



## *In focus:*

### **20 years of a blind revolution**

#### **How inevitable was a clan-based oligarchy in Ukraine?**

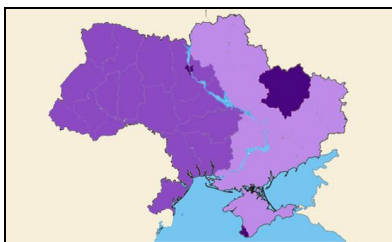
#### **What mistakes of the 1990s made it impossible for the country's economy to develop in a civilized manner?**

In response to questions from one of Ukraine's top dailies, Den', well-known scholar, expert on public administration and the reformation of political institutions, promoter of institutional desovietization, and Director of ICPS Vira Nanivska offers some pithy answers.

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### **Where's the best place to live in Ukraine?**

#### **The first post-crisis rating of quality of life in Ukraine's regions**



Which of Ukraine's regions are worse-off economically than certain African states?

How is it that residents of the supposedly wealthier Eastern oblasts live 3-4 years less than residents of Western oblasts? Why does the level of public education in different areas of the country vary?

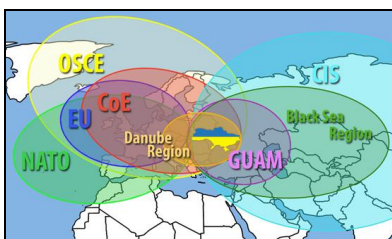
Why is it more dangerous to walk the streets of highly-developed Zaporizhzhia than anywhere else in Ukraine?

In which part of Ukraine is the ordinary person more likely to find highly-paid work, to open their own business, to get the best medical attention, or to feel themselves the most comfortable and safest?

ICPS publishes the results of the first systematic study of the main factors that affect the well-being of modern-day Ukrainians.

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### **Reforms in Ukraine: Regional Integration**



Ordinary Ukrainians and most of the country's political forces recognize that Ukraine belongs to Europe and deserves to become a full-fledged member of the European Union one day. Ukrainian voters and their Government also favor a mutually beneficial, friendly, stable and predictable strategic partnership with Russia. These two vectors are sometimes seen as contradictory, so the task of the country's Government and civil society is to make them complementary in a way that will allow Ukraine and the regions to which it belongs to benefit from both.

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## Reforming Labor Relations



The basis for labor legislation currently in force in Ukraine is a Code of Labor Laws that has been in effect since soviet times. Even the more than 600 amendments made to it over the last 20 years have not made it capable of regulating labor issues in a democratic country with a market economy.

The current Administration has positioned the new draft Labor Code, a document that will form the basis of labor reform, as one that is in line with best international standards in labor relations. At the same time, members of the opposition and voters say that individual provisions of the new Code conflict with Sec. 3 Art. 22 of the Constitution of Ukraine, which prohibits narrowing the nature and extent of existing rights and freedoms in establishing new regulatory acts.

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## Vira Nanivska “Doing the unthinkable”

Ukraine has entered a state of profound schizophrenia. For the first time, a President of independent Ukraine is determined to push through the most difficult reforms. On the other hand, the warning bells toll about an authoritarian, repressive regime being firmly entrenched by this same President.

The undemocratic, corrupt behavior of Ukraine’s government at all levels is killing any positive impact from the unprecedented strong political will of President Yanukovych and his ability to consolidate his political team.

Lack of democratic capacity prevents Mr. Yanukovych from fulfilling his main commitment: to set the country in order. This same lack of democratic institutional capacity, which is understandably perceived as the President’s team natural inclination to nasty totalitarian repressions, has placed long-awaited and vitally-needed reforms on the brink of losing momentum.

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### **For You:**

#### **ICPS welcomes young professionals to hone their skills by interning at the Centre**

Successful applicants will undergo a rigorous selection process before being invited to work at Ukraine’s top non-government think-tank. ICPS interns are mentored by top professionals in fields ranging from international politics and government policy development to economic theory and environmental policy.

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