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UIA crash in Iran: Ukraine to conduct forensic analysis

The Prosecutor General's Office has appointed the conduct of comprehensive forensic analysis of the UIA's Tehran-Kyiv flight crash in Iran and insists on creation of the international investigation team.

"The Prosecutor General's Office intensifies the pre-trial investigation within the criminal proceedings over downing UIA's Tehran-Kyiv PS752 flight in Iran on January 8, 2020, and insists on the creation of the international investigative team that would significantly speed up and increase the efficiency of the investigation," the press service of the Prosecutor General's Office reports.

It is noted that prosecutors of the department of crimes committed amidst armed conflict appointed the conduct of comprehensive forensic analysis. The purpose of its conduct is to elaborate on the causes of the plane crash, to find out the circumstances of TOR-M1 missile hit.

In addition, the information about the flights that departed before Boeing 737 from the Tehran Airport will be analyzed and a number of investigative and other procedural actions are planned to be held within the framework of the criminal proceedings.

At the same time, the issue of transfer of flight recorders, which may contain crucial information, to the Ukrainian side remains unresolved.

The Ukraine International Airlines (UIA) plane (Flight PS752) heading from Tehran to Kyiv crashed shortly after taking off from the Imam Khomeini International Airport at about 06:00 Tehran time (04:30 Kyiv time) on January 8. There were 176 people on board – nine crew members (all Ukrainians) and 167 passengers (citizens of Ukraine, Iran, Canada, Sweden, Afghanistan, Germany, and the UK). They all died.

Last month, an Iranian official at the International Civil Aviation Organization agreed to hand over flight recorders to France or Ukraine for analysis, but this has not been done so far.

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Zelensky: We can talk about improvement after Easter



Nearly 70% of Ukrainians see coronavirus quarantine as effective - poll



Kyiv city reports 551 cases of coronavirus – Klitschko



Decision to lift quarantine will be made by April 24 - Stepanov



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said that everyone should be aware of the importance of observing quarantine measures at Easter and if crowds can be avoided, it will be possible to talk about the improvement of the situation in Ukraine.

Zelensky said this during a traditional meeting under his chairmanship on combating the spread of coronavirus, according to the website of the Office of the President.

"If we manage to pass Easter so that there are no crowds and fewer people get infected, we will be able to talk about the improvement of the situation in Ukraine. But by that time every Ukrainian should be aware of the importance of quarantine," he said.

Ukraine's government on April 6 introduced additional measures to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

In particular, it is not allowed to stay in public places without a respirator or protective mask, including a handmade mask.

It also prohibited to move in groups of more than two persons, except to go to work if absolutely necessary and accompany persons under 14 years of age. The ban also applies to visits to parks,

squares, recreation areas, sports grounds and playgrounds, forest, park and coastal areas, except for one person walking a pet and in case of emergency.

According to the Public Health Center, 3,372 laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases were registered in Ukraine as of 09:00 on April 14. Ninety-eight people died of the disease, and 119 recovered. A total of 270 new cases have been recorded over the past 24 hours.

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DETAILS



State agencies have already allocated UAH 1.47 billion for the purchase of goods and services to tackle the coronavirus epidemic, according to the Ministry for Development of Economy, Trade and Agriculture.

"As of April 13, government agencies purchased goods and services worth UAH 1.47 billion to counteract the coronavirus," the ministry wrote on Facebook.

Among the regions that spent large sums of funding allocated for procurements to fight Covid-19 were Kyiv region (UAH 427 million), Odesa region (UAH 153 million), Lviv region (UAH 128 million), Dnipropetrovsk region (UAH 127 million) and Zaporizhzhia region (UAH 67 million). Less expenditures were recorded in Chernihiv region (UAH 17 million), Chernivtsi region (UAH 16 million), Ivano-Frankivsk region (UAH 13 million), Kirovohrad region (UAH 8 million) and Luhansk region (UAH 5 million).

DETAILS





PM Shmyhal, French ambassador agree on implementation of infrastructure projects

Prime Minister Dmytro Shmyhal met with Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of France to Ukraine Etienne de Ponsen and agreed on the implementation of infrastructure projects in Ukraine.

As the Government portal informs, the parties agreed to cooperate in two major strategic areas.

"These are major infrastructure projects and projects on Donbas restoration, in particular, construction of a water treatment plant in Mariupol," the statement reads.

Shmyhal assured that the Ukrainian side would facilitate to the greatest possible extent and fulfill all the conditions necessary for the implementation of the plant construction project.

As noted, another project concerns the production of locomotives, and Ukrainian enterprises can become part of a large production chain within the framework of this project.

"I am grateful to the French authorities that had elaborated and would finance this project for this gesture of political and economic support," the Prime Minister of Ukraine said.

One of the aspects of this program might be the allocation of EUR 100 million by France for the modernization of railway sections, rolling stock and the like.

The Head of Government of Ukraine and the Ambassador of France also discussed energy cooperation. During the meeting, it was agreed to hold a teleconference meeting in the near future to discuss the implementation of these initiatives.

Shmyhal also thanked France for its assistance in returning Ukrainian citizens after the closure of borders within the framework of quarantine measures.

"I also hope that France will not take any measures against Ukrainians who will not be able to leave the country for objective reasons," Shmyhal said.

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DETAILS





Radiation levels in the city of Kyiv, Zhytomyr and Kyiv regions are within normal limits, according to the Public Health Centre.

"Since April 3, wildfires have been burning in the Chornobyl exclusion zone. From April 3, and as of today, radiation levels in the territory of Kyiv, Zhytomyr regions and Kyiv city do not exceed the values established by the Radiation Safety Standards of Ukraine. According to the State Emergency Service, indicators of radiation background in Kyiv were 0.011 mR/h as of the morning on April 14," the Public Health Centre wrote on Facebook.

At the same time, the Public Health Centre added that wildfires cause permanent contamination of the atmosphere with combustion products: particulates, carbon compounds, nitrogen, sulfur, etc., which can cause deterioration of health of people with chronic lung diseases, cardiovascular diseases, as well as complicate the course of infectious diseases accompanied by the damage to the respiratory system.

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DETAILS



The Cabinet of Ministers has dismissed Pavlo Kukhta as Ukraine's first deputy

minister for economic development, trade and agriculture.

A respective order, No. 408-r of April 13, has been published on the government portal.

Kukhta was dismissed from the post in accordance with Paragraph 4, Part 2, Article 9 of the law of Ukraine "On Central Executive Government Bodies."

By another order, No. 409-r of April 13, the Cabinet of Ministers dismissed Serhiy Nikolaichuk as deputy minister for economic development, trade and agriculture of Ukraine in accordance with Paragraph 4, Part 2, Article 9 of the law of Ukraine "On Central Executive Government Bodies."

Kukhta has held the post since September 9, 2019. According to a Cabinet of Ministers decision of March 10 this year, he was vested with the temporary fulfillment of the duties of Ukraine's economy minister.

On March 17, the Verkhovna Rada appointed Ihor Petrashko as Ukraine's minister for economic development, trade and agriculture.

Nikolaichuk was appointed deputy economy minister on September 18, 2019.

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DETAILS



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