



UKRAINE
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GERMAN GOVERNMENT PLEDGES EUR 5 BLN IN MILITARY AID TO UKRAINE - MEDIA



The German federal government has promised Ukraine further military support totaling EUR5 billion, NTV reported on Wednesday.

"The support package will be financed from funds already approved by the Bundestag, as announced by the Federal Ministry of Defense in Berlin," the broadcaster said on its website.

The promise was made during a visit to Berlin by a Ukrainian government delegation led by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius also met with his Ukrainian counterpart Rustem Umerov.

HEADLINES

29 May 2025



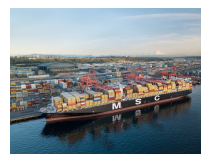
CCI EXPECTS EXPORT GROWTH IN 2025 IN SECTORS WHERE UKRAINE HAS STRONG POSITIONS, SAYS CCI PRESIDENT GENNADY CHIZHIKOV



ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR UKRAINE AND WORLD AT BEGINNING OF 2025 FROM EXPERTS CLUB



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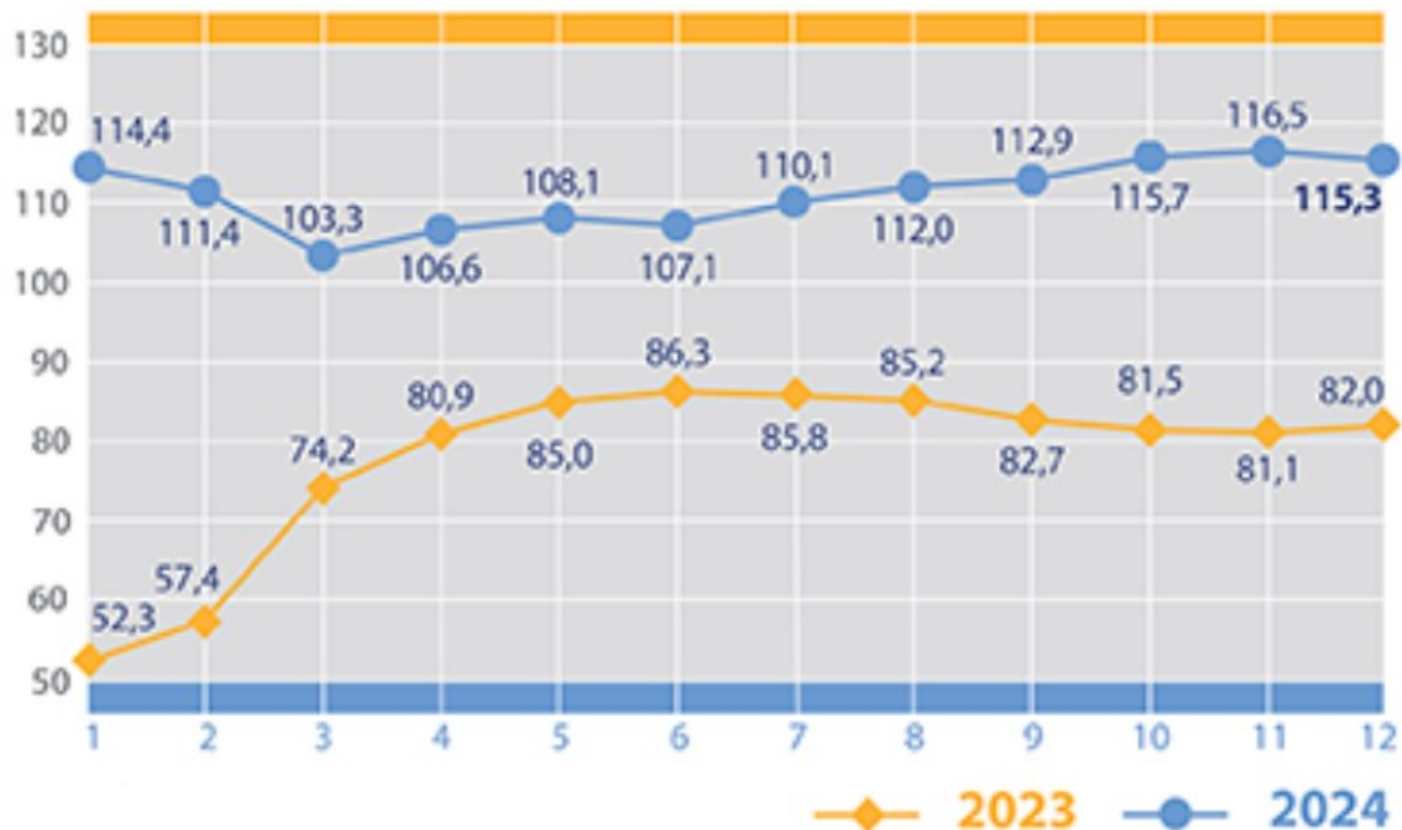


IMPORTS OF GENERATORS TO UKRAINE INCREASED SEVENFOLD – \$516 MLN IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2025

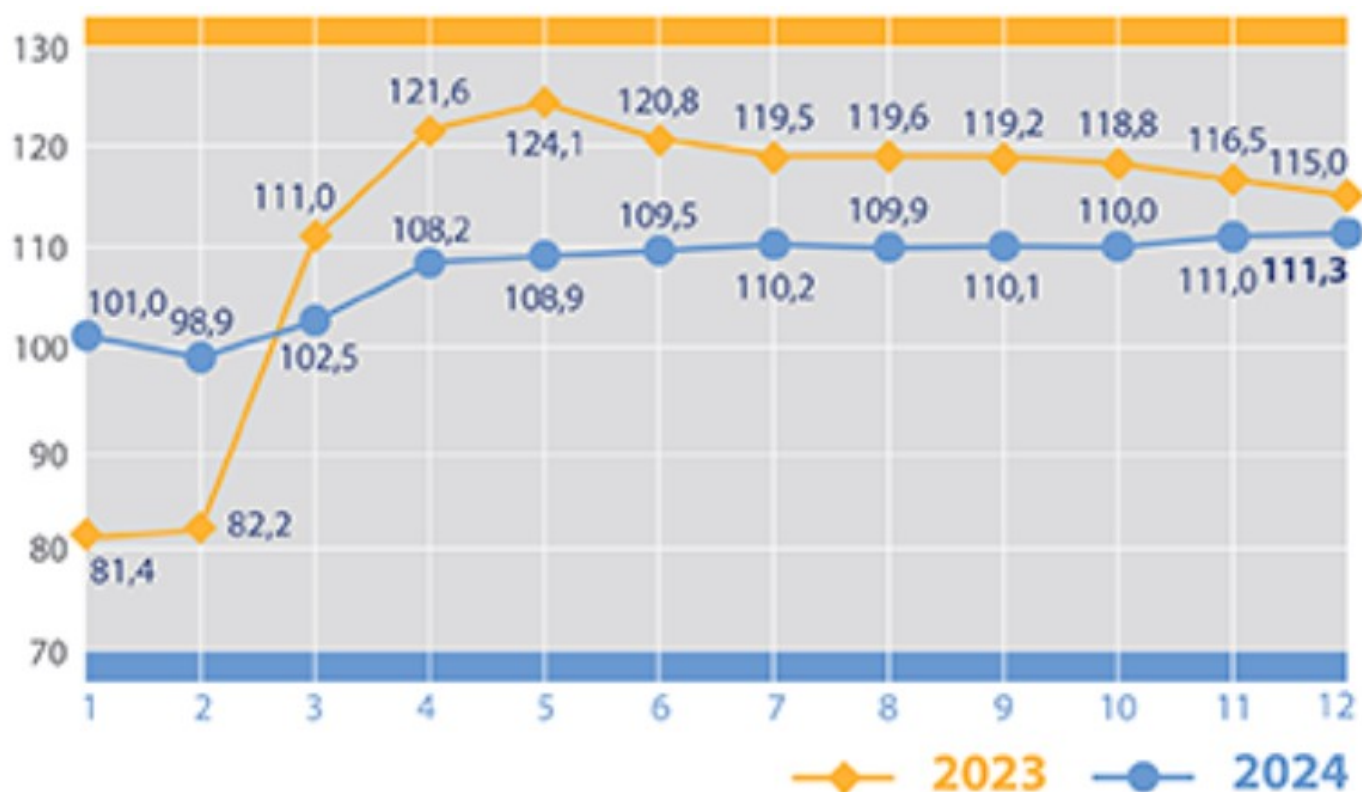


EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE DECREASED BY 23% IN APRIL

EXPORT CHANGES IN % TO PREVIOUS PERIOD IN 2023-2024



IMPORT CHANGES IN % TO PREVIOUS PERIOD IN 2023-2024



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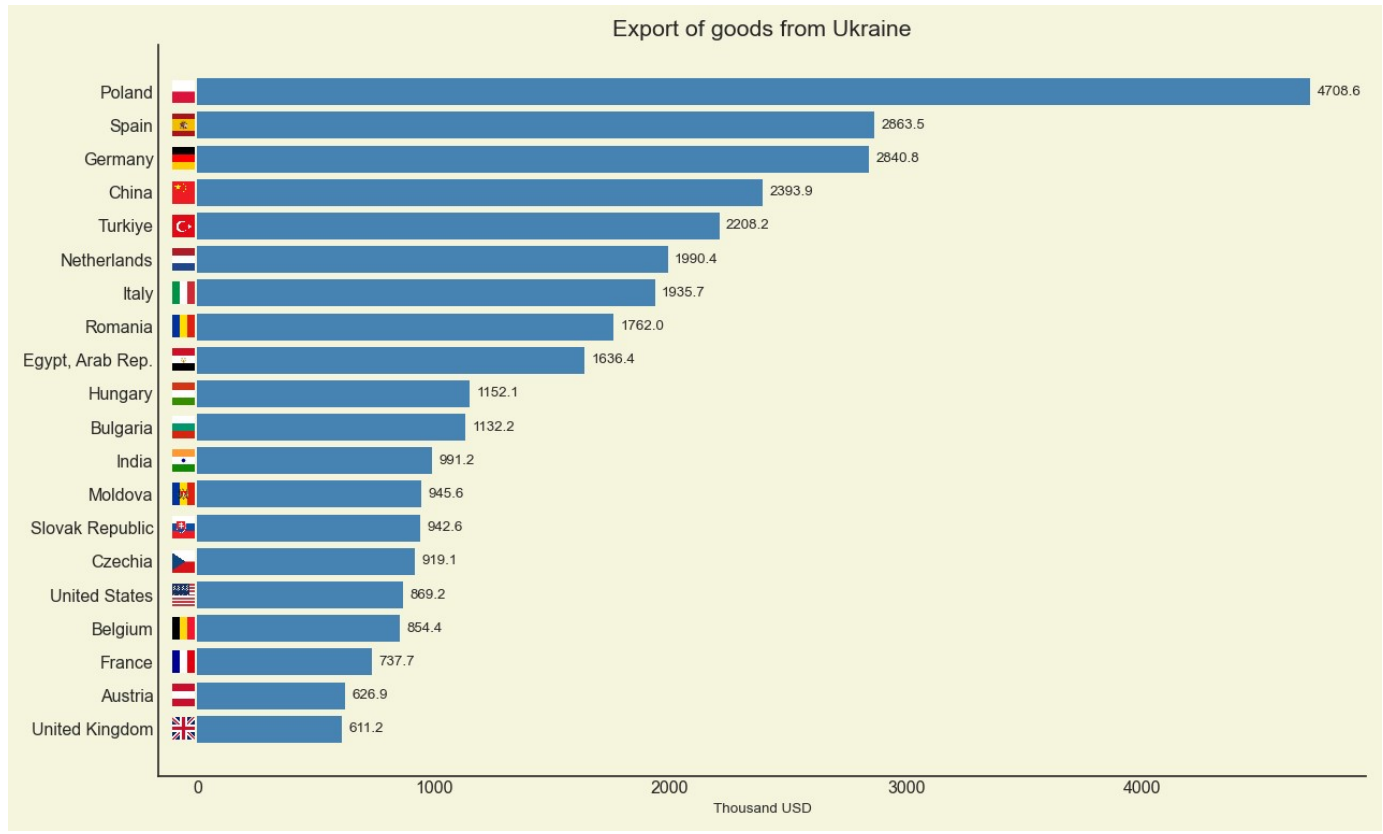
In 2025, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine (CCI) expects an increase in export volumes, primarily in industries where Ukraine already has sustainable competitive advantages. This was stated by CCIU President Gennady Chizhikov in an exclusive interview with the [Interfax-Ukraine news agency](#).

“We see growth potential in agro-processing, food industry, IT, machine building, pharmaceuticals, and woodworking. These industries have shown resilience even in wartime,” Chizhikov said.

According to him, products with high added value will remain the key driver. He stressed that the chamber’s task is to help businesses integrate into European value chains.



GEOGRAPHICAL STRUCTURE OF UKRAINE’S FOREIGN TRADE (EXPORTS) JANUARY-DECEMBER 2024, MLN USD



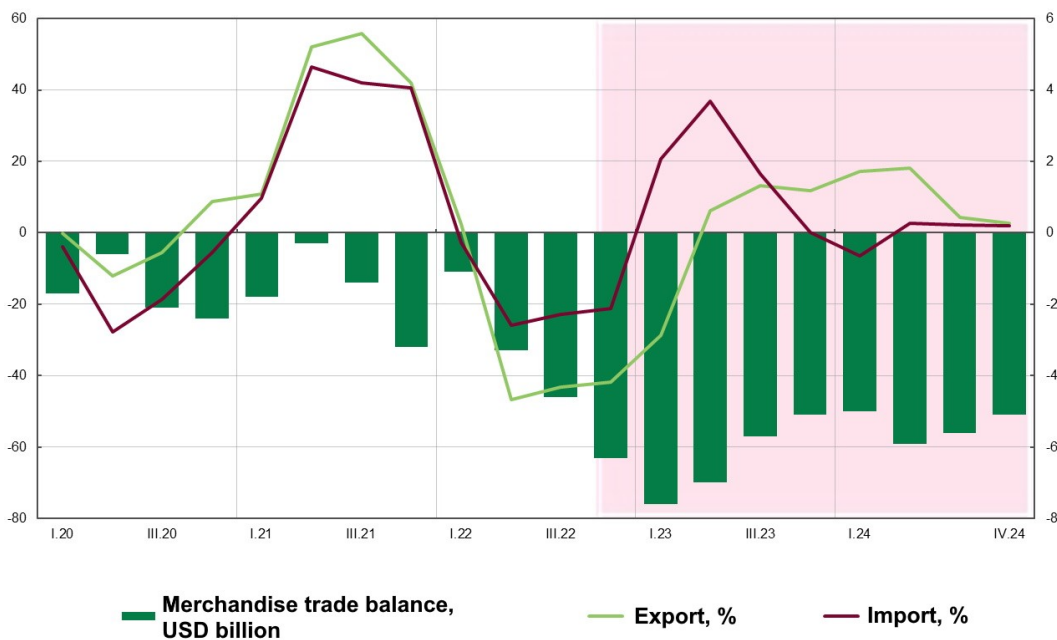
UKRAINIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY CONSIDERS FULL INTEGRATION INTO EU MARKET KEY PRIORITY, SAYS UCCI PRESIDENT CHIZHIKOV

The full integration of Ukrainian business into the European market remains a key strategic goal of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry for 2024–2025. This was announced by the head of the CCI, Gennady Chizhikov, in an exclusive interview with the **Interfax-Ukraine** news agency.

“We are supporting the processes of certification, adaptation of logistics, labeling, and marketing materials for companies entering the EU markets. There are already specific cases where, thanks to this work, Ukrainian goods are being sold in Germany and Belgium,” Chizhikov said.



2022-2024 GOODS TRADE BALANCE FORECAST (USD BLN)



EXPERT ANALYZES PROSPECTS FOR MINERAL EXTRACTION IN UKRAINE FOLLOWING AGREEMENT WITH US

On May 8, 2025, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine ratified a strategic agreement with the United States of America on the joint use of mineral resources, which was an important step in strengthening the economic partnership between the two countries. The agreement provides for the creation of a Joint Reconstruction Investment Fund, which will give the US priority access to Ukrainian minerals, including lithium, titanium, graphite, and uranium. At the same time, Ukraine expects increased military support and economic stability.

Volodymyr Khaustov, scientific secretary of the State Institution "Institute of Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine," honored economist of Ukraine, and candidate of technical sciences, shared his vision for the prospects of this agreement in a video from the Experts Club expert and analytical center.

“*Ukraine has significant potential in the field of strategic mineral extraction. However, it should be understood that realizing this potential requires significant investment and time. Many deposits, particularly lithium deposits, are located in regions where infrastructure needs to be modernized and geological data is based on outdated Soviet research,” Khaustov said.*

The expert also highlighted the technological challenges associated with the extraction and processing of Ukrainian minerals.

“Most lithium deposits in Ukraine contain ores that are difficult to enrich using existing technologies. This requires the development of new processing methods, which in turn requires time and financial resources,” he explained.

The agreement also stipulates that profits from joint projects will be reinvested in Ukraine during the first ten years, which should contribute to the country’s economic recovery. However, Khaustov warns against excessive optimism about quick results.

“The implementation of such large-scale projects is not a matter of one year. All risks and challenges, including geopolitical and economic ones, that may affect the implementation of the agreement must be taken into account,” he stressed.

Overall, the expert believes that the signing of the agreement with the US is an important step for Ukraine, opening up new opportunities for the development of the mining industry and strengthening the economy. However, the successful implementation of the agreements requires a comprehensive approach, strategic planning, and close cooperation between all interested parties.

“This is a chance for Ukraine to become an important player in the global market for strategic minerals. But this requires not only desire, but also real action, investment, and technological solutions,” Volodymyr Khaustov concluded.

Thus, the agreement between Ukraine and the US opens a new page in the economic partnership between the two countries, but its successful implementation depends on many factors that require careful analysis and balanced decisions.

You can learn more about Ukraine’s mineral resources in the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFI5sUBX3gc&t>

You can subscribe to the Experts Club channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/@ExpertsClub>



ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR UKRAINE AND WORLD AT BEGINNING OF 2025 FROM EXPERTS CLUB

This article presents key macroeconomic indicators for Ukraine and the global economy as of February 1, 2025. The analysis is based on current data from the State Statistics Service of Ukraine, the National Bank of Ukraine, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, and the UN. Marketing and Development Director at Interfax-Ukraine, Maksim Urakin, PhD in Economics and founder of the Experts Club information and analytical center, presented an overview of current macroeconomic trends.

Macroeconomic indicators of Ukraine

In 2024, Ukraine's economy showed signs of recovery despite the ongoing war and unstable geopolitical situation. According to updated data from the State Statistics Service, Ukraine's real GDP grew by 3.3% in 2024, while nominal GDP amounted to approximately UAH 8.3 trillion. The deflator index was 11.6%.

"GDP growth demonstrates the resilience of the Ukrainian economy. Sectors focused on exports, domestic consumption, and infrastructure restoration have become the drivers of growth," comments Maksim Urakin.

As of January 2025, annual inflation accelerated to 12.9%. Consumer prices rose by 1.2% in January compared to December, reflecting seasonal increases and currency stability.

According to the State Statistics Service, at the end of 2024, exports of goods amounted to \$43.8 billion (+13.4%), imports to \$67.4 billion (+5.7%), and the negative foreign trade balance to \$23.6 billion.

"Despite high imports, primarily of energy and equipment, export activity is growing. Ukraine is strengthening its position in the agricultural and metallurgical markets," says Maksim Urakin.

As of February 1, 2025, according to the Ministry of Finance, Ukraine's state and state-guaranteed debt amounted to \$146.7 billion, including \$100.1 billion in external debt. According to the National Bank of Ukraine, international reserves reached \$45.3 billion, increasing by \$400 million in January thanks to inflows from the EU and the IMF.

"The record level of reserves strengthens the stability of the hryvnia and allows the NBU to control currency fluctuations," the economist emphasizes.

Global economy

According to the IMF's January update, global economic growth in 2024 was 3.1%, with a forecast of 3.2% for 2025. Developing countries remain the main drivers, despite global instability.

According to the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the US economy grew by 2.5% in 2024. In January 2025, inflation stood at 3.1% year-on-year, with the Fed keeping its rate at 5.25-5.5%.

According to revised Eurostat data, the eurozone's GDP grew by 0.4% in 2024, while inflation stood at 2.8% in January 2025. Germany, the EU's largest economy, contracted by 0.1%, while Spain and Portugal made positive contributions to overall growth.

"Geopolitics, high borrowing costs, and weak demand in the G7 countries continue to hold back the recovery. Strong consumer demand is supporting the US economy. However, expensive credit is holding back investment activity, especially in real estate. The Chinese economy needs new stimulus, including tax reforms and support for small businesses, to offset the decline in investment in the construction sector," Urakin explains.

The Indian economy continues to grow steadily: 8% in 2024, according to preliminary data from the Indian Ministry of Finance. The country is strengthening its position in global supply chains and increasing domestic production.

According to official statistics, China's GDP grew by 5% in 2024. However, growth in the real estate sector remains weak and domestic demand is limited, which is holding back expansion potential.

Conclusion

The macroeconomic picture at the beginning of 2025 reflects a difficult but stable situation both in Ukraine and globally. Domestic GDP growth, slowing inflation, and strengthening reserves are positive signals for Ukraine. The global economy, in turn, is showing cautious growth amid continuing challenges.

"The key priorities for Ukraine remain ensuring macroeconomic stability, growing high value-added exports, accelerating digital transformation, and implementing structural reforms. This will enable the country to strengthen its position in the international economy as early as 2025," concludes Maksim Urakin.

Head of the Economic Monitoring project, Candidate of Economic Sciences Maksim Urakin.

A more detailed analysis of Ukraine's economic indicators is available in the monthly information and analytical products of the Interfax-Ukraine agency, Economic Monitoring.



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FILATOV INSTITUTE IS INTRODUCING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND TELEMEDICINE INTO OPHTHALMIC PRACTICE

The **V.P. Filatov Odessa Institute** of Eye Diseases and Tissue Therapy is actively introducing innovative technologies, including artificial intelligence and telemedicine, into ophthalmic practice. This was announced by Oleg Zadorozhny, MD, senior researcher at the institute, in an exclusive interview with the **Interfax-Ukraine** news agency.

“We are conducting multidisciplinary research in the field of artificial intelligence for screening diabetic retinopathy in partnership between the Institute, Odessa National Medical University, and international companies,” Zadorozhny said.

He emphasized that the introduction of telemedicine technologies allows for remote diagnosis and consultation of patients, which is especially important in conditions of limited access to medical facilities during military operations. “The institute is addressing medical science issues that are currently the most pressing in Ukraine and around the world,” Zadorozhny added.



SUBSIDIARY OF WORLD'S LEADING CONTAINER SHIPPING COMPANY, MSC, HAS ACQUIRED 25% AND 50% STAKES IN TIS'S CO-OWNER IN MOSTYSKA TERMINAL AND IN N'UNIT

Medlog, a subsidiary of the world's leading container shipping company Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC Group), has acquired 50% of intermodal logistics operator N'UNIT and a 25% stake in the Mostyska cross-border terminal from TIS co-owner Yegor Grebennikov, Forbes reported.

"Medlog has acquired half of my stake in the Mostyska cross-border terminal and half of N'UNIT, which was wholly owned by me," Grebennikov said in an interview with the publication.

His stake in N'UNIT has decreased to 50%, and in the Mostyska terminal to 25%. The remaining 50% of the terminal remains owned by Lemtrans.

“Medlog was looking for a ready-made network of dry logistics railways, which will gradually replace road transport — this is a trend. In addition, it provides more flexibility at a time when ports are not functioning. Building such a network now would cost as much as buying it, but it would take three to four years,” Grebennikov said.

According to him, Medlog has a strategy for the next decade and understands that those who take risks and enter the country at a difficult time will be better prepared for the period of economic growth.

"And, of course, during a period of growth, the price would be completely different," said the co-owner of N'UNIT and the Mostyska terminal.

He also said that prior to the deal, he was the sole owner of N'UNIT, as his partners Andriy Stavnitzer and Oleg Kutateladze decided to focus on their personal projects in other industries.

Following the deal with MSC Group's subsidiary, the company plans to build several more regional terminals.

"I have a clear investment plan. We have already carried out preparatory work for the construction of new terminals, there will be more specialized lightweight vehicles for last mile delivery, more buffer warehouses. We hope to take our cooperation with Ukrzaliznytsia to a new level," said Grebennikov.

Medlog, founded in 1988 as a subsidiary of MSC Group, specializes in intermodal transportation (rail, road, sea, and river freight), warehousing, and customs clearance. The company is represented in more than 80 countries and has over 10,000 employees.



IMPORTS OF GENERATORS TO UKRAINE INCREASED SEVENFOLD – \$516 MLN IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2025

Imports of electric generator sets and rotary electric converters (HS code 8502) to Ukraine in January-April 2025 increased sevenfold in monetary terms compared to the same period in 2024, reaching \$516.31 million, according to statistics from the State Customs Service (SCS).

“ According to SCS data, electric generators and converters were most often imported from the Czech Republic (18% of total exports of these products, or \$93.7 million), Austria (15.6%, or \$80.3 million), and the United States (15%, or \$77.3 million), while a year earlier it was the Czech Republic (\$15.36 million), Austria (\$15.2 million), and China (\$14.1 million).

In particular, in April, imports of this equipment increased almost fivefold compared to April last year, but decreased by 6% compared to March this year, to \$83.14 million.

Ukraine exported electric generators in January-April in insignificant volumes (\$1.9 million), mainly to Latvia, Bulgaria, and Turkey.

In addition, according to the State Customs Service, imports of electric accumulators and separators to Ukraine increased 2.3 times in four months to \$288.35 million, mostly from China (78.4%), as well as Taiwan (5.3%) and Bulgaria (4.1%).

At the same time, in April, imports of these products increased by more than 81% compared to April 2024, to \$70.52 million, which is also 7% higher than in February 2025.

In four months, Ukraine exported batteries worth \$17.1 million, mainly to Poland (27.9%), France (15.9%), and Germany (11.3%).

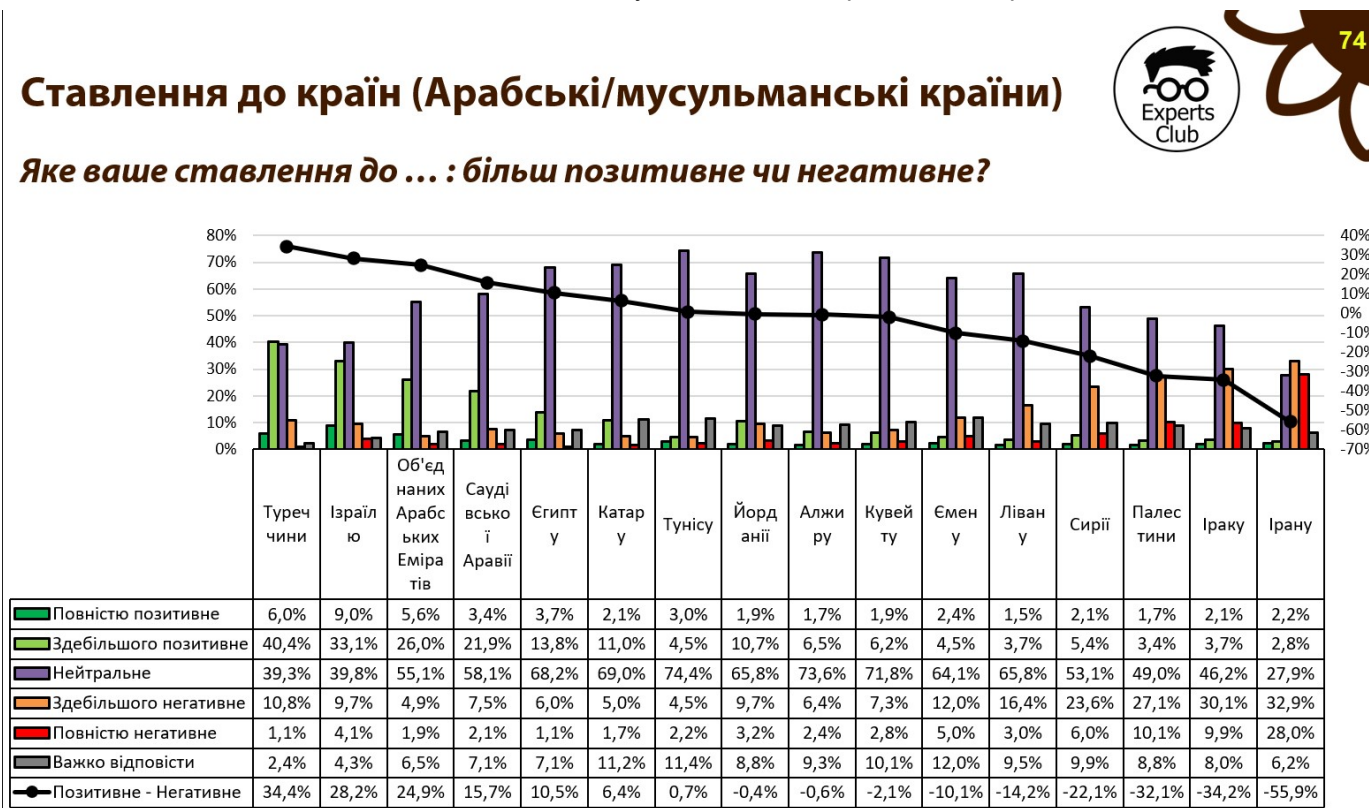
As reported, at the end of July 2024, Ukraine exempted the import of electric generator equipment and batteries from customs duties and VAT.

According to the State Customs Service, in 2024, imports of electric generators and converters to Ukraine increased by 3.7% compared to 2023, to \$732.5 million, and batteries more than doubled, to \$950.6 million.



UKRAINIANS ARE CAUTIOUS ABOUT ARAB AND MUSLIM COUNTRIES — SOCIOLOGICAL SURVEY

The results of the latest sociological survey conducted by Active Group in collaboration with the Experts Club analytical center and the SunFlower Sociology platform show that Ukrainians generally have a cautious or wary attitude toward Arab and Muslim countries. The survey covered 800 respondents in April 2025.



Дослідження здійснено компанією «Active Group» за допомогою онлайн-панелі «SunFlower Sociology». Метод: самозаповнення анкет громадянами України віком 18 та більше років. Вибірка 800 анкет (репрезентативна за віком, статтю і регіоном України). Період збору даних: квітень 2025 р.

The most positive attitude among those surveyed was toward Turkey — 6% of Ukrainians expressed a completely positive attitude, and another 40.4% — mostly positive. The overall positive balance is 34.4%. Israel was the second most popular country among Ukrainians, with 9% of respondents expressing a completely positive attitude and 33.1% expressing a mostly positive attitude, although the positive balance here is slightly lower at 28.2%. Next in terms of favorability are the United Arab Emirates (with a total positive rating of 24.9%) and Saudi Arabia (15.7%). It should be noted that almost 69% of Ukrainians took a neutral position on Saudi Arabia, which is one of the highest figures among all countries surveyed.

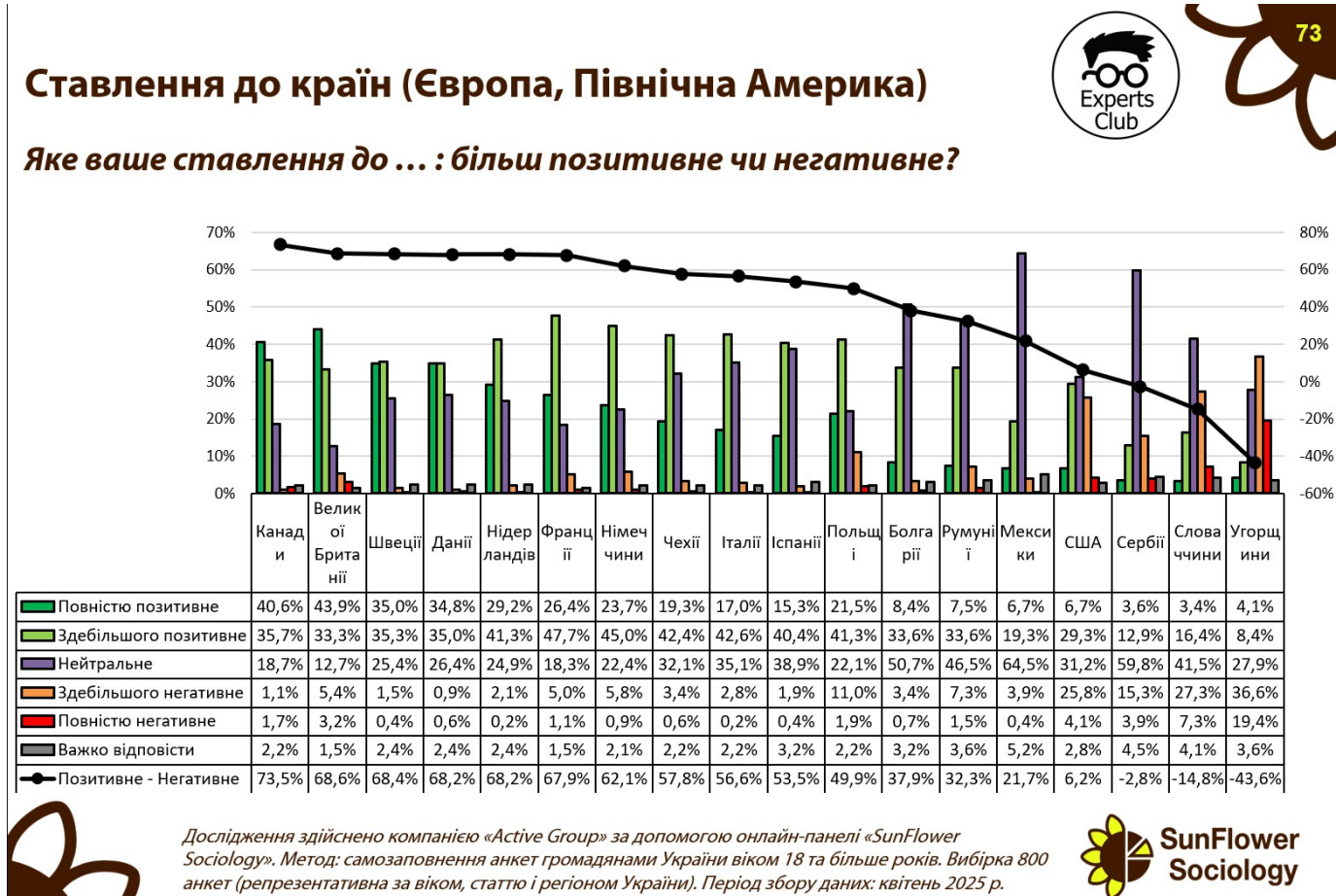
As for Egypt, Qatar, Tunisia, Jordan, Algeria, and Kuwait, neutral or indifferent assessments dominate, with a positive balance ranging from 6.5% to -3.6%. Attitudes toward Syria, Palestine, Iraq, and Iran are even more critical, with negative views outweighing positive ones by tens of percentage points. For example, Iran has the lowest score, with only 2.2% of responses being entirely positive, 7.2% mostly positive, and a full 30.1% negative, giving a net balance of -55.9%. The situation is similar for Iraq (-34.2%) and Palestine (-32.1%).

“Mass neutrality, and in some cases open negativity, towards many Muslim countries indicates a lack of information links, as well as an ambiguous perception of the role of these states in global politics. Against this backdrop, Turkey and Israel have the opportunity to strengthen humanitarian and economic ties with Ukraine,” comments Maksim Urakin, PhD in Economics and founder of Experts Club.

Thus, the data emphasizes that the depth of ties and real actions of countries in times of trial determine the level of public trust in Ukraine — even in geographically remote regions.

AMONG EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES, UKRAINIANS MOST WARMLY DISPOSED TOWARD CANADA AND GREAT BRITAIN, ACCORDING TO STUDY

Ukrainian citizens demonstrate the highest level of sympathy toward Canada, Great Britain, Sweden, Denmark, and the Netherlands. These are the results of a study conducted by Active Group in collaboration with the **Experts Club** think tank and the SunFlower Sociology platform in April 2025. Canada came out on top in terms of positive image: 40.6% of Ukrainians expressed a completely positive attitude, with another 35.7% expressing a mostly positive attitude. The overall positive balance was a record 73.5%.



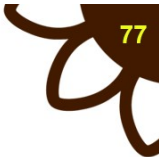
The United Kingdom ranks second with a total positive rating of 68.6%. Sweden, Denmark, and the Netherlands are also at the top of the ranking with similarly high levels of positive perception — over 68% of the total positive rating. France and Germany remain strong, but their positions are less clear-cut. In France, the share of “mostly positive” attitudes is particularly high at 47.7%, although only 26.4% view it as “completely positive.” In Germany, 23.7% of respondents indicated a completely positive attitude, but the level of distrust has increased, with 7.9% of Ukrainians assessing it negatively.

The US elicited a mixed reaction: only 6.7% of Ukrainians rated this country completely positively, while 26.5% expressed a negative attitude. The image balance in the US is one of the lowest among Western partners — only 5.3%. Ukrainians showed a similar level of disappointment with Central European countries: Hungary has the worst image of all, with only 4.1% of completely positive responses and as many as 47.7% negative, giving a net image balance of -43.6%. Slovakia also has a negative rating of -14.8%.

“These results are not only a reflection of public opinion, but also a benchmark for diplomatic activity. Countries with high levels of support have the best conditions for strengthening bilateral ties with Ukraine in the humanitarian, security, and economic spheres,” comments **Maksim Urakin**, PhD in Economics and founder of Experts Club. Overall, the survey results clearly demonstrate that international support for Ukraine in difficult times directly shapes citizens’ trust. Ukrainians’ attitudes are not only based on historical or cultural ties, but also depend to a large extent on the specific actions of foreign states during the war.

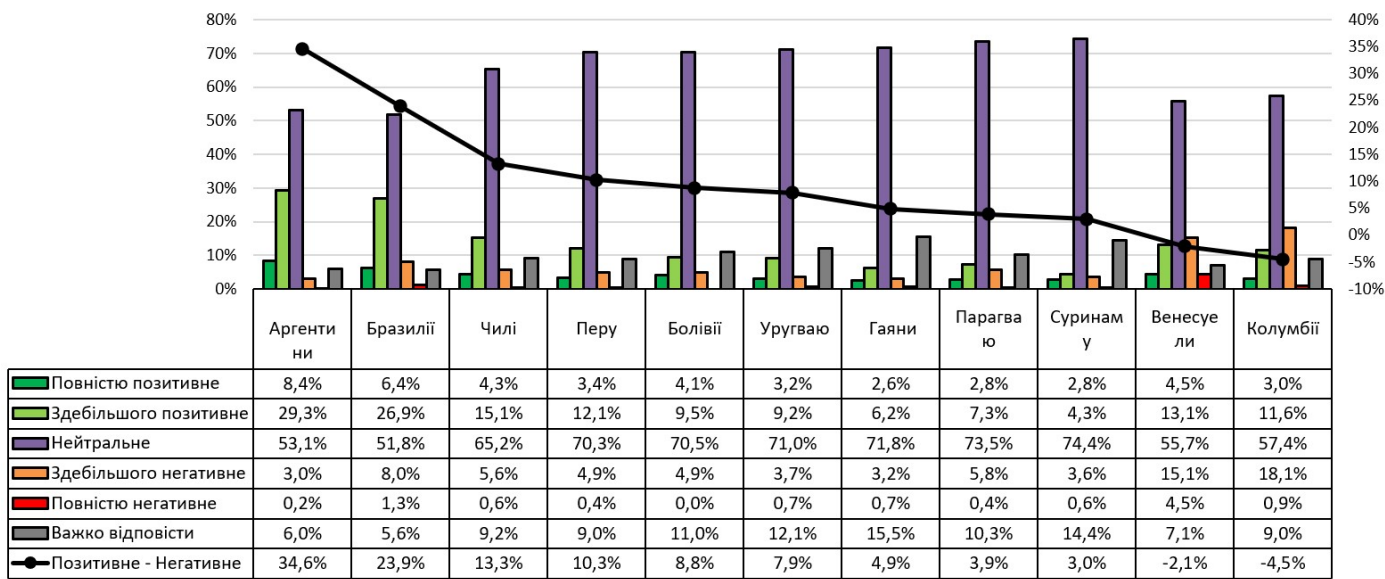
UKRAINIANS' ATTITUDES TOWARD SOUTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES — SURVEY RESULTS

A survey conducted by Active Group in partnership with **Experts Club** found that among South American countries, Ukrainians have the highest level of sympathy for Argentina. According to data published in April 2025, 8.4% of respondents expressed a completely positive attitude toward this country, and another 29.3% expressed a mostly positive attitude. Thus, Argentina has the highest positive balance in the region — 34.6%.



Ставлення до країн (Південна Америка)

Яке ваше ставлення до ... : більш позитивне чи негативне?



Дослідження здійснено компанією «Active Group» за допомогою онлайн-панелі «SunFlower Sociology». Метод: самозаповнення анкет громадянами України віком 18 та більше років. Вибірка 800 анкет (репрезентативна за віком, статтю і регіоном України). Період збору даних: квітень 2025 р.



Brazil came in second place in terms of support, with a total of 33.3% positive ratings (6.4% completely positive, 26.9% mostly positive) and a balance of 23.9%. Chile shows rather restrained sympathy: 4.3% of respondents were completely positive, 15.1% mostly positive, giving a balance of 13.3%. Peru, Bolivia, and Uruguay were at or slightly above 10% positive balance.

It is particularly noteworthy that for Bolivia this figure is 8.6%, despite a fairly high level of neutral attitudes — 70.5%.

The situation is much worse for Colombia, which has the lowest balance in the region — minus 4.5%. 18.1% of respondents expressed a mostly negative opinion, which significantly outweighs the total 14.6% of positive perceptions. Venezuela also has a negative balance of minus 2.1%, mainly due to political instability and negative associations in the media.

Most South American countries are perceived by Ukrainians as mostly neutral. In Paraguay, Suriname, Guyana, and Uruguay, the level of neutrality ranges from 71% to 74%. This indicates weak emotional contact and insufficient presence of these countries in Ukraine’s information space.

“Latin American countries remain largely outside the scope of active Ukrainian interest, which creates both challenges and opportunities. Where the level of neutrality is high, there is room for diplomacy, cultural exchange, and building a positive image,” comments **Maksim Urakin**, PhD in Economics and founder of Experts Club.

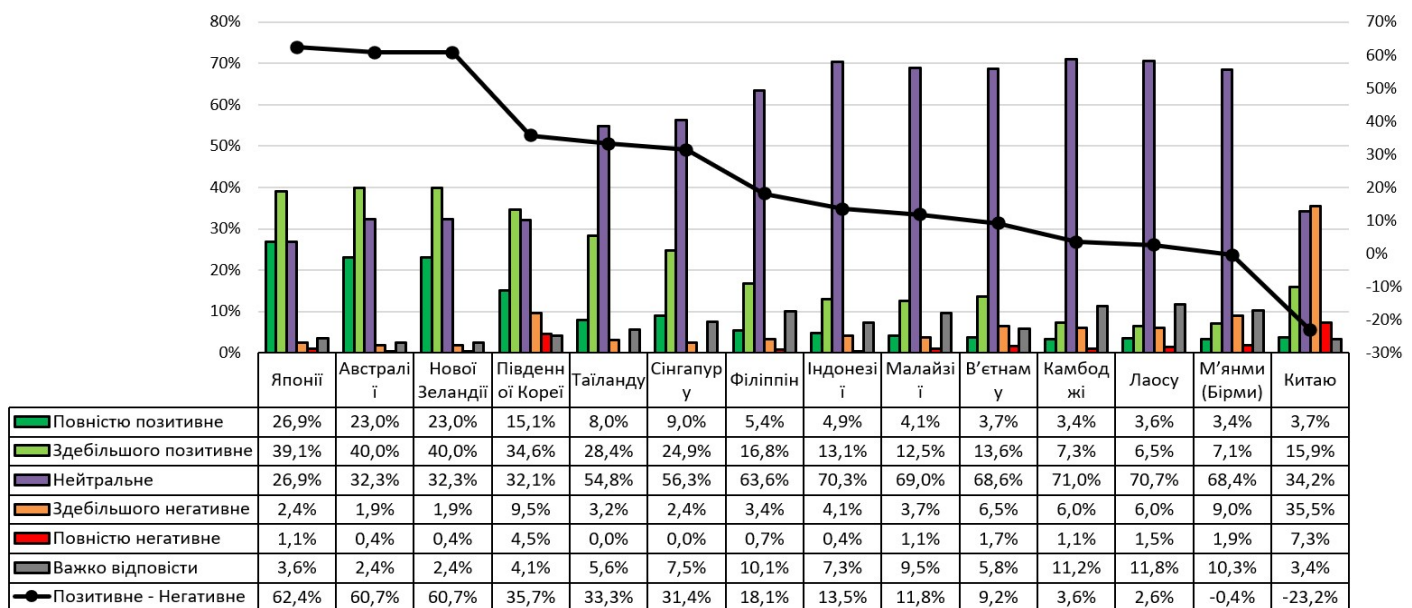
UKRAINIANS' ATTITUDES TOWARD EAST ASIAN AND OCEANIAN COUNTRIES: JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA FAVORED, CHINA IS OUTSIDER

According to new sociological data published by Active Group in collaboration with Experts Club in April 2025, Ukrainian public opinion on South and East Asian countries and Oceania varies significantly. Japan, Australia, and New Zealand are in favor, while China and some countries in Southeast Asia show either a negative or neutral balance.

Ставлення до країн (Південна, Східна Азія, Океанія)



Яке ваше ставлення до ... : більш позитивне чи негативне?



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Japan received the highest positive rating among the countries in the region, with 62.4% of Ukrainians having a positive attitude towards it, including 26.9% who are completely positive and 39.1% who are mostly positive. It is followed by Australia and New Zealand with an identical net balance of 60.7%. In Australia, 23% of respondents chose the completely positive option, in New Zealand — the same, while more than 40% in each country gave a “mostly positive” rating.

South Korea, with 15.1% completely positive ratings and 34.6% mostly positive, has a respectable balance of 35.7%, although lower than the leaders. Thailand (36.4% positive perception) and Singapore (33.8%) also hold relatively high positions thanks to their stable image associated with tourism and development.

In contrast, countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar are dominated by neutral assessments — over 60% — indicating limited awareness or an information vacuum. In all these countries, the positive balance does not exceed 10%.

Despite its economic weight, China has one of the worst images among Ukrainians in the region: 15.9% expressed a mostly positive opinion, but 35.5% rated China neutrally, and the negative balance was -23.2%. This reflects a certain distrust that has formed against the backdrop of geopolitical events and the information background.

“It is particularly interesting that even Ukraine’s economically important partners, such as China (its largest trading partner), receive low support ratings among Ukrainians. This indicates that Ukrainian society values moral support above real trade and does not recognize “neutrality” if it is not accompanied by humanitarian gestures,” comments Maksim Urakin, PhD in Economics and founder of Experts Club.

Thus, the results indicate that there is significant potential for countries in the region, particularly Southeast Asia, to improve their image in Ukraine through cultural diplomacy, tourism marketing, and economic cooperation.

EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE DECREASED BY 23% IN APRIL

In April 2025, Ukraine exported 4.1 million tons of agricultural products, which is 23.4% less than the same indicator of the previous month, according to the Ukrainian Agribusiness Club.

“Such dynamics of export reduction is typical for this season. The vast majority of the grown products have already been exported, and there are still small volumes for export,” the analysts explained. Experts noted that almost all groups of goods in April 2025 show a decline in exports. The only exception is vegetable oils, the export volumes of which are growing. This is due to the atypical situation on the Ukrainian sunflower oil market, whose production volumes were stretched over time this year.



According to them, in April 2025, the structure of agricultural exports was dominated by vegetable oils, which amounted to 525.8 mln tons, up 6% compared to the previous month. At the same time, sunflower oil accounted for 91% of exports, and soybean oil – 9%. Grain exports decreased by 33% and amounted to 2.4 mln tons, with corn accounting for 65%, wheat – 32%, barley – 2%; oilseeds – by 3% to 421.2 thsd tonnes. tons (soybeans – 78%, rapeseed – 20% and flax – 1%), cake after extraction of vegetable oils – by 14% to 423.0 thousand tons (sunflower – 73%, soybean – 27%), other types of agricultural products – by 2% to 357.0 thousand tons.

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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PhD in Economics, Maksim Urakin

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