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Ukraine enters top 5 of global cryptoasset perception index



Ukraine took fourth place in the rating of the global cryptoasset perception index in 2021, compiled by the U.S. analytical company Chainalysis.

According to the data on the Chainalysis website, the first three places were taken by Vietnam, India and Pakistan. Kenya took the fifth place. The United States came in eighth, China 13th.

The analytical report of the company says that Ukraine has the largest volume of transactions with crypto assets among market participants in the world. In addition, Ukraine entered the top ten countries with the highest bitcoin earnings in 2020.

The Digital Transformation Ministry, commenting on this rating, said that the fourth place, which Ukraine took in the rating, indicates the desire of citizens to use crypto assets and the need to create mechanisms for the further development of the crypto industry in the country.

“Due to the data of the blockchain company Chainalysis, we know that Ukrainians actively use cryptoassets and know how to make money on them. One of the priority goals of our ministry is to provide all the necessary conditions for the operation and development of crypto companies in Ukraine. Virtual assets will strengthen the position of Ukraine as a jurisdiction on the international map,” Deputy Minister for IT Development Oleksandr Borniakov said.

HEADLINES

06 September 2021



**CAPITAL INVESTMENT
IN UKRAINE INCREASES
BY 17.1% IN Q2**



**POLISH PGNIG PLANS
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**WESTINGHOUSE TO
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**QATAR SEEKS SUSTAINABLE
INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP
WITH UKRAINE**



**TOOL FOR SEARCHING
PARTNERS AROUND THE
WORLD WITHOUT
LEAVING THE OFFICE**



**QATARI COMPANY
LOOKING FOR PARTNERS
IN UKRAINE TO PRODUCE
ANIMAL FEED AND EGGS**

Adoption of new law simplifying state property privatization to attract foreign investors

The adoption of a law simplifying the procedure for privatization and lease of state property will be a signal for investors, including international ones, Deputy Head of the Parliamentary Committee on Economic Development Roksolana Pidlasa (Servant of the People faction) said.

“*This bill will become a green light for investors, including international ones. And it will also contribute to the development of regions, because after its adoption, the budgets of communities will receive funds not only from the privatization of municipal enterprises, but also 10% of the funds received from the sale of state assets,” Pidlasa told Interfax-Ukraine.*

She recalled that the Verkhovna Rada has already adopted the bill at the first reading and currently the Committee on Economic Development is preparing it for the second reading.

Capital investment in Ukraine increases by 17.1% in Q2

The growth of capital investments in Ukraine in April-June 2021 compared to the same period in 2020 amounted to 17.1%, while in January-March there was a decline in capital investments at the level of 9.5%, the State Statistics Service said.

“*According to the service, in the second quarter of this year, UAH 191.133 billion of capital investments were spent.*

The growth of capital investments in the first half of the year compared to the same period in 2020 amounted to 4.2%, the State Statistics Service said.

In the regional context, a significant decrease in capital investments in the second quarter of 2021 compared to the same period in 2020 was recorded in Volyn (by 64.1%), Kirovohrad (by 17.1%), Mykolaiv (by 13.3%) regions.

Capital investments in April-June 2021 compared to April-June 2020 increased in Luhansk (by 9.08%), Zhytomyr (by 85.3%), Zaporizhia (by 66.7%), Ivano-Frankivsk (by 60.4%), Kherson (56.4%), Chernivtsi (57.1%), Lviv (47.9%), Sumy (41.7%), Vinnytsia (36.1%), Rivne (by 37.5%), Donetsk (by 34.3%), Kyiv (by 27.1%), Dnipropetrovsk (by 26.2%), Chernihiv (by 22.3%), Cherkasy and Ternopil (by 22.2%), Khmelnytsky (by 15.7%), Zakarpattia (by 13.3%), Odesa (by 13%), Kharkiv (by 12.7%), Poltava (by 10.8%) regions and in Kyiv city (by 10.2%).

Among industries, the growth of capital investments in the second quarter of this year was recorded in the field of forestry – 4.4 times, the provision of other types of services – 3.9 times, in postal and courier activities – 3.6 times, healthcare and social assistance – 2.5 times, at transport enterprises, in warehouses, postal and courier activities – by 60.8%, in temporary accommodation and catering – by 27.7%, in real estate transactions – by 25.9%, in wholesale and retail trade – by 25.3%, in activities in the field of administrative and support services – by 16.3%, computer programming and the provision of other information services – by 14.8%, in industry – by 14.1%, agriculture – by 13.1%, construction – by 7.6%, scientific achievements and developments – by 5%, public administration and defense – by 3.8%, advertising – by 1.2%.

A significant share of capital investments was invested in buildings and structures – 45.5%, and in machinery, equipment and vehicles – 44.9% of all investments.



German Chancellor Merkel: we want to prolong agreement on gas transit from Russia through Ukraine soon

Germany wants the agreement on the transit of Russian gas through Ukraine to be prolonged as soon as possible, German Chancellor Angela Merkel said.

“Our cooperation in the sphere of energy is very important. It already exists, but it will continue, also because there will be further traffic through the Ukrainian gas transport system from Russia to Europe. I have spoken about that with the Russian president [during the visit to Moscow on August 20] that we want to prolong the agreement, which is in effect until 2024, as soon as possible. We will also speak about that in Europe and with the companies that are associated with that here,” Merkel said at a press conference with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Kyiv.



“We agree with the Americans that gas cannot be used as a weapon. And therefore, we will be holding these talks with the Americans,” Merkel said.



“It has to be said that Nord Stream 2 is not a German-Russian project, there are companies from Germany, the Netherlands, and France there. And therefore it’s a European-Russian project, it is subject to European law, it is subject to the law of the Third Energy Package because we are not fully free in regulation, but should cite exactly that, therefore we didn’t hold these talks from the German side, but we supported that on the European side,” she said. Merkel said Ukraine needs to develop in the direction of climate neutrality.

Joe Biden at meeting with Zelensky: partnership between Kyiv and Washington will strengthen in future

United States President Joe Biden, during a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, said the partnership between Kyiv and Washington will strengthen in the future.

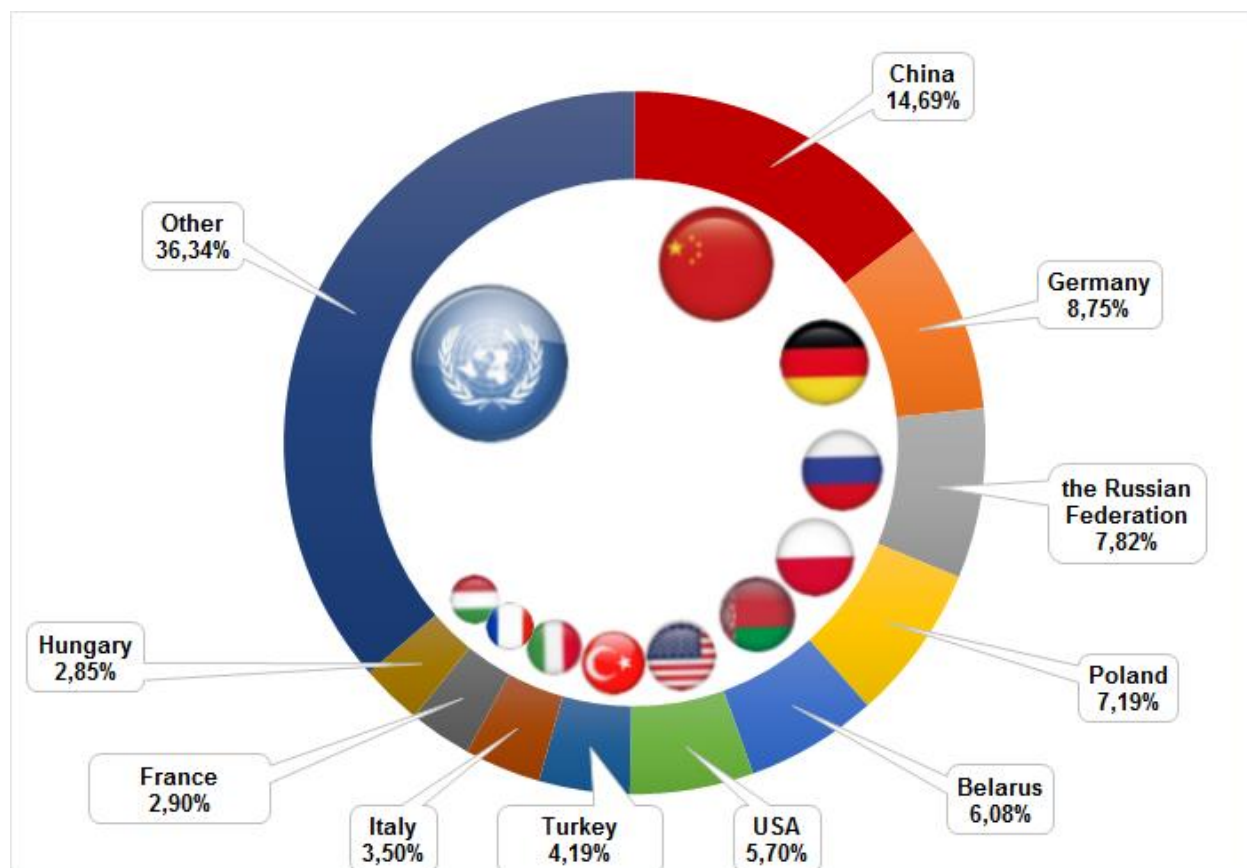
“I am pleased to welcome President Zelensky to the Oval Office in the White House. During the celebration of the 30th anniversary of Ukraine’s independence, the partnership between our countries is stronger than ever and will become even stronger,” Biden said during talks with Zelensky, the video of which made public by the Dom television channel in Telegram.

He also said that Ukraine and the United States have common values and goals, in particular, regarding the provision of peace and stability in Europe.

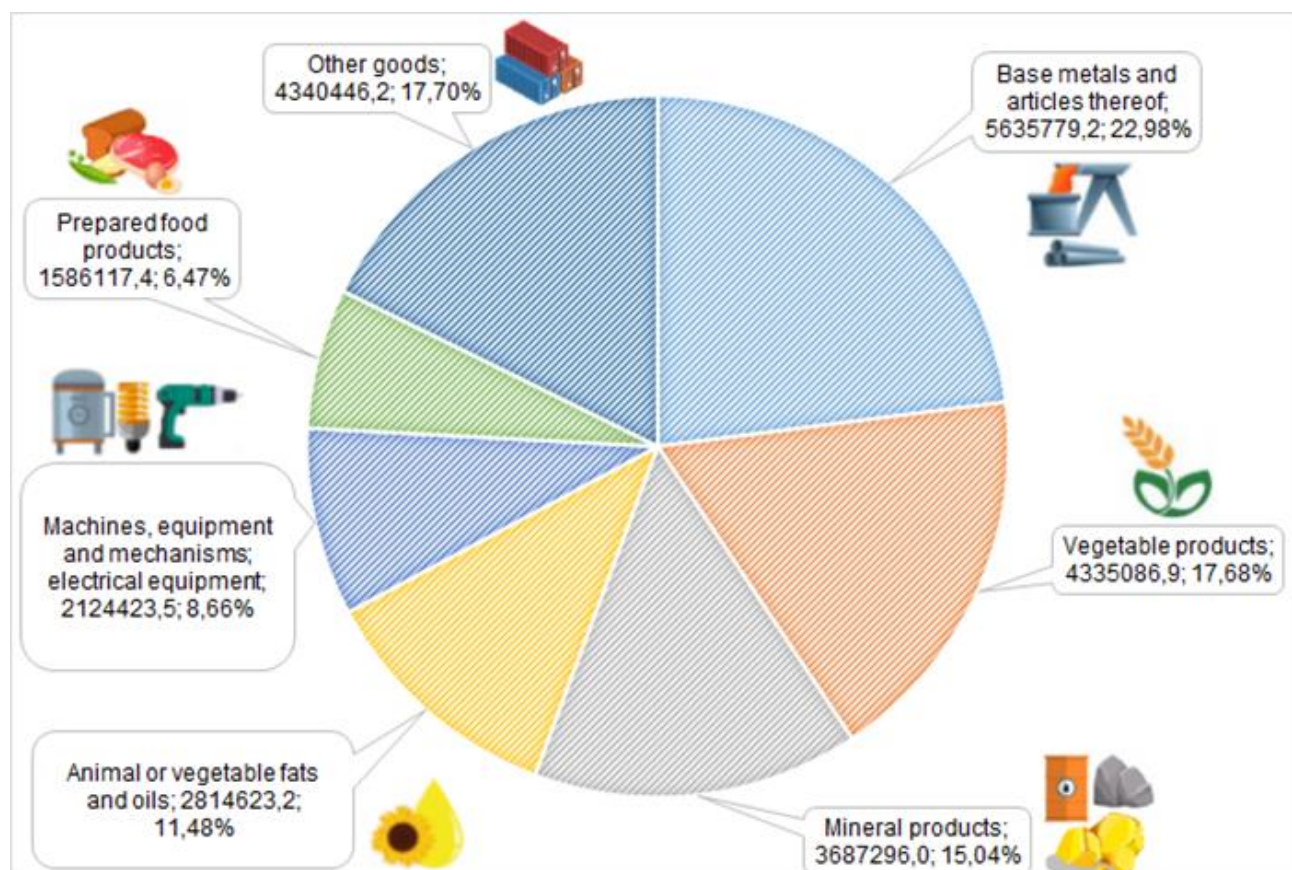
“Ukraine and the United States have common values. We are unswervingly committed to our long-term goal for Europe: to make it whole, free and peaceful,” the U.S. President said.



Main trade partners of Ukraine in % from total volume (import from other countries to Ukraine) Jan-May 2021



Foreign trade turnover by the most important positions in Jan-May 2021 (export)



Sports players from ten countries compete for eight sets of awards at squash tournament in Odesa

The 11th international squash championship “Zenit Black Sea Open 2021” took place in Odesa. The competition was attended by players from England, Australia, Germany, Wales, Egypt, Romania, the United States, Moldova, Belarus and other countries, as well as sportsmen from Kyiv, Lviv, Kharkiv, Dnipro, Khmelnytsky, Poltava, Kherson, Odesa. The winner in the PRO category among men (the main category of the tournament) was squash player from Egypt Ahmed Mohamed, and among women in the PRO category the first place was taken by Anastasiya Kostiukova from Ukraine.

The tournament had been held for four days on the courts of the SPORT LIFE fitness center.

The organizers of the tournament, Dmytro Scherbakov and Maksim Urakin, previously stated the need to popularize squash in particular and sports in general through organizing tournaments and attracting Ukrainian business to support sports. The main goal of the tournament, according to the organizers, was to strengthen sports and cultural ties between the countries and sports players, to popularize and develop squash in Ukraine, as well as to improve the skill level of young squash players.

Some 150 participants competed for awards in eight categories. The winners of the competition became:

Men (PRO Category):

First place – Ahmed Mohamed (Egypt);

Second place – Clegg David (Australia);

Third place – Dmytro Scherbakov Jr. (Ukraine).

Women (PRO Category):

First place – Anastasiya Kostiukova (Ukraine);

Second place – Sofiya Zrazhevskaya (Ukraine);

Third place – Olga Khmelevskaya (Belarus).



Tournament organizers and sponsors:

Zenit Black Sea Open is the largest international squash tournament in the history of independent Ukraine. The scale of the championship is demonstrated both by the number of countries and participants, and by the large number of organizations involved in the preparation and holding of competitions.

The main organizer and fitness partner of the event was traditionally the national chain of fitness centers number one “Sport Life,” as well as the MaxEvents company.

The title sponsor was the SOCAR fuel and energy company.

The championship is sponsored by SOLARIS AGROLUX, Tecnifibre, Reima.

Official beer of the tournament is from TERMOPUB.

Official wine partner is SHABO.

The partner of the party and the hotel of the tournament is Premier Hotel Odesa.

The medical partner of the championship is the Adonis medical group.

The fruit partner is USPA fruit.

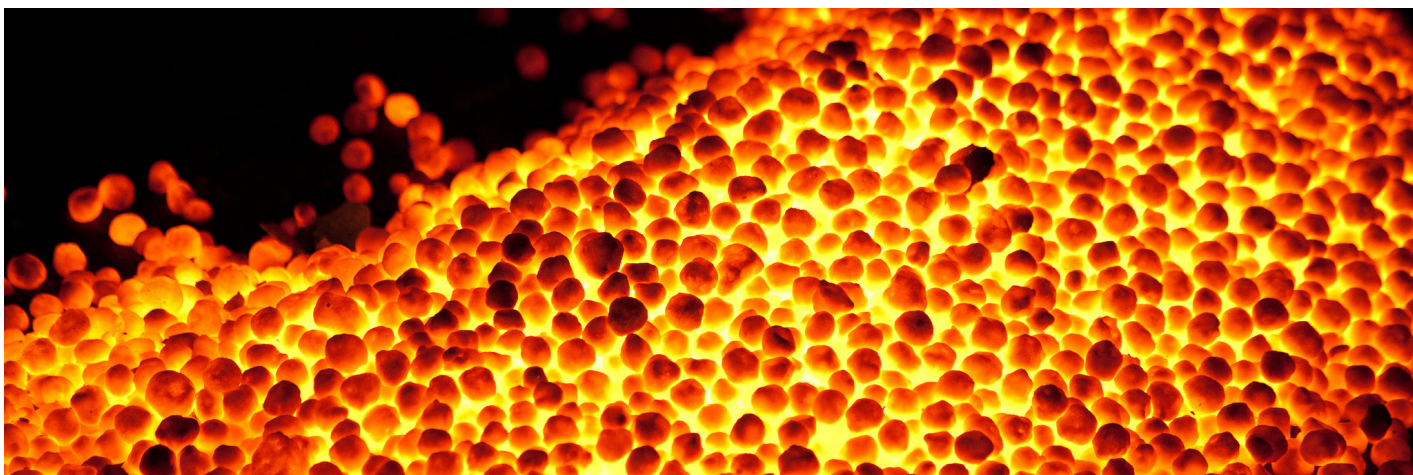
British-based Ferrexpo increases production of pellets

British-based Ferrexpo plc, which controls in Ukraine, in particular, Poltava and Yeristovo mining and processing plants (Poltava GOK and Yeristovo GOK), in January-July of this year, according to recent data, increased production of pellets by 2.9% compared to the same period last year, to 6.563 million tonnes.

A representative of the company informed Interfax-Ukraine that in July production of pellets amounted to 1 million tonnes.

According to an announcement on the London Stock Exchange, on September 17, 2021, a general meeting of shareholders will take place, the only issue at which is the re-election of Vitaliy Lisovenko to the company's board of directors.

At the same time, it is explained that at the annual general meeting of the company on May 27, 2021, independent non-executive director Lisovenko did not receive the required number of votes for reappointment to the board of directors. In the event that the candidacy of the independent director is approved by a majority of votes of all voting shareholders at the second general meeting, the director will be re-elected before the next annual general meeting.



Lviv IT-company SoftServe invests \$100 mln in campus construction

Lviv IT-company SoftServe plans to invest over \$100 million in the construction of a creative office campus on the site of Lviv penal colony No. 48 acquired for UAH 377.5 million at a privatization auction.

According to a SoftServe press release on the Business Wire portal, construction will begin in 2022 and it will take about five years. An international architectural bureau will be involved in the work on the project.

"The new campus will not only breathe new life into the whole district of Lviv, but will also continue the development of the city as a major educational and technological hub in Ukraine and in the world," the co-founder and member of the Board of Directors of SoftServe, Oleh Denys, said.

According to the project, the campus will house SoftServe offices, as well as the company's corporate university, conference rooms and exhibition grounds, a school and a kindergarten, and apartments.



Afghan army defeated by Taliban due to lack of ideology – expert

The Afghan authorities till the last did not believe in the withdrawal of the U.S. army from the country and considered all movements of American troops over the past six months to be military maneuvers, Mohammad Farajallah, an expert on the Near and Middle East, the editor-in-chief of the Ukraine in Arabic online portal, told the Experts Club YouTube channel.

“For some unknown reason, the Afghan leadership decided to reshuffle personnel in the army and appointed a person who had been undergoing long-term treatment in the UAE as the Minister of Defense,” the expert added.

Farajallah believes that due to these factors, the Afghan armed forces were in a deplorable state by the beginning of the large-scale offensive by the Taliban. In addition, according to the expert, the Afghan army is used to fighting according to the American model, and was not ready for the lack of massive air support and satellite intelligence.

“At the end of April, the U.S. military ceased serving Afghan aircraft and transmitting intelligence. They announced that they were beginning to withdraw their troops. The Afghan authorities, in turn, did not prepare (for the Taliban’s offensive) and did not understand the importance of the situation. Also, this situation damages the reputation of the CIA, which in its forecasts gave the Taliban at least six months to seize power,” the orientalist emphasized.

Another wrong decision of the Afghan authorities, according to the expert, was the concentration of military units in large cities. This led to the formation of a kind of besieged garrisons without supply lines, which rather quickly surrendered to the Taliban one after another.

The expert said the main factor behind the quick victory for the Taliban was the low morale of the Afghan army. The few pockets of resistance were brutally suppressed by the Taliban, but most of the army simply laid down their arms.

“The Taliban have worked with the heads of clans who have a huge impact on the local population, including soldiers of the Afghan army. When a tribal elder tells a local soldier to drop his weapon and go home, he has no choice but to obey, as tribal leaders have much more authority than inexperienced army commanders,” he noted.

Watch the first part of the program on the situation in Afghanistan [here](#)

You can subscribe to the Experts Club channel [here](#).

AMCU allows Vodafone to buy Vega

The Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine has allowed PrJSC Vodafone Ukraine to concentrate more than 50% of the telecom operator Vega (Farlep-Invest). According to a statement released on the AMCU website, the committee made such a decision following the meeting.



“The aggregate shares of concentration participants in the involved regional markets do not exceed 11%. In all commodity markets involved in the concentration, except for the voice traffic termination services market, there are a large number of business entities, they are competitors of the concentration participants and offer consumers similar services,” the AMCU said.



According to the AMCU, the seller within the planned concentration is SCM Group, which also includes PrJSC Ukrtelecom.

Vodafone Ukraine is the second largest mobile operator in Ukraine.



Energy Week Black Sea is commencing in just a month!

On 28-30th September 2021, the high-level international investment conference Energy Week Black Sea will take place in a hybrid format: offline in Bucharest, Romania and online.

The event is organised by a UK-based consultancy Invest in Network in partnership with Romanian Energy Center (CRE).

The largest renewables conference in the region for the second year will bring together government authorities, local companies from Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Georgia, and Turkey, as well as IFIs, DFIs, and foreign private investors to discuss RES policies for the energy transition, financing renewable energy, solar & storage, on & offshore wind, green hydrogen, regional interconnection and much more.



Investing in renewable energy in the Black Sea region is gaining momentum. Although the countries surrounding the Black Sea may differ in terms of politics and economic background, they are all very keen on increasing the share of RES. Cooperation and interconnectivity become keys in reaching this target.

The Energy Week Black Sea was launched in 2020 during tumultuous times for the events industry and nevertheless brought together the major energy companies from 20+ countries such as NBT, Scatec Solar, Grupo Cobra, Tractebel Engineering, Siemens Gamesa, Global Hydro, AGL, FMO, EBRD, IFC, KfW, DEG (KfW), Green For Growth Fund, Goldwind, IRENA, Mott MacDonald, Black Sea Trade and Development Bank, EDF, Eksim Investment Holding, Asian Development Bank, Enel, CE Oltenia, ROMGAZ, Electrica, Georgian Energy Development Fund, TRYBA ENERGY, EDPR Romania, Georgian National Energy and Water Supply Regulatory Commission (GNERC), State Agency on Energy Efficiency and Energy Saving of Ukraine, National Energy and Utilities Regulatory Commission (Ukraine), Republic of Turkey Energy Market Regulatory Authority, The Norwegian Water Resources and Energy Directorate, Electricity System Operator of Bulgaria and many others.

Learn more on the event's official website www.bsenergyweek.com or contact the organisers for details at info@investinnet.com

Polish PGNiG plans to invest \$50 mln in gas production in Ukraine

Polish PGNiG plans to invest \$50 million in gas production in western Ukraine at the first stage as part of a partnership with the Energy Resources of Ukraine (ERU) group of companies, MP Andriy Gerus has said.



"At the first stage, it is planned to invest \$50 million. And in the future, the volume of investments may reach up to \$500 million," he wrote on his Facebook page after attending the 24th Gazterm gas conference in Poland.

As reported, early December 2019, the Polish company PGNiG SA and the Ukrainian group of companies ERU signed an agreement on the exploration and production of natural gas in Lviv region. The agreement provides for the drilling of an exploration well up to 2,500 meters deep at the initial stage, and measures to design the location of other wells.

In May 2021, the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine (AMCU) allowed PGNiG SA to acquire over 50% in Karpatygzvydobuvannia LLC, which belongs to ERU.



Westinghouse to supply 9 batches of fuel for Ukrainian NPPs

Westinghouse will supply nine batches of fuel for Ukrainian NPPs in 2021, President of Westinghouse's Europe, Middle East and Africa Operating Plant Services Business Unit Tarik Choho has said.



"In total, in 2021, we will deliver fuel for nine refuelings, and in 2022 it will be seven," he said in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine.



According to him, for all the years of cooperation with National Nuclear Generating Company Energoatom Westinghouse has supplied 1,626 fuel assemblies for nuclear power plants to Ukraine. Chokho recalled that Westinghouse fuel for VVER-1000 reactors is already in operation at six out of 15 nuclear reactors in Ukraine. "These are units Nos. 1,3,4,5 of Zaporizhia NPP, as well as units Nos. 2 and 3 of Yuzhnoukrinsk NPP. Moreover, five units out of six [units Nos. 1,3,5 of Zaporizhia NPP and No. 3 of Yuzhnoukrinsk NPP] are fully loaded with Westinghouse fuel," he said.

Qatar seeks sustainable investment partnership with Ukraine

Qatar seeks a sustainable investment partnership with Ukraine, the Minister of Commerce and Industry, Acting Minister of Finance of Qatar H E Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari said during the second meeting of the joint commission on economic, trade and technical cooperation between the two countries.

"In August 2020, the Qatari company QTerminals signed an agreement with the Ukrainian side on the concession for Olvia seaport in Mykolaiv. In the next five years, it is planned to invest in the development of the Ukrainian port and infrastructure. We will continue to expand the investment partnership," he said.

"Today's meeting of the commission is a necessary tool to achieve this goal," he added.

Following the meeting, the co-chairs of the commission namely Minister of Commerce and Industry of Qatar H E Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari and Ukrainian Minister of Finance Serhiy Marchenko signed a protocol on amending the agreement between the governments of Ukraine and Qatar on avoidance of double taxation and prevention of tax evasion in relation to income tax.



Tool for searching partners around the world without leaving the office

Fierce competition in all industries and the rampant development of information and communication technologies constantly require businesses to look for new means to expand markets.

In August 2021, the Ukrainian Exporters Club launched a new online “Digital expo – Ukrainian Products and Services” Project. The Scope of the Project is to draw the attention of foreign importers, distributors, representatives of trading networks to Ukrainian products, attract them to cooperation and, thus, increase Ukrainian exports.

Digital expo is a web resource where only Ukrainian companies are represented. Each of them has its own web site with a scope of activities description, photos and presentations of products and services and a feedback form to send requests for cooperation. For ease of search, all companies are grouped by main categories, namely:



You can learn more about the “Digital expo – Ukrainian Products and Services” Project and apply for participation at the link:

<https://inspiredbythebestofukraine.ticketforevent.com/ru/home/40010/>

In the summer of 2021, the electronic catalogues of the Ukrainian Exporters Club became Digital expo.



In the last 3 months (June to August) of 2021, the exhibitors received more than 10,000 requests for cooperation from Malaysia, Poland, Turkey, China, Korea, Baltic States and other countries. The modern project has become even better. It participates in international online expositions, including: worldexpo, expotobi, food1.com, echemi.com, infobel.com, foodfocus.co.za and others.

Pharmaceutical company Farmak to open office in Vietnam

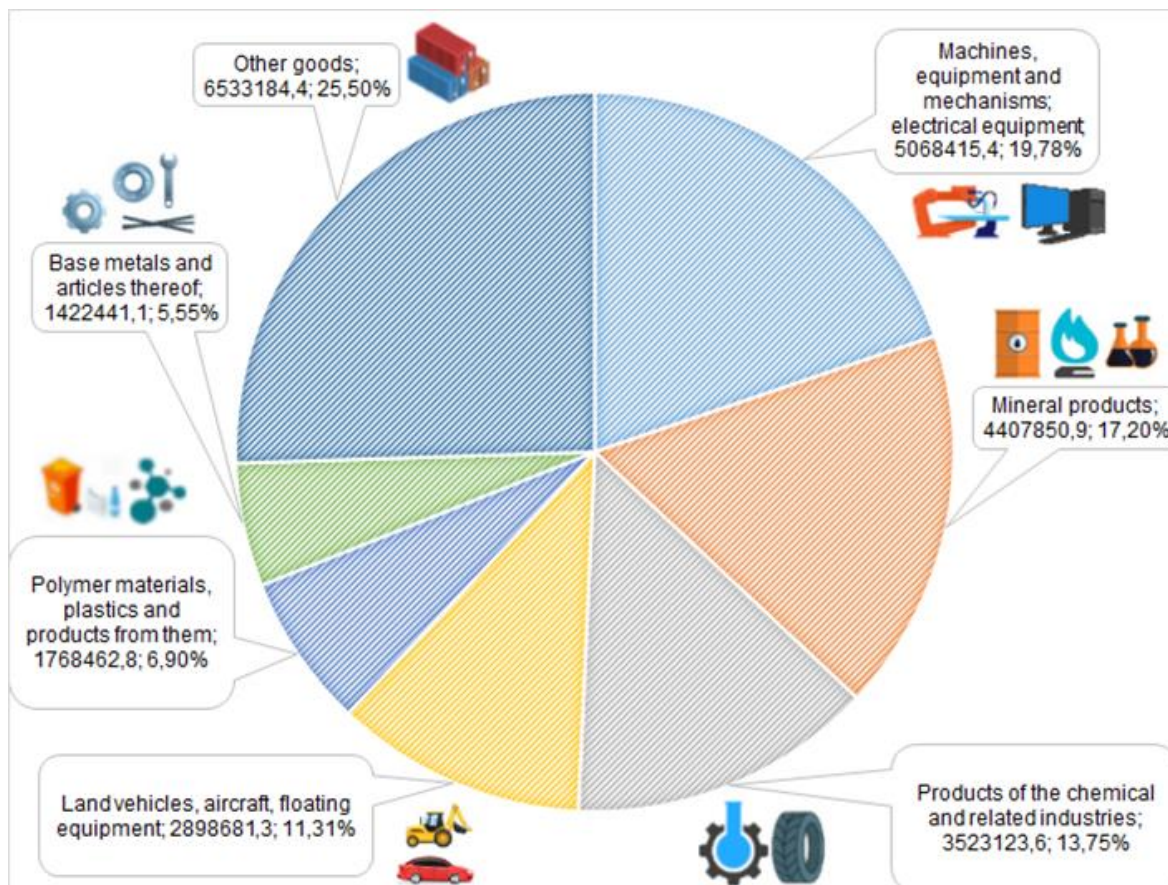
Pharmaceutical company Farmak (Kyiv) will set up a representative office in Vietnam.

As the company said in the information disclosure system of the National Securities and Stock Market Commission, such a decision was made by its supervisory board on August 19 in order to carry out economic activities in Vietnam.

Farmak is the leader of the Ukrainian pharmaceutical market. The company's product portfolio includes about 200 brands. Among the main directions are endocrinological, gastroenterological, cardiological, neurological, anti-cold and other drugs.

The company annually reinvests up to 90% of its profits in development. In total, more than \$310 million have been invested in the modernization of production since 1995. Annual investments in research and development are approximately \$15 million.

Foreign trade turnover by the most important positions Jan-May 2021 (import)



Ukrainian Ciklum acquires Czech company

International IT company Ciklum Group Limited (one of the largest software developers in Ukraine) announced the acquisition of Czech software developer CN Group from Genesis Capital, one of the Central European private equity funds.

The deal will strengthen Ciklum's market position in Central and Eastern Europe, as well as Germany, Austria and Switzerland, Ciklum said.

As part of the agreement, Genesis Capital, which invested in CN Group in 2019, sold 100% of its shares in CN Group.

CN Group is headquartered in Prague, with five nearshore delivery locations in Central Europe. The company's 360 digital technology specialists will become a powerful addition to the Ciklum team of more than 3,500 engineers, designers, product managers and data scientists.



Qatari company looking for partners in Ukraine to produce animal feed and eggs

Qatari entrepreneurs are seriously interested in investing in Ukraine, including one of the largest agricultural companies in the country, Hassad Food, which is looking for partners for the production of animal feed and eggs, the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (UCCI) reported on its website.



Hennadiy Chizhikov stressed that the composition of the representatives of the Qatari delegation testifies to the serious investment interest of this country in Ukraine. He urged Ukrainian business to take advantage of trade opportunities.



According to its data, representatives of the largest companies of Qatar arrived in Ukraine as part of a delegation to participate in the second meeting of the joint commission on economic, trade and technical cooperation between the governments of Ukraine and Qatar.

It is clarified that Ukrainian grain traders and animal feed manufacturers at a meeting with Hassad Food Executive Director Mubarak Al-Suhooti discussed prospects for cooperation.

“The international campaign Hassad Food Company invests in production in other countries. In Ukraine, in particular, they are looking for partners for the production of animal feed and eggs, so Ukrainian entrepreneurs presented their capabilities,” the UCCI said.

Sugar production in Ukraine will grow by 30%

Sugar production in Ukraine in the 2021/2022 marketing year (MY, September-August) is expected to reach 1.4 million tonnes, which is 30% more than in the previous MY, the total sugar supply in the country will be sufficient to meet domestic demand, according to the Ministry of Economy.

According to a report on the agency's website, taking into account the growth in sugar production in the current MY and its significant residues (420,000 tonnes), which are transferred from the last MY, the total sugar supply this season will amount to 1.74 million tonnes. The Ministry of Economy specified that these volumes will be quite enough to meet domestic demand, which is approximately 1.25 million tonnes.

“At present, the sugar industry of Ukraine allows producing up to 2 million tonnes of beet sugar per year, which fully meets the country's internal needs,” the ministry explains.

In the current MY, 33 enterprises of the industry intend to produce sugar, which corresponds to the data for 2020, the report says.



Ukraine already harvests 43.7 mln tonnes of early grains

From the beginning of the harvesting campaign as of August 20, Ukrainian farmers have harvested 43.7 million tonnes (4.2 million tonnes more per week from August 13 to August 20) of early grains and legumes, as well as oilseeds from an area of 9.2 million hectares (98% of the forecast).

According to the Information and Analytical Portal of the agro-industrial complex of Ukraine, in the context of crops, the following were threshed: wheat of 32 million tonnes from an area of 6.9 million hectares (98% of the total area under this crop), barley of 10.27 million tonnes from 2.4 million hectares (99%), rapeseed of 2.7 million tonnes from 1 million hectares (99%), peas of 560,000 tonnes from 24,000 hectares (99%).

It is specified that in six regions the grain harvest exceeded 3 million tones, namely in Kharkiv (3.45 million tonnes), Odesa (3.39 million tonnes), Dnipropetrovsk (3.36 million tonnes), Mykolaiv (3.25 million tonnes), Zaporizhia (3.22 million tonnes) and Kherson (3.11 million tonnes) regions.

“ According to the portal, the average yield of harvested wheat was 46.2 dt/ha, barley was 41.0 dt/ha, rape was 27.5 dt/ha, peas was 23.2 dt/ha.

The portal said the harvesting of early grains, legumes and rapeseed was completely completed by the agrarians from 12 regions. At the same time, wheat harvesting has been completed in 15 regions, barley in 17 regions, peas in 23 regions.

Agricultural producers of Khmelnytsky region became the leader in average grain yield, reaching 60.9 dt/ha. Farms in Vinnytsia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Ternopil and Cherkasy regions have an average yield exceeding 50 dt/ha.



International European University has joined the environmental action



The situation of reservoir pollution is critical in Ukraine. The Dnieper River is annually contaminated with tons of garbage and emissions from different enterprises. Most people know about this problem but keep throwing away garbage and polluting our wonderful river.

There are a lot of beach areas near the river and waste affects our health. Together we can not only clean the riverfront but also get out trash of the river on canoes in the sports rhythm.

Our journalists talked to the organizers of the action, SD Platform non-governmental organization, and discovered all the details.

“Sometimes we see our Dnieper river through rose-colored spectacles. But putting them off, we can notice how much dirt, plastics and strange things are in the river. We have gathered activists who care about its destiny. We made the Dnieper cleaner on our own,” Kateryna Davydkova, a coordinator of the environmental sector at SD Platform, said.

Plastics, bottles, toys and even stolen stuff are just a brief list of the “treasure” found by activists in the Dnieper. This garbage was left by common vacationers who don’t want to keep the Dnieper clean.

“We found a bag with car and apartment keys, a purse, personal documents and bank cards. Without losing any time, we found the owner of lost things via Facebook and returned them the next day. The things have been in the water for more than a year. Thus, the environmental action is referred not just to reservoir rescue, but also to good deeds like in this case,” Said Mechkour, a foreign student of International European University, added.

Meat production falls in Ukraine

Sales of meat for slaughter (in live weight) decreased by 2.6% in Ukraine in January-July 2021, year-over-year, to 1.84 million tonnes, milk production by 6%, to 5.19 million tonnes, eggs by 14.4%, to 8.64 billion pieces, the State Statistics Service of Ukraine said on the website on Tuesday.

According to it, as of August 1, the poultry population in Ukraine decreased 3.5%, year-over-year, to 240.3 million heads, cattle by 6.4%, to 3.22 million heads (including the number of cows decreased by 5.9%, to 1.66 million heads), sheep and goats by 5.3%, to 1.37 million heads, while the number of pigs remained unchanged at 6.11 million heads.



Ovostar reduces net profit by one third in H1

The agro-industrial group of companies Ovostar Union, one of the leading producers of eggs and egg products in Ukraine, in January-June 2021 received \$1.62 million in net profit, which is 34% less than in the same period in 2020, its EBITDA decreased by 27% – up to \$3.5 million. According to the company's report, published on the website of the Warsaw Stock Exchange on Friday evening, Ovostar's revenue in the first half of 2021 increased by 37.6% to \$61.42 million, its gross profit decreased by 13.8% to \$6.24 million, operating profit doubled to \$1.37 million.

"Since the third quarter of 2020, the Ukrainian egg industry has been decreasing in terms of the total number of laying hens and production volumes. A poor harvest last year led to an increase in the prices of the main components of the feed mixture, which subsequently increased the cost of production. This, along with the very unfavorable dynamics of the selling prices for eggs, caused huge losses to the industry. Many egg producers are cutting their herds," the report says.



Growth of retail turnover in Ukraine slows down to 10%

The turnover of retail trade in Ukraine in July 2021 year-over-year, in comparable prices increased by 10.1%, while in June it grew by 13%, the State Statistics Service said on Friday.

According to the State Statistics Service, in July compared to June 2021, retail trade grew by 6.5%.

In January-July 2021, compared to the same reporting period in 2020, retail trade turnover also increased by 13%.

The largest growth in retail trade turnover of enterprises (legal entities and individual entrepreneurs) for seven months of 2021 was recorded in Chernivtsi (by 28.8%), Ternopil (by 28.2%), Lviv (by 20.8%), Zakarpattia (by 20.7%), Khmelnytsky (19.8%), Poltava (19%), Vinnytsia (18.9%), Ivano-Frankivsk (18.1%), Rivne (15%), Zhytomyr (14.8%), Kyiv (14%), Zaporizhia (13.9%), Dnipropetrovsk (12.7%) and Chernihiv (12%) regions.



Furniture export from Ukraine rises to \$579 mln in Jan-Aug

Ukraine exported furniture worth \$578.85 million in January-August 2021, which is 62.5% more than the same period last year, head of the cluster platform of the Ukrainian Association of Furniture Manufacturers Oksana Donska told Interfax-Ukraine.

"The large share of Ukrainian furniture exports falls on the EU countries [87.9% of the total], while the CIS countries account for 7.9%, Asia – 2.1%, and America – 1%," Donska said.



According to the expert, Poland, Germany, Denmark, Austria and Belgium are among the top five exporting countries of Ukrainian furniture and their parts.

"Exports to Romania have grown significantly this year – by 85.8%, from \$9.1 million to \$16.9 million, to the UK – by 140%, from \$4.7 million to \$11.4 million, and to France – by 84.9%, from \$7.8 million to \$14.4 million," Donska said.

According to the data of the State Customs Service, to which the expert refers, the leaders in the commodity structure of exports are: 23.7% – wooden furniture (9403 60), and 23% – parts of furniture for seating (9401 90). Convertible sofas and armchairs (9401 40) gave 10.4% of exports, furniture parts (9403 90) – 10.2%, wooden bedroom furniture (9403 50) – 7.2%, and upholstered furniture that cannot be converted into beds (9401 61) – 6.9%.

Ukraine asks US to provide \$4 bln to modernize irrigation systems

The United States may provide Ukraine with a credit line totaling \$4 billion for the period 2022-2030 to reform the system of public administration in the irrigation industry, as well as to attract investments in the renovation and modernization of irrigation infrastructure facilities.

The relevant information was published by deputy of the Verkhovna Rada from the European Solidarity faction Oleksiy Honcharenko on the Telegram channel, who presented a list of possible Ukrainian-American projects presented by President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky during his working visit to the United States.

According to the deputy, Ukraine applied to the United States for a loan of \$4 billion for the period 2022-2030 for the implementation of the project to restore the engineering infrastructure of irrigation systems and the development of irrigated agriculture in Ukraine, since the country's financial capabilities do not allow it to independently implement this project.



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