EUROPEAN UNION IS CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF ACCEPTING NEW MEMBERS WITHOUT VETO RIGHTS

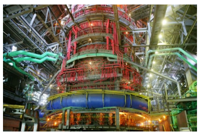
The European Union is discussing the possibility of accepting new member states without granting them a full set of rights, including the right of veto, in order to speed up the enlargement process. This was reported by Politico, citing diplomatic sources in Brussels.

According to the publication, the proposal is at an early stage and requires unanimous approval from all 27 member states. Under the plan, candidate countries would be able to enjoy the main benefits of membership — access to the single market, EU funds, and political programs — but would only be granted veto rights and participation in certain decisions after the completion of institutional reforms in the European Union.

HEADLINES

27 October 2025

UKRAINE REDUCES EXPORTS TO $29.5 BLN, IMPORTS EXCEED FOREIGN SALES THREEFOLD



ARCELORMITTAL KRYVYI RIH INVESTED $325 MLN IN PRODUCTION DURING WAR

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GLOBAL WHEAT PRODUCERS IN 1991–2024 – VIDEO BY EXPERTS CLUB

US, CHINA, AND GERMANY WERE LEADING SUPPLIERS OF TRACTORS TO UKRAINE

UKRAINE REDUCES EXPORTS TO $29.5 BLN, IMPORTS EXCEED FOREIGN SALES THREEFOLD

Imports of goods from Ukraine in January-September 2025 amounted to $60.1 billion in monetary terms, which is 17.4% higher than in the same period of 2024, while exports decreased by 3.1% to $29.5 billion, according to the State Customs Service (SCS).

"At the same time, taxable imports amounted to $45.9 billion, which is 76% of the total volume of imported goods. The tax burden per 1 kg of taxable imports in January-September 2025 was $0.52/kg," the agency's Telegram channel reported on Wednesday.

> *Traditionally, China imported the most goods to Ukraine – $13.3 billion, followed by Poland – $5.7 billion, and Germany – $4.8 billion.*
> *Ukrainian goods were exported mainly to Poland – $3.7 billion, Turkey – $2.1 billion, and Germany – $1.8 billion.*

Of the total volume of goods imported into the country in January-September 2025, 69% of the categories were machinery, equipment, and transport – $23.8 billion (with customs clearance, UAH 148.3 billion, or 29% of customs payments, was paid to the budget), chemical industry products – $9.4 billion (72.9 billion hryvnia paid to the budget, or 14% of revenues), fuel and energy – $7.6 billion (146.6 billion hryvnia paid, accounting for 29% of customs payments).

According to the State Customs Service, the top three most exported Ukrainian goods were food products – $16.2 billion, metals and metal products – $3.4 billion, and machinery, equipment, and transport – $2.8 billion.

MILITARY AID TO UKRAINE FELL BY 43% THIS SUMMER

The Kiel Institute for the World Economy reported on Tuesday that military aid to Ukraine fell by 43% in July and August compared with the first half of the year.

According to the institute, most military support now flows through the Prioritized Ukraine Requirements List (PURL) program. That consists of NATO allies from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden.

The PURL initiative replaced U.S. arms donations to Ukraine and now requires allies to pay for U.S. weapons deliveries.

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS FOR UKRAINE – OVERVIEW

Ukraine ended the first half of 2025 in a state of moderate but fragile stabilization. After a “flat” start to the year and a weak first quarter, which the NBU assessed as a period of subdued activity, in April-June the economy maintained positive momentum primarily due to domestic consumption and sectors that adapted to military logistics. In its April decision, the NBU kept the policy rate at 15.5%, emphasizing the need to support currency stability and reduce inflation expectations; in its July decision, the regulator confirmed this level, which anchored rates for hryvnia instruments.

Inflation slowed significantly: in June, the annual rate fell to 14.3% y/y (from 15.9% in May), reflecting a combination of tighter monetary policy, currency stability, and price adjustments for certain food groups; the monthly rate was +0.8%. This is the first significant “dip” in annual inflation below 15% this year.

Foreign trade remains the main source of imbalances. In January–May, exports of goods amounted to about $16.95 billion, imports to $31.54 billion, and the negative balance deepened to $14.6 billion (+49% y/y).

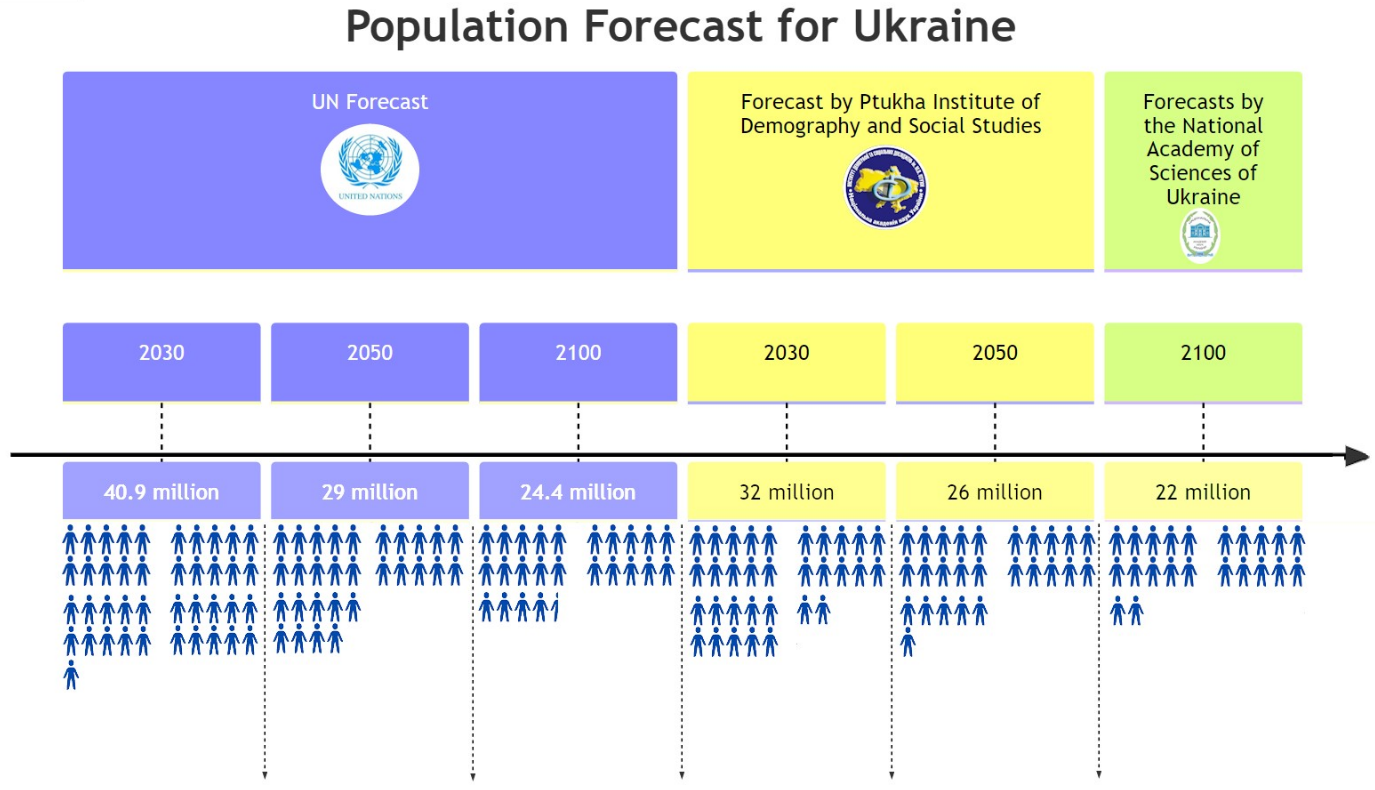
Against the backdrop of the trade gap, international reserves remained an important buffer. As of July 1, 2025, they reached $45.1 billion (+1.2% in June) thanks to large inflows from partners (in particular, the EU, Canada, and the World Bank), which exceeded FX interventions and debt payments. This is a historically high level for Ukraine and a critical safety margin for the currency market.

> *“Current growth is supported by consumption and official financing; without the launch of an investment cycle, it will remain low and unsustainable. International reserves are a stabilization tool, not a source of development; the effect will only appear after they are converted into value-added projects. The trade deficit, in turn, is structural in nature: it should be addressed through logistics, energy modernization, and localization of production, not just exchange rate decisions,” said Maksim Urakin.*

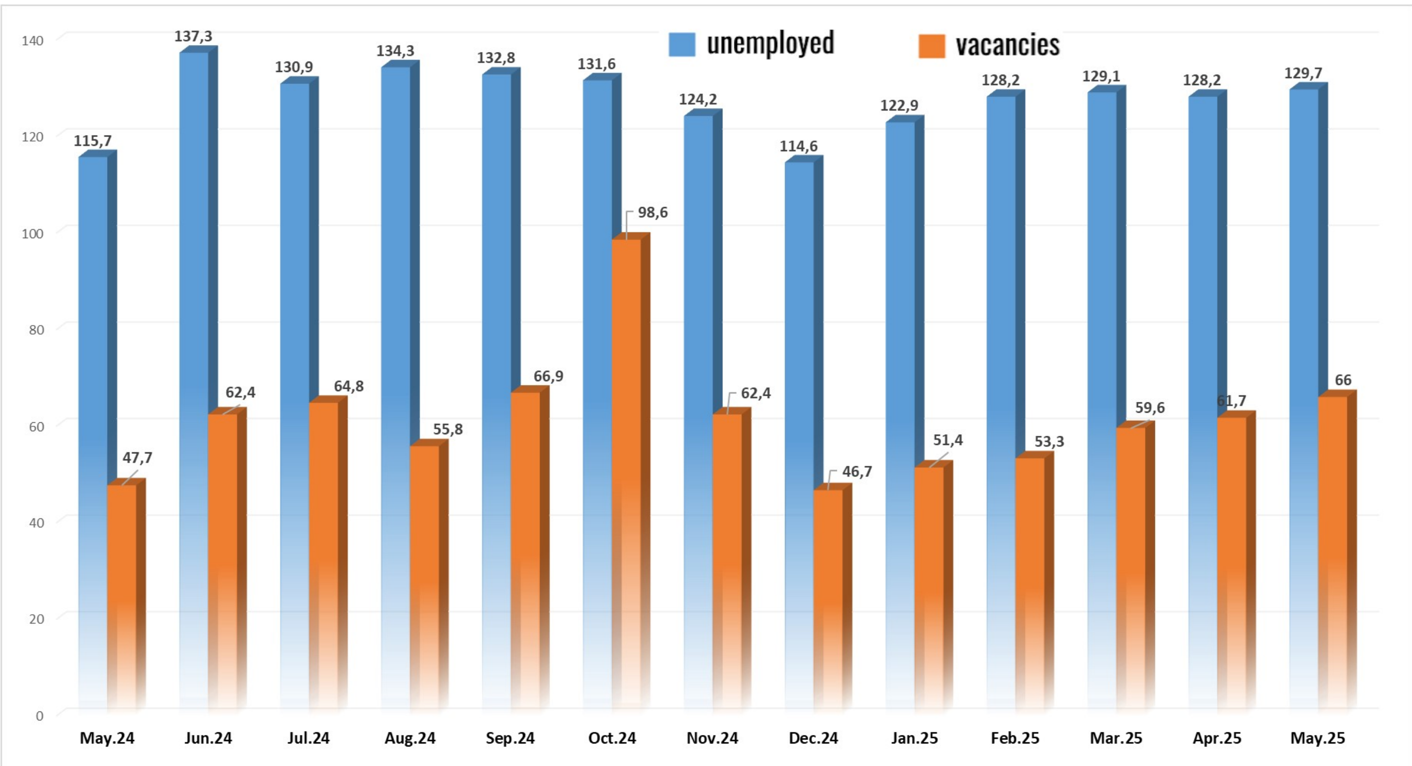
The debt burden has increased. As of June 30, 2025, the total public and publicly guaranteed debt was estimated at approximately $184.8 billion (equivalent to UAH 7.697 trillion), adding nearly $3.9 billion in a month. External liabilities structurally prevail, which increases dependence on official financing.

International support remained systemic. On June 30, the IMF completed the eighth review of the EFF program and approved further financing (total payments under the program exceeded $10 billion), while confirming Ukraine’s fulfillment of key criteria and continuation of structural reforms.

POPULATION FORECAST FOR UKRAINE IN 2030-2100



NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED IN UKRAINE AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES, 2024-2025



ISRAEL DONATED WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM TO KYIV REGIONAL HOSPITAL

The Embassy of the State of Israel in Ukraine, together with the Israeli international cooperation agency MASHAV, donated a water purification system to the Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital No. 2.

The handover ceremony was attended by Michael Brodsky, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the State of Israel to Ukraine, Mykola Kalashnyk, Head of the Kyiv Regional Military Administration, Daria Melnyk, Director General of Kyiv Regional Clinical Hospital No. 2, as well as the management and staff of the medical facility.

"The transfer of water purification systems is part of a broader project to assist Ukraine, which Israel began even before the start of the full-scale war," said Israeli Ambassador Michael Brodsky. "Israel provides comprehensive support to the Kyiv Regional Hospital: its employees underwent rehabilitation training in Israel. We will continue to assist Ukraine. Israel stands with Ukraine. Together, we will overcome all difficulties. When the war in Israel ends, the war in Ukraine will end – and our cooperation will continue."

UNION OF RECTORS OF UKRAINE SUMMED UP RESULTS OF ADMISSION CAMPAIGN AND RECOMMENDED IMPROVING ADMISSION RULES

At its meeting on September 25, 2025, the Union of Rectors of Higher Education Institutions of Ukraine summed up the results of the admission campaign and discussed ways to improve the rules for admission to universities in 2026.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science, relevant committees, rectors of leading universities from all regions of the country, as well as heads of frontline educational institutions.

The head of the Rectors' Union, Petro Kulikov, opened the meeting and emphasized the key role of higher education in ensuring national stability during the war:

"Ukrainian universities not only continue education and science, but also form the personnel base for the post-war restoration of the state. Today, the Union of Rectors is a communication platform between universities, parliament, and the government."

Deputy Minister of Education and Science Mykola Trofimenko stressed the importance of institutional strengthening of the Union:

"Today, the Union acts as a key partner of the state in shaping educational policy. We must consider the possibility of transforming it into the Association of Universities of Ukraine, which will allow us to represent the interests of higher education even more effectively."

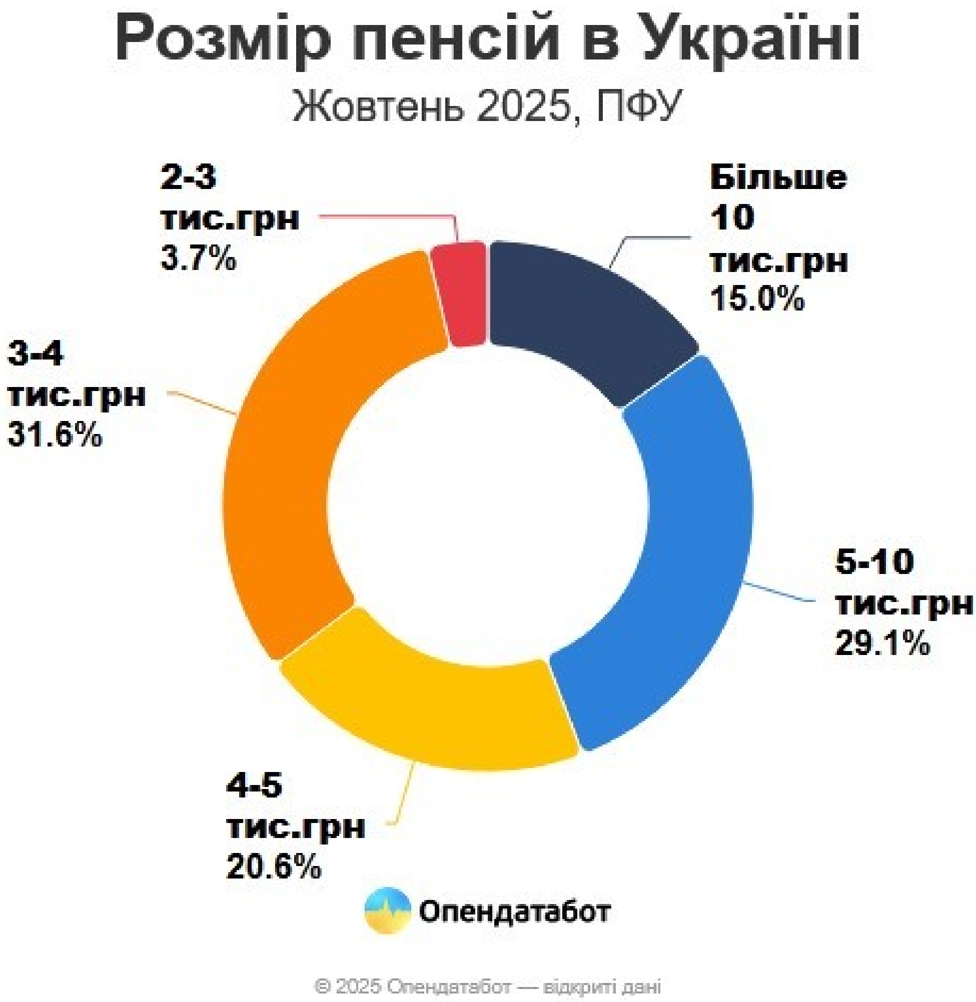
Deputy Chairman of the Union, Rector of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv Volodymyr Bugrov stressed the need to update the regulatory framework:

"The 2025 admission campaign was generally successful, but we see a need to improve admission rules and update legislation."

ONE-THIRD OF UKRAINIAN PENSIONERS RECEIVE ONLY €69 IN PENSION

According to the Pension Fund, the average pension in Ukraine was 6,400 hryvnia as of early October 2025. However, almost a third of pensioners receive, on average, payments of 3,340 hryvnia. In total, there are currently almost 10.2 million pensioners in Ukraine. One in four continues to work.

The average pension in Ukraine is currently 6,436 hryvnia, or 133 euros (exchange rate at the time of publication). Almost a third of Ukrainian pensioners — more than 3.3 million people — receive only 3,340 hryvnia per month. Another 4% of pensioners live on about 2,300 hryvnia per month.



It is worth noting that last year there were even more such pensioners — 26% received less than 3,000 hryvnia, but after indexation, payments increased to 3,000 hryvnia per month.

At the same time, there are those who receive more. About 1.5 million people, or 15% of all pensioners, have an average payment of 15,750 hryvnia — that's about 325 euros. Almost 3 million Ukrainian pensioners receive an average of 6,860 hryvnia, and 2.1 million receive only 4,510 hryvnia.

Compared to Europe, Ukrainian pensions are among the lowest on the continent. Their size is approximately the same as in Albania — €160. In Romania and Bulgaria, pensions range from €450 to €550, and in Poland and the Czech Republic, from €800 to €900 per month.

https://opendatabot.ua/analytics/pensions-2025-3

UKRAINE HAS CREATED LEGAL SUPPORT PLATFORM FOR DIPLOMATS, FOREIGN CITIZENS, AND BUSINESSES – DIPLOMATIC LEGAL HUB

Diplomatic Legal Hub, a permanent consulting and legal center for foreign diplomatic institutions, businesses, and citizens, has been presented in Kyiv. It was created on the initiative of Barristers LLC in cooperation with Ukrainian lawyers. The platform is designed to provide continuous legal support to foreigners in Ukraine and reduce the administrative burden on embassies and companies, particularly in matters related to migration, criminal, economic, tax, and martial law issues.

Oleksiy Shevchuk, partner at Barristers and spokesperson for the Ukrainian National Bar Association (UNBA), emphasized that the hub will function as a practical mechanism for providing immediate assistance.

“Today we are presenting a platform where any representative of an embassy, foreign business, or foreign citizen can report their problem online 24/7 and receive appropriate support. Our team will use, among other things, universal jurisdiction tools to protect against persecution,” he said at a press conference at the Interfax-Ukraine agency on Wednesday.

According to Shevchuk, foreign citizens often remain without adequate state protection in wartime, so the team’s task is to provide them with fast and high-quality legal support.

HEAD OF ASSOCIATION OF SMALL CITIES OF UKRAINE PRESENTED “SUPERMARKET SOLUTION” PLATFORM

The head of the Association of Small Cities of Ukraine, Pavlo Kozyrev, presented a national platform for rapid communication between communities, businesses, government agencies, and international partners called “Supermarket of Solutions for Communities.”

“This is a unique example of public-private partnership in the field of communication. We have created a space that brings together municipalities, businesses, donors, and experts, ensuring systematic cooperation and quality feedback,” Kozirev said.

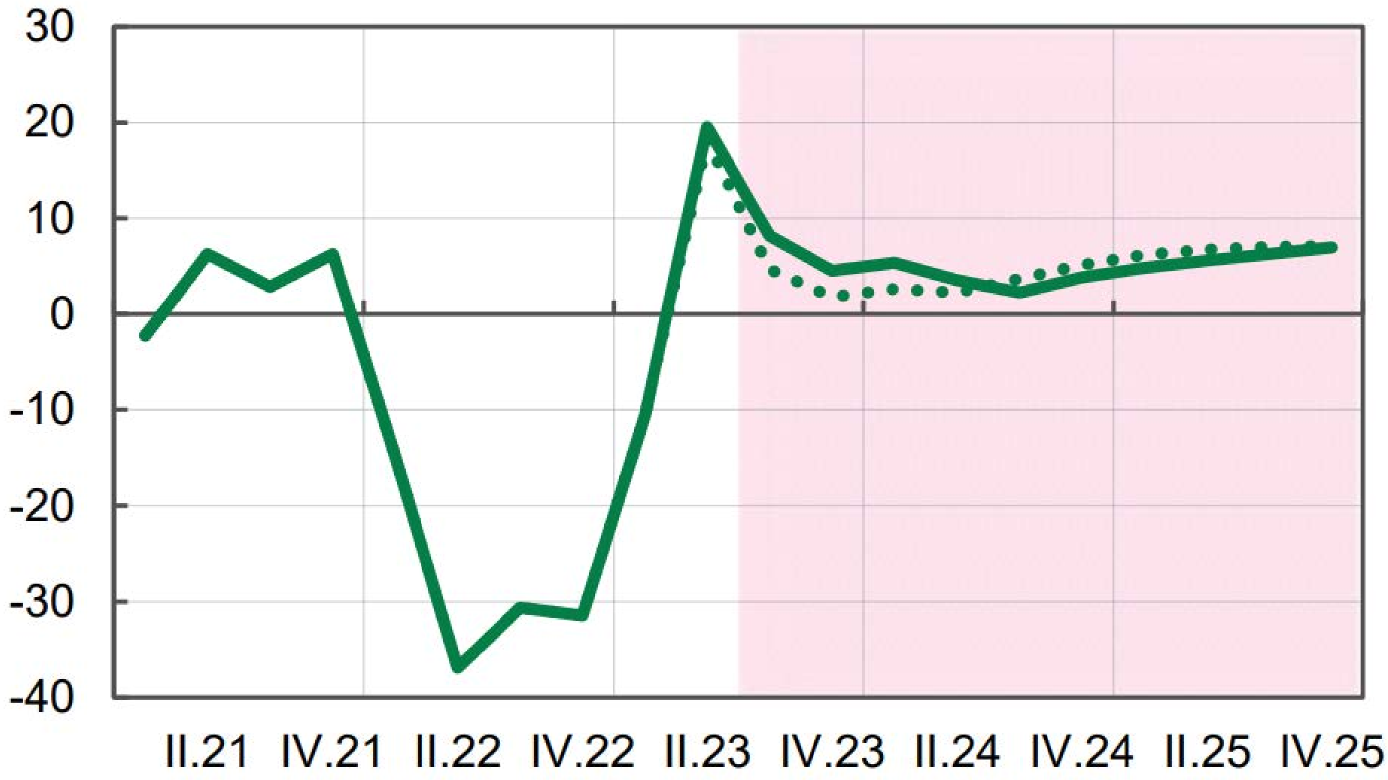
According to him, the “Supermarket of Solutions” platform began operating on January 18, 2022, and after the full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation, it was transformed into a tool for humanitarian cooperation between communities and foreign partners.

“In the first months of the war, the platform became a channel of communication between Ukrainian communities and cities in other countries. It was through this platform that deliveries of clothing, medicines, equipment, and generators were organized. Now, the ”Supermarket of Solutions” is a digital ecosystem with over 17,500 registered users working in 27 thematic sections. Among the most visited areas are energy sustainability, grant support, and the use of artificial intelligence in municipal management,” he said

“For businesses, the platform is a point of entry into the municipal market. For authorities and donors, it is an effective means of feedback from communities. And for municipalities, it is a space for finding partners, resources, and modern solutions for development,” he explained.

Kozyrev noted that the structure of the “Solution Supermarket” provides for two types of participants: speakers (solution providers) and residents (consumers, i.e., community representatives).

REAL GDP IN 2021-2025 (FORECAST)



UKRNAFTA PLANS TO DRILL 25 NEW WELLS BY END OF YEAR

In January-September 2025, Ukrnafta completed the drilling of 15 new wells, with another 10 currently being drilled. A total of 25 new facilities are planned to be commissioned by the end of the year, according to a press release issued by the company.

> *"We are maintaining production growth: +4.5% for oil and +1.7% for gas," said Yuriy Tkachuk, acting chairman of the board of Ukrnafta.*

According to the company, Ukrnafta uses 3D geological modeling, API-standard equipment, digital solutions, and artificial intelligence technologies to achieve significant results.

Over the past three years, Ukrnafta has conducted 1,330 square kilometers of 3D seismic surveys, which creates the basis for expanding the company's resource base and helps to drill new wells more efficiently.

Ukrnafta is Ukraine's largest oil production company and operates the national network of gas stations. In March 2024, it took over the management of Glusco's assets and currently operates a total of 663 gas stations. It holds 92 special permits for industrial development of deposits. It has 1,832 oil and 154 gas production wells on its balance sheet.

CHINA REMAINS LARGEST BUYER OF UKRAINIAN IRON ORE RAW MATERIALS, ACCOUNTING FOR ALMOST 45% OF SUPPLIES

In January-September of this year, Ukrainian mining companies reduced their exports of iron ore raw materials (IORM) by 4.4% in physical terms compared to the same period last year, from 25 million 250,417 thousand tons to 24 million 145,038 thousand tons.

According to statistics released by the State Customs Service (SCS) on Wednesday, foreign currency proceeds from iron ore exports decreased by 16.7% during this period, from $2 billion 175.032 million to $1 billion 812.831 million.

> *Exports of raw materials were mainly to China (44.83% of shipments in monetary terms), Slovakia (16.9%), and Poland (16.58%).*

In addition, in January-September 2025, Ukraine imported mineral resources worth $80,000 in the amount of 107 tons from the Netherlands (55%), Italy (28.75%), and Norway (16.25%), while in the same period last year it imported 813 tons worth $248,000.

As reported, in 2024, Ukraine increased its exports of raw materials by 89.8% compared to 2023, to 33 million 699.722 thousand tons, and foreign exchange earnings grew by 58.7%, to $2 billion 803.223 million UAH.

ARCELORMITTAL KRYVYI RIH INVESTED $325 MLN IN PRODUCTION DURING WAR

Since the start of the full-scale war, the Kryvyi Rih Mining and Metallurgical Plant PJSC ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih (AMKR, Dnipropetrovsk region) has invested $325 million in production, according to Oleg Krykavsky, the company’s director of government relations, at the conference “Ukrainian Export: Through Thorns to the EU,” organized by the publication Ukrainska Pravda.

According to him, AMKR operates in difficult conditions, with electricity prices in Ukraine significantly higher than in Europe, because in Ukraine, companies buy expensive electricity on the market a day in advance, while in a number of European Union countries, long-term contracts are in place and special state programs to support metallurgy are being introduced to stimulate economic growth.

In particular, there are special mechanisms for reducing the cost of electricity on the French market through nuclear power plants, and in Germany, there are plans to allocate €6.5 billion and introduce a number of additional measures, including regulating the upper price limit to €60 per MWh (although industry insists on a price of €50), while in Ukraine, prices are constantly rising and have already reached $180 per MWh. Therefore, the Ukrainian government must also implement similar solutions to preserve industrial potential and jobs.

“Despite the current challenges, we continue to invest: during the full-scale invasion, our investments amounted to more than $325 million. These include repairs, modernization, logistics, preparation for European standards, and future capital projects,” Krykavsky stated.

METINVEST PLANS TO INVEST NEARLY $300 MLN IN ITS ASSETS THIS YEAR

The mining and metallurgical group Metinvest plans to invest $293 million in its assets this year, while last year the total amount of investments, including joint ventures, amounted to $251 million, about 90% of which went to the development of Ukrainian enterprises. According to dsnews.ua's article "Top 10 Successful Investor Companies in Ukraine," Metinvest entered the top ten leading investors in Ukraine: $90 million in the first half of 2025. These investments were directed mainly at supporting technologies, maintaining production volumes, and ensuring labor safety.

As before, the funds are concentrated on critical areas: the mining segment, to ensure the production cycle, and the energy sector, to minimize blackout risks.

Despite the proximity of the front line, Metinvest continues large-scale repair and modernization works at its enterprises. In the first half of 2025, investments in repairs and equipment amounted to $28.8 million at Kametstal, $6.4 million at Zaporizhstal, $19 million at Northern GOK, and $3 million at Central GOK. The group focuses particularly on Kametstal and the mining and beneficiation plants.

At Kametstal, the first overhaul of Blast Furnace No. 9 since the start of the full-scale invasion was completed for $16 million, and equipment of one of the converters was restored. At Southern GOK, a new vacuum pump production station No. 4 is being built with a planned capacity of over 100,000 tons of concentrate per month.

A priority is the construction of a tailings thickening plant at Northern GOK. The relevant equipment will be purchased from the Finnish industrial manufacturer Metso Finland, for which Metinvest opened a credit line of EUR 23.6 million at Deutsche Bank.

The group is taking up the challenge of "greening" production processes, particularly within the EU's environmental policy framework. From 2026, the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) should come into full effect, obliging importers to buy certificates compensating for emissions contained in goods imported to the EU. The EU may postpone CBAM for Ukraine due to the war.

At Northern GOK, one of the LURGI 552 roasting machines is being redesigned to produce improved pellets that meet EU green metallurgy requirements. Capital investments at Kametstal also support the green transition. Overall, the group estimates the green modernization of its assets at about $8 billion.

FILATOV INSTITUTE IN ODESSA SIGNED MEMORANDUM ON DEVELOPMENT OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE TO COMBAT COMPLICATIONS OF DIABETES MELLITUS

The V.P. Filatov Institute of Eye Diseases and Tissue Therapy of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine, the Odessa Regional Development Agency, CheckEye, and MedCapitalGroup have signed a memorandum of cooperation in the field of preventive medicine and the introduction of innovative technologies in healthcare.

As reported to Interfax-Ukraine by the Filatov Institute, the goal of the partnership is to create a modern model for the early detection of complications of diabetes, in particular diabetic retinopathy, one of the most dangerous factors in vision loss.

The memorandum defines areas of joint work, such as the introduction of artificial intelligence-based mass screening systems for diabetic retinopathy, the organization of training events for doctors, the conduct of informational and scientific-practical campaigns in communities in the Odessa region, and the promotion of preventive medicine among the population.

Special attention was paid to the development of international cooperation during the discussion.

V.P. Filatova already has significant experience in partnering with leading global medical institutions. In particular, in 2025, an agreement was signed with the Oftacentro SA clinic (Lugano, Switzerland) to conduct joint research on the early detection of diabetic retinopathy with the participation of the CheckEye startup.

UPRADAS ASSOCIATION OF RECONSTRUCTIVE AND PLASTIC SURGERY SPECIALISTS ESTABLISHED IN UKRAINE

Specialists in plastic and reconstructive medicine, dermatosurgery, and oncoplastic mammology have united into an association to establish modern medical standards.

> *As reported to the "Interfax-Ukraine" agency, the Ukrainian Association of Plastic, Reconstructive and Dermatologic Aesthetic Surgery and Oncoplastic Mammology (UPRADAS) brings together four key areas: plastic surgery, reconstructive surgery, dermatosurgery, and oncoplastic mammology. This will create a new model of collaboration among doctors.*

UPRADAS is developing a system of continuous education, creating expert commissions to support doctors in complex clinical cases, and providing access to international training programs and congresses.

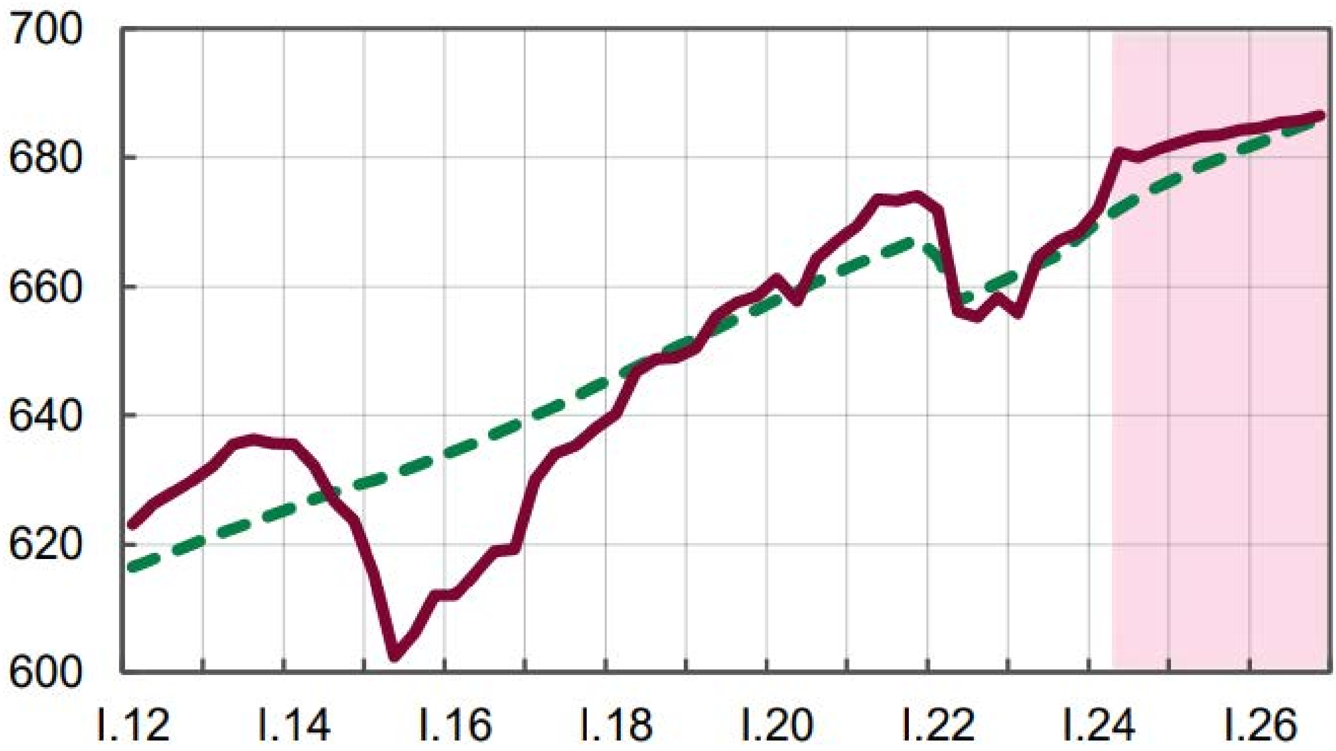
For patients, the association's activities mean the emergence of transparent mechanisms for assessing the quality of medical care, higher safety standards, and increased trust in specialists.

"UPRADAS is not just another organization. It is a structure that creates unified ethical rules focused on the safety of both patients and doctors. We are forming a professional system where the main value is knowledge, and the main standard is responsibility. Ukraine has strong specialists, but they need space for development, education systems, and mutual support," said Serhiy Derbak, President of Upradas in the field of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and founder of the Lita Plus clinic.

He emphasized that the main goal of UPRADAS is to create unified professional standards that regulate not only the technical aspects of surgery but also the ethical, educational, and communication principles of the industry.

Among the strategic areas of activity are the development of methodological recommendations, the creation of a Medical Care Quality Commission, the implementation of continuous training programs, and the enhancement of international integration for Ukrainian specialists.

REAL WAGES, LEVEL (LOGARITHMS)



IN JANUARY-SEPTEMBER, UKRAINE IMPORTED $1.12 BLN WORTH OF TELEPHONES, WITH CHINA AND VIETNAM LEADING WAY

Imports of electric telephone or telegraph apparatus and videophones (HS 8517) to Ukraine in January-September increased by 24.4% compared to the same period in 2024, reaching $1.12 billion, according to statistics from the State Customs Service.

According to statistics, the largest volume of these products was imported from China (54.6% or $613 million), Vietnam (15.2% or $171.2 million), and the United States (8.5% or $95.4 million), while last year it was China (64.1% or $579.1 million), Vietnam (16.3% or $147.1 million), and Malaysia (4.2% or $38 million).

At the same time, exports of these products from Ukraine in January-September 2025 amounted to $92.5 million, 42% more than in the first nine months of last year, mainly to Hungary (71.5%), Poland (23.3%), and the Netherlands (less than 1%). During the same period in 2024, products were exported mainly to the same countries, but Hungary accounted for 60%, Poland for 30.4%, and the Netherlands for 4.5%.

According to the State Customs Service, in 2024, telephone or telegraph equipment worth almost $1.26 billion was imported into Ukraine, which is 10% more than in 2023.

VODAFONE UKRAINE WILL INSTALL 100 SOLAR POWER PLANTS AT BASE STATIONS BY 2026

Ukraine’s second-largest mobile operator, VFU (Vodafone Ukraine), plans to install solar power plants (SPPs) at 100 mobile base stations across Ukraine by the end of 2025 – early 2026, according to a company press release.

It is noted that the total installed capacity of the SPPs is 360 kW, each system will include solar panels and inverters with a capacity of 3.6 kW, which will allow the use of solar energy during peak loads or power outages.

The operator noted that such systems will reduce consumption from the centralized power grid by about 300 MWh per year, reduce the load on the power system during peak hours, reduce CO_2 emissions by 210 tons per year, and generate savings by reducing electricity costs.

Vodafone Ukraine added that the technology was tested over four seasons at three base stations in the Poltava region and the city of Dnipro.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION WILL INVEST IN CAPITAL OF UKRAINIAN INSURANCE COMPANIES

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) will invest in the capital of Ukrainian insurance companies, which is a powerful signal for Ukrainian insurers and international companies.

This was discussed at a meeting between the leadership of the National Bank of Ukraine and World Bank President Ajay Banga and Managing Director of Operations Anna Bjerde, according to the NBU's Facebook page.

It was emphasized that additional investment opportunities will be created with the help of MIGA (Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency), which provides guarantees for financing.

In addition, the meeting discussed further financial support for Ukraine, strengthening energy security, and increasing the country's investment potential through the introduction of new financial instruments.

BRITISH PENNPETRO ENERGY ACQUIRES OIL AND GAS EXPLORATION LICENSE IN IVANO-FRANKIVSK REGION

British company Pennpetro Energy Plc (PPP) has announced the signing of the main terms for the acquisition of a 100% license for oil and gas exploration in the Limnytskyi area in Ivano-Frankivsk region through the Polish holding company Target, which was recently established for this purpose.

> *"The license being acquired by the company is a little-explored, large-scale and highly promising project, the development of which is expected to make a significant contribution to strengthening Ukraine's energy independence and sovereignty," PPP said in a stock exchange announcement.*

The company intends to immediately recommission one of the previously abandoned wells and conduct 3D seismic surveys before starting to drill a second well in the near future, which is expected to have a high probability of success.

The 172 sq km Limnitsky oil and gas field is located in the Carpathian Basin, where more than 100 oil and gas fields have currently been discovered.

"Obtaining the basic terms of the license for the Limnitsky field in Ukraine is a turning point for our business. It adds an extremely promising asset to our growing portfolio and opens up the opportunity to develop this field," said PPP Chairman Stephen Lunn.

"FORESTS OF UKRAINE" INCREASED ITS REVENUE BY 25.4%

In January–September 2025, the state-owned enterprise "Forests of Ukraine" increased its revenue from product sales by 25.4% compared to the same period in 2024, to UAH 21.7 billion, according to the press service of the state-owned enterprise.

According to the report, half of the funds received by Forests of Ukraine were directed to budgets at all levels. The enterprise also increased its tax payments in the current year by almost 70% to UAH 10.7 billion.

"Thanks to the growth in sales revenue, significant savings on purchases, and optimization of expenses, profitability increased from 14.8% to 28.6% compared to last year," Lisy Ukrainy specified.

In September, the state-owned enterprise harvested the largest volume of timber in the last five months. Harvesting volumes reached 1.07-1.1 million cubic meters per month.

The fulfillment of auction contracts for the supply of timber currently stands at over 90%, and taking into account buyer refusals, 97%. A significant proportion of refusals occur in the frontline, eastern, and northern regions, where the risks of harvesting or delivering products have increased. Forward six-month contracts are almost 100% fulfilled.

GLOBAL WHEAT PRODUCERS IN 1991–2024 – VIDEO BY EXPERTS CLUB

According to data from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in 2024 Ukraine ranked 9th in the world in wheat production, producing about 23.4 million tons of grain. This information is presented in a new study by Experts Club, based on FAOSTAT statistics and the video "Wheat Production by Country (1991–2024)".

The top three wheat producers remain traditionally stable:

China — 136 million tons,

India — 113.9 million tons,

Russia — 81.6 million tons.

These three countries account for nearly half of global wheat production and play a crucial role in the world's agricultural system.

They are followed by:

United States — 53.6 million tons,

France — 35.9 million tons,

Canada — 35.9 million tons,

Australia — 34.1 million tons,

Pakistan — 31.4 million tons,

Ukraine — 23.4 million tons,

Germany — 21.5 million tons.

Ukraine remains one of the few countries where the agricultural sector accounts for about 40% of foreign currency earnings. In 2024, wheat ranked second in export volume after corn, and revenues from grain sales exceeded 6 billion USD.

According to Experts Club forecasts, if the pace of infrastructure recovery continues and weather conditions remain favorable, Ukraine's wheat production may reach 25 million tons in 2025, and exports could exceed 18 million tons.

The study was prepared by the analytical center Experts Club based on data from FAOSTAT, USDA, and IGC.

The video analysis "Wheat Production by Country 1991–2024" is available on the Experts Club Ukraine YouTube channel.

US, CHINA, AND GERMANY WERE LEADING SUPPLIERS OF TRACTORS TO UKRAINE

The volume of tractor imports to Ukraine in January-September 2025 amounted to $629.41 million, which is 6.2% more than in the same period of 2024 ($582.56 million), according to statistics from the State Customs Service.

> *According to the published statistics, tractors were mainly imported from the US (20.7% of total imports of this equipment, or $130.2 million), China (almost 18% or $113 million), and Germany (16.7% or $105.3 million), whereas a year ago it was Germany (almost $90 million), China ($82.3 million), and the Netherlands ($78 million).*

At the same time, imports from other countries in January-September decreased by 17.9% to $280.9 million, and their share in the total volume of tractor imports decreased to 44.6% from 57.8%.

In September this year, tractor imports to Ukraine increased by 23.6% compared to September 2024, to $73.7 million.

UKRAINE PROCESSED RECORD VOLUME OF RAPESEED IN SEPTEMBER — OVER 250 THOUSAND TONS

In September 2025, Ukraine processed a record monthly volume of rapeseed, exceeding 250,000 tons. For the first time in a long time, domestic processing exceeded monthly exports of this crop by 236,000 tons, according to the analytical industry agency APK-Inform.

“At the same time, in late September and early October, trade in this sector slowed down due to the expected decision on the mechanism for exempting soybean and rapeseed producers from the 10% export duty. Against this backdrop, the supply of rapeseed decreased,” analysts noted.

Experts added that a number of processors reported low rapeseed supplies to enterprises and the likely completion of its processing and transition to sunflower, stocks of which were accumulated quite well in September.

NOVUS INVESTED UAH 385 MLN IN ENERGY INDEPENDENCE OF ITS NETWORK

The NOVUS supermarket chain has completed comprehensive preparations for the autumn-winter period to ensure the uninterrupted operation of its stores even in the event of prolonged power outages. The total investment in energy independence and backup solutions amounted to UAH 385 million, according to the company’s press service.

“We realize that the operation of our supermarkets is a matter of Ukrainians’ access to everyday products, even in times of crisis. Therefore, energy independence has become one of the key areas of investment for NOVUS,” the press service quotes Dainius Tumenas, Deputy CEO for Asset Management at NOVUS.

Currently, all NOVUS stores are equipped with generators of various capacities. Their total installed capacity is 33.72 MW, which makes it possible to maintain the network’s operation even during periods of prolonged power outages. The total investment in energy efficiency and energy independence since the start of the full-scale war has reached UAH 385 million, of which UAH 272 million has been allocated to generators.

As noted, one of the breakthrough solutions for Ukrainian retail has been gas generators, which are more environmentally friendly than diesel generators and capable of simultaneously producing electricity, heat, and industrial cooling. The company has installed four units with a total capacity of 3 MW at two of its facilities.

RAPESEED EXPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR OVER 86% OF PRODUCTION — 3.1 MLN TONS

Rapeseed processing in Ukraine in 2024/2025 MY amounted to 0.5 million tons, or 14% of rapeseed production, according to the Ukroliyaprom association.

"It was not possible to use rapeseed for processing, as in the previous marketing year (when a record amount of over 1.0 million tons was processed), due to its massive export (almost 90% of its production). 3.1 million tons of rapeseed were exported, or over 86% of its production. Only over 0.5 million tons, or 14% of rapeseed production, was processed," the industry association said.

Ukroliyaprom added that rapeseed oil exports in the 2024/2025 season amounted to 210,400 tons, worth $194 million, of which 153,500 tons (worth $144.1 million) were shipped to EU countries.

> *The top 10 countries purchasing Ukrainian rapeseed oil included China (48.3 thousand tons), Poland (46.1 thousand tons), Belgium (26.5 thousand tons), Lithuania (23.1 thousand tons), the Netherlands (15.2 thousand tons), Spain (13 thousand tons), Italy (9 thousand tons), Bulgaria (8.2 thousand tons), Germany (4.3 thousand tons), and Latvia (3.6 thousand tons).*

Exports of rapeseed meal in 2024/2025 MY amounted to 218.5 thousand tons worth $53.9 million at an average price of $246.7 per ton. At the same time, 86.9% of rapeseed meal was supplied to EU countries, 9.9% was purchased by Israel, and 3.2% by Turkey.

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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