

Project

European Universities: Lectures which Tell the World about Ukraine

Pluralism by default

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Authoritarian model failed

- In the 2012 parliamentary elections pro-European and pro-Western opposition parties scored half of votes, and gained impressive support in the several important eastern and southern industrial regions.
- For instance, in Dnipropetrovsk and Kherson regions they achieved unprecedented 40% of votes.

- Non-violent protest for 2 months under t – 20C
- The West introduced sanctions against Yanukovych only after he escaped
- In February 2014, a hundred of people died under the EU flags in the center of Kyiv to defend democracy and European choice.

Inclusive nationalism

- Dissidents of different nationalities learned the real, not declared (Soviet-type), internationalism in Soviet prison camps.
- **Modern Ukrainian nationalism is a territorial not an ethnic one and “inclusive” rather than “exclusive.”**

- **“the heavy focus on right-wing radicals in international media reports was misleading”.**
(public statement prepared by Dr. Andreas Umland, German academic expert on the far right, and signed by forty Ukrainian and Western academic experts)

- Russian-speakers comprise huge part of volunteer battalions fighting in Donbas for integrity of Ukraine.
- In the presidential 2014 elections candidates from *Svoboda* and *The Right Sector* secured only 2% (just compare to 25% result of the National Front in France).

Table 1.

In which direction of integration should Ukraine move?
(Democratic Initiatives Foundation/ Razumkov Center, May 2014)

	Oct. 2011	Febr. 2012	Dec. 2012	May 2013	March 2014	May 2014
Entering the EU	43.7	38.6	42.4	41.7	45.3	50.5
Entering the Custom Union of Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan	30.5	29.7	32.1	31.0	21.6	21.4
Neither the EU, nor the Custom Union	9.3	11.7	10.5	13.5	19.6	17.4
Difficult to say	16.4	20.0	15.0	13.7	13.4	10.6

- Despite the war in Donbas, Putin's aggression actually cemented political Ukrainian identity whatever language Ukrainians speak and whatever confession they belong to.

Crimea's annexation

- 1st annexation in Europe after WWII
- Crimea = Sudetenland=Quwait? Leaders of Crimean Tatars are not allowed to come to Crimea!
- Violation of Budapest memorandum of 1994: Ukraine gave up nuclear arsenal (the 3d largest in the world) in exchange of “security assurances” from the US, the UK, and... Russia

- Neo-Munich (appeasement) policy or strong Western reaction?