

ICPS newsletter®

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First upbeat economic expectations in 4 years

Positive economic expectations at the start of Spring 2010 were buoyed by more positive expectations of inflation and unemployment among Ukrainian consumers, as the IIE lost 7.6pp and fell to 172.7 and the IECU fell 9.6pp to 106.4

In March 2010, the Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) continued to grow, rising 6.7pp to 89.3. As in February, the main cause of this improvement in the consumer mood was economic expectations. The IEE rose a healthy 8.7pp and moved above the 100-mark to 104.3. Evaluations of the current situation pushed the ICS, the other component of the CCI, up 3.6pp, although it remains at a very low 66.9.

"The can-do tone set by the new Government, coupled with relative economic stability are having

a positive impact on the consumer mood in Ukraine," says ICPS Social Economy Program Manager Maksym Boroda. "Despite the obviously low estimations of their own current standing, for the first time in the last four years, a majority of Ukrainians are positive about the prospects for the country's further economic growth." ■

For additional information, contact **consumer confidence** editor Maksym Boroda by phone at (3-044) 484-4400 or via e-mail at mboroda@icps.kiev.ua.

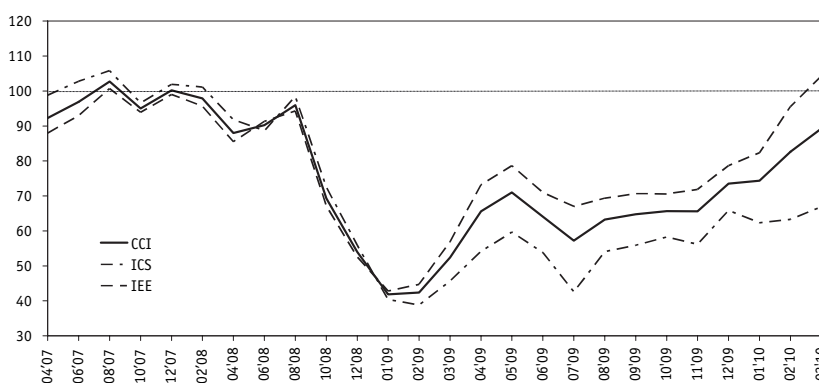
ICPS economist tops at predicting exchange rate

The Credit Rating Agency released the results of its study of the accuracy of predictions for the hryvnia-dollar exchange rate over 2009 made by Ukrainian analysts and analytical companies—and ICPS came out on top. The Agency tracked predictions that are freely accessible on the internet. The results led to two separate rankings for accuracy of predictions: one for analysts and one for analytical companies.

In top place for reliable predictions for the dollar exchange rate over 2009 among individual analysts was ICPS Senior Economist Oleksandr Zholud. Among analytical companies and organizations that provided projections for the dollar exchange rate in 2009, the International Center for Policy Studies came out on top as well. Altogether, the ratings agency analyzed 219 predictions that were openly available on the internet and came from 22 individual analysts and 23 companies.

ICPS regularly offers forecasts for the development of Ukraine's economy in its monthly Economic Forecast, which includes a base of statistical data, a brief on current trends, assumptions underlying the forecast, and a rolling three-year forecast. The ICPS team is ready to provide you with customized economic analyses and forecasts geared towards your business. For more information, contact ICPS Senior Analyst Ildar Gazizullin by phone at (38-044) 484-4400 or via e-mail at ig@icps.kiev.ua.

Consumer Confidence Index in Ukraine



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icps newsletter editor: Olga Lvova (olvova@icps.kiev.ua)
Phone: (38044) 484-4400. Fax: (38044) 484-4402
English text editor: L.A. Wolanskyj
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The International Centre for Policy Studies (ICPS) is a leading independent think-tank in Ukraine. ICPS was established at the initiative of the Open Society Institute in 1994. ICPS's mission is to support the further democratization and modernization of Ukraine through proactive, consistent Europeanization.

Address: vul. Pymonenka 13A, Kyiv, Ukraine 04050
Web-site: <http://www.icps.com.ua/eng/>