



UKRAINE
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IMF will help Ukraine to cover financial deficit of \$15 billion for next 3 months



Ukraine has applied to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for support in covering the financial gap to keep the economy functioning in the amount of \$5 billion per month for the next three months, and the IMF will assist in raising these funds, said Fund Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva.

"The first priority is to provide support to fill this financial gap in Ukraine over the next three months," she said at a press conference in Washington.

"Let me emphasize that this \$5 billion is for keeping the economy functioning, not for Ukraine's recovery needs, which will be huge," Georgieva added.

She noted that such large funding for Ukraine is important for obvious reasons: most of the economy is not working, the Fund predicts about a 35% decline in GDP this year. "And so filling this financial gap is best done by relying on grant funding, and this is what we want to see in order to raise funds for Ukraine in search of financial support," said Georgieva.

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26 April 2022



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UKRAINE PLANS TO SOW ABOUT 80% OF LAST YEAR'S SOWN AREA WITH SPRING CROPS

President Zelensky: Ukraine will become “Greater Israel”

Ukraine will not be a “liberal” state in the near future, and security will become the number one priority, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky said in an interview with Ukrainian journalists shown on Tuesday as part of the all-Ukrainian telethon.

“Ukraine will definitely not be the one we wanted from the very beginning. It’s impossible. Absolutely liberal, European – it will not be like that. It will definitely come from the fortress of every hut, every house, every person,” he said.



“We will become a “greater Israel” with our own face. We will not be surprised if there are representatives of the Armed Forces or the National Guard in our cinemas, supermarkets, people with weapons will stand. I am sure that the issue of security will be number 1 for us in the next 10 years. I am sure of this,” Zelensky said, adding: “The state will be the way the Russian Federation made it.”



At the same time, he noted, such a state would be democratic. “An authoritarian state is impossible in Ukraine. An authoritarian state would lose to Russia. People know what they are fighting for. They come out and fight not for a portrait,” said the President of Ukraine.

G-7 countries promise Ukraine more than \$24 billion for 2022

The G-7 countries, together with the international community, are promising and are already providing Ukraine with significant additional support in the amount of more than \$24 billion for 2022 and beyond, both financially and materially, their finance ministers and central bankers said in a statement.

“Against the backdrop of the ongoing brutal Russian aggression, the accompanying suffering of the Ukrainian population, and the ongoing destruction of the country itself, we are ready to do more as needed,” the document said.

“We call on all countries and international organizations to join our efforts to ensure adequate support for Ukraine in meeting its urgent needs and rebuilding its future,” the document emphasizes.

G-7 representatives welcomed the opening of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Multi-Donor Account for Ukraine and the announcement of the European Union on the establishment of the Ukraine Solidarity Trust Fund, and support the World Bank Group Ukraine Support Package and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development Sustainability Package.

The day before, IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said that Ukraine had applied to the Fund for support in covering the financial gap to keep the economy functioning in the amount of \$5 billion a month for the next three months, and the IMF would assist in raising these funds.

According to the National Bank, the total international financial support for Ukraine since the beginning of the war amounted to \$3.8 billion.

Economic Adviser to the President of Ukraine Oleg Ustenko, in an interview with The New Yorker last week, estimated the Ukrainian budget deficit in the coming months at about \$8 billion a month and announced the desirability of partner assistance of \$50 billion for six months. At the same time, Finance Minister Sergei Marchenko earlier predicted a state budget deficit for April-May of \$5-7 billion a month compared to \$2.7 billion in March.



President of Ukraine: Germany's position has recently been changing in favor of Ukraine

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky said that Germany's position has recently been changing in favor of Ukraine.

"I spoke today with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. About how to bring to justice all those responsible for war crimes. How to strengthen sanctions against Russia and how to force Russia to seek peace. I am glad to note that recently the German position has been changing in favor of Ukraine," he said in a video message.

"I consider this absolutely logical. Since this is the course supported by the majority of the German people," the president said, noting that he expects "everything agreed upon will be implemented."

Prime Minister Johnson: We will supply technology and know-how so that Ukraine will never be blackmailed

The UK will supply Ukraine with technology and know-how to ensure that Ukraine is never blackmailed or threatened, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said after meeting with the Ukrainian president in Kyiv.

"We – the UK and other partners will supply equipment, technology, know-how, intelligence, so that Ukraine will never be subjected to the horrors of invasion, so that Ukraine will never be blackmailed or threatened in any way," Johnson said at a briefing with the President of Ukraine in Kyiv.



Ukrainian customs simplifies receipt of EUR.1 certificates for export of goods

The State Customs Service will simplify the issuance of EUR.1 certificates for the export of goods for the period of martial law, the agency reported on its Telegram channel.

"For the period of martial law ... the head of the State Customs Service instructed the heads of customs, under their personal responsibility, to ensure a simplified procedure for issuing certificates for the transport of EUR.1 relevant request from the customs administration of an EU country," the agency said on Thursday.

Such certificates exempt from duties the import of goods into the EU, recalled the customs.

If there are any problematic issues regarding the issuance of these certificates, exporters can contact the relevant customs officers at (096) 133-22-79.



British-Ukrainian Aid and Ukrainian volunteers donated ambulances and medicines to Ukraine

British-Ukrainian Aid (British-Ukrainian Aid) and volunteers donated two ambulances and medicines to Ukraine.

On April 17, volunteers-citizens of Ukraine and the public organization British-Ukrainian Aid (British-Ukrainian Aid) handed over two ambulances to Ukraine and representatives of the Armed Forces. In addition, medicines were handed over from English friends. Now such cars are one of the most necessary types of transport both at the front and at the rear, because minimizing damage to citizens and timely medical care will save lives.



The organizer of the delivery of cars Valery Polshkov, Alexander Bobylev and the construction company "Liko-Holding". According to Valeriy Polshkov, prompt delivery of the car from Britain became possible thanks to the joint efforts of volunteers and the well-coordinated work of the state bodies of Ukraine.

"I am grateful to the State Border Service and the State Customs Service for their efficient work. The cars crossed the border in 20 minutes and have already been handed over to representatives of the Armed Forces of Ukraine," V. Polshkov emphasized.

Also, Oleg Chomko and his company "Badzinger Auto" were directly involved in the escort and transfer of cars from Britain to Ukraine.

British-Ukrainian Aid, bringing together the efforts of the UK and Ukraine, offers humanitarian and medical assistance to the wounded, veterans, orphans, the elderly, internally displaced persons, refugees and families who have lost their military breadwinner. All members of the group are volunteers and work on charitable projects after their main work. Video

President of Ukraine Zelensky spoke in favor of diplomatic path in ending war with Russia

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelensky said he wants the end of the war with Russia and spoke in favor of a diplomatic way to end it.

"I want to stop the war and end it. There is a diplomatic path, there is a military one. Any healthy person always chooses the diplomatic path, because he knows: even if it is difficult, it can stop the loss of thousands, tens of thousands, and with such neighbors hundreds of thousands, and maybe even millions of victims.

I don't want this. And any leader, whether he personally wants it or not, has no right to subjectively cancel the diplomatic path," Zelensky said at a press conference in Kyiv on Saturday.



Germany will not set limits on admission of refugees from Ukraine

Federal Minister of Digital Technologies and Transport of Germany Volker Wissing says that the flow of refugees from Ukraine has significantly decreased and stressed that the German state does not intend to impose any restrictions on the admission of Ukrainian refugees.

"The number of refugees traveling to Germany by train has dropped significantly from its peak at the beginning of the war, from around 8,200 to the current around 2,500 people a day. However, we maintain logistical and transport structures because we cannot predict the course of the war at any moment may face an increase in the number of refugees. We must expect further escalation and be prepared. Those in need in Ukraine should be able to find asylum in Germany," Wissing said in an interview with the German Editorial Network (RedaktionsNetzwerk Deutschland, RND).



When asked if there is an upper limit for accepting refugees from Ukraine, the minister replied: "This question does not arise. Germany cannot and will not reject refugees from Ukraine."

He also noted that Germany is working on accepting Ukrainian refugees who were previously settled in the EU countries neighboring Ukraine, and is also working to ensure that other EU countries are involved in this, recalling that a number of Polish cities have reached the limit of their capacity to accommodate Ukrainians.

"We quickly became convinced that people traveling from Ukraine could be transported from Poland to Germany. There are distribution centers in Hannover, Cottbus and Berlin.... If there is a threat of congestion in neighboring Ukrainian countries, we must again campaign for their distribution throughout the EU. I am in constant contact with my European colleagues," Wissing said.

By end of June, European Commission will decide on possibility of Ukraine to obtain status of candidate for EU membership

The European Commission will provide an opinion on Ukraine's possibility of obtaining the status of a candidate member of the EU by the end of June, after which the European Council will be able to start a discussion on this issue, President of the European Council Charles Michel said.

"We will have the opinion of the Commission by the end of June. And it will be my responsibility to assess when I can put this issue on the agenda of the European Council, to make sure that we have a political discussion, a dialogue, to make progress on this path. But I want to say that I feel very strong support to make sure that we can provide concrete support to Ukraine in your choice to follow the path to the EU in your future," Michel said at a press conference with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in Kyiv on Wednesday.

He stressed that Ukraine demonstrates adherence to democratic principles and freedoms every day.

"You are fighting not only for the future of the children of Ukraine. We know that you are fighting for European fundamental principles and values," Michel stressed.



Number of refugees from Ukraine reaches 4 mln

Russia's war against Ukraine, which began on February 24, has forced 5 million 34,44,000 people as of mid-day April 19 to leave the country in search of safety, protection and assistance, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has released this data.

It also for the first time made public data on the flow into Ukraine, citing the State Border Guard Service, according to which from February 28 to April 18, it was 948,500 people, while spokesman Andriy Demchenko on Wednesday estimated it since February 24 at 1.1 million.



Ukrainian-Polish border accounted for 56.1% of all exits: 2 million 825,460. According to the Polish Border Agency's data made public on Wednesday morning, 2.9 million people have entered the country from Ukraine since the war began, and 756,000 have passed in the opposite direction.

Romania and Moldova received 821,052, some 471,008 arrived in Hungary, and 342,081 in Slovakia.

The number of people, crossing the border between Russia and Belarus, has been growing at an accelerated rate compared to the EU and the Republic of Moldova over the past month: April 19, it reached 549,081 and 23,076, respectively.

For comparison: if since March 15, the number of those who entered Poland, Hungary, and Slovakia increased by 58-78%, then to Russia – 3.8 times, to Belarus – 19 times. According to Ukrainian authorities, a significant part of Ukrainian citizens were displaced to the territory of Russia and Belarus from the war zone or from the occupied territories against their will due to the absence of humanitarian corridors to Ukraine.

In general, the flow of people leaving the country has slowed down considerably compared to the beginning of the war and is gradually stabilizing: if in the first 19 days of the war 3 million people left Ukraine, it took first six days to increase by another half a million, then nine, and for the next two increases of half a million, eleven days each.

During the European Easter holidays, for the first time since the beginning of the war, the State Border Guard Service recorded a greater flow of people entering Ukraine at its western border on some days than exiting. In total, over the past seven days, about 250,000 people left the country and 225,000 entered.

UNHCR indicates that as of mid-2021, there were 53,047 Ukrainian refugees around the world seeking the appropriate status, including 36,049 in Europe.

The Ukrainian diaspora in the world by mid-2020 was estimated by UNHCR at 6.1 million, including 5 million in Europe.

As of April 15, Ukraine's international reserves amount to \$27.4 bln

Ukraine's international reserves currently stand at \$27.4 billion, representatives of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) said at a meeting with the European Business Association (EBA) and the American Chamber of Commerce on April 15.

“The country's foreign exchange reserves amount to \$27.4 billion, which became possible thanks to the support of international partners – the IMF, the EU (which provided the first tranche of 600 million euros), the EBRD, etc. The total amount of assistance received from international partners is \$3.8 billion “, – is noted in the release of the EBA following the meeting.

Earlier, the NBU reported that Ukraine's international reserves as of April 1, 2022 amounted to \$28.1 billion, which is 2% more than at the beginning of March (\$27.5 billion).



European Investment Bank pledges additional EUR 4 bln to support Ukrainian war refugees

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is preparing a EUR 4 billion financing program that will help EU member states take in Ukrainian refugees fleeing the war, as well as ensure the development of critical social infrastructure.

“The new EIB program, pending approval by the EIB’s Board of Directors, aims to finance the development of key social infrastructure for the provision of public services to refugees, including housing, schools, hospitals and kindergartens. The financial support will be complemented by advisory support, helping local authorities in EU Member States with free technical assistance to assess local needs rapidly, and plan, prioritize and prepare the related investments,” the bank said on its website.

“*“The EIB pledged the support for refugees at Stand Up for Ukraine, a global fundraising event in Warsaw to support the victims of the Russian aggression,” the report says.*”

“We are all devastated by the terrible destruction inflicted on Ukraine and its people, millions of whom are fleeing their country in search of peace and security. The horror we are witnessing strengthens our determination to act. With our initial Solidarity Package for Ukraine, and this new EUR 4 billion program for EU Member States, we will support Ukraine and help communities welcoming the refugees, ensuring they can offer them vital social facilities – housing, schools, hospitals. I am deeply grateful to President Ursula von der Leyen and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for their leadership and for mobilizing the international community for Ukraine. The world must live up to the exemplary courage and resilience of the Ukrainian people and help them and those who support them,” EIB President Werner Hoyer said.

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Hryvnia deposits of population of Ukraine increases by 19% since beginning of war

Since the beginning of Russia’s armed aggression in Ukraine, hryvnia deposits of the population have grown by 19%, while deposits in foreign currency have decreased by 2%, said the head of the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), Kyrylo Shevchenko.



“As for the outflow of deposits, on April 1, compared to the first day of the war, hryvnia deposits of the population increased by 19%. Deposits in foreign currency decreased by 2%,” he said in an interview with Economic Truth.

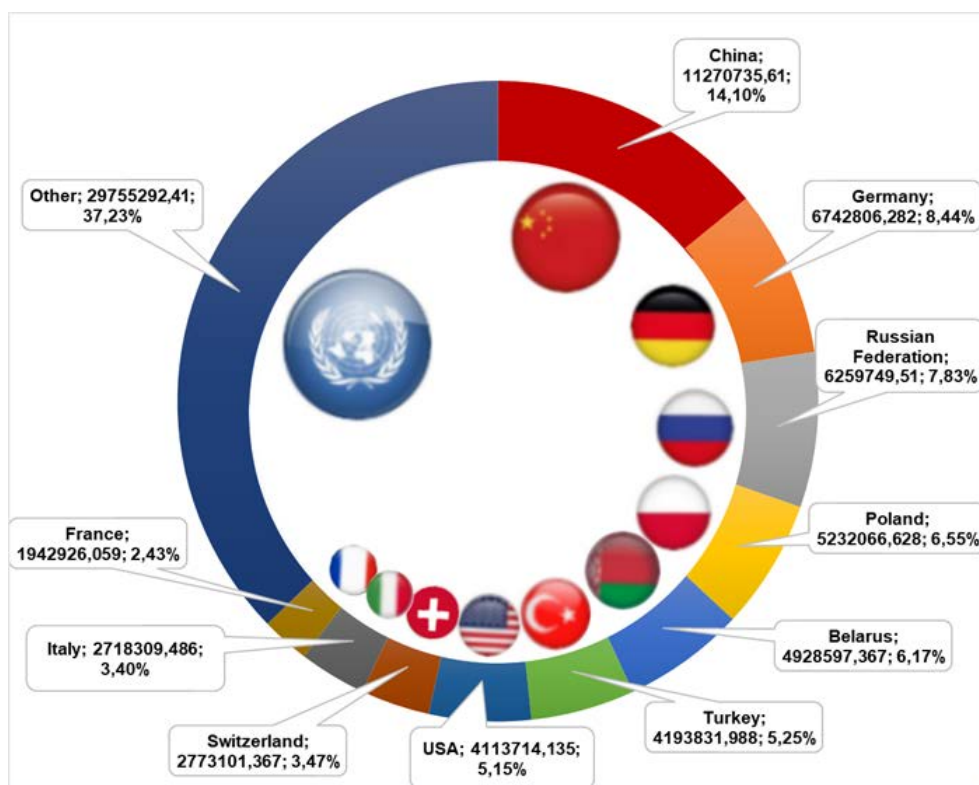


Shevchenko added that since the beginning of the active phase of the war, the funds of legal entities have decreased by 4% – in hryvnias and by 8% – in US dollars.

“We have no critical outflows from the system,” the head of the NBU summed up.



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



UN raises number of internal refugees in Ukraine to almost 8 mln

The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Ukraine due to the war unleashed by Russia has reached 7.7 million compared to 854 thousand before the start of the war, as of April 21 this estimate was given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), which as of April 6 estimated this figure at 7.1 million.

“*The Russian Federation launched a military offensive against Ukraine on February 24, 2022. To date, more than 5 million refugees have left Ukraine, making this the fastest growing refugee crisis since World War II. Another 7.7 million people have been displaced inside Ukraine,” it says in a report on his website.*

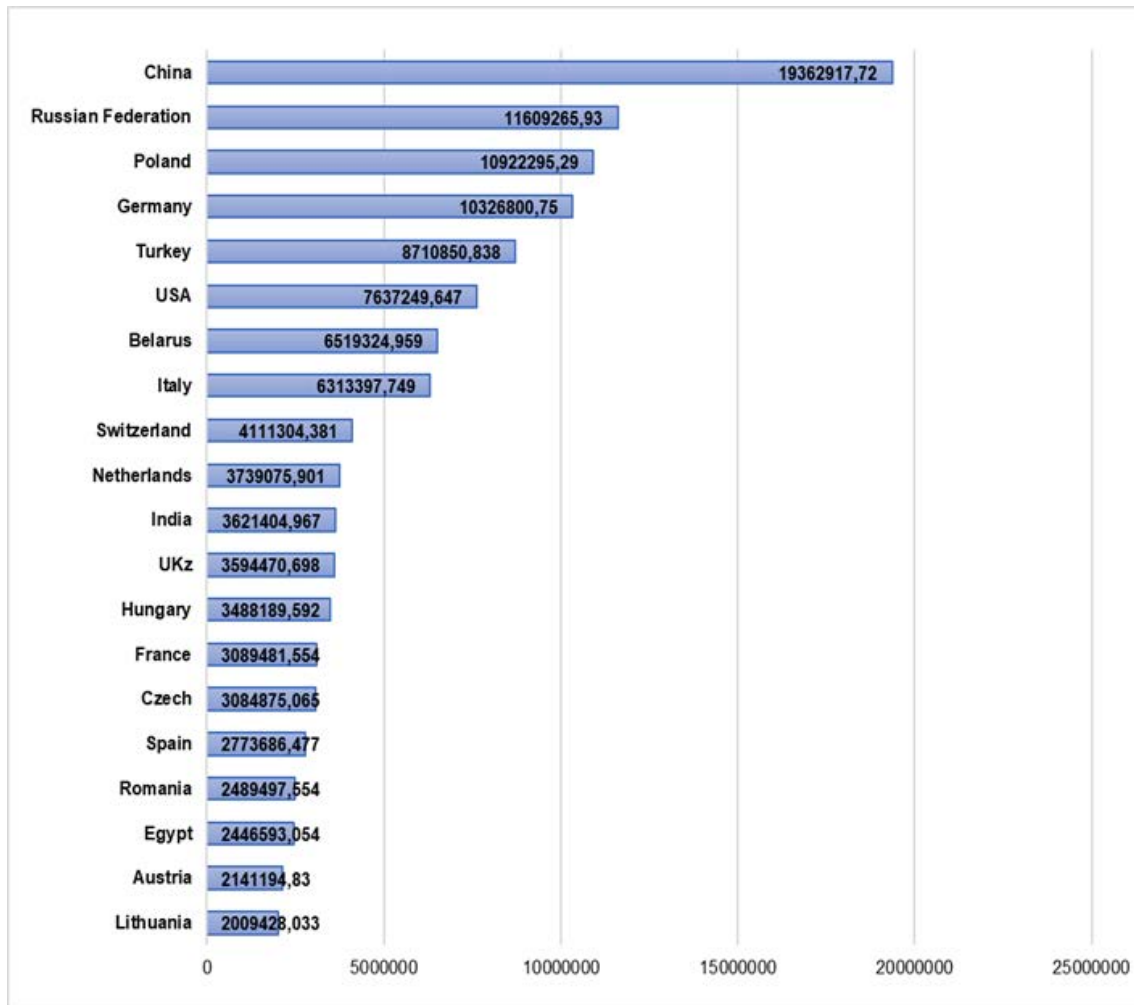
UNHCR estimates that some 13 million people are stuck in affected areas or unable to leave due to heightened security risks, destruction of bridges and roads, and a lack of resources or information on where to find safety and shelter.

The organization notes that the delivery of vital aid remains challenging due to the lack of safe humanitarian access. Citing UNICEF and WASH partners, UNHCR reports that 1.4 million people are currently without access to water in eastern Ukraine and that another 4.6 million people across Ukraine are at risk of losing such access. The organization also points to the persistence of the difficult situation in Kherson.

“UNHCR continues to call for the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructure, respect for international humanitarian law, and neighboring countries to continue to keep their borders open to refugees,” the report emphasizes.

As Prime Minister Denys Shmygal said on April 13, 1 million people have already registered as new IDPs as a result of the Russian invasion. The state announced that it would make monthly payments for registered IDPs in the amount of UAH 2,000 per adult and UAH 3,000 per child.

Top 20 countries of Ukraine's foreign trade partners in 2021 (thousand USD)



Medical group “Adonis” resumes work of maternity hospital in Kyiv

The medical group of companies “Adonis” plans to resume the work of the maternity hospital in Kyiv in the near future. As the Interfax-Ukraine agency was told in the medical group, it is planned that the work of the maternity hospital, which was closed on March 5 for technical reasons, will resume on April 8.

“At the moment, all technical problems have been eliminated. We will accept patients both for pregnancy and childbirth. This applies to all patients from both the Adonis maternity hospital in Buzovoy (Kyiv region) and the maternity hospital in Kyiv. We also accept all patients who need help,” the company said.



As reported, on March 1, the Russian aggressor fired at the Adonis maternity hospital in Buzovaya, at which time pregnant women, women in labor and babies arrived. All patients were evacuated, no one was hurt.

Adonis is a network of private medical centers for adults and children founded over 20 years ago. It includes 12 branches in Kyiv and the region, including two own maternity hospitals and a stem cell laboratory. In the branches of the clinic, doctors receive patients in 66 medical areas.

Total losses of global reinsurers as result of war in Ukraine are estimated from EUR15 bln to EUR30 bln

The French reinsurer SCOR tentatively estimates the volume of compensation as a result of Russia's military attack on Ukraine at "a high double-digit figure in millions of euros", while warning that the company could end the first quarter of 2022 with a loss.

As reported on the website of the reinsurer, SCOR became the first of the global reinsurers to publish information about how much the war in Ukraine could cost their business.

“ *It is also noted that the total losses of the industry as a result of this war will be equivalent to a catastrophic event of a medium scale (from EUR15 billion to EUR30 billion).* ”

But given that hostilities affect insurance payouts, and given the considerable uncertainty as hostilities continue, it is now very difficult to give an accurate estimate, SCOR said.

By announcing early first quarter results, SCOR definitely wants to give shareholders and the market a picture of what to expect. SCOR's strategy is to reserve funds "as large as possible as early as possible".

The company is closely following the course of events in Ukraine, which makes it possible to adequately assess the potential impact of the aggressor's military actions and international sanctions against Russia on global reinsurance.



Starlink plans to open representative office in Ukraine

The global satellite system for Internet access Starlink plans to open a representative office in Ukraine, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Digital Transformation Mykhailo Fedorov said on Tuesday.

"Now, Ukraine is almost impossible to imagine without modern Starlink technology. And this technology will become even more accessible to Ukrainians.

After all, today we received another positive news: Starlink has begun work on opening a representative office in Ukraine," he wrote on his Telegram channel.

Fedorov also said that, for his part, he instructed the relevant authorities to complete the necessary procedures for certification, measurements and the provision of frequencies as soon as possible.

According to Fedorov, today, more than 10,000 Starlink stations help the Armed Forces of Ukraine to stay in touch and carry out special operations, support the operation of critical energy and telecommunications facilities, healthcare facilities and even the sowing season, and also return de-occupied territories to life.



Ferrexpo increases net profit to \$871 mln in 2021

Mining company Ferrexpo with assets in Ukraine in 2021 increased its net profit by 37.1%, to \$870.99 million, with revenue growth of 48.1%, to \$2 billion 518.23 million, according to the company's report on the London Stock Exchange in Friday.

According to it, EBITDA profit increased by 67.5% to \$1 billion 438.76 million. The report also notes that the company's gross debt fell from \$266 million to \$50 million last year, while its net cash position increased from \$4 million to \$117 million.



IAEA Director General to visit Chernobyl NPP with experts

IAEA Director General Rafael Grossi will lead a team of experts who will visit the Chernobyl nuclear power plant next week, according to a statement posted on the organization's website.

"International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Director General Rafael Mariano Grossi will lead an expert mission to Ukraine's Chernobyl nuclear power plant (NPP) next week to step up assistance to prevent the danger of a nuclear accident during the current conflict in the country," the statement said.



It is noted that a group of IAEA employees will arrive in Chernobyl on April 26 to deliver the necessary equipment and conduct radiological and other surveys of the area.

In March, Grossi visited the South Ukrainian NPP, where he discussed IAEA assistance to Ukraine with the Minister of Energy of Ukraine German Galushchenko, the head of the nuclear regulator of Ukraine Oleg Korikov, the head of the State Enterprise NNEGC Energoatom Petr Kotin and the general director of the South Ukrainian NPP Igor Polovich. Then he noted, that the personal presence of IAEA specialists on the ground would help prevent the risk of a nuclear accident in the face of Russian military aggression, It was noted that such an accident could lead to serious consequences in the field of health and the environment both in Ukraine and abroad.

Agricultural holding MHP reduces sales of chicken meat in Ukraine in Jan-March by 6%

MHP Agroholding sold 159.02 thousand tons of chicken meat in January-March 2022, which is 3% more than in January-March 2021, while its sales in Ukraine decreased by 6% to 66.8 thousand tons, and exports increased by 9% – up to 89.34 thousand tons, the agricultural holding said on the London Stock Exchange on Friday.

According to its production report, the agrarian group produced 175.64 thousand tons of chicken meat during the reporting period (+5% compared to the first quarter of 2021). Thus, the agricultural holding managed to sell 90.5% of its products.

"From the start of the war, the company faced serious logistical and infrastructural problems in Ukraine. While MHP continued commercial sales in Ukraine from the start of the war, export sales stopped due to the closure of seaports, and export deliveries by road remained almost impossible," clarified the chicken producer of the consequences of Russian aggression.

US farmers plan to significantly increase sunflower plantings due to supply disruptions

American farmers plan to significantly increase sunflower crops this year due to supply disruptions amid Russia's military invasion of Ukraine, Bloomberg writes.

At the same time, a jump in agricultural prices to record levels for many years could increase motivation among farmers to plant more, said John Sandbakken, executive director of the National Sunflower Association. The USDA tentatively forecasts a 10% increase in sunflower acreage this year.

"I'm sure the increase will be more, almost 20%," Sandbakken said in a telephone interview with Bloomberg.



Sunflower is used in a very wide range of products, from potato chips and sunflower oil for frying to bird food and shampoos. However, this year this commodity may be in short supply, as Ukrainian farmers are forced to reduce acreage and exports due to hostilities in the country. Ukraine is considered one of the world's largest sunflower exporters.



Meanwhile, last year's devastating drought in the northern Great Plains of the United States plays into the hands of American farmers this year, as it left excess nitrogen in the ground, which reduces fertilizer costs, Bloomberg notes.

The price of new crop sunflower in the US is about \$34 per 100 pounds (about 45 kg), higher than the previous record price of \$30.5 reached in 2008. Old crop sunflower prices are also nearing their highest since 2011, Sandbakken notes.

UN World Food Program deepens cooperation with Ukraine to prevent world hunger

The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) deepens cooperation with Ukraine in the context of the blocking of its maritime agricultural exports by warships of the aggressor country of the Russian Federation, the issue of the organization's purchase of Ukrainian grain and its subsequent delivery to countries that are threatened hunger.

The relevant issue was discussed by Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine Mykola Solsky and WFP Executive Director David Muldow Beasley during a meeting in Kyiv, according to the website of the Ukrainian department on Friday.

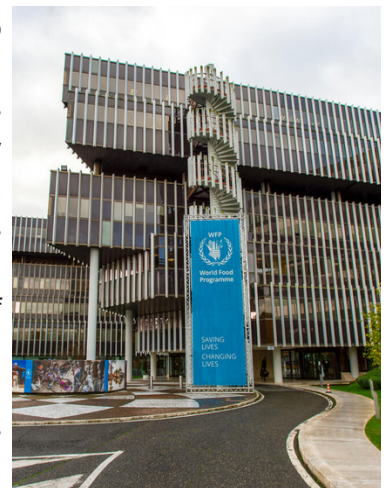


"The possibility of purchasing surplus grains in Ukraine at the expense of the World Food Program was discussed in order to provide food for the countries of Africa and the Middle East and prevent global famine in these regions, the threat of which is very real," the ministry said in a statement.

The agency stressed that WFP has deployed large-scale humanitarian assistance to Ukrainians affected by the war. In particular, contacts have been established with bakeries, flour mills and food industry enterprises in Ukraine for the purchase of goods from them and subsequent delivery to the regions affected by the Russian military invasion.

In turn, Solsky during the meeting focused on the need to unblock Ukrainian seaports and shipping routes in order to ensure the export of agricultural products from Ukraine.

"In order to stabilize the situation, it is important to ensure the logistics of supplies of agricultural products from Ukraine through unblocked ports and alternative routes. In addition, small and medium-sized Ukrainian farms and agricultural enterprises, which play a big role in ensuring national and global food security, need urgent help," – quotes the department of its head.



Ukraine plans to sow about 80% of last year's sown area with spring crops

Ukraine will be able to sow approximately 14.2 million hectares in the course of spring field work this season. agricultural land, which is 80% of last year's figure of 16.9 million hectares, the reduction in sown area is caused by the invasion of the aggressor country of the Russian Federation and the temporary occupation of part of the country's territory.

The relevant data was announced by the Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmygal before a meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers.



“As of April 18, the projected sown area of the main spring crops in the controlled area is 14.2 million hectares. This is 2.7 million hectares less than last year. That is, in fact, we will sow more than 80% this year last year's areas with spring crops,” the Prime Minister stressed.

Previously, the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and Food estimated the area under spring crops in 2022 at 13.44 million hectares, compared with 16.92 million hectares in 2021.

Water producer Voda UA plans export expansion to other countries

Water producer Voda UA (Kyiv) plans to increase export supplies of Carpathian high-mountain waters under the trademarks Voda UA, Goryanka, Karpatska Vysokohirna due to a significant reduction in the domestic market caused by the military invasion of Ukraine by the aggressor country of the Russian Federation. The owner and founder of the group of companies Dmytro Nikiforov told Interfax-Ukraine on Monday about the launch of the Support Ukraine, Buy Ukrainian project to promote Ukrainian brands abroad.

According to the data on the project website it was created to encourage Europeans to buy Ukrainian products to support Ukrainian business, which in turn helps the Ukrainian military, volunteers and civil organizations. So, since the military invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, Voda UA has already provided UAH 3.5 million worth of its products for the Armed Forces of Ukraine (APU), volunteer organizations, bomb shelters and other people in need.

“There can be no question of any business in Russia or with Russian business in any form,” Nikiforov said, pointing to the consequences of Russian aggression in Ukraine.

According to Nikiforov, now the Voda UA plant in Ivano-Frankivsk region is operating normally, while after the start of the war it experienced problems with logistics.

“Logistics was disrupted for just two weeks. Nobody wanted to go to Kyiv, and the invaders were right near Kyiv, and half the country was cut off for delivery. Now everything is working as usual. There are problems with consumables from suppliers. For example, the Hostomel glass factory, where our legendary bottle is produced suffered quite a lot,” Nikiforov said.

At the same time, the Voda UA office in Kyiv is closed, and its employees work remotely. The company continues to pay office employees 75% of the pre-war wage rate, including those who serve in the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Voda UA is a group of companies engaged in the extraction of Carpathian high mountain waters under the trademarks Voda UA, Goryanka, Karpatska Vysokohirna. The owner of the group of companies is Dmytro Nikiforov.



Kernel significantly reduces sales of vegetable oil in Jan-March 2022

Kernel, one of the largest Ukrainian agro-industrial groups, in the third quarter of the 2022 financial year (FY, January-March 2022), reduced sales of vegetable oil (sunflower and rapeseed) by 28% compared to the same period of the last FY – from 371, 9 thousand tons to 269.1 thousand tons, the total processing of oilseeds – by 38%, from 901.6 thousand tons to 562.8 thousand tons.

According to a report published on the company's website on Friday night, the decline in production and sales of oilseeds and vegetable oil was caused by the blockade of Ukrainian seaports by warships of the aggressor country of the Russian Federation, as a result of which the active harvesting, processing and export of grain and sunflower oil was stopped.

KERNEL

Similarly, in the nine months of FY2022 (July-2021 – March-2022), Kernel sold 906.3 thousand tons of sunflower and rapeseed oil (-17% compared to 9 months of FY2021) and processed 2.0 million tons of oilseeds (-21%).

In the third quarter of FY2022, the group of companies reduced the volume of agricultural products supplied to its elevators by 53% compared to the third quarter of FY2021 – to 50.9 thousand tons, while in 9 months. 4.1 million tons of agricultural raw materials were delivered to elevators in FY 2022, which is 10% more than in 9 months. FY2021.

Kernel also noted with regret that due to the unprovoked military aggression of the Russian Federation in Ukraine, five of its employees were killed.

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- Production outsourcing project management
- Legal advisory services including licencing and certification, etc. (together with associated companies).

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