

# Kyiv Mayor Newsletter

May 2018

**CHANGE STARTS WITH KYIV**



## **Klitschko: Supporters of both Liverpool and Real Madrid were amazed by the city**

According to the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko, supporters of both football clubs were impressed by the city and its vibes. "I had a word with fans who have the most positive feelings. Over 50 thousand fans came to Kyiv from all around the world. Even the ticketless supporters came to enjoy the festive atmosphere," pointed out Klitschko. "The visitors are impressed by the beauty of Kyiv and our task is to make them feel comfortable and encourage them to come back later," emphasized Klitschko.

Together Kyiv and Liverpool mayors have successfully sorted out the flight cancellation problem which Liverpool fans faced some days prior the final game.

"Safety on streets is our another main priority. All law enforcement bodies reinforced their presence on the city streets and main festive locations. Over 10 thousand policemen maintain the public order," stressed Klitschko.



Answering the question about the team for which he was going to root, Klitschko said that he is a devoted fan of Dynamo Kyiv and speculated that someday his favourite team would reach the final of Champions League.

Also Vitali Klitschko pointed out that major sporting events have a positive impact on the young people and encourage them to be more physically active.



## Klitschko congratulated Real Madrid on winning the UEFA Champions League Cup

The mayor of Kyiv Vita li Klitschko congratulated Real Madrid on their Champions League triumph over Liverpool.



He posted his congratulations along with vivid photos of the game on Facebook.

"My congratulations to Real Madrid! It was the most fascinating and dramatic play! A battle between the strongest. But the expertise and confidence outweighed.

Kyiv is delighted to host the biggest football showpiece! Hope, the emotions on streets are exceptionally positive. And I invite all of you to join us tomorrow for Kyiv City Day!" wrote Klitschko.



## **Klitschko: Kyiv has demonstrated its expertise in staging major global events. The president of UEFA shares this opinion**

The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko announced in his comments after the big football showpiece that having hosted UEFA Champions League final, Kyiv demonstrated its expertise in staging major global events.



"Now I can say that everything went well. Yes, we worried because it was the first time for Kyiv being a hosting city to such a large-scale event. But we worked very hard to make it happen and it was a success," emphasized Klitschko.

The mayor expressed his gratitude to the police for their coordinated work and competence. "I'm saying thank you to all law enforcement agencies for their work at the event. I want to thank every police officer who maintained the public order in the city. Their contribution was extremely important," stressed Vitali Klitschko.

At the follow-up meeting the mayor and the president of UEFA Aleksander Čeferin reviewed the outcomes of the UCL final. Marking the highest level of organization, Čeferin said, "I would like to thank the city of Kyiv and Mayor Klitschko for a fantastic organization of the Champions League finals. You shouldn't forget that it is the biggest single sports event in the world and it is not easy to organize it. Yesterday and days before there were not a single mistake made. Thanks for everything, thank you for your hospitality. I am sure that at least a half of the football supporters will come back to Kyiv." He also pointed out, that if Kyiv could host the Champions League finals it would be able to host any event. "UCLF is the biggest event, so we absolutely can do it," he said.

Wladimir Klitschko gave a tour to Aleksander Čeferin at the museum of Klitschko brothers.

## Klitschko gathered signatures of world famous athletes and football star players on the petition demanding to free Oleg Sentsov

In the Ultimate Champions Tournament which took place on the eve of the UEFA Champions League final the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko gathered signatures of famous athletes and football players on the petition demanding to release Oleg Sentsov. Among the signers are ex-player of Ukraine's national football team Evhen Levchenko, UCLF Ambassador Iya Andruschak, the current Ukrainian national team coach Andriy Shevchenko, English freestyle footballer Billy Wingrove, Jamaican international footballer Jeremie Lynch, ex-player of France national team and ex-player of Olympique de Marseille, Milan and Chelsea FCs Marcel Desailly, English player Stan Collymore, Portuguese footballer José Bosingwa, the Ukrainian boxing legend Wladimir Klitschko and others.

"I, the mayor of Kyiv, ex-eternal boxing champion Vitali Klitschko together with many anxious citizens, the most famous athletes in the world and world football stars call on the President of the Russian Federation to free the Ukrainian writer and filmmaker Oleg Sentsov immediately. I also encourage the international community and democratic institutions to intensify efforts for releasing the illegally sentenced Oleg Sentsov," the petition says.

The petition describes Sentsov's imprisonment as one of the most blatant example of human rights violation.



"This is outrageous that the talented artist, both brave and courageous in expressing his views has been convicted on groundless charges. His health condition is deteriorating quickly, and if he remains behind bars for longer, we must act fast, otherwise a tragedy may happen," the petition claims.

Klitschko emphasized that Sentsov's release is expected all over the world, he is being prayed for by plenty of people from various countries. "I raise my voice together with famous artists, athletes, writers and civil activists in demand for the release of Oleg Sentsov," underlined the mayor.

The petition is currently open for signature.



## Klitschko participated in celebrations of Europe Day and attended Kyiv Lights Festival



Along with ambassadors of EU countries the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko participated in celebrations of Europe Day in Poshtova square and watched a spectacular light show to mark the day.

He emphasized that Ukraine has chosen to proceed on its European path and remains on this track. "Ukraine is European nation. And in 2013 the people of Ukraine demonstrated the readiness to defend the European choice and democratic European values in Maidan. For 4 years in the east our service members have been fighting for our European path and against the Russian aggression. We strive for the unity with Europe!" commented Vitali Klitschko to journalists.

He pointed out that having the EU visa waiver, Ukraine has thus made yet another step forward to the European family. One year since the visa free agreement hundreds of thousand of Ukrainian citizen have visited Europe.

The mayor thanked the European partners for the support of Ukraine's aspirations as well their consultancy and financial help. "There is a lot of work ahead of us. We still have many problems. And as the mayor of the capital city I work hard to transform Kyiv into prosperous European city," underlined Klitschko.

International Lights Festival took place in Kyiv between May 18-20. It exhibited the creativity of artists from 23 countries who are graphic designers, laser light and projection mapping artists, VJs and contemporary artists.

## **Klitschko: our priority is to repair major arteries which determine the city's traffic performance**

Among Kyiv's ambitions for 2018 is repairing some major arteries which determine the city's traffic performance followed by minor streets repair.

The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko stressed that very soon the city starts on the UAH 1.5 billion reconstruction project of Shulyavskiy overpass which is expected to last 2 years. "Initially there were 3 bids of extensive reconstruction of the overpass submitted to the contest and the city chose the most cost-effective and optimum. The project envisages a construction of an up-to-date partial cloverleaf interchange," he said.



"Given intensive traffic flow on Peremohy avenue, the city plans the works be completed in phases, with segments of the existing overpass closed during each phase," pointed out Klitschko. According to the mayor, the project envisages a complete replacement of piers and improved entrance and exit ramps. Big signs approaching the reconstruction site will be set up to alert motorists to road works. A list of streets and interchanges that are scheduled for reconstruction will be available on the city council website.

As the mayor emphasized, over the last 2 years the city has fixed 500 km of roads, and plans to rehabilitate over 300 km roads this year. In so doing Kyiv upgrades the adjacent infrastructure. "The city makes full street improvements, which include road resurfacing, sewer and utility upgrades, new sidewalks and fencing, new traffic signals, and improved street lighting. We speak of extensive improvement," he underlined. "The contractors offer a 5-year warranty on new roads and thus bear the cost of repairing roads that fall into disrepair during a warranty term."

According to Klitschko, in 2018 more heavily used streets as well as a bridge over Rusanivskiy canal and an interchange on Teligi street are subject to renovation.



## Mayor Klitschko and WBC president Mauricio Sulaiman signed the contract on hosting the 56th WBC Congress in Kyiv

The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko and WBC president Mauricio Sulaiman signed a pair of boxing gloves symbolically securing a contract on hosting the 56th WBC Convention in Kyiv. These gloves will be auctioned off in autumn, at the charity event during the Convention. Proceeds will be going to the development of boxing clubs in the capital city. "We have been trying to secure the Convention for three years. Negotiations were not easy, because every country is striving to win over the others in its bid to host such a sporting showpiece. After Las Vegas, Miami, Baku, finally we have the opportunity to host the WBC Congress in Kyiv," stressed the mayor.



As both Vitali Klitschko and Mauricio Sulaiman noted, during the Convention a series of short boxing bouts will take place enabling young athletes to unlock their potential and break into the professional boxing. "Lots of surprises await us. This year Ukraine's capital becomes both Europe's football capital and global boxing capital. There are lots of young talents in Ukraine, and our task is to be on the lookout for them and help them follow their dream," pointed out Klitschko.

The president of the World Boxing Council Mauricio Sulaiman emphasized that he is satisfied with preparations for the Congress. "I believe, Kyiv is the sporting capital of the world. I am happy to be here and delighted that this beautiful city will host both the UEFA Champions League final and our Congress," pointed out Mauricio Sulaiman. "We are ready for the biggest boxing centerpiece that will take place in Kyiv - the boxing capital of the world. We look forward to seeing legends of box here," said WBC president.

At the media conference Mauricio Sulaiman introduced the award "The boxer of the month", presented to the Ukrainian boxer Oleksander Usik who was voted WBC Athlete of the Month for February 2018.

Also he gifted to Vitali Klitschko a WBC Honor Champion Belt which was crafted by hand by Mexico.

At the media conference Mauricio Sulaiman announced the launch of the 56th WBC Convention logo, featuring a kozak in boxing gloves and the Ukrainian flag among other countries-WBC members colors.

The 56th WBC Convention will take place in Kyiv between September 30 - October 6. Over 700 participants are expected to attend the Congress, including professional boxing stars, federation presidents of the WBC member countries, referees and sports officials.

## **Klitschko took part in the opening ceremony of the Kickboxing World Championship in Kyiv**

Vitali Klitschko attended the opening ceremony of ISKA Kickboxing World Championship which took place in Kyiv. Over 500 athletes from over 30 countries, including the United States, Great Britain, China, Germany and Switzerland, participated the tournament this year.

"I am delighted that Kyiv won the right to host the Kickboxing World Championship. As mayor I am happy to live in a city where people are active and strong and we do the very best to encourage them," stressed the mayor. According to him, the championship was a great success. During 6 days of the contest in Kyiv International Exhibition Center arena the strongest athletes from all over the world competed to win the World Champion title.

"This is the first Kickboxing World Championship held in Kyiv, but I hope it will not be the last! More and more often Kyiv plays host to high-profile sporting events. On May 26 Kyiv hosts the UEFA Champions League final which will be held in Ukraine's capital city for the first time. And this autumn Kyiv will host a grand boxing showpiece - the WBC Congress. I feel certain that participants will enjoy the city and want to come back!" said the mayor.



He also pointed out, that he started his own sporting career with kickboxing and earned his first world title back in 1992.

Among other guests were presidents of kickboxing federations of the United States, Great Britain and Ukraine as well as the first President of Ukraine Leonid Kravchuk and the third President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko.



## **Klitschko took part in the First Minute of Peace gathering honouring the Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation**

Along with other high level state officials the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko took part in the First Minute of Peace rally honouring both the Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation and the Day of the Victory over the Nazism in the Second World War. The event took place at Ukraine's National Museum of History.

"Today we commemorate those who fought Nazism and defended their lands valiantly. Every year there are increasingly fewer living histories, participants and eyewitnesses of World War II," pointed out Klitschko. "At present we, Ukrainians, of all people fully understand the value of peace. 70 years on, with weapon in hand we have to uphold the integrity and independence of our country. And each one of us believes, that soon a long-awaited peace shall come to Ukraine," added the mayor.

He emphasized that the Ukrainians must remember and honour those who defended our country at various times throughout our history. "We must do everything possible to avoid repeating the tragic mistakes of the past when the war encompassed the entire Europe. We need unity for the sake of peace and calm both in Ukraine and Europe," pointed out Vitali Klitschko.



## **During the 2018 Day of Remembrance and Reconciliation, the Medal of Honour, Glory and State was awarded to mothers of the fallen ATO soldiers**

To recognize the deceased 61 ATO servicemen the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko met their families and during the commemorating ceremony bestowed the Medal of Honour, Glory and State posthumously to the mothers of the fallen heroes.

Over 25 thousand of soldiers battled in the ATO during the 4 years of the Russian invasion in the east of Ukraine. 336 of them who have made the ultimate sacrifice, were Kyivans. "At the most critical for Ukraine moments these service members sacrificed their lives for Ukraine," emphasized Klitschko. He thanked their mothers for devotion and mother love and wished them health, peace and strength to live further. "You brought up your sons as patriots who became the nation's pride," he added.



Some welfare benefits are provided by the city council to ATO service members as well as the families of the deceased soldiers, including a monthly based annuity (UAH 5 000), utility benefits, free public transportation, healthcare, prosthetics and psychological rehabilitation benefits. The families of the fallen service members receive a funeral expenses payment and a welfare annuity (UAH 25 000). Also the city sends over 1,5 thousand of children of ATO soldiers to summer camps.

Last year UAH 89,5 mln housing subvention was earmarked for surviving families (altogether 22 homes) and disabled ATO service members (36 homes). And in next 3 years Kyiv will allocate UAH 50 mln for delivery of housing construction program for ATO soldiers. "I understand that the pain of your loss cannot be relieved with benefits or homes. You lost your loved ones. And it is important to pay tribute to fallen heroes and honor their heroic deeds. And we must transform both Kyiv and Ukraine into place which your spouses and sons have dreamed of," emphasized the mayor.

A minute of silence was observed to honor the fallen ATO heroes.



## Volodymyrska Hirka park reopened to the public following a massive restoration

The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko unveiled the refurbished Volodymyrska Hirka park which is a favourite green space for Kyivans. The redevelopment project started last year, with the upper park terrace completed at the moment. Works at the lower terrace are on the way.

The park was established in the 19 century and the last time it saw a significant renovation was way back in 1980.

"Just as planned, to celebrate the Day of the City we dedicate this renovated landmark park so that all Kyivans and tens of thousands of guests visiting to watch the Champions League final, can enjoy the spectacular views. And I want to say thank you to all crews that were working round the clock to complete reconstruction on schedule," stressed Vitali Klitschko.



The official opening was then marked by a ceremonial release of butterflies led by the mayor, accompanied by local children. Butterflies, as they say, are a symbol of nature's brightness, new beginnings and thus, transformation of another urban green space.

The refurbished park has reinforced terraces and retaining walls, newly paved paths, a big playground for kids, new seating places and a refurbished gazebo. It is also fitted with new lighting, fencing, utilities, automatic sprinklers and CCTV cameras system.

In summer Kyiv plans to reopen to the public 10 city parks following their massive restoration.

## **Klitschko participated in Bike Day and led The Bike Parade alongside with Kyiv cycling community**

"I am delighted to see thousands of Kyivans for whom cycling is a way of life! And I am honored to participate in Bike Day and led The Bike Parade together with all city bicycle community," he announced.

Klitschko told that he enjoys biking. He includes cycling into his everyday workouts and often rides to work. "I am happy that cycling is growing on city streets. However, our priority for now is to promote increased bicycling and create an efficient, safe and viable bicycle network throughout the city," said the mayor. This year the city plans to build a bike route connecting Troeschina residential area and the central Evropeyska square. Also Kyiv authorities will design a network of bike routes connecting various destinations throughout the city. "In summer



27 bike rentals will be available, reaching 300 by the end of this year. First rentals will open in Mariinski park, Shevchenko park as well as Trukhaniv island," said the mayor. The city's bike lanes programme forges ahead which entails a construction of vehicle drop-off zones near the Metro stations and parking spaces at healthcare, education and culture facilities. The City Council allocates UAH 500 mln for the construction of cycling routes this year. "We have a lot of work ahead of us but we are committed to make Kyiv bicycle-friendly!" pointed out Klitschko.



Last year Kyiv velodrome was newly reopened after revamp, ending years of uncertainty which at various times had seen it seemingly destined for closure and redevelopment. The felonious plans of previous city leadership to build up the velodrome territory led to the creation of the campaign which successfully mobilized support from civic and cycling communities. "Now Kyiv velodrome is fully modernized, with refurbished adjacent area, parking zone and cafeteria. It is one of the best in Europe," noted Klitschko.

At present the velodrome hosts its second cycle race. "The previous year we started the tradition to celebrate the Velodrome birthday with the Opening Cup bicycle race. Today we continue this wonderful tradition," told the mayor and wished the racers good luck.

About 160 racers from Ukraine as well as Belarus and Poland participated the Opening Cup race this year. And this autumn Kyiv velodrome will host its first ever international cycle race and the race performance will be accepted for athletes' international ranking.



## Wladimir Klitschko presented his new book and told his secrets of success



At Book Arsenal, the 8th international book festival, the Ukrainian boxing legend, ex-world champion Wladimir Klitschko presented his new Ukrainian book, "Challenge Management: a strategy of breakthrough development".

The book explains how to overcome the inevitable challenges and see any obstacles as the source of motivation and how self-discipline and commitment can help. In his sports career Wladimir Klitschko elaborated an efficient strategy of challenge management which he then transferred into his entrepreneurial career. In his book he tells of 12 paths helping him to approach the challenges proactively and reveals how the successful entrepreneurs and executives use them.

One of practical examples of such approach, according to Wladimir, is the Smart City system that has been launched in Kyiv. "Ukraine's capital city successfully incorporates the latest smart city technologies into all core city spheres. And now each city resident can track online the city's tax revenues which go to new schools, kindergartens and roads. The system ensures the transparency and accountability. This is a tangible step towards curbing the corruption," pointed out Wladimir Klitschko.

His brother Vitali Klitschko, the mayor of Kyiv attended the presentation. Answering the questions of reporters he said that someday he will write a book. "Someday I will have time for this. Now I am short of time, unfortunately. When I leave the mayor's office, I will probably write my memoirs. I have a lot of stories to tell, lots of anecdotes which are absolutely true. But it will happen later".

Ukrainian book by Wladimir Klitschko was published by Nash Format publishing house with the 3,000 copies circulation and available also in German, English, Bulgarian, and Japanese.

## **Klitschko: Molodist Film Festival should be one of the most prestigious in the world.**

As the mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko declared at the opening ceremony of the 47th Molodist International Film Festival, the festival should grow into one of the most important cinema showpieces, to rival some of the world's most popular ones.

He pointed out, that this year Molodist festival moved up from its traditional dates in autumn to spring and to a totally new location - Poshtova square. "I am delighted that during a week Kyivans and city guests can enjoy the modern cinema in the open air," he said.

Vitali Klitschko expressed hope that all participants and guests of the film festival will appreciate Kyiv's beauty and hospitality and share their positive feelings at home. "Yesterday we staged the biggest sporting event - the UEFA Champions League final. And today Kyiv has dual celebrations - the City Day and the opening ceremony of the 47th Molodist International Film Festival. And my mission as mayor is to bring to the city as many biggest events as possible," said Klitschko.

"Molodist Film Festival should grow into one of the most important cinema events on the City's cultural calendar and I remain committed to boosting its advancement. The Festival should be one of the most popular in whole world," emphasized Vitali Klitschko and wished to enjoy the films.

The 47th Molodist International Film Festival takes place May 27 - June 3.

