

Information and analytical review

**The manifestations of Nazism,
neo-Nazism and xenophobia
in Ukraine**

2020

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Introduction

After the victory of the so-called "Euromaidan", the state policy of Ukraine in the humanitarian sphere is determined by political forces professing an openly nationalist Russophobic ideology. Throughout all five years of Poroshenko's presidency, the Ukrainian authorities pursued a consistent line on rewriting history, dismantling the historical memory of the Ukrainian people about the events of the World War II, all-round suppression of the role of the USSR and the Red (Soviet) Army in the victory over Nazi Germany, glorification and exaltation of various formations Ukrainian collaborators who collaborated with the Nazi invaders during the World War II.

With the tacit connivance, or even direct support of the authorities in Ukraine, cases of neo-Nazism and xenophobia have sharply increased. The conductor of this policy was the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory (UINM), which has the status of a central executive body with the main tasks of "recreating the fair history of the Ukrainian nation" and "shaping and implementing state policy in this direction". One of the main areas of work of the UINM, which during the time of Poroshenko was headed by V. Vyatrovich, known for his extreme nationalistic views, was numerous falsifications of the history of the World War II, the inculcation of the cult of OUN-UPA and such odious historical figures as S. Bandera and R. Shukhevych. This line of the Ukrainian authorities, however, was strongly opposed by a significant part of Ukrainian society, as evidenced by numerous sociological polls, and repeatedly provoked resonant scandals and conflict situations in Ukraine's relations with neighboring states, primarily Poland.

With the election of V. Zelensky to the post of President of Ukraine, the majority of Ukrainian citizens pinned their hopes for changes for the better in various spheres of public life. However, more than a year that has passed since Zelensky's victory in the presidential elections, we have to admit that on most key issues, including in the humanitarian sphere, the policy of the new Ukrainian government has practically not changed, remaining the same as it was under Poroshenko.

In December 2019, Ukraine, together with the United States, voted at the UN against the resolution "Fight against the glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to the escalation of modern forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance" (Ukraine held a similar position throughout all five years of Poroshenko's rule).

Despite the change in the leadership of the UINM, which took place in December 2019, this institution is still engaged in the same propaganda activities aimed at glorifying the OUN-UPA and related figures. And the current head of the UINM Anton Drobovich has already managed to make a number of politically biased statements, in which he deliberately falsified the history of World War II.

Over the past year in Ukraine, there have repeatedly been new cases of vandalism and desecration of burials and memorial signs dedicated to the heroes of the World War II, as well as civilians of various nationalities who died during the

war. Of particular concern is the fact that, as in the Poroshenko era, the criminal actions of vandals remain unpunished.

The purpose of this review – to bring international attention to the manifestations of Nazism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia in the political life of Ukraine in the period 2019-2020. This review, in particular, will address the following questions:

1. Analysis of the modern legislation of Ukraine aimed at glorifying Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism.

2. Practical activities of state institutions of Ukraine on the glorification of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism. Public statements and actions of Ukrainian politicians and officials aimed at falsifying the history of the World War II, glorifying Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism.

3. Manifestations of neo-Nazism in the social and political life of Ukraine, public activities of radical nationalist groups. Manifestations of anti-Semitism, xenophobia, use of hate speech in the media.

4. Acts of vandalism, destruction and desecration of burial places and memorial signs dedicated to the heroes of the World War II, as well as civilians of different nationalities who died during the war.

5. Recommendations to contrariety of Nazism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia in Ukraine.

The issues of this review seem to be especially relevant in conditions when the world community is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Victory over Nazism in World War II.

I. Analysis of Ukraine legislation aimed at glorifying Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism

Starting from 2014, one of the main areas of internal policy of the Ukrainian authorities was the so-called "Decommunization". To this end, the Ukrainian authorities have adopted several legislation acts.

March 31, 2015 the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has approved a package of bills (the so-called "decommunization legislative package"), containing rules on the prohibition of the communist ideology and Soviet symbolism, but also gives the status of "fighters for the independence of Ukraine" to members of various Ukrainian nationalist organizations and paramilitary formations, including those who collaborated with Nazi Germany on the eve and during the World War II. On April 9, these initiatives were supported by the Verkhovna Rada, and on May 15, the documents were signed by President Petro Poroshenko.

In accordance with the law "About condemnation of the Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) totalitarian regimes in Ukraine and the ban on the propaganda of their symbolism" should in course of the year to eliminate the ideological legacy of the Soviet period, dismantle monuments to political figures of the Soviet period and change it Soviet place names. This rule contributes to the legal justification for the mass dismantling of Soviet monuments, memorial plaques and memorial signs. In addition, from that moment on, for the use of Soviet symbols, including the symbols of the World War II, in accordance with this law, criminal liability and imprisonment for up to ten years were provided. After the entry into force of the above-mentioned law, the dismantling of Soviet monuments and the renaming of Soviet place names in Ukraine began to be carried out everywhere.

Another legislative act from the "decommunization package" adopted in the spring of 2015 - the law "On the legal status and commemoration of the memory of the participants in the struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the 20th century" recognized members of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), as well as members of the so-called "Ukrainian Insurgent Army "(UPA) as "fighters for the independence of Ukraine". Thus, its participants received the right to social guarantees and benefits from the state. One of the authors of the bill was the deputy Yuri Shukhevych, the son of the "commander-in-chief" of the UPA Roman Shukhevych.

This law gives the state and local authorities the right to provide social guarantees, benefits or other payments to the fighters for the independence of Ukraine in the 20th century and their families. The law also provides for the establishment of liability in accordance with the current legislation of Ukraine for citizens of Ukraine, foreigners, as well as stateless persons who publicly show a disdainful attitude towards persons who are recognized as fighters for the independence of Ukraine. The law also establishes that public denial of the fact of the legitimacy of the struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the twentieth century is recognized as an outrage over the memory of the fighters for the

independence of Ukraine, humiliation of the dignity of the Ukrainian people and is illegal.

Also, the law defines the main directions of state policy ”to restore, preserve and honor the national memory of the struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the twentieth century and its fighters, namely: a comprehensive study of the history of the struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the twentieth century and her fighters; encourage and support the activities of non-governmental institutions and organizations engaged in research and educational activities in relation to the struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the twentieth century and its fighters and others” <https://www.rbc.ua/rus/news/rada-priznala-onu-upa-bortsami-nezavisimost-1428576600.html>

December 6, 2018 the Verkhovna Rada adopted amendments to the law "On the status of war veterans, guarantees of their social protection", in accordance with which the status of the combatants was granted to all veterans of the OUN and UPA. According to the new wording, the category of combatants included "persons who took part in all forms of armed struggle for the independence of Ukraine in the 20th century as part of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army of Ataman Taras Borovets (Bulba) "Polesskaya Sich ", the Ukrainian People's Revolutionary army (UPRA), armed units of the organization of Ukrainian nationalists and in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On the legal status and memory of fighters for the independence of Ukraine in the XX century" are recognized as fighters for the independence of Ukraine in the XX century.

Thus, the Verkhovna Rada expanded the list of warriors who are entitled to benefits under such status. Earlier combatants recognized only the fighters of the UPA, which taking whether participation in the fighting against the Nazi invaders in occupied Ukraine in 1941-1944, have not committed crimes against humanity and have been rehabilitated. Now the deputies have excluded one significant point from the previously effective law - a clause that benefits are not provided to those who have committed crimes against peace and humanity. That direct reference to the Holocaust, the Volyn massacre and other types of genocide, in which not only Germans, but also Ukrainian nationalists could be implicated – has disappeared.

With the provision of hostilities participant status specified category of persons granted the right to additional social protection, including benefits for utilities and on public transport, as well as medical care and medication. <https://www.pravda.com.ua/rus/news/2018/12/6/7200429/>

On May 16, 2017, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law "On Amendments to the Code of Ukraine on Administrative Offenses regarding the prohibition of the production and propaganda of the St. George (Guards) Ribbon." This document provides for fines in the amount of 850-2550 UAH for public use, demonstration or wearing of the St. George ribbon or its image. A repeated violation during the year will entail a larger fine - from UAH 2550 to UAH 5100 or admin arrest up to 15 days. St. George's ribbon or items with its image will be removed in any case. (<https://www.mediaport.ua/zakon-o-zaprete-georgievskoy-lenty-v-ukraine-vstupil-v-silu>)

A comment

"Decommunization package of laws", as well as other changes in the Ukrainian legislation, which were passed during the time of President Poroshenko (2014-2019 g), causes extreme questionable response in Ukrainian society. These laws have been repeatedly criticized by opposition political parties, media, Ukrainian and international human rights organizations. In particular, the law "On the Condemnation of the Communist and National Socialist (Nazi) Totalitarian Regimes in Ukraine and the Prohibition of the Propaganda of Their Symbols" caused serious criticism from the Venice Commission, including in the part that concerns the prohibition of Soviet symbols.

(https://www.bbc.com/ukrainian/ukraine_in_russian/2015/12/151222_ru_s_venice_comission_cpu)

Oksana Pokalchuk, executive director of the human rights organization Amnesty International Ukraine, also criticized the document, according to which this law violates human rights. According to O. Pokalchuk, "person cannot be held criminally liable for the use of symbols, if such use was not intended to call for violence or aggression. By itself, such symbols or their use cannot have such consequences " (<https://ukranews.com/interview/1673-oksana-pokalchuk-zakon-o-dekommunizacyy-v-ego-tepereshney-redakcyy-prosto-sleduet-otmenyt>).

A direct consequence of the law on decommunization was the ban on Ukrainian citizens from publicly using Soviet symbols, including the symbols of Victory in the World War II, which in practice resulted in numerous conflict situations during the annual Victory Day celebrations on May 9. Also, after the adoption of this law, the number of acts of vandalism on the part of right-wing radical groups in relation to monuments built in honor of prominent Soviet military leaders, heroes of the World War II and victims of Nazi terror increased significantly.

Serious criticism was also caused by the adoption of laws aimed at glorifying the OUN-UPA - up to granting the fighters of these nationalist organizations the status of participants in hostilities with relying on social benefits and payments from the state. As noted in connection with the adoption meets the requirements of the law Ukrainian online edition "Country" - "Now both the "forest brother" from the UPA and any policeman who served the Nazis who was included in the list of "privileged" nationalist organizations are entitled to payments. At the same time those who participated in the massacres of Poles and Jews, and later joined the ranks of the UPA. Also can count on payments".

(<https://strana.ua/news/175244-verkhovnjaja-rada-predostavila-status-uchastnikov-boevykh-dejstvij-bojtsam-upa-oun-uvo-polesskaja-sech-i-unra-sut-zakona.html>)

II. Activities of state institutions of Ukraine on glorification of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism. Falsification of World War II history

1. Installation of monuments and memorial signs in honor of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism

On May,23 2019 in Ivano-Frankivsk was opened a monument for one of OUN leaders, "superior commander " - R. Shukhevych. As the mayor of the city Ruslan Martsinkiv said on his Facebook page, that the monument was erected on Shukhevycha Street near the school-gymnasium No. 2. According to the mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk, " the monument is a warning for the enemy and good sign for the whole Ukraine, nation that remembers its heroes".

(<https://www.facebook.com/ruslan.martsinkiv/photos/a.837586932931057/2330567153633020/?type=3&permPage=1>)

A comment

Roman Shukhevych actively collaborated with Nazi Germany in 1939-1942: he studied at the secret school of the Abwehr, served in the German armed units, was the deputy commander in the special unit of the Abwehr "Nachtigall" with the rank of Hauptmann (captain), and since November 1941, deputy commander 201 battalion Schutzmannschaft - a German unit subordinate to the SS. According to the Yad Vashem Israeli Center for Holocaust Studies, the center's archives contain a selection of documents obtained from German and Soviet sources that indicate the involvement of the Nachtigall battalion under the command of Shukhevych in punitive operations against the civilian population of Lvov in the summer of 1941.

November,5 2019 in the city of Kalush, Ivano-Frankivsk region, a memorial plaque was opened in honor of the Hauptsturmführer (captain) of the SS Galicia division Dmytr Paliiv. Head of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee Eduard Dolinsky wrote about this on his Facebook page. He also posted an archival photo of Paliiv in Nazi uniform next to the podium and a sculpture of Hitler. (<https://strana.ua/news/231817-v-kalushe-otkryli-memorialnuju-dosku-v-chest-kapitana-ss.html>)

On January 5, 2020 Mayor Ruslan of Ivano-Frankivsk, Martsinkiv announced his intention to erect a monument to OUN leader Stepan Bandera near the border of Ukraine and Russia. Martsinkiv announced this on his Facebook page.

“It is important for me to meet under what monument! Therefore, after consulting with the mayor of Konotop, Artem Semenikhin, we will erect a monument to Bandera there! It will be the easternmost monument in Ukraine to Bandera, also near the Moscow border!” Martsinkiv wrote.

(<https://strana.ua/news/242958-pamjatnik-stepanu-bandere-ustanovjat-v-konotope.html>)

On July 18, 2020 in a wooded area between the villages of Gorodnitsa of Zhytomyr region and Storozhev in Rivne region has been established a memorial cross in honor of the Ivan Treiko, " General" of UPA. The announcement was published on the website of Ukrainian Institute and the National Memory (UINM).

The opening was organized by the Novograd-Volyn cell of the All-Ukrainian Brotherhood OUN-UPA named after R. Shukhevych. The event was attended by representatives of local authorities, politicians, public activists, as well as the head of the Central Interregional Department of the UINM, Bogdan Galayko.

In his speech at the official opening of the monument, B. Galayko said that "Ivan Treiko is a man of the era of struggle for the state independence of Ukraine. A figure who belongs to the undeservedly forgotten figures of Ukrainian history". (<https://uinp.gov.ua/pres-centr/novyny/na-polissi-vstanovyly-pamyatnyy-hrest-general-horunzhomu-upa-ivanu-treyku>)

2. Legal prohibition on honoring the heroes of the World War II under color of "decommunization". Restriction of freedom of speech and peaceful assembly, political persecution

On May 10, 2019 the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory appealed to the mayor of Kharkiv, Gennady Kernes after his statements about the return of the former name of Petro Grigorenko Avenue - Marshal Zhukov Avenue (this avenue was renamed after the adoption of the law on decommunization). The head of the UINM Vladimir Vyatrovich wrote about this on his Facebook page.

Vyatrovich warned Kernes that if the Kharkiv authorities assign the name of Georgy Zhukov to any objects of toponymy, the UINM will appeal to the Prosecutor General's Office to declare the relevant actions unlawful and to cancel them in court and bring the perpetrators to justice. Vyatrovich recalled that violation of the law on decommunization by a representative of the authorities is punishable by imprisonment for a term of 5 to 10 years. (<https://strana.ua/news/200382-vyatrovich-prihrozil-keresu-tjurnoj-za-prospekt-marshala-zhukova.html>)

On June 3, 2019 the UINM issued a statement that the monument to Marshal Zhukov in Kharkov should be dismantled in accordance with the law on decommunization. In the published commentary it was also noted once again that "today there are no legal grounds to assign the name of Zhukov to any toponym".

According to S. Ryabenko, an employee of the UINM, "Zhukov was the first deputy people's commissar of defense of the USSR in 1942-44 and the minister of defense of the USSR in 1955-57, and, therefore, held leading positions in the highest authorities of the USSR. Therefore, his monument is a symbol of the communist and totalitarian regime. The law (clause 6 of article 7) requires the dismantling of such objects". (<https://uinp.gov.ua/pres-centr/novyny/z-zhukovym-u-harkovi-nemaye-pravovoyi-koliziyi-pamyatnyk-slid-demontuvaty-instytut-nacionalnoyi-pamyati>)

On July 12, 2019 the press service of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory reported that the UINM sent an appeal to the General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine and the National Police after the bust of Marshal Zhukov, demolished by nationalists on June 2, was restored in Kharkov.

"The Institute asks the National Police to check the circumstances of the establishment in Kharkov on July 11, 2019 of the monument dedicated to Zhukov,

to open criminal proceedings, to ensure, within the competence, the investigation of these circumstances and bringing the perpetrators to justice", the message says.

Also, the institute asks the Prosecutor General's Office to apply to the Administrative Court with a claim against the Kharkiv City Council and its executive bodies in order to oblige them to dismantle the monument, because it is a symbol of the communist totalitarian regime. (<https://strana.ua/news/211149-institut-natpamjati-trebuje-otkryt-uholovnoe-delo-iz-za-vosstanovlenija-v-kharkove-bjusta-zhukova.html>)

On July 16, 2019 the UINM website reported that the General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine responded to the institute's appeal regarding the installation of a bust to Marshal Zhukov in Kharkiv. The materials of the case were sent to the prosecutor's office of the Kharkiv region for consideration and initiation of criminal proceedings. (<https://UINM.gov.ua/pres-centr/novyny/genprokuratura-vidreaguvala-na-vstanovlennya-pogruddya-zhukovu-u-harkovi>)

On the night of May 9, 2020 in Zaporozhye, the local police searched the Victory Regiment organization all night, which for the fourth year in a row organizes motor rallies to commemorate Victory Day on May 9. An attempt was also made to stop the action itself. Participants of the rally and journalists stated this on Facebook.

In particular, the Kiev blogger Myroslava Berdnik reported that since May 8, searches have been carried out in the cars parked at the office of the Victory Regiment. According to her, more than 20 police officers cordoned off the office.

"They confiscated Chinese masks with stars that the organization had purchased to distribute to people during tomorrow's rally. They seized flags, some newspapers and everything related to the holiday. Allegedly for an examination, but the subject of this examination is not clear - there are no prohibited symbols on the seized items. The only reasonable explanation for these actions is an attempt to disrupt tomorrow's rally in honor of Victory Day", Berdnik said.

She also wrote, referring to the head "Regiment of Victory" Andrei Ivanov, that the organization carries out activities for several years with this symbolism and before anyone did not show claims.

"According to him, this did not happen even under Poroshenko. Peaceful action before the Victory Day - a public holiday! With allowed symbols! It just looks like intimidation!" - summed up Miroslava Berdnik.

(<https://m.politnavigator.news/takogo-ne-bylo-dazhe-pri-poroshenko-v-zaporozhe-policiya-terrorizirovala-avtoprobeg.html>)

On May 9, 2020 Zaporozhye journalist Pavel Volkov said on his Facebook page that there was an attempt to disrupt the Victory Regiment rally in the city. On the night of May 9, security officials conducted searches of persons involved in the Victory Regiment.

"All night - searches at the organizers. Andrei Ivanov was released only after the start of the rally. In the course of the movement, the police pulled out of the convoy one car after another, and then the convoy was stopped altogether without any comment. They kept it, fumbled, and then released it, forcing them to take off

the flags, although they did not have prohibited symbols. Thus, the police simply destroyed the convoy agreed with the city authorities" he wrote.

The police said that criminal proceedings were opened under the article "dissemination of communist, Nazi symbols and propaganda of communist and Nazi totalitarian regimes".

The police also announced that a clash had taken place in Zaporozhye between the participants of the Victory Regiment campaign and activists of nationalist organizations. Nationalists tore off the red symbols from the cars participating in the rally. A verbal skirmish arose between the opponents. (<https://vesti.ua/strana/kak-v-ukraine-prohodyat-den-pobedy-reportazh-obnovlyaetsya>)

3. Renaming of streets in honor of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism

On December 9, 2019 the Sixth Court of Appeal in Kiev upheld the decision of the Kiev City Council to rename Moskovsky Avenue into Stepan Bandera Avenue and General Vatutin Avenue into Roman Shukhevych Avenue. This was announced by the deputy of the Verkhovna Rada Volodymyr Vyatrovich on his Facebook page.

"There will be Bandera and Shukhevych Avenues in Kiev! We won in the court of appeal", Vyatrovich wrote.

(<https://strana.ua/news/238275-vyatrovich-soobshchil-hto-sud-vtoroj-instantsii-ostavil-v-kieve-prospekty-bandery-i-shukhevicha.html>)

A comment

On June 25, 2019, the Kiev District Administrative Court overturned the decision to rename Moskovsky Avenue and Vatutin Avenue in honor of Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych, respectively. Volodymyr Vyatrovych, who at that time headed the Ukrainian Institute of National Remembrance (UINP), announced his intention to appeal this decision.

The mayor of Kiev Vitali Klitschko, in turn, also said that an appeal would be filed against the decision of the District Administrative Court. He also announced the re-adoption of the relevant decisions by the Kyiv City Council to rename these two avenues. On July 31, the UINP filed an appeal against the decision of the District Administrative Court of the city of Kiev to overturn the decisions of the City Council to rename the avenues.

On July 31, the UINM filed an appeal against the decision of the District Administrative Court of the city of Kiev to overturn the decisions of the City Council to rename the avenues.

4. Official events and propaganda actions in honor of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism

On June 30, 2019 in article by Lesya Bondaruk entitled "Roman Shukhevych is always modern" was published on the UINM website. This publication is a heroic biography of R. Shukhevych. The author of the article extols Shukhevych in every possible way as a "talented politician" and a hero of the "national liberation struggle". The article contains laudatory comments about Shukhevich by his

colleagues in the Ukrainian nationalist movement, including the quotation of S. Bandera. One of the quotes about Shukhevich says that "in comparison with him - the creator of the only modern (modern) underground army in world history and its commandant for almost seven years in the conditions of an armed struggle against two world forces - pale into insignificance such world values as Foch, Pétain, Rommel or others".

(<https://UINM.gov.ua/pres-centr/novyny/roman-shuhevych-suchasnyy-zavzhdy>)

A comment

The extensive eulogy to R. Shukhevych published on the UINM website does not mention anything about his long-term cooperation with the special services of Nazi Germany, his service in various German punitive formations, as well as about his involvement as the "commander-in-chief" of the UPA in the mass killings of Poles and Jews in Western Ukraine.

On July 28, 2019, in the village of Chervone, Zolochevsky district, Lviv region, at the memorial cemetery of the Ukrainian SS division "Galicia", a solemn reburial of the remains of 29 soldiers of the "Galicia" division, who died in July 1944 in a battle with the Red Army troops near Brody, took place. According to the press service of the Lviv Regional State Administration, on the territory of the military cemetery, the public and representatives of the authorities laid flowers at the symbolic tables near the chapel. Then a meeting was held, which was attended by participants from all over the region.

"People who had the honor to defend our state died at this place. Today we have a great responsibility to continue this national liberation struggle", said Roman Filipiv, deputy chairman of the Lviv Regional State Administration.

After the veche, a solemn reburial of the found remains of 29 soldiers of the SS "Galicia" division took place. The ceremony was held with military honors.

Also, commemorative events were held not far from the village of Yasenov, Brody district, on Mount Zhbir, where the memorial to the soldiers of the SS "Galicia" division is located.

(<http://www.golos.com.ua/rus/article/31996>
<http://slovo.odessa.ua/news/37040-boycov-divizii-ss-galichina-perezahoronili-pod-gimn-ukrainy-i-voinskiy-salyut.html>)

A comment

It is worth noting that in the official messages published about this event by the press service of the Lviv Regional State Administration, various state media, including the newspaper of the Verkhovna Rada "Voice of Ukraine", and Ukrainian online publications of nationalist orientation, the mentioned armed formation is referred to as the "First Ukrainian Division "Galicia" of the Ukrainian National Army". Meanwhile, the real name of this division is the 14th SS Grenadier Division "Galicia" (German: 14. Waffen-Grenadier-Division der SS "Galizien"). The division was part of the SS forces and fought as part of the armed forces of Nazi Germany in World War II.

On January 1, 2020, a banner with his image was hung on the building of the Kiev City State Administration in honor of the 111th anniversary of the birth of the head of the OUN, Stepan Bandera.

<https://strana.ua/news/242439-portret-bandery-na-zdanih-khha-povesili-v-kyeve.html>

On January 28, 2020, in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk, they came to the farewell ceremony for the deceased veteran of the SS Galicia division, former OUN activist Mikhail Mulik. Despite the prohibition of Nazi propaganda in force in Ukraine, people in Hitler's uniform were at the funeral, and eulogies were addressed to the deceased.

"Today we bury a whole era of national liberation struggle. He was very punctual, he always felt that military training. I promise that over time, a street named after Mikhail Mulik - an honorary citizen and the last divisional soldier of Ivano-Frankivsk, will appear in our city", - wrote the mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk R. Martsinkiv on his Facebook page.

R. Martsinkiv also promised that a street named after M. Mulik will appear in Ivano-Frankivsk in the near future.

<https://galychyna.if.ua/2020/01/28/martsinkiv-poobitsyav-nazvati-vulitsyu-imenem-mihayla-mulika/>

As noted by the Ukrainian Internet publication "Strana", Mulik enjoyed support from the local authorities in the last years of his life: he was the chairman of the regional brotherhood of divisional "Galicia" and was an honorary citizen of Ivano-Frankivsk. <https://strana.ua/news/246875-foto-kak-v-ivano-frankovske-proshchalas-s-umershim-natsistom-iz-divizii-ss.html>

On February 27, 2020, the Kiev City Council adopted a resolution on the celebration of memorable dates and anniversaries in Kiev. The document was published by the author of the decision - a deputy of the Kyiv City Council from the ultra-right Svoboda party Yuriy Sirotyuk.

"The capital of the belligerent Ukraine will honor the heroes with dignity" - wrote on his page on Facebook Sirotyuk.

In turn, the director of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee, Eduard Dolinsky, pointed to the fact of cooperation with the Nazis of a number of persons from this list: "On February 27, 2020, the Kiev City Council adopted a resolution on the celebration of memorable dates and anniversaries in Kiev by a majority of votes. This year, the people of Kiev will celebrate the anniversary of Kubiyovich and other Nazi killers, thugs, executioners and anti-Semites depicted in the photo".

Dolinsky noted that among those, whose anniversaries this year is going to be celebrated by the city council, "has Ivan Poltavets-Ostryanitsya - assistant to Alfred Rosenberg and Erich Koch (130th anniversary); Vasily Lewkowicz - a Nazi collaborator and organizer of demolitions (100th anniversary); Ulas Samchuk is an anti-Semite, publisher of the Volyn newspaper. He called for the extermination of Jews, among whom were children (115th birthday)".

Also on the list was Vasily Sidor - a collaborationist and war criminal who was a soldier of the Nachtigall battalion (110th anniversary); Yuriy Lipa - OUN activist and author of the idea of the state importance of Ukrainian ejaculations and Ukrainian women eggs (120th anniversary); Vladimir Kubiyovich - collaborator and organizer of the SS Galicia division (120th anniversary); as well as Vasily Galas and Andrey Melnik, leader of the OUN unit that remained loyal to the Nazis.

"In an information message on the website of the Kyiv City Council, they disgracefully concealed who will be celebrated. But the head of the Svoboda faction, Yuri Sirotyuk, published the full text of the resolution," Dolinsky said. (<https://strana.ua/news/252473-kollaboranty-v-ukraine-khha-podderzhal-postanovlenie-o-pamjatykh-datakh-i-jubilejakh.html>)

April 28, 2020 on the official website of the Lviv regional state administration (RSA) published congratulation with 77-year anniversary of the " First Ukrainian Division "Galicia". In the text, published on behalf of the Department of Internal and Information Policy and the press service of the Regional State Administration, the division is spoken of in an exclusively positive manner. In particular, it is mentioned that 84 thousand Ukrainian volunteers who lived in Galicia were enrolled in the division. It is noted that the youth strove to learn military craft in order to become the backbone of a well-trained and strong army of the restored Ukrainian state. During the heavy fighting on July 44, over a period of only a few days, over one hundred thousand soldiers were killed on both sides on Brodovskaya, Zolochevskaya and Buzhskaya lands. Among them are the soldiers of the 14th Grenadier Division "Galicia".

" They stood to the last, because they knew that their parents and their children lived on these lands" - emphasized in their official report.

(<https://loda.gov.ua/news?id=51143>)

A comment

The information posted on the official website of the Lviv Regional Administration does not say a word about the fact that the Galicia division was part of the SS forces (German die Waffen-SS) of Nazi Germany, and that its official name is the 14th SS Grenadier Division "Galicia". Also not mentioned, that the battle near the town of Brody Lviv region occurred on 13-22 July 1944 between the 13th Corps of the 4th Panzer Army of Hitler's Wehrmacht, which then was part of the division SS "Galicia", and Soviet troops who liberated the territory of the USSR from Nazi occupiers.

On March 25, 2020, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine appointed Lyubomira Mandziy to the position of Acting Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine. Immediately after that, a scandal erupted in the Ukrainian information space related to the previous activities of L. Mandziy. A fact from the biography of Mandziy two years ago, when she headed the education department of the Lviv regional administration, was made public on social networks. During her leadership of the department, the Lviv Regional State Administration became one of the organizers of the drawing competition on the theme of the SS division "Galicia". The

competition was organized among schoolchildren in April 2018, to the 75th anniversary of the division. In addition, a march dedicated to the SS and an exhibition of weapons was held. After the scandal broke out, Mandziy told reporters in her comments that the Department of Education "only informs schools about the competition", but does not organize it. Meanwhile, the contest drawings were asked to be sent to the Mandziy office. It is also one of the unnamed employees of the Lviv Regional State Administration in the comments the online edition "Strana" said that

Department of Education was co-organizer of the contest with nationalist public organization "Reserve Division Galicia". (<https://strana.ua/news/257560-io-ministra-obrazovanija-mandzij-orhanizovyvala-vo-lvove-konkurs-v-chest-divizii-ss-halichina.html>)

In April 2020 at the main post office of Lviv, an exhibition of stamps and postcards, dedicated to the SS Division "Galicia" was opened. This was announced on April 16 by the head of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee, Eduard Dolinsky, on his Facebook page.

(<https://strana.ua/news/261840-v-lvove-na-hlavpochtamte-ustroili-vystavku-marok-i-otkrytok-ss-halichina-.html>)

On the eve of May 23, 2020, on the occasion of the so-called "hero of the day", living in a Lviv region UPA veterans and their widows received a one-time cash payment from the regional budget in the amount of 2102 hryvnia (\$ 78 USD). The payment was received by 989 people. This was reported in the Lviv Regional State Administration. The implementation of such payments is provided in accordance with the adopted by the Verkhovna Rada in April 2015 a law "On the Legal Status and honoring the memory of fighters for Ukrainian independence in the twentieth century". It obliges the state and local authorities to provide social guarantees, benefits or other payments to "fighters for the independence of Ukraine in the 20th century" and their family members.

(http://voemisto.tv/news/veteranam_upa_do_dnya_geroya_na_lvivshchyni_vyplatyly_po_2_tysyachi_gryven_109711.html)

May 24, 2020

E. Dolinsky said that the work of an exhibition dedicated to the SS division "Galicia" continues at the Lviv main post office. "At the main post office in Lviv continued exhibition of stamps and envelopes, dedicated Nazi SS Division Galicia. They do not bear the real name of this SS unit, but simply modestly and falsely says that this is the "Ukrainian Division". This exhibition is an excellent example of misinformation, rewriting history and fooling Ukrainians, "Dolinsky said. (<https://strana.ua/opinions/269068-diviziju-ss-halitsija-predpochitajut-nazyvat-skromno-ukrainskaja-divizija.html>)

On June 21, 2020, Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovoy congratulated Olga Ilkiv, the former signaler of the "commander-in-chief" of the UPA R. Shukhevych, on her 100th birthday. This was reported by the press service of the Lviv City Council. In the press service, published on the official website of the Lviv City Council, Olga

Ilkiv is called "an outstanding Lviv woman". It was also noted that for services to the state and on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the creation of the UPA, the city and the region jointly purchased Olga Ilkiv an apartment in Lviv. (<https://city-adm.lviv.ua/news/society/public-sector/279791-mer-lyova-pryvitav-zviazkovu-romana-shukhevycha-zi-100-littiam>)

On June 26, 2020, Ukrainian Internet publications and social networks reported that the mayor of Kherson, Volodymyr Mykolaenko, congratulated the citizens on the anniversary of the so-called "Act of the Proclamation of the Ukrainian State" of June 30, 1941, which declared close cooperation with the Nazi Germany and the head of the "Third Reich" Adolf Hitler.

Thus, a clipping from the OUN newspaper "Independent Ukraine" dated July 10, 1941, where this act was published, appeared on the billboards of the city. In total, in the city, you can count 14 of the same outdoor advertising objects, on which a photo reproduction of the newspaper "Independent Ukraine" is placed. (<https://ukranews.com/news/711232-mikolaenko-razmestil-bigbordy-s-pozdravleniem-godovshhiny-prisyagi-oun-gitleru>)

A comment

The Act of Proclamation of the Ukrainian State" is a document that was announced at a meeting convened at the initiative of the OUN on the evening of June 30, 1941 in Lviv, after the first units of the Nazi Wehrmacht entered the city on the morning of the same day with the support of members of the OUN marching groups and soldiers battalion "Nachtigall". The third article of this act reads: "The reconstituted Ukrainian state will closely cooperate with the National Socialist Great Germany, which, under the leadership of Adolf Hitler, creates a new order in Europe and the world and helps the Ukrainian people to free themselves from the Moscow occupation".

On June 30, 2020, in the city of Kalush, Ivano-Frankivsk region, representatives of the authorities and the public of the city honored the memory of R. Shukhevych. As noted on the official website of Kalush City Council,

“Lesya Pitsyk, deputy head of the department of culture, nationalities and religions of the Kalush city council, addressed the audience with words about the greatness of the figure of Roman Shukhevych. Oleg Kushlyk, chairman of the CUN (Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists) city-district organization, focused on the need to preserve the memory of the Great Commander, who was and remains an example of courage and wisdom for future generations. Mayor of Kalush Igor Matviychuk and representatives of the city's public laid flowers at the monument to Roman Shukhevych and sang the national anthem of Ukraine.

(<https://kalushcity.gov.ua/news/category/city/2020/06/30/25064>)

5. Ukraine's position on the glorification of Nazism in the international arena

1) Voting at the UN

In December 2019, Ukraine voted in the UN against the adoption of the resolution "Combating the glorification of Nazism, neo-Nazism and other practices that contribute to the escalation of modern forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance". This resolution was adopted on December 18, 2019 at the plenary meeting of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly on the initiative of the Russian Federation. The resolution expresses deep concern about the glorification of the Nazi movement, neo-Nazism and former members of the Waffen SS in any form, including through the construction of monuments and memorials, as well as demonstrations to glorify the Nazi past. The General Assembly demanded that any commemoration of the Nazi SS organization and all its constituent parts, including the Waffen SS, be opposed. The co-sponsors of the resolution expressed deep concern over "the increasing frequency of attempts and cases of desecration or destruction of monuments erected in honor of those who fought against Nazism during the World War II." The document was supported by 133 states, the USA and Ukraine opposed.

A similar situation took place earlier, on November 8, 2019, when the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly voted for the adoption of this resolution, and again only the United States and Ukraine voted against. Speaking at a meeting of the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly, Advisor to the Ukrainian Permanent Mission to the UN, Igor Yaremenko, said that the proposed resolution allegedly "has nothing to do with the fight against Nazism, neo-Nazism and other forms of intolerance". (<https://news.un.org/ru/story/2019/12/1369371>)

It should be noted that Ukraine has voted against the adoption of this resolution in unison with the United States since 2014. A similar practice was observed during the presidency of P. Poroshenko and survived under V. Zelensky.

2) Ukraine's reaction to criticism from other states in connection with the glorification of Ukrainian collaborators and supporters of Nazism

On June 3, 2019, Polish Ambassador to Ukraine Bartosz Tsikhotskiy and Israeli Ambassador to Ukraine Joel Lyon protested against the opening of a monument to the head of the UPA R. Shukhevych in Ivano-Frankovsk, which took place on May 23, 2019.

"Polish Ambassador Bartosz Tsikhotskiy and Israeli Ambassador Joel Lyon sent a letter to the Mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk expressing their protest against the opening of a new monument to Roman Shukhevych. Ambassadors remind that people who survived the massacres, in which Roman Shukhevych played a decisive role, are still live in Ukraine, Poland and Israel ", - noted in the message of the Polish Embassy in Kiev, published on Facebook.

"We oppose the decision and remind the children of Ivano-Frankivsk, their parents, grandparents that Roman Shukhevych was personally responsible for the death of tens of thousands of others like them - bullets, fire, violence, torture and other animal methods - only because, that they prayed to God in Polish or Hebrew, ", says a letter from the ambassadors of Poland and Israel addressed to the mayor of Ivano-Frankivsk R.Martsinkiv.

(<https://www.facebook.com/PolishEmbassyKyiv/posts/2584228648278450>)

Commenting on this letter, R. Martsinkiv stated that "each country has its own history and its heroes. We respect our own people and remember what they did for our country". (<https://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-society/2713724-mer-frankivska-vidpoviv-na-zakidi-posliv-izrailu-ta-polsi-sodo-pamatnika-suhevicu.html>)

In turn, the director of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory Volodymyr Vyatrovych accused Israel and Poland of "disseminating and supporting Russian propaganda".

(<https://www.facebook.com/volodymyr.viatrovych/posts/10214381713156155>)

On January 2, 2020, Polish Ambassador to Ukraine Bartosz Tsikhotskiy and Israeli Ambassador to Ukraine Joel Lyon issued a joint statement in which they called the celebration of ethnic cleansing supporters in Ukraine offensive. The diplomats were alarmed that representatives of the authorities, in particular the Kiev City State Administration (KCA) and the Lviv Regional Council, were taking part in the celebration.

"With great concern and sadness, we noticed that representatives of the authorities at different levels of Ukraine, including the Lviv Regional Council and the Kiev City State Administration, still celebrate historical events and honor personalities who need to be condemned once and for all", the statement said.

The cause for concern was the adoption on December 24 by the Lviv Regional Council of a resolution on the allocation of public funds in 2020 for commemorative events in honor of one of the leaders of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) Andriy Melnyk, as well as an adherent of the ideas of Ukrainian nationalism Ivan Lipa and his son Yuriy, an ideologist of nationalism. In addition, the ambassadors were outraged that on January 1, the Kyiv City State Administration put up a banner with the image of Stepan Bandera.

"Remembering our innocent brothers and sisters who were killed in 1939-1945 in the occupied territories of Poland, which today are part of Ukraine, we, the ambassadors of Poland and Israel, believe that honoring people who actively promoted ethnic cleansing is an insult, and leads to the opposite desired result in the fight against anti-Semitism and in the process of reconciliation of our peoples", the diplomats noted.

The ambassadors expect that the Lviv Regional Council and the Kyiv City State Administration will join the dialogue in order to find the truth. (<https://strana.ua/news/242588-posly-izrailja-i-polshi-vozmutilis-chestvovaniem-ukrainskikh-natsionalistov.html>)

On January 3, 2020, the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's group for inter-parliamentary relations with Poland, member of parliament from the European Solidarity party, Mykola Knyazhytsky, said that the ambassadors of Israel and Poland in Ukraine made false statements when they said that nationalists were honored in Ukraine. He wrote about this on his Facebook page.

Knyazhytsky stressed that "we have different attitudes towards various actions of Ukrainian historical figures, but we will always respect the fighters for the freedom of Ukraine". However, he said that the level of anti-Semitism in Ukraine is

much lower than in Poland. (<https://strana.ua/news/242726-v-rade-otvetili-polshe-i-izrailju-o-chestvovanii-dejatelej-unr-i-oun.html>)

Knyazhytsky also said that “in the interwar period and during the Second World War, enslaved peoples often mistakenly and tragically saw the Germans as salvation from Stalinism, or British colonialism. What to say, if even in Ukrainian cities thousands of Jews went out naively to greet the Nazis with bread and salt, remembering the European traditions of Germany. Most of them were victims of the Holocaust (<https://strana.ua/news/242682-deputat-iz-partii-poroshenko-upreknul-zhertv-kholokosta-v-pomoshchi-nemtsam.html>)

On January 8, 2020, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine invited Polish Ambassador Bortosz Tsikhotskiy to discuss his joint statement with his Israeli counterpart in connection with the commemoration of the OUN-UPA leaders on January 1. As noted in the press service of the Foreign Ministry, during the conversation with the diplomat and in the context of the discussion of the joint statement of the ambassadors of Poland and Israel on January 2, the attention of the Polish official was drawn to "the counterproductiveness of the public discussion on internal issues of Ukrainian politics". (<https://strana.ua/news/243393-v-mid-ukrainy-vzyvali-posla-polshi-po-zajavleniju-o-oun-i-upa.html>)

On January 9, 2020, Ukrainian Ambassador to Israel Gennady Nadolenko pointed out to the Israeli Foreign Ministry that the country's Ambassador to Kiev, Joel Lyon, is conducting a counterproductive public discussion on the internal issues of Ukrainian politics. The Ukrainian ambassador stressed that the revival and preservation of the national memory of the Ukrainian people is one of the priority directions of the country's state policy, and discussions in this area should be held at the level of historians and experts.

(<https://www.interfax.ru/world/690603>)

III. Manifestations of neo-Nazism in the social and political life of Ukraine, public activities of radical nationalist groups

1. Right-wing radical parties, movements and public organizations of Ukraine

Under President V. Zelenskoy as under his predecessor Poroshenko, right-wing radical forces are striving to play an active role in the social and political life of Ukraine. Among the existing Ukrainian right-wing radical organizations, the following can be distinguished:

1) Azov movement (Ukrainian Azov Rukh)

The largest ultra-right group. It consists of three main structures: the "Azov" regiment of the National Guard of Ukraine (military wing), the "National Corps" party (political wing) and "National Militia" (power street wing). The movement has 20,000 members, including 1,500 well-trained and well-armed personnel of the Azov regiment, incl. tank troop.

The Azov regiment (created in the spring of 2014) is the only radically politicized unit that is officially part of the power departments of Ukraine. It was based on the Kharkiv ultra-right from the "Social -National Assembly" (SNA), which stood on the principles of the ideology of "racial social-nationalism ". Another source of attracting a volunteer to the unit was the radical football groups of ultras clubs Dynamo (Kiev), Metalist (Kharkiv), Shakhtar (Donetsk), and others. Azov was headed by the former leader of the SNA Andrey Biletskiy. In 2014, he was elected a deputy of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine of the VIII convocation. Head of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, Avakov has played an important role in the development division "Azov", he initiated the integration of the group in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and its further reshaping into National Guard regiment. The soldiers underwent serious training from Ukrainian and foreign military experts, they have good equipment and the latest weapons. "Azov" was added to the list of terrorist organizations Site Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium TRA.

The National Corps is a right - wing radical political party founded on the basis of the Azov Civil Corps. It has over 10 thousand members and has regional branches in many regions of the country. The party's tactics is to build an extensive network of party and umbrella structures, full of ideological, motivated and armed activists. The party has a significant impact on the football hooligan environment (ultras). Its activists give lectures at schools, universities, arrange military camps for children, work with ATO veterans, attracting them into their ranks.

The National Militias (founded in 2017) are street paramilitary units of the National Corps party. According to representatives of the organization, its goal is to ensure public order. In practice, activists of the "National Militias" are engaged in attacks on opposition rallies, Roman settlements, etc., and also openly confront law enforcement officers during mass meetings. "National Corps" and "National Militias" have a common logo.

2) "Brotherhood"

A small but active Kiev organization that predominantly arranges provocations against opposition politicians and journalists. At present, the members of the Brotherhood run the Internet channel World-Brovary Television, engage in media propaganda aimed at inciting hatred, largely targeting the audience of radical ATO veterans and ultra-rightists.

The leader of the Brotherhood is Dmitry Korchinsky. Dmitry Korchinsky's wife, Oksana Korchinskaya, was a deputy of the Verkhovna Rada of the VIII convocation from the "Radical Party" and provided support for the ultra-right accused of criminal offenses.

3) Ukrainian lustration

Ukrainian nationalist organization that declares its structure according to the principles of the order (a community of members bound by a common goal and special rules of life), and not a political party.

In social and political life, the Odessa branch of the organization "All-Ukrainian Lustration. Odessa ". The organization promotes Ukrainian nationalism, actively participates in acts of vandalism against Soviet monuments, regularly provokes conflicts and scandals on the basis of language, etc.

4) All-Ukrainian organization "Trident" named after Stepan Bandera

In Krajina nationalist organization, declaring your device according to the principles of the Order (members of the community, linked by a common purpose and special rules of life), rather than a political party.

The main goal of the organization is declared to be "the creation of the Ukrainian Cathedral Independent State". Until the "indigenous nation" has "the right to create power, form and control power", until then it will be "impossible to solve any of its problems (political, social, economic, interethnic, military, religious-confessional, educational, cultural, ecological, etc.) in its favor, until then over the Ukrainians on their land will be ruled by alien truths, alien forces, alien will".

The attitude towards representatives of other nationalities is declared in accordance with Stepan Bandera's definition: "twinned" (if they are fighting for a national Ukrainian state), "tolerant" (if they recognize the rights of Ukrainians "to be masters in their land"), "enemy" (to those who opposes the national revival). The attitude to state laws is as follows: "the national idea is above the law."

5) All-Ukrainian Association "Svoboda"

The largest ultra-right party in Ukraine, created in 1995 under the name of the Social-National Party of Ukraine (SNPU). In 2004 the party changed its name to the All-Ukrainian Association "Svoboda".

"Svoboda" stands for the building of Ukraine as a state of the Ukrainian nation, which is understood in a purely ethnic sense. "Svoboda" requires the return of the column "nationality" to Ukrainian passports and birth certificates and compliance with the percentage norms of representation of ethnic groups in all areas of life - educational institutions, the military, government, health, culture and education, as well as in the ownership of enterprises. All state institutions, including all schools, must function exclusively in the Ukrainian language (this principle of "Svoboda" was fully implemented in the laws "On education" and "On ensuring the

functioning of the Ukrainian language as the state language" adopted under P. Poroshenko).

As a result of the local elections held in 2015, Svoboda managed to secure a fairly wide representation in local government bodies.

Currently, the party has its own factions in a number of local councils, including the Kiev City Council. Svoboda deputies, as a rule, initiate the honoring of the most odious figures of the Ukrainian nationalist movement, including those who, during World War II, stained themselves with cooperation with Nazi Germany and are responsible for committing crimes against peace and humanity.

6) "OUN Volunteer Movement"

An ultra-right public organization, created in August 2015. The initiator of the creation is one of the activists of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists Mykola Kokhanivskyi, the former commander of the so-called "volunteer battalion of the OUN" - a nationalist paramilitary formation that took part in hostilities in the territory of Donbass. The programmatic goal of the OUN Volunteer Movement is the "Ukrainian national revolution", designed to establish in Ukraine a new form of state structure, the so-called "nationocracy". The OUN Volunteer Movement stands for the establishment of a national dictatorship in Ukraine and the building of a corporate-syndicalist state.

7) Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists (CUN)

Ukrainian radical right-wing political party. In political and ideological terms, he considers himself the successor of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN), founded in 1929. He adheres to the principles of Ukrainian nationalism. The ideological and political values of the CUN are based on the "national liberation struggle" of the OUN.

For the local elections in 2015, representatives of the CUN went on the lists of the All-Ukrainian Association "Svoboda".

8) "National resistance"

Right-wing radical public organization. Registered in Odessa, but also has a branch in Kiev. In Odessa, the members of the organization has repeatedly committed acts of vandalism against the monuments, dedicated to the World War II.

9) Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN)

A right-wing radical public organization, claiming continuity with the OUN, founded in 1929. It professes the ideology of Ukrainian nationalism, which it interprets as "the thought, will and action of the nation aimed at the development of an independent state on its ethnic territory". The OUN stands for the "Ukrainian Independent Conciliar Power, uniting Ukrainians from Tsyhan to Don". OUN Chairman - Bogdan Chervak. Representatives of the OUN went to the local elections in 2015 on the lists of the All-Ukrainian Association "Svoboda".

10) "Right Sector"

Initially an informal association of activists of a number of Ukrainian nationalist ("nationally oriented") ultra-right organizations, formed during the "evromaidan", later - a right-wing radical political party, represented in many regions of Ukraine. In March 2014, at a closed congress in Kiev, it was decided to transform

the Right Sector into a political party “on the legal and personnel base” of the Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA-UNSO) party, which was renamed the Right Sector party. However, as it was stated, in addition to the Right Sector party, a public organization and the so-called “power block” continued to exist. The organization also created its own paramilitary formation - the Ukrainian Volunteer Corps (UVC), which participated in hostilities in eastern Ukraine, but was not included in the Armed Forces. Participation in hostilities allowed the "Right Sector" to gain access to weapons.

The Volunteer Ukrainian Corps is the military wing of the Right Sector (leader Andriy Stempitsky), the political wing of the Right Sector Party (Andriy Tarasenko). There is also a kind of "youth movement" - "Right Youth"

Former chairman of the Right Sector Dmitry Yarosh established his own organization, Yarosh's State Initiative (“*State initiative of Yarosh*” (DIA); and the abbreviation in the organization's name is consonant with the Ukrainian word “ dia ” - ”action”).

Included in the list of terrorist organizations on the Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium TRAC website.

11) C14

The radical ultra-right organization, based in Kiev, has many regional branches. According to many representatives of the Ukrainian expert and media community, C14 has signs of a neo-Nazi organization. C14 activists have repeatedly participated in various violent incidents. One of the main activities of "C14" - regular attacks on left-wing activists, opposition members, Romans, journalists- critical of the government, and so on.

Two C14 members are accused of the murder of the famous Ukrainian writer and journalist Oles Buzina in 2015.

The organization receives funding from state grants and, according to its leader Yevhen Karas, cooperates with the Security Service of Ukraine. Karas himself assures that this cooperation is limited to "the fight against separatists." On September 28, 2019, C14 representatives announced the transformation of the organization into the Future Society party.

In 2017, "C14" was added to the list of terrorist organizations Site Terrorism Research & Analysis Consortium TRAC.

Members of the "C14" became the founders of the formation of "municipal guards and flew into the "Municipal protection", which is financed from the city budget of Kyiv.

12) "First light"

Kharkov right-wing radical organization. The main field of activity is the fight against Soviet symbols, monuments and memorial plaques. The organization's activists have repeatedly committed acts of vandalism, and also participated in various activities of the Kharkiv right-wing radical forces. The leader of the organization is Vadim Pozdnyakov (in 2014-2017 - the head of the Kharkov cell of the nationalist organization "Falcon", in 2017-2018 - an activist of the "Right Sector")

13) "Falcon"

Military sports youth organization associated with the VO "Svoboda", has offices across the country, engaged in street violence, war games and the like. Falcon focuses on recruiting new youth who have not been involved in politics before, and conducts lectures in secondary schools and universities.

14) "Tradition and Order"

The organization, based in Kiev, was formed on the basis of the neo-fascist group "Revenge" after its defeat by security forces in 2015. The organization positions itself as radically conservative and recreates a fascist aesthetic. Members of the organization are involved in attacks on leftist and opposition activists.

15) Fraikor

Regional ultra-right organization in Kharkov. It has its own volunteers in the zone of the armed conflict in the Donbas. In Kharkov, he is engaged in vandalism against monuments of the World War II, as well as attacks on his political opponents.

16) Edelweiss

"Edelweiss" is a Vinnitsa ultra-right organization, officially registered as a public organization "Edelweiss-Vinnitsa". Its name refers to the name of the 1st Mountain Infantry Division in the Ermacht during World War II.

On May 8, 2020, on its Instagram page, Edelweiss welcomed "heroes who laid down their lives for trying to build a new, clean and powerful white Europe" - a soldier of the "Third Reich".

2. Street demonstrations, processions and other public actions of right-wing organizations

On June 30, 2019, a number of nationalist parties and organizations held the Millennium March of the Ukrainian State in Lviv. According to the press service of the Svoboda party, the action was organized by the united forces of nationalists - Svoboda, the National Corps, the Right Sector, the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists, the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists.

The event was timed to coincide with the seventy-eighth anniversary of the "Act of Proclamation of the Ukrainian State" on June 30, 1941.

"A procession took place along the streets of Lviv, which was joined by activists of nationalist organizations and ordinary Lviv residents. Most of those present dressed in embroidered shirts on the occasion of the holiday", the message says. (<https://korrespondent.net/city/lvov/4112939-natsyonalysty-proshly-marshem-po-lvovu>)

On October 13, 2019, Prime Minister of Ukraine Oleksiy Honcharuk attended an event at which the Ukrainian ultra-right rock group Sokira Perun performed and addressed the audience with welcoming words. In a video posted on Facebook, the prime minister, addressing the assembled nationalists, says: "Thank you for being there." The photo of the head of the Cabinet of Ministers on the stage of the event was published on the telegram channel by the leader of the radical nationalist organization C14 Yevhen Karas. According to him, the concert was organized by

one of the C14 activists Andrei Medvedko. It is worth noting that A. Medvedko is accused of the murder of the famous Ukrainian writer and journalist Oles Buzina.

The concert was also attended by the Minister for Veterans Affairs Oksana Kolyada, Adviser to the Minister of Internal Affairs Yevgeny Terekhov, employee of the state institution "Academy of Patrol Police" Alexander Tereshchenko, representatives of the Kiev City Union of ATO Veterans and the Veterans Movement of Ukraine. (<https://112.ua/politika/premer-goncharuk-i-ministr-kolyada-shodili-na-vecherinku-veteranov-v-docker-pub-511045.html>)

A comment

The rock group Sokira Perun (translation chopper of Perun) has been repeatedly accused of promoting anti-Semitism and neo-Nazism. The group's songs include Six Million Words of Lies, which denies the Holocaust, and "17th August", which is dedicated to the memory of one of the main Nazi war criminals, Rudolf Hess. The leader and vocalist of the group Arseniy "Belodub" Klimachev is a member of the "Right Sector". The concerts of the Sokira Perun rock group are traditionally attended by adherents of neo-Nazi ideology from all over Ukraine. During the concerts, fans of the group repeatedly displayed Nazi symbols and threw up their hands in a Nazi salute. After the concert of Sokyry Perun in Kiev in the spring of 2018, law enforcement officers opened a criminal case over the demonstration of the swastika and other Nazi symbols at the concert.

(<https://strana.ua/news/227514-honcharuk-pobyval-na-odnoj-stsene-s-neonatsistami.html>, <https://strana.ua/news/227528-honcharuk-sokira-peruna-chem-izvestna-hruppa-kotoruju-slushal-premer.html>)

On January 1, 2020, a torchlight procession was held in Kiev in honor of the birthday of one of the founders and leaders of the OUN, Stepan Bandera. The organizers called their event "March of Honor, Dignity and Freedom". Among the organizers of the action are "Svoboda", "Right Sector", "National Corps", "Sokol"(Falcon), "Tryzub"(Trident), "Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists" and "S-14".

During the street rally, the protesters chanted traditional nationalist slogans and chants: "Stepan Bandera - Slavic and !", "Glory to Ukraine !", "Glory to the nation - death to enemies! ", "Ukraine is above all! ", "We are Banderites, we are coming", etc.

Opening the march, the chairman of the "Svoboda" Oleg Tyagnibok said: "The difference has been and always will be between Bandera, Little Russians and Ukies. We, Ukrainians, proudly bear the name of the great leader of the Ukrainian nation, our prophet Stepan Bandera. We are proud that they call us Bandera. Bandera supporters are those who support Ukrainian Ukraine, not Russian, communist, Moscow or any other".

Deputy Chairman of "Svoboda", deputy of the Kyiv City Council Yuriy Sirotyuk, said at the rally that peace in Donbass is possible only as a complete victory for Ukraine, and Moscow should be destroyed. "We should all remember that our

victory is yet to come. The Bandera army must sooner or later destroy the capital of the Moscow country, Moscow, and ensure peace on earth ", Sirotyuk said. (<https://russians.in.ua/news/unichtozhit-moskvu-v-kieve-proshlo-fakelnoe-shestvie-nacionalistov-v-chest-bandery>)

On January 1, 2020, on the occasion of the birthday of OUN leader S. Bandera, a rally was held in Lviv. Deputy Mayor of Lviv Andrey Moskalenko addressed the audience. The rally was also attended by the deputy heads of the Lviv Regional State Administration. (<https://ukranews.com/news/675291-600-chelovek-proveli-miting-po-sluchayu-dnya-rozhdeniya-bandery-vo-lvove>)

On February 8, 2020, the seventh "Bandera Readings" dedicated to the "mission of Ukraine and national interests in the globalizing world" took place in Kiev. The event was timed to coincide with the 80th anniversary of the creation of the so-called OUN Revolutionary Lead, headed by Stepan Bandera on February 10, 1940.

According to the press service of the Kyiv City Council, during the event held in the Column Hall of the Kyiv City Council, the leaders of nationalist organizations made speeches.

Later it became known that the mayor of Kiev Vitaliy Klitschko allowed the All-Ukrainian Association (VO) "Svoboda" to hold the Bandera Readings on February 8, 2020 in the premises of the Kiev City Council for free. This is stated in the response of the Kyiv City Council to the inquiry of the Ukrainian News Agency. (<https://112.ua/obshchestvo/v-kievrade-sostoyalis-sedmye-banderovskie-chteniya-525022.html>, <https://ukranews.com/news/684710-klichko-razreshil-svobode-provesti-banderovskie-chteniya-v-zale-kievsoveta-besplatno>)

On March 7, 2020, a large-scale torch march "Remember the Heroes" took place in Lviv. It was dedicated to the chief commander of the UPA R. Shukhevych.

Several hundred people in a column with torches in their hands began marching from the monument to S. Bandera. In front of the column were carrying a large banner with a portrait of the commander-in-chief and the inscription: "Remember the Heroes." During the march, the protesters shouted various nationalist slogans, in particular: "OUN, UPA - worldwide recognition", "Bandera, Shukhevych - Heroes of Ukraine!", "Glory to Roman Shukhevych!" other.

The march ended on Market Square. Here, the march participants read the prayer of a Ukrainian nationalist together and lit fires.

(<https://day.kyiv.ua/ru/news/080320-vo-lvove-proshel-fakelnyy-marsh-v-chest-pamyati-romana-shuhevicha>)

On April 19, 2020, in Kalush, Ivano-Frankivsk region, a solemn ceremony was held to award the veteran of the Nazi 14th division of the Waffen SS "Galicia" Vasily Nakonechny. The 95-year-old Nazi was awarded the knight's cross of the division.

The video recording of the celebration was posted on his Facebook page by the head of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee, Eduard Dolinsky. Dolinsky drew the

attention of subscribers to how, at the time of the award, Nakonechny reflexively raised his hand in a Nazi greeting.

Nakonechny fought in the SS Galicia division during 1943-1944. Earlier, on May 24, 2018 deputies of the Kalush city council decided to award him the title of "Honorary Citizen of Kalush". (<https://strana.ua/news/262422-v-kalushe-nahradili-veterana-divizii-ss-poluchaja-nahradu-tot-zihanul.html>)

Overnight into August 2, 2020, near Kiev, Ukrainian nationalists presented a new organization based, as its organizers say, on the traditions of Ancient Rome. This was announced by the activist Vladislav Dulapchy on his Facebook page.

"Last night, near Kiev, a forum of Ukrainian nationalists took place, presenting a new organization - Centuria. Either all, or nothing, pan or disappear - the organization's motto refers to the history of Rome and the foundation of European Civilization, guarding Order against Chaos, solidarity against disunity and patriarchal values Brotherhoods against the feminine and driven crowd, ", the message says.

During the presentation, nationalists fired into the air. Members of the organization, who hid their faces under special masks, also held a special, as they called it, "battle prayer".

The main idea of the nationalists is the preparation of the formation for the "War of Independence". (<https://strana.ua/news/282153-pod-kievom-ukrainskie-natsionalisty-ustroili-strelbu-tak-prezentovali-novuju-orhanizatsiju.html>)

3. Manifestations of anti-Semitism, xenophobia, use of hate speech in the media and public space

Sofia Semchishin, daughter of a Ukrainian politician, member of the ultra-right Svoboda party, former deputy of the Verkhovna Rada Irina Farion, offensively commented on the statement of Israeli Ambassador Joel Lyon and Polish Ambassador Bartosz Tsikhotsky regarding the celebration of nationalists in Ukraine. In early January 2020, the ambassadors of Israel and Poland issued a joint statement condemning the honoring of the supporters of ethnic cleansing in Ukraine. The diplomats were also alarmed that representatives of the authorities, in particular the Kyiv City State Administration and the Lviv Regional Council, were taking part in the celebration.

"Jews and Poles, f*ck away", S. Semchishin wrote on her Facebook page. (<https://ukranews.com/news/675696-zh-dy-i-polyaki-pi-dujte-kuda-podalshe-doch-farion-otvetila-poslam-izrailya-i-polshi-po-povodu>)

The head of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, Bohdan Chervak, praised the fact that among the memorable dates and anniversaries that will be celebrated in Kiev in 2020, the Kiev Council approved the 130th anniversary of the birth of the head of the OUN Andriy Melnyk. He wrote about this on February 28, 2020 on his Facebook page.

"The correct, symmetrical response to the ambassadors of Poland and the State of Israel, as well as the Russian Federation, who believe that they have the right to defame the memory of our heroes. Moscow, Warsaw, Jerusalem, any other capital

do not dare to interfere in the internal affairs of Ukraine, " said Chervak. (<https://strana.ua/news/252262-v-kiysovete-reshili-v-2020-hodu-chestvovat-ukrainskoho-natsionalista.html>)

On May 9, 2020, on the 75th anniversary of the Victory over Nazi Germany, a group of radical right - minded thugs staged a provocation in Kharkov. Activists of the nationalist organizations "Freikor", the Union of ATO Veterans, "Right Sector", the Veteran Association for Assistance to the Defense of Ukraine hung banners on three bridges of the city with the provocative inscription: "Thanks to grandfathers who were killing Moscow's crums". In particular, banners were hung on Klochkovsky Spusk and on Lev Landau Avenue. Corresponding photos are posted in the telegram channels.

(https://www.sq.com.ua/rus/news/novosti/09.05.2020/den_pobedy_natsionalisty_razvesili_po_harkovu_bannery_foto/)

IV. Acts of vandalism, destruction and desecration of burial places and memorial signs dedicated to the heroes of the World War II, as well as civilians of different nationalities who died during the war

1. Acts of vandalism against monuments to the heroes of the World War II

On June 2, 2019, in Kharkiv, right-wing radicals from the National Corps demolished a bust of Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgy Zhukov. Videos and photos from the event are posted on the Kharkiv NOW portal Facebook page. The footage shows that several dozen nationalists from the National Corps and law enforcement officers are at the bust of Zhukov. Moreover, the police did not in the least prevent the radicals from destroying the monument. One of the nationalists climbed onto the monument, wrapped it with a ribbon, after which the bust of Zhukov fell to the ground.

As the communications department of the Main Directorate of the National Police in the Kharkiv region reported later, three policemen were injured during the demolition of the bust to Marshal Zhukov in Kharkiv.

"A group of unidentified persons sprayed tear gas. Three police officers who served and ensured law and order near the monument, received a chemical burn to their eyes and were taken to a hospital," the statement said. (<https://strana.ua/news/204298-v-kharkove-snesli-bjust-marshalu-zhukovu-video.html>, <https://hk.npu.gov.ua/news/Inshi-podiji/slidchi-xarkivskoji-policziji-vidkrili-dva-kriminalni-provadhennya-za-faktom-podij-u-nemishlyanskomu-rajoni/>)

On July 16, 2019, in the city of Yagotin, Kiev region, nationalists dismantled a monument to Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgy Zhukov. This was announced by the leader of the Kharkiv right - wing radical organization "First light" Vadim Pozdnyakov, having published a photo of the dismantling on his Facebook page.

"Today in Yagotin the bust of Zhukov was dismantled. We have been playing paper football with many authorities for more than a year and in the end there is a result. Zhukov is gone in official way. The same will happen with Kharkov. He's next", Pozdnyakov wrote. (<https://strana.ua/news/211906-v-jahotine-kievskoj-oblasti-radikaly-snesli-pamjatnik-marshalu-zhukovu-foto.html>)

On July 21, 2019, unknown vandals desecrated the monument to General Nikolai Vatutin, Hero of the Soviet Union, in Poltava. According to the press service of the regional department of the National Police of Ukraine, the attackers wrote "Enemy" on the monument with red paint and painted over the general's initials. The police qualified the incident as hooliganism.

(<https://www.unian.net/incidents/10625109-v-poltave-krasnoy-kraskoy-obrisovali-pamyatnik-vatutinu.html>)

A comment

General Nikolai Vatutin during the World War II led the troops of the 1st Ukrainian Front, which liberated Kiev from the German invaders in November

1943. He died at the hands of Ukrainian nationalists, who ambushed his car in February 1944 in the Rivne region.

On October 31, 2019, activists of the right-wing radical organization National Resistance dismantled a bronze bas-relief to Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgy Zhukov at 87 Kanatnaya Street, where the military registration and enlistment office of the Primorsky district of Odessa is located. The actions of the nationalists were coordinated with the leadership of the military commissariat.

It is reported that representatives of the military registration and enlistment office were present at the scene. The indifferent inhabitants of Odessa, passing by, tried to stop arbitrariness, but the nationalists in a rude form advised them to "get out to Russia." Then the passers-by turned to the patrolmen, who called the investigative-operational group to the place to establish all the circumstances.

The police right radicals presented a document, which bears the signature of the chief apartment-operational department of Odessa lieutenant colonel Dmitry Konyukhov. The document said that the Housing and Maintenance Department of the Ministry of Defense does not object to the demolition, since the monument falls under the decommunization law, and proposes to hand it over to the Museum of the Southern Operational Command.

As a result, right-wing radicals dismantled Zhukov's bas-relief. And after dismantling, one of its participants published a photo in Facebook, where he stands with his feet on a bas-relief lying on the ground(<https://zaodessu.com.ua/radikaly-demontirovavshie-barelef-zhukovu-otpravlyali-odessitov-v-rossiyu-video-foto/>)

A comment

During the World War II, the outstanding Soviet military leader, Marshal of the Soviet Union Zhukov commanded the troops of the 1st Ukrainian Front, liberating Ukraine from the Nazi invaders. After the war, Zhukov for several years was the commander of the Odessa military district. There are many traces of his stay in Odessa and the military registration and enlistment office is one of them. At the same time formally Marshal Zhukov should not fall under the " law on decommunization ", as he is the hero of the World War II, which in law is, with the case but an exception. However, in practice, this exception is ignored by both state institutions and right-wing radicals.

On November, 10 2019 in Odessa vandals poured paint and left offensive inscription on a plaque to Marshal Georgy Zhukov, which is located on the facade of the building on the street Novoselsky. This was reported in the nationalist organization "All-Ukrainian lustration. Odessa". The activists wrote that they allegedly received the photos by email.

“A short dictation was written for the Day of the Ukrainian Language and Written Language” - such a cynical explanation of the act of vandalism was made by ”unknown patriots”.

Judging by the indicated data, the incident occurred at about 2 am on November 10. (<https://pushkinska.net/news/v-odesse-maloletnie-vandalyi-razrisovali-memorialnuyu-dosku-zhukovu-foto>)

On December 27, 2019, Odessa online publications reported that an unknown vandal smashed a memorial plaque on the monument to the military pilot and hero of Odessa, Mikhail Plokhomy, in the park on the Fair Square in the Peresyp area.

According to local utilities, damage to the memorial sign was noticed last week, and the broken piece of the board is now in their storage.

“They don’t know exactly what to do with it, but it’s possible they will glue it with cement and thus restore the desecrated monument”, the message says. (<https://on.od.ua/2019/12/27/vandalizm-v-odesse-izurodovan-pamyatnik-lyotchiku-pogibshemu-v-1944-godu-122570/>)

A comment

The monument to Aviation Lieutenant Mikhail Plokhoy is a landmark of Peresyp. Pilot died in the sky over Odessa on April 9, 1944, the day before the city was liberated from the Nazi invaders. The body was found and buried secretly from the invaders by local residents, and later the hero wanted to be reburied on the Walk of Fame. The residents of Peresyp did not allow this to be done and at their own expense erected a monument to Plokhoy.

A comment

It should be noted that in recent years, various right - wing radical organizations have repeatedly resorted to the same standard method - notifying the general public through the media and social networks about certain illegal incidents with their own participation (various acts of violence against their political opponents, an act of vandalism etc.), they are usually attributed to their own actions by some "unknown patriots." Such cynical tactics allows, on the one hand, to publicly promote extreme right-wing activities and, on the other - not to take direct responsibility for committing criminal acts.

On February 4, 2020, in Odessa, activists of several nationalist organizations (National Militias, Automaidan Odessa, etc.) removed a bas-relief of Marshal of the Soviet Union Georgy Zhukov from the building where the military leader once worked. This bas-relief was the last monument to the marshal in Odessa. The dismantling of the bas-relief was accompanied by shouts of "Beat!"...

The building at 64 Novoselsky Street, where the Zhukov bas-relief was installed, is an architectural and historical monument of local importance. Marshal Zhukov worked here in 1946-1948 at the headquarters of the Odessa military district (<https://strana.ua/news/247982-v-odesse-aktivisty-snesli-poslednij-barelef-zhukovu-s-pamjatnika-arkhitektury.html>, <https://pushkinska.net/news/v-odesse-aktivistyi-snesli-posledniyi-barelef-zhukovu-s-pamyatnika-arhitekturyi-foto>)

On the night of February 10, 2020, a monument to the Soviet military leader, General Nikolai Vatutin, was poured with brilliant green in Kiev. This was reported by the press service of the city police.

Police officers found the vandals at the crime scene: the unknown were noticed while patrolling the territory of the Mariinsky Park. Law enforcers caught up and detained one of the violators. It turned out to be a 19-year-old young man.

A monument to Vatutin in the Mariinsky Park was erected over the general's grave. The police opened a criminal case under Part 3 of Art. 297 of the Criminal

Code of Ukraine (desecration of the grave, other burial place or the body of the deceased). Under this article, the violator faces up to seven years in prison. (<https://kyiv.npu.gov.ua/news/novini/u-stoliczi-speczpriznachenczi-zatrimali-molodika-za-poshkodzhennya-pam-yatnika>)

On February 12, 2020 in the Pechersky District Court of Kiev, a meeting was held to choose a preventive measure for the suspect, who on February 9 in the Mariinsky Park poured green paint on a monument to General Nikolai Vatutin. The monument stands over the grave of the hero of the World War II.

It is worth noting, that the police arrested only one vandal - 19-year-old Ivan Khomenko. However, he was charged with part 2 of article 296 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine - hooliganism committed by a group of persons. The sanction of the article provides for a penalty of up to 4 years in prison. The suspect stated at the trial that he had not committed any hooligan actions, but only filmed his comrade on his mobile phone at his request. Khomenko assured the court that it was allegedly a complete surprise for him when an acquaintance began pouring green paint on the monument from previously prepared bottles. However, according to the prosecution, the suspect deliberately distorted the truth: they found a correspondence in his phone, in which he negotiated an "action" under the Vatutin monument.

The courtroom was attended by radicals Yevgeny Karas and representatives of the Brotherhood of Dmitry Korchinsky. The prosecutor demanded that the suspect be taken into custody during the investigation. However, the investigating judge of the Pechersk court, Olesya Batrin, decided to bail him to the deputy of the Verkhovna Rada, Mikhail Bondar. The guarantor M. Bondar was elected to the Verkhovna Rada of the IX convocation in the majority constituency No. 119 (in the Lviv region), he is a member of the European Solidarity party, which is headed by ex-President Petro Poroshenko. (<https://strana.ua/news/249605-deputat-partii-poroshenko-vzjal-na-poruki-oskvernitelja-pamjatnika-vatutinu.html>)

On February 22, 2020, in Odessa, vandals desecrated the Wings of Victory memorial, erected in honor of the liberation of the city. In particular, a granite cabinet with the names of the Heroes of the Soviet Union was painted with colored paints.

The Wings of Victory memorial was erected in 1984 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Odessa from Nazi invaders by the troops of the 3rd Ukrainian Front on April 10, 1944.

(<https://korrespondent.net/city/odessa/4196631-v-odesse-razrysovaly-memoryal-v-chest-osvobozhdeniya-horoda>)

On March 30, 2020 it became known about an act of vandalism in the Ternopil region. In the village of Nyrkov, vandals damaged a monument to the soldiers of the World War II. As the press service of the National Police of Ternopil region reported, "On March 30, employees of the Zalishchytskyi police station received a message that the monument to the Unknown Soldier was damaged at the entrance to the village of Nyrkov. Having left the scene, the police officers found part of the destroyed monument to the soldiers of World War II, namely - a torn off

head and part of a soldier's arm. On the ground, fragments of a concrete structure were smashed", the law enforcement officials said.

According to the National Police, there were no witnesses of the incident. The monument was last seen without damage on March 25 this year.

Criminal proceedings were initiated against the wanted vandals in accordance with part 2 of article 297 of the Criminal Code - desecration of the grave or body of the deceased. (<https://strana.ua/news/258440-vandaly-razvalili-pamjatnik-vov-v-ternopolskoj-oblasti-ikh-ishchut-za-oskvernenie-tela.html>)

In May 2020, in Kharkov, twice in two days, vandals poured paint on a monument to Marshal Georgy Zhukov. The first incident occurred on the night of May 19, the city portal 057.ua reported about it with reference to the workers of public utilities. On the night of May 20, unknown persons poured over the monument again, as a result of which paint fell on both the upper and lower parts of it, including the reverse side. The message about the second incident was posted on the Kharkiv police website.

(<https://www.rbc.ru/rbcfreenews/5ec501e89a79470de0485d87>)

2. Acts of anti-Semitic vandalism

On August 28, 2019, in the Nikolaev region, vandals desecrated a monument erected in honor of the victims of the Holocaust. According to the head of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee, Eduard Dolinsky, the monument is located near the village of Vradievka. He announced this on his Facebook page.

The criminals have desecrated a monument that perpetuates the memory of seven thousand people. The Nazis shot them at this place at the beginning of the World War II. The column of Jews was sent from Krivoye Ozero to Domanevka in the fall of 1941 under the pretext of resettlement to a new place of residence. Among those shot there were mainly women, children and old people. The photograph of the monument shows that the swastika and offensive expressions are applied to the monuments.

Earlier, the Israeli Ministry of Diaspora Affairs noted that the number of anti-Semitic incidents has increased in Ukraine. This comes amid the glorification of the nationalist leaders responsible for the murder and expulsion of Jews during World War II.

(<https://tsn.ua/ru/ukrayina/na-nikolaevschine-vandaly-oskvernili-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-ostaviv-zapisku-s-ugrozami-1411623.html>)

September 16, 2019 it became known about a new act of vandalism in the Nikolaev region. The monument to the victims of the Holocaust, erected in the village of Bogdanovka at the site of the massacre of 54 thousand Jews, was desecrated. Unidentified persons painted the monument to the victims of the Holocaust with swastikas and left a threatening note. This was announced by the director of the Ukrainian Jewish Committee Eduard Dolinsky on his Facebook page. According to him, the note was anti-Semitic in nature and contained a threat of the Holocaust, "in the event of the sale of Ukrainian land". (<https://112.ua/avarii-chp/v->

[nikolaevskoy-oblasti-oskvernili-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-ostavili-svastiki-i-zapisku-s-ugrozami-507479.html](https://112.ua/obshchestvo/v-kirovogradskoy-oblasti-neizvestnye-obrisovali-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-v-policii-otkryli-ugolovnoe-proizvodstvo-507702.html))

On September 17, 2019 it became known about an act of vandalism in the Kirovograd region. Unknown painted swastika on Holocaust memorial. On this fact, the police opened criminal proceedings. This was reported by the press service of the Kirovograd region police.

"During patrolling at a distance of about 300 meters from the road by the Golovanevsk-Klinovoye route, workers of the response sector of the patrol police of the Golovanevsky department found that an unknown person had made inscriptions on the memorial complex in memory of the victims of the Holocaust", the statement says.

The police on this fact opened criminal proceedings under the article "Violation of the equality of citizens depending on their race, nationality, religious beliefs, disability and other grounds". (<https://112.ua/obshchestvo/v-kirovogradskoy-oblasti-neizvestnye-obrisovali-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-v-policii-otkryli-ugolovnoe-proizvodstvo-507702.html>)

September 17, 2019 Jewish Confederation of Ukraine (JCU) announced a significant second concerns a series of acts of anti-Semitic vandalism in several regions of Ukraine. As noted in the statement, on September 15, 2019, in the Nikolaev region, vandals desecrated a monument to the victims of the Holocaust, painting it with swastikas and pasting a letter with threats. On September 17, 2019, a monument to the victims of the Holocaust in the Kirovograd region was also desecrated. JCU expressed its outrage at this repeated act of anti-Semitism and called on law enforcement officers to approach the issue of detecting criminals as responsibly as possible. (<https://jcu.org.ua/ru/news/eku-vstrevozhena-povtornym-aktom-antisemitizma>)

On January 19, 2020, in Kryvyi Rih, vandals painted a monument to the victims of the Holocaust with paint. Vandals mutilated the memorial stele "Kryvyi Rih tragedy", which is dedicated to the 15 thousand Jews who died from the Nazi regime. The monument is located on the territory of the synagogue in Kryvyi Rih. The incident took place shortly before the Holocaust Remembrance Day. The Ambassador of Israel to Ukraine Joel Lion announced this on his Twitter account.

The Israeli Ambassador called on the Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine Arsen Avakov and the National Police to investigate the act of vandalism. (<https://nv.ua/ukraine/events/antisemitizm-v-krivom-roge-oskvernili-pamyatnik-zhertvam-holokosta-novosti-ukrainy-50064981.html>)

V. Recommendations

Analysis of Ukrainian legislation, practical activities of state authorities and local governments, as well as monitoring of the Ukrainian information space allow us to conclude that Ukraine is pursuing a systemic policy aimed at falsifying the history of World War II, all-round glorification and glorification of Ukrainian collaborationists and Nazi supporters... This is, first of all, about the diligently implanted cult of S. Bandera, R. Shukhevych and other odious figures of the Ukrainian nationalist movement close to them in views and methods of activity, the glorification of the armed formations of the OUN-UPA and the SS Galicia division. At the same time, in Ukraine, monuments erected in honor of outstanding Soviet military leaders, heroes of the World War II, who took a direct part in the liberation of Ukraine from Nazi occupation, are purposefully destroyed or desecrated, and acts of vandalism are committed in relation to memorials erected in memory of the victims of the Holocaust. It is extremely alarming that such incidents not only do not meet with any kind of resistance from various state structures and law enforcement agencies, but in many cases they are openly covered and even encouraged by them. In this regard, it is worth highlighting the activities of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, as well as local government bodies in the western regions of Ukraine and Kiev, openly promoting the ideology of right-wing radical Ukrainian nationalism. At the same time, citizens who do not share the nationalist and neo-Nazi ideology continue to be subjected to unpunished attacks from the far-right forces, and in some cases also persecution by the state.

Systematic manifestations of Nazism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia in Ukraine, which were directly encouraged by the previous Ukrainian government during the presidency of P. Poroshenko, actually occur with the direct connivance and on the part of the new government in the person of President V. Zelensky and other high officials, heads of state authorities and local government.

In the international arena, Ukraine is still one of the few states (along with the United States) that publicly opposes the fight against the glorification of Nazism and various manifestations of neo-Nazism and xenophobia, as evidenced by its position in the UN when voting on the relevant resolutions.

In many cities of Ukraine, including its capital - Kiev, far-right parties and public organizations hold regular marches, rallies, etc., during which the ideas of Ukrainian right-wing radical nationalism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia are openly promoted, the persons and organizations responsible for the massacres of civilians in the Nazi-occupied territories of the USSR, as well as the countries of Eastern and Southern Europe are glorified.

In order to fight against the glorification of Nazism, as well as numerous and manifestations of neo-Nazism and right-wing radicalism and xenophobia in social and political life of Ukraine it seems appropriate to offer the following recommendations:

1. To demand from the Ukrainian authorities to abolish the legislative norms granting members of the OUN-UPA armed formations the status of participants in hostilities with the provision of appropriate benefits.

2. Require the Ukrainian authorities to take appropriate concrete measures, including in the legislative and educational fields, in accordance with their international human rights obligations, in order to prevent a re-examination of the outcome of World War II and the denial of crimes against humanity and war crimes committed During the World War II.

3. To demand at the international level from the Ukrainian authorities to prohibit the holding of any solemn events, both official and unofficial, in honor of armed formations and individuals who compromised themselves during the World War II by various forms of collaboration with Nazi Germany, who professed the principles of radical nationalism and xenophobia, who have committed numerous crimes against peace and humanity.

Remind the Ukrainian authorities that the lack of effective government resistance to any manifestation of Nazism and neo-Nazism is incompatible with its obligations as a UN member state.

4. Propose to the Ukrainian authorities to abolish the provisions of the so-called "de-communization package of laws" in terms of the ban on the public use of communist (Soviet) symbols.

5. To carry out constant comprehensive monitoring of manifestations of Nazism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia in Ukraine. It seems expedient to involve not only Ukrainian but also foreign human rights organizations in carrying out such monitoring. Based on the monitoring results, it is advisable to publish a White Paper on manifestations of Nazism, neo-Nazism and xenophobia in Ukraine.

6. To form a special monitoring mission under the auspices of authoritative international and intergovernmental structures (UN, OSCE, PACE), which would objectively and thoroughly study the current situation related to the activities of right-wing radical and neo-Nazi organizations in Ukraine, various manifestations of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism.

7. To demand that the Ukrainian authorities, not in words, but in actions, fight against right-wing radical groups, seek to prosecute persons guilty of violating human rights, inciting national, linguistic, racial, religious enmity or hatred, as well as committing various acts of vandalism against relation to monuments to the heroes of the World War II and victims of the Nazi terror.

8. To indicate to the Ukrainian authorities the inadmissibility of incidents related to the glorification and propaganda of Nazism, including acts of applying graffiti and drawings of pro-Nazi content, including on monuments to the victims of World War II.