



COUNTRY OF ORIGIN INFORMATION KEY DOCUMENTS

UKRAINE

8 OCTOBER 2008

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1. Preface

- i This Country of Origin Information Key Documents (COI Key Documents) on Ukraine has been produced by COI Service, UK Border Agency (UKBA), for use by officials involved in the asylum/human rights determination process. It provides general background information about the issues most commonly raised in asylum/human rights claims made in the United Kingdom. The COI Key Documents includes information available up to 8 October 2008. It was issued on 8 October 2008.
- ii The COI Key Documents is an indexed list of key reports, papers and articles produced by a wide range of recognised external information sources. It does not contain any UKBA opinion or policy.
- iii For UK Border Agency users, the COI Key Documents provides direct electronic access to each source referred to in the document, via a link on the source numbers in the index and list of sources. For the benefit of external users, the relevant web link has also been included, together with the date that the link was accessed.
- iv As noted above, the documents identified concentrate mainly on human rights issues. By way of introduction, brief background information on Ukraine is also provided. Please note, this background material is not intended to provide a summary of the material contained in the documents listed.
- v This COI Key Documents and the documents listed are publicly disclosable.
- vi Any comments regarding this COI Key Documents or suggestions for additional source material are very welcome and should be submitted to COI Service as below.

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ADVISORY PANEL ON COUNTRY INFORMATION

- vii The independent Advisory Panel on Country Information (APCI) was established in 2003 to make recommendations to the Home Secretary about the content of the UK Border Agency's country of origin information material. The APCI welcomes all feedback on UKBA's COI Key Documents, COI Reports and other country of origin information material. Information about the Panel's work can be found on its website at www.apci.org.uk

- viii In the course of its work, the APCI reviews the content of selected UKBA COI documents and makes recommendations specific to those documents and of a more general nature. The APCI may or may not have reviewed this particular document. At the following link is a list of the COI Key Documents, COI Reports and other documents which have, to date, been reviewed by the APCI: www.apci.org.uk/reviewed-documents.html
- ix Please note: It is not the function of the APCI to endorse any UKBA material or procedures. Some of the material examined by the Panel relates to countries designated or proposed for designation for the Non-Suspensive Appeals (NSA) list. In such cases, the Panel's work should not be taken to imply any endorsement of the decision or proposal to designate a particular country for NSA, nor of the NSA process itself.

Advisory Panel on Country Information:

Email: apci@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Website: www.apci.org.uk

2. Background information on Ukraine

Country Profile: Ukraine

Area: 603,700sq km

Population: 47.8 million (est.)

Capital City: Kiev (Kyiv) population: 2.6 million (Dec 2001 census)

People: Ukrainian 77.8%, Russian 17.3%, other 5% (Dec 2001 census)

Languages: Ukrainian is the official language, but Russian is widely spoken, particularly in the East and South. There are small numbers of Romanian, Polish and Hungarian speakers, and about 250,000 Crimean Tatars.

Religion(s): Ukrainian Orthodox (Moscow Patriarchate) (10-12 million), Ukrainian Orthodox (Kiev Patriarchate) (2-3 million), Ukrainian Greek-Catholic (Uniate) (850,000), Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox (800,000), Jewish (70,000), Muslim.

Currency: 1 hryvnia=100 kopykas

Major Political Groupings: Our Ukraine – People Self-Defence, Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (both pro-market economy, pro-reform, pro-EU membership), Party of the Regions (favours closer relations with Russia, but also favours EU membership, most support in the East), Lytvyn Bloc (centrist alliance), Communist and various other parties and blocs.

Constitutional Form: Parliamentary-Presidential Republic

Head of State: President Viktor Yushchenko

Prime Minister/Premier: Yuliya Tymoshenko

Foreign Minister: Volodymyr Ohzyzko

(FCO Country Profile, last updated 21 July 2008) [4a]

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GEOGRAPHY

Ukraine is situated in east-central Europe. It is bordered by Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Moldova to the west, by Belarus to the north and by Russia to the north-east and east. To the south lie the Black Sea and the Sea of Azov. The climate is temperate, especially in the south. The north and north-west share many of the continental climatic features of Poland or Belarus, but the Black Sea coast is noted for its mild winters. The official state language is Ukrainian, although Russian is widely spoken, except in the west. Most of the population are adherents of Orthodox Christianity (which has three separate jurisdictions in Ukraine) and there are many adherents to the Roman Catholic Church (mostly 'Greek' Catholics, followers of the Eastern rites) in western regions. There are also a number of Protestant churches and small communities of Jews and Muslims, the latter principally comprising Crimean Tatars. The national flag (proportions 2 by 3) has two equal horizontal stripes, of pale blue over yellow. (Europa online 8 September 2008) [1]

MAPS

Map of Ukraine, World Atlas accessed 11 September 2008 [58]



Administrative Map of Ukraine, Perry-Castañeda [14]



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ECONOMY

Exchange Rate: 5.00 hryvnnya (UAH) per US\$1. (2007)

GDP: 2007 US\$ 142.06bn (IMF figure)

GDP per head: 2007 US\$ 3,056 (IMF figure)

Annual Growth: 2007 7.6% (IMF figure)

Annual Consumer Inflation: 2007 12.8% (IMF figure)

Major Industries: Coal, electric power, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, agriculture, food-processing (especially sugar)

Major Trading Partners: EU, CIS, China, US

Aid and Development: The World Bank's US\$750m Programmatic Assistance Loan, allocated in its 2001-03 Country Assistance Strategy, depends on Ukraine agreeing a new lending agreement with the IMF; the first tranche was disbursed in 2001 and a second tranche of US\$250m was agreed in December 2003. The remaining US\$175m will be disbursed when the PAL II benchmarks have been met. A new CAS for the period 2003-07 was launched in May 2003. Governmental aid organisations active in Ukraine include USAID and the EU. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

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RECENT HISTORY

The Ukrainian people belong to the southern branch of the Eastern Slavs. Their ancestors came from Scandinavia in the 800s. The name 'Ukraina', which originated in the twelfth century, denotes borderland: the area lacks natural frontiers and has a troubled history. Ukraine had only brief periods of independence prior to 1991 – under the Cossacks from the fifteenth century until union with Russia in 1654, and very briefly after the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917.

The chaotic events following the Bolshevik revolution in 1917 and the collapse of the Habsburg Empire in 1918 prompted Ukrainian nationalists to try and create an independent Ukraine. Between 1917 and 1918, three separate Ukrainian republics declared independence. None survived. By 1921 the western part of Ukraine had been incorporated into Poland while the larger, central and eastern part became part of the Soviet Union. Soviet reactions were severe, particularly under Stalin, who imposed terror campaigns that ravaged the intellectual class. He also created artificial famines as part of his forced collectivisation of agriculture, killing millions of previously independent peasants and others throughout the country. Estimates of deaths from the 1932-33 famine alone range from 3 million to 7 million. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

In 1939, under the terms of the Nazi-Soviet Pact, Galicia (now western Ukraine) was occupied by the Soviet Union. During the Second World War Ukraine was under Nazi occupation from 1941 until 1943-4. Kiev was awarded the Soviet title of Hero City for its resistance and suffering. At the end of the Second World War, Western Ukraine was re-annexed to Ukraine. Khrushchev ceded Crimea (until then part of the Russian Republic) to Ukraine in 1954 as a gift to mark the three hundredth anniversary of Khmel'nitsky's union with Russia.

Following the attempted coup against the Soviet leader Gorbachev, the Ukrainian parliament (the Supreme Rada) declared Ukraine's independence on 24 August 1991. This was confirmed by referendum on 1 December 1991, with 90% approving the decision. Ukraine's formal independence was recognised by the international community on 30 December 1991. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office) [4a]

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RECENT EVENTS AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

MARCH 2006 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

“Parliamentary elections were held on 26 March 2006. The parties which passed the 3% electoral threshold were: Party of Regions (32% - 186 seats), Bloc Yuliya Tymoshenko (22% - 129 seats), Bloc Our Ukraine (14% - 81 seats), Socialist Party of Ukraine (6% - 33 seats) and Communist Party of Ukraine (4% - 21 seats). The elections were assessed by the OSCE to have been conducted largely in line with international standards, and were probably the freest and fairest elections ever held in the CIS region. They were held under constitutional changes which have given Ukraine a hybrid parliamentary-presidential system of government.

“On 2 April President Yushchenko issued a decree dissolving Parliament and ordering pre-term elections to be held on 27 May. The President's decree was in response to the Governing coalition's attempts to form a constitutional majority in Parliament through the incorporation of opposition deputies into the coalition. Both Government and Parliament refused to recognise the President's decree and instead forwarded it to the Constitutional Court to rule on its legality. On 26 April, President Yushchenko issued a further decree superseding his earlier one. The new decree again ordered the dissolution of Parliament but extended the date for fresh elections to 24 June. Parliament again forwarded the decree to the Constitutional Court. The political situation remained deadlocked until 27 May when President Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yanukovych and Parliamentary Speaker Moroz agreed a compromise package of measures to end the crisis. This package included provision for pre-term parliamentary elections to be held on 30 September 2007.” (Foreign & Commonwealth Office last updated 21 July 2008) [4a]

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YANUKOVYCH GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 2006 - DECEMBER 2007

A lengthy coalition building process followed the March 2006 elections. Initial attempts by Bloc Our Ukraine, Bloc Yuliya Tymoshenko and the Socialists to form an ‘Orange’ coalition failed and on 3 August an ‘anti-crisis’ coalition was formed by the Party of Regions, Communists and Socialists, with Viktor Yanukovych as PM. Before nominating Yanukovych as Prime Minister, President Yushchenko secured his agreement to the ‘Universal’ – a Declaration of National Unity, which lays out the policy framework for the new Government. Its aims include continuing Ukraine's European integration policy with EU membership the future goal, developing a working partnership with NATO with a view to membership and maintaining the Ukrainian language as the sole official language. It was signed by President Yushchenko, Party of Regions leader Viktor Yanukovych, Speaker of the Upper House Oleksandr Moroz, former Prime Minister Yuri Yekhanurov, representative of the party ‘Our Ukraine’ Roman Bezsmertniy, leader of the Socialist Party, Vasiliy Tsushko, and leader of the Communist Party, Petr Simonenko. Yuliya Tymoshenko refused to sign the document.

The co-habitation between President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yanukovych proved uneasy. Differing interpretations of the constitution led to disagreements over the respective roles of President, Prime Minister, Cabinet and Parliament on some areas of policy and on appointments and dismissals of Ministers. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

2007 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

On 2 April 2007 President Yushchenko issued a decree dissolving Parliament and ordering pre-term elections to be held on 27 May 2007. The President's decree was in response to the Governing coalition's attempts to form a constitutional majority in Parliament through the incorporation of opposition deputies into the coalition. Both Government and Parliament refused to recognise the President's decree and instead forwarded it to the Constitutional Court to rule on its legality. On 26 April 2007, President Yushchenko issued a further decree superseding his earlier one. The new decree again ordered the dissolution of Parliament but extended the date for fresh elections to 24 June 2007. Parliament again forwarded the decree to the Constitutional Court. The political situation remained deadlocked until 27 May 2007 when President Yushchenko, Prime Minister Yanukovych and Parliamentary Speaker Moroz agreed a compromise package of measures to end the crisis. This package included provision for pre-term parliamentary elections, which were held on 30 September 2007.

The preliminary conclusions of the International Election Observation Mission stated that 'the 30 September 2007 pre-term parliamentary elections in Ukraine were conducted mostly in line with OSCE and Council of Europe commitments and other international standards for democratic elections, and confirm an open and competitive environment for the conduct of election processes'. This confirms the excellent progress Ukraine is making towards establishing itself as a European democracy. Five political parties crossed the 3% threshold required to enter parliament: Party of Regions (34% - 175 seats), Bloc Yulia Tymoshenko (31% - 156 seats), Our Ukraine Peoples Self Defence (14% - 72 seats), Communist Party (5% - 27 seats) and Bloc of Lytvyn (4% - 20 seats). (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

TYMOSHENKO GOVERNMENT, DECEMBER 2007 – PRESENT

On 23 November 2007, Bloc Yuliya Tymoshenko and Our Ukraine People's Self Defence signed a coalition Agreement. On 18 December, Parliament voted in a new coalition Government, with Yuliya Tymoshenko as Prime Minister. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

UKRAINE'S RELATIONSHIP WITH NEIGHBOURS

RUSSIA

"A major breakthrough in Russia-Ukraine relations occurred in May 1997 when Presidents Yeltsin and Kuchma signed an agreement on the Black Sea Fleet, whereby Ukraine undertook to lease the harbour of Sevastopol to Russia until 2017. The presidents also signed a Bilateral Treaty on Friendship and Co-operation, recognising each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity within their existing borders.

"President Putin's backing for President Yushchenko's opponent in the 2004 Presidential election and Yushchenko's government's pro-EU and NATO policies strained Ukraine's relations with Russia. Nevertheless, Yushchenko made Moscow his first overseas visit after his inauguration and Putin made return visits to Ukraine in March 2005 and December 2006. A forum known as the Putin-Yushchenko Commission was established in March 2005 to facilitate regular dialogue. The most recent meeting took place on 12 February 2008. Ukraine's application for a NATO Membership Action Plan in January 2008 has, however, prompted Russia to call into

question Ukraine's commitment to the 1997 Treaty on Friendship and Co-operation.” (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

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POLAND

“Poland was the first country to recognise Ukraine's independence and in 1992 Poland and Ukraine signed a Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation, renouncing territorial claims and confirming the inviolability of their frontiers. Poland sees itself as Ukraine's best ambassador to Euro-Atlantic institutions (e.g. Poland lobbied for Ukrainian membership in the Council of Europe), and Ukraine welcomes Polish support for its European aspirations. Ukrainian troops in Iraq served in the Polish-led part of the multinational force. The role played by then President Kwasniewski in helping to facilitate a resolution to Ukraine's political crisis in 2004 and Polish support for Ukraine's aspiration to join the EU have further strengthened this relationship.” (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

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GEORGIA, UKRAINE, AZERBAIJAN AND MOLDOVA (GUAM)

Ukraine has been a leading member of GUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova) since 1996 and has played an active part in its development. GUAM states seek to co-operate on economic and democratic development. At a summit meeting in Kiev in May 2006 GUAM leaders agreed to turn the grouping into a formal regional organisation (Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development) with a Secretariat based in Kiev. Uzbekistan, which joined the group for a few years, left in 2005. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

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UKRAINE'S RELATIONS WITH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

EU

Integration with the EU is a priority for Ukraine and the reform programme it is pursuing is based around bringing Ukraine closer to the EU. The EU and Ukraine concluded negotiations an Action Plan as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy on 21 February 2005. Under the Action Plan Ukraine is committed to implement a range of economic and political reforms in return for which the EU offers Ukraine closer relations. Ukraine has used the Action Plan as a tool to step-up relations and brings it closer to EU standards and norms. (Foreign & Commonwealth Office 21 July 2008) [4a]

Radio Free Europe, in an article ‘European Status to Remain Elusive at Summit’ dated 8 September 2008, reported that Ukraine and its supporters within the EU have lost the argument. Diplomats in Brussels will not win formal recognition as a ‘European country’ at a summit in Evian, France; on September 9...Ukraine's case also has been undermined by the domestic political turmoil in the country. Many EU capitals fear the destabilisation of the country is a real possibility as President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko remain on a collision course. [30a]

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HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office Country Profile 2008 last updated 21 July 2008 stated that:

“The death penalty in Ukraine was abolished in February 2000, when the Ukrainian parliament removed the death penalty from the criminal code. Ukraine has also ratified Protocol No. 6 to the European Convention on Human Rights in line with her commitments to the Council of Europe. However, Ukraine’s Interior Minister has recently commented that he favours reintroducing the Death Penalty.” [4a]

The US State Department Report 2007 (USSD 2007), published on 11 March 2008, also recorded that:

“Problems with the police and the penal system remained some of the most serious human rights concerns. Problems included torture in pretrial detention facilities; harsh conditions in prisons and pretrial detention facilities; and arbitrary and lengthy pretrial detention. There was also continued violent hazing of military conscripts and government monitoring of private communications without judicial oversight. Slow restitution of religious property continued. There was societal violence against Jews and increased violence against persons of non-Slavic appearance. Anti-Semitic publications continued to be a problem. Serious corruption in all branches of government and the military services also continued. The judiciary lacked independence. Violence and discrimination against children and women, including domestic violence, sexual harassment in the workplace, and child labor, remained a concern. Trafficking in persons continued to be a serious problem. Inadequate labor legislation permitted both government and companies to limit the ability of workers to form and join unions of their choice and to bargain collectively.” (USSD 2007) [2a]

FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND PRESS

The Constitution and law provide for freedom of speech and of the press; the authorities generally respected these rights in practice. There were no reports that the central authorities attempted to direct media content; however, there were reports of intimidation of journalists, including by local officials. Continued dependence by some media on government resources may have inhibited investigative and critical reporting. Individuals could criticize the government publicly and privately without reprisal and the government did not attempt to impede such criticism. Independent media were active and expressed a wide variety of views without restriction. (USSD 2007) (2a)

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PEOPLE TRAFFICKING

The US State Department Report 2007 (USSD 2007), published on 11 March 2008, also recorded that:

“The law prohibits trafficking in persons; however, there were numerous reports that persons were trafficked from the country, and a limited number of reports that persons were trafficked to and within the country. The country remained a point of origin for internationally trafficked men, women, and children. The main destinations were Russia, Turkey, Western and Central Europe, particularly Poland and the Czech Republic, and the Middle East.” (USSD 2007) [2a]

The USSD report further noted that “Seventy-five percent of victims identified by the IOM during the year were women who were forced into prostitution or used as housekeepers, seamstresses, dishwashers, and as workers at various small and large manufacturing plants. The number of men identified as victims of trafficking for labor exploitation, mainly as construction workers and miners, increased. Children who were trafficked across the border or within the country were forced to provide sexual services, engage in unpaid work, or beg. Also children were trafficked within the country for the purposes of producing pornography for use by pedophiles from other countries.” (USSD 2007) [2a]

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office Human Rights Annual Report 2007 on Ukraine reported that:

“Romania is a source and transit country (mainly from Ukraine and Moldova) for people-trafficking. The National Agency for Combating People Trafficking and the National Police are doing good work, in conjunction with the international community, in fighting people-trafficking gangs and rehabilitating victims.” [4b]

The US Department of State ‘Trafficking in Persons Report’, released on 4 June 2008 however reported that the Government of Ukraine does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is making significant efforts to do so. While there was little evidence of efforts to curb trafficking complicity of government officials and of concrete steps to protect and assist trafficking victims at the national level, local governments made some progress on victim assistance. The government also made modest, but tangible, progress in improving the punishment of convicted traffickers, prosecuting labour trafficking, training the judiciary, and carrying out prevention activities. [2d]

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FOREIGN REFUGEES

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in their third report on Ukraine dated 29 June 2007 noted that Article 19 of the Law on Refugees provides that persons who are granted refugee status enjoy the same rights and freedoms as Ukrainian citizens. However refugees and asylum seekers face a number of problems, do not have access to free translation and interpretation when submitting their claim and have to rely on NGOs for these services. They do not receive legal aid when going through the asylum application procedure and the majority of asylum seekers do not receive an allowance or temporary accommodation. They have no access to free Ukrainian and Russian language lessons which impedes their ability to integrate into the Ukrainian employment sector and society in general. [42c]

The ECRI 2007 report further noted that once their status has been recognised, refugees receive a one-off allowance of 17 hryvnias, (approximately 2.50 euros) and no accommodation. ECRI has been informed that as a result, many live in inadequate conditions. Although Article 20 of the Refugee Law grants refugees and asylum seekers the right to work, they face a number of disadvantages in access to employment due to a lack of the requisite language skills, employers’ discrimination, in particular against those of non-European origin, and because of uncertainty about asylum seekers’ future in the country. [42c]

3. Index to key source documents

(KB users – Click source number to access document directly)

KEY FACTS AND GEOGRAPHY	[1]	Europa World Online- Country Profile accessed on 8 September 2008 http://www.europaworld.com/pub/
	[2a]	United States Department of State (USSD), Report on Human Rights Practices 2006: Ukraine, 11 March 2008 http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100590.htm
	[2c]	United States Department of State (USSD), Background Note: Ukraine, last updated March 2008 http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3211.htm
	[4a]	Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Country Profile: Ukraine, last updated 21 July 2008 http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/europe/ukraine/
	[7a]	British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Country Profile: Ukraine, Last updated 13 August 2008 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/1102303.stm
	[10a]	Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), The World Factbook, Ukraine, Last updated 4 September 2008 https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/up.html
	[17a]	United Nations Common Country Assessment 2004: Ukraine http://www.un.org.ua/files/CCA_2004_en.pdf
	[31]	World Bank, Ukraine Country Brief 2007 http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/COUNTRIES/ECAEXT/UKRAINEEXTN/0,,contentMDK:20631767~menuPK:328541~pagePK:141137~piPK:141127~theSitePK:328533,00.html
MAPS	[14]	Map of Ukraine, Perry-Castañeda http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/cia08/ukraine_sm_2008.gif
	[58]	World Atlas, Map of Ukraine, accessed 11 September 2008 http://www.worldatlas.com/webimage/countrys/europe/ua.htm
HISTORY	[1]	Europa World Online- Country Profile accessed on 8 September 2008 http://www.europaworld.com/pub/
	[2a]	United States Department of State (USSD), Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Ukraine, 11 March 2008 http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100590.htm

HISTORY CONT'D	<p>[2c]</p> <p>[4a]</p> <p>[7a]</p> <p>[7b]</p> <p>[26a]</p>	<p>United States Department of State (USSD), Background Note: Ukraine, last updated March 2008 http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3211.htm</p> <p>Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Country Profile: Ukraine, last updated 21 July 2008 http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/europe/ukraine/</p> <p>British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Country Profile: Ukraine, Last updated 13 August 2008 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/1102303.stm</p> <p>British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Timeline: Ukraine, last updated 13 August 2008 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/1107869.stm</p> <p>Freedom House, Freedom in the World 2008: Ukraine, http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=363&year=2008&country=7512</p>
POLITICS AND RECENT EVENTS	<p>[1]</p> <p>[2a]</p> <p>[2c]</p> <p>[4a]</p> <p>[5a]</p> <p>[7a]</p> <p>[7b]</p> <p>[10b]</p>	<p>Europa World Online- Country Profile accessed on 8 September 2008 http://www.europaworld.com/pub/</p> <p>United States Department of State (USSD), Report on Human Rights Practices 2007: Ukraine, 11 March 2008 http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007/100590.htm</p> <p>United States Department of State (USSD), Background Note: Ukraine, last updated March 2008 http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/bgn/3211.htm</p> <p>Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Country Profile: Ukraine, last updated 21 July 2008 http://www.fco.gov.uk/en/about-the-fco/country-profiles/europe/ukraine/</p> <p>Human Rights Watch (HRW), World report 2007: Ukraine, 31 January 2008 http://hrw.org/englishhrw2k8/docs/2008/01/31/ukrain17712.htm</p> <p>British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Country Profile: Ukraine, Last updated 13 August 2008 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/1102303.stm</p> <p>British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), Timeline: Ukraine, last updated 13 August 2008 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/europe/country_profiles/1107869.stm</p> <p>Chiefs of State and Cabinet Members of Foreign Governments, Ukraine, last updated 25 March 2008 https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/world-leaders-u/ukraine.html</p>
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<p>RECENT EVENTS CONT'D</p>	<p>[11a]</p> <p>[26a]</p> <p>[30b]</p> <p>[44]</p>	<p>Amnesty International (AI) report 2008: Ukraine http://thereport.amnesty.org/eng/Regions/Europe-and-Central-Asia/Ukraine</p> <p>Freedom House, Freedom in the World 2008: Ukraine, http://www.freedomhouse.org/template.cfm?page=363&year=2008&country=7512</p> <p>Ukrainian President Threatens To Dissolve Parliament 3 September 2008 http://www.rferl.org/content/Ukraine_President_Snap_Poll/1195995.html</p> <p>Jamestown Foundation, Eurasia Daily Monitor, Volume 4, Issue 130, 5 July 2007: DID YUSHCHENKO BORROWS KUCHMA'S IDEAS FOR CONSTITUTION? http://www.jamestown.org/edm/article.php?article_id=2372272</p>
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