What Have the Ukrainian Economic Reforms Accomplished?

Anders Åslund
Senior Fellow
Atlantic Council, Washington, DC
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Many Achievements

- 1. Floating exchange rate: Current account balanced
- 2. Energy reform: Gas consumption -20%
- 3. Major fiscal adjustment: Budget balanced
- 4. 65 of 180 banks closed
- 5. Increased transparency: Owners revealed
- 6. Substantial deregulation
- 7. E-procurement
- 8. IMF financing & debt restructuring

Financial Stability

- IMF program, March 11, 2015, \$6.7bn disbursed
- Fiscal Adjustment: Reduced public expenditures from 53% of GDP to 44% of GDP
- Budget deficit from 10% of GDP to 2% of GDP
- Debt restructuring postponed \$15bn in debt service
- Major tax reform cut payroll tax from 45% to 22%

Energy Reform

- Household prices raised 4 times to 50 of cost recovery
- International energy prices fell by half
- = almost all energy subsidies eliminated
- Provide social cash compensation:
 Done
- Sharply reduced gas purchases from Russia to 6.1 bcm

Successful Monetary Policy

- Floating exchange rate: Current account balanced
- Got large foreign financing to replenish reserve, \$5bn in March to \$13.5bn March 2015
- 68 of 180 banks closed
- Increased transparency: Owners revealed

Major Deregulation

- Increased transparency: All kinds of property registries revealing real owners
- E-procurement: ProZorro should save 2% of GDP
- Substantial deregulation: Cut 15,000 GOSTY, though 25,000 remain
- Abolished a dozen inspection agencies, but most remain

7 Key Reforms 2016

- 1. Judicial Reform
- 2. Complete Energy Reform
- 3. Privatization: 1,833 state enterprises
- 4. Civil Service Reform
- 5. Reform Budget Process
- 6. More Deregulation
- 7. School reform

Main Shortcoming: No Judicial Reform

- Lustration: Sack Prosecutor General & lustrate 18,000 prosecutors
- Lustrate 10,000 judges

Energy Reform

- Unify energy prices
- Abolish all energy subsidies: most done
- Provide social cash compensation: Done
- Create markets for all energy: Legislated
- Stimulate private energy production
- Stop buying gas from Russia!

Privatization

- Ukraine has 1,833 operating state enterprises sucking resources & breeding corruption
- Sell off 1,600 firms of minimal value at regional auctions
- Sell 100 best enterprises after improved governance at sophisticated open international auctions
- Restructure 120 companies on Ukroboronprom
- Aims: Stop corruption, stimulate economy & breed revenue

Upsides

- Russia seems to seek exit from or freezing of Donbas
- Fiscal & foreign balances achieved
- Strong pressure to clean up corruption
- Economy appears to have bottomed out: recovery may

Anders Åslund RALLE

What Went Wrong and How to Fix It



Peterson Institute for International Economics