was not invited to participate in the exhibition.

Organizers of the Eurosatory 2014 told Ukrinform.

"The International Defense and Security Exhibition Eurosatory 2014 was opened on Monday, but the official delegation of the Russian Federation was not invited," the French company Coges said, which operates under the auspices of the French Ministry of Defense.

About 50,000 visitors from 130 countries are expected to participate in the exhibition.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russian_delegation_not_invited_to_eurosatory_2014_322788

UN: Number of IDPs in Ukraine has reached about 34,000, 17.06.2014

KYIV, June 17 /Ukrinform/. According to UN figures, about 34,000 Ukrainian citizens were forced to leave their homes because of armed actions in the east of the country. UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos said that the UN Refugee Agency has data on 19,000 displaced persons in Ukraine, whereas according to local authorities, another 15,000 people had fled from their homes in the areas not monitored by the UN, BBC Ukrainian reported.

Amos said that according to credible reports, there is a movement of people within Donetsk and Luhansk regions and that about 15,000 people had fled from Sloviansk.
http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/un_number_of_idps_in_ukraine_has_reached_about_34000_322824

Hungary rapidly increases gas reverse to Ukraine - media, 18.06.2014

KYIV, June 18 /Ukrinform/. The volume of gas, supplied from Hungary to Ukraine, is rapidly growing. Every day, Ukraine receives 9.2 million cubic meters of reverse gas from the neighboring state. It was reported by Hungarian newspaper Vilaggazdasag (World Economy), a Ukrinform correspondent reports.

"Gas volumes supplied from Hungary to Ukraine are rapidly growing. Their daily volume reached 9.2 million cubic meters," the Hungarian edition writes.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/hungary_rapidly_increases_gas_reverse_to_ukraine_media_322878

Australia imposes sanctions on 50 Russians and Ukrainians and 11 entities, 19.06.2014

The Australian government on Thursday imposed sanctions on 50 individuals and 11 entities due to the crisis in Ukraine, reads a statement posted on the Web site of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The list, in particular, includes Heads of the State Duma and the Federation Council Valentina Matviyenko and Sergei Naryshkin, First Deputy Head of the Russian Presidential Administration Vyacheslav Volodin, Deputy Prime Ministers Dmitry Rogozin and Dmitry Kozak, Chairman of the International Committee of the State Duma Alexei Pushkov, and Viktor Yanukovich.

The individuals and companies included in the list are subject to financial sanctions and travel bans, reads the report.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210016.html>

OSCE re-establishes contact with missing monitors in southeastern Ukraine, 19.06.2014

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe has re-established contact with two groups of monitors who went missing in eastern Ukraine at the end of May, an OSCE Special Monitoring Mission spokesman told Interfax-Ukraine on Thursday.

None of the groups has been freed so far, the spokesman said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/210056.html>

38,000 people leave Crimea and eastern Ukraine - UN, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), 38,000 residents of Crimea and eastern Ukraine have left the region since the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine, UNHCR's press service reported on Friday. As of June 18, 2014, UNHCR has information on more than 38,000 displaced persons who left the eastern regions of Ukraine and Crimea.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/38000_people_leave_crimea_and_eastern_ukraine_un_322971

All international observers captured by terrorists alive, 20.06.2014

KYIV, June 20 /Ukrinform/. Observers of the OSCE special monitoring mission in Ukraine captured by terrorists were not harmed. They are held captive in a satisfactory condition.

Mission spokesman Michael Bociurkiw said this at a press conference in Kyiv on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

He said that based on the information the OSCE compared, two groups of observers were not harmed and they were not in a very bad condition.

The OSCE is making every effort to free the mission staff, Bociurkiw added.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/all_international_observers_captured_by_terrorists_alive_322973

Merkel, Hollande urge Putin to stop war, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. French President Francois Hollande and German Chancellor Angela Merkel have held a phone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin, AFP has reported, citing Deutsche Welle.

During the conversation, they urged Putin to back negotiations between Kyiv and the eastern regions, envisaged by a peace plan of the Ukrainian president. In addition, Merkel and Hollande "called on all sides in the conflict to cease hostilities," the press service of the French president reported.

During the conversation with Putin, Merkel and Hollande also reiterated the importance of ensuring full control of the Russian-Ukrainian border in order to avoid infiltrations of equipment and armed men.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/merkel_hollande_urge_putin_to_stop_war_322995

Gazprom accuses Ukraine of gas theft - media, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. Gazprom has accused Ukraine of the unauthorized siphoning of Russian natural gas, the Echo of Moscow radio station has reported.

The Russian company said that part of the fuel intended for transit remained in Ukraine. "For three days the total volume of the taken gas reached over nine million cubic meters," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/gazprom_accuses_ukraine_of_gas_theft_media_323005

EU finally prepared for signing association deal with Ukraine, 23.06.2014

KYIV, June 23 /Ukrinform/. The European Union has completed technical preparations for the signing of the Association Agreement with Ukraine on June 27.

Such a decision was made in Luxembourg on Monday at a meeting of the EU Foreign Affairs Council, a Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"The Council today finalized technical preparations for the signature of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement. The Council today adopted the legal acts empowering the EU to sign those parts of the agreement that have not yet been signed. It also endorsed provisional application of parts of the agreement, since ratification by all 28 EU member states is a long process," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_finally_prepared_for_signing_association_deal_with_ukraine_323013

Federation Council bans use of Russian troops in Ukraine, 25.06.2014

KYIV, June 25 /Ukrinform/. The Russian Federation Council has canceled at the request of Russian President Vladimir Putin the decision to use the Russian Armed Forces in Ukraine.

Such a decision was taken at a meeting of the Russian Federation Council on Wednesday, RIA Novosti reported.

A total of 153 senators voted for the decision, one opposed it, and nobody abstained.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/federation_council_bans_use_of_russian_troops_in_ukraine_323083

Terrorists hold OSCE observers captive for a month, 26.06.2014

KYIV, June 26 /Ukrinform/. Observers of the OSCE special monitoring mission to Ukraine have been held captive by terrorists in the Donbas for a month, reads a statement posted on the OSCE website.

"30 - this is the number of days civilian, international monitors of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine have been held captive in eastern Ukraine," the organization said.

The OSCE again called for the immediate and unconditional release of its representatives.

As reported, on May 26, the OSCE mission lost contact with four employees in Donetsk region, and on May 29 another OSCE team consisting of four foreign employees and a Ukrainian interpreter was stopped by armed men at a checkpoint in Siverodonetsk (Luhansk region). There has been no contact with them since then.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_hold_osce_observers_captive_for_a_month_323117

OSCE confirms release of four observers, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. The OSCE special monitoring mission to Ukraine has confirmed the release from captivity of the Donetsk-based group of four observers, the OSCE press service reported on Friday.

"The four members of the Donetsk-based monitoring team of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMMU) that went missing since late May were released late yesterday after 32 days in captivity," reads the statement.

The statement notes that the freed monitors were observed to be in good condition.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/osce_confirms_release_of_four_observers_323145

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/211171.html>

EU vows to impose tough sanctions on Russia if it does not meet four conditions, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. The European Union has promised to introduce new sanctions against Russia if it does not contribute to the fulfillment of a number of conditions by June 30.

This is stated in the European Council conclusions in Ukraine, which were approved on Friday, a Ukrinform correspondent in Brussels reported.

"The European Council recalls that the European Commission, the EEAS and the Member States have been undertaking preparatory work on targeted measures, as it requested in March, so that further steps can be taken without delay," the European leaders said.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_vows_to_impose_tough_sanctions_on_russia_if_it_does_not_meet_four_conditions_323177

Merkel, Hollande agree EU position on situation in Ukraine should be more resolute, 27.06.2014

KYIV, June 27 /Ukrinform/. German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande have agreed that the European Union's position on the settlement of the situation in Ukraine should be more resolute.

They said this at a meeting with Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko in Brussels on Thursday after the signing of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, the press office of the head of state reported.

"The parties agreed that the EU's position should be more resolute," reads the statement.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/merkel_hollande_agree_eu_position_on_situation_in_ukraine_should_be_more_resolute_323171

UN adopts resolution in support of Ukraine, 28.06.2014

KYIV, June 28 /Ukrinform/. The United Nations Human Rights Council has adopted a resolution on cooperation and assistance to Ukraine.

The resolution was supported by 23 delegations of the 26th session, four voted against it and 19 abstained, the UN News Center reported.

The resolution calls on the authorities to conduct reforms and on members of armed groups to lay down their arms, reads the statement.

The co-authors of the resolution condemned violence and violations committed by illegal armed groups, including abductions, illegal detentions, killings, and torture.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/un_adopts_resolution_in_support_of_ukraine_323190

Putin demands Poroshenko extend ceasefire - media, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Russian President Vladimir Putin has insisted that the ceasefire between the Ukrainian army and militants in eastern Ukraine, which has already been extended until 22.00 on June 30, be extended again, Deutsche Welle has reported.

"During a quadrilateral conversation between the presidents of Ukraine, France, Russia, and the German chancellor, [Russian President Vladimir] Putin spoke out this time for a long-term ceasefire. The Kremlin press service also says such a call was made during phone talks, while not specifying from whom it came," reads the statement.

The German chancellor, according to dpa, insisted that an OSCE mission be set up to monitor the Ukrainian-Russian border.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/putin_demands_poroshenko_extend_ceasefire_media_323191

Terrorists release second group of OSCE observers, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission has reported that four of its observers captured by terrorists in the Luhansk region in late May were released on June 28, the mission has reported on its Twitter page.

"Our Luhansk-based team of four monitors has been released after one month in captivity," reads the statement.

As reported, the OSCE in late May lost contact with two groups of eight observers of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission people who worked in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/terrorists_release_second_group_of_osce_observers_323195

Belarus, Kazakhstan not to boycott goods from Ukraine, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. Russia's partners in the Customs Union have not supported Russia and refused to restrict imports of Ukrainian goods.

Russia proposed at a meeting of the Eurasian Economic Commission that Belarus and Kazakhstan adopt a joint resolution to restrict imports of Ukrainian goods, but the offer was rejected, according to TSN.

"Belarusian Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Rumas said that his country strongly opposed the restriction: a threat to the Customs Union economy from the signing of an agreement between the EU and Ukraine cannot currently be assessed, and therefore there is no need to make quick decisions," reads the statement.

It also notes that Kazakhstan has not supported Russia, because it is in the process of joining the WTO, and there might be a risk that Ukraine will block its accession.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/belarus_kazakhstan_not_to_boycott_goods_from_ukraine_323199

OSCE sets up group on Ukraine crisis, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. The OSCE has created a contact group to search for a way out of the Ukrainian crisis, BBC has reported.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly supported the Russian delegation's proposal and established an international contact group on Ukraine. Its main task is to seek solutions to the Ukrainian crisis, reads the statement.

It is proposed that the group include up to ten people from the main countries that are interested in solving the crisis in Ukraine.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/osce_sets_up_group_on_ukraine_crisis_323211

Russia blames Ukraine for death of its journalist, 30.06.2014

KYIV, June 30 /Ukrinform/. The Russian Foreign Ministry is again groundlessly trying to discredit the Ukrainian security forces involved in the anti-terrorist operation, blaming them for the death of a Channel One cameraman.

A respective statement was released by the ministry.

"A Russian journalist, Channel One cameraman Anatoly Klyan, died on June 30 in Donetsk, again as a result of gunfire. We mourn and express our condolences to his family and friends. The death of the Russian journalist has again demonstrated that Ukraine's law enforcement structures are clearly unwilling to de-escalate the armed conflict in the east of the country, blocking the already fragile truce," reads the statement.

Klyan died from a fatal abdominal wound near Donetsk early on Monday.

http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/russia_blames_ukraine_for_death_of_its_journalist_323213

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