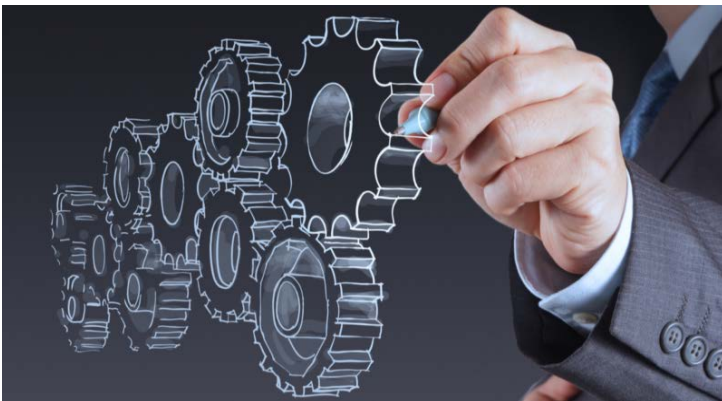




UKRAINE
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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE ROSE BY 0.3% IN MAY



Industrial production in Ukraine rose by 0.3% in May 2026 (compared to the same month in 2025), following a 1.2% increase in April, a 4.5% increase in March, and a 2.6% decline in February, and 8.1% in January, according to the State Statistics Service (Derzhstat).

According to the statistics agency, industrial production in May 2026 increased by 3.5% compared to April 2026.

The State Statistics Service notes that, overall, industrial production in Ukraine decreased by 0.2% over the first five months of this year compared to the same period last year.

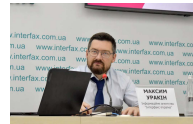
In the mining and quarrying sector, growth in January–May 2026 compared to the same period in 2025 was 3.8%; in the manufacturing sector, it was 1.5%; and in the supply of electricity, gas, steam, and conditioned air, there was a 13.5% decline.

As previously reported, industrial production in Ukraine declined by 1.7% in 2025, whereas in 2024 it had grown by 4.7%.

The data excludes territories temporarily occupied by the Russian Federation and parts of the country where hostilities are (or were) taking place.

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08 July 2026



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UKRAINIAN WINE INDUSTRY NEEDS SYSTEMATIC DIALOGUE WITH RETAILERS TO HELP LOCAL PRODUCERS ENTER RETAIL CHAINS

GREECE, BULGARIA, AND ROMANIA PROMOTING CREATION OF NEW TRANSPORT CORRIDOR FROM AEGEAN SEA TO UKRAINIAN BORDER

Greece, Bulgaria, and Romania are promoting the construction of the “Black Sea–Aegean Sea” multimodal transport corridor, which is intended to connect the ports, railways, highways, and logistics hubs of the three countries with access to the Ukrainian and Moldovan borders.

“*The project will become part of the EU’s Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The European Commission notes that the broader “Baltic Sea–Black Sea–Aegean Sea” corridor spans 11 EU countries, as well as Ukraine and Moldova, connecting the Baltic, Black, and Aegean Seas.*”

The new section between Greece, Bulgaria, and Romania will consist of three main branches. The western branch is planned to run along the route Athens–Thessaloniki–Promachonas–Kulata–Sofia–Vidin/Calafat–Craiova–Bucharest. The central branch will connect Thessaloniki and Alexandroupolis with the Bulgarian cities of Svilengrad and Ruse, then continue through Giurgiu and Bucharest to

Siret on the Romanian border with Ukraine, as well as to Ungheni on the border with Moldova. The Eastern Branch will connect Alexandroupolis with the Bulgarian ports of Burgas and Varna, and then on to Constanța in Romania.

To coordinate the project, the three countries are establishing the Black Sea–Aegean Sea Corridor Platform (BACP). The European Commission reported that Greece, Bulgaria, and Romania signed a memorandum on the development of transport infrastructure on December 3, 2025, in Brussels. The document provides for coordination at the political and technical levels, the exchange of data on national investment plans, and the joint promotion of priority TEN-T projects. European Commissioner for Transport Apostolos Tzitzikostas called the project a step toward strengthening the strategic north-south corridor in Southeast Europe. According to him, closer cooperation between Greece, Bulgaria, and Romania should strengthen ties for citizens and businesses, as well as enhance Europe’s security, competitiveness, and resilience in the Aegean, Black Sea, and Danube regions.

KYIV REMAINS ONE OF EUROPE’S MOST AFFORDABLE RENTAL MARKETS

Kyiv remains near the bottom of the European ranking for rental costs, despite a recovery in demand for high-quality apartments in the Ukrainian capital, according to data from Global Property Guide. According to the table of median asking rental rates for June 2026, the rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Kyiv is approximately EUR550 per month. Based on this metric, the Ukrainian capital ranks roughly 34th among the 40 European and European-adjacent cities featured in the publicly available section of the Global Property Guide table, when cities are sorted from highest to lowest rent.

“*Kyiv shares this position with Podgorica, where the median rent for a one-bedroom apartment is also around EUR550. Meanwhile, Belgrade is significantly more expensive—around EUR800 per month—while Bucharest and Athens are around EUR650, and Sofia and Zagreb are around EUR600. Below Kyiv in the table are Chisinau, Tbilisi, Sarajevo, and Skopje.*”

This is an important signal for the Ukrainian market. On the one hand, Kyiv is no longer among the cheapest cities in the region. On the other hand, rental costs in the Ukrainian capital are still lower than in most capitals of Central and Southeastern Europe, including Belgrade, Budapest, Warsaw, Prague, Bratislava, Bucharest, Zagreb, and Sofia. According to Global Property Guide, the median asking rent for a 2-room apartment in Kyiv is about EUR850 per month, and for a three-room apartment, it is about EUR1,690. At the same time, Kyiv remains relatively affordable in the one- and two-room apartment segments, but in the three-room apartment segment, it is already comparable to Budapest, Riga, and Vilnius and significantly exceeds Belgrade, Sofia, Zagreb, Podgorica, and Chisinau. If the security situation improves and business activity recovers, rental rates could receive an additional boost.

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS OF UKRAINE - ANALYSIS

The article presents key macroeconomic indicators of Ukraine and the global economy as of the end of March 2026. The analysis was prepared on the basis of current data from the State Statistics Service of Ukraine (SSSU), the National Bank of Ukraine (NBU), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, as well as leading national statistical agencies (Eurostat, BEA, NBS, ONS, TurkStat, IBGE). Maksym Urakin, PhD in Economics and founder of the **Experts Club** information and analytical center, presented an overview of current macroeconomic trends that determined the situation in Ukraine and the world at the beginning of 2026.

Macroeconomic indicators of Ukraine

As of the end of March 2026, the Ukrainian economy remained in a mode of managed macrofinancial stabilization, but the first quarter showed a noticeable deterioration in the balance of risks compared with the beginning of the year. After a relatively favorable January, when inflation was declining, reserves were at a historically high level, and the NBU began cautious easing of interest rate policy, the situation became more complicated in February-March. Inflation accelerated again, international reserves declined for the second month in a row, the foreign exchange market required significant interventions by the regulator, and the first quarterly GDP estimate showed a decline.

According to the preliminary estimate of the State Statistics Service, Ukraine's real GDP in Q1 2026 decreased by 0.6% compared with Q1 2025, and by 0.7% compared with the previous quarter, taking into account the seasonal factor. Nominal GDP amounted to UAH 2,047.2 billion. This became an important signal that economic recovery remains unstable and highly sensitive to energy, military and foreign trade shocks.

In its April Inflation Report, the National Bank worsened its forecast for Ukraine's real GDP growth in 2026 to 1.3%, taking into account further destruction of infrastructure, larger electricity deficits and the effects of a significant increase in energy prices. This means that even if international support is maintained and the situation on the foreign exchange market remains controlled, the economy is entering 2026 on a lower growth trajectory than previously expected.

"The first quarter of 2026 showed that the Ukrainian economy has still not moved into a classic recovery phase. We have a stabilization model that works thanks to international financial support, budget expenditures, business adaptation and NBU policy. But the decline in GDP in the first quarter indicates that the margin of safety remains limited. Energy destruction, labor shortages, weak exports and military risks are quickly affecting the real sector. Therefore, the main task for 2026 is to gradually restore the productive base of the economy," **Urakin noted**.

Inflation dynamics in March also became less favorable. According to the State Statistics Service, as commented on by the NBU, consumer inflation accelerated to 7.9% year-on-year in March 2026. Month-on-month, prices rose by 1.7%. After the January slowdown to 7.4% and the February acceleration to 7.6%, the March figure confirmed that the disinflationary trend had become less stable.

The NBU explained the March acceleration primarily by the increase in prices for raw food products, fuel and certain services. Additional pressure was created by energy risks, rising business costs, the impact of external energy prices and increasing geopolitical tension. At the same time, core inflation remained closer to the forecast trajectory, which allowed the regulator not to move to a sharp tightening of policy, but at the same time limited the room for a further rapid reduction in the rate.

At the end of March, the NBU key policy rate remained at 15.0%. On March 20, the Board of the National Bank decided to keep it unchanged after the January reduction from 15.5% to 15.0%. The regulator explained this by the need to maintain the attractiveness of hryvnia assets, preserve the stability of the foreign exchange market and control inflation expectations.

"March effectively paused the discussion about rapid monetary policy easing. Inflation accelerated, the foreign exchange market remained tense, and external risks increased. Under such conditions, keeping the rate at 15% was a logical decision. Ukraine cannot afford to stimulate the economy at the cost of losing confidence in the hryvnia. In a wartime economy, the stability of expectations is often more important than a short-term reduction in the cost of credit," Urakin emphasized.

The foreign exchange sector remained controlled but required significant support from the NBU. As of April 1, 2026, Ukraine's international reserves amounted to almost \$52.0 billion. In March, they decreased by 5.0%. This dynamic was caused by the National Bank's foreign exchange interventions and the country's debt payments in foreign currency, which were only partially compensated by inflows from international partners and the placement of foreign currency domestic government bonds.

Despite the decline, reserves remained high by historical standards and continued to serve as the main financial safety cushion. At the same time, the very need for large interventions indicated that the private foreign exchange market continued to have a structural currency deficit. Ukraine imports significantly more than it exports, and therefore exchange rate stability is largely supported by external financing and the NBU's reserves.

Foreign trade in the first quarter confirmed this problem. According to the State Customs Service, Ukraine's trade turnover in January-March 2026 amounted to \$33.5 billion. Imports reached \$23.4 billion, while exports amounted to \$10.1 billion. Thus, the goods deficit over three months amounted to about \$13.3 billion, and imports were more than twice as high as exports.

In the import structure, machinery, equipment, transport, fuel and energy goods, and chemical industry products played a key role. China, Poland and Turkey remained the largest import trading partners. The export base remained significantly narrower: the main positions were food products, agricultural products, metals and certain machinery products. The main export destinations remained EU countries and Turkey.

"The trade deficit of the first quarter is one of the most important indicators of the vulnerability of the Ukrainian economy. Reserves and external assistance make it possible to pass through this period without a currency crisis, but they do not replace the country's own export capacity. When imports are more than twice as high as exports, it means that the country is financing a significant part of its needs through external resources. In wartime conditions this is inevitable, but strategically such a model cannot be permanent. Ukraine must increase exports of products with higher added value, develop processing, logistics, energy autonomy and the defense-industrial complex," Urakin stressed.

"The budget of the first quarter of 2026 shows that the state maintains financial manageability, but the price of this manageability is very high. More than 60% of general fund expenditures are directed to security and defense, and this is absolutely understandable in wartime conditions. But such a structure means that the room for classic investment in development is limited. Therefore, international support, the domestic government bond market and the government's ability to expand its own tax base through the restoration of economic activity remain critically important," **Urakin noted.**

As of the end of March 2026, Ukraine maintained macrofinancial manageability, but the first quarter demonstrated the fragility of economic stabilization. Real GDP in Q1 decreased by 0.6% year-on-year, inflation accelerated to 7.9% in March, the key policy rate remained at 15.0%, international reserves declined to about \$52.0 billion, and the goods deficit in January-March exceeded \$13 billion. The budget remained functional, but its structure was fully subordinated to wartime needs: more than 60% of general fund expenditures were directed to security and defense.



HOUSING PRICES IN UKRAINE HAVE BEGUN TO RISE AGAIN - NBU

According to [Experts.new](#), following a period of relative calm, housing prices in Ukraine have begun to rise again, as stated in the National Bank of Ukraine's June Financial Stability Report.

“ According to the NBU, housing prices have risen over the past six months. In the primary market, advertised prices increased roughly in proportion to the hryvnia's devaluation, as real estate prices in Ukraine are traditionally quoted in U.S. dollars. In the secondary market, the increase was faster—5–10 percentage points higher than the devaluation.

An additional factor was the sharp rise in the cost of construction due to a surge in fuel prices. This intensified upward pressure on prices for new construction and limited developers' ability to keep prices at previous levels.

At the same time, the NBU notes that housing prices remain historically low relative to household incomes. In the first quarter of 2026, the housing price-to-income ratio stood at 8.7x for the primary market and 8.6x for the secondary market.

The situation is different in the rental market. Due to winter attacks on energy infrastructure and the associated risks, the growth in rental rates has slowed. In Kyiv, the south, and the center of the country, rental costs have remained virtually unchanged since last fall. Price increases continued mainly in the western regions.

The price-to-rent ratio for secondary housing rose slightly in the first quarter to 10.4x, but still did not exceed the long-term average.

OKKO IS INVESTING OVER \$120 MLN IN DEVELOPMENT OF 3.0-FORMAT GAS STATIONS

The OKKO gas station chain is investing over \$120 million to open 20 new 3.0-format gas stations and renovate another 60 existing ones by 2029, according to [OKKO Group](#) CEO Vasyl Danyliak.

“We are probably the company that has carried out the most renovations during the full-scale war... We not only quickly restored damaged gas stations, but also launched a program back in the fall of 2022 to upgrade and rebuild our stations; over the years, we have renovated more than 200 facilities. But we see how requirements are changing—that's why we developed the 3.0 format,” Danyliak told reporters during a press tour on Wednesday.

The first complex of this format was built and opened in Irpin, and the second was renovated to the 3.0 format in Hatne. The next step is the construction of a flagship highway complex in Zvyagel.

According to Danyliak, investments in the construction of the gas station in Irpin amounted to approximately \$3 million; highway complexes in the new format are estimated to cost \$4–5 million, while the renovation of existing highway stations will cost about \$2 million. By 2029, the company plans to invest over \$120 million in the development of the 3.0 format, specifically to build 20 new stations and renovate about 60, thereby covering approximately 20% of the network.

The new format emphasizes technology, the digitalization of the customer journey (OKKO PAY, OKKO Drive, the Smart Kitchen system), expanded food service, energy independence, and the development of infrastructure for electric vehicles, as well as simple navigation, accessibility, and modern design. In particular, the gas stations now feature OKKO Work Spaces—rooms for phone calls and online meetings, an all-season terrace, children's play areas, and more.



SAUDI COMPANY TO ACQUIRE 4 UKRAINIAN SOLAR POWER PLANTS

The Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine (AMCU) may grant permission on Thursday to the Saudi company FAS Energy to acquire four solar power plants from the Ukrainian group of companies SPP Development Ukraine.

According to the committee's materials, four applications from the commercial company "FAS Energy" regarding the acquisition of more than 50% of the shares in Borodianka Solar Power Plant LLC, "Myhalivska Solar Power Plant," "Solar Power Plant No. 8," and "Solar Power Plant No. 11," which are owned by the Ukrainian group of companies SPP Development Ukraine.

"On granting permission to the commercial company 'FAS Energy' to acquire control over Borodianka Solar Power Plant LLC through the direct purchase of shares in the authorized capital, which ensures a majority of more than 50% of the votes in the company's highest governing body," – reads one of the four AMCU issues regarding FAS Energy brought up for consideration at Thursday's meeting.

SPP Development Ukraine is a Ukrainian group of companies specializing in renewable energy and energy infrastructure. The company integrates services in development, engineering, construction, project management (EPC), and operations and maintenance (O&M).

€42 MLN ENERGY PROJECT, KOVELENERGOPORT, IS UNDERWAY IN VOLYN REGION

The Kovel Porto Industrial Park (Kovel, Volyn Oblast) has signed a cooperation agreement with the Polish company Hanplast Sp. z o.o., which will serve as the general contractor and investor for the KovelEnergPort project, with a total value of 42 million euros, according to the Kovel Porto Industrial Park.

“ *The agreement was signed by the parties during the Ukraine Recovery Conference (URC 2026) in Gdańsk.*

“We have signed an agreement with the Polish company Hanplast, the general contractor (EPC), which is also participating in the project as an investor with a 20% stake in the energy SPV,” the IP’s Facebook page states.

The project involves the construction of a 5.99 MW solar power plant, a 40 MWh energy storage system, and the generation of approximately 5,800 MWh of electricity per year. Solar panels will be installed on the roofs of industrial buildings.

The total budget for the logistics and energy segment is approximately 2 million euros.

It is noted that bringing in a contractor as a co-owner of the project is “a clear signal of the project’s banking attractiveness to international financial institutions.”

IP “Kovel Porto” adds that a memorandum was also signed in Gdańsk with UkraineInvest, paving the way for state support for the project under the significant investment regime.

For its part, the Polish company Hanplast announced on LinkedIn that the project will be co-financed by the Polish bank BGK, and Hanplast, as an investor, will receive a 20% stake in the project.

“The ‘Kovel Porto’ investment project is being built on one of the key transport routes connecting Ukraine with the EU. The development of such infrastructure opens up new opportunities for industry, logistics, and the further recovery of the Ukrainian economy. It is not often that we have the opportunity to participate in projects that contribute to Ukraine’s future. This makes us even more grateful for the trust placed in us,” Hanplast notes.

The investor reports that, as part of the project, the infrastructure supplies energy to the dry port, warehouses, and industrial park, and feeds surplus power into the grid.

“Kovel Porto” is a multimodal logistics and energy platform on a 25-hectare brownfield site, located 56 km by rail and 62 km by road from the EU border (the Yagodin-Dorohusk crossing).

The project has been designated as being of national importance and is integrated into the TEN-T core network.

UKRAINE EXPORTED NEARLY 14 MLN METRIC TONS OF WHEAT IN 2025/2026 MARKETING YEAR



Ukraine exported nearly 14 million metric tons of wheat in the 2025/2026 marketing year, according to the Ukrainian Grain Association (UGA).

The main export markets for Ukrainian wheat were Egypt (3.9 million metric tons), Algeria (2.8 million metric tons), Indonesia (2.1 million metric tons), Yemen (1 million metric tons), and Spain (678,000 metric tons).

According to the association, the decline in total exports of grains and oilseeds during the season was due to a lower harvest, the introduction of quotas on Ukrainian wheat imports into the European Union, and logistical difficulties caused by Russian shelling of energy and transportation infrastructure, particularly ports and maritime grain terminals.

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY OF UKRAINE AND KUWAIT HELD ONLINE CONFERENCE WITH BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH COUNTRIES

On July 6, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Ukraine and Kuwait held an online conference with the support of the Embassy of Ukraine in the State of Kuwait, attended by approximately 50 business representatives from both countries.

The event was co-chaired by Gennadiy Chizhikov, President of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Firas Al-Oda, Acting Director General of the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The meeting marked the first practical event of this kind between the chambers after a hiatus of more than six years.

The main goal of the event was to establish direct contacts between Ukrainian and Kuwaiti entrepreneurs. The parties presented current trade and investment opportunities and identified promising areas for cooperation.

In his remarks, Maksim Subkh, Ukraine's Ambassador to Kuwait, emphasized the importance of revitalizing the business component of bilateral relations, particularly in the context of involving Kuwaiti businesses in Ukraine's post-war reconstruction projects.

“ Gennadiy Chizhikov, President of the Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, urged Kuwaiti businesses to view Ukraine not only through the lens of the war, but first and foremost as a country of opportunities and a future member of the European Union.

Conference participants discussed the possibility of systematic cooperation through working groups in priority sectors, including agriculture, the food industry, construction, energy, IT, and logistics. The parties also exchanged contact information, presentations, and commercial proposals. According to the data provided, trade between Ukraine and Kuwait amounted to \$336.6 million in 2024 and \$90.8 million in 2025. In the first five months of 2026, bilateral trade had already reached \$102 million, exceeding the figure for the entire year of 2025.

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ODESA INVESTMENT CONGRESS WILL PRESENT ITS UPDATED PROGRAM ON JULY 10

The Odesa Investment Congress has updated the program for the forum, which will take place on July 10, 2026, in Odesa at the SPATIUM Hotel and will run from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

“*The final program for the congress includes two conference halls operating throughout the day—from the first panel discussion to the gala evening and concert program. The organizers note that there are only a few days left before the event begins, and seating is limited. The program for July 10 includes a press conference on accessibility as a new urban philosophy, featuring government officials, as well as panel discussions on Odessa’s investment appeal, new investments in the regions, wellness as a new urban economy, and the development of medical, rehabilitation, and inclusive spaces.*”

Representatives from SPATIUM, ZEZMAN Holding, KADORR, “Gefest,” “Two Academicians,” Akvareli, Ribas Hotels, and other companies will join the discussion on Odessa’s investment appeal. A separate panel will be dedicated to new investments in the regions, featuring RIEL, UDP, SAGA, Creator-Bud, Avalon, SIGMA+, and CREDO.

One of the central segments will be a presentation by the SUPERHUMANS team in Odesa and a discussion on the development of medical, rehabilitation, and inclusive spaces. The program also includes a discussion on the topic “Odesa and UNESCO: Heritage Preservation vs. Modern Development.”

The URBAN DESIGN hall will host discussions featuring the chief architects of Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Zhytomyr, Vinnytsia, and Rivne; a panel titled “Women Shaping Ukrainian Space”; workshops by the BOARD business community featuring Netpeak and Profiles; and an Evening Talk on premium-level sales.

The day will conclude with a gala evening, a concert program, and the presentation of the Vasyl Kandinsky Special Award.

A special program is also planned for congress guests on July 9 and 11, which will include private site visits, presentations, and a dinner.

Tickets for the Odesa Investment Congress are available on the website: ubc-ua.info/oic. VIP guests, speakers, and partners can contact us at: 077 777 25 47.

The Odesa Investment Congress is organized by the DMNTR media group. The general partner is SPATIUM Group. The Interfax-Ukraine news agency is the information partner of the Odesa Investment Congress.



UKRAINIAN PASSPORT RANKED 65TH IN GLOBAL PASSPORT INDEX 2026

According to [Experts.news](#), the Ukrainian passport ranked 65th in the Global Passport Index 2026, which evaluates citizenship based on three key areas: enhanced mobility, investment potential, and quality of life, according to the Global Passport Report 2026 by Global Citizen Solutions.

The report was published on the Global Citizen Solutions website with an update date of July 1, 2026. The study notes that the ranking covers 197 countries and territories and is calculated based on 14 indicators.

According to the index, Ukraine ranked 65th in the overall ranking, 63rd in terms of enhanced mobility, 79th in terms of the investment index, and 82nd in terms of quality of life. According to Global Citizen Solutions, a Ukrainian passport provides visa-free access to 89 countries; however, Ukrainian citizens need a visa to enter approximately 31 destinations, including the United States, the United Kingdom, China, Japan, and a number of countries in Africa and Latin America.

Sweden topped the Global Passport Index 2026 with a score of 96.05 out of 100. It is followed by Switzerland, Finland, and Germany, while Denmark and the Netherlands share fifth place in the interactive table.

The bottom five countries in the ranking were Syria, Yemen, South Sudan, Somalia, and Afghanistan. Afghanistan remained in last place with a score of 23.10 points. The gap between the ranking leader, Sweden, and Afghanistan was 72.95 points.

The Global Passport Index differs from traditional passport rankings in that it is not limited to counting visa-free destinations. The index takes into account the quality of available destinations, the investment climate of the country of citizenship, and living conditions. This is particularly important for Ukraine, as the value of a passport under this approach is determined not only by travel opportunities but also by the perception of the country as a place for business, living, and long-term planning.

In practice, Ukraine's result reflects a dual situation. On the one hand, the Ukrainian passport maintains relatively high mobility thanks to the visa-free regime with the EU and a number of other destinations. On the other hand, the investment and quality components of the ranking remain below the level of EU countries, which lowers the country's overall position in the comprehensive citizenship index.



UKRAINIAN WINE INDUSTRY NEEDS SYSTEMATIC DIALOGUE WITH RETAILERS TO HELP LOCAL PRODUCERS ENTER RETAIL CHAINS

Ukrainian local and craft wineries can expand their presence in national retail chains, but to do so, producers must meet retailers' requirements regarding quality, safety, documentation, and supply stability.

This was discussed during the National Roundtable “Local Grape Varieties: Heritage, Sustainability, and Rural Development,” organized by the Public Association “UKRSADVINPROM” to mark the 10th anniversary of the Association's activities.

“ *Olena Gordon, a representative of the “Ukraine Food Retail Alliance” (UFRA)—which includes leading Ukrainian food retail chains such as ATB-Market, Silpo, VARUS, NOVUS, and KOLO—noted that local producers can enter retail chains provided they meet standards and are ready to scale up production.*”

For Ukrainian winemakers, this means that having a high-quality product is no longer the only requirement for increasing sales through retail channels. Retail chains expect suppliers to provide stable shipments, a clear quality control system, production traceability, the necessary certifications, regulatory approvals, and a willingness to work within a long-term partnership framework.

Roundtable participants noted that retailers' interest in craft wineries and local producers is growing amid rising demand for Ukrainian products. In the context of the war, supporting domestic producers is viewed not only as a consumer choice but also as a key element of the country's economic resilience.

For the producers themselves, collaboration with retail chains can be a crucial step in scaling their businesses. A presence on the shelves of national retailers boosts brand recognition, expands access to consumers, and helps foster a culture of Ukrainian wine consumption.

At the same time, participants in the discussion emphasized that craft winemaking requires a distinct approach. Small producers cannot always operate according to the logic of mass industrial production; therefore, flexible collaboration models, professional support, assistance with certification, and clear rules for market entry are essential for the segment's development.

The HoReCa sector and wine tourism could serve as additional channels for promoting Ukrainian wine. Restaurants, tasting events, festivals, and wine tours provide opportunities to introduce consumers to local grape varieties, create an emotional connection with producers, and gradually build demand that can subsequently support retail sales.

“ *The roundtable also noted that the development of local grape varieties could become part of a broader strategy for promoting Ukrainian wine. Volodymyr Pechko, Chairman of the “UKRSADVINPROM” Public Association, emphasized that Ukraine needs to more actively showcase its own varieties and build a wine identity around them. In particular, “Odesa Black” and “Sukholimansky” were cited as flagship varieties of Ukrainian breeding.*”

The “UKRSADVINPROM” General Association is an industry association operating in the fields of horticulture, viticulture, and winemaking. The organization brings together market participants, takes part in industry discussions, promotes the interests of Ukrainian producers, and supports the development of high-value-added products. In 2026, the Association celebrated its 10th anniversary.



PRICE OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN UKRAINE HAS NEARLY TRIPLED OVER PAST FIVE YEARS

The average price per hectare of agricultural land in Ukraine has nearly tripled in the five years since the market opened—rising from about 30,000 UAH to 87,900 UAH, according to an analytical review by the KSE Center for Food and Land Use Research, dedicated to the fifth anniversary of the opening of the agricultural land market.

“ According to the study, since the market opened on July 1, 2021, more than 512,800 transactions for the sale of agricultural land have been concluded in Ukraine, covering a total area of 1.154 million hectares and amounting to 51.4 billion UAH.

The average price per hectare during this period was 66,400 UAH, rising to 87,900 UAH in 2026.

The authors of the study note that although the nominal average price of land nearly tripled, when adjusted for inflation, its real value increased by approximately 25%, corresponding to an average annual growth rate of about 4.6%.

“ The most expensive agricultural land over the five years the market has been operating was sold in Ivano-Frankivsk (139 thousand UAH/ha), Lviv (123.4 thousand UAH/ha), and Kyiv (107.1 thousand UAH/ha) regions

The lowest prices were recorded in Luhansk (24.9 thousand UAH/ha), Kherson (30.5 thousand UAH/ha), Donetsk, and Zaporizhzhia (37 thousand UAH/ha each) regions. The largest areas of land that changed hands over the five years the market has been operating were recorded in Poltava (107.6 thousand hectares), Dnipropetrovsk (94.8 thousand hectares), and Kharkv (89.4 thousand hectares) regions. The study's authors note that after the market came to a near standstill in the spring of 2022 due to restrictions on access to state registries, activity gradually resumed, and by the second half of 2023, the market had stabilized.

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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