

UKRAINE: Average salary: 350 EUR – Average pension: 90 EUR



Prime Minister Shmyhal: average wage of UAH 15,000 (450 EUR), average pension of UAH 5,000 (150 EUR) is the goal we must pursue

Ukrinform (05.09.2020) – <https://bit.ly/2R02J0Z> – Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal believes that an average wage of UAH 15,000 and an average pension of UAH 5,000 are sufficient for life.

“UAH 15,000 is the average wage, and it would be good to have an average pension of at least 30% of it. Speaking specifically, the average wage of UAH 15,000, the average pension of UAH 5,000. This is the goal which we should pursue. Do not take this as a promise, take it as the parameters we are striving for,” Shmyhal said on the air of Ukraina 24 TV Channel, asked what the average wage and the average pension should be in Ukraine to have enough for life.

The prime minister noted that today the average wage is UAH 11,000, and the average pension is UAH 3,000.

“Probably this is not enough, I would like Ukrainians to receive more decent wages and pensions,” Shmyhal stressed.

HRWF Comment

One can wonder if such a Prime Minister saying a pension of 150 EUR per month would be sufficient to live deserves his position. This amount is not even sufficient to pay the bills for heating, electricity, water and other utilities.

Currently, the *average* pension is around 90 EUR, much lower than what he says.

Poverty of Ukrainian citizens is the price they pay in their daily lives for the unsolved corruption problems in government, parliament, judiciary and business since the independence.

Ukraine’s delegation leaves OSCE meeting over statements on ‘Russian Crimea’

Ukrinform (17.09.2019) – <https://bit.ly/2kGZGe7> – A delegation from Ukraine has left the OSCE session hall in Warsaw during

the discussion of the topic of freedom of speech in protest at statements about "Russian Crimea," according to Crimean Tatar television channel ATR.

"The Ukrainian delegation has suspended participation in the working meeting. Consultations are being held with partners on further actions," the statement reads.

In this way, the Ukrainian delegation reacted to statements by Crimean propagandists who said during their introduction: "Crimea, Russia," the report said.

The editor-in-chief of the propaganda news outlets Krymskaya Gazeta and Krymskiy Zhurnal, Maria Volkonskaya, who came for the OSCE meeting in Warsaw, called the annexed Crimea Russian. After that, her speech at the meeting was interrupted, with reference to international documents.

In addition, a speech by Ervin Musayev, the director general of the Millett propaganda channel, was also interrupted at the OSCE meeting as he began to complain about Ukraine's "blockade of Crimea."

The Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM) of OSCE participating states started in Warsaw on September 16. In particular, delegations discussed human rights protection, the occupation of Crimea, and sanctions against Russia.

Statements of Ukraine's delegation:

Opening Statement by H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, Head of the Delegation of Ukraine.

Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine at the Working Session 1 delivered by Valentyn Koval, member of National Council of Ukraine of Television and Radio Broadcasting.

Statement of the Delegation of Ukraine at the Working Session 2 delivered by Valentyn Koval, member of National Council of Ukraine of Television and Radio Broadcasting.

UKRAINE: Report on infringement of religious liberty under Ukrainian rebels

*Terror in occupied territories: Rights advocates
publish instances of persecution of churches*

Read the report here.



RISU (24.10.2018) – <https://bit.ly/2Dh8I94> (en) / <https://bit.ly/2ETCa6U> (ru) – The Institute for Religious Liberty presented a report, “Freedom of religious confession in the crosshairs: Russian terror in occupied territories of eastern Ukraine.”

In it the rights advocates cite numerous instances of religious persecutions in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, which are committed by Russian-supported militants.

The presentation of the report was held on 24 October 2018 in the press center of Ukrinform in Kiev, with the participation of representatives of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kiev Patriarchate, the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches of Evangelical Christians-Baptists, the Ukrainian Church of Christians of Evangelical Faith, the Ukrainian Christian Evangelical Church, the Association of Jewish Religious Organizations of Ukraine, and the Ecclesiastical Board of Muslims of Ukraine.

The role of the international community is key in putting a

stop to current persecutions against believers and churches, which are being committed by the occupying authority in the east of Ukraine. This was why on the eve of the press conference, religious leaders and experts of the IRL conducted a separate presentation of the report for representatives of diplomatic representations and foreign missions.

“There are no doubts of the fact that the religious factor was used as one of the instruments of the hybrid war by Russia against Ukraine, in which an essential role is being played by false propaganda and destabilization of society on the basis of religious, national, and linguistic identity. With the help of provocations of schisms and social rifts, Russian authorities have prepared the ground for further military intervention and occupation,” the authors of the report conclude.

Evangelical Christians, Orthodox parishes of the Kiev patriarchate, Greek Catholics, and Jehovah’s Witnesses are the main targets of religious persecution on the part of occupation authorities who are supported by Russia.

At the same time, so-called “laws” of the self-proclaimed republics in the sphere of religious activity and combating extremism actually are being exploited for concealing under a cover of “legality” those religiously motivated crimes that militants are committing against the civilian population. Thus in the territories of Donesk and Luhansk oblasts, the occupation authorities are implementing the same religious policy as is also in Russia itself.

Participants of the presentation noted that the response of the international community to religious persecutions, which the occupation authority in the east of Ukraine is exercising, should be a comprehensive and impartial international monitoring of freedom of religious confession. And also, as a consequence, there should be the documentation and public disclosure of violations and crimes on the grounds of religion in the territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts that are not controlled by the Ukrainian government, including instances of requiring religious societies to reregister and the subsequent religious persecutions for activity “without registration,” and also baseless accusations of extremist activity.

The authors of the report also recommend to the Office of the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights that it prepare a separate report on the basis of results of the work of the Monitoring Mission of the U.N. regarding the situation concerning the right to freedom of religion or convictions in the territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts that are not controlled by the Ukrainian government.

The full text of the report is available in English at:

<http://www.irf.in.ua/files/publications/2018.10.24-IRF-Report-ENG.pdf>

Russian version:

<http://irf.in.ua/files/publications/2018.10.24-IRF-Report-RUS.pdf>

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List of hundreds of documented cases of believers of various faiths in 20 countries: <http://hrwf.eu/forb/forb-and-blasphemy-prisoners-list/>