



# NBU GOVERNOR SAYS EQUILIBRIUM ACHIEVED ON FOREX MARKET

The National Bank of Ukraine has said that the foreign exchange market has stabilized in recent weeks and that they started working on the gradual removal of restrictions on foreign exchange transactions in line with the commitments under the new program of cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"There are grounds to speak about the achievement of equilibrium on the foreign exchange market... That's why the National Bank has noted the existence of prerequisites for liberalization of the market and easing some restrictions," the NBU press service quoted the central bank's governor Valeriya Gontareva.

She recalled that on April 10, 2015, the NBU canceled the requirement of the obligatory use of letters of credit to import certain vitally important goods (oil, petrol, diesel fuel, drugs for hemodialysis and treating patients) for transactions under direct contracts with producers, and military goods.

## POROSHENKO HOPES FOR VISA-FREE TRAVEL WITH EU FROM 2016

The Ukrainian authorities are hoping that after the Eastern Partnership summit in Riga the European Union will recognize Kyiv's prospects for European integration and will agree to cancel visa requirements from January 1, 2016, Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko said. "We must get (answers to) two main questions. First: recognition of the European prospect for Ukraine. Second: support for the Ukrainian bid to secure visa-free travel from January 1, 2016," Poroshenko said after talks with his Polish counterpart Bronislaw Komorowski in Kyiv. The Eastern Partnership summit is due to be held in Riga on. ISSUE 2 | 18 APRIL 2015

#### HEADLINES

NBU GOVERNOR SAYS EQUILIBRIUM ACHIEVED ON FOREX MARKET

POROSHENKO HOPES FOR VISA-FREE TRAVEL WITH EU FROM 2016

UKRAINE HAS POLITICAL, PUBLIC WILL FOR REFORMS FOR THE FIRST TIME – IMF



TOP-25 COUNTRIES EXPORTERS TO UKRAINE



ECONOMY MINISTRY TO PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO EXPORTS OF SERVICES

GLAS TROSCH STILL PLANS TO BUILD FLOAT-GLASS PLANT IN DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

UKRAINE'S INTERNATIONAL RESERVES 77.2% UP IN MARCH, TO \$9.97 BLN



EC WELCOMES OPEN SKIES AGREEMENT WITH UKRAINE

ULIE, NGOS' ANTI-CRISIS COUNCIL PREPARE BAILOUT ACTION PLAN FOR GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESSES

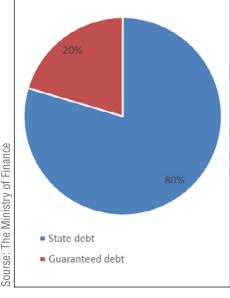


#### EU, NATO ONLY RECOGNIZES 1991 UKRAINIAN BORDERS, WILL NEVER ACCEPT ANY VIOLENT CHANGES – KOMOROWSKI



The EU and NATO will never recognize violent changes to Ukraine's borders, Polish President Bronislaw Komorowski has said. During his speech at the Ukrainian parliament, Komorowski said that the EU and NATO only recognize territorial integrity of Ukraine within the borders that were established in 1991, and any violent changes to them never be accepted. Komorowski said that such attempts would be always condemned by Poland.

#### SHARE OF EXTERNAL AND GUARANTEED STATE DEBT OF UKRAINE IN 2015 (MLN USD)



## DRAFT BUDGET RESOLUTION FOR 2016 SETS 2% GDP GROWTH, 9% INFLATION, UAH 22.5/\$1 – CABINET

The Ukrainian government has submitted to the Verkhovna Rada the draft guidelines of the budget policy for 2016 (the budget resolution), built on the forecast for a GDP growth of 2% with inflation (December to December) being 9%, and the average annual hryvnia to U.S. dollar exchange rate of UAH 22.5 per \$1.

According to the document, it is aimed at keeping the maximum amount of the national budget deficit within 3% of GDP and retaining a share of GDP redistribution through the consolidated budget at a level not higher than stipulated in the 2015 national budget.

The government noted that the draft document is based on the program of cooperation between Ukraine and the International Monetary Fund.



## UKRAINE'S INTERNATIONAL RESERVES 77.2% UP IN MARCH, TO \$9.97 BLN

Ukraine's international reserves in March 2015 rose by 77.2%, to \$9.97 billion, according to the website of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), with reference to preliminary data.

"Ukraine's international reserves today are sufficient to fulfill the commitments and ongoing operations of the government and the NBU," reads the report.

In January-March, international reserves increased by 32.3%, from \$7.533 billion. According to the NBU, the change in international reserves in March was primar-

ily due to receiving funds from the International Monetary Fund under the EFF program, worth \$4.873 billion, including \$2.633 billion for the government.

According to the NBU, the government's and the NBU's payments to repay and service public and publicly guaranteed debts in foreign currency amounted to \$906.9 million, including \$221.9 million – to the IMF.



# UKRAINE HAS POLITICAL, PUBLIC WILL FOR REFORMS FOR THE FIRST TIME – IMF

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) EFF program for Ukraine has risks because of the uncertain situation in the country but the fund had to support the government and the people of Ukraine in their quest to implement reforms and restore economic growth, IMF First Deputy Managing Director David Lipton has said.

"Now, Ukraine has the political will, but it has to contend with a full-blown economic and financial crisis. And for the first time in a long time a political window of opportunity has opened. The country has elected leaders who are approaching economic policy making with purpose and commitment," Lipton said while speaking at the Peterson Institute for International Economics in Washington.

"President Poroshenko and Prime Minister Yatseniuk are in sync on the main economic issues. And they can call on a more united political class and general public [who are] now more ready to accept changes they had Commenting on the criticism



of the fund for its decision dated March 11 to approve the four-year EFF program worth \$17.5 billion for Ukraine in such an uncertain situation, Lipton said "the fund's job is to support members in crisis provided they are trying to put themselves right."

"That goal may be hard, but it is not unrealistic. To achieve it, Ukraine must pursue its reform program, and the international community must support that effort. The government has the right plan and the determination to follow through. The program has the backing of the Ukrainian people. So it is only right that we are standing with them," Lipton said.

"Sadly, Ukraine since independence has been a story of too many lost opportunities and too much disappointment; economic mismanagement and half-hearted reforms holding back growth; corruption and oligarchy undermining the market economy; and episodes of voter fraud and abuse of power undercutting democracy... During this interval, Ukraine entered into eight IMF programs, none of which achieved the objective of prompting sustained reform," the IMF official stressed.

"From a financing standpoint, the objective of the program is to cover Ukraine's external financing needs, estimated at about \$40 billion over the next four years... This financing will help triple Ukraine's official reserves to about \$18 billion at the end of this year from just \$5.6 billion before agreement was reached with the fund. Reserves then should reach \$35 billion by the end of 2018," reads the report.

"There are also a set of needed reforms affecting the business climate. Key policy measures in these areas relate to governance: deregulation and reform of tax administration, transparency, and reforms of state-owned enterprises. Central to this effort will be an independent audit of Naftogaz's receivables, and a restructuring of the company to separate its transmission and distribution arms. Finally, nothing is more important than a commitment to tackle corruption," the expert summarized.

#### RADA ADOPTS LAW ON GAS MARKET

The Verkhovna Rada has adopted at second reading, and as a whole, law No. 2250 on the natural gas market. When considering the law, MPs confirmed the amendment, which prohibits the use of state gas pipelines by private operators under the terms of economic management (for free). At the same time, the lease or concession of gas distribution systems is not prohibited.

The main purpose of the law is the creation of an effective, competitive environment in the natural gas market, taking into account the basic requirements of EU legislation, including those under Directive 2009/73/EC of the European Parliament concerning common rules for the internal market of natural gas, and Regulation 715/2009 of the European Parliament on the conditions of access to natural gas transmission networks.

According to MP Ostap Semerak (People's Front), the adoption of the law is one of the conditions for the approval of a \$17.5 billion IMF loan for Ukraine under the new EFF program.

Earlier, Naftogaz Ukrainy board chairman Andriy Kobolev said that bringing Ukrainian gas legislation in line with European standards would increase the prospects of the country's participation in the European Energy Union.



### CONSUMER CONFIDENCE IN UKRAINE IMPROVES IN MARCH – GFK

Onsumer confidence in Ukraine improved by 0.7 points, to 41.8 in March 2015, according to a study conducted by GfK Ukraine.

"In March 2015 the fall in consumer confidence of Ukrainians [which] continued for the past fours month [was] suspended. The Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) improved by 0.7 points, to 41.8," reads the report.

The company said that the Index of Propensity to Consume lost 3.3 points, reaching 48.9.

Expectations of changes in unemployment improved: the Index of Expectations of Changes in Unemployment (IECU) rose by 6.1 points, to 163.3.

Inflationary expectations improved: the Index of Inflationary Expectations (IIE) lost 6.7 points, reaching 181. Devaluation expectations improved by 27.4 points, to 133.6.

CCI in Ukraine is calculated on the basis of a selective poll of households. During the study, 1,000 people aged from 16 upwards were polled.

GfK Ukraine is a Ukrainian research company. It is part of the GfK Group international market research network.



# **UN PLEDGES \$300 MLN IN AID TO UKRAINE**

The UN stands ready to provide \$300 million in aid to Ukraine, said Ukrainian Deputy Prime Minister and Regional Development Minister Hennadiy Zubko. "The UN has made a preliminary announcement that it could make about \$300 million in aid available to Ukraine," the Regional Development Ministry's press service quoted Zubko as saying.

Zubko also said that the Ukrainian leadership has drawn up a humanitarian plan for Ukraine, based on the current assessment of funding needed to rehabilitate Donbas, amounting to about \$1.5 billion.

"It's a very serious challenge: one million displaced persons and five million citizens in need of aid. No European country can cope with such a workload on its own today," he said, adding that the plan has been drafted by the Regional Development Ministry in cooperation with the European Union, UN and World Bank.

"Very much will depend on how well we will be prepared and what instruments we will propose for solving the problems. We hope many countries will start rallying around the problem facing Central Europe as a whole, not Ukraine alone," Zubko said.



## ECONOMY MINISTRY TO PAY SPECIAL Attention to exports of services

The Economic Development and Trade Ministry of Ukraine will pay special attention to the exports of services from Ukraine, Deputy Minister and Trade Commissioner Natalia Mykolska has said at the forum entitled "Exports: Second Breath."

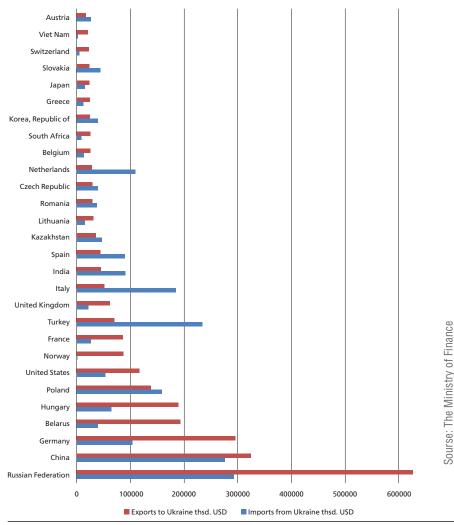
"The important direction is adding stress to exports of services. Now it is 17% of total Ukrainian exports. As a rule, in the countries which have a balanced approach to exports of goods and services, it is around 25-30%. The ministry will pay more attention to exporters of services. This is not only the IT sector, these are educational, tourism, medical and other services," she said.

Mykolska said that infrastructure should be developed and the business climate should be changed so that businesses not conduct transactions via offshore companies.

"We have many mechanisms which were little used by business or were not used at all. These are intergovernmental and interagency commissions, negotiations on free trade areas and the attraction of businesses to them. We have mechanisms – visits of our officials to other states. Our task is during each visit of our minister, prime minister or other high-ranking official, they should lobby for the trade interests of our country," she said.

Mykolska added that the ministry will work transparently with small and medium-sized businesses.

### **TOP-25 COUNTRIES EXPORTERS TO UKRAINE**



### GLAS TROSCH STILL PLANS TO BUILD FLOAT-GLASS PLANT IN DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

G las Trösch Group (Switzerland), one of the largest European flat glass producers, still plans to build a float glass plant worth \$250 million with a projected capacity of 700 tonnes a day in Dnipropetrovsk region.

Commercial Director at Glas Trosch in Ukraine and Moldova Serhiy Sorokun announced this at a conference devoted to modern facade systems and translucent structures, their energy efficiency, durability and safety, which was held in Kyiv.

"We have plans, but the next step is by our Swiss investors-owners of business. Documents are ready, and studies have been conducted," he told reporters.

Sorokun said that from an industrial point of view the only question on the possible realization of the project is the supply of soda required for float glass production.

At present, the key risks for the realization of the project is the political situation in Ukraine and the cost of natural gas consumed by the project, Sorokun said.

He said that the calculated gas consumption by the plant is around 120,000 cubic meters a day.

Glas Trösch entered the Ukrainian market in 2008 via the acquisition of Linewood enterprise in Artemivsk. In 2010, Glas Trösch bought nine companies of the Euroglass Group, one of the largest glass unit producers in Ukraine.

The main part of the glass units used in production by Glas Trosch Ukraine is supplied by Glas Trösch plants in France, Germany and Poland.

Glas Trosch Ukraine has nine companies, including eight in Ukraine and Crimea (Simferopol) and one in Moldova (Chisinau). As of early 2015, the total annual capacity of the enterprises was up to 6.5 million square meters.

#### RADA ADOPTS LAW ON DECENTRALIZATION IN ARCHITECTURAL, CONSTRUCTION CONTROL

The Verkhovna Rada has adopted the law on amendments to some legislative acts concerning the decentralization of authority in state architectural and construction control and the improvement of urban planning legislation.

The law transfers the implementation of state architectural and construction control from the central executive authority to local self-governance and executive authorities, and simplifies certain licensing and conciliation procedures in construction.

The central authorities which currently implement state policy on architectural and construction control will fulfill the functions until they are transferred to local authorities.

The law also improves the procedure of filing a declaration on the implementation of preparatory and construction work, shortens the term of issuing technical conditions in the relevant field, and increases legal responsibility.



#### UKRAINE HALVES SPECIAL TAX ON NEW IMPORTED CARS AS OF APRIL 14

A s of April 14, 2015, Ukraine halved the special tax on new imported passenger cars with 1-1.5-liter petrol engines to 2.15%, and those with 1.5-2.2-liter petrol engines to 4.32%.

Ukraine's interagency commission on international trade originally introduced the tax on imports of new passenger cars with 1-1.5-liter petrol engines at 6.46%, and with 1.5-2.2-liter petrol engines at 12.95%, irrespective of the country of origin and export on March 14, 2013. The tax was introduced after an investigation was initiated by Ukrainian car manufacturers.

As of April 14, 2014, the special tax on imported passenger cars with 1-1.5-liter petrol engines was reduced by a third, to 4.31%, and with 1.5-2.2-liter petrol engines to 8.63%.

The tax is subject to a reduction every year under the trade liberalization regime.



As reported, in late October 2013, Japan began consultations with Ukraine on the introduction of limitations on car imports. The EU and Russia subsequently joined the consultations.

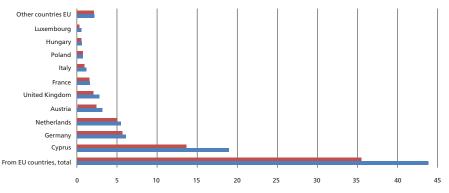
According to experts, the special tax has considerably realigned forces on the Ukrainian vehicle market and reformatted the demand for cars with diesel engines.

Car importers are now initiating the revocation of the tax in connection with a sharp reduction in the new passenger car market, which is due to the weakening of the national currency, the unstable political and economic situation, and other factors.

#### FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (EQUITY CAPITAL) FROM EU COUNTRIES TO UKRAINE (ACCRUAL TOTAL SINCE THE BEGINNING OF INVESTMENT, BLN. USD)

#### **VOLUME OF DIRECT INVESTMENT AS OF**

	01.01.2014	31.12.2014
From EU countries, total	43,9	35,6
Cyprus	19,0	13,7
Germany	6,2	5,7
Netherlands	5,5	5,1
Austria	3,2	2,5
United Kingdom	2,8	2,1
France	1,7	1,6
Italy	1,2	1,0
Poland	0,8	0,8
Hungary	0,7	0,6
Luxembourg	0,6	0,4
Other countries EU	2,2	2,1
For information:		
To Ukraine, total	57.1	45,9



Excluding the temporarily occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol. Source: State Statistics Services

## RYANAIR COULD OPERATE FROM LVIV AIRPORT – INFRASTRUCTURE MINISTRY

reland's low-cost airline Ryanair is potentially ready to enter Ukraine, in particular, Lviv airport, Ukrainian Infrastructure Minister Andriy Pyvovarsky told reporters. "Ryanair is potentially ready, and other low-cost airlines are potentially ready, but Easy Jet – unlikely. This potentially means that they are to study and analyze. This is only economy and they are interested in the sums that can earn. Various conditions could be, and my task and the task of my deputies, the State Aviation Service is to at least contact

them and say "welcome," give their vision and on what conditions they are ready to enter, and we will see if we can provide any conditions to them," he said.

He said that Ukraine is ready to provide various preferences to airlines at Lviv airport.





## UKRAINIAN GRAIN HARVEST COULD BE 57.4 MLN TONNES, OILSEEDS HARVEST 15.1 MLN TONNES – EXPERT

The gross grain harvest in 2015 may be lower than last year's harvest and could reach 57.36 million tonnes, Head of the Business Project Service at APK-Inform news agency Rodion Rybchinsky has said.

"The fields sowed with crops will almost remain unchanged... However we predict a fall in the yield for almost all crops," he said at a press conference in Kyiv. Rybchinsky added that according to his projections, fields with grain crops will total 14.825 million hectares compared to 14.8 million hectares in 2014. The average yield could fall from 43.7 centners per hectare to 39.7 centners per hectare.

The expert said that thanks to the good hibernation period the wheat harvest could be 23.6 million tonnes. The corn harvest could fall from 28.5 million tonnes to 24.3 million tonnes mainly due to the reduction of fields with corn.

He also said that the number of fields with soybeans will increase by 19%, to 2.15 million hectares, which would boost its harvest to 4.036 million tonnes. The expert said that sunflower harvest in 2015 could amount to 9.574 million tonnes, and rape-seeds harvest could amount to 1.491 million tonnes.

### EC WELCOMES OPEN SKIES AGREEMENT WITH UKRAINE

The European Commission (EC) has welcomed the signing of the Open Skies Agreement (OSA) between Ukraine and the EU.

EC official Yakub Adamovich said the commission welcomes the establishment of the agreement while speaking at a briefing in Brussels.

However, he said that there is no precise information currently available on the signing of such an agreement, due to a related and unresolved issue involving Gibraltar.

Adamovich said he hopes the decision would satisfy all sides, and he added that it's important that both the EU and Ukraine adhere to the same standards.

Previously, Infrastructure Minister Andriy Pyvovarsky predicted that the process of signing a common aviation space agreement with the EU "won't be easy, and doesn't depend on Ukraine."

#### RADA INTRODUCES TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM ON ROUND TIMBER EXPORTS

The Verkhovna Rada has introduced a ten-year ban on the export of timber and lumber in its raw form (round timber), while a ban on word exports (except for pine) will be introduced from November 1, 2015, and that for pine trees - from January 1, 2017.

The law provides for the introduction of a ten-year ban on the export from Ukraine of timber and lumber in its raw form, in particular, round timber with the transport humidity being above 22%, as well as lumber with thickness exceeding 70 mm with a similar transport humidity.



While presenting the bill for second reading, the chairman of the committee on industrial policy and entrepreneurship Viktor Halasiuk said that the law eliminates the monopoly of the central executive authority on issuing certificates - they will now also be issued by forestries, permanent forest users, and a single electronic register will be introduced that will allow certificates to be traced.

He said that the wording of the bill has been agreed with timber processing enterprises and forestry establishments, as well as the Embassy of Poland, which "is one of the main interested parties – they will plant their plants."

#### HADZ HORTICULTURAL BUSINESS TO INVEST SOME EUR 10 MLN INTO FRUIT STORAGE COMPLEX



he Hadz horticultural business (Ternopil region) plans to build a fruit storage, sorting and packaging complex worth some EUR 10 million. "We'll invest in refrigerators, packaging line, logistics to orient not only to the domestic market, but the foreign one. Investment will total around EUR 10 million. This year we start building the complex. Next year equipment will be brought," the owner of the business Petro Hadz said at the fifth financial agribusiness forum "Situation in 2015: Where to Take Money?" He said that the facilities will be commissioned in 2016. Over the past three years the business planted a garden on 600 hectares where apples, pears and plums are growing. In three years Hadz plans to harvest 40,000-50,000 tonnes of fruit.

In 2016, Hadz plans to start exporting apples. "We were in the Baltic countries and Finland. They will buy our products with pleasure. Of course, the relevant quality and package under European standards is required," he said.

He predicts that up to 10,000 tonnes will be supplied to foreign markets in 2016, including the European market.

# UKRAINIAN SOUVENIR COMPANY ENTERS EU MARKET

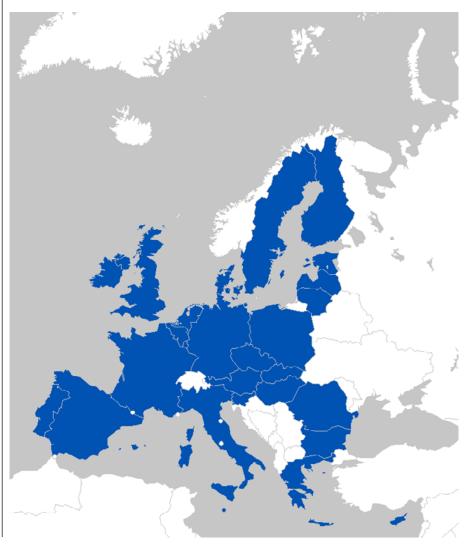
The Linline Ukraine Company has started to sell its matted wool souvenirs on the Lithuanian market. The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE), which has stable contacts with the Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists, helped the company enter the market of the friendly country.

"Thanks to the cooperation with the ULIE and its partners, we made friends with Lithuanian craftsmen and found partners in Europe. Some of our matted wool souvenirs – cell phone cases, brooches, pins – generated great interest there. We came to Vilnius just to show samples, but it happened so that specialized craft galleries took them for sale at once," Linline Ukraine Director Kateryna Yaroshenko said.

Lithuania actively supports the development of ethnic-oriented productions. The government and the European Union (EU) subsidize such programs, for instance, they cover rents for workshops, galleries and museums. There is no such diligent and careful attitude to handicraft trade in Ukraine yet. However, similar programs could be implemented as part of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU. They could significantly increase tourist attractiveness, contribute to the revival of cultural heritage, and provide thousands of Ukrainians with jobs.

The company currently has forward-looking plans. It is gathering Ukrainian craftsmen for collective participation in Lithuanian fairs and trade shows. One such event – the Klaipeda Sea Festival – is to be held in the middle of July 2015. In addition, the craftsmen are ready to make new products – educational toys made of Ukrainian eco-friendly wood.

"Cooperation between Ukraine and the EU does not always mean large-scale projects implemented by large factories. Ukrainian small- and medium-sized businesses are ready to have their say on the European markets," ULIE First Vice-President Serhiy Prokhorov said.



## ULIE, NGOS' ANTI-CRISIS COUNCIL PREPARE BAILOUT ACTION PLAN FOR GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESSES

The social and economic situation in Ukraine remains extremely complicated, and the reform implementation process is very slow. The country's economy exhibited no growth in the first months of 2015 – industrial production January through February 2015 was 21.7% down year-over-year. During these hard times businesses are ready to offer their support to the government and consolidate their efforts to overcome the crisis. Industrialists and entrepreneurs discussed these issues at a joint meeting of the Anti-Crisis Council of Non-Governmental Organizations and the Management Board of the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE).



The ULIE and the Anti-Crisis Council of Non-Governmental Organizations, which includes more than 80 business associations, drew up the Anti-Crisis Program of Joint Actions of the Government and Businesses, and the business community has submitted it to the Ukrainian government. Businesses think that the measures they suggest could stop the slump in industrial output, improve the living standards of households, and give the economy a chance of development. "Our program is based on an unbiased depoliticized analysis of the situation in the country and utilizes the practice of many enterprises in recent months. It calls on the government for partnership as long as only effective cooperation between the state and the real sector of the country should be elaborated, an export policy should be developed, the economy should be streamlined to meet European standards as soon as possible, the taxation and investment environment should be reformed, while specific conditions should be created for small- and medium-sized businesses and self-employed citizens," ULIE President Anatoliy Kinakh said.

Industrialists and entrepreneurs believe that particular attention should be devoted to social protection and the introduction of effective targeted relief aid for vulnerable social groups.

Businesses' associations also demand that the government create a favorable business environment, protect and support national producers, and create financially sustainable and developed regions in Ukraine. The Anti-Crisis Program suggests measures to improve the monetary policy of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), eliminate problems with energy security, facilitate energy efficiency and energy saving, fight against corruption, decentralize power, develop better personnel policies and restore Ukraine's labor potential.

The ULIE is sure that the Anti-Crisis Program of Joint Actions of the Government and Businesses should become an integral part of the adopted Action Plan of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Coalition Agreement of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

### JAPAN CONFIRMS PROVISION OF JPY 108 BLN TO RECONSTRUCT BORTNYCHI AERATION STATION

The Japanese government has confirmed it plans to provide a JPY 108 billion loan to reconstruct the Bortnychi aeration station in Kyiv, Kyivvodokanal Board Chairman and Director General Andriy Bilyk said at a roundtable talk in Kyiv, with reference to tentative information from the Japanese Embassy in Ukraine.

"This is the official confirmation of plans of the Japanese government to support the financing of the project on the reconstruction of the Bortnychi aeration station in the amount of JPY 108 billion," he said.

Bilyk said that the agreement is an important stage in the project to reconstruct the Bortnychi aeration station. It precedes the signing of the intergovernmental credit agreement. "This credit is the largest credit in the utilities sector in Eastern Europe. It would not affect the tariff in the near future, as the financial conditions are unique and we have 10 years of vacation period," he said.



### **EBRD COULD PROVIDE UP TO** \$40 MLN CREDIT LINE TO VIOIL GROUP

he European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) could provide debt financing of up to \$40 million to one of the largest oilseed processors in Ukraine Vioil Group, in the form of a syndicated senior secured revolving credit line.

According to a post on the EBRD's website, the bank's board will make the relevant decision on May 6.



The bank would provide the credit line to finance Vioil Group's working capital needs associated with the purchase of sunflower, rape seeds and soya beans and their primary processing into edible oil.

Vioil combines two fat and oil mills in Vinnytsia and Chernivtsi, which after the launch of a new plant in 2013 has a total processing capacity of 2,700 tonnes of seeds a day.

The group also includes a network of grain accepting enterprises and elevators in Ukraine. 🗌

# **BORYSPIL AIRPORT POSTS 9% RISE IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC IN MARCH**



B oryspil International Airport (Nylv), Oktaine of an joer and a standard an increase in passenger traforyspil International Airport (Kyiv), Ukraine's largest airport, in March, and for fic by 9% compared to March 2014, to 459,300 passengers.

The airport's press service told Interfax-Ukraine that in particular, in March it served 421,000 passengers on international routes and 38,300 on domestic routes.

"However, the amount of flights from the airport was 7% less than in the same period last year - 5,171 flights, of which 4,638 international and 533 domestic," the press service said.

The average occupancy of aircraft in March 2015 was 71%, in March 2014 the average figure was 61%, and on some routes occupancy was between 30-40%.

The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE) is the largest union of business associations and individual enterprises in Ukraine with its members ranging from vertically egrated corporations to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). For already more than 20 years the League's key mission is to promote and protect interests of the Ukrainian business within Ukraine and beyond. With its central offices in Kyiv, ULIE manages 28 regional subsidiar-ies, 73 branches, 22 representative offices and 34 commissions on key sectors of the economy. The League is also a signatory to 155 international agreements on cooperation and has representative offices in 21 countries, including Representative Office in the EU in Brussels. The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Representative Office in the EU: 168 Avenue de Cortenbergh, 3rd floor, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium T/F: +32 (0) 2 736 72 13 uspp.ua/en The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs Head Office: 34 Khreshchtyk Street, Kyiv 01001, Ukraine Tel: +380 (44) 278 30 69

languages – Ukrainian, Russian, English and German. According to the GfK-Ukraine International research company, Interfax-Ukraine is the leader in all of the key operational indicators among the news agencies in our country (quotations in the mass media, size of readership, evaluations in such categories as neutrality of coverage, swiftness in the provision of information, etc. Information newswires from Interfax-Ukraine are integrated into news streams of Bloomberg and Reuters menax-UKraine is an active member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine and the European Business Association, the agency plays an active role in coverage of all activities of these organizations and in lobbying of the interests of their members. News from Ukraine wired through the Interfax Agency's network reaches clients around the world. What is more, you can gain free-of-charge 10-day trial access to any chosen service by applying to Maksim Urakin at urakin@interfax.kiev.ua, or through <u>http://en.interfax.com.ua/products.html</u>, or by just telephoning (+38 044) 270 6574/75.