



A BETTER SIDE OF EUROPE

Sketches and statistics about Ukraine and the EU



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A BETTER SIDE OF EUROPE

Post-Sovietness is one of the major obstacles for Ukraine on its path to democratization and integration within the European entity. Almost fifty percent of the Ukrainian population is in favor of the restoration of the Soviet Union and every tenth citizen perceives him/herself as a USSR-citizen, according to opinion polls made by the Razumkov Center.

The independent think-tank Institute of World Policy (IWP), based in Kyiv, understands the necessity of communicating European integration processes and the consequences of post-Soviet reminiscences to ordinary people, with the aim of influencing the development towards a prosperous and democratic Ukraine in the future.

IWP in collaboration with Global Reporting, a Swedish media- and communications agency, launched a campaign with the aim of promoting and facilitating the debate on how the post-Sovietness is delaying democratization, transition and European integration. A project funded by the Swedish institute within the framework of Creative Force-programme.

Part of the campaign was "Street universities" in several Ukrainian cities, where exhibitions of caricatures on negative post-Soviet reminiscences and the illustrative advantages of the EU's integration combined with facts and figures were displayed towards the citizens.

Due to work of some of Ukraine's most renowned artists, such as Maryna Turovska, Kostyantyn Kazanchev, Ihor Bezhluk and Oleksiy Kustovsky, the project "Sketching for democracy", could address the most striking societal spheres through easily understandable caricatures.

This booklet contains all the caricatures exhibited during the "Street universities". Accomplished with statistics and responses from the citizens of Kyiv, Dnepropetrovsk, Odessa and Vinnytsia.

We believe that Ukraine could face an improved reality, where the citizens have higher standards of life and guaranteed social welfare. A society where freedom of expression and the rule of law are respected values. Ukraine could achieve all of that if the structures in the society are questioned and handled with in a democratic way. By comparing the realities and challenges our own values could lead to changing all of us, facilitating changing the country itself. Only after this holistic approach, Ukraine could become a better side of Europe.

The Institute of World Policy and Global Reporting
September 2013

Photos (by Natalya Sagalata):

1. 'Street university' in Odesa (May 25-26, 2013)
2. The Head of EU Delegation to Ukraine Jan Tombinski opened 'Street university' in Dnipropetrovsk (June 6, 2013)
3. Ambassador of France to Ukraine Alain Remy and IWP director Alyona Getmanchuk during 'Street university' in Odesa (May 25-26, 2013)
4. Team of Institute of World Policy and representatives of Global Reporting (Stockholm) during 'Street university' in Odesa (May 25-26, 2013)
5. 'Street university' in Kyiv (May 18, 2013)





TRAVELLING IN THE UKRAINE AND EU

The EU maintains accessible flights. For every thousand EU citizens, about 1.5 thousand people travel by planes. In Ukraine this figure is 4 times smaller: 364 passengers per one thousand individuals. The EU holds a principle of "an open sky," which involves the removal of restrictions on the number of routes and airlines on flights between the EU countries. This working principle has increased competition and lowered prices. For example, a flight from Prague to Barcelona costs 50 euros, while flying from Prague to Kyiv costs about 350 euros.

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Confidence in the future is the key thing that Europeans have. People can plan their life, including such things as buying a house, having children, vacations etc. I was born in the Soviet Union, and that country had a confident tomorrow. Ukraine today and Russia, as well, do not have this. We need to move towards Europe, because people there have quiet and pleasant life, not a struggle for survival.

Nina Ivanivna, shop assistant



A HIERARCHIC REALITY



There is a strong hierarchy in Ukrainian realities. Almost every chief-director perceives her/himself as a king and his employees as his subjects (until he finds himself in another chief-director's office, where he automatically becomes a subject himself). In many European countries (Scandinavian ones in particular), the position of chief-director is a senior partner. Everyone can call him or her by name without any distinctive honours as happens in our country.

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» *This exhibition lacks an image of youth and alcohol. Have a look at our cities - everywhere there are adolescents with a cigarette and beer. But I've been abroad, in the Czech Republic and Poland, and there are always young men with balls or books. Therefore, the Europeans have tomorrow, while we, without them, do not.*

Semen Pidhirnyi, entrepreneur

» *History and geography prove that we are Europeans. Now it also has to be proven to all of us, all the citizens of Ukraine. Ukrainian youth should come together and speak for regaining justice - for the return of our state to the Great Europe!*

Oleh and Natalia, 25 and 23 years old, Kyiv



LIFETIME



In the member-states of the EU, life expectancy is higher than the retirement age. The average lifetime for an individual in the EU is 77 years for males and 83 years for females. In Ukraine, the average lifetime of males is 68 years and 72 years for females. People in the EU member states live 10 years longer than people in Ukraine, and 13 years longer than people in Russia.



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I agree with those who say that we deserve the government we get. This means that we deserve the quality of life we have in Ukraine. If we want to live differently, at first we have to become different. The European Union is the beacon which should show the way to changes of not only politicians, but every Ukrainian also. The more European we are, the more European our state becomes.

Mykola Ivanovych, 54 years old, teacher,



Why does EU need an extra "mouth"? They will not feed Ukraine. They don't know how to feed themselves. They got too many poor and hungry countries and now Germany only suffers because of this.

Victor V., engineer, Kremenchuk



TOP BENT © 2018



LIFETIME

The mortality rate in Ukraine is 18th in the world alongside Russia, Belarus, and some countries from Africa, where it was in 1970s. The main reasons of mortality among Ukrainians are chronic deceases, unhealthy lifestyle (smoking, alcohol drinking), and ineffective medical treatment.

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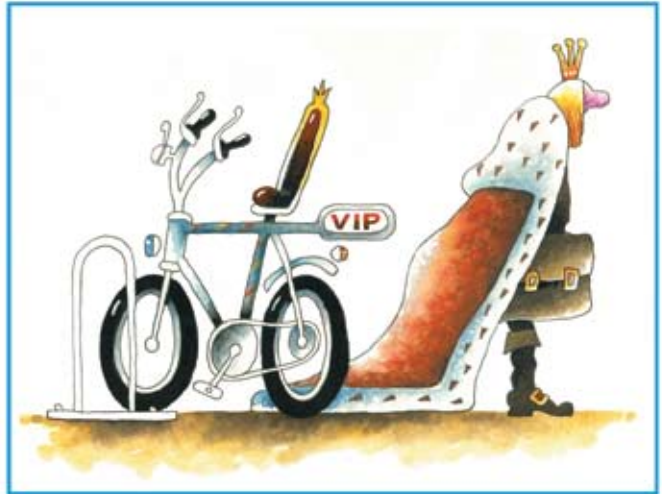
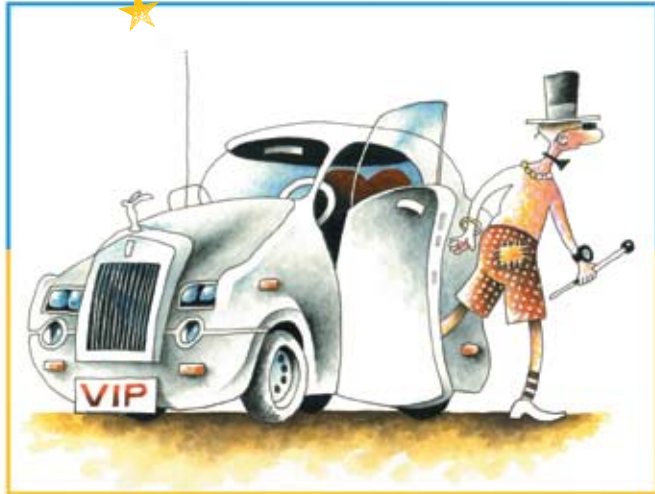
» *The European Union has weakened notably. It would seem we do not need to take a cue from the weaker one. But we would rather be that weak. Even weak EU is the only right way to the development for us. Your idea with drawings is very helpful, although I personally know all the pros of the European Union (I often visit Germany, where my daughter lives).*

Oleksii Dmytrovych, 64 years old, Odesa

» *The European integration should become a Bible for Ukraine. Do not betray democracy, live by values, do not offend human dignity – this is our New Testament. Regrettably, many Ukrainians do not believe that Ukraine can get developed. Everything starts with belief: if we believe we can be happy, then we will be.*

Victor, 42 years old, physician, Odesa





DIVISION OF "VIP" AND "non-VIP"

Soviet égalitarisme has led to an unhealthy desire of post-Soviet Ukrainians to be different from others regardless of what it takes. As such, there persists a toxic desire to be "VIP" not only in theatres and stadiums, but also in taxis, tickets of all kinds, and even zoos. For oneself to feel VIP, many people strive to buy "status things". These might take the form of a mink fur coat or an expensive car bought on credit and savings from basic necessities.

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I believe these cartoons accurately depict our problems and at the same time show how the same issues are addressed in the EU. That is why I think we need to go to the EU, rather than continue to poke around in this swamp.



For over than twenty years we have not been able to decide where to go. But we can no longer live with such uncertainty and do nothing. These cartoons are the programme of action for the Ukrainian government. The drawings demonstrate in a popular way what needs to be changed in the first place. I hope that Ukrainian politicians after seeing your cartoons will finally allow us to live in line with European standards.

Tetiana Polishchuk,
36 years old, entrepreneur, Dnipropetrovsk



In European countries, there isn't such a sharp need to assert your societal position through such "status things" — sometimes being talented and professional is enough. Furthermore, modesty is among the most valued characteristics of EU citizens.



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» *The exhibition was opened in Deribasovskaya Street. The magnificence of the exhibition, the care of the young people tell a lot. It means there is a future, if we come to Europe. Only the Institute of World Policy takes care of Odessa's residents, educates and makes them maudlin. I am very grateful for the wonderful posters that are on display. If only our government acceded to this magic.*

Hran V.S., Odesa

» *This is very good that the European Union is finally coming by means of your exhibition to different cities of Ukraine. It is necessary that our people see how people live in Europe, compared to the way we live. I hope that soon we will also drive on such roads as in Europe, and cars prices here will be the same as, let's say, in Poland.*

Taras, 29 years old, broker, Khmelnytskyi

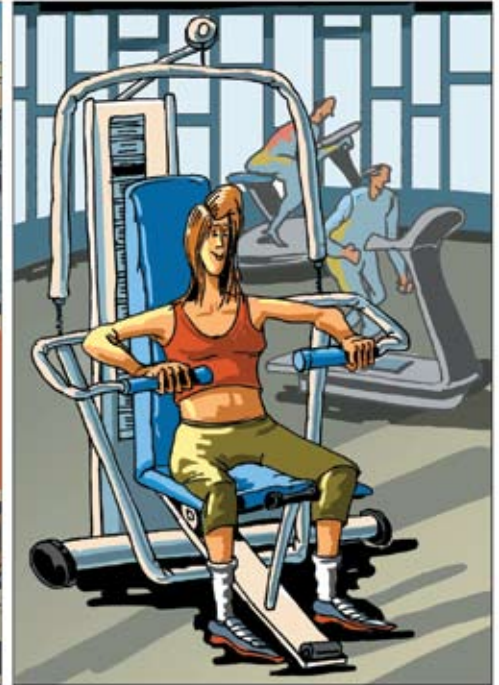




SPORTS MEANS STRONG HEALTH

In the European Union, modern and accessible fitness clubs, even in small towns, are considered more of a “do” than a “don’t”. For example, almost half of Sweden’s seven million inhabitants between the ages of 7 and 70 are members of a sports club — as active competitors, keep-fitters, leaders, trainers or supporters. 66% of Ukrainians say that although they are willing to partake in sport activities, they don’t participate in sports at all due to a lack of spare time. Conversely, 65% of EU citizens exercise. Many of them (48%), engage in physical activity outdoors: in parks and other equipped outside venues.

Additionally, 22% of elderly Europeans (aged 70+) say that they remain physically active and pay particular attention to their physical exercise habits (according to Eurobarometer data).



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Recently, young people have been massively leaving Ukraine. We will never get into the European Union unless creating appropriate conditions inside the country, and Europe is not able to help us until we start changing our outlook on life.

Yevheniya Vasylivna,
64 years old, retired (teacher), Kyiv



No one, except for the European Union, can help us to actually change our country for the better. To do this, Ukraine has to move towards the EU, and should even think away all the ideas about the Customs Union. Your cartoons show perfectly well the difference between Europe and the “Homo Sovieticus” which is stuck fast in us.

Valentyna, 36 years old, economist, Kirovohrad

MILITARY SALARY



Income of military personnel in Ukraine dramatically differs from that of military servicemen in EU, not even considering the wealthiest of the EU members. For example, a junior officer in Ukraine will earn about 130-230 euros. In Latvia and Estonia this figure varies from 600-800 euros, whilst in Hungary it can reach up to 1000 euros, in Germany 2200-3000 euros, and in France 1700-2200 euros.

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» *This is a really nice idea to show two realities using cartoons. I have participated in a student exchange programme and studied in Germany for a year. So, I can sign under all the facts which you demonstrate. I am sure that all the issues, which you have put forward for consideration, are of the utmost importance and must be addressed.*

Iryna, 23 years old, student, Odesa

» *Thank you for the exhibition of the drawings. I especially liked the cartoons about ecological situation here and in Europe. I believe that the state should allocate more funds for the protection and preservation of the environment, because it is our future. Moreover, our health depends on the quality of water and air. It is not surprising that people in Europe have higher life expectancy than in Ukraine.*

Maryna, 27 years old, unemployed, Zaporizhia



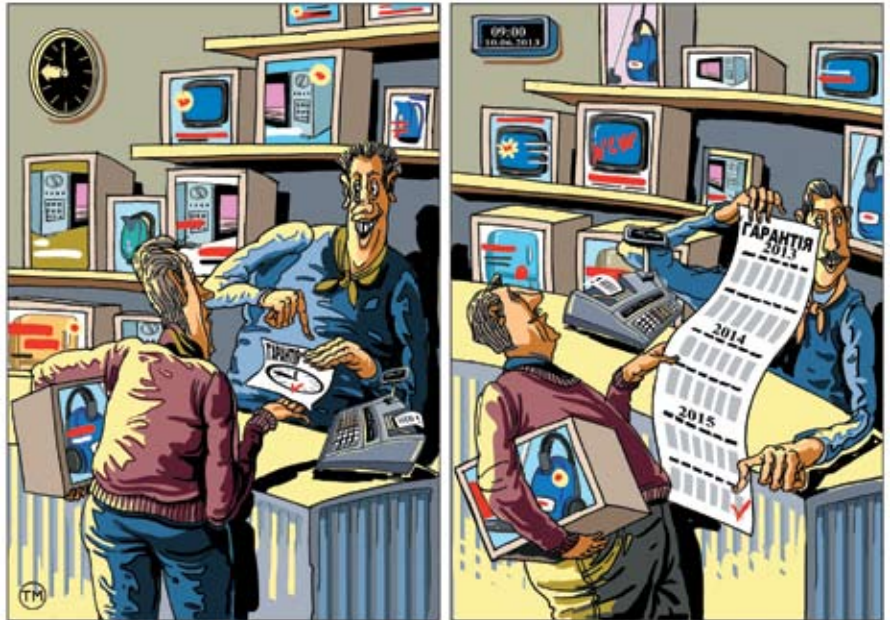


GUARANTEE OF QUALITY

The rules of the European Union require manufactures to provide a minimum two-year warranty on all new products.

In Ukraine, due to imperfection and complexity of law, it is often impossible to get additional or technical support.

In European law there exists a pre-contractual obligations. This type of responsibility mandates a general obligation to negotiate in good faith, and it is intended for damages incurred by the party due to unfair treatment of other parties at the stage of negotiations. For example, a German citizen has agreed to buy a French citizen's car. He buys a ticket to France, takes a weekend off work at his own expense, and arrives at the seller, but the Frenchman says he has already sold the car. In such a case, the seller by law is liable for all damages caused to the potential buyer. In Ukraine this interaction simply remains on seller's conscience.



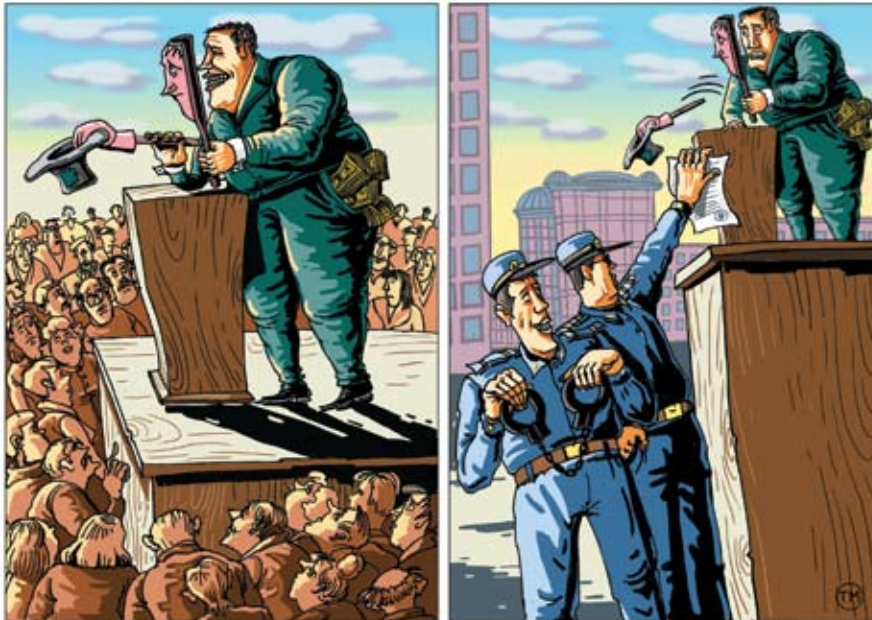
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For me, the most striking in the drawings was that many features of "European" life can be achieved right now, even without calling for legislative reforms: taking care of the environment, clean streets, tolerance of each other, feeling proud of our achievements and not belonging to a VIP class. Even road safety mostly depends on drivers themselves. This is a good lesson for us, Ukrainians; we should develop our country, do work by ourselves and not expect someone to undertake our work instead of us. Eventually, we need to be more proactive.

Volodymyr, entrepreneur, Vinnytsia

POLITICAL IMPUNITY AND IRRESPONSIBILITY



In Ukraine a politician can resort to outright public lying, manipulation, and plagiarism, and then be even re-elected to a high state position. The rule of the law does not seem to cover people in power all the times that is the prerogative of a democratic state where all the citizens stay under the law. For example, in the past three years, three famous politicians from Germany had to resign due to plagiarism on their dissertations: the Minister of Defence, deputy speaker of the European Parliament (representative of Germany), and the Minister of Education. Similarly, in 2012 the president of Hungary resigned after being accused of plagiarism.



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As a student, I am concerned about what to do after graduation and if I will be in high demand in the labour market. It is true, as the images illustrate, many doors and opportunities open to the European youth after graduation. Our graduates ask themselves what to do with their degree, because manual labour in Ukraine is paid better than mental one. Therefore, it is not surprising that many young people leave Ukraine to go abroad in search of work and better living conditions. I would love these cartoons to inspire young people not to leave the country, and rather build Europe in Ukraine. I believe that the country's future is of the young, caring people.

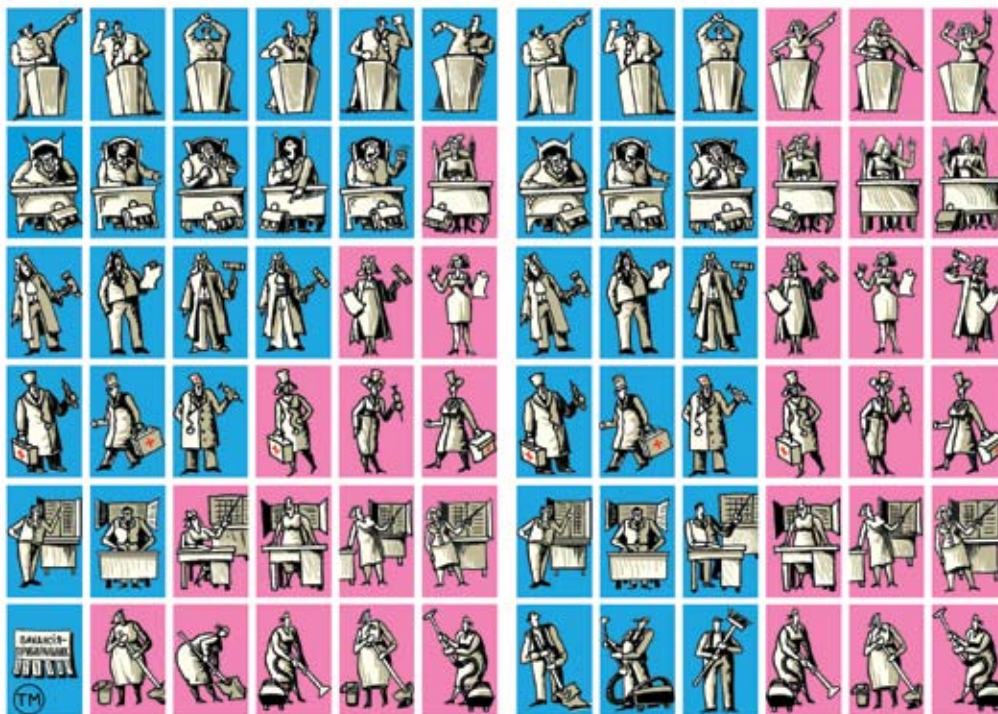


Tetiana, 18 years old, student



WOMEN AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

It is hard for Ukrainian women to achieve high governmental positions. Consequently, Ukraine holds the bottom rank in Europe for the number of women in parliament. The European parliament composition is 34% female, and the average for parliaments of the EU member states is 22.8%. In Sweden, female seats in parliament generally reach 45%. The percentage of women in the Ukrainian parliament is less than 10%.



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I feel worried for my children and grandchildren. I wish they lived in the European Union. I am very grateful for the coverage of this topic.

Tetiana,
74 years old, retired



I have pondered over what kind of future I wish for my children. Of course, it is better to live in Europe because there is at least some confidence in the future. Here, we never know what happens next. It could be nice if all Ukrainians joined hands for a common goal, then the government would have no choice but to heed the people. Now the authorities avail themselves of the fact that our people lack consensus and, in general, many people are indifferent to what is happening around them. It is a very good exhibition, I hope people will reflect on their future.

Hennadii, 35 years old, manager, Dnipropetrovsk



There is also a dramatic gap in pay for men and women who work in Ukraine and the EU. In Ukraine, women on average earn less than men by 30%. In the EU, the average difference is about 16%. In Poland, the difference is only 5%, and in Slovenia it is generally about 2%. Ukrainian women experience difficulties since they are traditionally tied to a narrow housekeeping sphere such as childcare, preparing foods, etc. 30% of Ukrainian women acknowledge they would like to be involved into public activities more if they were not constrained by housekeeping duties.



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I fully agree with the artists who drew these cartoons. Ukrainian villages are in decline. The majority of young people move to cities in search of work, because the state does not allocate funds for the development of villages. Of course I am for the European Union, because I want to live as people live in the European countries. And if we are unlikely to live like this, at least let our children and grandchildren to have chance to make it.

Oleh Hryhorovych, 68 years old, retired, Vinnytsia



This would be funny if it were not so sad. The worst of it is that, even without knowing the exact numbers, we imagine, more or less, the situation in Ukraine and continue to silently watch the living standards and respect for the Ukraine's citizens being completely neglected.

Dmytro, Kyiv





EQUIPPED ELDERLY



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I have enjoyed the cartoons which compare lives of retired people in Ukraine and Europe. Indeed, when our people retire, they start to struggle to survive. I believe that no pensioner here dreams of travelling the world, due to the pensions are barely enough to pay food and utilities. Certainly, we would like our children or at least grandchildren to live in a better country. In my opinion, Ukraine has to follow the example of Europe, where the states take care of their citizens in all areas. And maybe one day a future Ukrainian generation will know about secured old age not from pictures but personal experience.

Hanna Petrivna, 50 years old, librarian, Vinnytsia



The European Union leads the world in funding social protection for its citizens – 30% of GDP (according to Eurostat data). In Ukraine, only 8% of GDP is allocated for social security. This difference is especially noticeable in pensions. In Germany, the minimum monthly pension is 350 euros and the average is about 800 euros per month. In France the minimum pension is 500 euros per month, and in the UK, 760 euros. In Ukraine, the average pension is about 137 euros (1438 hryvnias).



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An unexpected way to demonstrate sad statistics, but without these statistics they would be groundless. Some figures are staggering, for instance, the fact that the Ukrainians are the least satisfied with the quality of medical care. Indeed, I could not imagine that Ukraine may have the lowest levels of this indicator in the world. It should be shown in particular to those who think that the remnants of the Soviet healthcare system are the best in the world.

Oleksii, 35 years old, vendor, Kyiv region



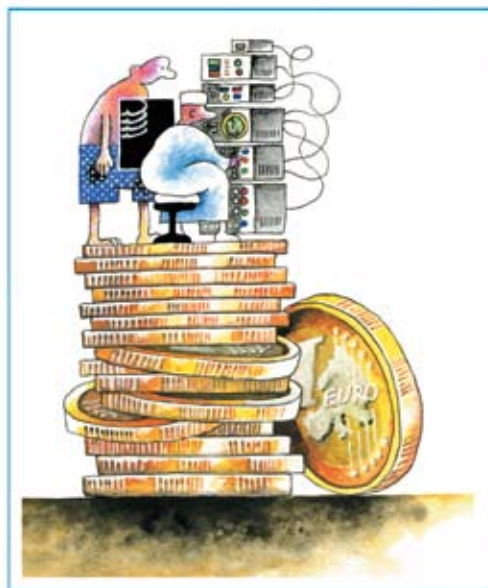
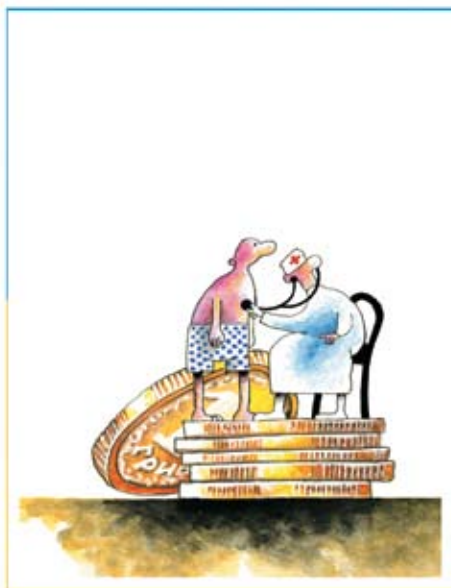
Cartoons — it was good, but the question is what is next? Either sit down and weep, or make some changes. It could be great to supplement these cartoons with advices for Ukrainians on how to fight on a daily basis with the officials' abuse of discretion. In the words of Ivan Franko, "More sweat, less blood".

Oleh Petrovych, journalist, Kyiv



CITIZENS HEALTH AND BUDGET EXPENSES

Expenditures on health care in Ukraine and the EU differ completely. On average, budgetary spending for health care for one Ukrainian is less than 90 euros, whereas in the EU the number may rise up to 1200 euros. In general, per capita expenditures on health care in Ukraine 13 times less than in the EU.



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Many images are, basically, anticipated — corruption, irresponsibility of officials, low level of social security. But some happened to be completely unexpected, such as a desperate desire of Ukrainians to fall into VIP category. It is sad that we are no longer proud of scientific achievements and educational level. An expensive car can replace all this nowadays.



This is a highly true and well-timed exhibition. There is a logical visual series with distinct images. "Secured old age", "Corruption" and "Torture" are exceptionally apt. "Cookie Rytodor" — this is altogether a masterpiece. Promptly take the exhibition to the south-east regions and open eyes of the unfortunate people.

Olena, student, Dnipropetrovsk

Serhii, 27 years old, Kryvyi Rih



POLITICAL OPPONENTS

Ukraine's political leaders usually choose the most reliable people into their teams; they select persons who will not compete or who will not challenge them. The main trait of the subordinates is to serve their boss loyally and not to confront him ever. In the same time, famous international NGOs (Freedom House, Amnesty International) emphasize

that President Viktor Yanukovych's administration systematically sought to eliminate opposition to the ruling Party of the Regions. Political leaders in the EU states prefer to hire most professional people because only smartest and most effective people can win in the highly competitive democratic societies.

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» *Thank you for the interesting idea, original vision and presentation. We hope that visitors will keep in their hearts the "right" side of the cartoons, which they will be able to apply, but not grotesquely, in their life in the near future.*

Oleksandr Ponomarenko, 34 years old

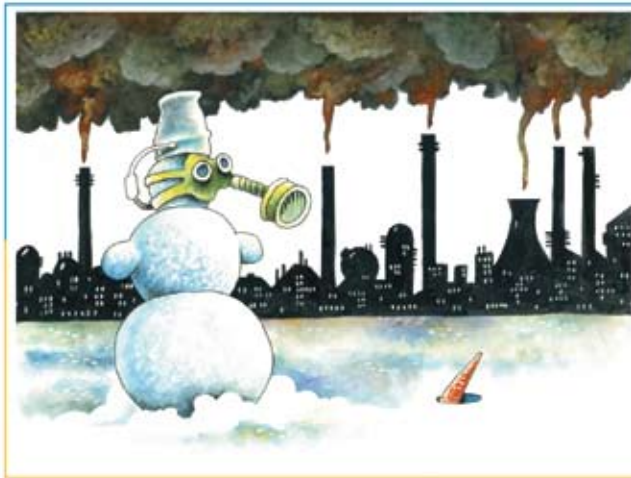
» *It is very useful to organize such demonstrative exhibitions, which compel people to see over the "real" economic and political situation in Ukraine.*

Valentyna, 20 years old, student

QUALITY OF AIR

More than half of Ukrainians (54%) are not satisfied with the quality of air they breathe. None of the EU countries have fallen to such mark, and in countries like the UK, Germany, and Sweden, air quality satisfies over 90% of the population. In Ukraine, people turn a blind eye to air quality even though our lives depend on it.

Poor quality of the air may cause different respiratory diseases. In 2012 alone, 17.8 thousand people died from respiratory diseases in Ukraine (according to data from the Center for Health Statistics of Ukrainian Ministry of Health and Ukraine).



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It is very interesting to see against which problems Ukrainians are struggling. Regrettably, I know from personal experience that the European Union member states are not perfect as well.

Yoanna, 27 years old, lawyer, Asia.



Regarding roads and their condition, it is appropriate and truthful! I wish our pensioners lived as in the European Union, and young people with their higher education had a decent wage and were valued. The exhibition is simply gorgeous; it covers all current important issues in full.

Pokazatska Maryana, 22 years old
Antoniuk Svitlana, 23 years old
Tymoshchuk Mariya, 21 years old



CLEAR WATER

Only 42% of Ukrainians are satisfied with the country's tap water. In the EU member states, this figures ranges from 61% in Bulgaria to 96% in Austria, Great Britain, Germany, and Sweden. In the majority of the EU countries, tap water is healthier than bottled water. Requirements for drinking water in Europe are 28 times higher than in Ukraine, and of course this difference in requirements translates to actual water quality. In order to improve the quality of drinking water in Ukraine, we have to implement the Water Framework Directive of the European Union and adopt a law on a complete rejection of detergents based on phosphate.



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We reckon that there is a better side of Europe. It is pleasant to know and believe that such exhibitions provide us with an opportunity to understand that business in our country is ruled not by the market. Guys, thank you so much for handouts with wonderful pictures. Thank you! Let us work together to make our country better!



We have a great country, but there are people, and there is a state. And these concepts are different. The cartoons are highly truthful. I would like more people see the cartoons and reflect on how we live and how we can live, if we do not help those who are destroying us in the parliament. Super exhibition! I advise it to all.



IT'S CLEAN ON THE STREETS

According to Forbes magazine, 11 of the 25 cleanest cities in the world are European, with 7 of them being towns of EU member states. Approximately 30% of household waste in the EU is fully recycled, whereas in Ukraine only 1-2% is recycled.



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Very topical issues are illustrated:

- in comparison with European values;
- in terms of relevance in all daily life areas;

But there is a question "What to do?" and how to get out of this state lawlessness abyss? I think this topic should become a slogan for a next exhibition.

Vladimir, Odesa

A comment from professor Preobrazhenskiy "... disruption is not in the water closets, but in the minds...".

Aleksei Dobrovolnyi,
Lviv-Odesa

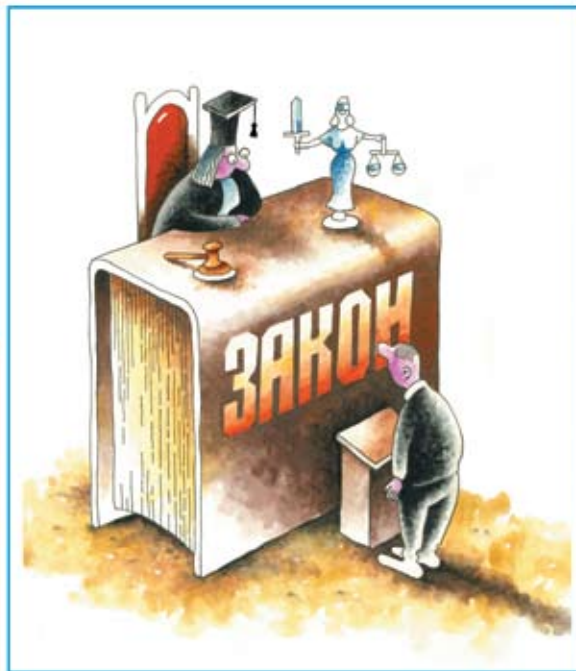
It is sad to live in Ukraine. An exhibition is not enough to make some change. There is only one solution — to go to a country, where people are valued and respected.

Katia, 22 years old



THE RULE OF LAW

Ukraine has the largest index of judiciary corruption in Europe and one of the lowest levels of confidence in the judicial system. About 70% of Ukraine's population negatively assess the courts and believe that the judiciary is politically dependent.



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This is a wonderful exhibition. It is necessary to organize such kind of exhibitions in all regional centres, particularly, in Odesa, Kharkiv, Lviv. And these events should be covered in the media. Perhaps, you could appear on the "95 kvartal" with such exhibition.

Vladimir Remetnik, Odesa



The European integration is the way to the future. The Customs Union is the way to nowhere. The exhibition shows the advantages to those who do not understand something. I am 100% for the integration.

Mariya, 52 years old, educator, Vinnytsia



TOP BANYA © 2013



In 2012, only 3.3% of Ukrainians completely trusted Ukrainian courts. The poor status of Ukrainian courts corresponds to the high number of Ukrainian citizens who seek justice in the European Court for Human Rights. Ukraine ranks fifth in Europe for the number of complaints pending before the European Court. In 2012, the European Court had 10400 complaints against the Ukrainian judiciary. 90% of complaints concerned excessive length in court proceedings and delays in sentencing.



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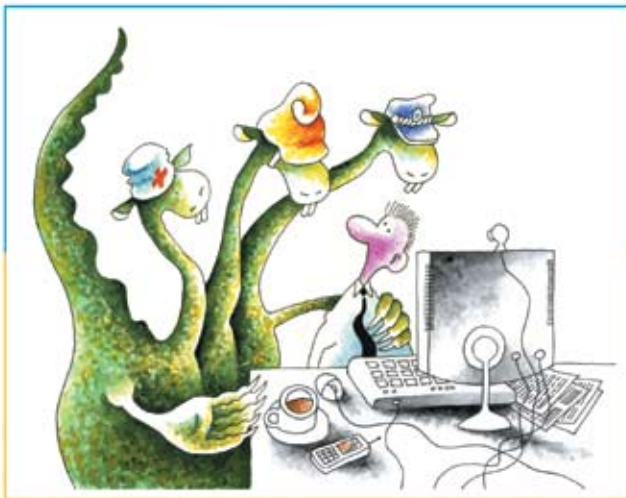


I have really enjoyed your posters exhibition in Deribassovskaya Street. You have managed to illustrate many painful and problematic aspects of the life of all Ukrainians in such a simple, comprehensible for everyone form. Everything is presented as comics, but it is rather "laughing through the tears". Just thanks to the sense of humour we are able to live in such harsh conditions! I would like that except the posters we would become closer to decisions, changes for the better and a decent quality of life. Our people deserve to live in an honest, caring country and to feel proud to call themselves Ukrainians!



Yelena Rodzhers, artist from Vinnytsia

THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS



In 2013, Ukraine was labelled 137th in the World Bank's ranking for ease of doing business. Our neighbour Slovakia, for example, ranked 46th, Sweden is on 13th place. The process of doing business is often hampered by barriers created by public bodies (i.e. tax inspection).



In addition, business in Ukraine is deterred by the absence of independent courts, which can solve any business disputes. With the absence of these honest courts, foreigners fear that their companies can be taken away at any time.

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I thank the organizers of the exhibition "There is a better side of Europe!". In my opinion, it will contribute to the understanding that Ukraine is a European country. Thus, everyone should reflect on what each person themselves can do to improve the image of Ukraine in Europe.

Lilia Prohulevych, Odesa



This is an extremely substantial, edifying and essential exhibition. It is vital for all of us and our country to adhere, get used to, learn, live in line with European standards, norms and values. My congratulations and greetings.

Georgii Alavitskii

Levels of foreign investment can also indicate the ease (or rather lack thereof) in owning a business in Ukraine. Last year, foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Ukrainian economy summed 4.6 billion euros (which is less than the total in 2011 by 7.2%). By comparison, FDI in Belgium was 68 billion euros, 31 billion euros in France, and 13 billion euros in Sweden.



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Thank you for expressing in such a good and artistic way the real difference in Ukraine and Europe, a difference of life and mentality; it is funny and sad at the same time.

Yulia, Kyiv

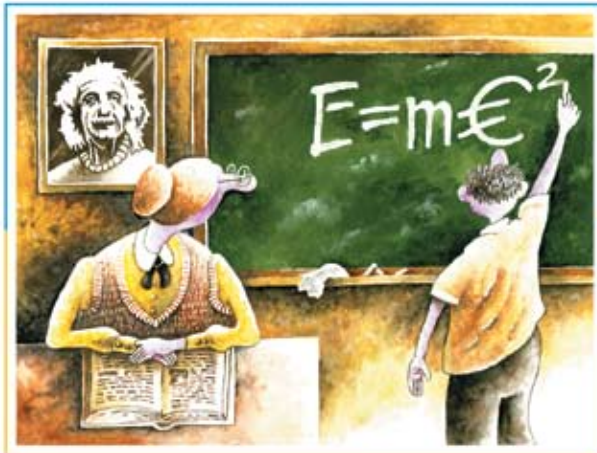


Thanks to the organizers and artists for the presented works. I believe everyone understands that the prospects of Ukraine at the moment are not pretty encouraging, but the figures look much brighter and even frightening. I would like to figure out what are the levers of influence on the authorities and I hope that your organization will help us with this. I wish you development and prosperity. Everything with good intentions always goes up. Good luck!

Mariya, 21 years old, Odesa



A GOOD AND ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION



None of Ukraine's universities are included in the world's top 200-ranked universities (according to the Times Higher Education University table). However, 77 EU universities are included in this ranking. In the EU, hundreds of exchange programs are available for young talents through university scholarships or governmental support programs. It is important to note that the scholarships are applicable to different

EU states. The EU citizens are able to study in any EU country for free or at much lower costs than Ukrainians can. For example, studying at a UK university for Ukrainians costs two times more than it costs a Polish student). Prestigious European education for the EU youth is not an exclusive privilege for rich and wealthy people as is assumed in Ukraine.

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It is bitter to look and realize that we could live as they live in the EU. Ukrainian people are the most patient people in the world! When patience is over, we will be together. It remains to wait until 2015! I love the EU and will be there in two weeks!

Irina Humaniuk, 52 years old, Odesa



It is great! Thank you very much for the opportunity to see both sides of a direct comparison of "pros" and "cons" of the two states. You have illustrated the disadvantages (or horror) of some life aspects in Ukraine, and made it clearly, precisely and with humour, in the form of cartoons, but very realistically. It is time to change something.

A. Fedoseyeva, Odesa

EUROPE WITHOUT BORDERS



The European Union is an opportunity to travel without borders, visas, and even without a passport. All of this will be possible through the Schengen area, which currently contains 26 European countries; Romania, Bulgaria and Croatia are in the line. Visa-free travel will not only allow Europeans from the border regions to plan their trips at the last minute, but it will also allow them to go shopping or see a doctor in neighbouring European countries with better quality service or lower prices. Another advantage of the border-free system is that it is also easier to work and study in any country on the continent you wish, it creates opportunities for greater mobility.

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I am against the equality of women with men as in the EU countries. This is not our culture. We have a different approach.

Yevhen, 21 years old, Kyiv



Well done, guys! An extremely useful campaign for our country! This is a very painful topic and it has been on everyone's lips for a long time. I hope you will tip the scales, so people will consider, get a grip on themselves and start to act. We are no worse than Europe and also have something to learn from us. All together, forward, march!

Serhey Mamab, Odesa



LEVEL OF CORRUPTION

Ukraine is one of the most corrupted countries in the world. The relevant ranking of countries has listed Ukraine as 144th for corruption out of 176 states, overtaking Uganda, Togo, Belarus, and Russia.



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A very helpful exhibition. 100% truth. Well done! I wish you were in power to change everything.

Oksana Hrabarska,
retired, Ivano-Frankivsk



People must be told the truth about the difference between the EU and the Customs Union more and more often. I hope that my grandchildren will live as Europeans.

Ludmyla,
66 years old, retired, Vinnytsia



It is very interesting, bold and fascinating! It gives hope for changes for the better! Lets together and on our own head to the "Ukrainian" success.

Anastasiya,
Odesa

The EU countries are the least corrupt nations in the world. Denmark occupies first place in terms of perceived anticorruption, and Sweden enjoys 4th place (according to Transparency International data). Nobody claims that there isn't any corruption in the EU, but in the EU a bribe is a choice for every human being, a choice which risks one's position and freedom. On the other hand, a bribe in Ukraine is a necessity in all spheres of living.



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It is a very interesting exhibition about Ukraine's actual problems in general and individual problems of every person in the world. It is nice when the way of illustrating the issues is optimistic, interesting and talented. We are waiting for the second part of the exhibition, which will show that it is better in Ukraine than in the EU.

Larisa, Kyiv



Real statistics are revealed to the public. Many thanks for the time-consuming research. We are ready for the development! We support the ideas!

*Student
of the Odessa I.I.Mechnikov
National University*



FOOD PRICES

The minimum wage in the European Union is 7 times higher than that in Ukraine. Prices in the EU countries are different: some products are cheaper, others more expensive. But Ukraine is markedly distinct from the European Union because of its very low minimum wage rates. For example, a Ukrainian can only buy 32kg of chicken on minimum wage, whereas a Czech worker with minimum wage can purchase 126kg, a Portuguese employee, 245 kg, and a British labourer, 355kg. The price of bread in Ukraine is one of the lowest on the continent. Thus, a Ukrainian can afford 240kg of white bread on minimum wage. At the same time, however, a Greek can buy 340kg and a German, 560kg. A Ukrainian can buy 137 dozen eggs, a Spaniard, 557 dozen, an Austrian, 689 dozen, and a Frenchman, 841 dozen.



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I would like to live in that Europe, not in our real one. But Europe is made with our Ukrainian hands too. So, why not give our people an opportunity to make their country comfortable to live in?

Konstantin, Odesa



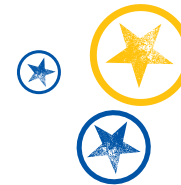
The exhibition is valuable thanks to its propaganda explanation of the great European community's life values to all the residents of Dnipropetrovsk. Ordinary people in Ukraine should be aware that only with the EU we can survive in this difficult situation.

Mykola, 33 years old, Dnipropetrovsk



Two big differences subsist between roads in Ukraine and the EU. About 61% of EU citizens are completely satisfied with the quality of their roads, the second-highest level of satisfaction with roads in the world. Moreover, 70 to 87% of the population in Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, France, Sweden, Finland, and Spain consider their roads favourable. In Ukraine, only 27% of the population is satisfied with the quality of roads. Even the best roads in Ukraine are continually under repair. It would seem that the EU builds roads to ride, while Ukraine builds roads to repair them.

SATISFACTION WITH UKRAINIAN ROADS



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» It reflects the reality of things in Ukraine and in the European Union. I was impressed with the life expectancy difference, i.e. in the EU people live longer than in Ukraine. I am for the EU! Ukraine must integrate to the EU!

Sergei, vendor, Dniprodzerzhynsk

» It is necessary to promote the ideas of civil society development in ignorant, unaware, Ukrainian society. I appreciate your work and hope that a resident of Odessa upon visiting your exhibition will at least slightly rack his brain!

Veronika





Less developed countries possess half as many cars as the most developed ones. However, 90% of road accidents are related to the less developed states. Of all European countries, Ukraine has the highest number of deaths caused by road accidents. Most accidents are caused by drunk driving and speeding. In 2011, 12-13 people in every 100,000 were victims of road accidents in Ukraine (this figure increased by 15% since 2010). The mortality rate on roads in the EU is 6 per every 100,000 people. Moreover, in the EU this figure is showing a tendency to decrease.



SAFETY ON ROADS



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It is necessary to jar people so they do not forget their history. We should not follow other people who are willing to cut Europe.

Ivan, Cherkasy



Ukraine's future starts only with myself, with each of us! Even a small victory over my, perhaps imperceptible, blemish will make Ukraine better, more gentle, humane and loving in this place. Thus, following little changes in us, Ukraine will change. We have absolutely everything for this: people, communication, meaning, nature, climate, soil!!! We just need to start with ourselves! So little but so effective!

Abdiyeva Svetlana, 46 years old, Dnipropetrovsk

POLICE ON THE NATION'S SIDE



The number of police officers in Ukraine is much higher than that in the EU member states. We have 780 police officers per 100 thousand people in the population, whereas in Poland, for example, there are only 264, and 301 in Germany. A higher ratio of police officers does not translate to safer living for Ukrainians, however. This is supported by the fact that only 29% of Ukrainians trust policemen. In countries like Austria, Germany, or Finland, this statistic is as high as 85%. Moreover, 80% of Ukrainians don't believe in the impartiality and honesty of Ukrainian police, whereas in the EU this number doesn't surpass 30%.



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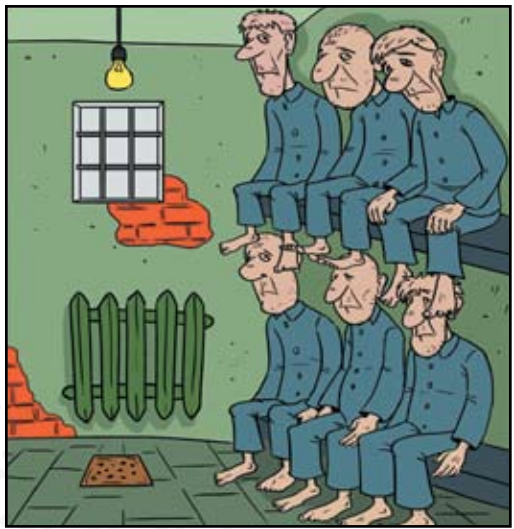
» *Ukraine's future depends on many factors, primarily on the situation in the society, which currently does not meet the generally accepted concepts. Every effort must be used to change the lives of Ukrainians for the better.*

Irina, 35 years old, Dnipropetrovsk

» *The level of community's awareness about the European Union should be raised in different ways: the one you have chosen is not only effective, but also interesting. Of course, it attracts attention, and for Odesa and its residents it is highly needed. Come again and I wish you every success! If in addition to regional centres you cover small towns as well, your impact will be twice as valuable.*

Olena, Odesa





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OVERCROWDED PRISONS



In Ukraine the number of prisoners is twice as high as that in the EU (338 persons per 100,000 in Ukraine, versus about 150 per 100,000 in the EU). There are lots of imprisoned innocent people or persons who committed minor offenses which are not followed by imprisonment in the EU. The conditions of prisons also vary between the EU and Ukraine. Even the most dangerous criminals in the EU experience much better conditions than individuals in Ukrainian pre-trial facilities, where their guilt hasn't even been proven yet.

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The exhibition hit the mark! It honestly tells the contrast between civilized and not enough civilized world. Super! Good on you! I wish you did it more often!

Vitia, 23 years old, **Sasha**, 27 years old, Dnipropetrovsk



It is extremely existent, keen and edifying for the doubters. Our family says "yes"!!!

The Miroshnichenkos, Dnipropetrovsk



All what is needed is to be in Europe soon.

Stepan, 27 years old, Dnipropetrovsk

INTOLERANCE

In Ukraine manifestations of intolerance are commonplace. Public opinion data (KIIS 2011) shows that only 5% of Ukrainians are willing to take part in protests against discrimination. Only 36% of Ukrainians are willing to vote for a Jewish presidential candidate, and only 18% are ready to elect a black one. Ukraine needs to improve situation in anti-discriminatory sphere when the best practices of the EU will be implemented to inculcate protection of the vulnerable groups (based on ethnicity, sexuality, disabilities etc).



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The exhibition's content is instructive. It makes you to recall that you are a human being, not "cattle", and you are worth a better life. Besides the examples concerning them and us, I would like also to hear recommendations on how to improve our situation.

Sergey, 31 years old



I support the IWP in their information campaign. We deserve to have a better life, to live as people in the EU. We support you.

Kulik A.S., 42 years old





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POLITICS AS BUSINESS



In Ukraine, many businessmen go into politics to protect or expand their wealth. In the EU, the general rule is "He who wants to make money goes into business." In Ukraine, by contrast, the rule is "He who wants to make money goes into politics."

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I would like to see my country:

- clean;
- honest;
- mature;
- developing.



The EU will not solve our problems, as long as we will not solve these problems ourself. Europeans have enough difficulties with the euro. Look at what is happening in Greece."



An advice for Ukraine: pay more attention to people. The exhibition vividly describes our key disadvantages: the law is only on paper, everyone's motto is "It is none of my business". Not only politics / economy should be changed. We, ourselves, must learn to treat each other with respect.

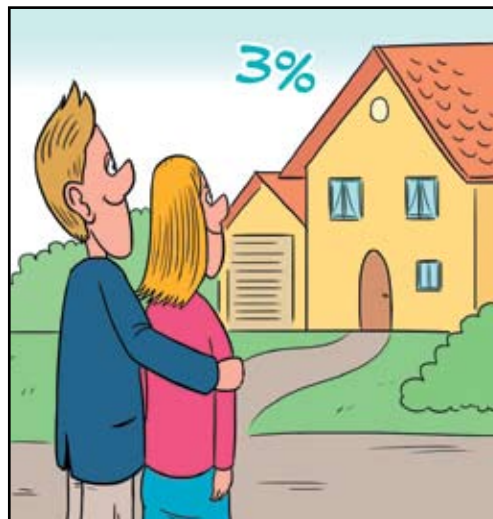
Maryna, 36 years old,
Ministry of Emergencies

Mykola,
Zhytomyr region

Katia, 23 years old, **Sergei** 28 years old

ACCESSIBLE LIVING ACCOMMODATIONS

Unlike in Ukraine, in the EU having living accommodations for yourself and your hard-working family is quite a reasonable possibility. In Germany, the mortgage rates after a decade of maturity don't go over 3.5% and have a tendency to decrease, while 10 years ago these rates were 10% and above. In Holland, the average rate is 30 years at 3%. In Poland, the prime rate is 4.75%. In Ukraine, the base rate on mortgage is about 15 years at 20-25%.



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Education in the European sense is the only way out of the impasse; it means the education of an individual and introduction of the concept of personality as the highest value to the society, the rejection of common values and the destruction of the apotheosis of the despotic state as the highest, allegedly, God-given value.

Oles, 43 years old



In the EU they are afraid us. For them we are terrible people. They are afraid that when we come to them we will organise the same mess, as is happening here in Ukraine.

Olha Maksymivna,
seller, Chernigiv



THE VILLAGE IS DECLINING



If the difference between the capital cities of Ukraine and the European Union is not so striking, the Ukrainian and European Union countryside's are like two parallel worlds. In many villages within the European Union, there is a network of food stores, medical care, quality roads and schools, and an opportunity to fully develop the farm business. Even those Ukrainian villages where new agricultural companies were created experience lack of jobs and social infrastructure.

Over the past 18 years in Ukraine, the number of hospitals being built and opened for public has fallen by 16 times. In the EU, large sums of money are invested in the agricultural sphere. In most countries, farmers are using government support. As such, in the UK the share of government subsidies in a prime cost of agricultural products is more than 25% and is one of the largest in the world.

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We all spend time in the Internet, but we must go out into the world, as you do with your exhibition. And we will win with everything!

Vasilii Nikolayevich,
63 years old, construction engineer



Excellent exhibition, it reflects the Ukrainian reality extremely accurately. Igor and me, we want to be in Europe. We are for the multi-directional trade with the countries of the Customs Union, Africa, aliens, but we want to be in Europe. The main thing is to create jobs for Ukrainians and sell OUR OWN products.

Stanislav, 50 years old, press service,
Ihor, 30 years old, photographer

DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCES



EU countries rank 5th in the amount of funding allocated to science and technological development – 2% of GDP (i.e. 500 euros per inhabitant). The share of GDP spent on research in Ukraine is 2.5-5 times lower than that in the leading countries of the world. Resource of scientific instruments and equipment at research institutions and laboratories in Ukraine are extremely outdated. About 60% of operational equipment used by the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine has been in use for the past 15-25 years. Contrastingly, the typical lifetime of this type of equipment in developed countries does not normally exceed 5-7 years.



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I have remembered lyrics of a song: A steamboat – it is good, a plane – it is OK, but deer are better! I came to the conclusion that Ukraine is not only the wealth of mineral resources and nature, it is the wealth of hearts. We are able to do everything ourselves, we just need to team up. Then we will live in a completely different country - the great Ukraine!

Mykola, 72 years old, retired, Vinnytsia



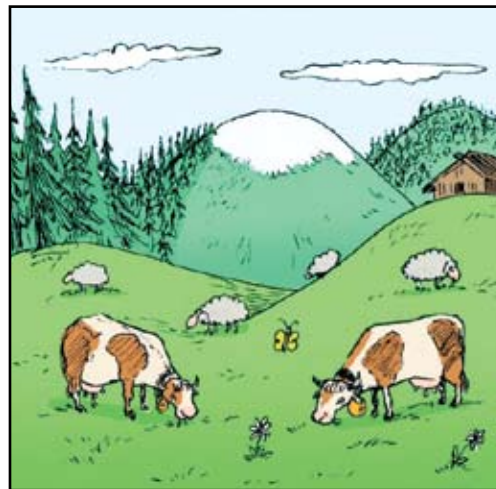
I think improvements in Ukraine are possible only if officials cease to take bribes, but I do not believe in this.

Kirill, 20 years old





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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



In Ukraine, the Government cannot protect forests from illegal logging. Moreover, there are no official initiatives or projects which are aimed at protection of the forests from climate changes. At the same time, EU states, motivated by problems surrounding climate change, are making tremendous efforts to keep and protect forests. Environmental protection is a frequent issue in the agendas of the EU member-states.

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In addition to changing the mentality of our people (mind you, of those who are still here!!), I would like to introduce the practice of at least 100:1 in making laws; 100 from the government and 1 from the people.

Amzhad Maradzh,
25 years old



I believe it is very right to acquaint Ukrainians with the opportunities of life in the EU, and, unfortunately, the living standard there is much higher and this applies to almost all areas of life. However, I am an ardent Ukrainian patriot and I hope that it will encourage Ukrainians not to move abroad but to improve our country; and I hope that because of this campaign the people of Vinnytsia will strive to be like citizens of the EU. After all, to improve the city we must start with ourselves!

Ania, 18 years old, unemployed

CLEAR ENERGY



By 2020, at least 20% of all energy consumed in the EU will be produced from renewable sources: wind, solar power and water. In some EU countries, the share of alternative energy already exceeds the planned level. For example, in Sweden hydropower accounts for 50% of the total manufactured electricity. More than 20% of Denmark's energy is produced by wind power plants.



We hope that this booklet can give you some ideas about a better society.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have comments or questions.

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