



# UKRAINE

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## EBRD investments in Ukraine will reach EUR 550 mln



The investment of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in the development of business projects in Ukraine will reach EUR 550 million by the end of 2018, EBRD Deputy Head for Ukraine Marina Petrov has said. "Taking into account this transaction [a loan to the carrier Negabarit-Service], we will have about EUR 505 million in the deals signed in 2018, and we hope that we should reach EUR 550 million by the end of the year," she said at a press conference.

Petrov also noted that the EBRD plans to increase investments by 20% if the rate of economic growth is maintained.

"The economic growth that started in Ukraine creates opportunities for new business investments. We hope that in 2019 we will do more business by at least 20%, and if the macroeconomic situation remains stable, we will try to do more," she said.

According to her, the EBRD continues to consider Ukraine as one of the main countries among its customers.

"We are very positive about the prospects for next year's projects," she said.

## HEADLINES



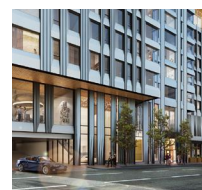
DANISH JYSK EXPANDS NETWORK IN UKRAINE



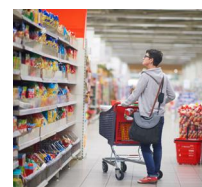
CABINET OF MINISTERS PERMITS BIOPHARMA TO EXPORT DONOR BLOOD PREPARATIONS FOR INDEFINITE PERIOD OF TIME



UKRENERGO SIGNS CONTRACT WITH GENERAL ELECTRIC FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF SUBSTATIONS



PRICES OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WILL GROW BY 20% AFTER ELECTIONS



RETAIL TRADE TURNOVER IN UKRAINE 6.2% UP



UKRAINE WILL INCREASE WHEAT EXPORTS IN 2019



# Foreign Ministry of Ukraine to start e-visas' processing for nationals of 52 countries from Jan 1, 2019



Starting from January 1, 2019, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry will be processing e-visas for nationals of 52 countries using an extended list of purposes for a visit to Ukraine. The department of the ministry's consular service said in a post on Facebook that the list will include such purposes as business trips, private visits, tourist trips, trips for medical treatment, trips for carrying out activities in culture, science, education, and sports, as well as trips by foreign media journalists visiting Ukraine as part of their job.

The nationals of the following countries are entitled to apply for e-visas to Ukraine: Australia, the Bahamas, Bahrain, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kiribati, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, the Maldives, the Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Oman, Palau, Peru, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, The process of getting e-visas has remained as simple as possible.



***To obtain an e-visa, one needs to sign up at the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry's website at <https://evisa.mfa.gov.ua/>, fill out an application form there, upload a recent photograph and scanned copies of their documents (a passport, an invitation, etc.), and pay a consular fee online with a banking card. The issued e-visas will be sent to the applicants' email addresses in a PDF format.***

In order to be granted entry into Ukraine, foreign visitors will have to print out their granted e-visas and present them along with their valid passports to Ukrainian border guards upon arrival to Ukraine (e-visas are only valid for entry through international checkpoints on the Ukrainian state border).

E-visas are to be issued within nine working days. The consular fee is \$85. The e-visas will be issued for a single trip lasting up to 30 days.

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## Bank Lviv attracts EUR 5 mln from Dutch Triodos

PJSC Bank Lviv has attracted funding from Triodos Investment Management (Netherlands) in the amount of EUR 5 million, the bank said on its website. "Dutch-based company Triodos Investment Management through its inclusive financial funds, namely Triodos Microfinance Fund and Triodos Sustainable Equity Fund, provides a credit line of EUR 5 million to Ukraine's Bank Lviv. This line will strengthen the bank's position in the credit financing of domestic micro and small businesses and the agrarian sector," the report says. Triodos Investment Management is a subsidiary of Triodos Bank.

As reported, this autumn Swiss-based asset management company responsAbility Participations AG (Zurich) acquired a 40.45% stake in Bank Lviv.

## Ukraine's international reserves may exceed \$20.4 bln by year-end – NB

The arrival of the first disbursement under a new Stand-By Arrangement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and related financing can increase the country's international reserves to more than \$20.4 billion by the end of this year, Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) Oleh Churiy has said.



***“Our reserves can grow to more than it was on January 31, 2013, and they will exceed \$20.4 billion,” he said at a briefing in Kyiv.***

Churiy specified that this forecast was made taking into account the expected arrival of about \$400 million in external financing, which the government will raise under guarantees provided by the World Bank. The NBU official recalled that Ukraine had received \$1.4 billion in the first SBA disbursement in the past week, and EUR 500 million in the first tranche of the EU's Macro-Financial Assistance was provided earlier this month.

As reported, after the receipt of the first SBA disbursement, the National Bank on December 21 reported the growth of the international reserves to \$20.1 billion, which was a five-year maximum: the previous time such a level of the international reserves was recorded in January 2014.

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## Ukrainian currency hryvnia getting stronger – NBU



The ongoing strengthening of the hryvnia is a consequence of the high value of the national currency due to a tight monetary and weighted fiscal policy, as well as growing earnings from exports, Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) Oleh Churiy has said.

“There are several factors that are conducive to the stronger hryvnia: these are, first of all, a tight monetary policy, a balanced fiscal policy, and the third important factor is that this year Ukraine has gathered a harvest that was a record over the years of independence. All this means export earnings which have reinforced what is happening today,” he said at a briefing in Kyiv.

As reported, the hryvnia forex rate has been strengthening since the end of October. After the introduction of martial law on November 26 until December 26, the national currency dropped sharply to UAH 28.315 per U.S. dollar. However, after a couple of days, the hryvnia resumed its positive momentum, which has accelerated sharply since December 17. The hryvnia forex rate on the interbank forex market on Friday strengthened to UAH 27.385 per U.S. dollar from UAH 27.515 at the end of the previous working day. Quotes of the hryvnia at the end of trading stood at UAH 27.37-27.40 per U.S. dollar.

# EIB to provide EUR 60 mln for infrastructure and education in Ukraine

The European Investment Bank (EIB) agreed with the Ukrainian Government on a series of new financing operations, in particular, the sides signed an agreement on lending EUR 50 million to finance transport infrastructure improvements throughout the country and a grant of EUR 10 million to finance the implementation of the Ukraine Higher Education Project, the bank has said in a press release.



***“The projects signed today will result in faster and safer transport infrastructure, better academic facilities and more resources for higher education programmes, all of which will strengthen the country’s competitiveness,” the press service of the bank reported, citing EIB Vice-President Vazil Hudák.***

The EUR 50 million EIB loan to improve connectivity in Ukraine and in the Eastern Neighbourhood provides support for transport projects expected to have significant positive local impacts. Road safety, connectivity, and traffic management and control projects are under consideration, with a view to contributing to the economic development of Ukraine.

The project's first phase will focus on the development of intelligent transport system on national roads, the construction of a missing section of the northern by-pass around the city of Ternopil forming part of the extended TEN-T (Trans-European Transport Networks), and a number of multi-level railway crossings. Furthermore, the project will support the development of future investment in railway connections between the European Union and Ukraine. Ukraine and the EIB also signed the EUR 10 million grant agreement under the multi-donor E5P fund that supports municipal investments in energy-efficiency and environmental projects in the Eastern Partnership countries. “The grant will help finance the implementation of a Ukraine Higher Education Project, which the EIB is already supporting. Furthermore, the EIB concluded a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ukrainian Ministry of Education and Science for the preparation of a project to create several centres of excellence in the country,” the bank said.

The Ukraine Higher Education Project has already received a EUR 120 million loan from the EIB and EUR 30 million from Nordic Environment Finance Corporation (NEFCO), the EIB said.

The grant will be used to finance, in particular, seven universities in the cities of Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Lviv, Poltava, Sumy and Vinnitsa in order to significantly reduce the energy consumption of their buildings with positive environmental impacts.

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## Government divides Fiscal Service into Tax and Customs Services

The Cabinet of Ministers has divided the State Fiscal Service into the State Tax Service and the State Customs Service, the Ministry of Finance has reported on its website. “The reform of the State Fiscal Service will create the basis for the demilitarization of tax authorities, improve the quality of services provided to taxpayers, increase the transparency and accountability of work of tax and customs authorities,” the press service of the agency said citing Deputy Finance Minister Serhiy Verlanov. According to the approved concept of reforming the State Fiscal Service, the tax police will be included in the State Tax Service. Both services will be created as separate central executive bodies, coordinated by the Cabinet through the Minister of Finance. A commission, headed by Verlanov, will be created for the service reorganization. The Cabinet intends to hold a tender for the leaders of both services within three months after the approval of a government resolution, the ministry said.



# European Union calls on Ukraine to lift moratorium on round timber export

The European Union has called on Ukraine to lift the moratorium on the export of round timber, as well as introduce administrative and institutional reforms and ensure the functioning of an efficient and transparent administrative system. "The EU encouraged Ukraine to continue fighting vested interests in order to improve the business and investment climate and eliminate swiftly trade irritants, such as the wood export ban," according to the statement following a meeting of the Council of the Ukraine-EU Association, held in Brussels.

"Particular focus should be on effective and timely implementation of the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area, and to further facilitate trade and eliminate technical barriers to trade, including as regards customs procedures, technical regulations, sanitary and phytosanitary systems as well as food safety reform, public procurement and the protection of intellectual property rights," the report says.



***"The Ukrainian side reaffirmed its commitments to technical regulation reform, notably the need to speed up adoption of sectoral and horizontal legislation, including in the area of market surveillance," it says.***

The EU pointed out that "Ukraine shall comply with all prerequisites set out in the AA/DCFTA including incorporating the relevant EU acquis into its legislation, making the administrative and institutional reforms and providing the efficient, effective and transparent administrative system, which are indispensable prior to starting ACAA [Agreement on Conformity Assessment and Acceptance of Industrial Products] negotiations," it said.

## Danish JYSK expands network in Ukraine



JYSK Ukraine LLC (Kyiv), developing a network of JYSK furniture and household goods stores in Ukraine, will open the fifth store in Odesa, thus expanding the network in the country to 48 stores. According to the company's press release, the store with an area of 990 square meters will open in the City Center shopping center in Odesa on December 20.

The facility will operate in the new 3.0 format for the JYSK network: it provides more space, light, an expanded assortment and updated cash desk zones.

"The 3.0 format was introduced in September. And now there are two such stores in Odesa. We took a good pace: 11 JYSK stores were opened in 2018, four of which are in the new format. Next year we will continue to dynamically expand the network in different regions of Ukraine," Executive Director of JYSK in Ukraine Yevhen Ivanytsia said. As reported, JYSK Ukraine plans in 2018 to open up to 12 new outlets in the country.

The JYSK network began to develop in Ukraine in 2004. As of November 29, 2018, the network had 47 stores in 20 cities, as well as an online store.

## India to expand exported generics portfolio – Dr. Menon



India could expand a portfolio of generics exported to Ukraine thanks to medications that lost patent protection of innovative drugs, which will become available before 2020, President of the Indian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association (IPMA) Dr. Ramanan Unni Parambath Menon has told Interfax-Ukraine.

***“Exports of Indian pharmaceutical products will grow, and the portfolio of generic products that can be supplied to Ukraine will expand, since by 2020 branded drugs worth about \$55 billion will lose patent protection,” he said on the sidelines of the annual business seminar “India – Global force in pharmaceuticals – Reliable partner for Ukraine”.***

He said that at present, retail and hospital sales of Indian medicines account for more than UAH 2.633 billion per year, including UAH 334.3 million in the hospital segment. The share of branded generic production of Indian pharmaceutical companies is 59.4% of this segment. According to Dr. Menon, “generic products are market drivers.” “The share of generic drugs is growing in monetary terms and in kind. Products of Indian companies are more branded generics,” he said.

Currently, the top 10 Indian pharmaceutical companies on the Ukrainian market include five IPMA member companies – Dr. Reddys, Abryl Formulations, Organosyn Life Sciences, SUN Pharma, Macleods Pharmaceuticals; and two IPMA member companies are in the top 20 – Aurobindo Pharma and Hetero Labs.

In total, 365 Indian brands are currently represented in the Ukrainian pharmaceutical market.

The IPMA predicts that by the end of 2018, sales of Indian medicines in Ukraine will grow by 22.7% in hryvnias or 19.9% in U.S. dollars compared with 2017. At the same time, sales of Indian drugs in kind will increase by 2.5%.

The growth in sales of Indian pharmaceutical products in 2019 in monetary terms could be 18.1% in hryvnias or 9.5% in U.S. dollars, while maintaining the total supply volumes.

## Donbasenergo signs contract with China Dongfang Electric to reconstruct one unit

PJSC Donbasenergo has signed a contract with Dongfang Electric International Corporation (China) for reconstruction of unit No. 6 of the Sloviansk thermal power plant (TPP) with its division into units 6A and 6B of 330 MW each.

According to the company's press release, the cost of the contract for the reconstruction using CFB technology (the technology of coal combustion in a circulating fluidized bed) is \$684.296 million.

According to the plan, unit No. 6A will be put into operation in July 2022, unit No. 6B in July 2023. The units will burn steam coal.

The project implementation will extend the life of thermal power plants by 40 years, increase their operation efficiency, reduce specific fuel consumption and maintenance costs. The new units will comply with all ENTSO-E technical requirements and the European environmental directives.

Reconstruction of unit No. 6 of the Sloviansk TPP will significantly reduce the cost of electricity produced, burn low grade coal without using natural gas in the load range of 40-100%. Donbasenergo Director General Eduard Bondarenko said that efficiency of the units will be at least 42%. The company seeks to receive the funds for investment in the tariff for electricity transmission in the amount of 30%. The reconstruction will be financed using the loan from a Chinese bank by 70%.

# Cabinet of Ministers permits Biopharma to export donor blood preparations for indefinite period of time

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has permitted the manufacturer of blood-derived products Biopharma Plasma LLC (Kyiv region) to sell donor blood preparations outside of the country for the indefinite period of time. The government approved the resolution at a meeting on Tuesday. The implementation of the resolution will contribute to an increase in the volume of production of medicines and the expansion of the export potential of Ukraine.

As reported, at the end of 2017, the Cabinet of Ministers issued Biopharma Plasma a license to export 32 names of medicines and medical products outside Ukraine in 2018.



***Biopharma is among the ten largest Ukrainian drug manufactures. Biopharma produces more than 20 immunobiological preparations of blood, as well as drugs obtained by recombinant DNA technology and probiotics.***

According to the National Commission for Securities and the Stock Market, shares in Biopharma Plasma belong to Niobera Investments Limited (Cyprus). The holder of a majority stake and the beneficiary (the holder) of the majority stake of the shareholder Niobera Investments Limited is Kostiantyn Yefymenko. Another beneficiary of Niobera

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## Ukrenergo signs contract with General Electric for reconstruction of substations



National Energy Company Ukrenergo has signed a contract with General Electric Grid Solutions (Germany) and Chornomorenergo spetsmontazh LLC for reconstruction of Kharkivska and Zaliutynе 330 kV substations, the company's press service has reported. According to the press service, the power equipment, cable communication lines, relay protection and automation devices will be replaced at the substations, new gas insulated 330 kV switchgears and hybrid 110 kV switchgears will be installed.



***"Kharkivska and Zaliutynе substations play a significant role in providing power supply to the eastern region of Ukraine. With further integration into ENTSO-E, the importance of these substations will increase significantly. That is why the modernization of these facilities must be carried out at the highest technological level in compliance with all reliability and safety requirements presented by ENTSO-E," Deputy Director for Investment at Ukrenergo Volodymyr Kudrytsky said.***

The project entitled "Reconstruction of Substations in the Eastern Part of Ukraine" in 2019-2022, with funding from the German government, in addition to upgrading 330 kV Kharkivska substation and 330 kV Zaliutynе substation also provides for the reconstruction of 750 kV Zaporizhska substation and 750 kV Dniprovska substation.



## Prices of residential property will grow by 20% after elections



Prices of residential property could grow by up to 20% after elections in 2019, according to the Confederation of Builders of Ukraine.



***"The situation of 2018 will partially continue in 2019. Property prices in Ukraine will gradually increase. At the beginning of the year, there will not be a sharp increase in prices, but after the elections, the price of residential property would rise by up to 20%," the confederation said in a press release.***

In the opinion of the confederation, prices in 2019 will be affected by high supply and low demand, an increase in interest rates on loans, a rise in wages, prices for building materials, logistics, and fuel. At the same time, the demand of buyers will be stimulated by a competent project concept, quality of construction, and pricing policy.

The confederation also plans together with the Regional Development, Construction, Housing and Utilities Economy Ministry to review a number of national construction standards, as well as to complete the discussion of bills on the protection of investors who are victims of frauds on the market and on long-delayed construction projects.

According to the press release, in 2019, the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) expects growth in the lending pace on the real estate market. At the same time, the rate of lending to the population increased by 40% in 2018, the confederation reported with reference to the NBU.

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## Norwegian-based Scatec Solar reaches financial close for 30 MW project in Ukraine

Norwegian-based Scatec Solar and partners have closed financing for the 30 MW Kamianka project in Cherkasy region in central Ukraine with a total investment of EUR 35 million, the company's press service said. The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and FMO, the Dutch development bank have signed credit agreements for the non-recourse debt financing of the project. The credit facilities amount to EUR 24.5 million and cover 70% of the total project costs.

Scatec Solar says it is in the process of securing additional equity partners for the project.

Scatec Solar will be the lead equity investor in the project; it will also be the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) provider and provide Operation & Maintenance as well as Asset Management services to the power plant. Construction is starting early 2019 with commercial operation in the fourth quarter 2019.

The company says the project will be implemented under the country's 10-year feed-in-tariff scheme and is expected to produce about 39 GWh per year. Public land will be leased for an extended time period and the solar power plant is expected to deliver power also beyond the feed-in-tariff period.



## State-owned enterprise Pivdenne Bureau puts most powerful super computer in Ukraine into operation

State-owned enterprise (SOE) Pivdenne Design Bureau (Yuzhnoye, Dnipro) has put the Yuzhnoye computer center with the most powerful super computer in Ukraine into operation, the press service of the bureau reported. According to the report, the unique computer was developed specially for solving of engineering and scientific tasks using methods of computational physics in cooperation with MTI, Hewlett Packard Enterprise, APC and ANSYS.

"Reliable and smooth functioning of the computer center is guaranteed by the developed engineer and computer infrastructure and effective tasks solution is guaranteed by the most advanced software, which is used for simulation in such fields as aerodynamics, mechanics, heat exchange and physics," the press service said.

The bureau said that the high-performance system of super computer contains a hundred of servers and approximately 4,000 of computational cores and newest architecture processors. The general size of random access memory is approximately 18 terabytes, as well as storage for data with a size of 200 terabytes is available. All super computer components are connected using special high speed computer network. Moreover, the system is equipped with a hybrid computing servers with new graphic accelerators and separate modules for processing and visualization of big calculation data.

The peak performance of super computer is 300 teraflops (Trillion Floating-Point Operations per Second) and this can be compared with the power of 1,000 of personal computers operating simultaneously, the press service said.

The access to such computer power will allow the Pivdenne Design Bureau's specialists to study hundreds of technical solutions and implement the most optimal and effective ones, it will also enhance possibilities for implementation of new and non-standard ideas, the press service said.

The Pivdenne Design Bureau is a leading research center of Ukraine and a holder of advanced space technologies, many of whose products and services are exported to the EU, the United States, and other countries.

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## Ukrainian leading mobile operator launches Mobile ID service

The Kyivstar mobile communications operator has launched the Mobile ID service, allowing the digital identification of persons for obtaining e-services using the mobile number. According to a press release of the operator, the service is available in Kyiv, Dnipro, Ivano-Frankivsk, Odesa, Kharkiv, Kherson, Vinnytsia, Khmelnytsky, Lviv, Zhytomyr and Cherkasy. In total, these cities have 22 open points for issuing Mobile ID SIM-cards and certificates from the accredited key certification center of justice authorities. They can be received by individual entrepreneurs, contract subscribers and corporate clients of Kyivstar from any locality of Ukraine.



***"Now we are focusing our efforts on connecting the cities, which are regional centers. We have already covered 11 cities. In the beginning of 2019, we will announce the opening of new locations. And we will move further "deep countryside" to make Mobile ID connection available in small cities," the press service of the operator said, citing Director for Business Development in the Corporate Market in Kyivstar Yevhen Krazhan.***

The operator said that the project was implemented in partnership with the accredited key certification center of the judicial authorities, which is an authorized provider of electronic trust services. All points, where Mobile-ID SIM-cards are issued, have been duly certified, as well as the staff responsible for connecting the service to users.

## Retail trade turnover in Ukraine 6.2% up



Retail trade turnover in Ukraine, excluding the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and Donbas, in January-November 2018 in comparable prices increased by 6.2% compared with January-November 2017, the State Statistics Service has reported.

Retail trade turnover in November 2018 rose by 1.2% compared with October, while by 5.6% from November 2017.

The largest growth in retail trade turnover in the first 11 months of 2018 compared to the same period in 2017 was observed in Luhansk (by 27.8%), Donetsk (by 14.7%), Poltava (by 12.4%), and Zakarpattia (by 12%) regions.

The leaders in absolute terms of the volume of retail turnover for the 11 months were Kyiv city (UAH 157.37 billion), Dnipropetrovsk (UAH 75.8 billion), Kharkiv (UAH 64.61 billion), Odesa (UAH 61.877 billion), Kyiv (UAH 58.828 billion), and Lviv regions (UAH 51.362 billion).

According to the service, retail trade turnover in Donetsk region in January-November 2018 compared to January-November 2017 increased by 14.7% (to UAH 25.65 billion), Luhansk region by 27.8% (to UAH 7.27 billion).

The State Statistics Service said that trade turnover at retail enterprises (legal entities) in November 2018 compared with November 2017 grew by 5.2%, and compared to October 2018 by 1.1%, amounting to UAH 59.496 billion, for the 11 months grew by 5.8%, to UAH 595.675 billion.

## Myronivsky Hliboproduct to get EUR120 mln loan from ING Bank

Myronivsky Hliboproduct Agroholding (MHP) will borrow EUR120 million (UAH 3.79 billion) in a loan from ING Bank N.V., PrJSC Zernoproduct MHP reported.

The company will act as a guarantor for this loan, it said in an announcement of the information disclosure system of Ukraine's National Securities and Stock Market Commission.

PrJSC Zernoproduct MHP's assets are estimated at UAH 6.103 billion, according to the latest financial statements. The ratio of loan value to asset value is 62%.

According to the MHP website, PJSC Zernoproduct MHP was established in 2004, it has 19 branches, two grain elevators, 23 dairy farms. Its land bank is 90,900 hectares.

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## Ukraine will increase wheat exports in 2019



Wheat production in Ukraine in 2019 will remain virtually unchanged, while exports will increase by 2 million tonnes, to 18 million tonnes, President of the Ukrainian Grain Association Mykola Horbachev has said. "Next year, wheat production will be at the same level – perhaps 1 million tonnes more, everything depends on weather. We expect more favorable conditions for yields, so we expect exports to reach 18 million tonnes this year 16 million tonnes," he said.

According to him, the harvest and export of other grain crops next year will be almost at the level of this year, except for corn: this year Ukraine has collected a record high harvest of 35 million tonnes of corn due to high yields because of weather conditions, while with normal yields next year production will be 27 million tonnes.

The association president noted that the main importers of Ukrainian grain are the EU countries (in particular, Spain), North Africa and Asia. At the same time, in his opinion, with the increase in production, an additional volume of grain will go to Asia, where there is a large population growth (in particular, to China, Indonesia and India), whereas a large expansion on the European continent should not be expected.

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## Verkhovna Rada's agrarian committee recommends parliament to extend moratorium on farmland sales to 2020

The Verkhovna Rada's committee on agrarian policy and land relations has recommended the parliament adopt draft law No. 9355-5 on extending the moratorium on the sale of agricultural land until January 1, 2020, Oleh Kulynych, who chairs the committee's subcommittee on land relations, said on Facebook. He said the committee at a meeting on December 18 considered 16 registered bills relating to the extension of the moratorium on the sale of agricultural land. The bills offered different dates for lifting the moratorium from April 22, 2019 to January 1, 2030.



***"I consider the optimal term to be one year, as proposed by bill No. 9355-5 ... As the chairman of the land subcommittee, I proposed to support draft law No. 9355-5 and recommend the parliament adopt the bill as law," Kulynych said.***

The draft law provides that the Cabinet of Ministers by March 1, 2019 develop and submit a draft law on the turnover of agricultural land to the Rada.



# Dutch Development Bank FMO will credit one of the largest Ukrainian grain traders to develop river logistics



The Dutch Development Bank FMO will issue \$10 million to Nibulon (Mykolaiv), one of the largest Ukrainian grain traders, for the development of river logistics capacities, according to the FMO's website.



***"The project will support Nibulon's strategy, mainly aimed at expanding and optimizing its river grain logistic capacities in order to increase grain trade, reduce the share of road and rail traffic," the report says.***

According to its data, the project will also allow Nibulon to increase export capacity by improving logistics and infrastructure. As reported, Nibulon plans in the next two years to reorient virtually all of its cargoes to Dnipro and transport 4 million tonnes of products per year by water, which will allow reducing the load on the roads. Nibulon LLC was established in 1991. It is one of the largest operators in the grain market of the country.

Kyiv International Economic Forum — KIEF — is a new major international conference focused on the future of economic development. Held annually in Kyiv, it is not just an event about or for Ukraine, but an innovative forum that covers the global agenda. KIEF has been envisioned to become a leading discussion platform at an intersection of civilizations based in the capital of the biggest country in Europe.

This year Kyiv International Economic Forum was supported by the Prime Minister, the next KIEF will be organized on October, 2019

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