



**UKRAINE**  
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

## UKRAINE INCREASES EXPORTS TO RECORD 12 MLN TONS



Ukraine in January 2024 exported the largest volume of goods since the start of the full-scale invasion – 12 million tons of products, including 8.7 million tons exported by sea, the Economy Ministry said on Monday.

“We are very close to reaching pre-war physical export volumes. In January 2024, Ukraine exported 12 million tons of products. This is only 2 million tons less than in pre-war January 2022,” First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy Yulia Svyrydenko was quoted as saying in the release.

Earlier, Taras Kachka, Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade Representative of Ukraine, told Interfax-Ukraine that in December 2023, Ukraine reached the 10 million tons export figure, which was last reached in March 2023, followed by a decline in exports to less than \$3 billion a month due to Russia's disruption of the grain corridor.

Svyrydenko added that in January, the first vessel insured against military risks under the UNITY insurance was loaded in the ports of Greater Odesa. The cost of insurance for this vessel was 0.75% of the vessel's value, which is much cheaper than during the Black Sea Grain Initiative.

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26 February 2024



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DEMAND FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN UKRAINE INCREASED 2.8 TIMES



# JAPAN PLANS TO GIVE UKRAINE MORE THAN \$100 MLN FOR RECONSTRUCTION

Japan plans to donate 15.8 billion yen (about \$106 million) to Ukraine for the country's post-war reconstruction, particularly in the areas of demining, agriculture, bio- and information technology, Kyodo News reports.

"Japan will pledge 15.8 billion yen (\$106 million) to help rebuild Ukraine after war damage in seven areas, such as infrastructure reconstruction and demining," the agency wrote on Sunday, citing sources familiar with the situation.

**“ It is expected that “at the Japan-Ukraine Conference on Promoting Economic Reconstruction to be held on February 19 in Tokyo, the two governments will agree on Japan’s participation in the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine and sign more than 10 memorandums of cooperation.”**

The conference will be attended by the prime ministers of the two countries, Fumio Kishida and Denys Shmyhal, as well as representatives of industry and business.

According to the agency, the aid “will be used to provide demining equipment and temporary bridges, as well as other resources urgently needed to help rebuild the war-torn country... The seven areas of cooperation also include agriculture, humanitarian relief, biotechnology and industrial development, information technology, as well as governance and anti-corruption measures.”

## BAYKAR STARTS CONSTRUCTION OF PLANT IN UKRAINE

Turkish defense company Baykar has begun construction of a plant near Kyiv that will employ about 500 people and produce TB2 or TB3 drone models, the company's CEO told Reuters. The Turkish-made Bayraktar drones gained widespread popularity worldwide after the Ukrainian military began using them to counter Russian forces, destroying armored vehicles and artillery systems.

Baykar said it has signed export agreements for its TB2 drone with 30 countries. Among them are Ukraine, Ethiopia, Libya and Azerbaijan since 2018, according to the SIPRI think tank.

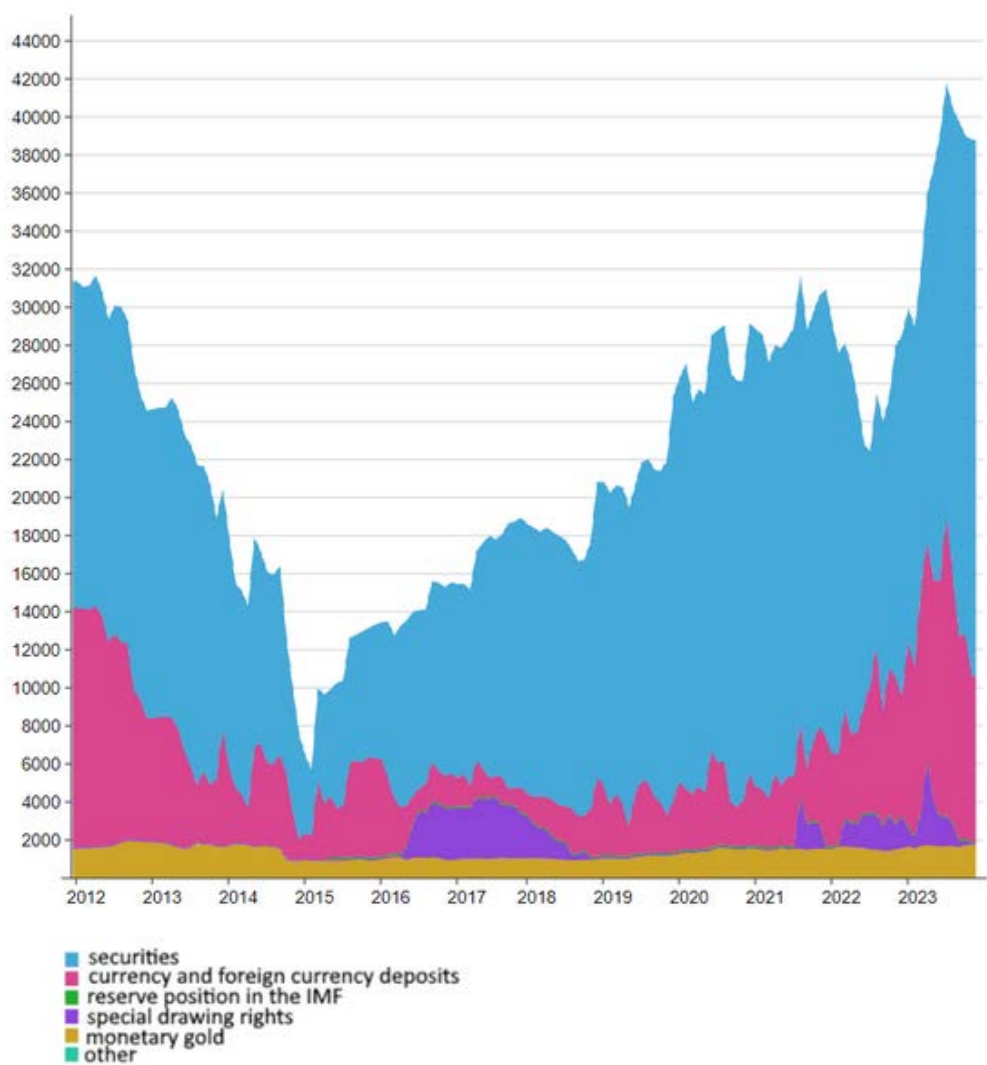
**“ Our plant is under construction... we need about 12 months to finish the construction, and then we will move on to the internal machinery, equipment and organizational structure,” Baykar CEO Haluk Bayraktar said on the sidelines of the Riyadh World Defense Exhibition.**

“The plant in Ukraine is large, we plan to employ about 500 people,” he said. Bayraktar noted that the production capacity will be about 120 units per year, but said it is not yet clear whether production at the Ukrainian plant will focus on the TB2 or TB3 drone model.

Asked if security issues related to the ongoing conflict would be a concern for the plant, he said that plans are “fully progressing” and “nothing” can stop them.



# DYNAMICS OF RESERVES OF UKRAINE FROM 2012 TO 2023



## POPULATION STRUCTURE OF UKRAINE



# OVERVIEW OF MAIN ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF UKRAINE AT END OF 2023 BY EXPERTS CLUB

The article collects and analyzes the main macroeconomic indicators of Ukraine. In connection with the entry into force of the Law of Ukraine “On Protection of the Interests of Business Entities during Martial Law or a State of War”, the State Statistics Service of Ukraine suspends the publication of statistical information for the period of martial law, as well as for three months after its termination. The exception is the publication of information on the consumer price index, separate information on statistical indicators for 2021 and for the period January-February 2022. The article analyzes open data from the State Statistics Service, the National Bank, and think tanks.

## Demographic indicators of Ukraine

Director of the Ptukha Institute of Demography and Social Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Academician Ella Libanova, predicts that about 50% of citizens will return to Ukraine after the war ends. At the same time, Libanova believes that if the economy is restored to pre-war levels, Ukraine will not be able to return the projected 4.5 million citizens.

She also drew attention to the fact that, according to Eurostat, there are currently 4.2 million Ukrainian military migrants in the European Union.

Earlier, Libanova described depopulation and labor shortages as an inevitable scenario for Ukraine.

According to the estimates she presented at the Regional Economic Forum, as of the beginning of this year, the population in the government-controlled areas was 31.6 million people, and now it has slightly increased.

Libanova pointed out that the population forecast for the beginning of 2033 within the borders of 1991 Ukraine ranges from 26-35 million people.

## Economic recovery

Ukraine's real gross domestic product (GDP) growth slowed to 8.2% in the third quarter of 2023 compared to the same period last year.

The NBU, which has raised its overall GDP growth forecast for this year to 4.9%, estimates the direct positive contribution of a higher harvest at 1.3 percentage points.

“At the same time, the key risk for our economy remains a longer duration and intensity of the war, as well as a decrease in the volume or loss of rhythm of international assistance, the resumption of a significant electricity shortage due to further destruction of the energy infrastructure and other risks,” said Maksym Urakin.

## Analysis of Ukraine's foreign trade

Maksym Urakin also drew attention to the factor of the growing negative foreign trade balance, which has been observed since the beginning of the war.

“The negative balance of Ukraine's foreign trade in goods in January-September 2023 increased by 3.2 times compared to the same period in 2022 – \$19.402 billion. This means that the cost of purchasing the goods Ukraine needs is almost \$20 billion more than the income from exporting Ukrainian goods to other countries,” said Urakin, PhD in Economics.

## Ukraine's financial situation in 2023

According to the expert, the main factors characterizing the state of the Ukrainian economy are public debt, international reserves, and inflation.

“As of September 30, 2023, Ukraine's public and publicly guaranteed debt amounted to UAH 4,886.13 billion, or USD 133.62 billion. This is a slight decrease compared to the historical maximum set in August,” Maksym Urakin said.

The expert noted that the main risks to the economy remain the duration of the war and the instability of international aid.

“In the third quarter of 2023, Ukraine's GDP growth slowed to 8.2%. The negative balance of foreign trade increased 3.2 times, which is an alarming signal. The public debt has slightly decreased compared to August figures, but in 2024 it may exceed the country's GDP for the first time, which poses significant risks to economic stability,” the economist said.

Thus, the economic situation in Ukraine, according to the founder of the Club of Experts, continues to require close monitoring and adaptation of strategies in response to changing conditions. Macroeconomic indicators of Ukraine and the world were discussed in more detail in one of the video programs of the [Experts club](#)

# FRENCH-UKRAINIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNOUNCES CONTEST “CREATED BY WOMEN – 2024”

We are honored to announce the launch of the “Created by Women – 2024” competition for Ukrainian women entrepreneurs from the French-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce **CCI France Ukraine!**

This year’s competition is being held for the sixth time and aims to support women who did not stop their entrepreneurial activities even during the active phase of the war, to refute the prejudices that exist in business, to empower women entrepreneurs, and most importantly, to inspire all women who are considering starting their own business!

If you are a woman entrepreneur with an existing business in Ukraine, don’t hesitate to apply yourself and recommend it to those who might be interested.

Applications for the award are accepted on the website: <https://womanccifu.com/>.



The competition was created in 2019 at the initiative of the Businesswomen Committee of the French-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCIFU) and has been held for 6 years in a row.

The prize aims to support and develop women’s entrepreneurship in Ukraine, promote gender equality, and contribute to sustainable economic growth.

Are you a woman who started your own business in Ukraine and continue to do business despite the war?

Apply for the Businesswoman 2024 competition. Apply by March 24, 23:59, 2024 and win UAH 150,000 for business development and a trip to Paris.

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## UKRAINE CAN RAISE EUR 200 MLN IN GRANTS FROM FRANCE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE RECONSTRUCTION

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has approved attracting EUR200 million in grants from France for the reconstruction and restoration of critical infrastructure. According to Taras Melnychuk, a representative of the Cabinet of Ministers in the Verkhovna Rada, who posted on Telegram, the decision taken at a government meeting on Tuesday approved a draft grant agreement between the governments of Ukraine and France to help restore and maintain critical infrastructure and priority sectors of Ukraine’s economy.

The agreement provides for the attraction of grant funds from the French government in the amount of EUR 200 million. They will be used to reconstruct and restore critical infrastructure in sectors such as healthcare, infrastructure, energy, agriculture, water supply and sanitation, waste management, demining, and digital technologies.



# BAE SYSTEMS, ONE OF WORLD'S LARGEST DEFENSE COMPANIES, HAS OPENED OFFICE IN KYIV

BAE Systems, one of the world's largest suppliers of technological solutions in the field of defense and a manufacturer of weapons, has opened an office in Kyiv. This was announced by BAE Systems Ukraine CEO Christian Seear at the conference "Global Outlook: A Winning Vision on Wednesday.

He added that the company has set up a joint venture with a local partner, plans to repair military equipment, and later establish its own production base.

"We recently established a legal entity in Ukraine, BAE Systems Ukraine LLC, which is an operating trading company in Ukraine. We have an office in Kyiv. I'm proud to say that we are one of the first companies to do this," said Christian Sayre.

According to him, BAE Systems is focused on moving its repair capabilities to Ukraine.

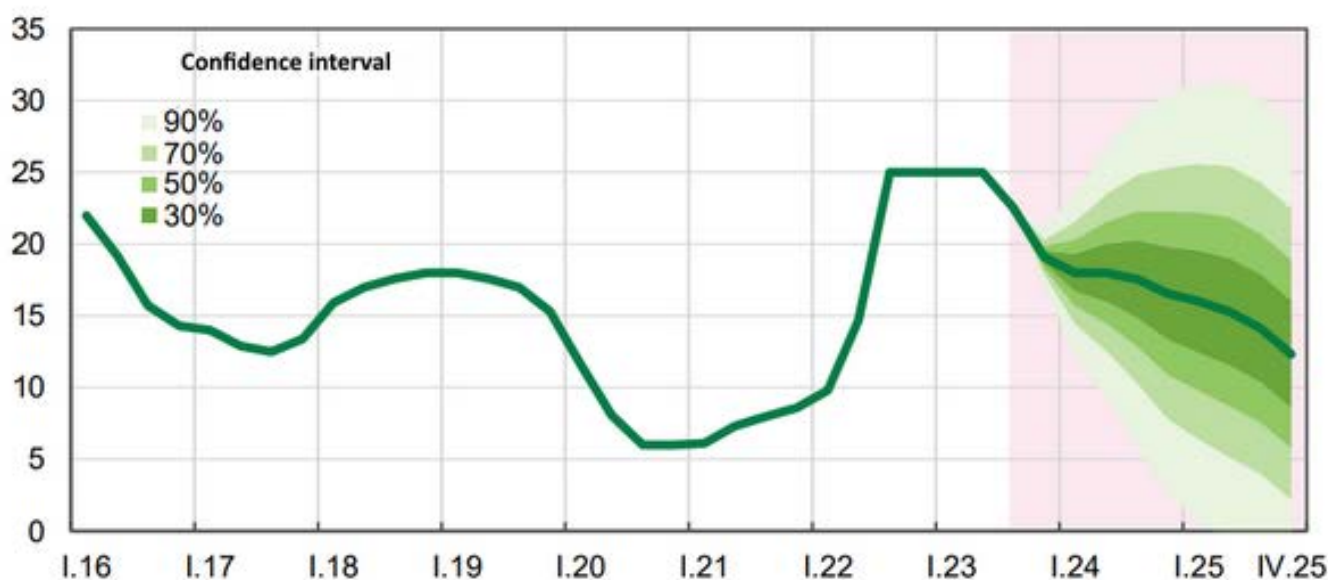
**“We have a phased process in which we will do repairs on Ukrainian soil, and in the future we will move to local production. We have teamed up with a local partner to achieve this goal,” said the CEO of BAE Systems Ukraine.**



He also noted that the company is "committed to creating an industrial base" in Ukraine.

BAE Systems is a global British company with subsidiaries in the United States and Sweden. The weapons supplied by the company are being used to destroy the enemy in Ukraine, including the CV90 infantry fighting vehicle, 155-mm FH77 BW L52 "Archer" multi-purpose self-propelled artillery system, M109 self-propelled howitzer, M2 Bradley infantry fighting vehicle, 55-mm Excalibur long-range precision guided rocket and BONUS precision-guided munitions. "I'm sure many of our friends in this room have seen the enemy destroyed by these weapons," said Christian Seear. Earlier it was reported that the British military company Babcock opened an office in Kyiv.

## FORECAST OF CHANGES IN DISCOUNT RATE OF NATIONAL BANK OF UKRAINE, %



## LIFECCELL OPENED 48 BRANDED STORES IN 2023

Mobile operator lifecell opened 48 branded stores in 2023, increasing their total number by 11.4%, the lifecell press service said. "Over the past year, lifecell has been actively expanding its network of sales outlets and opened 48 new stores in 18 regions of Ukraine, including cities where there were no branded stores before," the company said in a statement.



According to the report, more than 470 stores have been opened in 247 cities and towns, employing about 1,000 people. In particular, residents of Artsyz, Bobrovytsia, Burshtyn, Vilnohirs'k, Horodnia, Horodok, Dolynska, Yelanets, Zhovti Vody, Ivankiv, Irshava, Kamianets-Podilskyi, Kamianets-Podilskyi, Kotsiubynske, Lohvytsia, Pyriatyn, Pochaiv, Staryi Sambir, Chornobai and Yarmolyntsi now have access to lifecell branded stores.

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## "UKRNAFTA" STARTS CONSTRUCTION OF FIRST OF 30 PLANNED WELLS

PJSC Ukrnafta is starting construction of a new directional well in the northeast of the country with a design depth of 3314 m and a projected initial oil production rate of 26.5 tons per day. According to the company's CEO Sergiy Koretsky on Facebook, the drilling is planned to explore the productive horizon of the Lower Carboniferous Visean deposits and its further exploitation.

The well will be drilled by Ukrnafta Drilling, the company's division, using its own ZJ-40 drilling rig with a 225-ton capacity.

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*"This is the first of 30 wells that Ukrnafta plans to start drilling with its own drilling equipment in 2024. I am grateful to the team – geologists, drillers, engineers – who are working to ensure that the Ukrainian oil industry develops and brings the country a valuable resource," Koretskyi said.*

As reported, in 2023, Ukrnafta increased oil and condensate production by 3% (by 39.9 thousand tons) compared to 2022 – up to 1 million 409.9 thousand tons, gas production by 5.8% (by 60.4 million cubic meters), up to 1 billion 97.4 million cubic meters.

"Ukrnafta is Ukraine's largest oil producer and operator of a national network of 537 filling stations, of which 456 are in operation.



# PARENT COMPANY OF UKRAINE'S LARGEST TELECOM OPERATOR KYIVSTAR HAS STARTED IMPLEMENTING \$600 MLN IN INVESTMENT COMMITMENTS TO RESTORE UKRAINE

"VEON, a global converged communications and online services provider, and its subsidiary Kyivstar, are pleased to announce that they have officially started implementing the \$600 million investment commitment to rebuild Ukraine announced in June 2023," the statement said.

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The investment will be utilized over three years, from 2024 to 2026.

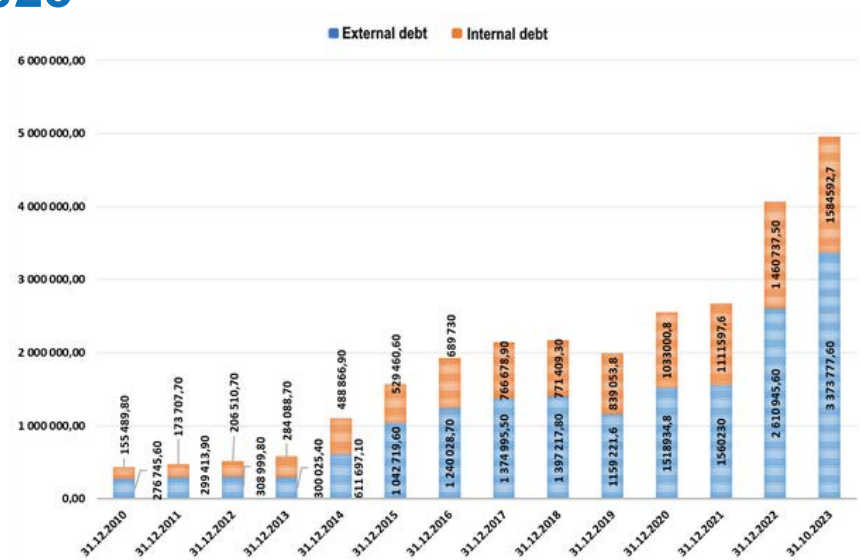
It is reported that Kyivstar's capital investments in 2023 amounted to \$174 million. At the same time, the volume of future investment commitments from \$600 million in the three-year period can be increased to \$1 billion in the five-year perspective, if market conditions allow, VEON assured.

It is noted that VEON's investment commitments were the subject of a visit to Kyiv by a high-level delegation, including former US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, who was recently elected as an independent member of Kyivstar's supervisory board, for the first time since his appointment.

According to a press release, he, along with VEON co-founder Auggie Fabella and VEON Group CEO and Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Kyivstar Kaan Terzioğlu, met with the Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine Andriy Yermak, US Ambassador to Ukraine Bridget Brink, and Deputy Head of Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands Esselien van Erten.

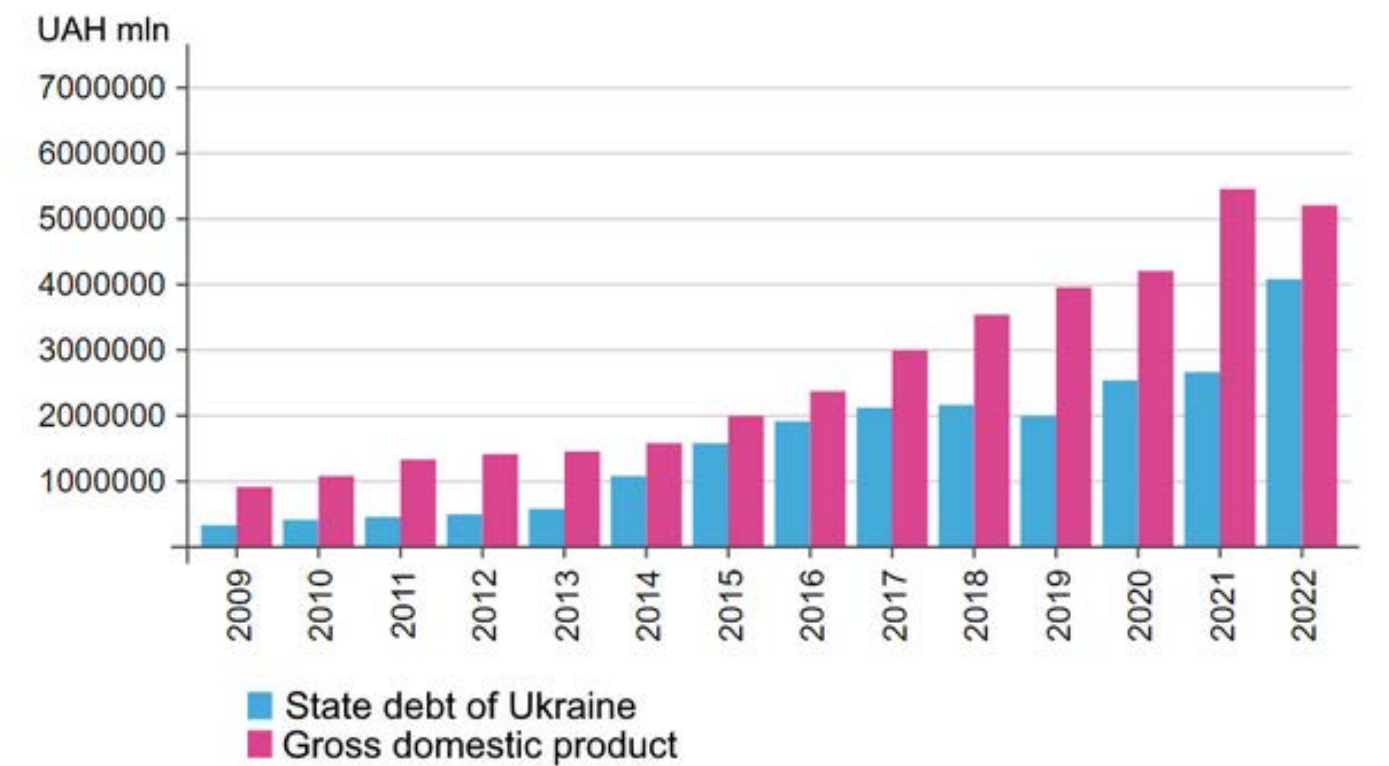
"I am very pleased to be back in Kyiv, now as a member of the VEON family and a member of the Supervisory Board of Kyivstar. Ukraine must win this war, both on the battlefield and economically. The private sector, especially international investors, has a crucial role to play in ensuring this victory, and I believe that all stakeholders understand and appreciate this. I am inspired by the incredible commitment of VEON and Kyivstar, as well as other private sector companies, who continue to serve Ukrainians with dedication and tenacity," Mike Pompeo said in a statement.

## INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL DEBT OF UKRAINE IN 2010-2023





# UKRAINE’S PUBLIC DEBT TO GDP RATIO FROM 2009 TO 2023 (UAH MLN)



## DEMAND FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES IN UKRAINE INCREASED 2.8 TIMES

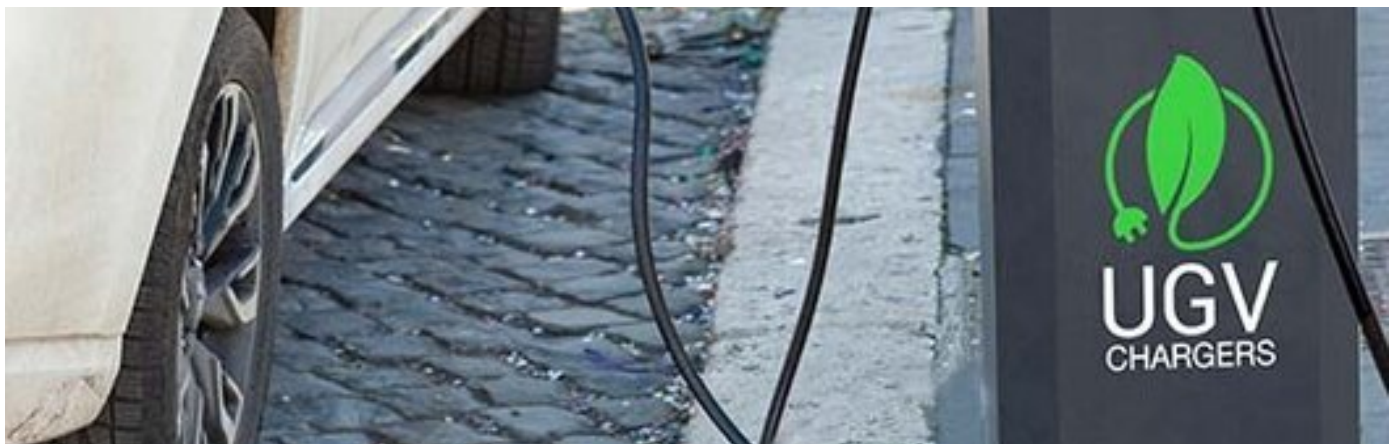
In January, registrations of electric vehicles (new and used) in Ukraine increased 2.8 times compared to the same month in 2023 – to more than 3.5 thousand units, including the share of new ones, which rose to 24% from 23%, Ukravtoprom reported on its Telegram channel.

The bulk of the electric vehicles registered during the month were passenger cars – 3.49 thousand units (new – 840 units, used – 2.65 thousand units), and only four of the 54 commercial vehicles were new.

The top five new electric vehicles on the market in January were formed by: Volkswagen iD.4 – 286 units; BYD Song Plus – 83 units; Honda eNS1 – 80 units; Toyota bZ4X – 56 units; Nissan Ariya – 50 units.

The top 5 used electric vehicles registered in Ukraine for the first time in January included Nissan Leaf – 355 units; Tesla Model 3 – 309 units; Tesla Model Y – 242 units; Volkswagen e-Golf – 178 units; and Volkswagen iD.4 – 169 units.

As reported, in January last year, Ukrainians purchased about 1.3 thousand electric vehicles, twice as many



## 1.4 MLN DEBTS ACCUMULATED BY UKRAINIANS SINCE BEGINNING OF FULL-SCALE WAR

Top reasons why people end up in the Register of Debtors  
1.4 million debts have been accumulated by Ukrainians since the beginning of the full-scale war, according to the ERB. Among the debts in the register, the largest number is currently in favor of the state, administrative offenses and traffic fines.

The Unified Register of Debtors has increased by 1.4 million debts since the start of the full-scale war. For comparison, in 2021 alone, 1.5 million entries were added to the Register. The vast majority of new debts – 1.2 million or 80% – appeared last year.

What did Ukrainians owe during the full-scale war?

The number of debts for fines for administrative offenses and for non-payment of utility bills increased the most – by 38% and 30%, respectively. For comparison, the number of utility debts increased by one and a half times in 2021. The number of debts in favor of the state remained almost unchanged: 1.95 million debts. In the first year of the great war, their number fell by 300,000, but in 2023 it reached the same level.

Debts for traffic fines increased by a quarter. It is worth noting that the vast majority of these debts, namely  $\frac{2}{3}$  of them, were added to the register in 2022. However, in the category of “Collection of funds”, debts decreased by 27.5% – in contrast to 2021, when the number of such debts increased by almost one and a half times. The number of alimony debtors has increased by 4.5% in two years. For comparison, in 2021, their number increased by 4.7%.

It is worth noting that as of February 24, 2022, the category “Document that does not fall into the above categories” was added to the register. It may include debts from other sections.

In total, 8.91 million debts are currently recorded in the Unified Register of Debtors. Since the beginning of the full-scale war, the list has increased by 1.4 million new debts.

Context.

Starting in February 2024, Ukrainians may once again have their utilities cut off, their cards blocked, and penalties charged for debts. By Resolution No. 1405, the Government lifted the moratorium on utility disconnections for debts. This decision does not apply to IDPs and people living in the temporarily occupied territories or in the war zone.

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## DMZ INTENDS TO BUILD NEW ELECTRIC ARC FURNACE COMPLEX

Dnipro Metallurgical Plant (DMZ, formerly Dneprokoks), a part of DCH Steel, a DCH group owned by businessman Aleksandr Yaroslavsky, is going to build a new electric arc furnace complex.

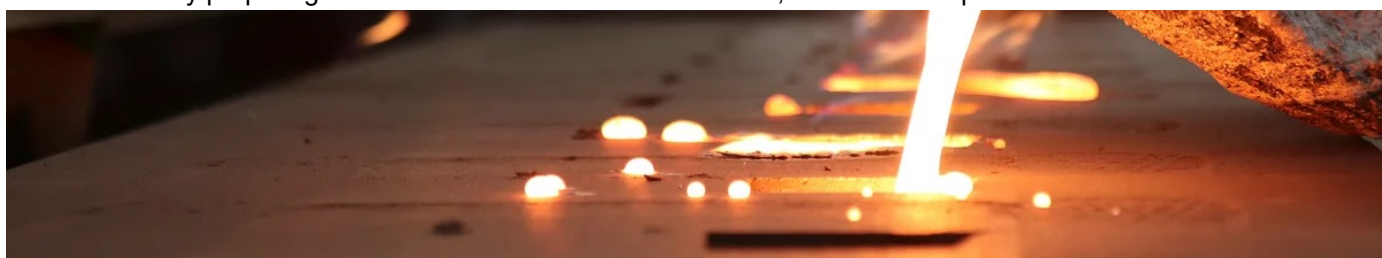
According to the company, DMZ is holding an open competitive tender for the right to design a feasibility study for the new construction of an electric arc furnace complex located at 17 Naberezhna Zavodska Street, Dnipro.

The deadline for submitting applications for participation in the competitive selection is February 23, 2024.

The selection rules and the list of documents required for participation in the tender can be obtained from the leading engineer for the procurement of services of the Procurement Bureau for Works and Services of the TSO and the GSE of the Supply Directorate.

Maxim Minyushkin, Corporate Communications Director of DCH Steel Group, confirmed the new construction plans to Interfax-Ukraine.

“We are currently preparing information for the media on this issue,” the source explained.



# NUMBER OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE IN SELECTED COUNTRIES AS OF 15.12.2023



## UKRAINE ALMOST DOUBLED STEEL PRODUCTION IN JANUARY

According to Ukrmetallurgprom, Ukrainian metallurgical enterprises increased steel production by 91.6% in January this year, up to 544 thousand tons from 284 thousand tons in January 2023.

As reported, in 2023, Ukraine increased production of total rolled products by 0.4% compared to 2022 to 5.372 million tons, but reduced steel production by 0.6% to 6.228 million tons.

Ukraine reduced steel production by 70.7% in 2022. In 2021, 21.366 million tons of steel were produced (103.6%).

## UKRAINE SIMPLIFIES RULES FOR SUNFLOWER EXPORTS TO BULGARIA

The Cabinet of Ministers has simplified the conditions for exporting sunflower seeds to Bulgaria and established an automatic licensing regime instead of a non-automatic one.

According to the official website of the government, the decision was made at the meeting of the Cabinet of Ministers on Friday.

“Recently, the Republic of Bulgaria has agreed to liberalize the export licensing regime for one of these agricultural commodities, namely sunflower seeds. From now on, obtaining licenses to export sunflower seeds to Bulgaria will not require the approval of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy and, accordingly, separate consultations with this country,” the press service of the Cabinet of Ministers quoted Taras Kachka, Deputy Minister of Economy of Ukraine – Trade Representative, as saying.

According to him, this should simplify the export of relevant Ukrainian products.





# UKRAINIAN ENTREPRENEURS ARE ABLE TO EXPORT FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS TO KUWAIT

Ukrainian entrepreneurs have been granted the opportunity to export fish and fish products to Kuwait, the press service of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection reports.

“This is the second foreign market for Ukrainian exporters that the Foreign Ministry and the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection are opening this week. The first was the Chinese market for honey producers, and now the Qatari market for fish and fish products. Negotiations with foreign partners to facilitate the entry of Ukrainian goods to foreign markets are ongoing. This is an important part of our work and a broader strategy to create new opportunities in the world for Ukrainian business,” said Dmytro Kuleba, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

According to Serhiy Tkachuk, head of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection, the work on opening markets is ongoing, with the priority being Asia and North America.

The agency advised fish and fish products producers to familiarize themselves with the requirements for importing these products to Kuwait.

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## EXPORTS VIA UKRAINIAN SEA CORRIDOR REACHED 22 MLN TONS

Since August 2023, the sea corridor created by the Ukrainian Navy has exported almost 22 million tons of products, and the volume can be increased by another quarter, said Oleksandr Kubrakov, Vice Prime Minister for Reconstruction of Ukraine, following his visits to the Black Sea ports.

“*More than 22 million tons of cargo of various types have been exported since the start of the temporary corridor through the Black Sea, which is known worldwide as the Ukrainian Corridor. More than 700 vessels have used it since August,” Kubrakov wrote on Facebook on Saturday.*

The deputy prime minister noted that transshipment is carried out from three ports of Greater Odesa – Chornomorsk, Odesa and Pivdennyi. On Saturday night, they were once again attacked by Russian drones. “Unfortunately, we have damaged the transshipment infrastructure and destroyed grain,” Kubrakov said.

According to him, since July 18 (the last day of the grain corridor), Russian attacks on Ukrainian seaports have damaged almost 200 port infrastructure facilities and injured more than 26 civilians.

“At the same time, port workers are recovering quite quickly. Today I saw it with my own eyes. Moreover, they are increasing transshipment volumes every day. This, as well as the prospects for their operation, were discussed at meetings in three key ports of Ukraine,” the Vice Prime Minister said.



# CHINA OPENS ITS MARKET FOR UKRAINIAN HONEY

Ukraine and the People's Republic of China have agreed on the terms of exporting Ukrainian honey to China, and now Ukrainian honey producers can supply their products to the country, the press service of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection reported.

"Thanks to the coordinated work of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as with the support of the Embassy of Ukraine in the People's Republic of China, all stages of approval of the certificate for honey exports to China have been completed. The procedure for opening the honey market in China, which began in 2019, has been officially completed and the market is open to domestic exporters," the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection said.

According to the head of the service, Serhiy Tkachuk, this is the first export market that the agency opened in 2024.

"A lot of work has been done, many meetings and negotiations have been held, and the state control system in Ukraine has been audited. We plan not to stop, but to continue working to ensure the uninterrupted export of Ukrainian products in order to strengthen economic stability and increase jobs in our country," Tkachuk emphasized.

The approved form of the health certificate for the export of honey from Ukraine to China is available on the official web portal of the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection in the section "International Cooperation" under the heading "Certificates for export from Ukraine".

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# ISRAEL OPENS ITS MARKET FOR UKRAINIAN FEED FLOUR AND FEED FATS

Israel has opened its market for Ukrainian feed flour and feed fats, the press service of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection reported.

**“ According to the report, the Ukrainian and Israeli competent authorities have agreed on a veterinary certificate for poultry/feather/fish meal and a veterinary certificate for oils and fats for animal feeding.**

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs together with the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection continue to open doors for Ukrainian products in the world. Only last week and this week we opened new markets in three countries: China, Qatar and Israel. This is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' systemic strategy to help Ukrainian businesses in times of war. Within the framework of our Nazovni platform, from January 2023 to February 2024, we processed 84 applications from exporters to enter the Israeli market, so it is interesting for business," said Dmytro Kuleba, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

According to the head of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection, Serhiy Tkachuk, the agency is currently studying 220 areas for opening markets in other countries for such commodities as meat, dairy products, fish products, bee products, and others.

The harmonized forms of veterinary certificates for feed flour and feed fats are published on the website of the State Service of Ukraine on Food Safety and Consumer Protection in the section "International Cooperation", heading "Certificates for Export from Ukraine".



# EXPERTS CLUB TRAINING CENTER IN KYIV TOGETHER WITH ART GALLERY UNIVERSE LAUNCHED AN ART THERAPY PROGRAM FOR PTSD SUFFERERS

In Kyiv, the **Experts Club** training center in collaboration with Art Gallery Universe has launched a unique art therapy program aimed at helping people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). As part of this initiative, an exhibition titled “Restoring Life: Art and Rehabilitation Project” was organized, where prominent Ukrainian artists such as Igor Moshkov and E-Ludmyla Svitla presented their works reflecting their personal experience of struggling with and rethinking the emotional states caused by PTSD. **Maksim Urakin**, the initiator of Experts Club, emphasized the importance of the exhibition as an art therapy method for the correction of stressful conditions, including PTSD, especially in the context of the current challenges faced by many Ukrainians.



“This exhibition is more than art. It is an opportunity for visitors to experience healing and hope through painting, because the psycho-emotional state of many Ukrainians now needs support in the context of war and constant exposure to traumatic factors,” he said.

Lyudmyla Svitla, founder of Art Gallery Universe, shared her goal to encourage self-discovery and self-expression through art, considering it the key to inner peace.

Visitors of the exhibition shared their impressions, noting the deep emotional perception and personal meaning of each art object. The Restoring Life project highlights art not just as a means of aesthetic pleasure, but as an effective tool for spiritual healing and stress management.

Art therapy plays an important role in the treatment of PTSD and other stress-related disorders, as it allows individuals to express their feelings and experiences through art, which is often inaccessible through words. This form of psychotherapy helps reduce anxiety and stress, improves mood, and promotes emotional recovery. The inclusion of art therapy in rehabilitation programs for people with PTSD and other stress-related disorders can significantly increase their effectiveness by providing a unique approach to treatment and self-expression.



# ON WORLD MARKETS, UKRAINIAN CORN IS SOLD CHEAPER THAN AMERICAN AND ARGENTINE CORN BY \$20/TON

Ukrainian corn is sold cheaper than American and Argentine corn by \$20/ton on world markets, which is an abnormal distortion and leads to the restraint of sales by Ukrainian farmers, according to the analytical cooperative "Start", created within the framework of the All-Ukrainian Agrarian Council (AAC).

"Ukraine actively trades corn, significant volumes have already been contracted in January-February. Market operators fear that the supply of corn from Argentina will increase on the world market and the conditions for the sale of Ukrainian grain will deteriorate," analysts said, adding that prices on CIF terms have fallen sharply, as the supply of Ukrainian corn is high and the demand for it is low.



According to the experts, Ukrainian corn is traded conditionally at \$200-210/ton on the European markets, while corn originating from the USA is traded at \$220/ton.

"The gap of \$20/ton is abnormally large. Ukrainian corn is too cheap on the world markets compared to its American and Argentine counterparts, and there are no objective reasons for such an imbalance," the UAC believes.

At the same time, the CPT market is not yet active in terms of trade, many farmers are holding back corn and do not want to sell it at low prices. In Odesa ports, CPT prices are in the range of \$147-155/ton, and in small ports on the Danube – \$150-155/ton.

This digest is a mutual project of the Interfax-Ukraine News Agency and the Open4business.com.ua. Maksim Urakin is a project director of the Biweekly news digest of Open4business.com.ua.

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## Open4Business helps foreign businesses to search for opportunities and expand to Ukrainian market

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