

## **BN WAR & INVESTMENTS**

WILL THE WAR END AND INVESTMENT PICK UP THIS YEAR?



## THE UBN NETWORK SURVEY

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## A NATIONAL MOMENT OF SILENCE

In Honor Of The Memory Of The Fallen Military and Civilians. Adults and Children. Heroes and Heroines. Everyone.



# UBN NETWORK

## **ANDREW'S BIO**

- Investor, Ukraine Business News (UBN) and UBN Network Founder.
- 15 years of progressive experience in Investment Management and Real Estate Development in the United States.
- A former investment banker with Goldman Sachs (NYC) and a financial analyst at Tishman Speyer (NYC)
- Founded Ukraine Business News in 2018 and is a Co-Founder of UBN Network
- Holds an MBA from Case Western Reserve University (USA) and is a Zhytomyr Polytechnic State University graduate





## **UKRAINE BUSINESS NEWS (UBN)**

The Morning Economic Digest subscribers list has over 5000 unique subscribers:

• EC, EU parliament members, 30 embassies, foreign/domestic businesses, etc.

UBN Website has over 1,000,000 visits monthly:

- Written in 7 languages (German, French, Spanish, Polish, English, Ukrainian, Russian)
- 65% of our readers are from the US, Canada, and the EU



## THE UBN NETWORK MEMBERSHIP OFFERS

UBN Network membership is available to Ukraine Business News readers



#### **4 LIVE EVENTS IN KYIV / YEAR**

- Discussions with panelists from different sectors, with 80-100 attendees
- Macroeconomic, political, and business briefing, including best management practices
- Forum for in-person networking and live benchmarking of issues and expectations



#### **RESEARCH REPORTS & SURVEYS**

- 4 Benchmarking Surveys focused on Budgeting, Talent Management, Channel Management, Digitization, etc...
- 4 quarterly reports on Ukraine's political, economic, and business outlook
- Monthly reports with macroeconomic forecasts for Ukraine, as well as analysis for the broader region and global markets

#### **NETWORK AND INSIGHTS**

- Ad hoc webinars and two analyst briefings for your company with our in-house Ukraine expert
- Facilitation of introductions and relationship-building in the Ukraine business community
- 2 Private Briefings at your office

Feel free to reach out with any questions! NETWORK@UBN.NEWS

## **UBN NETWORK BRIEFINGS**



## **UBN NETWORK MEMBERS & CLIENTS**



## **TYPES OF SUBSCRIPTIONS**

#### **UBN NEWS** (INDIVIDUAL/CORPORATE)

- Everyday's Highlights 5 days a week
- Brief overview of 10-12 topics
- UBN events announcements
- Hot Discussion Points
- Corporate rate includes 20 reports
- Editor's Note

**\$9 / \$99** Individual month/year **\$1500** Corporate year UBN NEWS + UBN NETWORK 20 REPORTS (INDIVIDUAL/CORPORATE)

- Everyday's Highlights
- Brief overview of 10-12 topics
- Hot Discussion Points
- Editor's Note
- 12 Monthly Reports
- 4 Quarterly Reports
- 4 Benchmarking Surveys

**\$999** Individual year **\$1500** Corporate year

#### UBN NETWORK ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

- UBN Morning Digest
- 12 Monthly Reports
- 4 Quarterly Reports
- 4 Benchmarking Surveys
- 4 Live events
- 2 Live briefings in your office
- Ability to be a speaker at our event
- Two articles about your business/year
- Access to our business community

#### \$2800 and \$5000 year

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PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS WITH BOTH BRANDS, UKRAINE BUSINESS NEWS (UBN) AND UBN NETWORK

Your logo/banner on:

- The <u>www.ubn.news</u> website has over 1 million visits and 200,000 monthly readers
- The UBN Morning Digest, sent to over 5000 subscribers daily
- Our UBN Network 20 reports are distributed to thousands in Ukraine and outside of the country
- The UBN Network website
- Our 4 Live Events and all event materials
- UBN team personal recommendations of your business to companies entering the market
- Guaranteed spot as a speaker at our events
- Opportunity to be present at live meetings with foreign delegations
- UBN Network Quarterly Webinars
- And much more



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# UBN NETWORK

## **MARK'S BIO**

- Former Managing Director of Europe at FrontierView, specializing in Eastern European Markets
- Published articles with Harvard Business Review, interviewed on TV/in print by the BBC, Bloomberg, Forbes, Wall Street Journal, MSNBC, etc.
- Taught courses on counterterrorism to CIA/FBI agents at the US Army Combating Terrorism Center
- Taught a course on Investing in Emerging Markets at the London Institute of Banking & Finance (LIBF)
- Interned for ex-US Secretary of State Madeline Albright
- MA in Eastern European & Eurasian Studies from John Hopkins SAIS; BA in History and Theology from the University of Notre Dame







## 2025 OUTLOOK



## **KEY TAKE-AWAYS**



We have reasons to be concerned about the war ending in Ukraine's favor this year



We have reasons to stay optimistic about the war ending in Ukraine's favor this year



Talks will fail, demanding Trump make a decision in the coming days/weeks



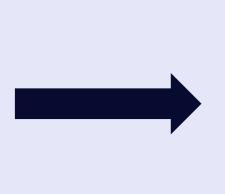
Investor moods had picked up following Trump's election and a mild winter

## A NEW GLOBAL ORDER IS DEVELOPING

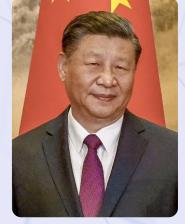
#### International Security Order from 1945 – 2022 is Over

- The West is only now waking up to this
- Trump is setting the foundation for this new era...











**George Kennan,** The Long Telegram February 22, 1946 "The main element of any US policy must be that of **long-term, patient but firm and vigilant containment** (of the Soviet Union)"



## FROM THE OVAL OFFICE TO JEDDAH

#### **US-backed down to Ukraine**

- Trump
  - Satisfy his supporters in the US
  - Progress towards his Nobel Prize
- Zelenskyi
  - Needs US military aid
  - Progress towards security guarantees

#### Brings Europe to the negotiating table

"The ball is in Russia's court" – So what now?





## THE BALL IS IN RUSSIA'S COURT

#### Russia seeks control over Ukraine

- Does a ceasefire help Putin towards that goal?
  - Agree, then violate it and blame Ukraine
  - Delay, but appear willing to agree eventually
  - Reject, hope Trump blames Ukraine

#### Long-term problem: Ukraine's security guarantees and continued military support

- Ukraine needs them, the US won't give them, Russia won't allow them
- EU needs to develop them



## **TRUMP'S POLICY ON UKRAINE: PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH?**



National Security Advisor – Waltz "Enforcing sanctions and unleashing American oil and gas—these are the moves that will end the war"



Secretary of State – Rubio "It's the official policy of the US that the war needs to come to an end. Not just restart in 2, 3, 4 years"



Treasury Secretary – Scott Bessent "I am 100% for taking sanctions up on the Russian oil majors to…bring Russia to the table"

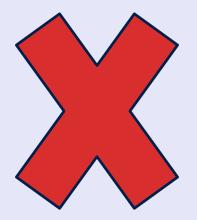
#### Trump's administration had demonstrated a clear understanding of the conflict:

- Putin only responds to strength
- Need to target Russia's oil revenues
- Putin would restart the war in the future
- Trump's team is now accountable for the war, not Biden

#### Trump's personality – can't be seen as weak and having lost



## **BUT PLENTY OF CONCERNS...**



- Role of personality: Trump's impatience vs. Putin's experience
- No clear plan or alignment internally
- No principled stance against Russia or devotion to the West
- Domestic chaos undermines foreign policy



## **US' FOUR ELEMENTS TO A SUSTAINABLE PEACE**

- Territorial concessions
- Delay/Cancellation of Ukraine's NATO membership
- Arming of Ukraine to ensure its sovereignty
- Demilitarized zone with European troops

Ukrainian concessions

#### **Russian concessions**



## WHAT DO TALKS LOOK LIKE?

#### Can Trump do a bigger deal with Putin?

#### Trump seeks:

- A ceasefire
- Kissingerian Russia-China split





## **IS A SINO-RUSSIAN SPLIT POSSIBLE?**

#### ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT

- In the 1960s/70s the US did not drive China/USSR apart
  - They were angry and scared of each other
- Russia and China are satisfied partners (albeit suspicious)
  - They are in a civilizational war against the US
- Trump can't give Putin Ukraine
  - Just sanctions relief and great power status



#### Nixon meets Mao in Beijing



### **POLLING: WILL TRUMP ABANDON UKRAINE?**





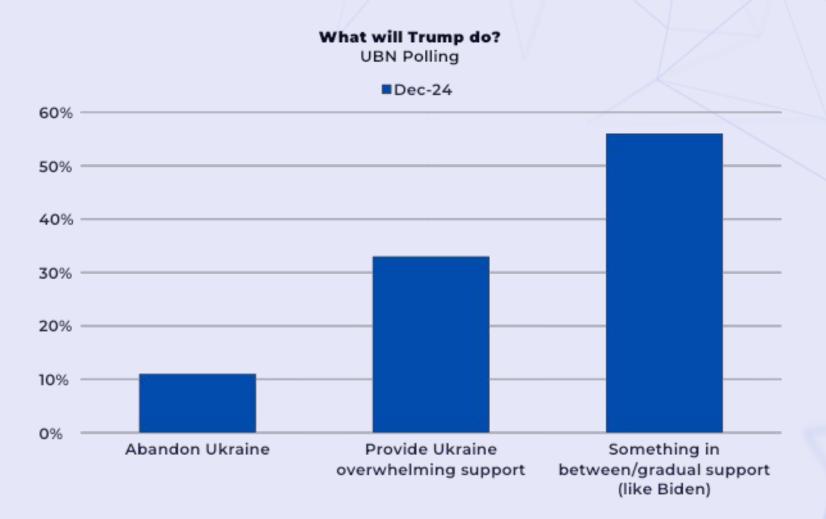




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## **POLLING: WHAT WILL TRUMP DO?**





### **POLLING: WILL EUROPE STEP UP AND FILL THE US GAP?**





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# Will Europe step up and adequately replace US aid?

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## **CAN EUROPE FILL THE GAP?**

#### Europe must take care of its own security now

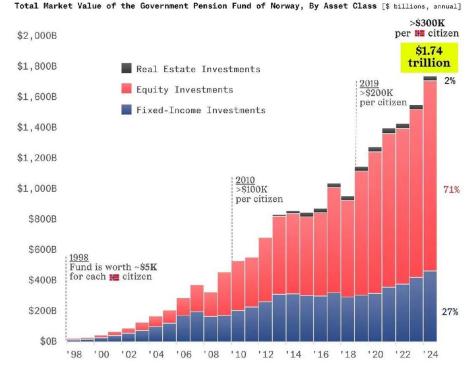
#### A matter of political will, not finances

- EU 10x the GDP of Russia
- EU €800 bn defense spending plan
- Seizure of Russia's reserves
- End of Germany's debt brake
- Turkish military
- Norway's sovereign wealth fund

#### Purchase necessary defense equipment from the US

- Long-range air defense and long-range artillery
- Spare parts and repairs
- Starlink and intel
- Would Trump in fact side with Russia???

#### **Norway's Enormous Wealth Fund Keeps Growing**





## THE WORLD HAS CHANGED...

## 66

As a German, I want to get this straight. The Western world wants us to build up a huge army, march through Poland and Ukraine fight the Russians?

Just writing it down so there are no misunderstandings in the future.

77

#### The US...

- Is destroying its military-industrial complex
- Won't send its soldiers to fight abroad
- Won't fight the Russians

"War is God's way of teaching Americans geography."

US Comedian Jon Stewart



## **RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR SCENARIOS INTO 2026**

End point	Scenario 1: Russian 'victory' (Collapse of Western order)	Scenario 2: Ukraine 'wins', land-for-peace deal	Scenario 3: Frozen conflict, fighting persists at lower level	Scenario 4: Direct Russia-NATO confrontation
Likelihood	<b>20%</b> (was 20%)	<b>50%</b> (was 50%)	<b>25%</b> (was 15%)	<b>5%</b> (was 15%)
Likely timeline	Early-Mid 2025	Mid-2025 at earliest	Late-2025	Through 2025 and beyond
What it looks like	<ul> <li>Trump cuts off US support</li> <li>Europe cannot provide adequate support</li> <li>Kyiv forced to negotiate a bad peace</li> <li>Russia seizes more territory</li> <li>Ukraine turns war into an insurgency</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Neither side can shift the line of contact decisively</li> <li>Russia seeks a ceasefire to pause the war</li> <li>Zelenskyi offers land-for-peace</li> <li>West provides more aid and security guarantees</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Neither side can strategically shift the war in its favor</li> <li>Western aid to Ukraine moderates</li> <li>Kyiv is forced to negotiate, while Moscow declares a "victory"</li> <li>The two sides get stuck in extended negotiations and fighting persists</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>NATO-Russian War initiated by a Russian attack on a NATO country or tactical nuclear strike in Ukraine</li> <li>The West responds with an overwhelming conventional response</li> <li>Potential for Russian nuclear retaliation in the West</li> </ul>



## **POLLING: WHEN WILL THE WAR END?**





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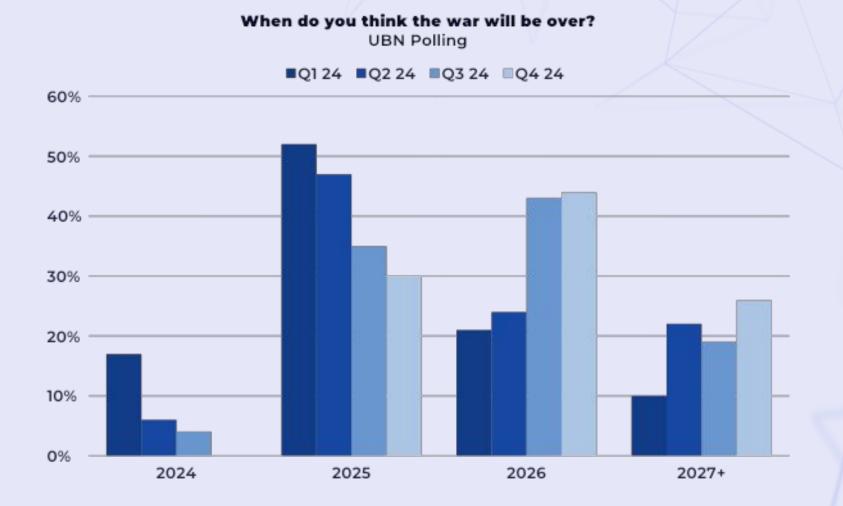




## When will the war will end?

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## **POLLING: WHEN WILL THE WAR END?**



URN UKRAINE BUSINESS NEWS

## WHAT TO WATCH FOR IN THE COMING MONTHS

#### **Ceasefire Deal?**

- Russia's reaction
- Reaction by Trump: Abandon or Support Ukraine?

### **EU Support – Development of Security Guarantees**

- Money and equipment
- SkyShield

### Mobilization in Ukraine (& in Russia)

#### **US Economy**

• Recession brings down oil prices, damages Russian economy



## UKRAINE MARKET DYNAMICS

## **UKRAINE FORECAST SUMMARY**

#### GDP consensus forecasts around 3.5-4.0% for 2025

- Business sentiment picking back up in February
- Inflation rising above expectations (13.4% in February), hryvnia set for more depreciation soon

	2022	2023	2024f	2025f
GDP, %YOY	-29.1	5.3	3.8	3.9
USD:UAH (avg)	32.70	36.80	40.11	43.70
Inflation, %YOY	20.6	12.9	6.3	10.9
Consumer Spending, %YOY	-16.9	6.3	5.0	5.2
Investment, %YOY	-34.0	52.9	9.0	12.0



# UBN NETWORK



## **UBN WAR & INVESTMENTS** FIRST PANEL

## NETWORK WAR & INVESTMENT FIRST PANEL SPEAKERS



PETER DICKINSON

Editor, Atlantic Council & Business Ukraine Magazine



#### OLEKSANDR MEREZHKO

Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation



#### ARSEN ZHUMADILOV

Chief Executive Officer, Defense Procurement Agency (DPA)



## **UBN WAR & INVESTMENTS NETWORKING BREAK**

## THE UBN NETWORK SURVEY

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## **URN WAR & INVESTMENTS** SECOND PANEL





#### OLEKSANDR MELNYCHENKO

Acting Executive Director, UkraineInvest



**IGOR MAZEPA** 

Chief Executive Officer, Concorde Capital



#### DMYTRO PONOMARENKO

Chief Strategy Officer, Vodafone Ukraine





## UKRAINEINVEST'S ROLE IN SUPPORTING SIGNIFICANT (CAPITAL) INVESTMENTS

## **TRANSFORMING UKRAINE**

+38 098 567 88 99

info@ukraineinvest.gov.ua

www.ukraineinvest.gov.ua/en

12 Muzeyny Lane, Office 401, Kyiv, Ukraine 02000

UkraineInvest Guide

## ABOUT UKRAINEINVEST

UkraineInvest is the Ukrainian government's investment promotion office created in 2018 to attract foreign direct investment

The Government of Ukraine has designated UkraineInvest as the authorized institution for supporting investment projects with significant investments

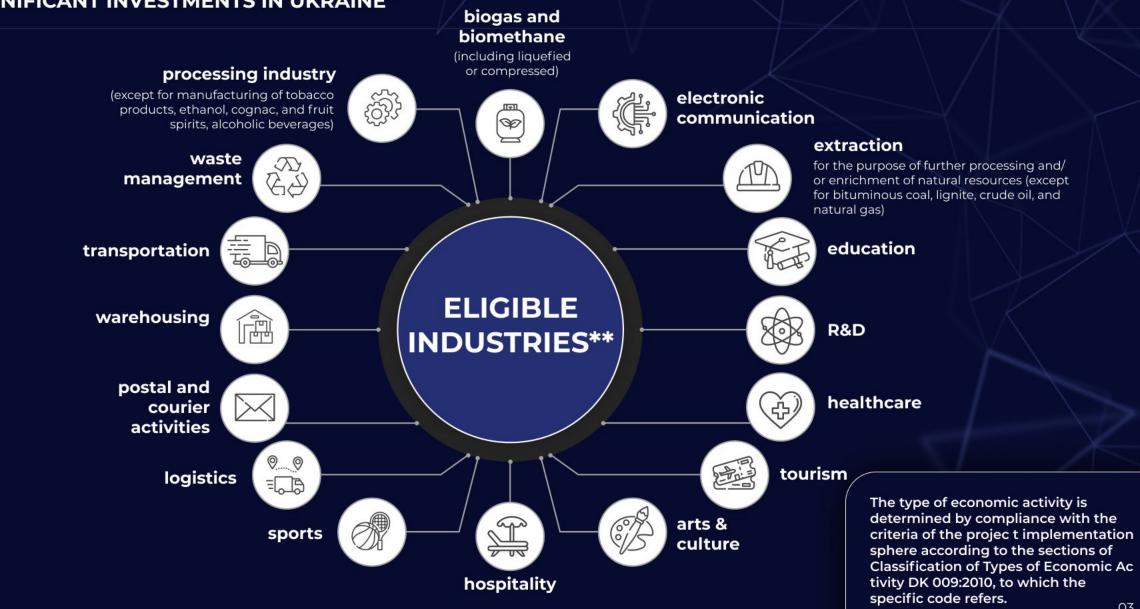


UkraineInvest provides comprehensive investor support at the local level and facilitates investors at every stage from identifying investment opportunities to project implementation

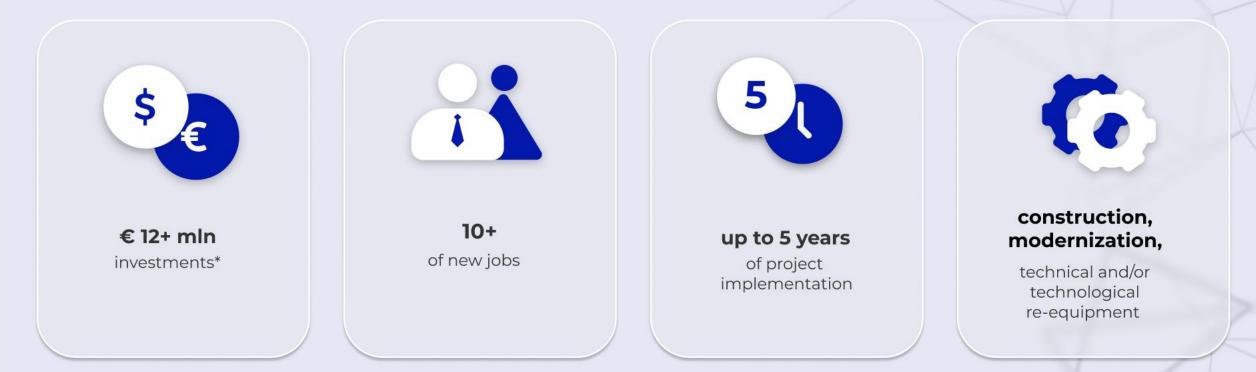
A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF INVESTOR PROTECTION AND SUPPORT:



#### KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INVESTMENT PROJECT ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF UKRAINE "ON STATE SUPPORT FOR INVESTMENT PROJECTS WITH SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS IN UKRAINE"



KEY REQUIREMENTS FOR AN INVESTMENT PROJECT ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF UKRAINE "ON STATE SUPPORT FOR INVESTMENT PROJECTS WITH SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS IN UKRAINE"



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### **INVESTMENT INCENTIVES**

(Significant Investments)





**CIT exemption\*** (for any 5 subsequent years within the validity period of the SIA)



Lease of state or communal land plots without land auctions



Exemption from VAT\*\* for importing new equipment and components to it



**Compensation for costs of connection** to engineering and transport infrastructure



Exemption from import duties\*\* for new equipment and components to it



Land tax exemption/ reduced land tax rates



**Construction/compensation** for built engineering and transport infrastructure



Exemption from compensation for losses of forestry production

Up to **30%** CAPEX

- € 12 mln (excluding VAT)
  € 30 mln (excluding VAT)
- € 100 mln (excluding VAT) —→
- € 12 mln (excluding VAT) → Up to € 3.6 mln in incentives and compensations
- € 30 mln (excluding VAT) → Up to € 9 mln in incentives and compensations
  - Up to €30 mln in incentives and compensations

\* Not applicable to projects in the industry of extraction for the purpose of further processing and/or enrichment of natural resources.

\*\*The list and quantity of equipment are approved by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine for each project.

\*\*\*No earlier than 18 months before a date of submission of the application, the Applicant may contribute Significant Investments in objects of investments in an amount not exceeding 30% of the total amount of Significant Investments. Investments in non- current assets made earlier than this period are not included in the calculation of the maximum amount of state support

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