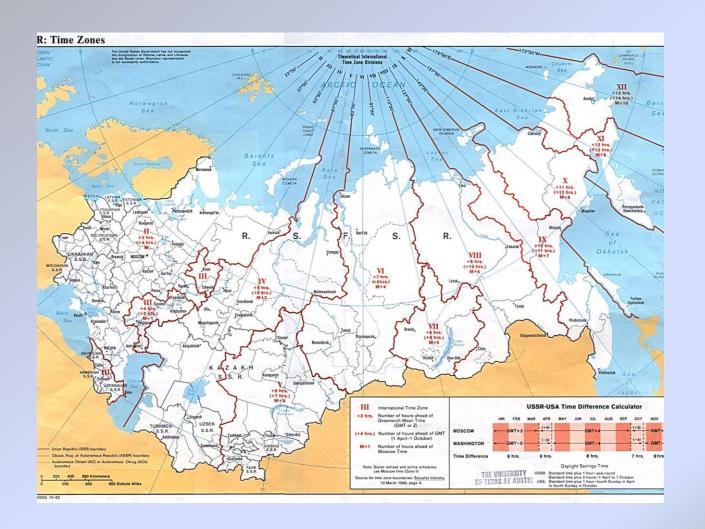
Ukraine: A pilgrimage from fear to dignity

Bishop Borys Gudziak,
Paris Eparchy, Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church
President, Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv

Soviet social legacy



Ukrainian history in XX century

Bloodlands (Timothy Snyder):

- Two World Wars
- Holodomor, Holocaust, GULAG, genocidal repressions peasants; cultural, political, social, military leaders; language, religion
- 15-17 million victims in 20th century

Between 1914-45
every second man and every fourth woman
killed or died an unnatural death

Creation of Homo sovieticus—fear in the DNA



3.9 million famine deaths At the height of the Famine Ukrainians were dying at the rate of 25,000 per day or 1,000 per hour or 17 per minute.

Lviv

1939

Population – 300.000

- Poles
- Jews
- Ukrainians
- Germans/Austrians

1945

Population 60.000

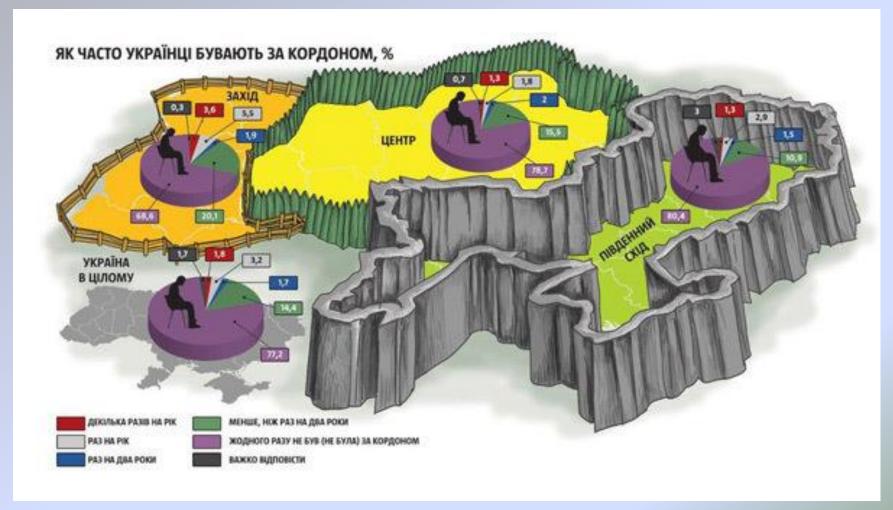
- Poles expelled
- Jews exterminated
- Ukrainians 1/3 arrested

and sent to Siberia

City with the highest per capita number of KGB agents in USSR

Ignorance of the other

 77% never been abroad, 36% never travelled beyond their own region, only 17% percent have visited EU or North America



Corruption

144	Cameroon	ZÜ	0	ZU	ა	20
144	Central African Republic	25	4	16	34	26
144	Iran	25	6	19	31	28
144	Nigeria	25	9	20	30	27
144	Papua New Guinea	25	5	18	32	25
144	Ukraine	25	8	22	28	26
150	Guinea	24	7	18	30	24
150	Kyrgyzstan	24	6	20	28	24
150	Paraguay	24	5	19	29	25
153	Angola	23	7	18	28	22
154	Congo, Republic of	22	6	16	28	26
154	Congo, Democratic Republic of	22	5	15	29	21
154	Tajikistan	22	5	16	28	22

Ukraine ranked 144th in Corruption Perceptions Index (2013) 18,9% Ukrainians paid bribes (TNS, 2013) 77,6% admit that bribes are "necessary"

Yanukovych residence



Corruption

Yanukovych's "family" robbed the country for 100 billion USD. 32 billions transported across the border with Russia earlier this year in cash - in loaded trucks (Prosecutor general Makhnitsky)

Budjet of Ukraine 392,4 billions UAH ~ 41,5 billions USD

What is the Maidan?





That's how the Lviv Maidan began





It started as a colossal festival...



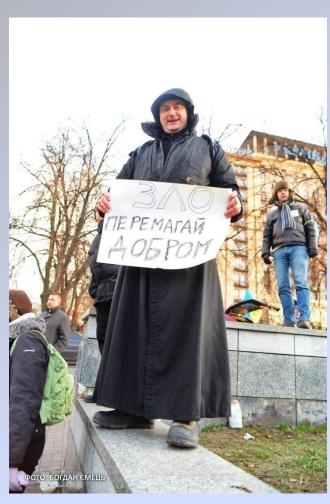


With Ukrainian and EU flags





And one clear demand: sign the EU Agreement!





Smiles, creativity, hope...









November 30, 4 a.m.





St. Michael's monastery





Next morning...



Maidaners (December 2013)

- Average age 36 years
- 64% with university degree
- 40% professionals
- 12% students
- 9% businessmen
- 9% retired
- 8% managers

•

92% - paid their trip and came individually

Reasons to join the Maidan movement:

- 70% violence attack on student Maidan (November, 30 2013) and following persecutions
- 53% Yanukovych's refusal to sign the Agreement with EU
- 50% to change life in Ukraine
- 39% to change government.

For almost 2 months peaceful resistance of millions in the rain, snow, and frigid cold

















Against provocateurs and riot police



Even after clashes on Epiphany day and three deaths









The Maidan was playing...



And praying



Pope Francis: "A pastor should have the smell of his sheep"

Faith and priests present and active



In times of joyous festival



And in times of fear and sorrow







St. Michael Golden-domed monastery (February 2014)



Seminarians with the people











In the night—when it was dark, cold and dangerous—for months there was inter-confessional prayer every hour, on the hour...









Liturgies



Weddings



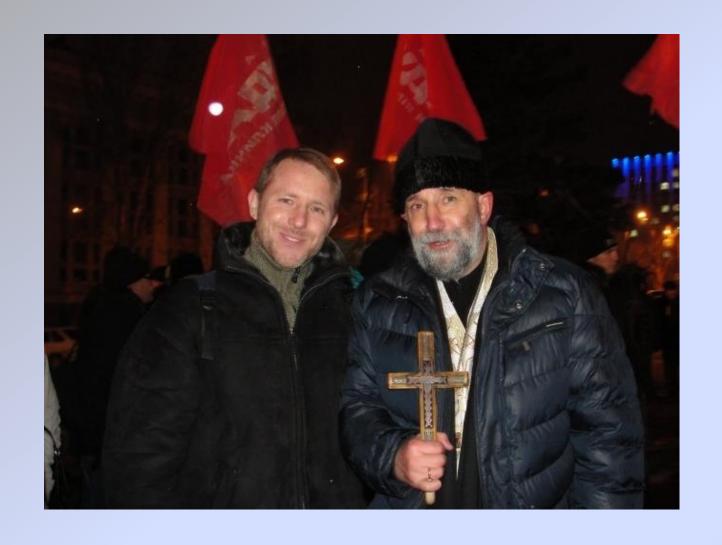
Confessions



Ecumenism and interreligious dialogue on the field







Mufti and Greek Catholic priest on the Donetsk Maidan



Mufti of Crimea and Orthodox bishop Clement (rally in Crimea)



Lutheran pastor



Prayer tent (Evangelical Christians)



Rabbi



Orthodox priests and Buddhist







First tent chapel



Second tent chapel





25 minutes before...





The tent chapel burned down during the Berkut attack.
This priest managed to rescue chalice and Gospel book.



Barricades ablaze. Priests and religious pray on the Maidan stage



THE MASSACRE OF FEBRUARY 20



In broad daylight, at short range, with the world's news cameras running, using high powered rifles that kill at two kilometers government snipers shot scores of unarmed protesters in the main square of Kyiv

Last rites









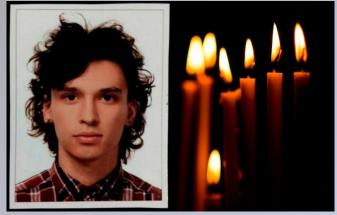
Heavenly Hundred

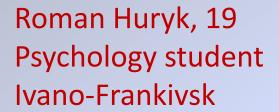


2 Armenians, 2 Georgians, 3 Jews, 1 Belarusian, many ethnic Ukrainians and Russians (age: from 17 to 73)

Nazar, the youngest warrior of Heavenly Hundred, 17 years









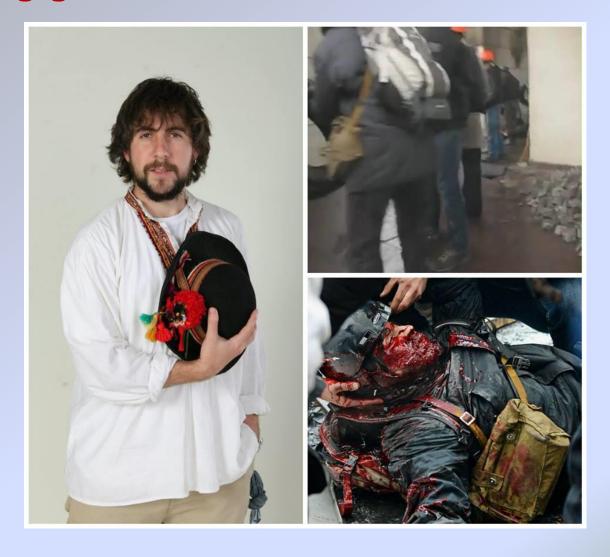
Ihor Kostenko, 22 Geography student Lviv



Oleksandr Plekhanov, 22 Student of architecture Kyiv

Bohdan Solchanyk, UCU lecturer

28 years old, historian, engaged to be married to UCU PhD candidate











27/06/2014 - Association Agreement signed



13:17 ПІДСУМКИ ГОЛОСУВАННЯ УТРИМАЛИСЬ НЕ ГОЛОСУВАЛИ ВСЬОГО РІШЕННЯ ПРИЙНЯТО



16/09/2014 Ratified

EuroMaidan won...



But...

The pilgrimage from fear to dignity is punished by war



Annexation of Crimea



On February 27, when Ukraine was still mourning heroes of the Heveanly Hundred, "green men", soldiers without insignia, invaded Crimea, blocked military and navy bases, helped occupy state buildings



Colonel Mamchur. On 3 March, Mamchur was given an ultimatum to surrender by pro-Russian forces in the aeroport of Belbek. He instead chose to march to a pro-Russian checkpoint with his men unarmed while only carrying the flag of the 62nd Fighter Aviation Regiment.



Student of the Navy Academy in Sevastopol cries executing an order to remove national flag (the rector and professors switched to Russian side) while his classmates sing Ukrainian anthem (Later Academy evacuated to Odesa)



Mustafa Dzhemilev, Crimean Tatar leader, human rights activist, Soviet prisoner. Led longest hunger strike in history of human rights movement (303 days). Denied entry to Crimea to take part in the Tatar national commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the genocidal deportation of all 240,000 Tatars from Crimea in 1944 to Central Asia and Siberia. Already in 1917-1933 50% of the Crimean Tatars had been killed or deported. 5.000 Crimean Tatars came to the "boarder" to greet Dzhemilev.

Annexation of Crimea: aftermath

- 17.000-20.000 people left Crimea (7.000 Crimean Tatars)
- Leaders of Crimean Tatars Mustafa Dzhemilev and Refat Chubarov are personae non-gratae in Crimea. Many activists are afraid to enter the peninsula
- Pro-Ukrainian activists persecuted, the only Ukrainian gymnasium closed
- Several Crimean Tatar activists found murdered
- Ukraine has lost part of its fleet and gas shelf in the Black Sea.

War in the east





March-April. So called separatists started occupying state buildings in the Donbas proclaiming "People's Rebublics of Donetsk and Luhansk". Kyiv authorities lost control over some territories in the Donbas and in April launched the Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO).



MH17 Shot down

298 deaths (3 infants)

Netherlands 193
Malaysia 43
Australia 27
Indonesia 12
United Kingdom 10
Belgium, Canada Germany,
New Zealand, Philippines



Buk missile system on the way from Ukraine to Russian Federation (one missile missing)



Fr. Tykhon Kulbaka, UGCC priest from Donetsk, held captive for 10 days



Fr. Pawel Witek, Catholic priest, kidnapped in Donetsk, released after one day



Fr. Victor Vonsovych, Catholic priest, detained in Horlivka, spent a few days in captivity



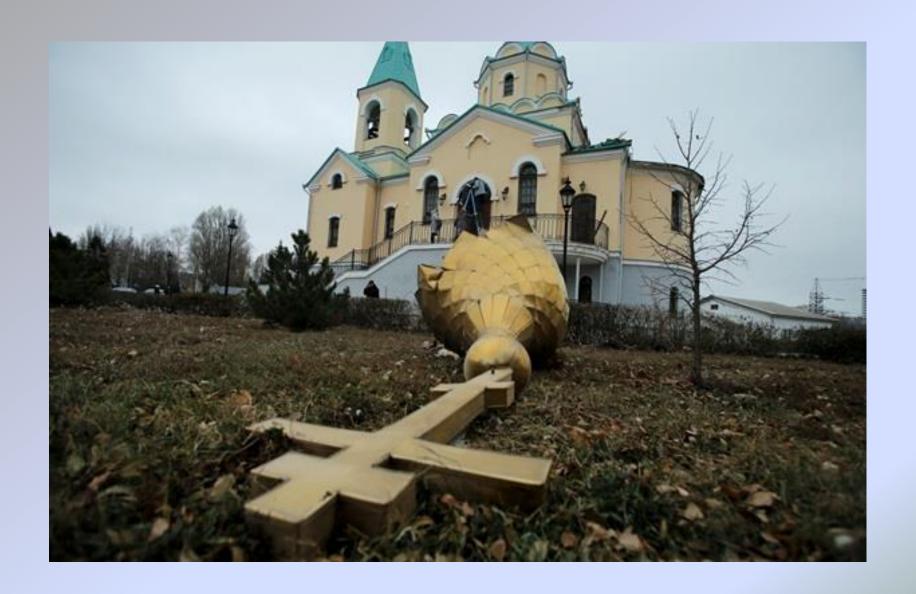
Sloviansk. 8 protestant believers (among them 2 deacons and sons of the local pastor) killed and found in a mass grave after the city was freed.

Three Orthodox priests killed:

Pavel Zhuchenko at a terrorists check point

Volodymyr Kresliansky during shelling in Luhansk

Georgiy Nikishov in Pervomaysk





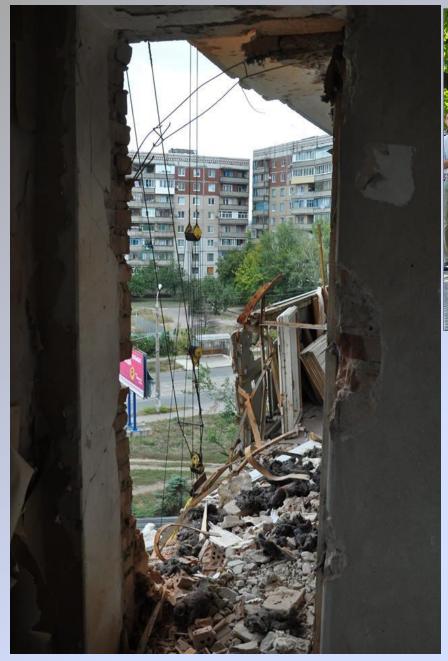
- 980,000 internally displaced people countrywide. Some 600,000 Ukrainians have sought asylum or other forms of legal stay in neighboring countries (February 2015)
- 5,358 killed, 12,235 wounded (UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, February 2015).
- War has directly affected 5 million people
- Officially more than 1500 Ukrainian soldiers killed.
- Greek and Roman Catholic, Orthodox of Kyiv
 Patriarchate, and some Protestant structures ceased
 to exist on the territory controlled by the terrorists
- Collapse of economy and national currency
- Trauma and division

Hope



From east to west









What can we do?

- Pray and work for peace
- Critically analyze what we hear, see and read
- Speak out about the truth
- Respond to the humanitarian needs: support the wounded, orphaned, displaced
- Rebuild homes and institutions and rebuild trust
- Foster reconciliation

IM A DROP IN THE OCEAN



THAT WILL CHANGE UKRAINE

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