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## UKRAINIANS NAMED EU, UK, AND US AS THEIR TOP PRIORITIES FOR DEVELOPING ECONOMIC RELATIONS – ANALYSIS BY EXPERTS CLUB

According to the results of a survey conducted by Active Group in collaboration with Experts Club in August 2025, Ukrainians identified priority areas for the development of foreign economic relations.

The majority of respondents – 81.3% – believe that Ukraine should first and foremost develop economic cooperation with the countries of the European Union. The United Kingdom also received a high level of support – 66.5%, while the United States came in third with 62.7%.

Citizens also pay significant attention to Asian countries: 36.2% of respondents support expanding relations with Southeast Asian countries (Japan, South Korea, etc.), and 31.7% with China. At the same time, 29.5% pointed to the importance of deepening cooperation with countries in the Arab and Muslim world.

To a lesser extent, respondents are focused on partnerships with African and South American countries — this direction was supported by 14.8% of Ukrainians. Another 8.3% of respondents were undecided, and 1.0% believe that Ukraine does not need any new economic partnerships.

According to Experts Club co-founder Maksim Urakin, the survey results confirm the real economic structure of Ukraine's trade.

"The EU is already Ukraine's main trading partner, accounting for over 40% of trade turnover, but if we analyze individual countries, China remains the leader. The high levels of support for cooperation with the UK and the US reflect society's trust in Ukraine's political and economic partners during this difficult period. At the same time, interest in Asia and the Arab world indicates the need to diversify markets and seek new opportunities in the future," he stressed.

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24 September 2025



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AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE FELL BY 8.4% IN FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 2025

# UKRAINE RECEIVED ANOTHER ERA TRANCHE OF EUR1 BLN FROM EU

Ukraine received another tranche of macro-financial assistance from the European Union in the amount of EUR1 billion under the ERA Loans program, Prime Minister Yulia Svrydenko said

“This tranche is financed from the proceeds of frozen assets of the Central Bank of the Russian Federation. This is more than aid — it is a clear signal: Europe is resolutely strengthening Ukraine’s defense and resilience against massive missile attacks and attempts at destabilization,” Svrydenko wrote on Telegram on Wednesday.

The Ministry of Finance reminded that a total of EUR 10 billion has already been raised from the European Union as part of the ERA initiative, and Ukraine is expected to receive the remaining EUR 8.1 billion from the EU in installments by the end of 2025.

The prime minister thanked European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and European Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis for their leadership and steadfastness.

“These funds mean saved lives, rebuilt cities, and a secure European future for Ukraine,” she emphasized.

The ERA provides for \$50 billion to be allocated to Ukraine, which will be secured by future revenues from Russia’s frozen assets. The EU’s contribution amounts to EUR18.1 billion (EUR20 billion).

In March this year, European Commissioner for Economy Valdis Dombrovskis announced that the EU plans to allocate EUR 30.5 billion to Ukraine this year, including EUR 12.5 billion under the Ukraine Facility program and EUR 18 billion under the ERA mechanism: the first EUR 3 billion was allocated in January, EUR 1 billion per month in March-November, and EUR 6 billion in December.

The IMF’s Extended Fund Facility (EFF) program provides for Ukraine to receive \$39.4 billion under the ERA mechanism this year, following \$1 billion last year.

According to the Ministry of Finance, since February 2022, the European Union has been the largest provider of direct budgetary assistance to Ukraine – EUR 58.5 billion for priority state budget expenditures, including over EUR 16.5 billion for the first eight months of 2025.

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## NEW CAR SALES IN UKRAINE INCREASED BY 3%

Sales of new passenger cars in Ukraine in January-August this year increased by 3% compared to the same period last year, amounting to 46,000 units, according to UkrAvtoprom on its Telegram channel.

At the same time, in August, initial registrations of passenger cars amounted to about 6,800 units, which is 16% less than in August last year.

“But a year ago, the market was dominated by frenzied demand caused by expectations of the introduction of an additional 15% tax on car purchases,” UkrAvtoprom notes, calling this year’s August result the best in the last 11 months.

Compared to July 2025, demand for new cars grew by 5%.

“*The Japanese brand Toyota (999 units) continues to lead the market, with Chinese BYD (860 units) close behind.*”

The next positions in the ranking were taken by Renault (529 units), Volkswagen (527 units), Skoda (407 units), Hyundai (393 units), BMW (337 units), Honda (328 units), Suzuki (231 units), and Audi (225 units).

The bestseller of the month was the compact crossover Renault Duster (486 units).

In turn, the information and analytical group AUTO-Consulting also calls the sales of passenger cars in August (6,955 thousand) a good result, although they decreased by 17% compared to August 2024, when there was a rush of demand.

“Despite the decline compared to August last year, the car market is on an upward trend. These are very good starting conditions ahead of the busy autumn business season,” the group said in a statement on its website.

According to analysts, the top three were Toyota (1,018 thousand), BYD (868 units), and Volkswagen (551 units).



# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOBBYISTS ESTABLISHED IN UKRAINE

According to lawyer Oleksiy Shevchuk, a member of the association, who spoke to **Interfax-Ukraine**, this professional association “is intended to become the sole regulator of the industry and the basis for the future profession of lobbyist.”

The association also includes lawyers Olga Proshianuk, Oleksandr Leshchenko, Oleksandr Chernykh, head of the National Association of Arbitration Managers lawyer Oleksandr Bondarchuk, and Artem Samorodov.

Shevchuk recalled that on September 1, Ukraine officially launched the Lobbyist Transparency Register, as provided for by the law on lobbying.

The association already has offices in London and Zurich.

“The National Association of Lobbyists of Ukraine is a step forward toward a culture of transparent promotion of legislative initiatives and professional standards for business representation in government,” Shevchuk emphasized.

## IF HOSTILITIES END, UKRAINE’S PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION MARKET COULD GROW 2.5 TIMES BY 2026

If hostilities end in 2025, Ukraine’s passive fire protection market could grow approximately 2.5 times from 2026 to around \$25 million, according to Kovlar Group, a manufacturer of passive fire protection products.

According to the company’s experts, based on the preliminary results of the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025 (Rome) and taking into account the priority tasks for reconstruction, a change in the segmentation of the passive fire protection market by type of material is expected. Intumescent coatings for steel will account for the largest share — 35-40%, fire-resistant plasters and slabs — 20-25%, sealing systems for penetrations and protection of engineering communications — 25-30%, materials for wood protection — up to 10%, and ventilation and smoke ducts — 5-10%. There is also a forecast for growth in demand for epoxy and polyurethane fire protection systems for oil and gas infrastructure, energy, and strategic facilities, which was previously limited by the high cost of imported analogues.

Konstantin Kalafat, director of **Kovlar Group**, emphasized that domestic manufacturers have sufficient capacity to ensure large-scale reconstruction of the country’s infrastructure in the post-war period. In particular, Kovlar Group LLC prioritizes the restoration of the energy sector, where the speed of work, availability of materials, and increased fire safety requirements are crucial.

“*The use of Ammokote products ensures the efficiency of fire protection work — our own production reduces logistics times and allows us to quickly deliver large volumes. Local production reduces the cost compared to imported analogues, which is especially important for large-scale restoration projects,*” said Konstantin Kalafat, director of the company.

An important factor for reconstruction is the implementation in Ukraine of the law “On the Provision of Construction Products on the Market,” which implements the provisions of Regulation (EC) No. 305/2011 and is expected to increase the competitiveness of the Ukrainian fire protection segment in comparison with European products. According to Konstantin Kalafat, Ukrainian manufacturers of fire protection products should actively implement manufacturing and product control technologies in accordance with advanced European standards.

A critically important area of the company’s activity is fire protection of cable lines at energy facilities, where fire safety is a prerequisite for the reliable and uninterrupted operation of power generation, substations, and networks. Kovlar Group offers comprehensive solutions for cable protection: fire-retardant paints, plasters, three types of systems for penetrations, as well as special couplings, seals, and sealants. In the first half of 2025, the company developed Ammokote TOP-W, a universal finishing material for cable communication fire protection systems; certification of Ammokote EP epoxy fire-retardant paint is ongoing.



# ELECTRIC CAR SALES IN UKRAINE INCREASED BY 41% OVER YEAR

The total volume of the electric vehicle segment (imports of new and used vehicles and domestic resales) amounted to 9,700 in July 2025, which is 41.1% more than in July 2024 and 9.8% more than in June this year, according to the Automotive Market Research Institute.

“This is a historic record for our market, and there are three main drivers: rising fuel prices at gas stations, a general trend of growing interest in electric vehicles (which consists of improving their characteristics and reducing market prices), as well as the approaching customs clearance from VAT, which is scheduled for January 1, 2026,” the statement on the website says.

“*New electric cars accounted for 16% of this volume (1,552 units), while in July 2024 the share was 14.3%. At the same time, their sales increased by 58%. “This is a new record for newly registered electric vehicles,” experts say.*

Imports of used electric cars in July increased by 38% compared to July 2024, amounting to 5,154 units, and domestic resales increased by 38.8% to 3,010 units.

According to the Institute, compared to June this year, imports of new electric vehicles increased by 11.2%, used ones by 9.7%, and domestic resales by 9.4%.

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## METINVEST TO INVEST OVER UAH 2.5 BLN IN MODERNIZING KAMETSTAL IN 2025

The Kametstal plant, part of the Metinvest mining and metallurgical group (Kamensk, Dnipropetrovsk region), has significantly increased its production of continuously cast steel billets using the stop casting technology due to increased demand.

According to the company, one of the current trends in the metal market is increased demand for continuously cast steel billets using the stop casting technology.

“Thanks to systematic measures, the team at Kametstal’s converter shop exceeded its initial targets for this year and achieved a monthly production of 15,000 tons of high-quality billets at the continuous casting machine (CCM-1), which is twice as much as last year’s monthly production volumes,” the press release states.

At the same time, it is noted that the development and improvement of steel casting technology using stop mechanisms on the continuous casting machine (CCM) No. 1 remains in the focus of the company’s specialists, as it allows them to obtain metal with higher requirements for chemical composition and macrostructure, which yields higher profits than conventional billets. One of the primary goals set by the steelmakers is to increase the production of billets using this technology, and they are persistently pursuing this goal. This year, 58,433 thousand tons of high-quality billets have already been cast on the first machine, thus exceeding the annual production volume for 2024 by more than 5 thousand tons in eight months.

“Among the priority measures for achieving ambitious goals is the development and improvement of the parameters for the automatic start of the machine’s streams during stop casting, which has a positive effect on the quality and productivity of casting by minimizing the human factor in the process. While at the beginning of 2025, successful starts of the continuous casting machine in “Auto Start” mode accounted for almost 80%, today, technologists are already performing more than 90% of successful starts without switching to manual mode,” the plant emphasizes.

Also this year, as part of the program to upgrade the main steelmaking equipment, an investment project was implemented – during the first stage of reconstruction at continuous casting machine No. 1, frequency converters and cable and wire products were replaced, and the software was updated. As a result, the operation of the pulling stoves has improved, and thus the smoothness of pouring and the stability of launches.

After the implementation of this investment project, the first machine achieved a record production of high-quality hot-rolled coils in July – 16,159 thousand tons, while last year the maximum monthly production of such products was 8,256 thousand tons.

# BAUXITE IMPORTS TO UKRAINE INCREASED BY 87% IN JANUARY-AUGUST

In January-August of this year, Ukraine increased its imports of aluminum ore and concentrate (bauxite) by 87.1% in physical terms compared to the same period last year, to 23,984 thousand tons.

“ According to statistics released by the State Customs Service (SCS), during this period, bauxite imports in monetary terms increased by 63.7% to \$2.642 million. At the same time, imports were mainly from Turkey (82.44% of supplies in monetary terms) and China (17.56%).

Ukraine did not re-export bauxite in 2025, as in 2024 and 2023.

As reported, in 2024, Ukraine increased its imports of bauxite in physical terms by 77.4% compared to 2023, to 35,173 thousand tons, and in monetary terms by 74%, to \$4.107 million. Imports were mainly from Turkey (78.48% of supplies in monetary terms), China (19.48%), and Spain (1.9%).

In 2023, Ukraine imported 19,830 thousand tons of bauxite worth \$2.360 million.

In 2022, Ukraine reduced imports of aluminum ores and concentrates (bauxite) in physical terms by 81.5% compared to the previous year, to 945,396 thousand tons. Bauxite imports in monetary terms decreased by 79.6% to \$48.166 million. Imports were mainly from Guinea (58.90% of supplies in monetary terms), Brazil (27.19%), and Ghana (7.48%).



## EXPORTS OF SEMI-FINISHED STEEL PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE FELL BY 39%

In January-August of this year, Ukraine reduced exports of semi-finished carbon steel products in physical terms by 39.1% compared to the same period last year, to 795,769 thousand tons.

According to statistics released by the State Customs Service (SCS), in monetary terms, exports of carbon steel semi-finished products fell by 40.8% to \$384.215 million.

“ The main exports were mainly to Bulgaria (39.36% of supplies in monetary terms), Turkey (16.42%), and Poland (14.38%).

During this period, Ukraine imported 46,604 thousand tons of semi-finished products worth \$35.242 million, mainly from Oman (38.41%), Germany (26.24%), and the Czech Republic (18.61%), while in the first eight months of 2024, it imported 5 tons of semi-finished products worth \$5 thousand.

As reported, in 2024, Ukraine increased its exports of semi-finished carbon steel products in physical terms by 56.7% compared to 2023, to 1 million 886,090 tons, while revenue in monetary terms increased by 52.4% to \$927.554 million. The main exports were to Bulgaria (32.06% of supplies in monetary terms), Egypt (18.50%), and Turkey (11.14%).

# UKRAINIANS MOSTLY NEUTRAL TOWARDS CHINA – RESULTS OF PUBLIC OPINION POLL

In January-July of this year, Ukraine increased exports of ferroalloys in physical terms by 60% compared to the same period last year, to 63,524 thousand tons from 39,691 thousand tons.

According to statistics released by the State Customs Service (SCS) on Tuesday, in monetary terms, exports of ferroalloys increased by 48.2% to \$71.345 million.



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: серпень 2025 р.



The attitude of Ukrainians toward China remains complex and controversial: a neutral position prevails, but among those who have decided, negative assessments significantly outweigh positive ones.

This is evidenced by the results of an all-Ukrainian survey conducted by Active Group in cooperation with the Experts Club information and analytical center in August 2025.

According to the survey, 44.7% of Ukrainian citizens expressed a neutral attitude toward China. At the same time, 40.7% of respondents indicated that their assessment was negative (30.0% – mostly negative, 10.7% – completely negative). Only 12.0% of Ukrainians have a positive attitude toward China (8.3% – mostly positive, 3.7% – completely positive). Another 3.0% of respondents admitted that they did not know enough about the country to express their own opinion.

“Negative attitudes toward China among Ukrainians are primarily related to its foreign policy stance, which many people find ambiguous in the context of global events. However, the economic factor is extremely important: in the first half of 2025, China remained Ukraine’s No. 1 trading partner. Our exports to China amounted to more than \$846 million, while imports exceeded \$8.1 billion. This means that China’s influence on the Ukrainian economy is extremely significant, and it is simply impossible to ignore it,” said Maksim Urakin, founder of Experts Club.

In his turn, Oleksandr Poznyi, co-founder of Active Group, drew attention to the importance of separating economic interests from public perception.

“The survey shows that Ukrainians are not ready to unequivocally perceive China as an ally. For many, it remains an alienated state, and a significant share of negative assessments is explained by the global political context and lack of trust. At the same time, economic cooperation is so extensive that it could become the basis for a gradual change in public opinion in the future,” he added.

The poll is part of a broader study that analyzes international sympathies and antipathies of Ukrainians in the current geopolitical environment.

The full video can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgC9TPnMoMI&t>

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



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## CYPRUS IS READY TO EXPAND COOPERATION WITH UKRAINE IN FIELD OF REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR CITIZENS

Cyprus is ready to expand cooperation with Ukraine in the field of rehabilitation programs for citizens affected by the war. This was stated by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Cyprus to Ukraine, Michalis Firillas, during a meeting with a representative of **Interfax-Ukraine**.

“Cyprus is known not only as a resort country, but also for its modern medicine and high-quality rehabilitation services. We want to use this potential to help Ukrainians who need treatment and recovery from injuries and psychological trauma,” the diplomat said.



According to him, Cyprus already has a number of medical centers and clinics specializing in physical rehabilitation, post-operative recovery, and psychological support. “We are interested in creating joint programs with Ukrainian partners that will allow our medical institutions to accept more patients from Ukraine,” Firillas emphasized.

The ambassador added that this cooperation could include both the treatment of military and civilians, as well as training programs for Ukrainian doctors and rehabilitation specialists. “Our task is to ensure that Ukrainians receive quality care and support during the most difficult time for them,” he concluded.

# UKRAINE ANNOUNCES TENDER FOR DOBRA LITHIUM DEPOSIT

Ukraine has announced a tender to conclude a production sharing agreement (PSA) for the Dobra lithium deposit (Kirovohrad region) to prospect, extract and enrich lithium, niobium, rubidium, tantalum, cesium, beryllium, tungsten and gold for a period of 50 years.

According to a report in the Uriadovi Kurier newspaper and on the website of the Ministry of Economy, the minimum investment for exploration is the equivalent of \$12 million, and for the organization of mining and processing of lithium-containing minerals and other metallic minerals – \$167 million, but the final obligations are determined by the results of the tender. The total area of the site is 17.07 square kilometers, the deadline for submitting applications for participation in the tender is December 12, 2025, and the participation fee is UAH 0.5 million.

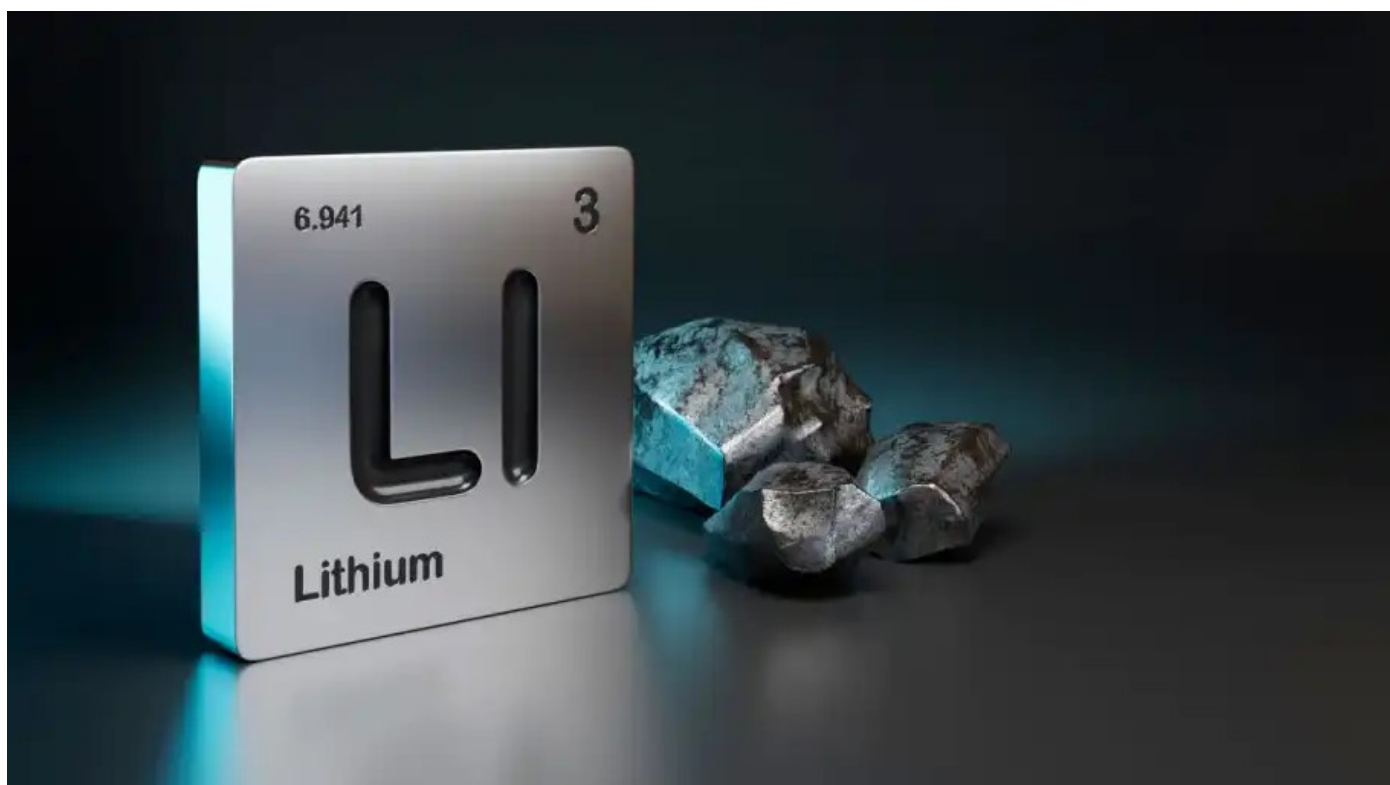
According to the terms, the maximum share of compensation products that will reimburse the investor for its costs is 70% of the total output until the investor's costs are fully reimbursed, while the state's share in profitable products should be at least 4-6%.

The Ministry of Economy clarified to Interfax-Ukraine that comparing such a share of the state in profitable products with a similar indicator for oil and gas PSAs, where it is significantly higher, is not correct, as this is the first PSA in the history of Ukraine for metal ores.

“ *It is noted that the reserves and resources of lithium ores at the site were approved by decisions at the end of 2017 and in 2018 in the amount of C2 and P1 categories – 1 million 218.14 thousand tons (average Li<sub>2</sub>O content of 1.37%) and P2 – 70.6 thousand tons (average Li<sub>2</sub>O content of 1.43%).*

Separately, the State Commission of Ukraine for Mineral Resources (SCR) noted the presence of prospective and inferred resources of associated mineral components (P1+P2) in lithium ores at Dobra: Ta<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 4.75 thousand tons; Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 8.24 thousand tons; Rb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> – 104.07 thousand tons; BeO – 22.08 thousand tons; SnO<sub>2</sub> – 4.46 thousand tons and Cs<sub>2</sub>O – 7.97 thousand tons.

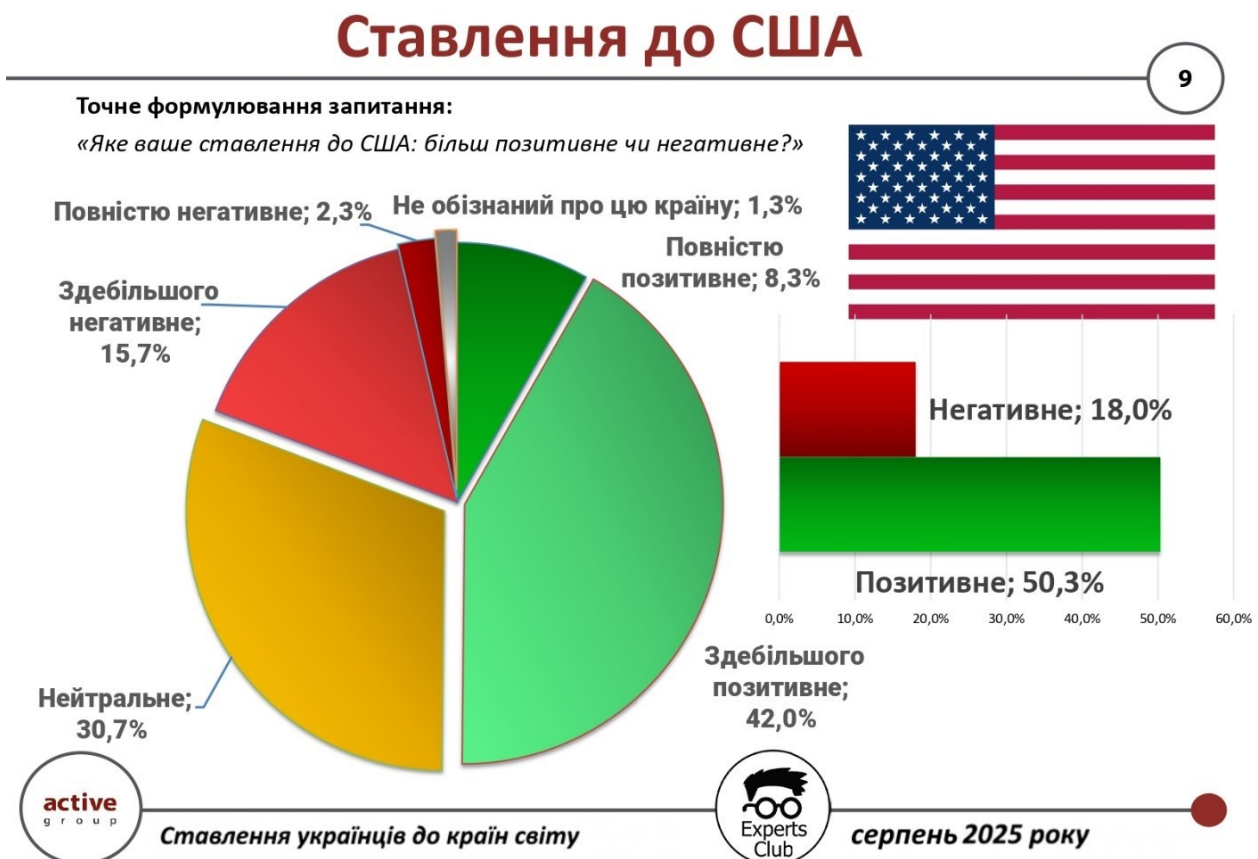
The winner of the tender must ensure geological exploration of the subsoil and international audit of reserves at the site within two and a half years and submit materials on the assessment of lithium and other metal minerals reserves to the State Committee for the approval of such reserves.





# 51% OF UKRAINIANS HAVE POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS UNITED STATES – EXPERTS CLUB

The United States remains the main strategic partner in the world for Ukrainians, but there is still a significant segment of critical and neutral attitudes in society. This is evidenced by the results of an all-Ukrainian survey conducted by Active Group in cooperation with the Experts Club information and analytical center in August 2025. According to the survey, 50.3% of Ukrainian citizens have a positive attitude towards the United States (42.0% – mostly positive, 8.3% – completely positive). Only 18.0% of respondents expressed a negative attitude (15.7% – mostly negative, 2.3% – completely negative). Another 30.7% of Ukrainians are neutral, and 1.3% said they were not sufficiently aware of the country.



“The United States remains a key ally for Ukraine in the military, political, and diplomatic spheres. However, the trade and economic dimension is also worth noting: in the first half of 2025, bilateral trade exceeded \$2.85 billion, of which exports from Ukraine amounted to \$544.5 million and imports from the United States exceeded \$2.31 billion. The negative balance of \$1.77 billion shows a high level of dependence on American goods, but at the same time indicates the scale of cooperation and the importance of the United States for our economy,” said Maksim Urakin, founder of Experts Club.

In his turn, Oleksandr Poznyi, co-founder of Active Group, emphasized that sociological indicators reflect a complex but stable system of trust.

“Ukrainians highly appreciate the US assistance in the war and international politics. Despite some critical assessments, half of the citizens perceive the United States positively, and almost a third remain neutral. This means that the United States continues to be the No. 1 country for Ukrainian society in the security dimension, and economic cooperation only strengthens this position,” he added.

The survey was part of a comprehensive study of international sympathies and antipathies of Ukrainians in the current geopolitical environment.

The full video is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YgC9TPnMoMI&t>

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# DANISH AEROSPACE MANUFACTURER OPENS OFFICE IN UKRAINE

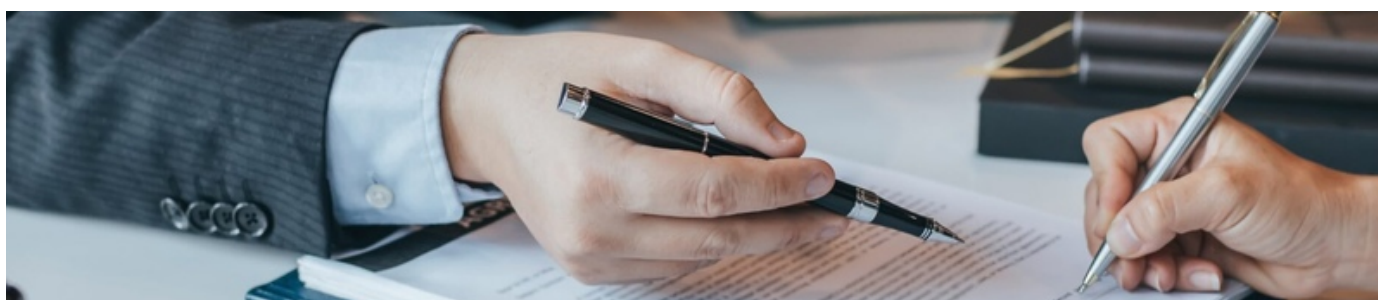
Henriette Tøgsø, CEO of Danish company Terma A/S, announced the opening of a representative office in Ukraine at a meeting at the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense.

According to the press service of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, Deputy Minister of Defense for Aviation Development Oleksandr Kozenko held a meeting with a delegation from the Danish company TERMA A/S, led by its CEO. The talks focused on strengthening the aviation capabilities of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

During the talks, the parties focused on key areas of cooperation, in particular: the experience and prospects of integrating Terma A/S equipment into the existing fleet of the Ukrainian Air Force, improving aviation systems and means of detection, warning, and counteraction using solutions from the Danish company.

During the discussion, the Deputy Minister also invited Terma A/S management to consider participating in promising projects in the domestic military and civil aircraft industry.

In turn, Tyugesen informed the Ukrainian side about the opening of the company's representative office in Ukraine, which demonstrated Terma A/S's serious intentions to develop its business in the country.



# UKRAINIANS AMONG TOP 10 FOREIGN BUYERS OF REAL ESTATE IN BULGARIA

Foreigners are actively buying housing in Bulgaria, forming a significant share of transactions in the real estate market, according to local specialized associations and agencies.

According to the Bulgarian Real Estate Association, in 2024-2025 the greatest interest is shown by citizens of the UK, Germany, Greece, Israel, Romania and Ukraine. The most demanded objects on the Black Sea coast (Varna, Burgas, Nessebar) and in mountain regions popular for winter tourism (Bansko, Pamporovo).

Top 10 countries of real estate buyers in Bulgaria (2024-2025):

- UK
- Germany
- Greece
- Israel
- Romania
- Turkey
- Italy
- Russia
- Ukraine
- Poland



Experts note that the demand of foreigners stimulates the growth of prices: over the year the cost of housing in seaside resorts increased by 8-10% on average, in Sofia – by 6-7%. Apartments in new buildings in the middle segment (from €60 thousand), as well as apartments for rent to tourists remain popular.

Ukrainians are firmly entrenched in the top ten foreign buyers: their interest is due to both temporary relocation because of the war, and investment motives – the possibility of renting out housing in resort cities.

At the same time analysts predict further growth of demand from citizens of Ukraine and Israel, as well as revival of interest from EU countries, where housing prices are much higher than in Bulgaria.

## ALMOST 8,000 BUSINESSES RELOCATED TO OTHER REGIONS IN 2025

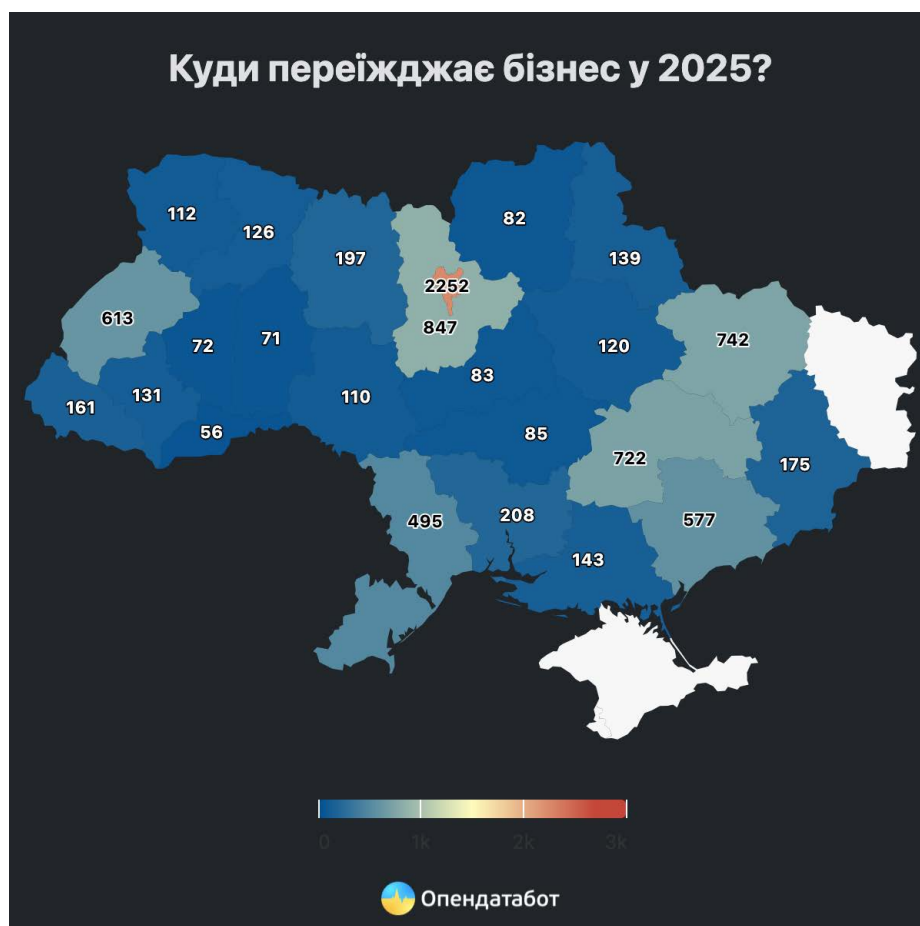
According to the Unified State Register, almost 8,000 companies relocated within Ukraine in the first eight months of 2025. In total, Ukrainian businesses moved across the country 8,345 times this year. The number of relocations has stabilized and even become lower than before the start of the full-scale war. Kyiv remains the most popular region from which and to which businesses are relocating.

This year, 8,345 business relocations from one region to another were recorded in Ukraine. This is almost the same as last year and even 10% less than in 2021. In total, 7,988 companies relocated within Ukraine during this period. It is worth noting that some businesses managed to relocate several times.

Companies operating in the trade sector are the most likely to relocate: in fact, this is every third business among all those that have moved across the country. Businesses in the construction (6%), agriculture (5%), and real estate (5%) sectors also relocate frequently.

Most businesses move to and from Kyiv. The main directions of business relocation remain routes between Kyiv and the regions. The most popular moves were from the capital to the Kyiv region (494 companies), to the Dnipropetrovsk region (379), and in the opposite direction: from the Kyiv region to the capital (378). 358 companies moved from Kyiv to the Kharkiv region, while 336 moved from the Dnipropetrovsk region to the capital. It is worth noting that Kharkiv region is generally in the lead this year: more businesses moved to the frontline region than left it: +374 companies this year. The picture is similar in Zaporizhzhia (+276), Lviv (+161), Zakarpattia (+83), and Kyiv (+77) regions. In contrast, the capital has seen the opposite trend: 657 more companies left than arrived. Next in terms of negative balance are Dnipropetrovsk region (-102), Donetsk (-97), Volyn (-83), and Poltava (-62).

Overall, the largest number of businesses left the capital — 2,909 companies, or 36% of the total. Among other donor regions, Dnipropetrovsk (824 companies), Kyiv (770), Odesa (507), and Lviv (451) are worth noting. At the same time, Kyiv remains the main destination for businesses relocating, with 2,252 companies choosing it as their new place of work. It is followed by Kyiv region (847), Kharkiv region (742), Dnipropetrovsk region (722), and Lviv region (613).





# UKRAINIAN BUSINESSMEN AND REPRESENTATIVES OF DIASPORA REMAIN MAIN INVESTORS IN UKRAINIAN HOTEL MARKET

Ukrainian businessmen and representatives of the diaspora will remain the main investors in the Ukrainian hotel market in 2023–2025, according to Apartel Resorts partner Yevgeny Kudryavchenko in an interview with **Interfax-Ukraine**.

“We are seeing activity from local entrepreneurs who are looking for long-term investment opportunities. At the same time, Ukrainians who work abroad and want to invest in their homeland are increasingly showing interest. Foreign funds are still taking a wait-and-see approach, but interest in the segment has already emerged,” he said. According to the expert, in the coming years, we can expect a gradual expansion of the circle of investors, including foreign development companies and real estate funds.

Apartel resorts is a development company specializing in apart-hotel and hotel real estate projects in Ukraine.

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## UKRAINE TO OPEN EMBASSIES IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PANAMA, URUGUAY AND ECUADOR

Ukraine will soon open four new embassies in Latin America - in the Dominican Republic, Panama, Uruguay, and Ecuador, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andriy Sibiga said following his participation in the High-Level Dialogue between the Council of Ministers of the Association of Caribbean States and ACS Observer States in New York. According to the Foreign Ministry's press service, the minister spoke about Ukraine's desire to expand cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean, in particular to open new embassies in the Dominican Republic, Panama, Uruguay, and Ecuador. The foreign minister proposed holding the first Ukraine-Caribbean summit to develop cooperation. He also assured the Caribbean Community of Ukraine's interest in participating in further activities of the Caribbean Community at all levels.

Sybiga also stated Ukraine's readiness to share with the Caribbean countries its unique experience of resilience gained during the war, particularly in the defense and technology sectors. The minister emphasized that Ukraine possesses unique unmanned technologies, including marine and underwater drones, which can be used for both defense and civilian purposes, particularly in agriculture, patrolling, and other areas. The Foreign Minister announced Ukraine's readiness to discuss the possibility of joint research with Caribbean countries in the fight against climate change. Ukraine shares the urgency of overcoming the climate crisis and has unique opportunities for Antarctic research. These include, in particular, the Akademik Vernadsky station and the Noosfera icebreaker.



## AS OF SEPTEMBER 19, UKRAINE'S GRAIN HARVEST IS 6.7% LOWER THAN LAST YEAR

As of September 19, farmers harvested 29.77 million tons of early grain and leguminous crops from 7.09 million hectares, which is 62% of the area sown with these crops, according to the Ministry of Economy, Environment, and Agriculture on its website.

Last year, as of September 20, 31.90 million tons of grain were harvested from 7.53 million hectares, meaning that the current figures are 6.7% and 5.9% lower, respectively, mainly due to the later start of the corn harvest.

As noted by the Ministry of Economy, 388,700 tons have now been harvested from 90,300 hectares, while last year at around this date, 2.40 million tons were harvested from 514,500 hectares.

As for wheat, its harvest is slightly higher than last year's – 22.48 million tons from 5.02 million hectares compared to 22.30 million tons from 4.9 million hectares, while barley is slightly lower – 5.33 million tons from 1.35 million hectares compared to 5.50 million tons from 1.41 million hectares.

This year's pea harvest is significantly higher – 626,600 tons from 266,000 hectares compared to 465,300 tons from 212,200 hectares last year, while buckwheat and millet are still significantly lower – 57,100 tons versus 99,400 tons and 45,400 tons versus 132,000 tons, respectively.

The harvest of other cereals and legumes this year reached 844,300 hectares as of September 19, compared to 1,000,000 tons as of September 20 last year.

It is noted that among the leaders, in particular, the Odessa region harvested 3.68 million tons from an area of 1.09 million hectares, the Vinnytsia region with 2.41 million tons from 434,400 hectares, the Kirovograd region with 2.21 million tons from 538,400 hectares, and the Khmelnytskyi region with 2.13 million tons from 306,700 hectares.

As for oilseeds, the rapeseed harvest is only slightly less than last year's – 3.30 million tons compared to 3.4 million tons from the same area of 1.27 million hectares.

However, the harvest of soybeans and sunflowers is still ongoing, and there is a significant lag: 944,900 tons of soybeans have been harvested from 483,700 hectares, compared to 2.6 million tons from 1.3 million hectares on a similar date last year, while 2.41 million tons of sunflowers have been harvested from 1.37 million hectares, compared to 4.90 million tons from 2.4 million hectares.

In addition, sugar beet harvesting is also lagging behind: 632,500 tons have been harvested from an area of 12,700 hectares, compared to 1.7 million tons on the same date last year.

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## TILE INVESTED €10 MLN IN OIL REFINERY IN LVIV REGION

Tail LLC (Lviv region), one of the leaders in the production of metal roofing and corrugated sheets, has invested €10 million in the construction of an oil refinery, according to Maksym Kozytskyi, head of the Lviv Regional Military Administration (OVA).

"This facility represents investments that remain in Ukraine and strengthen our economy. For Lviv region, this means new jobs, taxes paid to the local budget, and a contribution to the development of the region's economy," he wrote on Telegram after visiting the enterprise together with Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko.

The head of government clarified that the owners of the enterprise, Yuriy Shkvark and Andriy Tsymbalyak, decided to diversify and try their hand at agricultural processing during the war.



"All the equipment at the plant is Ukrainian: TAN refining and PET Pet Technologies line from Chernihiv, TEFF boiler room from Odesa, Nadiya bottling line from Cherkasy, AKIM containers and filling unit from Dnipro, Lubnimash silos from Lubny. From Ukrainian entrepreneurs like them, who ensure our economic stability with their energy, labor, inventions, and investments," Svyrydenko wrote on Telegram.

She added that Lviv entrepreneurs are currently building another plant in Kremenchuk.



# GLOBAL HONEY EXPORTS IN 2024 – TOP 20 EXPORTERS BY VALUE

In 2024, Ukraine supplied 85,800 tons of honey to foreign markets and ranked third in the world in terms of export volume, according to the Ukrainian Agribusiness Club (UAC). According to the association, the top 5 global exporters by volume in 2024 were as follows: China — 169,600 tons; India — 94,800 tons; Ukraine — 85,800 tons; Argentina — 78,100 tons; Vietnam — 48.2 thousand tons.

The European Commission (Trade Data Monitor, preliminary data for January–June 2024) also lists China, India, Ukraine, and Argentina among the leading honey exporters by tonnage.

Top 20 exporters by value of shipments in 2024 (HS 0409)

(in brackets — share in world exports; methodology — FOB value)

- 1) **China — \$264.9 million (11.5%);**
- 2) **New Zealand — \$250.7 million (10.9%);**
- 3) **India — \$182.6 million (7.9%);**
- 4) **Argentina — \$170.3 million (7.4%); 5**
- 5) **Ukraine — \$166.9 million (7.2%);**
- 6) **Germany — \$110.3 million;**
- 7) **Spain — \$103.2 million;**
- 8) **Brazil — \$100.6 million;**
- 9) **Hungary — \$85.3 million;**
- 10) **Belgium — \$79.7 million;**
- 11) **Vietnam — \$68.5 million;**
- 12) **Mexico — \$47.5 million;**
- 13) **Canada — \$45.2 million;**
- 14) **Australia — \$45.0 million;**
- 15) **Romania — \$40.6 million;**
- 16) **Bulgaria — \$38.0 million;**
- 17) **Poland — \$37.6 million;**
- 18) **Turkey — \$32.6 million;**
- 19) **Netherlands — \$31.3 million;**
- 20) **Greece — \$28.6 million.**



Rankings by value and volume differ (for example, New Zealand ranks high in terms of value due to expensive varieties, but is not among the top countries in terms of tonnage). Data on value — according to World's Top Exports (based on UN/ITC Trade Map) for 2024; data on volume of the top 5 — according to UACB/Trade Data Monitor.

Where Ukraine sells

The largest buyers of Ukrainian honey in 2024: Germany — 18.9 thousand tons; USA — 12.1 thousand tons; Poland — 9.7 thousand tons; France — 9.6 thousand tons; Belgium — 7.1 thousand tons. Deliveries were also made to Turkey, Great Britain, Japan, Switzerland, Canada, Qatar, Jordan, etc. (UACB).

From 2025, the EU will again apply quotas on duty-free imports of Ukrainian honey. UACB notes that the new volumes are higher than before and support competitiveness, but do not cover the entire export potential of the industry.





# AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE FELL BY 8.4% IN FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 2025

Agricultural production in Ukraine in January-August 2025 decreased by 8.4% compared to January-August 2024, according to the State Statistics Service (SSS). According to its data, during the reporting period, livestock production decreased by 9.7%, and animal husbandry by 4.9% compared to the same period in 2024.

At the same time, enterprises reduced production rates more actively than households – by 9.6% and 6.3%, respectively.

“*In January-August of this year, enterprises reduced crop production by 12.2% and livestock production by 2.4%, while households saw a 5.3% drop in crop production and an 8.6% drop in livestock production compared to the same period in 2024.*”



A significant drop in production was recorded in the Donetsk region, where production volume is only 53.6% of last year's figure. A relatively significant decline was also recorded in the Kherson (72.2%), Dnipropetrovsk (78.5%), and Poltava (79.0%) regions.

At the same time, some regions are showing positive dynamics. Thus, production grew the most in Lviv region – up to 102% – and in Ivano-Frankivsk region – up to 100.6%.

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