



## **Monitoring of Xenophobia and Extremism in Ukraine September 2015**

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### **Introduction**

Annexed the Crimea, Russia continued anti-Ukrainian aggression on the territory of Donbas. Artificial Donetsk and Lugansk "People's Republic" became the centers of the Association of Russian mercenaries and professional fighters sabotage groups on the basis of people from the Caucasus and the local pro-Russian activists. Receiving from Russia funding and weapons, including heavy armor, Grad MLRS, terrorist regularly shelled not only the camps and checkpoints ATO forces, but also residential houses, resulting in widespread killing civilians. Reached in Minsk on the eve of the tripartite contact group agreement on the withdrawal of weapons caliber less than 100 mm in the first place will be realized in the Luhansk region. Withdrawal will be carried out at 15 km from the line of contact. There will be discharged tanks, guns caliber 100 mm and mortars of a caliber up to 120 mm. Challenge will take place in two stages. Russia is not ready to agree on a coherent reintegration of Donetsk and Luhansk in the Ukrainian state. At least until then, while in Kiev Donbass does not recognize the leadership of the republics, and will not negotiate with them the laws on the status of the LPR and the DPR. Most likely, low-intensity conflict will continue. In the Donbas, most likely, it will take the situation of "neither war nor peace" as long as one of the parties does not upset the delicate balance.

President Barack Obama has ordered the State Department to provide Ukraine \$ 20 million in military aid.

The Ukrainian delegation left the hall of the UN General Assembly during a speech by Russian President Vladimir Putin. So that representatives of the Ukrainian side expressed their disagreement and protest policies pursued by Moscow.

State Aviation Administration of Ukraine informed the Russian airlines on sanctions imposed against them. Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev instructed the Transport Ministry to consider retaliatory sanctions against Ukrainian airlines. Organization "Odessa underground" has claimed responsibility for the explosion at the building of the Odessa of the SBU.

## Prognosis

### **Putin's deceptive pause: What are Russia's next steps in Ukraine, 02.09.2015**

A deceptive late-summer pause has settled over the Ukraine crisis. At least, in the coverage of it. For many weeks now, the war in the Donbas has slipped off the front page. Although leaders such as Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel and Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko still search for an acceptable formula to end the war, it has continued in the southeast corner of Ukraine, with casualties mounting.

Who fired first is no longer a relevant question. The point is that the war stumbles along with no end in sight. The twin rebel "republics" of Donetsk and Luhansk have slowly frozen into a Russian stronghold, effectively detached from the rest of Ukraine. They are always available to be manipulated as a pro-Russian weapon in the East-West battle for Ukraine's future.

<http://www.brookings.edu/blogs/order-from-chaos/posts/2015/09/01-russia-ukraine-next-steps-kalb>  
<http://www.kyivpost.com/opinion/op-ed/marvin-kalb-putins-deceptive-pause-in-ukraine-396981.html>

### **Poll in DPR: Less than third of residents support separatists, 12.09.2015**

According to the survey, only 29% supports the DPR. Earlier, the figure was even lower - 22%. The vast minority of citizens agreed to consider themselves patriots of Russia. These are 11% in the town of Ilovaisk and 12% in the town of Debaltseve. In general, only 10% of citizens in the DPR consider themselves patriots of Russia. Most people consider themselves patriots of Donbas. From 34% to 48% gave a positive answer to this question in different towns of the DPR. The findings were published on the website of Donetsk news agency. A total of 6,500 people aged from 18 were questioned in 19 militant-controlled towns of Donetsk region.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1121710-poll-in-dpr-less-than-third-of-residents-support-separatists.html>

### **Russia's Already Lost Its Own Information War, 15.09.2015**

Despite the fact that Russian propaganda often finds support in European countries, it can hardly be called a success. The polls suggest that more people have adopted a critical attitude towards Russia. In Germany, over 70% are very critical of Russia's current policy, which was not the case some two-three years ago, Niehus noted. In other countries the situation is similar, she said. According to Niehus, more and more people become aware that Russia is guided solely by its own rhetoric designed to confuse people, preventing them from developing any kind of coherent position.

<http://www.unian.info/world/1124550-russias-already-lost-its-own-information-war-nato-says.html>  
<http://readrussia.com/2015/08/10/mission-failed-russias-already-lost-its-own-information-war/>

### **More than half of Ukrainians believe political parties represent business interests, 16.09.2015**

Respondents were asked, if Ukraine had a party which they could describe as the one reflecting their interests. "As many as 48.3% of those polled believe there are no such parties while 33.8% gave a positive answer and 17.9% were undecided or had no answer". 57.4% said they had not heard anything about the activity of local cells of any parties in their regions.

<http://tass.ru/en/world/821696>

### **Most Russians Oppose Sending Troops To Syria: Poll, 30.09.2015**

More than two-thirds of Russians oppose sending troops to Syria to prop up President Bashar al-Assad's government, while a majority approve of Moscow's use of diplomatic and political channels to help its embattled ally in the Middle East, according to a respected independent pollster. At a time when the Kremlin has been ramping up its military presence in Syria, its largest deployment outside the former Soviet Union in decades, the poll by the Levada Center found that only 14 percent of Russians believe Russia should provide "direct military support" for the Syrian government by sending in troops. The poll results were published on Moscow-based Levada's website on September 28, the same day that President Vladimir Putin said in New York that sending ground troops into combat in Syria was "out of the question."

<http://www.rferl.org/content/russia-poll-finds-russians-against-troops-to-syria/27277333.html>

## Statements of officials

### **Turchynov: Ukraine only to win war when last invader expelled, 01.09.2015**

"For a long period of time, the puppets of the Kremlin, who reigned in Ukraine, were doing everything to destroy our army, weaken our security forces and bankrupt our defense industry. Taking advantage of the fact that Ukraine was in a grave condition, they hit us in the back, occupying Crimea and starting a war in Donbas. But in a very short period of time, Ukraine was able to restore its army, build up the national guard, strengthen its border guard service and give a fitting rebuff to the enemy," Alexander Turchynov said.

However, Turchynov said that the Ukrainians "had stopped their movement to the west."

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117427-turchynov-ukraine-only-to-win-war-when-last-invader-expelled.html>

### **Ukraine PM calls Ukraine's NATO non-aligned status a crime, 01.09.2015**

"A geostrategic mistake, I would even call it a crime - was the adoption of the so-called non-aligned status of Ukraine by parliament in 2010. Uncertain status and the lack of specific protection system resulted in Russia violating all international treaties and the UN Charter and went ahead with military intervention against Ukraine," Yatsenyuk said.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/ukraine-pm-calls-ukraine-s-nato-non-aligned-status-a-crime-485611.html>

### **EU to decide on extending sanctions against Russian companies by Sep15, 01.09.2015**

The European Union will decide until September 15 on the extension of sanctions against 150 individuals and 37 companies of Russia, as well as LPR and DPR terrorist organizations, Brussels reporter from Radio Free Europe Rikard Jozwiak wrote. "EU visa ban and asset freeze for 150 people and 37 entities in Russia and separatists in Ukraine and Crimea likely to be rolled-over before September 15," he tweeted.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117529-journalist-eu-to-decide-on-extending-sanctions-against-russian-companies-by-sep15.html>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/eu-set-to-roll-over-sanctions-on-russian-and-ukraine-rebel-individuals-and-firms-1441125339>

### **Russia expels Ukrainian diplomat in St. Petersburg, 01.09.2015**

Russia expelled Ukrainian diplomat Ihor Fedikevych, who worked for the Consulate in St. Petersburg in a response to a similar move made by Ukrainian authorities in July.

"You remember that our diplomat was expelled from Odessa. We are taking symmetrical measures," a source in the Russian Foreign Ministry told.

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2015/09/01/Russia-expels-Ukrainian-diplomat-in-St-Petersburg/7481441122268/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2015/09/01/Russia-expels-Ukrainian-diplomat-in-St-Petersburg/7481441122268/)

<http://sputniknews.com/politics/20150901/1026443075.html>

### **EU says Ukraine ready to pay high price for peace, 01.09.2015**

Such remarks Tusk made after a meeting with President of Croatia Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović during his visit to the country. Tusk said they also discussed Russia and the crisis in Ukraine.

"We are rapidly approaching the deadline for the complete implementation of the Minsk agreements. It is critical that everyone makes every effort to ensure that this deadline is respected," Tusk said. The President of the European Council also expressed his concern about recent violence in Kyiv. "In a sense this shows the strong determination of the Ukrainian government and parliament to honor their obligations and implement the Minsk agreements, also on very sensitive issues such as granting special status for parts of Ukraine. It shows Ukraine is ready to pay a high price for peace," Tusk said.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/eu-says-ukraine-ready-to-pay-high-price-for-peace/>

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2015/09/01-tusk-meeting-croatia-president-grabar-kitarovic/>

### **The US introduces sanctions against five Russian companies, 02.09.2015**

Washington has introduced new sanctions against five companies from Russia. All of them are a part of the military-industrial complex. The official US Federal Register reports. The sanctions have hit Instrument Building Design Bureau JSC located in Tula, Katod company, NPO Machine Building corporation, Rosoboronexport JSC and MiG aircraft manufacturing corporation. It is also expected that the Department of Commerce will publish a clarification today as to latest imposed sanctions against Russia, which were introduced last July.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/the\\_us\\_introduces\\_sanctions\\_against\\_five\\_russian\\_companies\\_334030](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/the_us_introduces_sanctions_against_five_russian_companies_334030)

### **US extends sanctions on Russians over Ukraine civil war, 02.09.2015**

The US added associates of a billionaire Russian gas trader, Crimean port operators and former Ukrainian officials to its list of those penalized. The fresh US sanctions come after the European Union and Canada recently stepped up pressure on Russia to ensure that the country fully implement peace accords reached in Minsk in February but regularly violated. "Today's action underscores our resolve to maintain pressure on Russia for violating international law and fueling the conflict in eastern Ukraine," John Smith, acting director of the US Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, said in a statement released late Thursday. In all, Treasury announced sanctions on about two dozen individuals and entities, including 13 for supporting the evasion of existing measures, two companies operating in Russia's arms sector and five Crimean port operators. The sanctions also target four former Ukrainian officials, members of the ex-Soviet state's leader Viktor Yanukovich's regime, already on the EU sanctions list: Andriy Petrovych Klyuyev, Sergey Vitalievich Kurchenko, Eduard Anatoliyovych Stavvitsky, and Oleksandr Viktorovych Yanukovich. In February 2014, Yanukovich fell after months of popular protests that he had tried in vain to suppress violently and fled to Russia with the help of Kremlin security agents.

<http://www.dw.com/en/us-extends-sanctions-on-russians-over-ukraine-civil-war/a-18619568>

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2015-21682.pdf>

### **Poroshenko urges "nations of free world" to unite against Russian aggression in Ukraine, 02.09.2015**

"Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the end of the World War II and honoring the memory of tens of millions of its victims, we appeal to all the peoples of the free world to strongly present a united front against the Russian aggressor, who started an undeclared "hybrid" war against sovereign Ukraine," the report says. According to Poroshenko, the Russian Federation is now destroying the system of European and global security by cynically trampling international law, having annexed Crimea, and heating up an armed conflict in Donbas. Russian aggression is a threat not only for Ukraine but for the whole civilized world, its security and stability. "The bloody lessons of the World War II should not be in vain. Only joint efforts can stop the aggressor, as it was 70 years ago," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117929-poroshenko-urges-nations-of-free-world-to-unite-against-russian-aggression-in-ukraine.html>

### **Ukraine PM says draft military doctrine identifies Russia as enemy, 02.09.2015**

Ukraine's new military doctrine will stipulate Russia as an aggressor and enemy of the country, the Ukrainian Government press service reports. Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk announced the plans during the opening of multinational naval military exercises called 'Sea Breeze 2015' near the southern city of Odesa. "For the first time in the history of independence, there is a clearly identified enemy and aggressor in the draft doctrine and it is the Russian Federation," said Yatseniuk told reporters.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/ukraine-defines-russia-as-enemy-and-aggressor-state-for-the-first-time-ever-485695.html>

<http://sputniknews.com/politics/20150902/1026506411.html>

### **Germany calls on to step up negotiations on light weapons withdrawal in Donbas, 02.09.2015**

"The ceasefire which has been in place since yesterday and the noticeable easing in the hostilities along the front line are an encouraging sign at the start of the school year which brings hope to school children and their families on both sides. However, it would not be the first time if the green shoots of hope were to be trampled on rapidly by interested parties," Steinmeier said. "I therefore call upon the parties to the conflict to continue to respect the ceasefire. A genuine and durable military de-escalation would lend key impetus to the implementation of the Minsk agreements," he said. At this, Steinmeier noted that it is crucial now that the "agreements on withdrawing light weapons are finalized and the political talks continued as quickly as possible."

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1118104-germany-calls-on-to-step-up-negotiations-on-light-weapons-withdrawal-in-donbas.html>

[http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2015/150902\\_Ostukraine.html?nn=479796](http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/EN/Infoservice/Presse/Meldungen/2015/150902_Ostukraine.html?nn=479796)

### **Odesa - temporary home of Ukrainian Navy. Ships to return to Crimea, - U.S. ambassador Pyatt, 02.09.2015**

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Ukraine Geoffrey Pyatt said the US are committed to supporting Ukraine and consider Russia's annexation of Crimea illegal. According to Pyatt, Odesa is a cosmopolitan and global city, center of reforms and modernization of Ukraine, as well as a temporary home of the Ukrainian Navy. "I want to underline Odesa is a temporary home of the Ukrainian Navy - because the United States does not, and will not, recognize Russia's invasion and illegal annexation of Crimea. We are deeply committed to standing by the Ukrainian people at this time of testing," Pyatt said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350160/odesa\\_temporary\\_home\\_of\\_ukrainian\\_navy\\_ships\\_to\\_return\\_to\\_crimea\\_us\\_ambassador\\_pyatt](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350160/odesa_temporary_home_of_ukrainian_navy_ships_to_return_to_crimea_us_ambassador_pyatt)

### **Paul Goble: Handing over Crimea and Donbas to Russia no solution for Ukraine or the world. 02.09.2015**

Many people, horrified by the actions of pro-Moscow forces in Crimea and the Donbas or unwilling to continue to resist Russian aggression, have concluded that the rest of Ukraine would be better off without those two regions and could move forward by sacrificing them to Vladimir Putin.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/paul-goble-handing-over-crimea-and-donbas-to-russia-no-solution-for-ukraine-or-the-world-397063.html>

<http://www.interpretermag.com/handing-over-crimea-and-donbas-to-russia-no-solution-for-ukraine-or-the-world/>

### **Russia backtracked on decision to launch offensive in Donbas Aug. 14-15, Russian military expert says, 02.09.2015**

Moscow planned to start a major offensive in Donbas on Aug. 14-15 but scrapped the plan, Pavel Fengelgauer, a Russian military expert told Apostrof Sept. 2. "The offensive may be suspended or scrapped at all," the expert says. "Rebel troops in Donbas republics are commanded by Russian officers. The troops will do what they are told to do from Moscow. It is premature to say what the Kremlyn is going to do in Donbas," Felgengauer says.

[http://zik.ua/en/news/2015/09/02/russia\\_backtracked\\_on\\_decision\\_to\\_launch\\_offensive\\_in\\_donbas\\_aug\\_1415\\_russian\\_military\\_expert\\_says\\_621237](http://zik.ua/en/news/2015/09/02/russia_backtracked_on_decision_to_launch_offensive_in_donbas_aug_1415_russian_military_expert_says_621237)

### **"Sanctions and cease-fire - this is what has been nearly disrupted by my political opponents," - Poroshenko commented on events in Parliament, 02.09.2015**

The president drew attention to the importance of today's decision of the EU Committee of Permanent Representatives on extension of personal sanctions against Russian entities until March 2016. The head of state noted that deliberate positive vote of the Ukrainian Parliament for the constitutional amendments "has paved the way for prolongation of personal sanctions against Russian entities involved in the "Anschluss" of Crimea and occupation of the Donbas." "Coordinated actions of responsible political forces and people's deputies have finally resulted in a great stride towards peace, because sanctions and heroism of our warriors are the key elements of deterring the Russian aggression," the head of state noted.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350299/sanctions\\_and\\_ceasefire\\_this\\_is\\_what\\_has\\_been\\_nearly\\_disrupted\\_by\\_my\\_political\\_opponents\\_poroshenko](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350299/sanctions_and_ceasefire_this_is_what_has_been_nearly_disrupted_by_my_political_opponents_poroshenko)

### **Poroshenko Blames Russia For Police Deaths, 02.09.2015**

Ukraine's president has laid the blame for the murder of three policemen during a right wing demonstration on Monday firmly at the doors of the Kremlin, accusing Russia of extending its "campaign of destabilisation". Three people died after grenades were thrown during clashes between nationalists and police outside Ukraine's parliament.

It followed a vote to give more powers to the regions, including separatist regions in the east. He said that Russia had become "unpredictable" but he did not feel vulnerable, even though "this is one of the most difficult presidencies in the whole world". His claim that Russia may have been behind the grenade attack on the police will gain credence among conspiracy theorists and some military theorists. Moscow has pioneered what is now known as "hybrid warfare" – the use of covert operators to foment instability.

<http://news.sky.com/story/1545646/poroshenko-blames-russia-for-police-deaths>



### **Ukraine's Armed forces to be fully compatible with NATO troops by 2020 according to new doctrine, Poroshenko says, 02.09.2015**

"A common thread running through this strategic document (Military Doctrine - Ed.) is the issue of Euro-Atlantic integration, the necessity to bring all our military and defense system in line with NATO standards, achieve the criteria required for membership. It is the task by 2020 - to ensure full interoperability of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the relevant forces of NATO member states," Poroshenko said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350304/ukraines\\_armed\\_forces\\_to\\_be\\_fully\\_compatible\\_with\\_nato\\_troops\\_by\\_2020\\_according\\_to\\_new\\_doctrine\\_poroshenko](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350304/ukraines_armed_forces_to_be_fully_compatible_with_nato_troops_by_2020_according_to_new_doctrine_poroshenko)

### **Nolan Peterson: The Ukraine War Is Supposed to End Today. But It Won't, 03.09.2015**

The Ukraine war is scheduled to end Sept. 1 with a new truce set to coincide with Ukrainian students' return to school. On Aug. 26, the trilateral contact group—comprising representatives from Ukraine, Russia and the separatist territories, under OSCE oversight—hashed out this latest call to end the fighting. And during an Aug. 29 telephone call, Russian President Vladimir Putin, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Francois Hollande called for a full cease-fire on Sept. 1. At midnight on Tuesday, guns fell silent along the eastern front, according to the Ukrainian military. "From midnight to 06:00 on Sept. 1, the Kremlin-backed mercenaries were not using weapons along the demarcation line," the Anti-Terrorist Operation press center wrote in a Tuesday morning statement.

<http://dailysignal.com/2015/09/01/the-ukraine-war-is-supposed-to-end-today-but-it-wont/>

### **Tusk encourages to extend sanctions against Russia, calling Ukraine a test for Europe's core values, 03.09.2015**

Ukraine is a test for Europe's core values in its immediate neighborhood, where the future belongs to the rule of law, not to the play of muscles supported by corruption, Tusk said at the EU ambassadors meeting in Brussels on Thursday. According to him, recent dramatic events in Kyiv showed how complicated the Ukrainian process was.

Tusk said he would definitely want the European Union to be united in the matter of sanctions against Russia that had been implemented after Crimea annexation. He also expressed his support for reforms in Ukraine and aid to the country in its fight against attempts to destabilize it.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/djsHuEH0DECyBBDmoeq1FC>

### **Russian aggression in Ukraine poses challenge to European security, - NB8 Ministers, 03.09.2015**

Russian aggression in Ukraine and its behaviour in the region more broadly, including military build-up, pose a challenge to European security, also in the Nordic and Baltic region.

The statement made by the Nordic and Baltic Ministers for Foreign Affairs convened today in Copenhagen to exchange views concerning the security situation in the Nordic and Baltic region. The statement reads: "Russian aggression in Ukraine and its behaviour in the region more broadly, including military build-up, pose a challenge to European security, also in the Nordic and Baltic region. The Nordic and Baltic countries face these challenges with mutual solidarity and co-operation."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350461/russian\\_aggression\\_in\\_ukraine\\_poses\\_challenge\\_to\\_european\\_security\\_nb8\\_ministers\\_statement](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350461/russian_aggression_in_ukraine_poses_challenge_to_european_security_nb8_ministers_statement)  
<http://www.altinget.dk/misc/NB8%20statement%20regional%20security.pdf>

### **Klimkin about Putin's statement on changes to Constitution: If there is something he fails to know, his Foreign Ministry should fill the gap, 04.09.2015**

This was announced by Ukraine's Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin, when asked about the statement of Russian president Vladimir Putin in which he accused Ukraine of failing on implementation of the Minsk agreements. "We follow recommendations of the Venice Commission in the first place, which clearly sees the logic of the constitutional amendments. We have legal experts from Germany and France, clearly stating that what is being done in the framework of the constitutional process in Ukraine fully complies with the Minsk agreements. If Putin accidentally did not happen to hear these expert opinions, I think that the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs should fill this information gap," Klimkin said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350540/klimkin\\_about\\_putins\\_statement\\_on\\_changes\\_to\\_constitution\\_if\\_there\\_is\\_something\\_he\\_fails\\_to\\_know\\_his](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350540/klimkin_about_putins_statement_on_changes_to_constitution_if_there_is_something_he_fails_to_know_his)

### **Tiahnybok: Shvaika and Syrotiuk now suspects in riot case, 04.09.2015**

"I was interrogated as a witness. The next interrogation will be held on September 8. In the corridors of the Main Department I knew that Ihor Shvaika and Yuriy Syrotiuk were suspected of the terror near Rada. I don't know the next steps of investigators for my colleagues, whether it will be a trial or arrest," he said. Tiahnybok also said that the investigator asked him about 30 questions, to which he had previously answered in writing.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65063/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65063/view/)

### **Russia's presence in Ukraine and annexation of Crimea are serious issues to discuss, - NATO Secretary General, 04.09.2015**

He says that Russia's presence in Ukraine and the annexation of Crimea are rather serious. "We disagree, but that is one of the reasons we should meet. Especially when tensions are increasing, especially when we have more military activity. Or when we disagree on Georgia. It just adds reasons or arguments for the dialogue," he said.

"The whole idea that to talk is some kind of concession or to talk is some kind of weakness is wrong," Stoltenberg said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350488/russias\\_presence\\_in\\_ukraine\\_and\\_annexation\\_of\\_crimea\\_are\\_serious\\_issues\\_to\\_discuss\\_nato\\_secretary\\_general](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350488/russias_presence_in_ukraine_and_annexation_of_crimea_are_serious_issues_to_discuss_nato_secretary_general)

<http://blogs.wsi.com/brussels/2015/09/03/qa-with-nato-secretary-general-jens-stoltenberg/>

### **Russia faces new sanctions if pro-Kremlin militants hold own local elections, 04.09.2015**

If the so-called DPR and LPR do not reach compromise with Kyiv on the issue of the date of the local elections, the West will certainly accuse them of disrupting the Minsk accords and the put the blame on the Kremlin. One source noted: "The separatists claim that the Ukrainian authorities did not discuss with them the conditions of the local elections, but it is not so." According to the Western diplomat, the militants "have not shown willingness to compromise, calling the election dates different from the rest of Ukraine; they do not demonstrate willingness to organize elections in accordance with the Ukrainian legislation." Another source of the publication noted that if the militants hold elections in the occupied part of Donbas apart from the all-Ukrainian elections and they "do not comply with Ukrainian law and are not monitored by international observers, this will be a serious - and defiant - blow to the Minsk agreements. In fact, This will be the final 'nail in the coffin' of the peace agreements." The source stressed that "no one in Europe and the United States believes that Russia cannot influence the separatists to turn from this dangerous path." The third source in the western diplomatic circles assured that imposing sanctions "is not an end in itself for the U.S. and the EU." "But if the Minsk agreements are buried in such a rough way, we will have no choice," the diplomat said, while refusing to specify what new sanctions may be imposed against Russia.

<http://charter97.org/en/news/2015/9/4/167515/>

### **European Parliament To Consider Resolution On Sentsov-Kolchenko Case, 04.09.2015**

It was reported by the European People's Party. "Mr. Kohver's abduction and subsequent illegal detention in Russia constitute a clear violation of international law, as is condemnation of Ukrainian film director and activist Oleg Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko. EPP Group calls for their immediate release and made a resolution that will be discussed and voted on Thursday, "- stated the largest political group in the EP.

<http://ukraineunderattack.org/en/33479-european-parliament-to-consider-resolution-on-sentsov-kolchenko-case.html>

### **Novak: Russia is ready to give Ukraine discount on gas in Q4, price to be lower than in Q3, 04.09.2015**

Russia will be ready to provide Ukraine with a discount on gas bought for Q4, the price will be level with the prices for Ukraine's neighboring countries, for example, with Poland, Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said. He did not speak about the concrete price, noting that it will be "slightly lower" than the price for Q3, which was offered to Ukraine. "But the problem is that Ukraine has not asked us for a discount," the minister said. Novak also denied information that Naftogaz Ukrainy asked Gazprom for an advance for the transit of Russian gas across Ukrainian territory.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/288050.html>

### **Putin opposes changes to Ukraine's Constitution, urges for Ukraine's agreement with militants, 04.09.2015**

Russian president Vladimir Putin believes the whole deal regarding amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine is used as a pretext for power games inside the country.

"What we are witnessing today is further political confrontation in Ukraine, and constitutional changes are solely used as a pretext to fuel political struggle for power," he told reporters. Putin recalled that in accordance with the Minsk agreements, amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine should be discussed and agreed with the Donbas. "Nothing like that, unfortunately, today Kyiv is not taking any steps to negotiate the amendments. And that's the most important, the principal thing," Putin said.

Except that, according to Putin, the law on local elections should also be agreed with the territories. Moreover, the amnesty law should also be adopted and the law on special status of these territories should be put into force.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350499/putin\\_opposes\\_changes\\_to\\_ukraines\\_constitution\\_urges\\_for\\_ukraines\\_agreement\\_with\\_militants](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350499/putin_opposes_changes_to_ukraines_constitution_urges_for_ukraines_agreement_with_militants)

### **Russia ready to provide Ukraine with gas discount, but 'on certain condition', 04.09.2015**

Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said in an interview: "We absolutely understand that the Ukrainian side has no real money to pay in advance for gas purchases. For our part, we have created all conditions, and the Russian side is also ready to ensure gas sales in the fourth quarter, taking into account the discount on the prices that are competitive and effective in neighboring countries, such as Poland," he said. According to Novak, in the aftermath of oil prices collapse, gas prices are also following downward trajectory, so the price of gas for Ukraine will be reduced following the oil. However, Novak did not specify the amount of discount. "We will not consider this issue on our initiative, because we have a contract, and the contract provides for the price setting according to the formula," he said. Novak also said that Russia had offered gas to Ukraine at a price which is \$20-30 cheaper than that to European partners.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65061/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65061/view/)

### **U.S. ASSISTANCE TO UKRAINE DEPENDS ON SUCCESSFUL REFORM EFFORT — PYATT, 04.09.2015**

"As a key regional center well placed to serve both east and west, Kharkiv can, and should, play a leading role in integrating Ukraine into the global economy. By continuing to improve the business climate, quality of life, and workers' skills, Kharkiv can attract even more investment and global partnerships," the U.S. Ambassador said. Pyatt noted that more success in combatting corruption would bring more U.S. investments to the country. The U.S. Ambassador stressed the need for a successful completion of the reform of the law enforcement system in Ukraine, calling it a key sector for the Revolution of Dignity to achieve actual victory.

<http://x-news.com.ua/u-s-assistance-to-ukraine-depends-on-successful-reform-effort-pyatt-65603/>

<http://ukraine.usembassy.gov/statements/amb-kharkiv-econ-forum-09042015.html>

### **Minister for Europe calls for lasting ceasefire in Ukraine, 05.09.2015**

Speaking from a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg, Minister for Europe David Lidington said: On the first anniversary of the Minsk Protocol, it is as important as ever that both sides implement a lasting ceasefire. Throughout the last year we have seen repeated violations of the ceasefire and repeated obstruction of the work of the OSCE monitoring mission. The withdrawal of heavy weapons that has been agreed must actually take place, and the OSCE monitors must be given full and secure access to carry out their crucial role. Russia must stop providing arms and equipment to separatist forces and must withdraw its own forces from eastern Ukraine. Without such steps, the appalling suffering of ordinary Ukrainians living in the Donbas will continue.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/minister-for-europe-calls-for-lasting-ceasefire-in-ukraine>



### **Poroshenko sees no alternative to Minsk accords, stresses importance of OSCE role, 05.09.2015**

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko has once again said that there is no alternative to Minsk agreements. "There exists no alternative to the Minsk agreements. If we want to return these areas of Ukraine, if we want to end the occupation, if we want to regain control over the Ukrainian border, if we want to free the Ukrainian hostages who are illegally held both in the occupied territories and in Russia, the role of the OSCE is crucial," the president told reporters in Kyiv on Saturday.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288279.html>

### **Russia's stance on EU-Ukraine free trade deal purely political - Ukrainian Foreign Minister, 05.09.2015**

Russia's threats to impose an embargo on Ukrainian goods if no amendments are made to an annex to the Ukrainian-EU free trade agreement are based on far-fetched apprehensions and have no economic grounds, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin said. "Russia's objections are purely theoretical. We have closely analyzed and calculated the situation together with the EU: at the present time, we have found absolutely no grounds for objections," Klimkin said in a presentation at a session of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's Council of Exporters and Investors on Friday. Nevertheless, Ukraine is continuing trilateral consultations with the EU and Russia and trying to persuade Russia that its concerns are unfounded, Klimkin said. "The next round at the political level will take place exactly on Monday, and a Ukrainian delegation will also take part in it," he said. "At the present time, Russia's position is purely political and is aimed at preventing us from implementing the agreement itself. Therefore, Russia is taking a number of measures, one of them the threat of a food embargo. No formal decision has yet been made on the matter," Klimkin said. Ukraine is consistently working with other CIS countries, Klimkin said. "We have received assurances from Kazakhstan that it will not" obstruct the enforcement of Ukraine's agreement with the EU, he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288263.html>

### **Ukrainian interest. New doctrine, angered Putin and potential problem, 06.09.2015**

In his latest speech, Putin outlined another problem that may soon become relevant for Ukraine. It is about the wave of refugees from Africa and the Middle East hitting the European Union. The Russian president believes that Europe itself has created a problem, listening a bit too closely to Washington's wishes. Ukraine should be ready to form its own position on the issue of refugees, although their movement through our territory today looks like a narrow trickle compared to the Mediterranean direction.

EU is interested in ratification, and it has mechanisms to influence its members. Ukraine's Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin said that only two EU members have not yet ratified the the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement: Greece and Cyprus. Since self-esteem is an important component of their national policy, we should engage in dialogue with these states with utmost attention. We should not forget that the EU is also interested in ratification, and it has mechanisms to influence its member states.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/ukrainian-interest-new-doctrine-angered-putin-and-potential-problem/>

### **IMF chief: Ukraine's progress "astonishing", 06.09.2015**

"Ukraine has surprised the world," said Lagarde, pleased with the pace of reforms.

"To achieve what you have achieved in such a short period of time is just nothing but astonishing," she said. IMF chief also noted the unique situation when both the Finance Ministry and the National Bank are headed by women. Among the main factors that contributed to reviving the country's economy Lagarde named restoration of the banking sector, adding that it is a signal to foreign investors, indicating that the new team in the Ukrainian government is actually working and implementing reforms.

<http://ukrainianlaw.blogspot.com/2015/09/imf-chief-ukraines-progress-astonishing.html>

### **Avakov's advisor: Putin wants to "split" parliament from within, 06.09.2015**

"Now Putin has thrown all his forces to split Ukraine from within. First of all, to split the Verkhovna Rada in order to hold new parliamentary elections. As soon as he sees that these goal can be achieved, he will surely try to return Donbas to Ukraine, so that its residents can vote. Due to the fact that the voters from Crimea and Donbas did not participate in last year's parliamentary elections, the structure of government in Ukraine has changed dramatically when pro-European forces received majority in parliament," he said. If voters in Donbas are given an opportunity to vote again, it is clear that they will support pro-Russian politicians, Herashchenko believes. According to Herashchenko, if such a plan does not work, we should expect a freezing of the conflict, as the offensive in Ukraine is the most unfavorable option for Putin, "because then he will need to explain to his army and his people the need for such an offensive. And he may have problems with that." "This can seriously change the balance of power. Therefore, once again I repeat, if Putin really feels that Ukraine could be split from within and early parliamentary elections can be held, he will do everything in order to return Donbas to Ukraine," said the advisor to the Interior Minister.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/avakovs-advisor-putin-wants-to-split-parliament-from-within/>

### **Poroshenko calls for stripping Russia of its right of veto in UN SC, 07.09.2015**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko is not content with the current voting mechanism in the United Nations Security Council (UN SC), whereby a resolution can be vetoed by Russia, which is one of its permanent members. "I think they (the Russian Federation) can remain in the SC but I think that Russia must be stripped of the veto right in those conflicts to which it is a party," the president said in an interview with the Voice of America news network. Poroshenko thinks such a move would make UN SC mechanisms efficient again, but for now they get simply blocked and the SC is unable to fulfill its role. "If you make a decision that can be blocked by the Security Council, there has to be an alternative to maintain global security," he said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288457.html?>

### **"We have managed to stabilize economic situation in the country," – Yatseniuk, 07.09.2015**

He recalled that as of Feb. 27, 2014, the accounts of the State Treasury had UAH 108,000 (about \$4,920). "Today, the State Treasury accounts make up UAH 45 billion (about \$2.05 billion), excluding foreign currency," he said. "It is true we have managed to settle the economic situation", the head of government stressed and added "too much remains to be done." "Due to the joint actions of Ukraine's government and the National Bank we maintain the financial sector stable. Much has been done in the banking sector, thus providing us with an opportunity to finance unprecedented spending on national security and defense - it is almost UAH 100 billion (about \$4.55 billion)," Arsenii Yatseniuk said.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/ceGtlp5ntloOSM6MLv3aHo>

### **Mogherini reassures Klimkin that EU supports Minsk agreements, 07.09.2015**

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin told journalists in Brussels on Monday that he had met with EU foreign policy chief Federica Mogherini and discussed Nadia Savchenko, Oleh Sentsov, and Oleksandr Kolchenko, who are being illegally held in Russia. Klimkin said that Mogherini reassured him of the support of the EU and gave "clear signals of solidarity with Ukraine" over the implementation of the Minsk agreements. "We agreed on the further steps, on how the European Union would back implementation of the Minsk process, and how would we cooperate with the EU in efficient preparation for the implementation of the Association Agreement, especially when talking on the deeper Free Trade Area (FTA)," Klimkin said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/economic/288568.html?>

### **Hollande to personally advocate for anti-Russian sanctions to be lifted once Ukraine settlement successful, 07.09.2015**

"We have to go all the way to make sure obligations are fulfilled in terms of holding the election and passing the law on autonomy and decentralization of the regions in eastern Ukraine," Hollande told a press conference in Paris. "If the process is finalized successfully, I will personally advocate for lifting the sanctions, as it was set forth in the agreements [reached in Minsk]," Hollande said. The projected timing for the Minsk Agreements to be realized is the end of 2015, Hollande said. Hollande said that the situation in eastern Ukraine is coming gradually back to normal. "There have been delays [in implementation of the agreements]. Some more people died. However, there is some progress, too. In recent weeks, the situation has improved: first of all, because the ceasefire is observed almost completely," Hollande said.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288516.html?>

### **IMF chief pleased with economic progress in Ukraine as decision looms on \$1.7 billion loan, 07.09.2015**

Lagarde was in Kiev before a visit by an IMF mission to assess whether Ukraine has met the necessary conditions to receive the third installment of a four-year \$17.5 billion loan. She told President Petro Poroshenko on Sunday she was impressed by how much his government had achieved in just several months. The IMF projects that Ukraine's economy will contract by 9 percent this year, but this actually suggests signs of stabilization, given that it includes a horrendous 17.6 percent contraction in the first quarter. Ukraine has received \$6.7 billion from the IMF this year. The next installment would be \$1.7 billion.

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2015/09/06/imf-chief-pleased-with-economic-progress-in-ukraine-as-decision-looms-on-17/?>

### **Ukraine's FM admits possible swap of Ukrainian political prisoners for detained Russian troops, 07.09.2015**

"I will not deal with the interpretation of the signals of the Russian Justice Ministry. I believe that we must do everything in order to release Nadia Savchenko, Oleh Sentsov, all political prisoners," Klimkin said, commenting on a Wednesday statement by Russian Justice Minister Alexander Konovalov, who did not rule out the possibility of a legal exchange through diplomatic channels. "If it is necessary to go through the negotiations on the exchange, we certainly will look into this opportunity," said Klimkin. Any such steps should be taken after the "Ukrainian courts issue rulings regarding the Russian troops." "First goes the legal side, and only then - all possible steps," he said. He added that Ukraine had not seen "any offers or clear signals" from Russia. "We should discuss it, but only on a clear legal basis," Klimkin said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1119410-ukraines-fm-admits-possible-swap-of-ukrainian-political-prisoners-for-detained-russian-troops.html>  
<http://www.unian.info/politics/1119452-klimkin-kyiv-should-be-ready-to-show-solidarity-with-eu-on-refugee-issue.html>

### **Syria crisis: US concern over Russia 'military build-up', 07.09.2015**

US Secretary of State John Kerry expressed concern to Moscow over reports of Russian military build-up in Syria. US media reports said Russia has sent advisers and hardware to Syria, in what Washington fears is an expansion of its support for President Bashar al-Assad. Any such development would "escalate the conflict", Mr Kerry told his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov. Russia has been a key ally of Syria throughout its four-year civil war.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-34166623>

### **Russian Central Military District Troops Put on Full Combat Alert, 07.09.2015**

"In accordance with [Putin's] order, the district's troops, parts of the aviation forces of other military districts, the air-borne troops and military transportation aviation has been put on 'Full Military Readiness' beginning at 9:30 a.m. Moscow time [06:30 GMT]," Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu said during a high level Defense Ministry meeting. During the inspections, the troops will carry out various drills to test their combat readiness. The checks will also assess the airborne forces' readiness for long-distance missions and landing in unfamiliar terrain, Shoigu added.

<http://sputniknews.com/military/20150907/1026677441.html>

### **France proposes leaders' summit on Ukraine to push peace process, 07.09.2015**

French President Francois Hollande on Monday proposed a meeting of the leaders of France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine in Paris later this month to push ahead with peace talks after recent ceasefire progress. "The process has moved forward. There has been progress in the last few weeks. The ceasefire has almost been respected," Hollande told a news conference. "The foreign ministers will speak in the coming days, and I propose a meeting (of leaders) in Paris before the U.N. General Assembly (on Sept. 28) so that we can evaluate the process and lead it to its end." Hollande added: "If the process succeeds I will support the lifting of sanctions."

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/07/us-ukraine-crisis-france-idUSKCN0R710K20150907>

### **Ukraine's expenditures for defense are 40 times less than Russia's ones, Poroshenko says, 08.09.2015**

According to the president, Ukraine has no other choice but to build up defense potential. President Petro Poroshenko said during extended government meeting on Tuesday: "I was informed that they [expenditures for defense] are 15 times smaller... This is wrong... They are 40 times less than those of the aggressor state," he said in particular. According to Poroshenko, Ukraine "has no choice" but to build up defense potential in this regard. He also said that Ukraine has lost 25 percent of its industrial capacity while 10 percent of enterprises have been physically destroyed due to the hostilities in the Donbas and Crimea annexation. In particular, the extraction of coal decreased by half, Poroshenko said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351001/ukraines\\_expenditures\\_for\\_defense\\_are\\_40\\_times\\_less\\_than\\_russias\\_ones\\_poroshenko\\_says](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351001/ukraines_expenditures_for_defense_are_40_times_less_than_russias_ones_poroshenko_says)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351014/one\\_will\\_be\\_horrified\\_when\\_terrorists\\_plans\\_are\\_voiced\\_poroshenko\\_commented\\_on\\_investigation\\_into\\_events](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351014/one_will_be_horrified_when_terrorists_plans_are_voiced_poroshenko_commented_on_investigation_into_events)

### **General Staff: Russia accused the leaders of the military that makes itself, 09.09.2015**

"This time Russian investigators divert public attention from the Russian military presence in Ukraine and aggression against neighboring states, fabrykuyuchy criminal cases against Ukrainian military heads & ndash; Minister of Defence and Chief of General Staff, arbitrarily inkryminuyuchy them using prohibited means and methods of war and even genocide ", - Seleznev said. "The presence of Russian military Donbas, their participation in hostilities against the Ukrainian army and involvement in the deaths of civilians (including Russian) & ndash; a proven fact, "- he said. "But the Russian military and political leadership continues to strongly deny everything. Eventually the whole truth about the crimes of Russia in Ukraine will become known, and wine & ndash; be given into the hands of national or international justice. Then the whole world will be able to look into the eyes of current and military leaders of Russia, on whose conscience & ndash; shelling residential neighborhoods with guns and rocket launchers, killing our civilians and soldiers whipping "Boeing", seizing another's territory, aggressive information war, robbery Donbass ", - he said. Seleznev also called statements consequences yet The next step in the information war against Ukraine.

<http://ukrainiancrisis.net/news/13549>

### **French Ex-Psident Sarkozy Urges West to Halt Nascent Cold War With Russia, 10.09.2015**

"We see a serious error of creating conditions for a new cold war with Russia. We need it on the Syrian track and Daesh. We must turn the page of the Cold War with Moscow... Russia must show its good will in helping the international community to overcome Daesh and resolve the Syrian imbroglio," Sarkozy told Le Figaro newspaper on Wednesday, using an alternative name for Islamic State (IS) jihadist group. The former French president urged for a new dialogue between Europe and Russia, including the lifting of a food embargo Moscow imposed on certain European imports in retaliation to anti-Russia sanctions. Russia's relations with the West deteriorated significantly in 2014 over the Ukraine crisis. The European Union, along with the United States and a number of other nations, accused Russia of interfering in Ukraine's internal affairs, imposing several rounds of sanctions against Moscow. Russia has repeatedly denied the allegations.

<http://in.sputniknews.com/world/20150910/1015663679.html>



### **NATO concerned by Russian presence in Syria, Ukraine calmer, 10.09.2015**

Reports of growing Russian military activity in Syria are a cause for concern while the situation in eastern Ukraine seems calmer, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said on Wednesday. Lebanese sources said on Wednesday Russian forces have begun participating in military operations in Syria in support of government troops. Stoltenberg joined other western leaders in calling for a political rather than military solution to the four-year-old multi-sided civil war, which has killed 250,000 people and driven half of Syria's 23 million people from their homes. "I am concerned about reports about increased Russian military presence in Syria," Stoltenberg told reporters during a visit to Prague. "That will not contribute to solving the conflict. "I think it is important to support all efforts to find a political solution to the conflict in Syria." Officials in the United States, which is fighting an air war against the Islamist militant group Islamic State in Syria but also opposes Bashar Assad's government, have said in recent days that they suspect Russia is reinforcing aid to Assad. <http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/09/nato-syria-russia-idUSL5N11F43L20150909>

### **Germany: 'Normandy Four' leaders stand for elections in Donbas under Ukrainian law, 10.09.2015**

According to the Speaker of the Federal Government of Germany Steffen Seibert, a telephone conversation between German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Francois Hollande, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and Russian President Vladimir Putin was held to discuss the status of implementation of the Minsk agreements. "The parties have welcomed the recent ceasefire, which was agreed on September 1 brokered by the Tripartite Liaison Group, and called for enhanced efforts to further improve the security situation, including an unlimited and secure access of the OSCE monitors in the Donbas conflict zone, full withdrawal of heavy weapons and the completion of withdrawal of up to 100mm caliber weapons," Seibert said.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/germany-normandy-four-leaders-stand-for-elections-in-donbas-under-ukrainian-law/>

### **Lavrov: DPR and LPR are ready to hold elections under Ukrainian law, 10.09.2015**

The self-proclaimed Donetsk and Lugansk national Republic is ready to hold local elections on the basis of Ukrainian law and with the assistance of the OSCE observers, but this requires direct meetings between Kiev, Donetsk and Lugansk, said the head of the Ministry of foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation S. Lavrov. "The first condition of preparation of the elections in the Donbas are direct meeting and approval of modalities for conducting these elections. Donetsk and Lugansk are ready to hold them on the basis of the Ukrainian legislation, they're ready to OSCE observers received the right to monitor this process, but they want all this to agree, in consultation with the Ukrainian authorities ", - said the Minister at a press conference in the Russian capital.

<http://news.rin.ru/eng/news///128741/>

### **Russian troops are already in Syria to aid Assad against Islamic State, says Israel, 10.09.2015**

The increased Russian activity in Syria reflects Moscow's deep concerns that its longtime ally is on the brink of collapse, as well as hopes by President Vladimir Putin that a common battle against Islamic State extremists can improve Russia's ties with the West, strained over Ukraine. But the strategy could be risky — and unless Russia sends large numbers of troops, halting the territorial gains made by Islamic militants could prove tough. Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Yaalon told reporters Thursday that the Russian buildup appears to be limited for the time being. He said military advisers, technicians and security guards have arrived in recent days, with the main goal of setting up an air base near the coastal town of Latakia that could be used to stage strikes on Islamic State fighters. "As far as we understand, at this stage we are talking about a limited force that includes advisers, a security team and preparations for operating planes and combat helicopters," Yaalon said. He called the move "significant."

<http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2015/09/10/russia-says-its-planes-are-carrying-military-goods-to-syria>

### **Italian Senate ratifies EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, 10.09.2015**

The Senate, the upper chamber of the Italian Parliament, ratified the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU, Ambassador of Italy to Ukraine Fabrizio Romano wrote.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/italian-senate-ratifies-eu-ukraine-association-agreement-491236.html>

### **Poroshenko explains West's position on lethal aid to Ukraine, 11.09.2015**

"A year ago, we had no friends, no one trusted us. Now I can reveal a situation when I have invited our American and European partners to provide us with military assistance. As President, I was shocked to hear the answer: No, we can't help you," said Poroshenko in an interview with "Prime Time with Myroslava Gongadze". He named three reasons why the West rejected the idea of lethal aid supply. The main reason the western partners voiced at the time was Ukraine "has no army." The existing army was "infiltrated with Russia's agents. What will be supplied, will then reappear in Russia." Among other things, corruption in the army was also named as reason to abstain from supplying weapons to Ukraine.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121175-poroshenko-explains-wests-position-on-lethal-aid-to-ukraine.html>

<http://www.unian.info/economics/1121356-poroshenko-russias-insidious-attempt-to-prevent-ukraines-entry-into-fta-with-eu-doomed-to-fail.html>

<http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351449/west-did-not-provide-ukraine-with-weapons-through-fears-they-could-immediately-be-handed-over-to-russia>

### **Poroshenko rules out talks with Russian-led militants, 11.09.2015**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has again ruled out talks with the leaders of Russian-led militant groups in Luhansk and Donetsk regions. Poroshenko said such a dialogue could create the impression that a civil war was underway in Ukraine, which is not the case. Poroshenko's comments followed calls by Russian Foreign Minister Serhiy Lavrov for Ukrainian officials to begin talks with so-called leaders of Russian-led militants in east Ukraine.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/poroshenko-rules-out-talks-with-russian-led-militants-491625.html>

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/poroshenko-comments-on-russias-green-men-in-syria/>

### **Russia Transformed Crimea Into Base For Military Operations Against West – President, 11.09.2015**

"The Crimea has become the military operation base for Russia to further destabilize the Black Sea and the Mediterranean in global confrontation with the West," – said President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko during a speech at the opening ceremony of the Forum YES-2015 in Kiev. He also stressed the need to ensure the return of Ukrainian control over its eastern territories, the state border and to restore the sovereignty over the Crimea.

<http://ukraineunderattack.org/en/34471-russia-transformed-crimea-into-base-for-military-operations-against-west-president.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121283-poroshenko-comments-on-russias-green-men-in-syria.html>

### **Ukrainian Army will not allow Russian military conduct blitzkrieg or large-scale assault, - Defense Minister Poltorak, 11.09.2015**

According to the Defense Minister Poltorak, there are about 9,000 Russian military in the Donbas, and 50 to 55 thousand more are redeployed near the border.

"Of course, this is enough people to launch a large-scale offensive. But the readiness of the Ukrainian Army as of today, I am sure, will not allow the possibility of a blitzkrieg or successful large-scale offensive," Poltorak said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351493/ukrainian\\_army\\_will\\_not\\_allow\\_russian\\_military\\_conduct\\_blitzkrieg\\_or\\_largescale\\_assault\\_defense\\_minister](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351493/ukrainian_army_will_not_allow_russian_military_conduct_blitzkrieg_or_largescale_assault_defense_minister)

### **Obama Says Russia's Support Of Assad 'Doomed To Fail', 11.09.2015**

Russia has said it is bolstering Assad's army because it is the most effective force to fight the Islamic State extremist group. Obama said on September 11: "The strategy that they are pursuing right now, doubling down on Assad, I think is a big mistake."

Obama said Russia's escalated military involvement in Syria indicates that Assad is worried and is turning to Russian advisers for help. The president's comments came in response to a question from a U.S. service member during a town hall with troops.

Moscow has acknowledged that Russian military experts were present in Syria to assist with Russian arms deliveries to the war-torn country which Moscow says are aimed at combating terrorism. Washington has warned that the Russian military buildup in Syria could lead to a "confrontation" with the U.S.-led coalition carrying out air strikes against the IS group.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/russia-syria-obama-support-for-assad/27243002.html>

### **Peskov calls absurd Russia's need to implement Minsk accords, 11.09.2015**

"We continue to believe that any accusations against Moscow's failure to implement the Minsk agreements are absurd. Russia is not a party to the conflict on the territory of Ukraine and it is not obliged to comply with the Minsk accords. It is about the time frame," Peskov said. At the same time, he again accused Kyiv of violating the Minsk agreements.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121675-peskov-calls-absurd-russias-need-to-implement-minsk-accords.html>

### **German FM Slams Moscow's Support For Assad, 12.09.2015**

Germany's foreign minister has warned Russia against bolstering its support for the government of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad. In an interview published in German newspapers on September 12, Frank-Walter Steinmeier said "a situation must not be created that renders joint action by the international community impossible." He expressed the hope that Moscow is not seeking "a prolongation of the Syrian civil war."

Communication between U.S. and Russian military commanders was suspended as a result of Russia's annexation of the Ukrainian region of Crimea and its military support of separatists in eastern Ukraine. U.S. President Barack Obama said the same day that Washington will "be engaging Russia" on Syria and said that a policy of "doubling down" on support for Assad "is doomed to failure."

<http://www.rferl.org/content/germany-steinmeier-slams-russia-assad-support/27243739.html>

### **Yatsenyuk says Ukraine not to agree to federalization, 12.09.2015**

"Ukraine will never accept concession to federalize the country, because it is an issue of the dismemberment of Ukraine," he said. "Decentralization will not weaken central authorities in such issues as defense, national security, rule of law, compliance with civil freedoms, and has nothing in common with federalization," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121701-yatsenyuk-ukraine-not-to-agree-to-federalization.html>

### **Kuchma: Russia interested to bring situation in Donbas to 'frozen conflict', 12.09.2015**

"We will not solve the problem of Crimea and the integrity of Ukraine by the war with Russia. We must look for all diplomatic channels, all possible economic and political means in order to stop the fighting in Donbas," Kuchma said. "The whole situation leads to a frozen conflict. No war, no peace... And it is primarily in the interests of our neighbor," he said. According to Kuchma, when Ukraine has no control over 600 km of its border in the east, the consequences are clear.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121722-kuchma-russia-interested-to-bring-situation-in-donbas-to-frozen-conflict.html>

### **Nuland: Sanctions against Russia to remain until Ukraine gets Crimea back, 12.09.2015**

"The sanctions will take effect until the Minsk agreements are fully implemented. When the Minsk accords are fully implemented, including the return of the Ukrainian sovereignty over the state border, then we can start to weaken some sanctions. But if the Minsk agreements continue to be violated, it will lead to the introduction of more sanctions, and we will urge our European partners to do the same," Nuland said.

At the same time, she said that the sanctions against Crimea would remain in force as long as Ukraine did not restore its sovereignty over the peninsula.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1121727-nuland-sanctions-against-russia-to-remain-until-ukraine-gets-crimea-back.html>

### **Valeriy Gerasimov, Chief of General Staff of the Russian Federation, reported on military operations in Ukraine to Kremlin – Matios, 12.09.2015**

"For the first time we got irrefutable evidences of Chief of the General Staff of the Russian Federation Army Valeriy Gerasimov's report on the implementation of the military operation in the Crimea and further military actions in the Donbas. This is definitely his voice," Matios said. According to Matios, this proof indisputably testifies the presence of the Russian soldiers in Ukraine. Earlier Matios said that all war crimes of the Russian Armed Forces in the Donbas will be combined into a single criminal proceeding.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351760/valeriy\\_gerasimov\\_chief\\_of\\_general\\_staff\\_of\\_the\\_russian\\_federation\\_reported\\_on\\_military\\_operations\\_in](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351760/valeriy_gerasimov_chief_of_general_staff_of_the_russian_federation_reported_on_military_operations_in)

### **'Normandy Quartet' leaders hope for consolidation of ceasefire in Donbas, 12.09.2015**

Foreign ministers of the 'Normandy Quartet' countries: France, Germany, Russia and Ukraine, expressed hope for an early signing of the agreement on withdrawal of arms with a caliber of less than 100mm from the line of contact in eastern Ukraine, after their meeting in Berlin on September 12, Ukrainian online newspaper Europeiska Pravda reported with reference to a statement of the German Foreign Ministry published on its website.

<https://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/unian-normandy-quartet-leaders-hope-for-consolidation-of-ceasefire-in-donbas-397797.html>

### **Germany's Merkel sees need to cooperate with Russia on Syria, 12.09.2015**

Germany and other western European powers need to work with Russia as well as the United States to solve the crisis in Syria, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Saturday. Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier met with his Russian, French and Ukrainian counterparts in Berlin on Saturday evening and said afterwards he saw growing support for creating an international contact group to solve the Syrian conflict.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/2015/09/12/uk-mideast-crisis-syria-germany-idUKKCN0RC0LO20150912>

### **Putin comments on appeal to annex DPR and LPR, 13.09.2015**

Russian President Vladimir Putin has commented on the proposal to include the self-proclaimed DPR and LPR militant organizations in Russia.

"We are with Donbas with heart and soul, but, unfortunately, such issues are not solved in the street. This is a serious issue that concerns the fate of the whole Russia and the people who live in Donbas," Putin said, commenting on the request of one of the travelers in Yalta. A man asked the Russian president to include Donbas in Russia, while Putin and former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi were walking along the city's waterfront.

<http://ukrainianlaw.blogspot.com/2015/09/putin-comments-on-appeal-to-annex-dpr.html>

### **Poltorak says truce in Donbas used to perform preparation of force, 13.09.2015**

The Defense Minister said that the truce in the conflict zone is observed, with only sporadic shelling and small arms fire being reported. "Since recently, the situation in the Anti-Terrorist Operation zone has been stable. There is a few shelling cases reported, for example, yesterday there were three, two days ago there was no shelling at all. The ceasefire along the front line and as a whole is being observed," Poltorak said.

"It enables us to prepare better both our personnel and equipment. Of course, it is very difficult to predict further actions of terrorist groups. We are using this time to provide support [to our army], prepare for winter, as well as to prepare personnel," Poltorak said. "It is necessary to prepare the army to make it strong and able to defend our borders," he stressed.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1122028-truce-in-donbas-used-to-perform-preparation-of-forces-poltorak.html>

### **Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko: We're inching towards peace with Russia, 13.09.2015**

Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko, who says he has worked "every day and night" of those 15 months, is not ready to dream just yet. "This is not the end of the war, but instead a change in tactics," he told The Independent in a rare interview. "We know where the Russians and their proxies are still hiding their weapons, their tanks and their artillery – for now the order has been given to cease fire, but for how long?". Though the ceasefire has held for two weeks, other conditions of February's Minsk agreement have not yet been met. Meanwhile, Ukraine says it has drawn up its own "red lines" in collaboration with its Western partners. Among them is full and immediate access to rebel-held areas for international monitors, Mr. Poroshenko said.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraines-president-petro-poroshenko-were-inching-towards-peace-10499180.html?origin=internalSearch>

### **Pentagon: Russians apparently setting up air base in Syria, 14.09.2015**

A Pentagon spokesman, Navy Capt. Jeff Davis, said the U.S. is closely monitoring the buildup, but he declined to reveal specifics about the Russian military personnel and equipment being flown to the base in Syria's coastal province of Latakia.



"We have seen indications in recent days that Russia has moved people and things into the area around Latakia and the air base there that suggests that it intends to establish some sort of a forward air operating base," Davis said.

He declined to provide an estimate of the number of Russian troops there or say what kinds of military equipment have arrived. He said the U.S. has concerns about ensuring that any Russian military air operations not come into conflict with U.S. and coalition airstrikes that are being conducted in other parts of Syria against Islamic State targets.

"We have said before that we would welcome Russian contributions to the overall global effort against (the Islamic State group), but that things that continue to support the Assad regime — particularly military things — are unhelpful and risk adding greater instability to an already unstable situation," Davis said.

<http://bigstory.ap.org/article/12c516dbb31740dba9038f2cdcdefcc41/pentagon-russians-apparently-setting-air-base-syria>

### **Ukraine is moving towards peace with Russia: Poroshenko, 14.09.2015**

Ukrainian defense ministry reportedly started the process of demobilization in September upon Poroshenko's order. Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko said his country was moving towards peace with Russia. According to Poroshenko, he had been working "day and night" in the last 15 months since Ukraine clashed with Russia.

While he does not want to dream about peace yet, he said there was "a change in tactics."

"We know where the Russians and their proxies are still hiding their weapons, their tanks and their artillery – for now the order has been given to cease fire, but for how long?" the Ukrainian president told The Independent. "This is not the end of the war, but instead a change in tactics."

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/international-business-times-ukraine-is-moving-towards-peace-with-russia-poroshenko-492988.html>

### **Ending Syria war key to migrant crisis, says US general, 14.09.2015**

Gen John Allen, special presidential envoy for the US-led coalition fighting the Islamic State (IS) group, said IS had to be defeated and Syrian President Bashar al-Assad "had to go". He said it was "heart-wrenching" to see people fleeing the region. But he added that the coalition was in a stronger place than a year ago. He also praised Iraq's Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi as "a real partner". Europe is struggling to deal with an enormous influx of refugees and migrants, mostly from Syria but also from Iraq and other countries, fleeing violence and poverty. "The millions who are fleeing their homes, that's not just about Daesh," said Gen Allen, using an Arabic name for IS. "It's also about the conditions in the region, the horrendous conditions that are a direct result of Bashar al-Assad and several years of the civil war."

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-34240707>

### **Ukraine implements IMF program for the first time, 14.09.2015**

The President said this in the interview with Ukrainian TV channels, an Ukrinform correspondent reported. "For the first time in the history of cooperation with the IMF Ukraine fulfills the reform program that was agreed before. And it was said not by me or the government, it was said by the world's best experts, who verified the level of implementation of reform program by Ukraine," he said.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine\\_implements\\_imf\\_program\\_for\\_the\\_first\\_time\\_334323](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/ukraine_implements_imf_program_for_the_first_time_334323)

### **Senator McCain refuses to go to 'imaginary' country, 15.09.2015**

Leader of the so-called 'Luhansk People's Republic' Igor Plotnitski invited American Senator John McCain to observe local elections. McCain has published an official refusal from the trip on his website. "While I do not typically monitor the elections of imaginary countries, I am grateful for this unique invitation. If the so-called 'Luhansk People's Republic' is interested in democratic elections, I suggest its adherents put down their weapons and participate in the next round of elections in a free and united Ukraine," RBK quotes McCain.

<http://euroradio.fm/en/senator-mccain-refuses-go-imaginary-country>

[http://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-politics/1884667-mccain\\_rejects\\_observe\\_elections\\_in\\_imaginary\\_lpr\\_334357.html](http://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-politics/1884667-mccain_rejects_observe_elections_in_imaginary_lpr_334357.html)

### **'Russia is violating fundamentals of peace and security in Europe' - Carl Bildt, 15.09.2015**

Former Swedish foreign minister gives an exclusive interview to Ukraine Today: - I think quite a lot was done as a matter of fact. I mean, if you look the international reaction at that time it was very strong including the General Assembly of the United Nations because what happened to Crimea was such a flagrant violation of international law. The when operation moved on to Donbas, Russians muddled the water somewhat, but the Crimea started with the green men and they didn't really want to say what they were. But with the March 18 speech and the annexation, the violation of international law was so clear cut that there was a strong reaction.

<http://uatoday.tv/opinion/russia-is-violating-fundamentals-of-peace-and-security-in-europe-carl-bildt-493468.html>

### **Estonian President: Europe forgets about Ukraine amid migration crisis, 15.09.2015**

A large part of Europe has forgotten about Ukraine, because Europe is facing a new crisis," said Ilves, adding that a year ago, one of the main concerns of Estonia was the situation around Crimea, Malaysian Boeing, as well as fighting in Donbas.

The former Estonian president is concerned about the situation and called for the unity of Europe and NATO against the Russian aggression and the problem of the influx of migrants. According to Ilves, the current influx of illegal migrants can be compared with migration of peoples, which occurred last time "a thousand or one and a half thousand years ago." "We've been warned about this over the years and today, I'm afraid, it happened," he said. Toomas Hendrik Ilves comes from a family that fled from the Red Army in Sweden in 1944. He said that until recently he could not realize the trauma, which he might have sustained when escaping from his homeland and setting on a trip in a small boat across the sea. Now, when the whole Europe is under pressure, Estonia should not expect that it will be able to wait on the sidelines. Estonia should see the whole European perspective, provide assistance and support. "It's a matter of our common inner culture," the president said.

<http://www.unian.info/world/1123704-estonian-president-europe-forgets-about-ukraine-amid-migration-crisis.html>

### **Kremlin waits for 'signal' to meet with U.S. President Obama, 15.09.2015**

The Kremlin has not received a request from the White House for a meeting between Russian President Vladimir Putin and U.S. President Barack Obama. It was stated by the spokesman for the Kremlin, Dmitry Peskov. Peskov says that at the moment it is impossible to talk about the format of the meeting because of the lack of "any agreements and signals." But Putin is waiting for these "signals" very much and is hoping that they will be sent sooner or later. He notes that in the future Moscow does not rule out a bilateral dialogue. Even without a share of irony the Kremlin said that "a dialogue is an essential tool clarify each other's positions in general and to find the consensus and understanding."

[http://joinfo.com/world/1008596\\_kremlin-waits-for-signal-to-meet-with-obama.html](http://joinfo.com/world/1008596_kremlin-waits-for-signal-to-meet-with-obama.html)

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/putin-open-to-meeting-obama-at-un-headquarters/>

<http://sputniknews.com/politics/20150820/1025946540.html>

### **U.S. Envoy Tells Russia's Neighbors: Having Putin As Your Only Friend Not A Good Idea, 15.09.2015**

The U.S. ambassador to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) says there is a very important lesson for former Soviet republics to have learned from the devastating conflict in eastern Ukraine: Don't be too reliant on Russia. "Having [Russian] President [Vladimir] Putin as your only friend is a terrible position to be in," Daniel Baer told in an interview in Prague. "I think Moscow has proved time and again that it likes to use and manipulate political forces to its own end and has very little regard for what people actually experience," Baer said. "It doesn't care about the way citizens experience their government -- it likes to manipulate governments to meet its own objectives." Baer suggested that Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's release last month of opposition leader and former presidential candidate Mikalay Statkevich and five other activists was motivated by a desire to improve relations with the European Union and not have Moscow as its only, or best, friend.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/russia-neighbors-if-putin-only-friend-bad-idea/27249954.html>

### **Chubarov announces date of blockade of border with Crimea, 16.09.2015**

According to Chubarov, at 12:00 on September 20, all roads leading to Crimea will be blocked in order to prevent transportation of goods to the occupied territory. However, the protesters will allow people and cars to enter Crimea, he said. "Our campaign will be of long-term nature," Chubarov said. He also noted the need to abolish the law on free economic zone with Crimea. Chubarov has called on everyone to join this campaign and said that its headquarters would be located at the Chongar checkpoint. According to him, the decision was made in protest against systematic repressions against the inhabitants of Crimea by the occupation authorities and against the "unsuccessful actions of the Ukrainian government, which causes problems with movement."

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65575/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65575/view/)

### **Barroso: West should have firm position to never accept annexation of Crimea, 16.09.2015**

"I don't think a solution is a military overall confrontation with Russia. It will make worse, namely for Ukraine. So, what we have to do is a firm position to never accept the annexation of Crimea. At the same time negotiate now, urgently, to the implementation of Minsk agreement. I think it can be done. And afterwards, Ukraine showed it can be a viable, functional, democratic, stable country," Barroso said. "Because indeed, the idea of some people in the Kremlin is to show that Ukraine's a failed state. That's what some of them expect. And my advice to my Ukrainian friends is let's focus on what you can achieve now, also with the support, including Europe. Europe can and should do more, Americans as well. Let's support it," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1125175-barroso-west-should-have-firm-position-to-never-accept-annexation-of-crimea.html>

### **Poroshenko urges to extend and broaden sanctions for irresponsible decision to hold illegal elections in Donbas, 16.09.2015**

"Minsk process, which was launched on Sept. 5 last year, was greatly affected by fake elections of Nov. 2 last year, and I want to stress the great danger posed by the decision to hold fake elections on Oct. 18 and Nov. 1," Petro Poroshenko said at the meeting with members of the Political and Security Committee of the EU. "This adventurous and irresponsible decision requires our clear and coordinated response to the threat to the Minsk agreements in the form of continuation and expansion of sanctions, organization of decisive strides that will allow us to strengthen the defense of not only Ukraine but the whole European Union, because now there is a war not only for sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, but also for freedom, democracy and European values," the head of state emphasized. The president informed on the NSDC decision of Sept. 2 to broaden the list of entities and individuals of Russia and other countries, against which Ukraine imposes economic sanctions and restrictive measures.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352212/poroshenko\\_urges\\_to\\_extend\\_and\\_broaden\\_sanctions\\_for\\_irresponsible\\_decision\\_to\\_hold\\_illegal\\_elections](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352212/poroshenko_urges_to_extend_and_broaden_sanctions_for_irresponsible_decision_to_hold_illegal_elections)  
[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352231/poroshenko\\_sanctions\\_imposed\\_against\\_more\\_than\\_400\\_individuals\\_and\\_90\\_entities](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352231/poroshenko_sanctions_imposed_against_more_than_400_individuals_and_90_entities)

### **Russia proposed US to carry out military talks on Syria, Kerry says, 16.09.2015**

Kerry said he was talking to the White House and Pentagon about the proposal following three phone calls with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov in recent days. Kerry was not specific about what the talks would involve, although he suggested they would be about ensuring that U.S. and Russian aircraft do not come into conflict with each other in Syria. The United States is leading a coalition of countries fighting Islamic State in Syria, and Russia has claimed its recent military build-up in Syria was focused on countering the same threat.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352248/russia\\_proposed\\_us\\_to\\_carry\\_out\\_military\\_talks\\_on\\_syria\\_kerry\\_says](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352248/russia_proposed_us_to_carry_out_military_talks_on_syria_kerry_says)

### **73 countries support stripping Russia of its right to veto in UN SC, Ukraine's representative to UN says, 16.09.2015**

Permanent representative of Ukraine to the UN Yurii Serhieiev wrote: "There are 73 countries in the list at this point," The limitation of the right to impose veto is envisaged for the countries in case if conflicts grow more violent. There were yet 67 countries committed to deprive Russia of the right to put a veto in the UN Security Council in the morning.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352236/73\\_countries\\_support\\_stripping\\_russia\\_of\\_its\\_right\\_to\\_veto\\_in\\_un\\_sc\\_ukraines\\_representative\\_to\\_un\\_says](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352236/73_countries_support_stripping_russia_of_its_right_to_veto_in_un_sc_ukraines_representative_to_un_says)  
<http://www.unian.info/politics/1125085-67-states-ready-to-deprive-russia-of-veto-right-in-un.html>

### **EU not recognizes Russian so-called elections in Crimea – Kocijancic, 16.09.2015**

Spokesperson for EU Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Maja Kocijancic said. "The European Union continues to condemn the illegal annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol by the Russian Federation and will not recognize it. In that context we regret that for a second-year in a row Russia has organized so-called "elections" on the territory of the illegally annexed Crimean Peninsula. The European Union recognizes neither the legal framework nor the legitimacy of these 'elections'," Kocijancic stressed. The Spokesperson also said that the regional and local elections in Russia took place in the general context of progressively shrinking space for civil society in Russia resulting from restrictive legislation and administrative procedures. "We are aware of the reports issued by Russian independent election observers on electoral violations," spokesperson for EU High Representative Federica Mogherini said.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu\\_not\\_recognizes\\_russian\\_so\\_called\\_elections\\_in\\_crimea\\_kocijancic\\_334401](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/eu_not_recognizes_russian_so_called_elections_in_crimea_kocijancic_334401)

### **Russia has not agreed to debt restructuring, but it will get no other conditions, - PM Yatseniuk, 17.09.2015**

The agreement of private creditors for debt restructuring has been approved by the global community, except for Russia. This was announced by Ukraine's Prime Minister Arsenii Yatseniuk during presentation of package of bills on the state debts restructuring. "This agreement is directly supported by our major lender and investor - the IMF. This agreement is supported by the G7 countries. The only country not to support the agreement is the Russian Federation. This is why the Russian Federation is the only of creditors who refused to participate in the creditors' committee and did not agree to conditions accepted by other creditors. Russia demands payment of the whole debt amount. From this tribune, I would like to say that there will be no better conditions for Russia: either take them, or the Russian Federation will not get other conditions," he said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352296/russia\\_has\\_not\\_agreed\\_to\\_debt\\_restructuring\\_but\\_it\\_will\\_get\\_no\\_other\\_conditions\\_pm\\_yatseniuk](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352296/russia_has_not_agreed_to_debt_restructuring_but_it_will_get_no_other_conditions_pm_yatseniuk)  
[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352258/pm\\_yatseniuk\\_putin\\_personally\\_does\\_not\\_want\\_fulfillment\\_of\\_minsk\\_agreements](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352258/pm_yatseniuk_putin_personally_does_not_want_fulfillment_of_minsk_agreements)

### **Terrorists' fake elections "at gunpoint" negate logic of Minsk process, - Rada Speaker Hroisman, 17.09.2015**

This was stated by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Speaker Volodymyr Hroisman. He stresses that the Minsk agreements have been recognized by the global community as the only efficient mechanism for settling the military conflict and securing peace. "These fake elections "at gunpoint" negate the logic of the negotiations which has been reached through the Minsk agreements. They might not only exacerbate the military conflict, which has already taken lives of thousands of people and dishoused millions of Ukrainian families, but also push the Donbas into chaos, humanitarian catastrophe, with peace prospects being even more illusive," Hroisman wrote.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352277/terrorists\\_fake\\_elections\\_at\\_gunpoint\\_negate\\_logic\\_of\\_minsk\\_process\\_rada\\_speaker\\_hroisman](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352277/terrorists_fake_elections_at_gunpoint_negate_logic_of_minsk_process_rada_speaker_hroisman)  
<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/groysman-dpr-elections-threaten-peace-process-in-donbas/>

### **MP Lutsenko: Ukraine is massively challenged by oligarchs, radicals and populists, 17.09.2015**

During his speech at the third stage of the XII extraordinary congress of the political party "Petro Poroshenko Bloc - Solidarity", head of Poroshenko Bloc's faction at the Verkhovna Rada Yurii Lutsenko named four objectives pursued by Poroshenko Bloc in the Parliament, Kyiv's council, and which are to be pursued on a national scale from now on. "We are going through a moment when Ukraine is massively challenged by oligarchs, radicals and populists. Maybe the sheep in their ranks think they are fighting for popularity and reputation. But the shepherds know exactly that they want to overthrow the Verkhovna Rada, and this means overthrowing the Ukrainian state. This is the fourth front, to which we must respond.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352275/mp\\_lutsenko\\_ukraine\\_is\\_massively\\_challenged\\_by\\_oligarchs\\_radicals\\_and\\_populists](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352275/mp_lutsenko_ukraine_is_massively_challenged_by_oligarchs_radicals_and_populists)



### **Syria's UN diplomat supports idea of Russian airstrikes, 17.09.2015**

Syria's U.N. ambassador Bashar Ja'afari says Russia should be able to carry out airstrikes against the Islamic State group in his country. It "doesn't make sense" that the United States can fight ISIS with its fighter jets while Russia "should be forbidden." The ambassador adds, "After all, we are fighting the same enemy." His comments come amid U.S. alarm over Russia's recent military buildup in Syria.

<http://www.militarytimes.com/story/military/2015/09/16/syrias-un-diplomat-supports-idea-russian-airstrikes/32503653/>

### **In eastern Ukraine, most Western aid agencies have been blocked, 18.09.2015**

Nearly all Western humanitarian organizations have been blocked from operating in separatist-controlled parts of eastern Ukraine for close to two months, and they fear that unless the situation is reversed, civilians could lose access to critical assistance when winter sets in. The freeze in assistance and medical care is due in part to new "accreditation" procedures that went into effect for Western aid groups toward the end of July. "No international humanitarian organization is allowed to provide humanitarian assistance in eastern Ukraine at the moment," said Tomas Kocian, the country director of the Czech organization People in Need. The measures were imposed by the two self-declared and Russian-backed republics in eastern Ukraine—the Donetsk People's Republic and the Lugansk People's Republic, according to a Web page maintained by the DPR. According to the site, Western agencies have to provide detailed information about their offices, employee rosters and medical supplies to gain permission to distribute aid in the region.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/in-eastern-ukraine-most-western-aid-agencies-have-been-blocked/2015/09/17/fcfc6c1a-5cb4-11e5-8e9e-dce8a2a2a679\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/in-eastern-ukraine-most-western-aid-agencies-have-been-blocked/2015/09/17/fcfc6c1a-5cb4-11e5-8e9e-dce8a2a2a679_story.html)

### **Moscow sends troops to Syria without consent, 18.09.2015**

Some Russian military contractors are not willing to be deployed to another hotspot, this time in the Middle East, from Novorossiysk military port. "We don't want to go to Syria, we don't want to die there," said one of the lieutenants from a military unit of Russia's Eastern military district command. "From the beginning, there were a lot of strange things and innuendo around this trip, and the situation began to reveal here, in Novorossiysk," he said. Since August 17, the commanders of one of the military units in the Eastern military district command gathered the "most promising", in their opinion, officers and contracted soldiers into a consolidated company of 20 troops. A major was ordered to be in command of the company. On August 27, they had to be deployed near Novorossiysk with the aim of "unloading equipment" at the Tonnelna railway station and then go back to their base.

<http://www.unian.info/world/1127341-moscow-sends-troops-to-syria-without-consent-media.html>

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-09-18/putin-tightens-reins-on-ukraine-rebels-putting-conflict-on-ice>

### **Is USA on brink of alliance with Russia to defeat ISIS? John Kerry hints at Putin talks, 19.09.2015**

The US Secretary of State said American and Russian defence secretaries had held extensive talks by telephone on defeating ISIS. Speaking after the meeting with the Foreign Secretary, Mr Kerry, said: "Would we welcome Russian help in going against Isis? Obviously. We have talked about it for some period of time." He added: "But the other part of the equation is Assad and how you resolve the fact that he is a magnate for foreign fighters to come to the region." Mr Hammond said the crisis in Syria is becoming "more complicated" by Russian involvement in tackling Islamic State and the possibility of British military action in Syria had been made difficult by Russian involvement. He indicated there were reservations about any Russian involvement with them being a key ally of Bashar Assad's regime. Mr Hammond said the Government had been clear that if it believed airstrikes in Syria were necessary it would go back to parliament.

<http://www.express.co.uk/news/world/606417/USA-work-with-Russia-defeat-ISIS-John-Kerry-Putin-talks>

### **U.S. says Ukraine made substantial progress in fighting corruption, 20.09.2015**

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden said that President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko and Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk have made important progress in the fight against corruption. Such statement was released by a spokesperson for Mr. Biden, Stephen Spector.

<http://ukrainianlaw.blogspot.com/2015/09/us-says-ukraine-made-substantial.html>

### **AVAKOV: «SVOBODA» WORKS FOR KREMLIN, 21.09.2015**

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov accused «Svoboda» party in the work for Kremlin. He made this statement during a briefing in Cherkassy. Previously, «Svoboda» sued Avakov of defamation in connection with allegations of involvement in the events near the Verkhovna Rada on August 31. In particular, the leader of the «Svoboda» Oleg Tyagnibok accused Avakov in the absence of a «European practice of investigation». Avakov accuses «Svoboda» and Tyagnibok in the bloody events near the Parliament building. According to him, there are photos and videos that Tyagnibok was standing near the place where were beaten the Nationalist Guard soldiers.

<http://news-front.info/2015/09/21/avakov-svoboda-works-for-kremlin/>

### **Poroshenko names condition for elections in Donetsk, Luhansk, 21.09.2015**

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko said that elections in the Donetsk and Luhansk will only be held when Russia withdraws its troops, according to correspondent reporting from the joint press conference of Petro Poroshenko and NATO chief Jens Stoltenberg in Lviv after they opened Ukraine-2015 joint disaster response exercises within the framework of Partnership for Peace. "The representative of the OSCE ODIHR was present [at the Meeting of the TLG], he expressed his clear position that coincides with the Ukrainian position. We want the elections in the Donetsk and Luhansk be very well prepared, as well as all conditions for the Ukrainian mass media, and the activities of the Ukrainian parties, and also the activities of Ukrainian election commissions; [we want] the gunmen removed from the streets, because elections cannot be held at gunpoint, the elections should be transparent."

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1130112-poroshenko-names-condition-for-elections-in-donetsk-luhansk.html>

### **NATO launches five trust funds for € 5.4 million for the Ukrainian army, 21.09.2015**

According to the press service of the Ministry of Interior, NATO and Ukraine have signed an agreement about launching of trust funds. "From the Ukrainian side, implementation agreements were signed by Yehor Bozhko, acting Head of the Ukrainian Mission of to NATO, from the Alliance - Michael Layden, general manager of NATO Support and Procurement Agency. With this agreement, creating of the legal framework for practical projects in support of Ukraine, sponsored by NATO's trust funds, is completed. These agreements relate to the implementation of the two trust funds: 1) physical rehabilitation and prostheses for injured soldiers and 2) to reform the logistic and standardization systems of the Armed Forces of Ukraine", - as announced in the statement.

<http://112.international/ukraine-and-eu/nato-launches-five-trust-funds-for--54-million-for-the-ukrainian-army-868.html>

### **Kerry Calls On Russia, Iran To Help End Syria Conflict, 23.09.2015**

Kerry said in Washington on September 22 that the United States is ready to engage in a dialogue to promote a peace agreement that would see Syrian President Bashar al-Assad removed from power. The U.S. top diplomat also said it is believed that "the level and type" of aircraft Russia has deployed in Syria is, "for the moment," consistent with protecting their own forces at an air base near the Syrian coastal city of Latakia.

He added, however, that Moscow's ultimate aim in Syria is not yet clear. The United States has been concerned over Russia's military buildup in Syria, suspecting that the intention is to support Assad's government. Moscow says its aim is to help Syria, a longtime ally, fight the Islamic State extremist group.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/kerry-calls-russia-iran-help-end-syria-conflict/27263828.html>

### **Energy blockade of Crimea to start in October- Chubarov, 23.09.2015**

Termination of electricity supply to the annexed Crimea could be the next step in the blockade of the peninsula, the leader of the Majlis of the Crimean Tatar people Refat Chubarov claimed. "We do not exclude that in the second stage of the protest action the cessation of the electricity supply is to be primal, but I always say that I think it will be in October. At the checkpoint "Kalanchak" and "Chaplinka" long queues of trucks persist, although yesterday, about 40 trucks of the two queues turned around and went to other cities in mainland area of Ukraine. We talk over the drivers, although they understand the reasons for this public blockade of the Crimea, still they have employers and now they expect of them the command words," Chubarov said.

<http://112.international/ukraine-top-news/energy-blockade-of-crimea-to-start-in-october-chubarov-884.html>

### **Turchynov: Ukrainian state must prepare for the worst-case scenario, 23.09.2015**

As the war in Ukraine is entering a new stage, Ukraine is still "holding the line between Putin and Europe," according to Turchynov's article "Ukraine's security challenges and the crisis of global order" published by the American Interest. He adds that "in doing so Ukraine has demonstrated that it can be an actor on the world stage." However, Turchynov stresses the need to "clearly comprehend the the scope of the events and understand the place and role of our struggle in the global context" as the war in eastern Ukraine "is a symptom of the crisis of the global system of international security and increasing destabilization of world order." Various regional conflicts, if intensified, can "bring the world to the brink of a worldwide armed conflict that could translate into a full-scale war involving the use of nuclear weapons as well as other weapons of mass destruction, or a welter of smaller conflicts of varying intensity," resulting in "global disorder," says Turchynov.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1132269-turchynov-ukrainian-state-must-prepare-for-the-worst-case-scenario.html>

### **Yatsenyuk wants new laws for launch of land market, 23.09.2015**

Yatsenyuk stressed that in addition to forming a new legislation base, it is necessary to carry out an inventory of land, and hold negotiations with investors and the public to determine the most pressing and sensitive issues of land relations. "There should be the package of laws and the formation of a real basis for full-fledged land market relations – and only then we'll launch the market. There is no alternative," Yatsenyuk said. He also added he supported an experiment when state-owned land is sold through auctions. "Prior to lifting the moratorium [on the sale of land] we need to settle some issues. Firstly, it is the inventory of land. The second problem is limitations on land owned by one entity – be it directly or indirectly. There should be no new oligarchs on the land market. Thirdly, rights to own land at this stage – and this is my political position – should belong to the citizens of Ukraine. The fourth issue is how the land buyback procedure should work. The value of land should be determined, and the state, acting through a government agency, should be ready to buy the land back and sell it to another owner. This means, there would be a state agent on the land market.

<http://uknews.today/yatsenyuk-wants-new-laws-for-launch-of-land-market/>

### **Ukraine crisis: Vladimir Putin 'told Kiev he may accept peacekeeping force in eastern region', 25.09.2015**

Russia's President, Vladimir Putin, has said he may agree to the deployment of international peacekeepers in eastern Ukraine, the Foreign Minister in Kiev, Pavlo Klimkin, has told. Mr Putin, who is said to have made the remarks during informal talks at peace negotiations in Minsk earlier this year, has shown no public sign of accepting such a move. But as Ukraine prepares to push its own peacekeeper proposals at the United Nations General Assembly in New York this week, diplomats are scrutinising Moscow carefully for its reaction. "We need a stabilising force, a neutral arbiter on the ground," Mr Klimkin said. Such peacekeepers could take the form of "either UN troops, or a hybrid force made up with EU law enforcers", he added.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraine-crisis-vladimir-putin-told-kiev-he-may-accept-peacekeeping-force-in-eastern-region-10517236.html>

### **Italy's Berlusconi says Crimea split from Ukraine was democratic, 27.09.2015**

Four-time Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said the Crimean people had made a democratic choice to split from Ukraine and hailed Russian President Vladimir Putin as the world's greatest political leader. Earlier this month, Berlusconi became the most prominent Western politician to visit the annexed Black Sea peninsula.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/27/us-ukraine-crisis-berlusconi-idUSKCN0RR0MW20150927?feedType=RSS&feedName=worldNews>

### **Poroshenko says Ukraine will suggest United Nations reform at United Nations General Assembly, 27.09.2015**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko says Ukraine will make decisive steps to defend its sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and will propose changes aimed to restore the historical mission of the United Nations Security Council as a mechanism to protect global security, according to the presidential administration.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/unian-poroshenko-says-ukraine-will-suggest-united-nations-reform-at-united-nations-general-assembly-398769.html>

### **Putin: US complicit in ousting Yanukovich, 28.09.2015**

Russian President Vladimir Putin claimed that the United States "supported" those who ousted former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich. "Our partners in the United States are not trying to hide the fact that they supported those opposed to President Yanukovich", he said. "I know those people who live in Ukraine. We have thousands of contacts with them. We know who and where, when, who exactly met with someone and worked with those who ousted Yanukovich, how they were supported, how much they were paid, how they were trained, where, in which countries, and who those instructors were. We know everything," Putin said.

[http://en.apa.az/xeber\\_putin\\_us\\_complicit\\_in\\_ousting\\_yanukovyc\\_232605.html](http://en.apa.az/xeber_putin_us_complicit_in_ousting_yanukovyc_232605.html)

### **President enlisted support of the leading EU countries at the meetings in the framework of the UN General Assembly, 28.09.2015**

President Petro Poroshenko informed that today's negotiations in bilateral format with UK Prime Minister David Cameron and Federal Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel, as well as short meeting with President of France Francois Hollande had been dedicated to the discussion of security situation and coordination of actions. "We enlisted clear support for Ukraine," the Head of State said. We were assured that the issue of Syria cannot be mixed with the issue of Ukraine, as stated by the President. "Requirements on de-escalation of the conflict, withdrawal of Russian troops from the occupied territories of Donbas and liberation of Crimea have been raised at every meeting," Petro Poroshenko informed.

<http://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/prezident-pid-chas-zustrichej-v-ramkah-genasambleyi-oon-z-li-36038>

### **'I call on Russia to withdraw all their forces from eastern Ukraine' - NATO chief, 28.09.2015**

Jens Stoltenberg talks on Ukraine, Russia and Syria. I'd be very careful about speculating on any links between Ukraine and the Russian presence in Syria. What we know is that Russia still has substantial forces, both along the border to Ukraine and also inside Ukraine. Russia still has forces, equipment, command and control and they help and they train the separatists. So there is still a substantial Russian military presence, both close to the borders of Ukraine and also inside Ukraine.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/i-call-on-russia-to-withdraw-all-their-forces-from-eastern-ukraine-nato-chief-502087.html>

### **Putin speaks at UN about Ukraine's integrity, 28.09.2015**

"Threats and weapons will not ensure Ukraine's integrity. But it needs to be done. There is a need for genuine respect for the interests and rights of people in Donbas, respect for their choice, for [securing] agreement with them, as sealed in the Minsk accords, the key elements of political order in the state," . Putin stressed that the Minsk agreements are the main precondition for resolving the Ukrainian crisis.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1136707-putin-speaks-at-un-about-ukraines-integrity.html>

<http://mashable.com/2015/09/28/putin-blasts-us-united-nations/#6SxalPFof8qz>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1136769-putin-announces-donbas-ceasefire-small-caliber-weapons-need-to-be-withdrawn.html>

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/824261>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1137294-putin-says-fourth-presidential-term-possible.html>



### **Ukrainian commander-in-chief lifts the lid on the conflicts fragile ceasefire, 29.09.2015**

Colonel-General Viktor Muzhenko tells Oliver Carroll about Russian mobilisation and manoeuvres in the separatist enclaves – and wonders how long it will be before shots are fired in anger once more. Like many of Ukraine's top military officers, commander-in-chief Colonel-General Viktor Muzhenko has a long association with Russia. He spent his formative years as a young cadet in Leningrad, the present-day St Petersburg; many friends and family remain on that side of the border. Yet the past 15 bloody, fraught months at the helm of the Ukrainian armed forces have left him altogether apprehensive about the intentions of once fellow compatriots. Ukraine's top commander says he holds little hope that key conditions of the Western-brokered Minsk peace accord – aimed at stopping the conflict between government forces and the Russian-backed separatists – will be fulfilled. "I don't believe Russians will withdraw their troops, hand over control of the border, or allow free elections in Donbass, no, absolutely not," he said. "I can only assess what is happening at the moment and there is currently little evidence of movement on any of these fronts."

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraine-crisis-ukrainian-commander-in-chief-lifts-the-lid-on-the-conflicts-fragile-ceasefire-a6672621.html>  
<http://www.unian.info/war/1138276-ato-muzhenko-believes-ceasefire-fragile.html>

### **Poroshenko: Ukraine needs help in its fight against treacherous Russian aggression, 29.09.2015**

"Should Ukraine gain a seat in the Security Council for the term of 2016-2017 at the elections to be held in just a few weeks, the issue of consolidation of UN peacekeeping will be among our key priorities," Petro Poroshenko said. The President also pointed to a need to strengthen cooperation of the UN Security Council with troop- and police-contributing states, as well as to ensuring security of "blue helmets." "Ukraine has well deserved its reputation as a "peacekeeping nation." Since its independence, more than 34,000 Ukrainian "blue helmets" have participated in over 20 operations under UN auspices, bringing peace and security to war-torn regions. The courage of Ukrainian helicopter pilots in the UN Operations in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia has become legendary," the President said noting that Ukraine and its servicemen continue supporting UN peacekeeping operations in the world.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1137043-poroshenko-ukraine-needs-help-in-its-fight-against-treacherous-russian-aggression.html>  
<http://www.president.gov.ua/en/news/vistup-prezidenta-ukrayini-na-samiti-z-pitan-mirotvorchosti-36047>

### **Russia closes airspace to Ukrainian aircraft effective Oct. 25, 29.09.2015**

According to the statement, pursuant to the order of the Prime Minister of Russia Dmitry Medvedev, Russia's Transport Ministry has instructed the Federal Air Transport Agency to notify Ukrainian airlines performing or planning to perform flights to Russian destinations of closing Russian airspace effective Oct. 25. The ministry noted that "the measure is intended to be a reprisal to the notification by the State Aviation Service of Ukraine which unilaterally, in violation of existing rules and regulations on air traffic, notified a number of Russian air carriers on Sept. 28 that from the start of the winter navigation, namely Oct. 25, it bans air flights from Russia to Ukraine."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/353919/russia\\_closes\\_airspace\\_to\\_ukrainian\\_aircraft\\_effective\\_oct\\_25](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/353919/russia_closes_airspace_to_ukrainian_aircraft_effective_oct_25)  
<https://www.rt.com/business/316865-russia-ukraine-flight-ban-medvedev/>

### **Contact Group formalizes withdrawal of small-caliber weapons in Donbas, 29.09.2015**

"The document was signed by [OSCE Special Representative in Ukraine] Martin Sajdik, Leonid Kuchma and [Russia's representative] Azamat Kulmukhametov," she wrote on Facebook on Tuesday evening. An initiative announced by Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko in continuation of the Minsk accords of September 5, 2014 and February 12, 2015, has thus become reality, she wrote. "The Trilateral Contact Group is waiting for this document to be signed by [leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic] Alexander Zakharchenko and [leader of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic] Igor Plotnitsky," she wrote. In her words, Ukraine also demands that militant-held districts in Donetsk and Luhansk regions should immediately and strictly abide by these agreements as an integral part of the Minsk accords.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1137982-contact-group-formalizes-withdrawal-of-small-caliber-weapons-in-donbas.html>

### **John Kerry: Russia's involvement in Syria could be 'opportunity' for U.S., 30.09.2015**

Secretary of State John Kerry on Tuesday called Russian President Vladimir Putin's involvement in Syria a possible "opportunity" for the United States.

Kerry predicted, in an interview with CNN's Elise Labott, that Russia's presence in Syria means Moscow could find itself in a "complicated" situation that could affect its policy toward the war-torn country and its leader, President Bashar al-Assad. "If he's going to side with Assad and with Iran and Hezbollah, he's going to have a very serious problem with the Sunni countries in the region," Kerry said of Putin. "That means he ... could very well become a target for those Sunni jihadists." Kerry explained: "It's an opportunity for us to force this question of how you actually resolve the question of Syria. And the bottom line is, you cannot resolve it without including the Sunni(s) in a political solution, a political agreement ultimately, and that will mean that you're going to have to have some kind of transition, some kind of timing. Because as long as Assad is there, you simply can't make peace. Period."

<http://edition.cnn.com/2015/09/29/politics/john-kerry-putin-assad-syria/index.html?eref=edition>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1138669-kerry-thinks-ukrainian-crisis-can-soon-be-resolved.html>

### **U.S. to allocate \$20 mln for Ukraine Army training, nonlethal aid, 30.09.2015**

"I hereby delegate <...> the authority to direct the drawdown of up to \$20 million in defense articles and services of the Department of Defense and military education and training to provide assistance for the Government of Ukraine," reads the Memorandum.

Up to \$1.5 million in nonlethal commodities and services from any agency of the United States Government are also to be drawn, according to the signed document.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1138141-us-to-allocate-20-mln-for-ukraine-army-training-nonlethal-aid.html>

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/09/29/presidential-memorandum-delegation-authority-under-sections-506a1-and>

### **Kremlin: Only Russia to take part in operation against Islamic State on legal grounds, 30.09.2015**

"As a matter of fact Russia will be the sole country that will be carrying out that operation on the legitimate basis at the request of Syria's legitimate authorities," Peskov said. The two proper reasons for such operations and strikes are either are resolution by the UN Security Council or the request of the country's legitimate government. Baghdad had addressed such a request to the international coalition earlier.

The chief of the presidential staff, Sergey Ivanov, earlier on Wednesday said Damascus had addressed Russia with such a request. He pointed out that that was the fundamental distinguishing feature of Russia's approach and the approach of its Western partners. "They ignore international law, and we do," he said. Peskov also said that there were no plans for any special message in connection with the president's decision to request permission to use Russian armed forces outside the country. He avoided answering the question when the operation in Syria might begin.

<http://tass.ru/en/politics/824824>

## **Actions of Ukrainian Authorities**

### **Police: Detainees involved in riots near Rada not to be released from custody, 01.09.2015**

"All those responsible and involved in this crime, killing [one] and wounding over than 100 people, will in no case be released, but will be prosecuted," said Tereshchuk.

Asked whether the leader of Svoboda party Oleh Tyahnybok was summoned for interrogation, he said: "All organizers of the crime will be summoned, interrogated and appropriate action will be taken against them if needed. Tyahnybok has not been subpoenaed yet, but he will be."

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117363-police-detainees-involved-in-riots-near-rada-not-to-be-released-from-custody.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117376-constitution-and-bloodshed.html>

<http://www.digitalnewsworld.com/news/sich-battalion-commander-confirms-grenade-thrower-one-of-his-fighters.html>

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/64892/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/64892/view/)

### **Radical Party quits coalition, 01.09.2015**

Such a statement was made by the leader of the Radical Party Oleh Liashko on the sidelines of the Verkhovna Rada. The Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine Valerii Voshchevskyi, representing the "radicals" in the government, also announced his resignation. The reason is yesterday's support of constitutional amendments voted by the coalition in the first reading by the Opposition Bloc.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350063/radical\\_party\\_quits\\_coalition](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350063/radical_party_quits_coalition)

### **Naval Military Drills: NATO and Ukraine kick off Black Sea exercises, 01.09.2015**

Land, naval and air drills will run until September 12

NATO along with partner countries and Ukraine have kicked off multinational naval military exercises in the Black Sea. Some 2,500 servicemen will participate in the land, naval and air drills which will run until September 12. Over 150 pieces of military equipment including warships, helicopters and airplanes will be used in the extensive Sea Breeze-2015 military exercises. Military personnel from Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Moldova and the UK among others are involved in the drills aimed at improving interoperability between Ukrainian forces and those of NATO members.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/naval-military-drills-nato-and-ukraine-kick-off-black-sea-exercises-485227.html>

### **Interior Ministry published subpoenas to question Svoboda leaders, 02.09.2015**

"The subpoenas are to be handed over to the active participants of the events near the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, Aug. 31, 2015," the statement reads. The police have issued eight summons to: Oleh Tiahnybok, Yurii Syrotyuk, Ihor Shvaika, Ihor Kryvoruchko, Serhii Boiko, Ihor Sabii, Volodymyr Nazarenko, Eduard Leonov.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/photo\\_news/350150/interior\\_ministry\\_published\\_subpoenas\\_to\\_question\\_svoboda\\_leaders\\_photos](http://en.censor.net.ua/photo_news/350150/interior_ministry_published_subpoenas_to_question_svoboda_leaders_photos)

### **Poroshenko Bloc: No government reformatting this week, 02.09.2015**

The government reformatting will not happen this week, but Ukrainian Prime Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk is working on this issue, first deputy chairman of the Bloc of Petro Poroshenko faction Ihor Kononenko told journalists.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117875-poroshenko-bloc-no-government-reformatting-this-week.html>

### **National Police created today, 02.09.2015**

"According to the law on police, the Cabinet of Ministers today takes a decision on establishing a central executive body, subordinate to the Ministry of Interior. National Police is officially created today," said Yatsenyuk during a government meeting

Yatsenyuk instructed the Finance Ministry to amend the state budget to provide for proper financing of the National Police. "I am instructing the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine to urgently develop amendments to the law on the state budget for the current year and for 2016. It is about securing funding of law enforcement system, especially of the National Police," said the head of government. He added that the funds are necessary in order for the brand new police to "take to the streets and protect Ukrainian citizens."

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1117951-national-police-created-today.html>

### **18 suspicion notices issued in wake of clashes near Verkhovna Rada, 02.09.2015**

In view of the available evidence, one of the detainees has been notified of suspicion under Article 348 (attempt on the life of a law enforcement officer), and Part 3 of Article 258 (terrorist act) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, providing for a single restraint measure in form of custody. Other detainees are charged under Part 3 of Article 345 (threat of violence against a law enforcement officer), Article 293 (group violation of public order) and Part 2 of Article 294 (rioting) of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350194/18\\_suspicion\\_notices\\_issued\\_in\\_wake\\_of\\_clashes\\_near\\_verkhovna\\_rada](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350194/18_suspicion_notices_issued_in_wake_of_clashes_near_verkhovna_rada)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350272/court\\_remands\\_five\\_participants\\_of\\_turmoil\\_outside\\_rada\\_in\\_custody\\_interior\\_ministers\\_adviser](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350272/court_remands_five_participants_of_turmoil_outside_rada_in_custody_interior_ministers_adviser)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350276/main\\_suspect\\_in\\_attack\\_outside\\_ukrainian\\_parliament\\_humeniuk\\_placed\\_in\\_custody\\_for\\_two\\_months](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350276/main_suspect_in_attack_outside_ukrainian_parliament_humeniuk_placed_in_custody_for_two_months)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350286/suspects\\_in\\_riots\\_near\\_rada\\_accused\\_of\\_creation\\_of\\_criminal\\_organization\\_interior\\_ministers\\_adviser](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350286/suspects_in_riots_near_rada_accused_of_creation_of_criminal_organization_interior_ministers_adviser)

## **Svoboda activist engaged in terrorist act near parliament sent to pretrial custody for 2 months, 02.09.2015**

"Having studied a petition of the prosecution office, as well as evidence provided for justification, the investigating judge found that the prosecutor had proved in the petition the suspicion of committing crime by Gumenyuk," according to the ruling. It is also noted that the investigating judge sees some risk in case of non-applying of the preventive measure in the form of detention to the suspect, in particular the avoidance of investigation and pressure on witnesses. Considering the factual circumstances of the case, the investigating judge did not specify the amount of bail.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1118066-svoboda-activist-engaged-in-terrorist-act-near-parliament-sent-to-pretrial-custody-for-2-months.html>

## **Petition on legalizing possession of firearms gains 25,000 signatures, 04.09.2015**

"It is necessary to supplement Article 27 of the Constitution of Ukraine with Part 4 as follows: "Every citizen of Ukraine has the right to free possession of firearms to protect his life and health, housing and property, life and health of other people, constitutional rights and freedoms in case of usurpation of power, attacks on constitutional order, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine," the petition says. The petition was submitted by Ukrainian Gun Owners Association titled "To legally approve the right of Ukrainian citizens on protection."

<http://www.unian.info/society/1118754-petition-on-legalizing-possession-of-firearms-gains-25000-signatures.html>

## **Trials of Shvaika and Syrotiuk postponed to Monday, another Svoboda member Leonov does not know date of trial, 04.09.2015**

The Pechersk district court in Kyiv scheduled the hearing on remand in custody of ex-Minister of Agrarian Policy, a member of Svoboda party Ihor Shvaika and former MP from this force Yurii Syrotiuk for Monday, Sept. 7. The hearing of Shvaika's case is scheduled for 11 a.m., Syrotiuk's one - for 2 p.m. The prosecutor's office has served Shvaika, Syrotiuk, and Eduard Leonov (another former MP from Svoboda) a notice of suspicion under the Article 294 of the Criminal Code (organization of mass disorders) and requested to sanction their arrest. Leonov does not know the date of his trial yet.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350587/trials\\_of\\_shvaika\\_and\\_syrotiuk\\_postponed\\_to\\_monday\\_another\\_svoboda\\_member\\_leonov\\_does\\_not\\_know\\_date](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350587/trials_of_shvaika_and_syrotiuk_postponed_to_monday_another_svoboda_member_leonov_does_not_know_date)  
[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350523/tiahnybok\\_to\\_be\\_requestioned\\_on\\_sept\\_8](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350523/tiahnybok_to_be_requestioned_on_sept_8)

## **Police identified persons, who handed out explosive devices outside Rada Aug. 31, Interior Minister says, 04.09.2015**

"The attack on a police officer, on National Guard is a crime. No matter whether it was committed by former MP, former minister, current MP or current minister," Arsen Avakov said. He also recalled that the former MPs were served notice of suspicion. "The court will determine today whether to remand these people into custody or not. I believe this is fair. There is no alternative," the head of the ministry said. According to Avakov, it was found that groups of people interested in escalation of the conflict operated among the participants of the rally. "These people have been identified, we are investigating their activity. We are also establishing who have been involved in handing out explosives, blocks, stun grenades," Avakov said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350560/police\\_identified\\_persons\\_who\\_handed\\_out\\_explosive\\_devices\\_outside\\_rada\\_aug\\_31\\_interior\\_minister\\_says](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350560/police_identified_persons_who_handed_out_explosive_devices_outside_rada_aug_31_interior_minister_says)  
[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350559/police\\_served\\_former\\_mp\\_from\\_svoboda\\_party\\_leonov\\_notice\\_of\\_suspicion\\_of\\_organizing\\_turmoil\\_near\\_parliament](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350559/police_served_former_mp_from_svoboda_party_leonov_notice_of_suspicion_of_organizing_turmoil_near_parliament)  
[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350504/shvaika\\_announced\\_suspicion\\_of\\_rioting\\_interior\\_ministry\\_asking\\_for\\_custody](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350504/shvaika_announced_suspicion_of_rioting_interior_ministry_asking_for_custody)

## **Explosion outside Rivne region prosecutor's office determined terrorist attack, - PGO, 04.09.2015**

The explosive device planted by unknown individuals detonated near the building of the prosecutor's office of Rivne region today Sept. 4 at about 1:30 a.m. The Prosecutor General's Office has determined the incident as a terrorist attack. No one was hurt as a result of the crime. Facade elements and windows of the building of the prosecutor's office were damaged. Rivne police investigators have registered the incident in the Unified Register of pre-trial investigations under Part 1 of the Article 258 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (terroristic act).

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350554/explosion\\_outside\\_rivne\\_region\\_prosecutors\\_office\\_determined\\_terrorist\\_attack\\_pgo](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350554/explosion_outside_rivne_region_prosecutors_office_determined_terrorist_attack_pgo)



### **President enacts NSDC decision on protection of Ukraine's national interests in aviation sphere, 05.09.2015**

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko enacted the decision of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) as of July 20, 2015 "On measures aimed to protect the national interests of Ukraine in the aviation sphere."

<http://www.newsreality.com/post/president-enacts-nsdc-decision-on-protection-of-ukraines-national-interests-in-aviation-sphere.html>  
<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/poroshenko-enacts-nsdc-decision-to-protect-ukraines-aviation-interests-397221.html>

### **Today in Ukraine election campaign on local elections starts - to candidates give 50 days for propaganda, 05.09.2015**

In Ukraine officially starts electoral process of the next elections of deputies of local councils and rural, settlement, city heads who will take place on October 25. It is told about it in the official statement of Central Election Commission. The announcement of the beginning of electoral process of the next local elections doesn't concern deputies of regional councils in the city of Kiev. Elections of deputies of regional councils in the city of Kiev are appointed to March 27, 2016. According to the resolution of the CEC, elections of deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, deputies of all local councils and all rural, settlement, mayors in territories ARE the Crimea and the city of Sevastopol won't be held. Besides, determined by the CEC the list of local councils of Donetsk and Lugansk areas in the territory under control to Ukraine where local elections will also not take place on October 25. The impossibility of elections of 91 local council of Donetsk region and 31 local councils of the Luhansk region is established.

<https://news.pn/en/politics/142581>

### **SBU accusing coal supplier to Centrengo in financing terrorists, 05.09.2015**

"The terrorists' organization [DPR] is financed by "person\_2" using a number of businesses registered both in Ukraine and abroad that actually belong to "person\_2" to hide the illegal operations registered to straw parties, including Sodeistvie private enterprise, the founder of which is mother of "person\_2," read the court materials.

According to the state register of companies, the owner of Sodeistvie is Tetiana Avtonomova. On the website of the terrorists' organization DPR, his sum Dmytro Avtonomov is mentioned as head of Donbasugol and Vostokuglemet. SBU said that Sodeistvie, in exchange of financing of DPR, received a permit from top managers of the terrorists' organization to extract coal on the territories that are not under control of Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288211.html>

### **Fiscal service official detained "red-handed" while receiving a bribe, 05.09.2015**

It is reported that the official demanded money from a businessman for non-obstruction in his foreign economic activity. The SBU said that the detainee tried to resist arrest and escape from the scene. The official was also carrying another \$4,800 that was seized by the law enforcement officers, according to the report. Criminal proceedings were opened under Part 3 of Article 368 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine. The investigation is underway.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1119127-fiscal-service-official-detained-red-handed-during-receiving-a-bribe.html>

### **Ukraine opens common aviation area with European Union, 06.09.2015**

President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has approved a resolution of the National Security and Defense Council 'On measures to protect the national interests of Ukraine in the field of aviation' with a corresponding decree on September 4, according to the President's website.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/unian-ukraine-opens-common-aviation-area-with-european-union-397302.html>

### **Tomorrow in Minsk will meet again Tripartite Liaison Group on Ukraine, 06.09.2015**

Tripartite meeting of the contact group to resolve the conflict in Ukraine is expected on July 7 in Minsk. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus receives from journalists interested in covering the meetings of working groups and the contact group on Ukraine, applications for accreditation", - said the agency "Interfax-West" press secretary of the Belarusian Foreign Ministry, Dmitry Mironchik.

<http://en.glavnoe.ua/news/n232985>

### **Undercover "DPR" terrorist group headed by police officer detained in Zaporizhia region, 08.09.2015**

According to the statement, the group consisted of four local residents. Its leader was the current criminal investigator of one of the district police departments in the Zaporizhia region. The person recruited supporters of Russian aggression to collect and transmit intelligence on the territorial defense of the Zaporizhia region and Ukrainian military units to the "DPR" terrorists. The leader also planned to organize several terrorist attacks in the region. The members of the group have organized delivery of ammunition and explosives from the anti-terrorist operation area to commit the attacks.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/video\\_news/350959/undercover\\_dpr\\_terrorist\\_group\\_headed\\_by\\_police\\_officer\\_detained\\_in\\_zaporizhia\\_region\\_video](http://en.censor.net.ua/video_news/350959/undercover_dpr_terrorist_group_headed_by_police_officer_detained_in_zaporizhia_region_video)

### **Klimkin, Stoltenberg plan to sign agreement on opening NATO 'embassy' in Ukraine, 08.09.2015**

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg plan to sign an agreement on opening a NATO 'embassy' in the Ukrainian capital Kyiv. "Together with the secretary general we plan to sign an agreement in Kyiv on a new level of representation of the Alliance. In fact, this will be the embassy of NATO in Ukraine," Klimkin wrote on Twitter. Earlier, Klimkin tweeted that he invited Stoltenberg to visit Ukraine.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/288527.html>

### **SBU puts ex-justice minister Olena Lukash on wanted list, 10.09.2015**

The Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) has put former Justice Minister Olena Lukash, who worked under former president of Ukraine Viktor Yanukovych, on the wanted list on suspicion of misappropriation and property embezzlement through abuse of office.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/politics/sbu-puts-ex-justice-minister-olena-lukash-on-wanted-list-397580.html>

### **SBU prevented attempt on Interior Minister Avakov, 11.09.2015**

SBU together with the Chief Military Prosecutor's Office prevented a possible assassination of Ukraine's Interior Minister as well as several other assassinations in Kyiv and Kharkiv. The report reads: "As a result of a special operation, law enforcers exposed a criminal group preparing assassinations of top police officials, an MP, businessmen and volunteers. Group's co-organizer, commander of Slobozhanshchina battalion was detained today in Kharkiv. Investigations within a criminal proceeding opened under Article 115 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine are underway, with searches being conducted at suspect's apartment and other locations."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351595/sbu\\_prevented\\_attempt\\_on\\_interior\\_minister\\_avakov](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351595/sbu_prevented_attempt_on_interior_minister_avakov)

### **Former Kyiv governor Ulianchenko put on wanted list by SBU, 14.09.2015**

Former governor is suspected of committing a crime under part 5 article 191 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine (conversion, embezzlement, or distress of property by abuse of position). No restraint has been imposed upon the suspect. According to information by the Interior Ministry, Ulianchenko dropped out of the law enforcement agencies' site on June 30.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351833/former\\_kyiv\\_governor\\_ulianchenko\\_put\\_on\\_wanted\\_list\\_by\\_sbu](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351833/former_kyiv_governor_ulianchenko_put_on_wanted_list_by_sbu)

### **SSU CI neutralizes terrorist network of informers within special operation, 14.09.2015**

The Security Service of Ukraine jointly with the MIA and General Prosecutor's Office takes high-profile counterterrorism measures in the ATO area and neighboring administrative territories, especially in Kharkiv and Zaporizhzhia regions. Law enforcers conduct preventive and proactive activities. In Kharkiv the headquarters established by security forces take active steps related to investigation of a terrorist attack near the Moscow District Court. January 19-20, 2015, in the course of a special operation the SSU CI detected and neutralized a DNR terrorist network of informers. Seven spies providing militants with data on deployment of personnel and military equipment of the ATO forces were detained.

Suppression of criminal activities of informers and spotters prevented numerous casualties among the Ukrainian military and civilians, destruction of military equipment and infrastructure facilities. The SSU continues active disruption of terrorist informant networks.

[http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/en/publish/article.jsessionid=C6C476A93F4CA9F84F3D84533DCD86B7.app1?art\\_id=136345&cat\\_id=136572](http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/en/publish/article.jsessionid=C6C476A93F4CA9F84F3D84533DCD86B7.app1?art_id=136345&cat_id=136572)

### **Ulianchenko disappears from wanted list, 15.09.2015**

The Ministry of Interior has apparently removed from its official website information on the so-called "wanted list" on former Chairman of the Kyiv Regional State Administration Vira Ulianchenko. The press service of the Interior Ministry later commented on the fact: "The Interior Ministry has received [certain] documents and made an entry to the database; it received other documents and deleted the entry - a purely technical function."

<http://www.unian.info/society/1123540-ulianchenko-disappears-from-wanted-list.html>

<http://www.newsreality.com/post/ulianchenko-disappears-from-wanted-list.html>

[http://en.censor.net.ua/photo\\_news/351885/wanted\\_exgovernor\\_ulianchenko\\_found\\_in\\_kyiv\\_photos](http://en.censor.net.ua/photo_news/351885/wanted_exgovernor_ulianchenko_found_in_kyiv_photos)

### **Pro-Russian sabotage group detained in Odesa region, 15.09.2015**

"The group was formed by a former employee of the Russian special services, who is now residing in the temporarily occupied territory of Crimea. The main task of the group was physical elimination of the Odesa Euromaidan leader," the SBU has reported.

According to the report, the General Staff of the Russian Federation ordered members of the group to carry out bombings in law enforcement agencies, military facilities, volunteer and pro-Ukrainian public organizations. The SBU has found the Russian-agreed detailed plan of the murder of an activist on route to his home in the suburbs of Odesa. An attack was scheduled for September, 2015. Members of one of the local Odesa units of the Communist Party of Ukraine had to commit this crime.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1123783-pro-russian-sabotage-group-detained-in-odesa-region.html>

### **Court orders law enforcers to disclose investigation of tragic events in Odesa on May 2, 15.09.2015**

The Odesa Administrative Court of Appeal upheld the first instance decision regarding a lawsuit filed by Leonid Shtekel and Serhiy Dibrov, enabling journalists to obtain copies of forensic experts' conclusions related to "Odesa 2 May trial," according to online local news portal Dumskaya. The panel of judges, headed by Andriy Bitov, did not support arguments of the Prosecutor General's Office and a regional bureau of forensic and medical expertise. The court admits that there is a significant public interest in experts' conclusions, which have been made in the framework of criminal proceedings. The police, prosecutors and the regional bureau of forensic and medical expertise were not able to justify a need to limit access to this information. Thus, a ruling of the District Administrative Court has entered into force. In accordance with the court ruling, the regional bureau of forensic and medical expertise is required to provide journalists, at their request, with copies of the relevant documents without specifying names and other identifying information of the victims and experts.

<http://ukrainianlaw.blogspot.com/2015/09/court-orders-law-enforcers-to-disclose.html>

### **Rada urges to support Ukraine bid for UN Security Council, stop Russian aggression, 16.09.2015**

The statement says that the Ukrainian parliament confirms Ukraine's readiness to continue contributing significantly to the fulfillment of certain objectives of the Charter of the United Nations in order to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war.

"We are convinced that the achievement of this goal will be the cornerstone of the non-permanent membership of Ukraine in the UN Security Council in case our country is elected for the period of 2016-2017s," the statement says.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65573/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65573/view/)

### **Berlusconi banned from entering Ukraine, 17.09.2015**

"Yes, it's true," said SBU press secretary Olena Gitlyanska confirming the information. Earlier today, the Apostrophe online news service published an official response of the SBU to the publication's request, stating the entry ban against Silvio Berlusconi was imposed on September 14 for "state security considerations."

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/berlusconi-banned-from-entering-ukraine/>

### **Verkhovna Rada dismissed Vice-Prime Minister Voshchevskiy, 17.09.2015**

The Verkhovna Rada has supported the bill No. 3087 on resignation of Vice-Prime Minister Voshchevskiy from the post. This decision was voted for by 234 deputies at the required minimum of 226 votes.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352307/verkhovna\\_rada\\_dismissed\\_viceprime\\_minister\\_voshchevskiy](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352307/verkhovna_rada_dismissed_viceprime_minister_voshchevskiy)

### **Ukraine names individuals, companies on its sanctions list, 17.09.2015**

The sanctions target Russian ministers, military officials, journalists, judges that ordered the extension of captive Ukrainian pilot Nadia Savchenko's arrest in Russia, as well as Crimean separatists and militants from Donbas. Blacklisted are also airlines, media outlets and other entities. In particular, the sanctions list includes Russian Agriculture Minister Alexander Tkachev, Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and his two deputies. In addition, Chechen leader Ramzan Kadyrov, 16 Russian Duma deputies and three members of the Federation Council are on the sanctions list. Among the blacklisted deputies are Russia's Speaker of the State Duma Sergei Naryshkin, Leader of the Russian social democratic political party Spravedlivaya Rossiya ("A Just Russia," also translated as "Fair Russia") Sergey Mironov, and Russian singer and Duma deputy Iosif Kobzon.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65621/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65621/view/)

### **Rada sacks Deputy Prime Minister Voschevskiy, 17.09.2015**

A relevant decision was supported by 234 out of 333 MPs registered in the session hall. As reported earlier, on September 15, the Ukrainian parliament voted several times to dismiss Voschevskiy, but failed to pass this decision.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/rada-sacks-deputy-prime-minister-voschevskiy/>

### **Igor Mosiychuk was arrested in parliament, 17.09.2015**

Journalist Oksana Denisova has published a video in which law enforcement officials detained and removed from the building of the Verkhovna Rada the MP from the Radical Party Igor Mosiychuk. Recall, the Council authorized the arrest of Mosiychuk after the Prosecutor General of Ukraine Viktor Shokin has shown at the plenary session videos, in which Mosiychuk solves a number of issues in a criminal way. Mosiychuk said that the videos are assembled and fabricated. It was also reported that Mosiychuk presumably was taken to the remand prison (SIZO) of the security service of Ukraine (SBU). In the prison this information is not commented on. At the same time, the MP of the RPL Dmitry Linko on air of TV channel "112 Ukraine" said Mosiychuk was taken to the Prosecutor General's office, to select a measure of restraint against him tomorrow .

[http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=5f3\\_1442536399&comments=1](http://www.liveleak.com/view?i=5f3_1442536399&comments=1)

### **Ukraine is discussing the possibility of elections in Donbass for spetszakonom – Media, 19.09.2015**

"It turned out after a meeting of foreign ministers" Norman quartet "held on September 12 in Berlin. After completion meeting German Foreign Ministry issued a statement which said: "The conditions and terms of the local elections will be compiled in a working group with trilateral policy of the Contact Group. They are based on the proposal coordinator of a working group Pierre Morel ". The official" plan Morel "is called" Elements for temporary law on local elections in some regions of Donetsk and Lugansk regions ". Ability to develop spetszakonu, which will hold elections in uncontrolled territories under the auspices of Kyiv, fixed decision of foreign ministers "Norman Quartet". "This feature will be discussed until the summit," Norman Quartet "in Paris, despite" decree "Zakharchenko hold their own elections. This information was confirmed ZN.UA persons involved in the Minsk process ", - stated in the article.

" Morel plan "includes a list of conditions that determine the possibility of holding elections in areas controlled by insurgents.

<http://ukrainiancrisis.net/news/13771>



### **Suspected Italian soldier arrested trying to join Russian-led militants in east Ukraine, 20.09.2015**

The 22-year-old intended to fight against Ukrainian forces in Luhansk region, officials say. An Italian man who is suspected of planning to fight alongside combined Russian-separatist forces in eastern Ukraine has been arrested. The 22-year-old, named in the media as Francesco Estatico, was detained at the Ukrainian-controlled checkpoint of Zaitsevo on September 19.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/suspected-italian-soldier-arrested-trying-to-join-russian-led-militants-in-east-ukraine-497071.html>

### **Shokin explains why Kliuyev not arrested yet, 21.09.2015**

He assured that there was no "list of Shokin" for the detention of MPs. However, he said, it is the parliament that will have to address the issue of making lawmakers liable.

"I was accused of not arresting [MP Serhiy] Kliuyev... On June 16, 2015, we submitted a motion for his detention and arrest. Unfortunately, the Verkhovna Rada hasn't considered it until now," Shokin said. In his words, the parliament should pass a law to prevent such cases in future. "It would be very good on their part if our MPs cancel their immunity," he added. Shokin said that he would meet with lawmakers to discuss the procedure for the detention or prosecution of an MP. "I'm not going to submit any more motions, because it is nonsense... I am sure this issue needs to be urgently solved at the legislative level, and if not, then parliamentary immunity needs to be cancelled," he said.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1129606-shokin-explains-why-kliuyev-not-arrested-yet.html>

### **Police blocks channel of coal smuggling from occupied Donbas, 22.09.2015**

"A well-established scheme has been functioning since the beginning of 2015. 210,000 tonnes of coal produced in the temporarily occupied areas of Donbas was delivered by rail to the government-controlled territory, where the documents for the batches were wrongfully replaced," said the officials. False documents and front companies, some with double registration, were used in the fraud scheme on embezzlement and legalization of public funds of power generating enterprises of the Energy Ministry of Ukraine.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/police-blocks-channel-of-coal-smuggling-from-occupied-donbas/>

### **Ukrainian delegates leave UN General Assembly hall amid Putin's speech, 27.09.2015**

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian delegation left the UN General Assembly sitting hall during the speech of Russian President Vladimir Putin as a protest against his actions in the eastern part of Ukraine.

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/ukrainian-delegates-leave-un-general-assembly-hall-amid-putins-speech-398872.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1135633-russian-delegates-leave-un-general-assembly-hall-amid-poroshenkos-speech.html>

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1137028-klimkin-explains-why-ukrainian-delegates-walk-out-on-putin.html>

### **State Aviation Service informs Russian airlines on flight ban to Ukraine, 28.09.2015**

The State Aviation Service of Ukraine has sent a warning to the Russian airlines, which fell under sanctions in accordance with the decision of National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, on a ban to fly into Ukraine from October 25, 2015, the press service has told.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/66052/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/66052/view/)

<http://www.unian.info/economics/1138411-another-ukrainian-airline-to-be-banned-from-flying-to-russia.html>

### **Poroshenko, Cameron: Fake elections in Donbas to undermine Minsk agreements, 28.09.2015**

President Petro Poroshenko had a meeting with UK Prime Minister David Cameron in the framework of the 70th session of the UN General Assembly. The President provided detailed information on the situation in Donbas to the UK Prime Minister. The President emphasized the importance of full implementation of the Minsk agreements. The parties agreed that holding of fake elections on October 18 and November 1 in the occupied territories would be inadmissible and undermine the Minsk agreements. Poroshenko believes that such violation of the agreements should be followed by sanctions against Russia.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko\\_cameron\\_fake\\_elections\\_in\\_donbas\\_to\\_undermine\\_minsk\\_agreements\\_334662](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/poroshenko_cameron_fake_elections_in_donbas_to_undermine_minsk_agreements_334662)

### **Ukraine calls for UN to restrain Russian veto, 29.09.2015**

In a grim speech to the UN General Assembly, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko condemned what he called Russia's "aggressive war against my country," a more than yearlong conflict with Russian-backed rebels that has left 8,000 Ukrainians dead in eastern Ukraine, including 6,000 civilians. The speech, applauded by Poroshenko's western allies, also urged members to limit the veto power that has prevented Security Council action against Russia. He joined France in a call for reforms to rein in the use of vetoes by the council's five permanent members in cases of "mass atrocities." Russia has wielded its veto to quash a resolution to declare a referendum on Crimea's secession from Ukraine illegal, after Moscow seized the largely Russian-speaking peninsula. It also blocked a resolution to set up an international tribunal to investigate the downing of a Malaysian airliner over territory held by pro-Russian rebels, with a loss of 298 lives.

<http://www.thestar.com/news/world/2015/09/29/ukraine-calls-for-un-to-restrain-russian-veto.html>

### **Poroshenko and Obama hold unscheduled, serious conversation, 29.09.2015**

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko and U.S. President Barack Obama on Monday (September 28) held a conversation at the 70th session of the UN General Assembly in New York. «A very serious conversation between the presidents of Ukraine and the United States took place,» Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the UN Yuriy Sergeyev tweeted, without disclosing details. The information on this conversation was not immediately reported on the presidential website. Sergeyev also posted on Twitter a photo showing the two leaders were talking eye to eye. As reported earlier, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin said that Poroshenko would meet with Obama between a lunch with UN Secretary General and the Peacekeeping Summit. «There will be a short meeting, they will discuss a few issues, the details of which I cannot disclose,» Klimkin said. The same day, U.S. President Barack Obama and Russian President Vladimir Putin held a 90-minute meeting behind closed doors. It is reported that they were discussing the Syria and Ukraine crises.

<http://hj.com.ua/poroshenko-and-obama-hold-unscheduled-serious-conversation-21840/>

### **GRU officers Yerofeyev and Aleksandrov remain in custody, while Specialized Higher Court to determine case jurisdiction, 29.09.2015**

Holosivskyi district court of Kyiv has extended the custody of captive Russian GRU officers Yevgeny Yerofeyev and Aleksandr Aleksandrov for 60 days (until Nov. 21). The corresponding decision was announced on Tuesday by preparatory meeting chairing judge Mykola Didyk. The court has also ruled to send the materials of the case against the officers of the Main Intelligence Directorate (GRU) of the General Staff of the Russian Federation Armed Forces Yevgeny Yerofeyev and Aleksandr Aleksandrov to the Court of Appeal of Kyiv which, in its turn, is to hand over the documents to the Specialized Higher Court of Ukraine for Civil and Criminal Cases for establishing the case jurisdiction.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/353959/gru\\_officers\\_yerofeyev\\_and\\_aleksandrov\\_remain\\_in\\_custody\\_while\\_specialized\\_higher\\_court\\_to\\_determine](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/353959/gru_officers_yerofeyev_and_aleksandrov_remain_in_custody_while_specialized_higher_court_to_determine)

## Separatism

### **Two volunteers shot dead, four soldiers wounded outside of Shchastia, 01.09.2015**

Volunteer Rodion Shovkoshytny has reported: "We have casualties. The combined group that worked outside Shchastia," he wrote. Also, Shovkoshytny quotes a message he received: "Once again our group was fired in the areas controlled by the Luhansk detachment. The military group had no border patrol guards. We went into an ambush, and, apparently, they wanted to capture us. First, they threw two grenades at us, then fired small arms. Our men defended until the reinforcements arrived. In the course of the gunfight one volunteer and one tax office employee were shot dead, one SBU soldier and 3 paratroopers were wounded." This information was also confirmed the head of the Luhansk regional military-civilian administration Heorhii Tuka on Facebook.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/dlqwu8Xt6OFn08ckfj0dGE>

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/cRYdHMAzpwN2w03bwFVXfv>

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/efFkxAlOPTKvc5TAnXmzX8>

<http://www.unian.info/society/1117858-mobile-countersmuggling-team-ambushed-in-donbas-casualties-reported.html>

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350189/joint\\_mobile\\_group\\_attacked\\_near\\_shchastia\\_two\\_soldiers\\_killed\\_four\\_wounded\\_governor\\_tuka](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350189/joint_mobile_group_attacked_near_shchastia_two_soldiers_killed_four_wounded_governor_tuka)

### **ATO head office: ceasefire violated 4 times today, 01.09.2015**

"At regarding 08:00, militants utilized an 82mm-caliber mortar to shell a fortress of Ukrainian soldiers in the community of Schastia in Luhansk area. At 15:00 militants terminated our locations in Maryinka almost Donetsk. At 17:30 the Ukrainian location situated to the south of Avdiyivka was assaulted with a grenade launcher as well as little arms," basending on the record. In Artemivsk instructions, militants opened up fire from little arms as well as grenade launcher on the locations of Ukrainian soldiers near the town of Sanzharivka at regarding 15:00. "At regarding 08:00, militants utilized an 82mm-caliber mortar to shell a fortress of Ukrainian soldiers in the community of Schastia in Luhansk area. At 15:00 militants terminated our locations in Maryinka not much from Donetsk.

<http://journalfocus.com/2015/09/ato-headquarters-ceasefire-violated-4-times-today/>

### **Donbas mostly calm overnight, 02.09.2015**

Both warring parties in the Donbas conflict zone almost adhered to the ceasefire at the end of the last day, the press center of the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) wrote on Facebook.

<http://www.digitalnewsworld.com/news/donbas-mostly-calm-overnight.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1117819-donbas-mostly-calm-overnight.html>

### **No one killed over past day, one soldier wounded, - ATO spokesperson, 02.09.2015**

"Over the past day, no Ukrainian soldiers were killed in hostilities in eastern Ukraine, one soldier was wounded in Krymske village in the Novoaidarsk district of the Luhansk region," Lysenko said. He added that due to successful and consolidated work by the local authorities, special services and diplomats, as well as the OSCE and JCCC observers, it was possible to avoid bloody provocations and terrorist attacks planned by militants for the Day of Knowledge.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350217/no\\_one\\_killed\\_over\\_past\\_day\\_one\\_soldier\\_wounded\\_ato\\_spokesperson](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350217/no_one_killed_over_past_day_one_soldier_wounded_ato_spokesperson)

### **More evidence of participation of the 5th Buryat tank brigade of the Russian army in Debaltseve assault, 02.09.2015**

"Information that the 5th tank brigade (military unit No. 46108, Central Military District, Ulan-Ude, Republic of Buryatia, Russia) had been redeployed to the Rostov region and subsequently took part in combat activities in the Donbas was published by InformNapalm for the first time in November 2014, far before the interview with the Russian tank crewman.

"The reason for bringing up the subject was a picture from the lostarmor website, which allowed us connecting the dots and proving that the tanks destroyed in Ukraine belonged to the 5th brigade," the authors of the investigation wrote.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/photo\\_news/349441/more\\_evidence\\_of\\_participation\\_of\\_the\\_5th\\_buryat\\_tank\\_brigade\\_of\\_the\\_russian\\_army\\_in\\_debaltseve\\_assault](http://en.censor.net.ua/photo_news/349441/more_evidence_of_participation_of_the_5th_buryat_tank_brigade_of_the_russian_army_in_debaltseve_assault)

### **Situation in Donbas deteriorated at Luhansk direction, - ATO press-center, 02.09.2015**

The statement reads: "Our flying squad consisting of volunteers, employees of the State Fiscal Service of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Security Service officers and paratroopers was ambushed by the militants at about 7 a.m., when the team was fulfilling an operational task to prevent the illegal movement of goods across the demarcation line. The situation took place near Lobachove village located between Slovianoserbsk and Shchastia. The mines were planted on the route of the group and the assault was also supported by an invaders' sniper. A volunteer and an employee of the State Fiscal Service were killed as a result, four soldiers were wounded. Reinforcements of the ATO troops have promptly arrived at the engagement area. The enemy retreated beyond the Siverskyi Donets River after the attack had repulsed."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350297/situation\\_in\\_donbas\\_deteriorated\\_at\\_luhansk\\_direction\\_sept\\_2\\_ato\\_presscenter](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350297/situation_in_donbas_deteriorated_at_luhansk_direction_sept_2_ato_presscenter)

### **Terrorists halted consistent fire against Ukrainian army positions: 10 cases of shelling registered yesterday, 03.09.2015**

The situation remained stable in the anti-terrorist operation (ATO) area yesterday evening. Illegal armed gangs have halted consistent fire against the Ukrainian troops positions. Still, several armed provocations took place along the demarcation line between 6 p.m. and midnight: "Mercenaries fired at Ukrainian strong points near Marinka in the Donetsk vicinity from small arms, twice at 7 p.m. and at 10 p.m. At 9:40 p.m., our positions in Krasnohorivka were sprayed by mercenaries from Staromykhailivka direction with the use of a large-caliber machine gun."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350331/terrorists\\_halted\\_consistent\\_fire\\_against\\_ukrainian\\_army\\_positions\\_10\\_cases\\_of\\_shelling\\_registered\\_yesterday](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350331/terrorists_halted_consistent_fire_against_ukrainian_army_positions_10_cases_of_shelling_registered_yesterday)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350344/ceasefire\\_in\\_effect\\_for\\_fifth\\_day\\_in\\_a\\_row\\_for\\_the\\_first\\_time\\_while\\_mercenaries\\_withdraw\\_heavy\\_equipment](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350344/ceasefire_in_effect_for_fifth_day_in_a_row_for_the_first_time_while_mercenaries_withdraw_heavy_equipment)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350438/situation\\_in\\_donbas\\_remains\\_calm\\_with\\_one\\_attack\\_recorded\\_today\\_ato\\_presscenter](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350438/situation_in_donbas_remains_calm_with_one_attack_recorded_today_ato_presscenter)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350377/two\\_persons\\_killed\\_six\\_wounded\\_yesterday\\_ato\\_speaker](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350377/two_persons_killed_six_wounded_yesterday_ato_speaker)

### **Russian proxies continue to observe ceasefire, 04.09.2015**

The situation in the Donbas conflict zone remained stable on Thursday as the combined Russian-separatist forces continued to observe the ceasefire, the press center of the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) wrote on Facebook on Friday.

<http://www.digitalnewsworld.com/news/russian-proxies-continue-to-observe-ceasefire.html>

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350517/one\\_soldier\\_killed\\_yesterday\\_no\\_one\\_wounded\\_ato\\_speaker](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350517/one_soldier_killed_yesterday_no_one_wounded_ato_speaker)

### **Situation in Donbas remains stable. Terrorists several times attacked Ukrainian soldiers near Donetsk, - ATO press-center, 04.09.2015**

The statement reads: "The majority of attacks were recorded near Donetsk. The militants fired at our stronghold in Marinka from small arms at around 9 a.m. The invaders also used grenade launchers and small arms to attack the positions of the Ukrainian troops in the same town at 2:06 p.m., 4:15 p.m. and almost at 5 p.m. In addition, the ATO forces deployed south of Avdiivka came under enemy shelling from grenade launchers at about 4:30 p.m.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350588/situation\\_in\\_donbas\\_remains\\_stable\\_terrorists\\_several\\_times\\_attacked\\_ukrainian\\_soldiers\\_near\\_donetsk](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350588/situation_in_donbas_remains_stable_terrorists_several_times_attacked_ukrainian_soldiers_near_donetsk)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350477/terrorists\\_shelled\\_ato\\_positions\\_five\\_times\\_yesterday\\_mainly\\_near\\_avdiivka\\_and\\_opytne\\_hq](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350477/terrorists_shelled_ato_positions_five_times_yesterday_mainly_near_avdiivka_and_opytne_hq)

### **Luhansk Governor Tuka says he knows who shot down anti-corruption unit, 04.09.2015**

Tuka said there were threats and attempts to make a deal before the killing.

According to the governor, units that control the demarcation line in the sector were involved in the shoot out, namely the 92nd brigade, Tuka said. The Luhansk governor announced he knew the name of the organizer. "That was not the enemy's reconnaissance and sabotage group. Those were friends. I know his name. I will destroy him," Tuka said.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350429/luhansk\\_governor\\_tuka\\_says\\_he\\_knows\\_who\\_shot\\_down\\_anticorruption\\_unit](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350429/luhansk_governor_tuka_says_he_knows_who_shot_down_anticorruption_unit)

### **One Ukrainian soldier killed in Donbas in last day, 04.09.2015**

In the last day, we lost one Ukrainian soldier as a result of stepping on an unknown explosive device. Circumstances of the incident are being verified," Lysenko said.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1118785-one-ukrainian-soldier-killed-in-donbas-in-last-day.html>



### **DPR leader admits political solution of Donbas conflict, 05.09.2015**

Such statement Zakharchenko made in his special address, which was posted by one of the organization's publication. At this, the DPR leader once again accused Kyiv of its failure to comply with the Minsk cease-fire agreements. There is no reasonable alternative but a political solution of the conflict in the framework of Minsk talks, according to Zakharchenko. All other options will inevitably lead to senseless deaths, destruction and economic collapse, he said. "Nowadays, the most reasonable thing is to find a will – a human and political will - and continue to force Ukraine to fully abide by all the provisions of the Minsk accords," Zakharchenko said.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1119058-dpr-leader-admits-political-solution-of-donbas-conflict.html>

### **Three Ukrainian paratroopers possibly abducted near occupied Crimea, 06.09.2015**

"In the morning of September 5, we became aware of the three soldiers from the 79th separate airmobile brigade gone missing - senior soldier Yurov, soldiers Orlenko and Mekshun. In the course of search operations, after serving duty at the observation post... they put on plain clothes and went to swim at the dam, according to their fellow soldiers. The dam is located in the area adjacent to the illegally occupied territory of Crimea," reads the statement. According to the General Staff, it was later found that on the same night, two vehicles (an URAL truck and UAZ) drove close to the said area from the illegally occupied territory of Crimea. Therefore, our troops might have been illegally captured by the Russian military.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1119272-three-ukrainian-paratroopers-missing-near-occupied-crimea-border-possible-abduction-general-staff.html>

### **Chaotic militant provocations recorded despite ceasefire, 06.09.2015**

Three violations of ceasefire by Russian proxies, mostly provocative and chaotic shelling from grenade launchers, were recorded from 18:00 Kyiv time to midnight on September 5, according to the ATO press center.

<http://www.newsreality.com/post/chaotic-militant-provocations-recorded-despite-ceasefire.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1119231-chaotic-militant-provocations-recorded-despite-ceasefire.html>

### **Fifteen people go missing in DPR over last week — human rights ombudsperson, 07.09.2015**

"The Office of human rights ombudsperson of the Donetsk People's Republic registered 15 people going missing or being illegally detained from August 29 to September 4. Among them are nine civilians and 6 DPR militiamen," Donetsk News Agency quoted the DPR human rights ombudsperson's office as saying. The office stressed that DPR authorities that demonstrate readiness to compromise, are waiting for confirmation of Kiev's serious intentions to implement the Minsk agreements. Prisoner exchange on "all for all" basis is one of the key points of the Package of measures on implementation of the Minsk agreements signed in Minsk on February 12. The package of measures also envisages "pardon and amnesty by adopting a law banning persecution and punishment" of residents for events in Donbas.

<http://tass.ru/en/world/819217?>

### **Militants violate ceasefire 12 times over past 24 hours, 07.09.2015**

As the ATO press center reports, from 18:00 to midnight on September 7, the illegal armed groups opened provocative fire several times in the direction of the Ukrainian troops. At about 21:00, the Russian proxies started firing from infantry fighting vehicles and small arms on a fortified position of ATO forces in the town of Marinka (35 km south-west of Donetsk). In addition, at about 23:00, the militants used guns on infantry fighting vehicles, small arms and rocket-propelled grenades against the positions of the Ukrainian military to the south of the town of Avdiyivka. In the direction of Artemivsk, at 21:50, the enemy started firing small arms on the Ukrainian units in the village of Kirove (55km north-east of Donetsk). At about 23:00 Kyiv time, a sniper fired twice on ATO forces in the village of Zaitseve (67km north-north-east of Donetsk). The Russian-backed militants violated the ceasefire 12 times over past 12 hours. From midnight to 06:00 on September 7, there was no shelling of ATO forces.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/militants\\_violate\\_ceasefire\\_12\\_times\\_over\\_past\\_24\\_hours\\_334129](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/militants_violate_ceasefire_12_times_over_past_24_hours_334129)

### **No one killed, two Ukrainian soldiers wounded yesterday, - ATO speaker, 07.09.2015**

This was announced by the Presidential Administration representative on the ATO matters, Colonel Andrii Lysenko at a briefing, Censor.NET reports. "Yesterday, two Ukrainian soldiers were wounded in enemy provocations. No one was killed," he said.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/fEXdHsOc31pFanaKqhnfo>

### **ATO Headquarters: no violations of ceasefire since midnight, 07.09.2015**

"Today the situation in the ATO zone has been completely calm," the press center said in its statement. It is noted that "for the first time in recent months, on September 7, from midnight to 18:00, there has not been a single case of the use of weapons along the whole demarcation line!" "Today's silence gives hope in the hearts of all Ukrainians that confrontation, controversial issues, and challenges may now be resolved through negotiations. And the civilian population in Donbas will finally hear no sounds of shelling and start to rebuild the region," the ATO press center noted.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1119734-ato-headquarters-no-violations-of-ceasefire-since-midnight.html>

### **Three Ukrainian soldiers detained in Crimea, 07.09.2015**

Russian border guards have detained in Crimea three service members of the 79th brigade of the Ukrainian Armed Forces. They are suspected of illegally crossing Russia's state border. During the detention, the Ukrainian service members had no IDs on them, a Russian agency said. The incident occurred on the technological causeway across Sivash Lake. The detained Ukrainian soldiers said the purpose of their visit was "utterly peaceful." "The fact objectively demonstrates the pointlessness of keeping the Ukrainian military units on the border with Crimea and the absence of order on the Ukrainian border, which increases the responsibility of the Russian state border authorities and other security agencies in charge of the border security in Russia's Crimean Federal District," the state border department of the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) said. Russian border guards decided to hold the Ukrainian service members administratively liable for violating the regime of Russia's state border and to transfer the detainees to the Ukrainian side. The Ukrainian paratroopers have expressed the wish to return to Ukraine as soon as possible voicing concern that severe punishment awaits them there.

<http://tass.ru/en/russia/819396>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1119825-russia-promises-to-fine-and-return-abducted-ukrainian-paratroopers.html>

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350910/russian\\_occupants\\_admitted\\_abduction\\_of\\_three\\_ukrainian\\_paratroopers\\_at\\_border\\_with\\_crimea](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350910/russian_occupants_admitted_abduction_of_three_ukrainian_paratroopers_at_border_with_crimea)

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1120736-osce-three-ukrainian-soldiers-abducted-by-10-people-in-military-uniforms-in-two-cars.html>

### **Two soldiers of the 128th brigade killed, two wounded in engagement with mercenaries near Bolotenne yesterday, - Regional State Administration, 08.09.2015**

This was announced by the Luhansk regional military civil administration press service. Yesterday, Sept. 7, in an engagement with a sabotage and reconnaissance group of terrorists near Bolotenne village, Stanychno-Luhansk district, the Luhansk region, two military of the 128th brigade of the Armed Forces of Ukraine were killed, two were wounded. The wounded are currently being treated. This morning, a killed military was admitted in the Stanytsia Luhanska hospital. The circumstances of his death are being established. "It is possible that the terrorist sabotage and reconnaissance group infiltrated to Stanychno-Luhansk district to pick up its killed soldiers, information of whom was spread yesterday by Ukrainian media. However, the terrorists didn't know that the late Batman's guys have already been taken away. Law enforcers are establishing identity of the killed saboteurs," said the Head of the Luhansk regional military civil administration Heorhii Tuka.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350947/two\\_soldiers\\_of\\_the\\_128th\\_brigade\\_killed\\_two\\_wounded\\_in\\_engagement\\_with\\_mercenaries\\_near\\_bolotenne\\_yesterday](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350947/two_soldiers_of_the_128th_brigade_killed_two_wounded_in_engagement_with_mercenaries_near_bolotenne_yesterday)

### **One Ukrainian soldier wounded in Donbas conflict zone in last day, 10.09.2015**

The combined Russian-separatist forces attacked Ukrainian army positions in eastern Ukraine only once overnight. No Ukrainian soldiers were killed but one was wounded in the Donbas conflict zone over the last 24 hours, head of the ATO press center headquarters, Colonel Oleksandr Motuzianyk said.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/one-ukrainian-soldier-wounded-in-donbas-conflict-zone-in-last-day-491215.html>

### **Explosives found near National Guard unit in Odesa, 10.09.2015**

"Outside the circulation control office of one of the military units of the National Guard in Odesa, an unknown person left TNT blocks, with a total weight of 400 grams, which had to be blown up by actuating the explosive device via a mobile phone. An officer of the circulation control office found a bag and the explosion was averted," the press service said. Urgent investigative actions are underway.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1120790-explosives-found-near-national-guard-unit-in-odesa.html>

### **Two Ukrainian soldiers killed, four wounded in booby trap explosion, - ATO speaker, 11.09.2015**

Two Ukrainian soldiers were killed, four received wounds upon tripping a booby trap in the Luhansk region on Sept. 10. "Yesterday morning near Troitske village, Popasna district, the Luhansk region, our soldiers triggered a mine. This killed two Ukrainian military, wounded four," Lisenko announced.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351513/two\\_ukrainian\\_soldiers\\_killed\\_four\\_wounded\\_in\\_booby\\_trap\\_explosion\\_ato\\_speaker](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351513/two_ukrainian_soldiers_killed_four_wounded_in_booby_trap_explosion_ato_speaker)

### **No shelling in Donbas conflict zone overnight, 11.09.2015**

For the first time over the previous months, September 10 was a completely calm day in the Donbas conflict zone, the press center of the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) wrote on Friday. "The enemy did not violate the ceasefire and did not use weapons [against the Ukrainian forces]. There were no surprises today. From midnight to 06:00 Kyiv time on September 11, it was quiet along the demarcation line," the report says.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/no-shelling-in-donbas-conflict-zone-overnight-491779.html>

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351445/complete\\_lull\\_in\\_ato\\_area\\_yesterday\\_for\\_the\\_first\\_time\\_in\\_many\\_months\\_ato\\_hq](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/351445/complete_lull_in_ato_area_yesterday_for_the_first_time_in_many_months_ato_hq)

### **ATO headquarters: ceasefire violated 2 times today, 11.09.2015**

"From 12:35 to 13:02 militants were firing rocket-propelled grenades and small arms on our fortified position south of the town of Avdiyivka. One Ukrainian soldier was injured," the report says. "At 17:20 the pro-Russian terrorists shelled the village of Opytne from the direction of Spartak using heavy machine guns and rocket-propelled grenade," according to the report. "With the support of civil-military cooperation units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, together with the utility services, work was started to repair bridges in settlements Krasnohorivka and Soledar. In addition, restoration of power lines in towns Zaitseve and Maiorske continues. In addition, our soldiers together with volunteer organizations are rebuilding schools in Luhanske and Svitlodar that were badly damaged due to shelling as early as the beginning of this year. Also in Luhanske the process of demining of the grain depot is carried on," according to the press center.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1121599-ato-headquarters-ceasefire-violated-2-times-today.html>

<http://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/unian-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-five-times-overnight-397755.html>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces eight times overnight, 14.09.2015**

"The situation deteriorated in the Donbas conflict zone at the end of the day. From 18:00 to midnight on September 14, the illegal armed groups intensified their attacks on our positions in the direction of Artemivsk," the press center said. At 21:15, 21:35 and 22:15 Kyiv time, the militants started firing heavy machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms on a fortified position of the Ukrainian armed forces north of the village of Lozove. In Luhansk region, at about 20:00 Kyiv time, the Russian proxies started firing a grenade launcher on Ukrainian units in the town of Schastia. And at about 23:00 Kyiv time, they started firing mortars on ATO forces south of the village of Sokilnyki.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1122382-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-eight-times-overnight.html>

<http://uatoday.tv/news/russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-eight-times-overnight-492913.html>

### **Two Ukrainian soldiers killed, one MIA in Donbas in last day, 14.09.2015**

Two Ukrainian soldiers were killed and another one missed in action (MIA) in the Donbas conflict zone in the last 24 hours, presidential administration spokesman for the Anti-Terrorist Operation Colonel Andriy Lysenko said at a briefing in Kyiv on Monday.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65439/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65439/view/)

### **Public executions held in militant-occupied Ukraine: Tymchuk, 14.09.2015**

Public executions was carried out in Horlivka, the militant-controlled town in the war-torn Donetsk region, the head of the Information Resistance group and military and political analyst Dmytro Tymchuk wrote on September 14. According to him, Russian servicemen shot dead a checkpoint chief and local resident for his unauthorized attempt to fire an artillery cannon. In another Donetsk district, Russian officers sentenced two local militants to death for abuse of rights.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/public-executions-held-in-militant-held-ukraine-tymchuk-493273.html>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces near Maiorske, 15.09.2015**

"In the evening of September 14, the illegal armed groups continued their chaotic attacks on ATO forces in the direction of Artemivsk. At about 18:00 Kyiv time, the militants fired heavy machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades and small arms twice on a fortified position of our troops near the village of Maiorske," the report says. At about 20:00 Kyiv time, the mercenaries started firing small arms on ATO forces in the village of Lozove. At 22:20 Kyiv time, they started firing small arms near the village of Sanzharivka. At about 03:00 on September 15, the Russian proxies started firing small arms on the village of Krymske in Luhansk region. As reported earlier, on August 26, during the meeting of the Tripartite Liaison Group in Minsk, the parties agreed on sustainable ceasefire in the first week of September. Since that day, the terrorists have significantly reduced the number of provocations.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1123636-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-near-maiorske.html>

### **Weapons, explosives discovered in Putin's 'humanitarian aid', 15.09.2015**

Four kilograms of TNT, grenades to antitank grenade launchers, ammunition and thermobaric ammo, and a number of various fuses were discovered in the cache, the General Staff reported. "Given the peculiarity of the cache, we can say that it was created recently. Given the set of explosives, we can make the assumption that they might have been aimed for making a mine to blow up a passenger bus," reads the statement.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1123390-weapons-explosives-discovered-in-putins-humanitarian-aid.html#ad-image-0>

### **Latest from OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, 16.09.2015**

The SMM observed an overall calm situation in the Donetsk region. At the Joint Centre for Control and Co-ordination (JCCC) observation point at the "Donetsk People's Republic" ("DPR")-controlled Donetsk railway station (8km north-west of Donetsk city centre), during the whole reporting period, the SMM recorded no ceasefire violations[1].

In government-controlled Myrne (40km north-east of Mariupol), the SMM heard three undetermined explosions south of its position. In government-controlled Hranitne (47km north-east of Mariupol) the SMM also recorded three undetermined explosions. The SMM accompanied by a Russian Federation Armed Forces officer at the JCCC and escorted by an armed "DPR" member, visited "DPR"-controlled Lohvynove (56km north-east of Donetsk) located 6.5km north-west Debaltseve (56km north-east of Donetsk).\* Outside of the village, the SMM heard one burst of heavy machine gun (HMG) fire at a location 2-3km from its position. The SMM observed that the village has been completely destroyed and abandoned.

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/182421>

<http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352223/no-violations-of-ceasefire-recorded-in-donbas-today-sept-16-ato-press-center>

### **Zakharchenko: "Local elections" in DPR to be held under "militant laws", 16.09.2015**

According to his "decree," heads of town and district councils will be elected at the first stage of the elections scheduled for October 18. "In particular, heads will be elected in Amvrosiyivsky, Novoazovsky, Starobeshivsky, Telmanovsky districts, in the towns of Horlivka, Debaltseve, Dokuchaievsk, the city of Donetsk, the towns of Yenakiyev, Zhdanivka, Kirovske, Makiyivka, Snizhne, Torez, Khartsyzsk, Shakhtarsk, and Yasynuvata," the posting said. It is noted that the "election of heads at all other levels is planned" at the further stages of the so-called elections. "The electoral process at the local level is planned to be completed in the first half of 2016," the website quoted Zakharchenko as saying.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1125883-zakharchenko-local-elections-in-dpr-to-be-held-under-militant-laws.html>



### **Russia transfers \$37 mln for pensions in DPR every month: Bloomberg, 16.09.2015**

Two people in the rebel administration told Bloomberg Russia transfers 2.5 billion rubles (\$37 million) for pensions every month. They declined to be identified, citing security concerns.

"Coal and metals exports were the main earners before the violence flared last year. Now the region is mostly reliant on Russian financial aid and taxes the government tries to gather from local businessmen by requiring them to open accounts at the central bank to pay suppliers," reads the article. "Russian goods are imported by local entrepreneurs who now have 14,000 accounts in total at the central bank," said Irina Nikitina, chairwoman of a co-called Central Bank of the DPR. "They allow an importer to pay Russian suppliers through a Russia-based credit union or through a bank in South Ossetia, a pro-Russian region that broke away from Georgia after a conflict in 2008."

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65577/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65577/view/)

### **Moscow to hold Congress of separatists, 16.09.2015**

Congress of separatists from around the world will be held in Moscow on September 20, patronized by a Russian Anti-Globalization Movement (ADR), foundation close to the Kremlin. According to the organizers of the meeting it will be "the first, and so far unique, event for the exchange of views between supporters of the sovereignty of small nations around the world." Based on the text of the invitation to the forum (available to RBC), "in the conflict between two fundamental principles of international law - the inviolability of state borders and the right of nations to self-determination, the event participants take the side of the latter." It is noted that the stated purpose of the conference is "the creation of an international working group to coordinate the actions of fighters for independence throughout the world." The Congress is expected to result in a draft UN resolution on defense of the right of peoples to self-determination.

<http://en.vnews.agency/news/world/13056-moscow-to-hold-congress-of-separatists.html>

### **Brand new Russian 'Pantsir-S1' air defense complex and 'Ural-43206' truck in service with militants in Donbas, 16.09.2015**

The new investigation discloses the facts of Russia's participation in the war in Donbas, in particular the Russian latest 'Pantsir-S1' air defense complex and latest 'Ural-43206' military truck in service with the militants in Donbas. The investigative journalists reminded the article "Servicemen of Russian 8th Brigade return from Donbas in coffers or disabled" published Sept. 11. It revealed the facts of the Russian servicemen partaking in combat actions in Donbas. Those soldiers were massively dissolved within the illegal armed formations. In the result of additional check of the 'contract'-militants' friend lists - the local separatists were found.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/photo\\_news/351916/brand\\_new\\_russian\\_pantsirs1\\_air\\_defense\\_complex\\_and\\_ural43206\\_truck\\_in\\_service\\_with\\_militants\\_in\\_donbas](http://en.censor.net.ua/photo_news/351916/brand_new_russian_pantsirs1_air_defense_complex_and_ural43206_truck_in_service_with_militants_in_donbas)

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces three times overnight, 17.09.2015**

"The situation was not stable in the last day. From midnight to 19:00 Kyiv time on September 16, there were no cases of shelling along the line of contact. However, the enemy violated the ceasefire three times at the end of the day," the report says.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65619/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65619/view/)

### **Militants shell Krasnohorivka outskirts, 17.09.2015**

"A few minutes ago, militants shelled Solnechny district - a neighborhood in Krasnohorivka near Maryinka. A nine-storey residential building was hit. The building is actually standing on the demarcation line. No civilians were hurt. According to preliminary information, the terrorists fired at the town from a tank," Abroskin wrote.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/clTIUWnCq8Wft4q0RkiOe>

### **Calm night in Donbas: only one militant attack recorded, 18.09.2015**

"The last day was almost calm in the Donbas conflict zone. The only shelling of our positions was recorded in the direction of Artemivsk at about 22:00 Kyiv time," the report says.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1127311-calm-night-in-donbas-only-one-militant-attack-recorded.html>

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/calm-night-in-donbas-only-one-militant-attack-recorded/>

### **One soldier killed, another wounded in Luhansk region, 19.09.2015**

One Ukrainian soldier was killed and another was wounded as a result of explosion in Stanytsia Luhanska area. ATO representative in Luhansk region Ruslan Tkachuk said.

[http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/one\\_soldier\\_killed\\_another\\_wounded\\_in\\_luhansk\\_region\\_334479](http://www.ukrinform.ua/eng/news/one_soldier_killed_another_wounded_in_luhansk_region_334479)

### **Grenade blast hits Ukraine's nationalist party office in Sumy, 21.09.2015**

A grenade explosion hit the Sumy-based office of the Ukrainian nationalist Right Sector organization on September 21, killing 31-year-old fighter Oleksandr Yakovenko (callsign - Palach or Executioner). The other three people who were in the room were not hurt. Sumy Regional State Administration Mykola Klochko reported the incident.

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/grenade-blast-hits-ukraine-s-nationalist-party-office-in-sumy-497464.html>

### **One Ukrainian soldier wounded in Donbas in last day, 21.09.2015**

No Ukrainian soldiers were killed but one was wounded in the Donbas conflict zone over the last 24 hours, presidential administration spokesman for the Anti-Terrorist Operation Colonel Andriy Lysenko said at a briefing in Kyiv on Monday.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/f2SCABKe8XFryzhltQbwUa>

### **General Staff voiced official Ukrainian troops' losses during ATO, 21.09.2015**

The Armed Forces of Ukraine soldiers' death toll is 1,915 military since the beginning of the anti-terrorist operation. Head of Main Personnel Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine Ihor Voronchenko declared. "Our losses amount to 1,915 people since the beginning of the ATO and the occupation of Crimea, including 1,757 servicemen killed in action. Sanitary losses amount to 7,053 people, including 5,747 people injured in action," he said at a briefing in Kyiv on Monday.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352791/general\\_staff\\_voiced\\_official\\_ukrainian\\_troops\\_losses\\_during\\_ato](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/352791/general_staff_voiced_official_ukrainian_troops_losses_during_ato)

### **Latest from OSCE Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine, 22.09.2015**

The SMM monitored the implementation of the "Package of measures for the implementation of the Minsk agreements". Its monitoring was restricted by the parties and security considerations\*. The situation remained largely calm in Donbas with only one non-training ceasefire violation recorded by the SMM. "DPR" members at a checkpoint pointed weapons at and threatened to shoot SMM members. The situation remained relatively calm in the Donetsk region. The SMM – positioned 1km south-east of the destroyed "Donetsk People's Republic" ("DPR")-controlled airport (9km north-west of Donetsk) – observed one explosion. In government-controlled Krasnivka (35km north-west of Mariupol), the SMM heard approximately 20 explosions in the far distance to the east. In government-controlled Topolyne (19km north-west of Mariupol), it heard approximately ten explosions in the far distance to the west and south-west. The SMM assessed both instances to have been part of training exercises. In government-controlled Tonenke (19km north-west of Donetsk), residents told the SMM that the area had been calm since 1 September. According to them, some internally displaced persons – including children of school-age – had returned to the village. The children, they said travel by bus to the nearest school in government-controlled Orlivka, 3km to the north. "DPR" members at a checkpoint close to "DPR"-controlled Zaichenko (26km north-east of Mariupol) pointed weapons at and threatened to shoot SMM members\*. As the SMM was leaving the scene, one of the "DPR" members fired shots into the air.

<http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/184271>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces nine times overnight, 23.09.2015**

"From midnight to 18:00 on September 22, the illegal armed groups were adhering to the ceasefire, but in the evening they started firing on the positions of ATO forces in the direction of Artemivsk," the report says. A total of 30 grenades fired by militants exploded 300 meters from the Ukrainian positions," the report reads.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1131598-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-nine-times-overnight.html>

### **Pro-Russian militants pledge war if Ukraine moves toward NATO, 23.09.2015**

"Statements by [Ukrainian President Petro] Poroshenko and his representative in the Minsk talks [Leonid] Kuchma about Ukraine's need to join NATO are aimed at the destruction of the Minsk Agreement. If Ukraine starts organizing a referendum on accession to NATO, or other procedures, the "DPR" will exit from the Minsk Agreement immediately and proceed with the cleansing of the whole territory of Donbas from Kyiv's occupation," Zakharchenko said, according to one of pro-terrorist websites.

<http://ukrainianwall.com/english-news/pro-russian-militants-pledge-war-if-ukraine-moves-toward-nato/>

### **Russia plans second big military base near Ukrainian border, 23.09.2015**

Russia is planning a second major military base near the border with Ukraine, where NATO accuses Russian troops of helping pro-Moscow separatists fight Kiev's forces.

The new base will house 5,000 soldiers and heavy weaponry, according to public documents and people working at the site. It is further east than one under construction in Belgorod region reported by Reuters earlier this month but still close to the border with separatist-held parts of Ukraine's eastern Luhansk region, where there has been heavy fighting. The bases are part of a Russian military buildup along a new line of confrontation with the West, running from the Black Sea in the south to the Baltic in the north, which carries echoes of the Cold War-era "Iron Curtain".

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/09/23/us-ukraine-crisis-russia-base-idUSKCN0RN1P120150923>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces four times overnight, 25.09.2015**

The Russian proxies opened fire twice near the city of Donetsk, and two more cases were recorded in the direction of Artemivsk, the press center said.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1133980-russian-proxies-attack-ato-forces-four-times-overnight.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1134160-one-ukrainian-soldier-wounded-in-donbas-conflict-zone-in-last-day.html>

<http://www.unian.info/war/1134745-militants-try-to-provoke-armed-standoff-with-ato-forces-on-friday.html>

### **Blast at Odessa's security service office classified as terrorist attack, 27.09.2015**

The explosion took place at about 4:45 a.m. local time outside the SBU building in Yevreyskaya street. "According to preliminary assessment, the explosion was one of the most powerful among all blasts that happened in Odessa over the past year. Its power is preliminarily estimated at more than one kilogramme of TNT equivalent."

A TASS correspondent reported from the scene that an explosive device had been planted near the building's side entrance which was generally not used. The explosion was so powerful that it shattered windows in residential houses and office buildings two-three blocks away from the blast site. Cars parked near the building were also damaged. Ukrainian police, SBU officers and bomb disposal experts are working at the site now. No one has been killed or injured, according to media reports.

<http://tass.ru/en/world/823956>

### **Russian proxies attack ATO forces three times overnight, 28.09.2015**

"The last day in the Donbas conflict zone was not very calm," the report says. "While it was rather quiet along the demarcation line during the day, the militants increased their activity after dark. At 21:17 Kyiv time, for almost an hour, the mercenaries were firing rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns on our fortified positions in the town of Maryinka not far from the city of Donetsk." Four Ukrainian soldiers were wounded in the last day, according to the report. In addition, yesterday evening and at night, the illegal armed groups continued to fire from the occupied territories, trying to drag ATO forces into a standoff. "At about 18:00 Kyiv time, the Russian proxies started firing a grenade launcher in the direction of Ukrainian units in the village of Novotroitske not far from the Ukrainian-controlled port city of Mariupol. The grenades landed 50-60 meters from our positions," the press center said.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/66051/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/66051/view/)

### **Part of Russian troops from Donbas may be sent to Syria in October, 28.09.2015**

"The information is distributed among the Russian troops that a general rotation will be held in October. Military personnel who have experience in combat operations against the Ukrainian forces will be sent to Syria," According to Tymchuk, a unit of the Russian armed forces, based in the territory of the Southern Railway Station in the militant stronghold of Donetsk, has been fully withdrawn to the territory of the Russian Federation. "The so-called "Republican Guard of the DPR" has been disbanded. Extremely dissatisfied with non-payment since July, the Russian mercenaries from this unit are trying to flee to Russia. The representatives of the so-called "Republican Guard of the DPR," nicknamed Chekist and Talib, have been declared "wanted" on looting and embezzlement charges," Tymchuk said.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/66054/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/66054/view/)

### **Russian proxies attack Ukrainian troops five times overnight, 29.09.2015**

Last night, the militants were firing rocket-propelled grenades and heavy machine guns on the Ukrainian fortified positions in the village of Zaitseve outside the town of Artemivsk. "From midnight to 06:00 on September 29, the Kremlin-backed mercenaries were not using weapons along the demarcation line," the press center said.

<http://www.unian.info/war/1137030-russian-proxies-attack-ukrainian-troops-five-times-overnight.html>

### **Russian-backed militants attack four times overnight - Ukrainian military, 30.09.2015**

Ukrainian military officials say militants in east Ukraine violated the ceasefire agreement four times over the last 24 hours and used 120mm mortars prohibited by the ceasefire accords.

<http://uatoday.tv/news/russian-backed-militants-attack-four-times-overnight-ukrainian-military-503677.html>

### **Ukraine, Russian-Backed Rebels Agree To Withdraw Weapons, 30.09.2015**

Representatives of Russia, Ukraine, and Europe reached a long-awaited agreement on the withdrawal of tanks and other weapons from the frontline in eastern Ukraine.

"This is a document that opens a path to peace, a path to an end of violence and attacks," Russian negotiator Azamat Kulmukhametov said late September 29.

<http://www.rferl.org/content/ukraine-russian-backed-rebels-agree-withdraw-weapons/27278407.html>

### **DPR envoy: Smaller-caliber arms withdrawal signals end of war, 30.09.2015**

Negotiator representing the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic (DPR) Denis Pushilin claims that the signing of the agreement on the withdrawal of weapons whose caliber is smaller than 100 mm from the contact line in Donbas could mean the end of war in the region. "In fact, this could mean the end of war, in my opinion. As it will be followed by the withdrawal of military hardware at the needed distance, as a 30-km buffer strip, in essence, is to be created: each party will put it 15 kilometers away. Thus, it will be extremely difficult to exchange fire," a militant website cited Pushilin as saying.

<http://www.unian.info/politics/1139040-dpr-envoy-smaller-caliber-arms-withdrawal-signals-end-of-war.html>

### **Russia to send 'humanitarian' convoys to Donbas every week, 30.09.2015**

Russia plans to send weekly year-end Donbass "humanitarian convoy. "

Said head Vladimir Puchkov Emergencies Ministry. "We had planned shipment of humanitarian convoys to the end of the year, and plan to send their weekly ", - he said.

On the eve of Russia in Donbass already sent fortieth "humkonvoy ". The official stated that "humkonvoy " carries more than 1.2 thousand tons of humanitarian aid ": Food, including canned goods, cereals, pasta, sugar, and medicines. Ukraine also said that only 5 percent of Russian humanitarian convoys carrying food aid to the real residents of Donbass and other trucks containing military assistance to insurgents.

<http://en.molbuk.ua/world/99243-rosiya-zbyravetsya-vidpravlyaty-gumkonvoyi-na-donbas-schotyzhnya.html>



## **Pilot Savchenko**

### **Russian Justice Ministry admits possibility of Savchenko exchange, - Russian media, 02.09.2015**

Russian Minister of Justice Alexander Konovalov admitted a possibility of exchange of Ukrainian Nadiya Savchenko for the Donbas-detained Russians.

This is the first announcement by a high-profile Russian official of the exchange possibility.

"Legal possibility can be based on various rationales, based on existing bipartite, conventional, via diplomatic channels. As a rule, matters like this are being solved via diplomatic channels," the agency quoted Konovalov. He also added that as long as the detained are accused of criminal offenses, they should be punished according to the law.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350259/russian\\_justice\\_ministry\\_admits\\_possibility\\_of\\_savchenko\\_exchange\\_russian\\_media](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350259/russian_justice_ministry_admits_possibility_of_savchenko_exchange_russian_media)

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350267/nadiya\\_savchenko\\_first\\_planned\\_to\\_be\\_tried\\_and\\_then\\_exchanged\\_lawyer\\_commented\\_on\\_russias\\_justice\\_ministry](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350267/nadiya_savchenko_first_planned_to_be_tried_and_then_exchanged_lawyer_commented_on_russias_justice_ministry)

### **Nadiya Savchenko's book "Powerful name Nadiya" to be presented in a week. Lawyer shows proof copy, 03.09.2015**

Novikov wrote on Facebook and posted a photo with Savchenko's book: "This is the proof copy of Nadiya Savchenko's book. Special thanks to Vera Savchenko," he wrote. He noted that the presentation of his client's book would take place in a week.

<http://uazmi.com/en/news/post/fwHa2JtR4r9SBRmwCmNQns>

### **Savchenko verdict ready, same as Sentsov's one, pilot's lawyer says, 07.09.2015**

The Russian court's sentence for Ukrainian pilot Nadiya Savchenko has already been written, but she will be released sooner or later due to the growing diplomatic pressure.

Savchenko's lawyer Ilya Novikov said in an interview. Commenting on his expectations on Savchenko's trial, Ilya Novikov said: "The result will be very simple: the diplomatic pressure will increase and she will be released due to it sooner or later. It has nothing to do with the verdict while it has already been written. One should be under no illusion. We are often accused of being too much engaged in public relations while it would be better to do our job. The people believing that the purely procedural defense in a Russian court may be fruitful should study Sentsov's case. If there are still any questions, his sentence may provide all the answers. The sentence of Savchenko will be the same."

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350776/savchenko\\_verdict\\_ready\\_same\\_as\\_sentsovs\\_one\\_pilots\\_lawyer\\_says](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350776/savchenko_verdict_ready_same_as_sentsovs_one_pilots_lawyer_says)

### **Human rights: Russia, Azerbaijan and Angola, 10.09.2015**

MEPs urge the Russian Federation to release Eston Kohver, Oleg Sentsov and Olexandr Kolchenko and to guarantee their safe return to Estonia and Ukraine respectively. They also call for the release of all illegally detained Ukrainian citizens, including Nadiya Savchenko, in line with the agreed Package of Measures for the Implementation of the Minsk Agreements. Parliament "strongly condemns the blatant violation of the territorial integrity of Ukraine and Estonia through the illegal kidnapping of citizens of both countries so that they could be charged before a Russian court".

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/content/20150903IPR91536/html/Human-rights-Russia-Azerbaijan-and-Angola>

### **Russian prosecutors asked the court to extend the arrest Savchenko six months, 15.09.2015**

Savchenko lawyers Mark Feigin said that at the preliminary hearing will be announced a number of applications, including Call of some new witnesses. He reported that Savchenko and protection insist on trial by a panel of three judges. In turn, he said, the prosecution asks to extend the arrest Savchenko 6 months. The defense insists on changing the measure of restraint for all, not related to detention, including the consul under warranty. In the court came seven representatives of the EU and the United States. He said that in the group - representatives of Sweden, the Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States. This group explained that the observers do not intend to be participants in the judicial process.

<http://ukrainiancrisis.net/news/13655>

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/savchenko-pre-trial-security-beefed-up-in-russia-s-rostov-region-493813.html>

### **"Everything written here is a lie": Savchenko pleads not guilty, 22.09.2015**

"Savchenko: I plead not guilty; everything written down in the indictment is a lie," Polozov tweeted. He also said that the prosecutor in Donetsk city court of the Rostov region was "muttering" the indictment in the court room. The authorities allowed the cameramen to be present during the prosecutor's speech "to get the 'right' picture," according to Polozov. Meanwhile, Savchenko's sister Vera was removed from the court room. She will be later testifying as a witness. Earlier today, the Donetsk city court of the Rostov region began a hearing in the criminal case of Nadiya Savchenko. The journalists were initially banned from the courtroom, although the Ukrainian Consul and Nadiya's sister were present. not allowed in journalists, but allowed presence of the Ukrainian Consul and Nadiya's sister.

<http://ukrainianlaw.blogspot.com/2015/09/everything-written-here-is-lie.html>

### **US House of Representatives has unanimously adopted resolution H.Res.50 condemning imprisonment of Nadiya Savchenko and calling for her release, 23.09.2015**

The document, co-authored by 36 Congressmen from the Democratic and Republican parties, condemns Russian Federation for the illegal detention of Nadiya Savchenko and calls for her immediate release. The resolution calls for the United States, its European allies and the international community to strongly support efforts to release Nadiya Savchenko and other illegally detained Ukrainian prisoners. The draft resolution was submitted by congressional representatives S.Levin, M.Kaptur, M.Fitzpatrick, M.Quigley and B.Pascrell.

<http://mfa.gov.ua/en/news-feeds/foreign-offices-news/40228-palata-predstavnikiv-kongresu-ssha-odnostajno-uhvalila-rezolyuciju-jaka-zasudzhuje-rf-za-uvjaznennya-nadiji-savchenko-ta-zaklikaje-zvilyniti-ijii>

## **National Minorities**

### **Jewish community: in Zaporozhye inflame national enmity, 01.09.2015**

Unknown persons set fire to a monument to victims of the Holocaust, which is located on the outskirts of the village of Melitopol district of Konstantinovka. "This monument does not belong to the Soviet era. It no sickles or hammers. It is a monument to the shot citizens of Melitopol. The tank ditch were shot 12,000 Jews and several thousand citizens of other nationalities. Here lie Jakimovskaya and Melitopol underground. It is not just the act vandalism and inciting ethnic hatred in our peaceful city, "- explains the chairman of the indignation of the Jewish community of Melitopol Anna Stetsenko.

<http://zp.depo.ua/rus/melitopol/evreyska-gromada-na-zaporizhzi-rozpalyuyut-natsionalnu-27082015210100>

### **At the Jewish cemetery in Uzhgorod damaged 19 tombstones, 06.08.2015**

Late last week, the unknown damaged 19 gravestones in a Jewish cemetery in Uzhgorod. About the incident it became known on August 3. According to police, the grave had been desecrated during the period from 28 July to 1 August. Upon damage to monuments initiated a criminal case under article 297 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine.

<http://www.jewish.kiev.ua/news/8788/>

### **Uman aggressive young men attacked a camp of the Hasidim, 08.09.2015**

Thirty young people attacked the appearance of sports camp Hasidim use ~ a variety of carpentry tools. Hasidim called the actions of activists provocation. The attack took place on Saturday - the day when the Hasidim is forbidden to carry out any work. Young people power poles knocked down and broke a surveillance camera. Finally promised to return in three days, when the first pilgrims will arrive in Uman.

<http://www.unian.net/society/1119856-v-umani-agressivnyie-molodyie-lyudi-napali-na-lager-hasidov.html>

### **Babi Yar: unknown set fire to the "Menorah", 09.16.2015**

In the night from 12 for September 13 it was fixed the next act of vandalism at the National Historical Memorial Reserve "Babi Yar." This was the head of the Jewish Fund in Ukraine Arkady Monastyrski the director of the reserve Boris Glazunov. Unknown by imposing monument of "Menorah" automobile tires and abundant watering flammable liquid, set fire to a memorial monument to the victims of the Holocaust. All this took place between 2-3 o'clock in the morning. Only through the efforts of the caretaker of the temple of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, which is located on the reserve, managed to extinguish the fire.

<http://www.jewish.kiev.ua/news/8874/>

<http://newsru.co.il/arch/world/28jun2015/yar476.html>

<http://evreimir.com/106055/babij-yar-neizvestnye-podozhgli-menoru/>

### **Coloma: Vandals cut down the fence at the Jewish cemetery, 22.09.2015**

Zalischiker Jacob, the head of the Jewish community in Coloma that in the Carpathian, informs the public about the act of vandalism at the Jewish cemetery. The Jewish community of collecting money around the world in the upgrading of three Jewish cemeteries in the city. The money for a good cause given community in America, Canada and Israel. On one of the cemeteries Coloma, on Chekhov Street, repairs had to be completed for Passover. However, unknown to have committed an act of vandalism. They arrived in a car and cut down the largest section of the fence, damaging the foundation. And the cut part of the fence was taken away in an unknown direction.

<http://evreiskiy.kiev.ua/kolomyja-vandaly-spilili-ogradu-na-12904.html>

## **Ukraine Worldwide**

### **Russia may refuse right to subsoil use in Black and Azov seas, 02.09.2015**

The Russian government has approved a decree according to which holders of Ukraine-issued licenses can be denied the right to use subsoil assets of the Black and Azov seas in case of a threat to Russia's defense and security, according to the Russian government website

<http://www.digitalnewsworld.com/news/russia-may-refuse-right-to-subsoil-use-in-black-and-azov-seas.html>

### **EU to consider extension of sanctions against Russia until mid-March, 02.09.2015**

The European Union is set to roll over until March 15 sanctions targeted against almost 200 Russian companies, individuals, and pro-Russian militants in Ukraine's east. Preliminary decision is expected to be made at a meeting of senior EU officials on Aug. 2 to be further approved by ministers in mid-September. Sanctions already in force include freezing of assets and ban to entry the EU, involving 151 individuals. One person from the list died. The restrictions do not apply to president Vladimir Putin and majority of Russia's top-rank government officials. The list also includes 37 companies. Among them - 13 captured by the Kremlin during the occupation of Crimea or those having benefited from this illegal act.

[http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350169/eu\\_to\\_consider\\_extension\\_of\\_sanctions\\_against\\_russia\\_until\\_midmarch](http://en.censor.net.ua/news/350169/eu_to_consider_extension_of_sanctions_against_russia_until_midmarch)

### **Poland approves disbursement of EUR 100 mln loan to Ukraine, 08.09.2015**

The Polish government adopted a resolution related to the signing of an agreement between the governments of Poland and Ukraine on loan disbursement, according to a posting on the official website of the Polish government.

<http://www.digitalnewsworld.com/news/poland-approves-disbursement-of-eur-100-mln-loan-to-ukraine.html>

### **Berlusconi arrives in Crimea to meet with Putin, 11.09.2015**

Former Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi arrived on a private visit to Crimea on Friday to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists on Wednesday that Putin could meet with Berlusconi soon to discuss bilateral and international issues. "We do not rule out the possibility that a personal meeting between Berlusconi and Russian President Vladimir Putin may take place one of these days," Peskov

said. Peskov recalled that Berlusconi and the Russian leader maintained long-term business and friendly relationships. Their talks could focus not only on bilateral issues of Russian-Italian ties but also on developments in the international arena, the spokesman said, noting also that Putin and Berlusconi could exchange views on most "pressing regional problems". "Any contacts with politicians and government officials having such rank as Berlusconi - no matter whether they are incumbent politicians or non-incumbent ones - are certainly a matter of diplomacy," Peskov said, adding that these were important contacts and the Russian president "attaches great significance to them".

<http://tass.ru/en/world/820388>

### **EU extends sanctions against Russia for six more months, 14.09.2015**

The European Council has completed the formal procedure of extending until March 15, 2016 its sanctions against Russian companies and individuals that undermine the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, referring to a decision taken in Brussels at a meeting of the European Council on Monday.

[http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main\\_news/65440/view/](http://www.fm-tv.kiev.ua/main_news/65440/view/)

### **ODIHR and HCNM report identifies widespread human rights violations, discrimination and legal irregularities in Crimea, 17.09.2015**

Since the occupation and annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation in early 2014, the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms has deteriorated radically for a large number of residents and displaced persons – particularly for pro-Ukrainian activists, journalists and the Crimean Tatar community, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) said in a report published today. The 100-page Report of the Human Rights Assessment Mission on Crimea provides a comprehensive examination of the current human rights situation in Crimea, in light of developments since the release of a previous joint report by ODIHR and the HCNM, issued in May 2014. "Fundamental freedoms of assembly, association, expression and movement have all been restricted by the de facto authorities in Crimea," said Michael Georg Link, Director of ODIHR. "This has occurred through the application of restrictive Russian Federation laws and through the sporadic targeting of individuals, media or communities seeking to peacefully present opposing views." Based on interviews with more than 100 civil society actors, representatives of the Ukrainian authorities, Crimean residents and displaced persons, and people travelling between Crimea and mainland Ukraine, the ODIHR/HCNM report presents numerous credible, consistent and compelling accounts of serious human rights violations and legal irregularities in Crimea.

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/182526>

<http://www.osce.org/odihr/180596?download=true>

### **Turkey ready to cooperate with Russia on Syrian issue, 19.09.2015**

Foreign Minister Feridun Sinirlioglu paid a working visit to the Russian Federation on September 15-16, 2015. Sinirlioglu noted that although Turkey and Russia have different ideas about Assad's future, nevertheless, the two sides have agreed that the current situation in Syria is not acceptable and that both countries are threatened by that situation, according to the report. Foreign Minister Lavrov stated that although opinions might diverge on issues about Middle East, both countries embraced common goals for regional stability. Lavrov also added that Turkey would continue to be an important partner for the Russian Federation.

<http://www.unian.info/world/1128460-turkey-ready-to-cooperate-with-russia-on-syrian-issue.html>

### **Activists blocking traffic at Kalanchak checkpoint at border with Crimea, 20.09.2015**

Crimean Tatars pray as they block the road at the checkpoint between Ukraine and Crimea, in Chongar, on September 20, 2015. Hundreds of representatives of the Muslim Crimean Tatar community take part in a blockade from Ukraine to the Crimean peninsula annexed by Russia in March 2014, to protest against the violation of their rights.

<https://www.kyivpost.com/content/ukraine/unian-activists-blocking-traffic-at-kalanchak-checkpoint-at-border-with-crimea-398291.html>

<https://www.rt.com/news/316034-food-blockade-crimea-ukraine/>



### **Russian Opposition Calls for Power Change in Moscow Rally, 20.09.2015**

Thousands of people gathered in Moscow Sunday evening calling for greater political freedoms and a change to the country's ruling powers after opposition parties failed to win representation in regional elections this month. Between 8,000 and 10,000 gathered at the rally just outside of the center of the Russian capital, said Leonid Volkov, one of the organizers, by telephone on Sunday. Prior to the rally as many as 8,400 people had registered their interest on Facebook while Moscow authorities gave permission for up to 40,000 demonstrators to congregate. Moscow police press-service said that about 4,000 people turned up.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-09-20/russian-opposition-calls-for-power-change-in-moscow-rally>

### **Crimean authorities want to substitute Ukrainian goods in two weeks, 21.09.2015**

Crimea hopes to replace Ukrainian goods by Russian ones within two weeks, reported the Head of the Russia-occupied Crimea Sergey Aksenov. Almost all the network companies and private entrepreneurs have entered into agreements with the mainland farmers. As of now, Russian products constitute 90% of the market. With this approach in two weeks there will be no Ukrainian goods on the shelves of supermarkets, Aksyonov told.

<http://qha.com.ua/en/politics/crimean-authorities-want-to-substitute-ukrainian-goods-in-two-weeks/133950/>

### **Nato helps Ukraine prepare for dirty bomb attack, 22.09.2015**

Nato has dispatched nuclear and chemical weapons detection and decontamination teams to Ukraine to improve its response to a radioactive attack. Ukrainian special forces will join hundreds of civilian specialists, including British experts, for exercises this week to practice for an event involving widespread contamination of an area with radioactive material. Officially they will simulate the aftermath of a massive mine explosion — destroying a residential area, knocking out critical infrastructure such as power and communication lines, and causing radioactive fallout.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article4563757.ece>

<http://uatoday.tv/politics/ukraine-wants-help-to-build-nuclear-defence-shield-arseniy-yatsenyuk-498674.html>

### **Over 200 men in balaclavas brawl at Kharkiv town hall, clash with police, 23.09.2015**

"We're at Kharkiv City Council where a session is taking place now. Prior to that, more than 200 people wearing balaclavas came to the house of Mykhailo Dobkin. Now they've moved to the city council's building and asked [Kharkiv Mayor] Hennadiy Kernes to come out". "There have been several clashes between police and people wearing balaclavas. A few minutes ago, someone released tear gas. The city council's doorway is surrounded by a thick cordon of police. The guys stepped about 20 meters back. No specific demands were announced by the people in balaclavas, but while standing outside Dobkin's house, they said their task was to throw Dobkin away from the city and make everything possible so that Kernes would not become Kharkiv mayor," the reporter said.

<http://www.unian.info/society/1131951-over-200-men-in-balaclavas-brawls-in-kharkiv-town-hall-clash-with-police.html>

### **An Obama-Putin Meeting Makes Sense, 28.09.2015**

However distasteful he may find it, President Obama has no choice but to try to work with President Vladimir Putin if there is to be an end to the Syria debacle, just as Mr. Obama had no choice but to work with the Russian on the Iran deal. Thus a meeting of the two presidents on the relatively neutral ground of the United Nations General Assembly is the right thing to do. It thus seemed puerile for the White House press secretary, Josh Earnest, to portray Mr. Putin as a beggar "desperate" for a meeting and to belittle his personal appearance. That is not the way to prepare for a critical meeting.

Still, it is easy to sympathize with Mr. Obama. Mr. Putin has openly defied international law and Western sanctions by his annexation of Ukraine and support of rebels in eastern Ukraine. His backing of Syria's President Bashar al-Assad is one reason the Syrian civil war has dragged on so long and has created so appalling a humanitarian crisis. He routinely blames the United States for his troubles.

For these and other reasons it is not easy for Mr. Obama to acknowledge that he needs Mr. Putin's cooperation. The hard truth, however, is that neither Mr. Obama nor Mr. Putin is on particularly solid ground. The American effort to train moderate Syrians who could roll back both the Islamic State and the Assad forces has been a dismal failure; indeed, it is becoming increasingly clear that ISIS cannot be confronted effectively without a political settlement in Syria between Mr. Assad's regime and the opposition, which may mean keeping Mr. Putin's client temporarily in power.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/28/opinion/an-obama-putin-meeting-makes-sense.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/09/28/opinion/an-obama-putin-meeting-makes-sense.html?_r=0)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2015/09/27/politics/obama-un-general-assembly/>

<http://www.unian.info/world/1136635-obama-about-kremlin-aggression-it-could-happen-to-any-nation.html>

### **Tension clouds meeting between Barack Obama, Vladimir Putin, 29.09.2015**

The two presidents huddled in a second floor conference room at United Nations headquarters for roughly 90 minutes, squaring off on the contentious issues of Ukraine and Syria and seeking to discern each others' strategies after a two-year freeze in face-to-face encounters. Ahead of the meeting, Obama's aides had modest expectations for results, saying they were looking for a candid conversation on Ukraine and greater clarity on why Russia is ramping up its military presence in Ukraine. Those goals, U.S. officials said, appeared to have been reached. "We have clarity on their objectives," one senior administration official said. "Their objectives are to go after ISIL and to support the government." It's Russia's support for Syria's government, run by President Bashar al-Assad, that divides Obama and Putin. Officials say while the two men agreed to maintain military-to-military communication to avoid conflicts in the region, they failed to agree on what a peaceful solution to Syria's civil war might look like.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2015/09/28/politics/obama-putin-meeting-syria-ukraine/>

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