

Media Digest, January 2023







The enemy doesn't care about weekends and holidays, so everyone has been working all this time: the European Union and our Western partners have provided assistance that allows Ukraine to survive and move forward.

Life and movement require energy – a vital issue for Ukraine, who is at war. Therefore, in the first issue of the media digest in 2023, we collected news about the EU support to Ukraine on all fronts, including energy. This news is also about our joint work to rebuild and develop Ukraine on its path to peace and EU membership.

TOP-3

The key materials in the first issue of 2023 are about the energy that comes to Ukraine from the European Union – through networks and with generators, transformers and LED lamps. Ukraine receives substantial support, including through the Ukraine Energy Support Fund.

'We have to do everything to get Ukraine through the winter' is the key message of our EU partners to take immediate action.

Mr. Matti Maasikas, EU Ambassador to Ukraine, spoke about these programmes and his vision for the future – his interview with Ukrinform is at the TOP-3 of the digest.



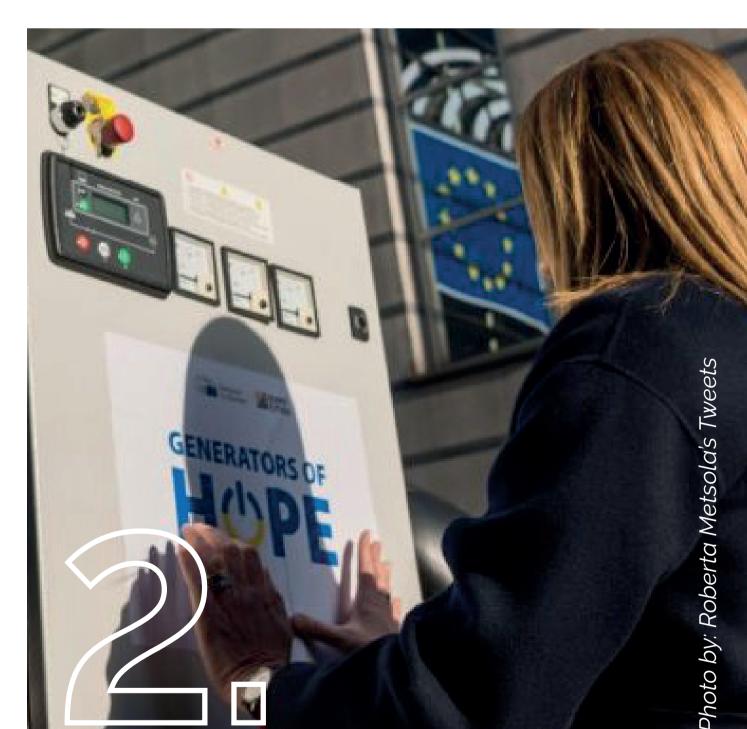
Light from Europe

'We will finance about 30 million LED light bulbs for Ukraine. When 50 million of these light bulbs are delivered with our partners, it will save 1 GW the annual output of a nuclear power plant!,' said Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission. This is not just a replacement of an energy source, but a response to those who want to plunge Ukraine into darkness.

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Generators of Hope: the European Parliament's initiative has received a response from politicians and people

On 23 November, the European Parliament and Eurocities, a network of 200+ of Europe's largest cities, launched the Generators of Hope campaign, calling on European cities to donate generators, transformers and spare parts for power grids to help Ukrainians survive the harsh winter. In December. they started working for Ukrainians.





EU Ambassador to Ukraine Matti Maasikas: 'For me, the main thing is not the time 'when' but the result 'how' this war will end."

Mr. Ambassador of the European Union believes that the war should end in a victory for Ukraine, and it is up to Ukrainians to define this victory. He expressed this opinion and his confidence in the EU's unwavering support for Ukraine in an interview with Ukrinform at the beginning of the new year.

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Read also:

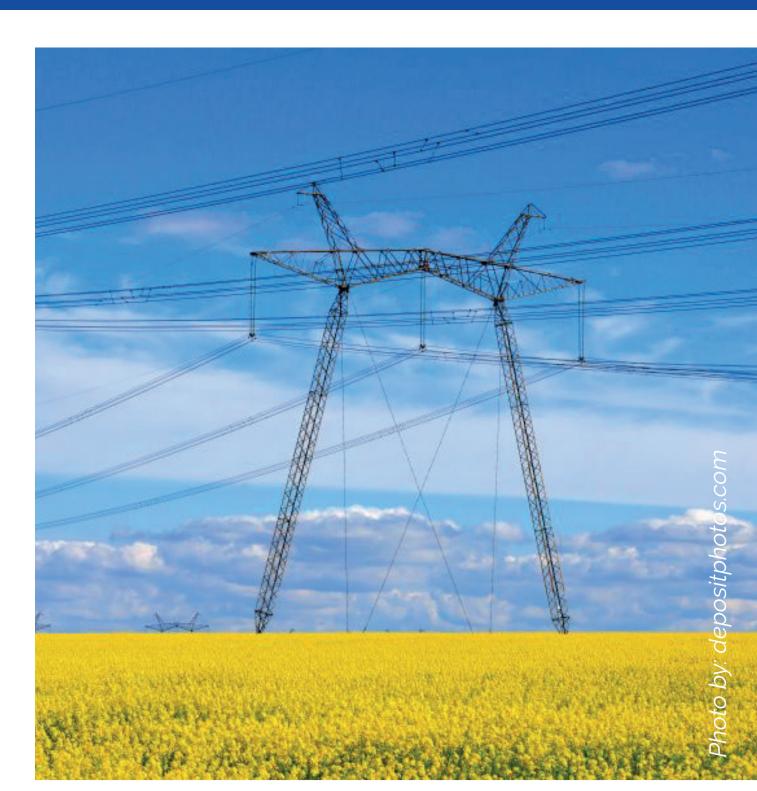
-Ò-THE ENERGY FRONT AND THE EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL

The European Commission will allocate EUR 5 million to the Ukraine Energy Support Fund

On 4 January, the European Commission and the Energy Community Secretariat signed an agreement to provide EUR 5 million to the Ukraine Energy Support Fund to help Ukrenergo with emergency repairs and restoration of the electricity infrastructure damaged by Russia's massive shelling.

As a reminder, in April 2022, the EU Energy Community Secretariat set up the legal framework for the Energy Support Fund for Ukraine, which allowed international institutions to provide emergency financial support to the Ukrainian energy sector in situations caused by the Russian invasion.

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It does not divide and conquer: The EU is getting rid of its dependence on Russian gas

The decision taken by the EU in the spring of 2022 to reduce Russian gas consumption is being implemented consistently and efficiently, clearly demonstrating that the European Union is reaching a consensus and achieving its goals despite some differences in the countries' positions. Reducing purchases of Russian gas is a highly ambitious and multifaceted challenge for the EU countries, which requires radical and even painful solutions to free Europe from the 'Russian gas noose.' Gazprom has already admitted that in 2022 gas exports almost halved – from 185.1 bcm in 2021 to 100.9 bcm in 2022. The price of natural gas is also showing a downward trend – it has fallen to the level of Autumn of 2021.

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Planning for the future: a green economy

Transitioning to a green economy is the right way to go – this is where the future markets are and where the key to greater security lies. 'I see great potential for deeper cooperation between Ukraine and the European Union in the energy sector... The EU is ready to continue to support Ukraine now and in the future,' assured Frans Timmermans, Executive Vice President of the European Commission, in an interview with Interfax-Ukraine.

The European Green Deal programme facilitates for the transition of all EU countries to carbon neutrality by 2050.

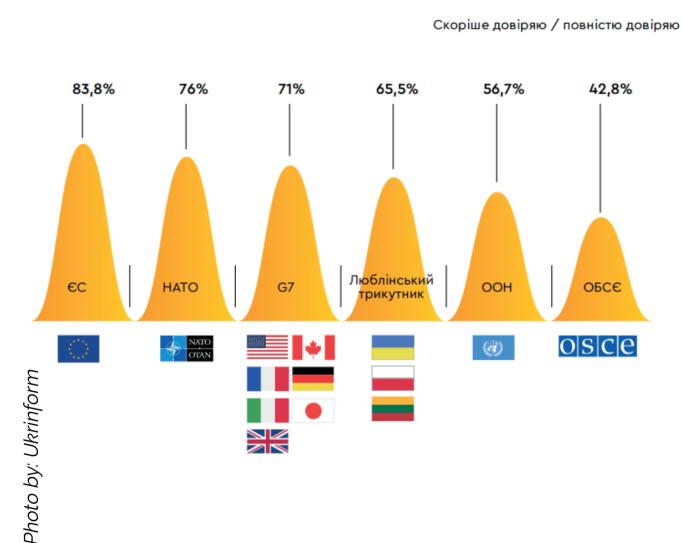


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UKRAINE - EU: VOX POPULI

ОЦІНІТЬ, БУДЬ ЛАСКА, РІВЕНЬ ДОВІРИ ДО КОЖНОЇ З ЦИХ МІЖНАРОДНИХ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЙ/ОБ'ЄДНАНЬ



Trust, reforms and development vector: with victory and progress in mind

Events, actions, opinions and assessments are dynamic during the war. How has the mood of citizens and communities in Ukraine changed? How do they see the country's future, and how and with whom are they ready to move forward?

The study 'Wartime Diplomacy. What do Ukrainians think about Ukraine's movement towards EU membership', commissioned by the New Europe Center and conducted by INFO SAPIENS LLC, provides answers to these questions.

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hoto by: Eurobarometer

EU citizens approve of supporting Ukraine in times of war

According to the Eurobarometer, almost twothirds of EU citizens support the actions of the EU leadership and their governments aimed at helping Ukraine resist Russia's aggression.

Sweden demonstrates the highest level of support (97 %), followed by Finland (95 %), the Netherlands (93 %), Portugal (92 %) and Denmark (92 %).

73% громадян ЄС підтримують різні заходи*, яких вжив Євросоюз для підтримки України з початку війни

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ECONOMY AND FINANCE

військова та гуманітарна підтримка.

Джерело: опитування Європарламенту Євробарометр 98.1

Ukraine receives first EUR 3 billion of EU macro-financial assistance

*наприклад санкції проти російського уряду, а також фінансова,

Ukraine has received the first tranche of macrofinancial assistance from the European Union for EUR 3 billion out of EUR 18 billion planned for 2023.

In 2022, Ukraine received EUR 7.3 billion of macrofinancial assistance from the EU, which allowed it to pay pensions and social benefits in full and on time, ensure the functioning of government agencies, repair infrastructure facilities and maintain macroeconomic stability.

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The European Peace Facility (EPF) budget will increase by EUR 2 billion: Ukraine will receive effective support

The EPF, established two years ago to prevent wars and ensure peace, has undergone a real-time and real-war test of its capabilities since 24 February 2022. Since then, the EU has taken many decisive steps to make the EPF a powerful and effective tool to help Ukraine in its war against the Russian aggressor.

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SUPPORT BY BUSINESS

Ukrainian businesses don't plan to stop

On 4 June 2022, the European Union abolished the main taxes on imports of products from Ukraine - it is the first time it has taken such a large-scale

step to liberalise trade. The rules in Regulation No. 2022/870 will remain in force until 5 June 2023. This analytical review describes what has changed, how to take advantage of new opportunities and what results can be seen. In short, according to the Ministry of Economy, exports of Ukrainian goods to the EU increased by 4.2 % in 2022 compared to 2021 and amounted to about USD 28 billion.

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Grants for Ukrainian farmers

The EU provides Ukraine with humanitarian, financial and military support in wartime. It is also working with Ukrainians for the future, implementing many projects to support business, civil society, independent media and culture. A new grant programme for farmers from the western regions of Ukraine also focuses on development. The programme will be open to young producers and those who work with well-known delicious brands.



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EU programme **'Strong Regions' simplifies** access to administrative services for Ukrainians

Almost every Ukrainian adult can attest to the benefits of using Administrative Services Centers. Today, when hundreds of thousands of people are displaced to escape the war or have lost their homes, belongings and documents, uninterrupted access to administrative services is of foremost importance.

Thanks to the EU's Strong Regions programme a special support programme for Ukraine, 25 communities will receive equipment to provide administrative services and issue passports.

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CULTURE, EDUCATION, SCIENCE

Lviv University and Koszalin University of Technology to work on Erasmus + EU4DUAL (European University Alliance on Dual Education) project

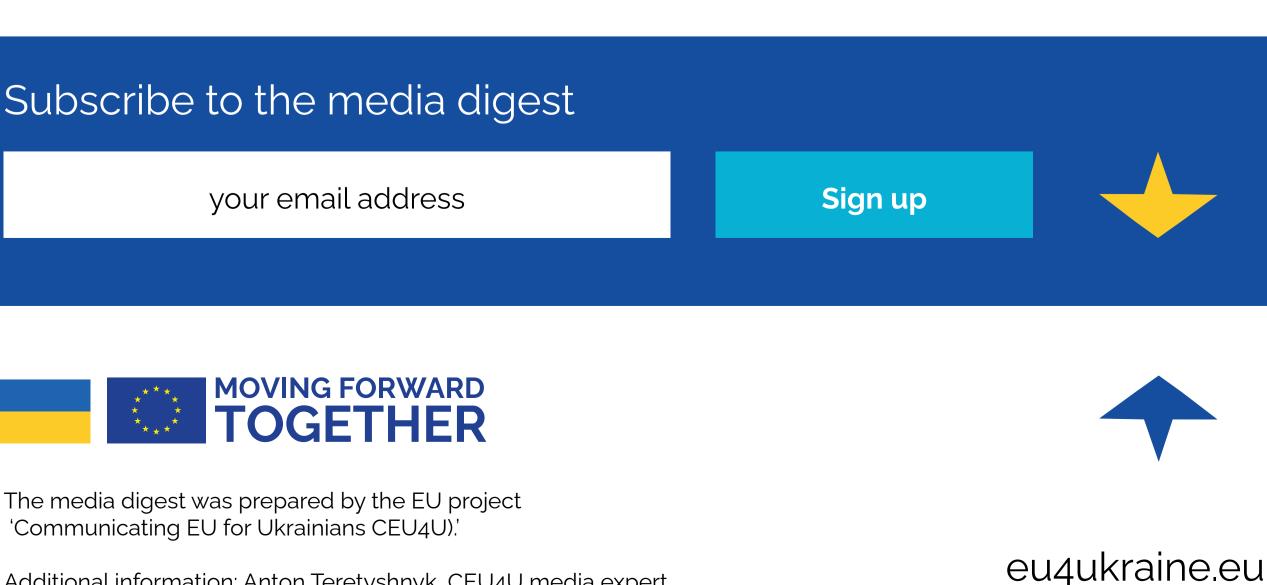
Ivan Franko National University, Lviv, along with ten other Ukrainian universities, was ranked among the world's best universities by Times Higher Education.

International cooperation also further strengthens the position and reputation of Lviv National University. Today, together with the Koszalin University of Technology, Lviv University will implement the Erasmus + EU4DUAL project.

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Photo by: Yaryna Pryshliak and Koszalin University of Technology



Additional information: Anton Teretyshnyk, CEU4U media expert E-mail: Anton.Teretyshnyk@ecorys.com