



# KYIV MAYOR'S NEWSLETTER

## KLITSCHKO: FROM APRIL 5 KYIV IMPOSES TIGHTER RESTRICTIONS

As Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko announced on March 31, due to a very serious epidemic situation in Kyiv, rising prevalence of the coronavirus disease and higher mortality rate, starting from April 5 Kyiv will tighten restrictions which will remain in place at least until April 16. 'For several days in a row new coronavirus cases are in triple digits in Kyiv. Up to 40 fatalities and over 700 hospitalisations with either positive or suspected Covid-19 diagnosis are reported every day. There are long queues of ambulances with Covid-19 patients outside the hospitals. The staff in hospitals is exhausted. Hospital capacities in Kyiv are stretched thin and we continue to add more coronavirus beds,' said Klitschko.



'The coronavirus situation leaves us no choice but to enforce tougher measures to reduce the spread of the virus starting from Monday, April 5. Schools and kindergartens will close. We encourage businesses to switch to remote working. Restaurants and cafes will work only for takeout. The street food markets will also close. Public transport, including Metro will not be suspended but restricted to only essential workers with special permits. We will not limit the service frequencies or hours of public transport, but it will operate at no more than 50% capacity. A full list of restrictions is available on the site of the city government,' revealed Klitschko.

'I hope, our escalated response will help stabilise the situation and prevent the tragic consequences. The better we all comply the sooner we begin with our normal life!' he said.

# KLITSCHKO PAYS TRIBUTE TO HEROES OF THE HEAVENLY HUNDRED



The mayor of Kyiv Vitali Klitschko paid his respects to the Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred. He visited the Alley of the Heavenly Hundred and left flowers at the site where the Ukrainian patriots have been shot to death. 'The memories of Maidan is still fresh in my mind. Campfires, shots that cut shot lives of the best Ukrainian patriots... We remember and honour the sacrifice of each Maidan hero,' wrote Klitschko in his Facebook post. 'No matter how hard it may be to bring the dreams and aspirations of the Revolution of Dignity to life, we will never give up! Eternal Memory and Glory to the Heroes!' he underlined.

Also, he met with the families of Kyivans - the Heroes and participants of the Revolution of Dignity. 'Today we remember and pay tribute to the Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred who seven years ago sacrificed their lives for the European future of Ukraine, our dignity and independence. Now we must do everything

we can to make the aspirations of the Revolution of Dignity come true. Ukraine has lost its bravest heroes. You have lost your husbands, fathers, sons and brothers. I understand that the pain of your loss cannot be relieved with any words. Their memory must live on. As the city authority, we will continue to support your families. We are doing everything we can to help,' said Klitschko at the meeting.

Back in 2016 the city introduced a wide welfare benefits package for the families of the Heroes: a welfare annuity; a monthly based annuity for tweens and minors; utility benefits; school meals free of charge; priority kindergarten enrollment; free rehabilitation of children under 18 accompanied by a parent and Kyiv Resident Card. Over the past few years the city government has handed 19 title deeds to the families of the deceased heroes and the injured participants of the Revolution of Dignity.

# KLITSCHKO MEETS WITH THE EBRD DELEGATION

Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko met with the delegation of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development led by president Odile Renaud-Basso.



Klitschko thanked the EBRD for all the support the Bank has been giving for a few years already. 'The EBRD, our international partner always supports Kyiv's aspiration for growth and implementation of key infrastructure projects,' he said.

One of the ongoing projects involves a renewal of Kyivpastrans and Kyiv Metro Company fleet, and a massive overhaul of tramway tracks and the Metro bridge. Recently the Kyiv Metro and the Bank has signed a €50 loan agreement with a 30-year payback period to purchase 50 new metro cars that comprise ten metro trains. The City Council acts as a guarantor to secure the deal. 'Today the Kyiv metro owns a fleet of 800 cars. About 100 of them desperately need repair. The loan will provide finance to replace at least half of them. New cars are expected to be put into operation on the Syrets-Pechersk metro line where two new stations are under construction,' told the mayor. 'This year we are set to repay the loan provided in 2007 to purchase 202 new trolleybuses, 185 buses and 50 metro cars.'

Another project worth €140 million provides a renovation of the municipal heat system, including reconstruction of the CHP plants and other major industry's facilities. A loan for the upgrade has been granted to the municipality under the EBRD Green Cities programme. A key element of the programme is the Green City Action Plan to identify, prioritise and tackle top environmental challenges. Klitschko told that the municipality has identified and conducted a technical assessment of key environmental problems in Kyiv. After the discussion with the expert community and civic activists together with consultants, the city authority will move to the Action Plan.

As the EBRD president Odile Renaud-Basso said, the Bank is encouraged by Kyiv's commitment and progress because the city is a blueprint for success for other Ukrainian cities. 'We are ready to further cooperate with the municipality and invest in municipal infrastructure upgrade, including road, transport and green infrastructure to ensure the sustainable development of the city.'

# KLITSCHKO AND THE MAYOR OF FLORENCE UNVEIL THE STATUE OF TARAS SHEVCHENKO IN FLORENCE

Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko and the mayor of Florence Dario Nardella cut the ribbon at the monument to Taras Shevchenko. The bronze statue which is a gift of Kyiv to its sister city was created with funds raised by private philanthropists.

'Today marks the birthday of the Great Kobzar. To honour the famous Ukrainian poet Taras Shevchenko we are unveiling his monument which we have worked on for the past few years. I am grateful to my colleague Dario Nardella, the mayor of Florence and all our Italian friends for their contribution,' said Klitschko at the unveiling ceremony. 'From now on the Italians and tourists from all over the world who will travel to Florence when the pandemic ends will see here a part of Ukraine's cultural legacy,' he underlined.

The statue designed by the well-known Ukrainian sculptor Oleh Pinchuk is installed in the central square in front of Biblioteca delle Oblate, one of the largest public libraries in Florence and not far from the world-famous Santa Maria del Fiore Cathedral.

The mayor of Florence Dario Nardella noted that the culture brings two sister cities Kyiv and Florence even closer to each other. 'Just as Kyiv is Ukraine's capital of culture and language, Florence is the capital of culture and language for Italy.



Today, amid the pandemic it is the culture that helps us preserve our identity, strengthen our spirit and relations. We are here today for the common good,' emphasized Dario Nardella at the unveiling ceremony.

In 2015 through a collective effort of the Kyiv city government, the Embassy of Italy to Ukraine and the Parliamentary Friendship Group between Ukraine and Italy a statue of famous Italian poet Dante Alighieri (who was born in Florence) was unveiled in Volodymyrska Hirka park in Kyiv.

# KLITSCHKO INSPECTS THE COVID-19 CITY HOSPITAL



Vitali Klitschko inspected the City Hospital No. 4 which has been set as the dedicated coronavirus facility and which now sees an influx of new admissions. In a video he posted on YouTube the mayor of Kyiv shown a long line of ambulances with Covid-19 patients waiting outside the hospital. According to him, this is a common situation for all dedicated hospitals in Kyiv.

Currently, 455 patients with positive and suspected diagnosis are being treated there. As Tatiana Mostipan, a chief physician told the mayor, the new virus variant is much more aggressive and causes prolonged medical complications. Almost 95 per cent of patients now require supplemental oxygen. For instance, on March 17 the hospital consumed 3,5 tonnes of oxygen in a single day, an amount the hospital used to consume in a year before the pandemic. 'The hospital is practically full and its staff is exhausted. The majority of patients are critically ill and need oxygen therapy. This is why I am urging all Kyivans to stay responsible and respect the health recommendation!' said Mostipan.

## KLITSCHKO: 15 NEW TROLLEYBUSES HIT THE STREETS

New 15 trolleybuses made the first run along the streets of Ukraine's capital. 'Recently the municipality has purchased 15 more Bogdan trolleybuses that made their first run. The new vehicles are almost 19 meters long and can seat up to 50 passengers and fit 170 passengers,' said Kyiv mayor Vitali Klitschko.

New trolleybuses have higher corrosion protection, vandal-proof seats and improved flame-retardant interior. They feature air conditioners, cameras, e-ticket validators, a passenger flow control system and an onboard information system. They also can cover a distance of one kilometre without the use of a pantograph.

'It is important that these trolleybuses are not only advanced but also inclusive. They are low-floor and have wheel-chair spaces,' noted Klitschko. 'It is our priority to deliver reliable, comfortable and convenient public transportation and replace the old and unsafe marshrutkas with new comfortable vehicles that meet the European environmental and safety standards.'

Over the past few years, the municipality has introduced a total of 513 vehicles, including 139 trolleybuses, 67 trams and 307 buses.

