



UKRAINE
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION REACHES AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH 5 COUNTRIES ON EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE

European Commission Executive Vice President Valdis Dombrovskis says the European Commission has reached agreements in principle with Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia on the export of Ukrainian agricultural products.

“There are agreements,” he wrote in capital letters on his Twitter page Friday.

Dombrovskis said the European Commission reached “an agreement in principle with Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia regarding Ukrainian agri-food products.” “Together with Janusz Wojciechowski (European Commissioner for Agriculture) we have taken measures to solve the problems of both farmers in neighboring EU countries and in Ukraine,” he wrote.

The Vice President also named the key elements of the deal, which were also agreed with Ukraine. These elements include the removal of unilateral measures by Poland, Slovakia, Bulgaria and Hungary. Then there are “exceptional safeguard measures for 4 products: wheat, corn, rapeseed, sunflower seeds and a support package of 100 million euros for affected farmers in 5 member states.

In addition, Dombrovskis reported on the investigation of some other products, including sunflower oil.

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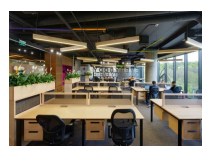
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CHINA TO SEND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR EURASIAN AFFAIRS TO VISIT UKRAINE

China will send a special representative for Eurasian affairs to visit Ukraine, the official Xinhua news agency said. “China will send a special representative of the government for Eurasian affairs to visit Ukraine and other countries for in-depth communication with all parties on the political settlement of the Ukrainian crisis,” the agency wrote, citing a telephone conversation between Chinese President Xi Jinping and Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky. Reportedly, Xi Jinping noted that the complex evolution of the “Ukrainian crisis” has a serious impact on the international situation. According to him, the agency reported, China will press for peace and promote negotiations, and will make its own efforts to stop the fighting and cease-fire and restore peace as soon as possible. The Chinese side will send a special representative of the Chinese government for Eurasian affairs to visit other countries as well to conduct in-depth communication with all parties on the political settlement of the “Ukrainian crisis.” “In the afternoon of April 26, 2023, President Xi Jinping had a telephone conversation with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky at the initiative of the Ukrainian side. The two sides exchanged views on Sino-Ukrainian relations and the Ukrainian crisis,” the Chinese Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

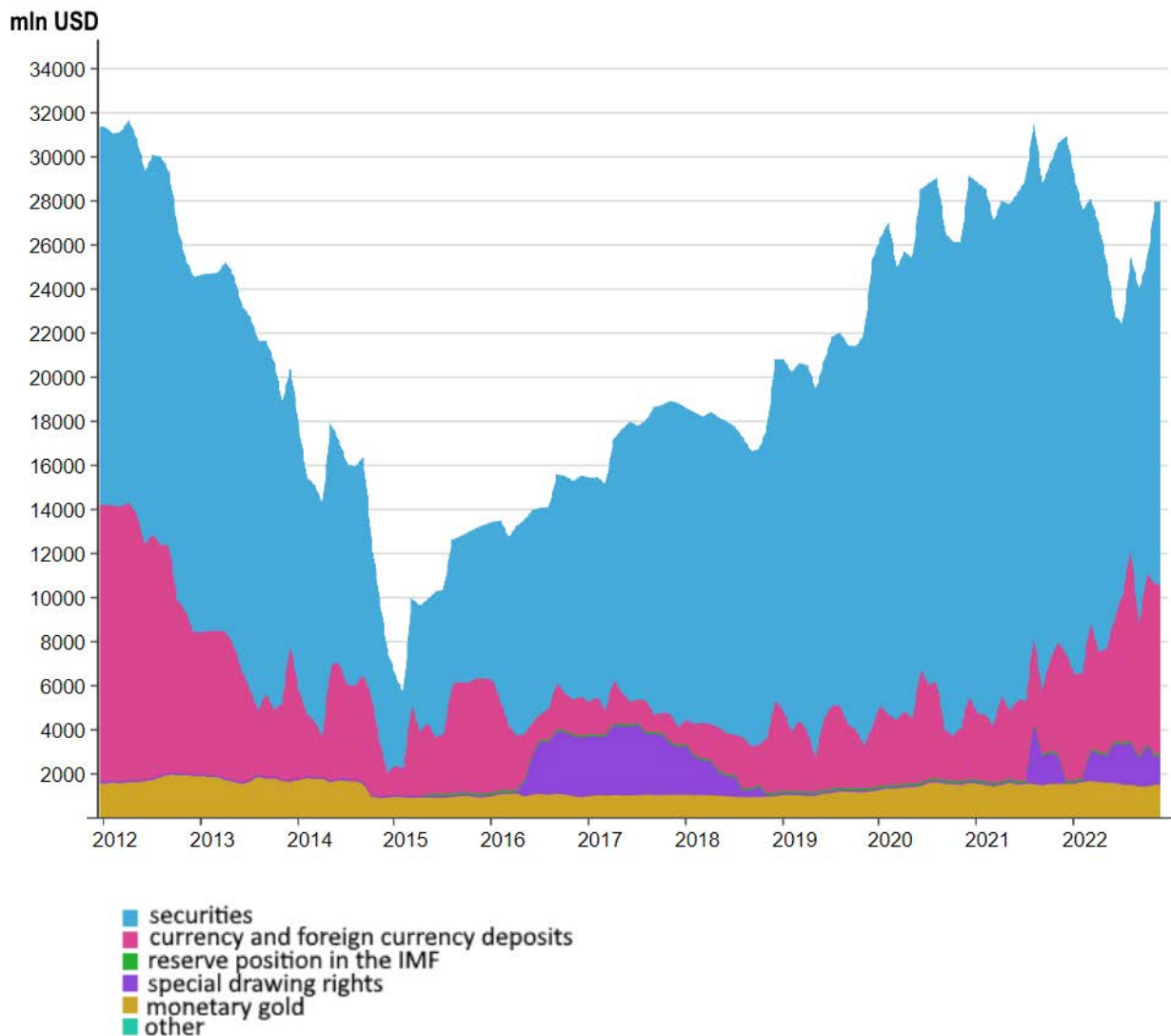
“ According to the press service of the Foreign Ministry, Xi Jinping noted that the Sino-Ukrainian relations have passed through 31 years of development and reached the level of strategic partnership, which contributed to the appropriate development of the two countries.

He also noted President Vladimir Zelensky’s “emphasis on the development of China-Ukraine relations and cooperation with China,” and thanked Ukraine for its great assistance in evacuating Chinese citizens last year. “Mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity is the political foundation of Sino-Ukrainian relations. Both sides should focus on the future, persistently consider and plan bilateral relations in the long term, continue the tradition of mutual respect and sincerity between the two sides and promote the development of the China-Ukraine strategic partnership,” the statement said. It stressed that “China’s readiness to develop China-Ukraine relations is consistent and clear.” The Chinese side said that no matter how the international situation changes, China is ready to work with Ukraine to promote mutually beneficial cooperation between the two countries. “Xi Jinping noted that the complex evolution of the Ukrainian crisis has had a serious impact on the international situation. On the issue of the Ukrainian crisis, China has always stood on the side of peace, and its main position is to promote peace and negotiations,” the Foreign Ministry said. The ministry recalled their “peace plan,” and added that China is “neither a creator nor a party involved in the Ukrainian crisis.”

UKRAINIAN FOREIGN MINISTER INVITED KUWAIT TO JOIN IN REBUILDING UKRAINE

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba, who is on an official visit to Kuwait, held talks with Walid Al-Bahar, head of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, about projects to rebuild Ukraine. “In Kuwait, I met with Walid Al-Bahar, acting director of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, to invite Kuwait to participate in the reconstruction of Ukraine. We discussed social and humanitarian projects, in particular the construction of schools and hospitals,” Kuleba wrote on Twitter. According to the press service of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, Walid Al-Bahar said that his foundation is ready to participate in the International Conference on the reconstruction of Ukraine, which will be held in late June in London. He also stressed that cooperation with Ukraine will be one of the fund’s priorities. The interlocutors paid special attention to the social projects, in particular the construction of new hospitals, schools and kindergartens in Ukraine, as well as the implementation of programs of psychological support and rehabilitation of Ukrainians who suffered during the war.

DYNAMICS OF GOLD AND FOREIGN RESERVES OF UKRAINE FROM 2012 TO 2022



Source: Open4Business.com.ua and experts.news

HOTEL OPERATOR RIBAS PLANS TO BUY PROFITABLE ASSETS IN UKRAINE

Hotel operator Ribas Hotels Group (Odessa) plans to buy income-generating assets in 10 hotel complexes managed by the company, five investment projects under construction in partnership with developers. "In 2023 and 2024 we plan to acquire income assets to the amount of 7 million c.u. in more than 10 projects managed by Ribas Hotels Group. The hotel and restaurant complexes that will be part of the portfolio are located in Lviv and the region, as well as in Ivano-Frankivsk and Transcarpathian regions. These are mostly resort areas, which are busy all year round", – the company told Interfax-Ukraine Agency. Five investment projects are being built in partnership with developers: WOL.GREEN Polyana in Polyana village (Zakarpattia region), Agate Resort & SPA and Morion in Mikulichin village, AMA Family Resort and Ribas Villas in Polyanitsa village (all in Ivano-Frankivsk region). The facilities are to be opened within 2023-2024, with payback period of 10 years, the company specified.

According to the terms of Ribas Invest's investment program, the entry threshold is 10 thousand c.u., and the company expects an annual yield of 9-12% with capitalization of 5-10%. The company expects that Ukrainians will be interested in investing in income real estate first of all.

HOW TO IMPORT GOODS TO UKRAINE – TIPS FROM EXPERTS CLUB AND EXPORTERS CLUB

The saturated market of Ukraine and its geographical location make our country an attractive market for foreign goods. However, importing goods to Ukraine is a complex process that requires knowledge of legislation, international relations, and customs clearance procedures. These and other issues were discussed by the founder of the Club of Experts Maxim Urakin and the President of the Ukrainian Exporters Club Yevheniia Lytvynova in a new video on the YouTube channel “Club of Experts”.

According to Maksym Urakin, before starting to import goods, it is necessary to conduct a detailed analysis of the market and legislation of Ukraine and the exporting country, as well as calculate all costs associated with delivery, customs clearance and taxes.

“This will help you draw up a clear action plan and avoid unpleasant situations during the import process,” the expert emphasized.

“*Yevheniia Lytvynova, President of the Ukrainian Exporters Club, also emphasizes the need to research the market and check the reputation of potential suppliers. “Market research and checking the reputation of potential partners can help you find a reliable supplier,” she said.*

According to Yevheniia Lytvynova, successful import of goods requires a thorough analysis of all aspects of the importer’s future business strategy.

“Before you start importing goods, you need to conduct a detailed analysis of the market, legal requirements and your capabilities, as well as calculate all the costs associated with delivery, customs clearance and taxes. This will help you draw up a clear plan of action and avoid unpleasant situations during the import process,” emphasized Lytvynova.

Regarding the documents to be prepared for importing goods, Lytvynova noted that the contract between the importer and exporter, invoice, transportation document (e.g., waybill or bill of lading), quality certificate and certificate of origin should be put in the forefront.

Maksym Urakin also emphasized that studying local legislation and choosing a reliable supplier are also very important steps in the import process. According to the experts, in order to successfully sell goods in Ukraine, it is also necessary to take into account the difficulties that may arise after their delivery.

“Even if the goods are of high quality and interesting, they still need to be sold. But here in Ukraine, even after obtaining certificates and relevant permits, sales can be restricted due to various customs barriers, which leads to breach of contract. Therefore, we advise our companies to conduct a detailed analysis of the market and legal requirements. This will allow them to prepare the right documentation and comply with all requirements,” said Yevgeniya Lytvynova.

“*To increase export sales, experts recommend improving product quality and providing buyers with more information about their goods. “Nowadays, many buyers check the quality of goods and their compliance with standards. If your products don’t meet the requirements, they simply won’t buy them,” emphasized Maksym Urakin.*

In this regard, experts advise to focus on developing the quality of goods and their competitiveness. In addition, according to Maxim Urakin, it is important to participate in international exhibitions and forums where you can find new partners and establish contacts with potential suppliers.

Watch the full video here:

Subscribe to the Experts Club channel here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@ExpertsClub>

“DOBROBUT” OPENED NEW CLINIC IN KIEV

Dobrobut Medical Network has opened a new outpatient clinic in the building of the former Slavutych Hotel on the left bank of Kiev.

According to the network press release, the area of the medical center is 1150 sq. m, the clinic is designed for 300-400 patients per day.

“ *The new medical center provides a full range of outpatient services for children and adults, and also has enhanced expertise in pediatrics and prenatal diagnosis in gynecology. In particular, the prenatal diagnostics department is equipped with a state-of-the-art Voluson SWIFT machine with integrated artificial intelligence with a real-time 3D-scanning option.* ”

Dobrobut is one of Ukraine’s largest private medical networks. The network includes 17 medical centers in Kiev and Kiev region, emergency service, dentistry and pharmacies. Network medical centers provide services to children and adults in more than 75 medical fields. Annually experts of “Dobrobut” carry out more than 7000 operations. The network has over 2800 employees.

The network collaborates with a number of international charitable organizations such as Direct Relief International, Children of War Foundation, International Medical Corps and University of Miami Global Institute. According to the company, thanks to the work of Direct Relief International and the Dobrobut Foundation, wounded war veterans and people stranded by war are able to receive free care at the Dobrobut Treatment and Diagnostic Center.

ODESSA FILATOV INSTITUTE RECEIVED AS HUMANITARIAN AID DRUG FOR TREATMENT OF CHILDREN

Filatov Institute of Eye Diseases and Tissue Therapy of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine (Odessa, Ukraine) received as humanitarian aid the drug melphalan for the treatment of retinoblastoma, an intraocular malignant tumor in children.

As the Interfax-Ukraine agency was informed at the clinic, the drug is used to treat this tumor with the Institute’s own combined polychemotherapy method which implies injecting the drug directly into the tumor in combination with general polychemotherapy. This method allows to save the eye affected by the tumor and even vision in 80% of cases, including those with retinoblastoma stage 3-4.

“ *The drug used for intraocular injections is melphalan, which is produced by Aspen Pharmacare Holdings Limited. “Unfortunately, recently it has been impossible to purchase melphalan for injections in Ukraine. The institute has taken active steps to obtain the drug,” the institute reported.* ”

Obtaining the drug was made possible thanks to the efforts of Olga Nikitchenko, head of the patronage service of the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ukrainian Ambassador to South Africa Lubov Abravitova, and Stavros Nikolau, senior executive director of Aspen Group, with support from the We Stand with Ukraine Foundation.

“The drug was delivered to the Filatov Institute. And literally the next day the first patient received treatment to save his vision and life,” the clinic reported.

Retinoblastoma is an intraocular highly malignant retinal tumor that develops mainly in children in the first two years of life and accounts for 89.3% to 98.2% of all intraocular neoplasms in children. Retinoblastoma incidence rate in the world is currently 1 case per 10-15 thousands newborns.

Due to asymptomatic course of the disease the majority of children (85-86%) come to the clinics with far advanced stage of retinoblastoma and even up to now many clinics have considered that the only way to save the life of the child was to remove the tumor together with the eye.

LEADING UKRAINIAN MEDICAL COMPANIES IMPLEMENTING SERVICES TO SUPPORT COMMUNICATION WITH PATIENTS

Under wartime conditions, medical companies are implementing services to support communication with patients. As Anna Shved, Marketing Director of the Dobrobut Medical Network (Kyiv), reported the nurse, among such tools that the nurse is developing is the Dobrobut mobile application. With its help, a patient can make an appointment with the necessary doctor in any medical center of the network, look through the results of tests for examinations, doctors' consultations, make an appointment for an online appointment and take it through the application, pay for services, and manage their visits, reschedule or cancel them.

In addition, the service makes it possible to upload medical documents received at other medical institutions, as well as to make an appointment not only to see a doctor, but also for tests, ultrasound, CT, MRI, and X-rays, without contacting the contact center.

The medical network is also introducing self-service terminals to get detailed information about a doctor's visit without going to the reception desk or waiting in line.

In addition, Dobrobut is introducing online consultations through a mobile app.

"Currently, online appointments are open to more than 100 doctors in the network. The advantage is that it is a more secure channel than popular messengers. The physician can view the patient's medical records needed for the online consultation. Communication between the patient and doctor can take place in chat, via audio or video. Adjustments to the treatment regimen, dramatic changes in health when there is no way to physically get to the doctor are the main reasons to go to the doctor online," Shved said.

"Dobrobut is also actively using tools such as Viber and Telegram bots for patients unable to call the contact center and communicate with coordinators, for example, when they are overseas. In the near future, we plan to expand the functionality of this communication channel and improve its performance. Understanding the customer's journey and expectations, we want to be where it's convenient for them to be. Self-service is a modern trend throughout the civilized world, including in medicine. We follow this trend, the more so as the martial law environment makes us react more dynamically to new challenges and adjust to new realities", – summarized Shved.

In his turn, general director of the CSD LAB medical laboratory (Kyiv) Oleksandr Dudin noted that in laboratory segment, digitalization is, in particular, an obligatory part of quality control and one of the factors that ensure speed of examinations and accuracy of their results.

He said that CSD LAB's investments in IT development "have reached hundreds of thousands of dollars. The company has developed several of its own IT products, particularly a medical program for the pathomorphology lab.

"Together with Yadro Systems, we created a special program for the pathomorphology lab because there were not even slightly similar products on the market. Our software, SlidePath, helps manage workflows, which is as convenient as possible for the pathologist. And you can watch the specimen at every step," says Dudin.

The CSD LAB director noted that it is difficult to calculate how much money the company saves through digitalization because digitalization is "about optimizing workflows, ensuring speed of analysis, and accurate reproducibility of results."

"Our pathomorphology lab has equipment that scans histology slides and allows pathologists from anywhere in the world to examine biomaterial and establish a diagnosis," he said.

Dudin explained that this innovation was previously used effectively by the company to get advice from international partners and the world's leading pathologists on complex, unique clinical cases, but since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, CSD LAB has also started actively using the scanner in daily work when pathomorphologists have had to work in different parts of Ukraine.



EXPORT OF IT-SERVICES FROM UKRAINE IN FIRST QUARTER FELL BY 16% TO \$1.68 BLN

The volume of IT services exports from Ukraine in the first quarter of 2023 decreased by 16 percent year-on-year to \$1.68 billion, the IT Ukraine Association said in a press release on Friday.

It pointed out that for January-December 2022, IT services exports increased by \$400 million compared to 2021, to \$7.35 billion.

“This decline (in Q1-2023) is due to two factors: first – in previous years, the industry grew at an ultra-high rate, and second – each first quarter of a new year traditionally has a decline compared to the first quarter of the previous year. However, the results of the quarterly exports of IT-services from Ukraine in 2022-2023 show that now the industry has entered into a “flat”, that is, growth has stopped and a significant decline has not begun, “- a comment from the executive director of the Association IT Ukraine Konstantin Vasyuk said in a press release.

According to the Association, in the fourth quarter of 2021, exports of IT services from Ukraine amounted to \$ 2.11 billion, in the first quarter of 2022 – \$ 2 billion, in the second quarter – \$ 1.74 billion, in the third quarter – \$ 1.74 billion, in the fourth quarter – \$ 1.87 billion. At the same time, the first quarter 2023 export figure is higher than any first quarter figure since 2014, when it was only \$0.34 billion. Even in Q1 2021, the figure was lower than the current \$1.44 billion. It was only surpassed in Q1 2022 at \$2 billion.

It is reported that according to the Association’s observations, which are based on data from the National Bank (NBU), a similar situation took place in 2014, when the IT-sector also showed a drop of 26% and held positions \$350-400 million quarterly. However, in 2016, the IT-sector resumed growth and until 2022 was adding 20% annually.

With reference to the NBU data, the IT Ukraine Association reports that IT services account for 43% of total services exports from Ukraine in the first quarter of 2023.

DEMAND FOR NEW CARS KEEPS GROWING IN UKRAINE

Registrations of new passenger cars in Ukraine in January-April increased by 32% compared to the same period of 2022 – up to 16.4 thousand, reports Ukravtoprom in Telegram-channel.

According to a report of the association on Tuesday, including in April registered 5,160 new cars – 14% more than the previous month and 4.3 times more than in April last year.

“However, solvent demand for new passenger cars lags behind the April 2021 figure by nearly 49%,” the association stated.

Toyota (805 units), Renault (543 units) and BMW (439 units) are in the top three of April registrations, followed by Volkswagen (417 cars) and Skoda (393 units).

“ *Bestseller of the month in the Ukrainian market of new passenger cars, according to the report, once again became a compact crossover Renault Duster, which was chosen by 508 buyers.*”



As reported, AUTO-Consulting Information-Analytical Group in April recorded a slight decrease (by 1.6%) in sales of new cars compared to March of this year – to 5.122 thousand. And if the first two positions in the ranking coincide with the data of Ukravtoprom (Toyota and Renault), the third position among leaders was occupied by Volkswagen, and BMW took the fourth line. Earlier it was also reported that in 2022, according to Ukravtoprom Ukrainians registered 37.9 thousand new cars – 63% less than in 2021, while according to AUTO-Consulting sales decreased by 61.5% – to 40.08 thousand units.

INVESTMENT COMPANY HORIZON CAPITAL HAS RAISED \$254 MILLION IN NEW FUND FOR UKRAINE

Kiev-headquartered investment firm Horizon Capital has raised \$254 million in a new Horizon Capital Growth Fund IV (HCGF IV, the “Fund”), exceeding its \$250 million target, the company said in a statement.

“Today Horizon Capital and our esteemed group of investors made history as the first and largest fund raised since the start of a full-scale invasion,” the statement quoted company founder and CEO Olena Kosharnaya as saying from a private signing ceremony with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and international investors from the United States, EU and international institutions.

In January this year, she told Interfax-Ukraine news agency that after raising \$125 million in the first round of HCGF IV formation in September last year, it was planned to increase its size to \$200 million by the end of March, and tentatively by mid-summer to completely close the formation of the fund in the originally planned amount of \$250 million.

As noted in the message of the International Finance Corporation (IFC), which contributed \$30 million to the fund at the initial stage of its formation, it has increased its contribution to \$60 million, becoming the largest participant in the fund.

“We urge other investors to follow IFC’s lead and not let the newspaper headlines fool you. Financing sectors that others are hesitant to invest in can create tremendous investment opportunities with equally significant potential returns,” Kosharna said.

Among the new investors in HCGF IV, according to releases by Horizon Capital and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the Société de Promotion et de Participation pour la Coopération Économique (Proparco), the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Swedfund International AB (Swedfund), the Finnish Industrial Cooperation Fund (Finnfund) and the Danish Investment Fund for Developing Countries (IFU).

“*In the context of the war with Ukraine, HCGF IV’s ambitions are unprecedented, and we are encouraged by its fundraising success,” Hassan El Khatib, managing director of equities, said in an EBRD release.*

In addition to the EBRD, which contributed \$40 million to HCGF IV in the first phase, its investors also included Deutsche Investitions-und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG) and its subsidiary KfW Group, the Dutch Enterprise Development Bank (FMO), the Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM)), Western NIS Enterprise Fund and Zero Gap Fund, formed in collaboration between The Rockefeller Foundation and John D. and Catherine T MacArthur Foundation.

“The fact of exceeding the original ambitious goal of \$250 million demonstrates a high level of investor interest in attractive opportunities in high-growth, high-impact technology and export-oriented companies, including those in the light and food processing, innovative consumer products, fintech, etc. sectors,” noted Horizon Capital.

It is also noted that HCGF IV was the first fund in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and one of about ten funds in the world to achieve 2X Flagship Fund status, including one of only two that are founded and led by women. The 2X Challenge was launched at the 2018 G7 Summit as a bold commitment by companies to invest in women in the world and promote gender equality in finance.



Horizon Capital

UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES STARTED CORPORATIZATION OF ENERGOATOM

The Cabinet of Ministers at a meeting supported a decision that gives start to the procedure of transforming the state-owned company NAEK Energoatom into a joint stock company, the government portal reported with reference to Prime Minister Denis Shmygal on Tuesday.

“Energoatom is one of the largest operators of nuclear power plants in Europe, the company is strategically important for the energy security of the state. We’re bringing it in conformity with international standards of corporate management. At the same time the state retains 100% ownership of the plant,” he said.

According to Prime Minister, eventually it will increase the efficiency of management, will attract additional funds for implementation of new projects and will strengthen energy independence.

As reported, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on February 6, 2023, supported the draft law 8067 on corporatization of the state-owned enterprise Energoatom, which provides for the transformation of Energoatom from a state-owned enterprise into a joint stock company with 100% state-owned shares.

Energoatom’s corporatization is envisaged by the loan agreement between the company and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the guarantee agreement “Complex Generalized Safety Upgrade Program for Nuclear Power Plants,” ratified by the Supreme Council.



USAID AGRO PROGRAM INCREASED GRANTS FOR EXPANSION OF ELEVATOR FACILITIES IN UKRAINE TO 380 MILLION UAH

The USAID Agro program has more than doubled grant co-financing for elevator capacity expansion projects, increasing it from UAH 185 million to UAH 380 million, which should allow for 20 projects, the program’s press service said Thursday.

“The USAID AGRO program increases ... the number of potential co-financing projects from 10 to 20 to expand grain storage and drying facilities. This will allow participants in the grain market to compensate for the lack of capacity arising in Ukraine due to limited exports and complicated logistics,” the donor organization said.

It is assumed that the funds will be used to purchase equipment for the processing, drying and storage of grain, as well as the purchase of laboratory equipment to determine the quality of grain. Applications for the third stage of the contest will be accepted until June 12, 2023 at 18:00 o’clock or until the money has been exhausted.



U.S. HOLTEC AND ENERGOATOM SIGN AGREEMENT TO BUILD NUCLEAR POWER UNITS IN UKRAINE

NNEGC Energoatom President Petr Kotin and U.S. Holtec International President and CEO Chris Singh on April 21 signed an agreement on cooperation in the deployment of small modular reactors (SMRs), which provides for construction of up to 20 SMR-160 reactors, with implementation of the first pilot project and reaching minimum regulated reactor capacity and grid connection by March 2029.

According to Energoatom's Web site on Saturday, Kotin signed the agreement in Kiev and Singh signed it in Camden, New Jersey, USA. Ukrainian Energy Minister Herman Galushchenko and Riaz Awan, Holtec International's vice president of operations in Ukraine, also attended the ceremony.

“*The construction of the SMR in Ukraine will not only contribute to strengthening the energy security of the state, but will also make it possible to replace the thermal power capacity destroyed by Russian attacks and achieve the goals of decarbonization. Ukraine has a significant human resource potential for the development of leading nuclear technologies and will make every effort, particularly in cooperation and with American partners, to oust the Russian nuclear industry from the world market. MMR is a powerful technology which will also allow us to decentralize generation,*” Galushchenko said.

According to Energoatom's president, the agreement with Holtec International “is based on 20 years of successful cooperation between the companies.” “It will enable the introduction of promising, safe, clean, reliable and efficient small modular reactor technologies and make Ukraine the world's leading country in clean energy,” Kotin said. The document also envisages the deepening of cooperation between the companies to strengthen the energy security of Ukraine. In addition, the agreement will contribute to the universal decarbonization of the Ukrainian energy sector, strengthen Ukraine's energy independence and begin high-tech production of parts for SMRs in our territories.

According to Energoatom, Holtec International, their longtime partner, served as the contractor for the Centralized Spent Nuclear Fuel Storage Facility, which went into operation in April 2022.

The SMR-160 is a 160-MW pressurized light-water reactor that uses low-enriched uranium as fuel and is flexible to produce process heat for industrial applications and hydrogen production.

CSD LAB NETWORK OF LABORATORY OFFICES PROVIDES 100% DISCOUNT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Validity period: permanently.

Coverage area: the entire network of CSD LAB laboratory offices and CSD LAB partner laboratory offices (PLO)

Terms of the promotion: The discount is provided exclusively for tests according to the list Promotional offers are not cumulative. Only one promotional offer can be used per order. Our defenders are the pride, endurance and strength of the whole Ukraine! You fearlessly hold the line and repel the enemy, protecting the Ukrainian people. And every Ukrainian today wishes you courage, strength, endurance and, most importantly, good health! To show its support, CSD LAB Medical Laboratory introduces a 100% discount on general clinical studies for all Ukrainian military personnel.

List of available studies.

Don't forget to familiarize yourself with the rules of preparation for the tests and choose the nearest CSD LAB laboratory office. If you have any questions, you can write to us in the chat or call our round-the-clock contact center at 0 800 33 00 75

OFFICE REAL ESTATE MARKET IN KIEV IS RECOVERING – EXPERTS

The office real estate market in Kiev is recovering, the number of requests and transactions from IT-companies, nonprofit and international organizations has increased, CEO of allbc Valentin Lenchenko told Interfax-Ukraine.

The expert reminded that for many business centers last year was a year of tenants' retention on any terms.

"The main task at the beginning of the fall was to survive the winter with tenants. On any terms. The main thing is that they paid utilities and OREH (often not in full). But with the advent of the blackout migration began, people who used to work from home, moved to co-working spaces with diesel generators and Internet", – said Lenchenko.

According to him, as a result, offices in the capital during the blackout were filled almost completely. A temporary rush was created, which led to the opening of new locations. However, by January, when things stabilized and many had resolved the issue of household power plants, the situation was back to previous levels.

"Newcomers continue to recruit residents, but demand has dropped significantly. Demand is still high for finished offices – with renovations, furniture, diesel generators and shelter," the expert stressed.

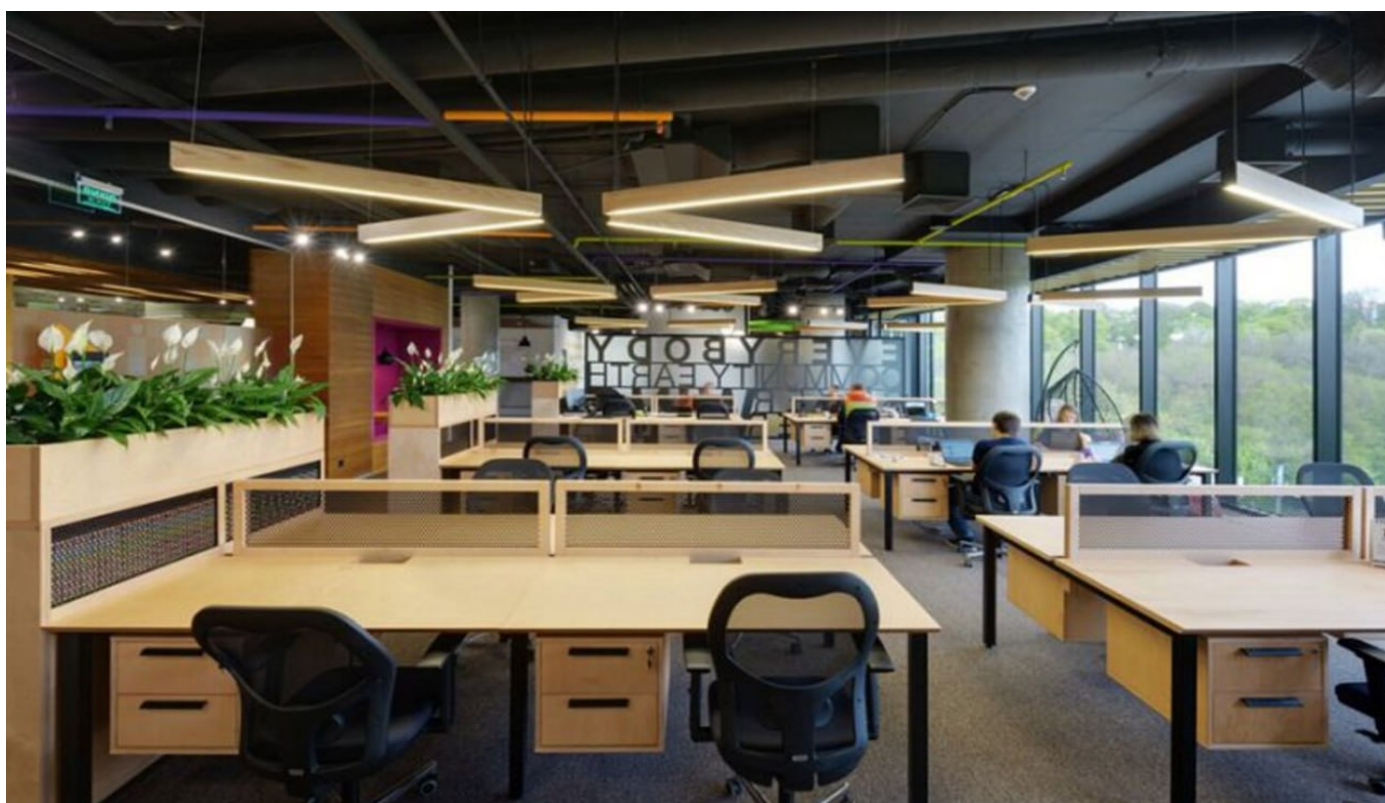
He noted a positive systemic trend in recent months – the activation of tenants.

“*Many IT companies that relocated to Western Ukraine, began to return home to Kiev. And they are not the only IT companies – there are a lot of requests and deals from non-profit and international organizations,” Lenchenko said.*

He gave an example of recent transactions of allbc. An IT-company has asked to find a ready office for more than 200 employees; in the process of searching and negotiating the lease agreement, it turned out that a lot more employees want to come back to Kiev. As a result, this company has rented two offices with total area of about 4 ths sq.m. instead of the office with 2 ths sq.m. Another IT-company recently rented an 800 square meters office with furniture and repairs in Podol Business Center.

But in general, according to the expert, the main tenants and transactions request was observed on the format of about 200 square meters. "As a rule it is medium-sized business which adapts to the current conditions or optimizes the space", – he says.

Another trend is that large tenants with large equipped offices on the right bank have started asking to rent offices/workspaces in co-working spaces on the left bank.



POLAND BANNED IMPORTS OF DOZENS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE

The list of agricultural products banned for import from Ukraine to Poland as of 16 April includes a broad list of grains, flour and starch, as well as, sugar, caramel, seeds for sowing, vegetables and fruits, including exotic ones, dairy products, honey, wine, livestock products and live animals, as well as dog and cat food packaged for retail sale.



According to the text of the annex to the decree of the Minister of Development and Technology of Poland Waldemar Buda dated April 15, 2023 (Interfax-Ukraine news agency has a copy), since April 16 imports of sugar maize (fresh and chilled) from Ukraine to Poland are prohibited, except for hybrids for sowing; Seeds of soft wheat and meslin, spelt, soft wheat and meslin, except for sowing, rye, barley, oats, grain sorghum, except for hybrids for sowing, buckwheat, millet, canary seed, other cereals, durum wheat: wheat and meslin flour; rye flour; wheat cereals; malt, even roasted; grain flour; and, corn, barley and oat flakes; wheat, corn, potato and other kinds of starch.

The list also included lactose, maltose, glucose, fructose in solid form; sugar syrups without added flavorings or colorings, artificial honey mixed or not with natural honey; and caramel. Also sugar beet, sugar cane, cane or beet sugar, including chemically pure sucrose, maple sugar and maple syrup. Melass obtained from the extraction or refining of sugar, beet pulp.

A range of seeds for sowing, including sweet corn hybrids, seed peas, chickpeas, crude rice, grain sorghum hybrids, linseeds; canola seeds, sunflower seeds (crushed or uncrushed; for sowing), other oilseeds and fruits; flax and hemp;

The range of fruits and vegetables prohibited for importation includes: tomatoes fresh or chilled, onions, shallots, garlic, leeks and other onion vegetables; cabbage, cauliflower, kohlrabi, leafy cabbage and similar edible vegetables; lettuce (*Lactuca sativa*) and chicory (*Cichorium spp.*), carrots, turnips, salad beets, goatweed, celery, radishes and similar edible root vegetables, fresh or refrigerated. Also, cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or refrigerated; leguminous vegetables, peeled or unpeeled, fresh or refrigerated; nuts; fresh and dried bananas; fresh figs; pineapples; avocados; guavas mangoes and mangosteens; citrus fruits; table grapes, fresh; melons (including watermelons); papaya; apples, pears and quinces, fresh apricots, cherries, peaches (including nectarines), plums, other fruits.



It is prohibited to import not only raw vegetables, but also steamed or cooked in water, frozen, canned, dried. Under the ban are jams, marmalades, marmalades, fruit purees; wine, including grape juice and grape must; wine made from fresh grapes, including fortified wines; fresh grapes, except table grapes; vinegar.

The list includes a wide range of animal products: beef, veal, live animals of domestic species of cattle, except purebred farm animals; meat of cattle, fresh or chilled; beef frozen, salted, in brine, dried or smoked; Meat or meat by-products meal and meal; other prepared or preserved meat; live stock – thoroughbred breeding animals; preserved meat; by-products and offal; poultry meat and offal; Pig fat, meat and edible by-products of domestic pigs, sausages and similar products of meat, meat by-products or blood; swine fat (including lard); prepared products or preserves of the liver of any animal except goose or duck; pigs; mutton and goat meat; lambs (under one year of age), live sheep, except purebred breeding animals and lambs; sheep and goat meat; live swine; chilled and frozen swine meat; horses, including purebred breeding animals.

TURKEY IMPOSES 130% DUTY ON IMPORTS OF WHEAT, BARLEY AND CORN

Turkey will impose an import duty on wheat, barley and corn starting from 1 May this year. The Russian Union of Grain Exporters does not rule out its cancellation in the new agricultural year, which begins July 1, 2023.

As the official gazette of Turkey T.C. Resmi Gazete reported, from May 1 the duty rate will be 130% instead of 0%. This measure is aimed to protect domestic producers on the eve of the new season.

Earlier, the Ukrainian Agricultural Policy Ministry said that this measure by Turkey will not affect sales of Ukrainian agricultural products as Ukrainian grain is mainly used for processing and subsequent sale to third countries, in which case the duty is not imposed on it.

At the same time, the ministry explained that Turkey has two customs regimes for imports. The first applies to products that are used for domestic consumption, and for such products the Turkish government previously announced a temporary zero rate of duty. After the expiration of the preferential regime returns the rate of 130%. Grain from Ukraine under the first regime, for which the duty is returned, goes to Turkey about 5% of all exports to this country, the Ministry of Agrarian Policy specified.



The second regime exists for products that go on sale to third countries before or after processing. Duty is not paid for this regime.

According to the State Customs Service, during the first quarter of this year, Turkey was the largest exporter of Ukrainian wheat, which was supplied for \$ 168.8 million, or 17.7% of its total exports, including \$ 70.9 million, or 20.5% in March.

Barley from Ukraine to Turkey during the first quarter of this year was imported at \$ 52.7 million or 42.1% of total exports of this crop, including \$ 17.3 million or 38.8% in March.



UKRAINE INCREASED EXPORT OF SUNFLOWER OIL IN JANUARY-MARCH

Ukraine in January-March this year, Ukraine increased exports of sunflower oil by 14.5% – to 1 million 322.611 thousand tons.

According to customs statistics, in monetary terms, exports of these products in the first quarter decreased by 13.6% – to \$1 billion 355.889 million (\$1 billion 568.449 million in the first quarter of 2022).



In 2022, Ukraine reduced exports of sunflower oil by 16.4%, to \$4 billion 290.336 million, in monetary terms – by 14.5%, to \$5 billion 464.151 million.



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