



Aristophanes Tragedy ru

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I'm gonna do a thread on something that many American posters might not know, about the rise of Zelensky to President of Ukraine. Buckle up, THREAD:

So Zelensky got his start as a comedian, where he was on a show where he played the president of Ukraine. This show ran for 4 years and is allegedly immensely popular, and regardless of that shows quality, I get the distinct impression it was astroturfed.

Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelenskyy^[a] (Ukrainian: Володимир Олександрович Зеленський, pronounced [wɔlɔˈdɪmɪr ɔlɛkˈsɑndrɔwɪdʒ zɛˈlɛnɪsɪkɪj]; born 25 January 1978) is a Ukrainian politician, former actor and comedian who has been serving as the president of Ukraine since 2019.

Zelenskyy grew up in Kryvyi Rih, a Russian-speaking region in southeastern Ukraine.^[b] Prior to his acting career, Zelenskyy obtained a degree in law from the Kyiv National Economic University. He then pursued comedy and created the production company Kwartal 95, which produces films, cartoons, and TV shows including *Servant of the People*, in which Zelenskyy played the role of president of Ukraine. The series aired from 2015 to 2019 and was immensely popular. A political party bearing the same name as the television show was created in March 2018 by employees of Kwartal 95.

Zelenskyy announced his candidacy for the 2019 Ukrainian presidential election on the evening of 31 December 2018, alongside the New Year's Eve address of President Petro Poroshenko on 1+1 TV Channel. A political outsider, he had already become one of the frontrunners in opinion polls for the election. He won the election with 73.2% of the vote in the second round, defeating Poroshenko. Identifying as a populist, he has positioned himself as an anti-establishment, anti-corruption figure.


As president, Zelenskyy has been a proponent of e-government and unity between the Ukrainian-speaking and Russian-speaking parts of the country's population.^[c] His communication style heavily utilises social media, particularly Instagram.^[d] His party won a landslide victory in a snap legislative election held shortly after his inauguration as president. During his administration, Zelenskyy oversaw the lifting of legal immunity for members of the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament,^[e] the country's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic recession, and some progress in tackling corruption.^{[f][g]} Critics of Zelenskyy claim that in taking power away from the Ukrainian oligarchs, he has sought to centralise authority and strengthen his personal position.^[h]

Zelenskyy promised to end Ukraine's protracted conflict with Russia as part of his presidential campaign, and attempted to engage in dialogue with Russian president, Vladimir Putin.^{[i][j]} During 2021–2022, Zelenskyy's administration faced an escalation of tensions with Russia, culminating in the launch of an ongoing full-scale Russian invasion in February 2022. Zelenskyy's strategy during the Russian military buildup was to calm the Ukrainian populace and assure the international community that Ukraine was not seeking to retaliate.^[k] He initially distanced himself from warnings of an imminent war, while also calling for security guarantees and military support from NATO to "withstand" the threat.^[l] After the commencement of the invasion, Zelenskyy declared martial law across Ukraine and general mobilisation.

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Volodymyr Zelenskyy
Володимир Зеленський



Official portrait, 2019

6th President of Ukraine
Incumbent

Assumed office
20 May 2019

Prime Minister [Volodymyr Groysman](#)
(2016–2019)
[Oleksiy Honcharuk](#)
(2019–2020)
[Denys Shmyhal](#)
(2020–present)

Preceded by [Petro Poroshenko](#)

His show was put on a network, 70 percent of which, is owned by this guy:



Ihor Kolomoyskyi – Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ihor_Kolomoyskyi

He was a close ally of this former Prime Minister right here, complete with retarded AWFL physiognomy, as well as the central banker turned President of Ukraine until they were ousted in 2010.

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yulia_Tym...



Yulia Tymoshenko – Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yulia_Tymoshenko

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Viktor Yushchenko – Wikipedia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Viktor_Yushchenko

Kolomoyskyi is an interesting character, and there's a lot to unpack here. He was appointed governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, very close to Donetsk, after the war with the separatists started, he helped fund several of the volunteer battalions, including the neo nazi Azov bat.

This is despite him being very much extremely Jewish, he has Ukrainian and Israeli citizenship, as well as Cypriot citizenship, who used his money to take over the jewish community organization of Ukraine by force.

Jewish politics [edit]

Kolomoyskyi is a prominent supporter of Ukraine's Jewish community^[53] and the president of the United Jewish Community of Ukraine.^[54] In 2010, he was appointed as the president of the European Council of Jewish Communities (ECJC)^[55] after promising the outgoing president he would donate \$14 million,^[56] with his appointment being described as a "putsch"^{[54][55]} and a "Soviet-style takeover"^[57] by other ECJC board members. After several ECJC board members resigned in protest, Kolomoyskyi quit the ECJC and, together with fellow Ukrainian oligarch Vadim Rabinovich, founded the European Jewish Union.^[58]

He couldn't maintain popular support after this move, and like any good billionaire, just said "Fuck it, I'll build my own nationwide jewish organization and fill it with people who won't dissent" Lets talk about what an absolute crook this dude is.

[post-gazette.com/news/crime-cou...](https://www.post-gazette.com/news/crime-courts/2022/02/20/Ihor-Kolomoyskyi-US-banks-warren-ohio-steel-plant-ukraine/story/) Ihor stole billions of dollars from Ukrainian banks and transferred it to the US under the pretense of funding a steel company, only for the money to go underground and another rust belt industry to shutter its doors.

Mr. Kolomoisky, who was banned last year from entering the United States by the State Department over corrupt practices, has not responded to repeated interview requests. His lawyer, Michael J. Sullivan, did not return phone messages.

Lawyers for two of Mr. Kolomoisky's partners in the U.S. who are accused in the government forfeiture cases of taking part in the scheme say there is no evidence to show they did anything wrong.

Mordechai "Motti" Korf and Uriel Laber, who live in South Florida, are "legitimate investors," said New York attorney Mark Ressler. Neither has been "engaged in money laundering of any kind, and they have no knowledge of anyone else doing so," he said. "Any allegations against Mr. Korf and Mr. Laber arise from Ukrainian political disputes they have nothing to do with."



PG INVESTIGATION | Shadowy money built steel empire — with bank's help

Months after Ukraine oligarch Ihor Kolomoisky and his partners abandoned an Ohio steel plant and left scores of workers without jobs, financial crime experts...

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/crime-courts/2022/02/20/Ihor-Kolomoisky-US-banks-warren-ohio-steel-plant-ukraine/stori...>

[kyivpost.com/ukraine-politi...](https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/exclusive-oligarch-kolomoisky-allegedly-investigated-in-criminal-probe-in-israel.html) He is also under investigation in Israel for buying 20 million dollars in coal, selling it to someone else, and shutting his company down before the check could bounce from the original seller of the coal, who was a Belarussian Oligarch.



<https://www.kyivpost.com/ukraine-politics/exclusive-oligarch-kolomoisky-allegedly-investigated-in-criminal-probe-in-israel.html>

This guy got on Putins shit list for defrauding a Russian oligarch of several billion dollars, and even got on

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Governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast [edit]

On 2 March 2014, amidst the 2014 pro-Russian conflict in Ukraine, acting President Oleksandr Turchynov appointed Kolomoyskyi Governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.^[41] Two days later, Russian President Vladimir Putin described Kolomoyskyi as a "unique crook," and said that the citizens of Dnipropetrovsk were not happy with his appointment as Governor of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.^[8] According to Putin, Roman Abramovich has been cheated by Igor Kolomoyskyi. Putin claimed that Kolomoyskyi had reneged on a contract with Abramovich, saying "He [Kolomoyskyi] even managed to cheat our Roman Abramovich two or three years ago. Scammed him, as our intellectuals like to say. They signed some deal, Abramovich transferred several billion dollars, while this guy never delivered and pocketed the money. When I asked him [Abramovich]: "Why did you do it?" he said: "I never thought this was possible."^[42] In contrast, *The Daily Beast*, a US publication, wrote in mid-June 2014 that Kolomoyskyi enjoyed the local population's strong support. "I don't care if he's like Hitler, as long as he prevents war coming here," says a local restaurateur.^[43]

In April 2014 Kolomoyskyi offered a bounty for the capture of Russian-backed militants and incentives for the turning in of weapons.^[44] He also is believed to have spent \$10 million to create the Dnipro Battalion,^{[43][45]} and also funded the Aidar, Azov, Dnepr 1, Dnepr 2, and Donbas volunteer battalions.^[45]

Russia is asking for Kolomoyskyi to be put on Interpol's wanted list.^[47] On 2 July 2014 a Russian District Court authorized his arrest in absentia for "organizing the killing of civilians".^[48]

In March 2015, after the dismissal of Oleksandr Lazorko, who was a protege of Kolomoyskyi, as a chief executive of UkrTransNafta, Ukraine's state-owned oil pipeline operator, men reported to be Kolomoyskyi's personal militia raided the UkrTransNafta's headquarters to expel the new government-appointed chief from the office. While Lazorko was in charge the state-owned pipelines had been delivering oil to an Kolomoyskyi-owned refinery in preference to competitors.^{[12][49]} According to Kolomoyskyi the raids were done with the aim to protect the companies from raiders and he related to it as a "PR-stunt to improve the ratings of smaller parties".^[50]

On 25 March 2015, Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko signed a decree dismissing Kolomoyskyi from the post of Dnipropetrovsk RSA Head, saying "Dnipropetrovsk region must remain a bastion of Ukraine in the East and protect peace" Kolomoyskyi was replaced by Valentyn Reznichenko.^{[12][51][52]}

This man is pretty obviously just a grifter and a mobster, who rips off eastern european oligarchs with contract fraud, and hides behind the Western dislike for those same oligarchs to prevent his prosecution. But we did mention he was on Poroshenkos shitlist, right?

He was dismissed as governor of the Dnipro area oblast in 2014, and immediately turned around and helped ensure that "Servant of the people", the show where Zelensky acted as president, was aired on his 1+1 network in Ukraine, of which he owns 70 percent of.

Kolomoyskyi and Ukrainian politics [edit]

Analysts have listed Kolomoyskyi as an ally of Ukrainian politician Yulia Tymoshenko and her Bloc Yulia Tymoshenko.^[1] Although according to RIA Novosti (in January 2010), Kolomoyskyi relations with Tymoshenko "were soured some time ago, probably due to his refusal to finance Tymoshenko's election campaign" in 2010.^[30] Croatian newspaper *Nacional* claimed in September 2007 that Kolomoyskyi had become an ally of (then) Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko and had financed Yushchenko's Our Ukraine—People's Self-Defense Bloc.^[16]

In the 2012 Ukrainian parliamentary election Kolomoyskyi was perceived as being one of UDAR's main sponsors.^[37] This has been denied by UDAR.^[38]

Kolomoyskyi owns 70% of the 1+1 Media Group whose TV channel 1+1 aired "Servant of the People", the comedy series in which Volodymyr Zelensky played the role of president of Ukraine. On 31 March 2019 Zelensky won the most votes in the first round of Ukraine's real presidential elections,^[9] resulting in Yulia Tymoshenko being eliminated from the next round.^[40] On 21 April 2019 Zelensky went on to win the presidential election.

This sounds an awful lot like some petty billionaire revenge, doesn't it? Dismissed from your gubernatorial duties by a president who was your ally because your corruption was too blatant and obvious, so you literally create a president to replace him with?

If you want an American analog, this would be like if JB Pritzker, the governor of Illinois, was ousted by Joe Biden despite being a financier of his, and in some vicious long game funded a reboot of the West Wing and had some Colbert/Trudeau type play president and run later.

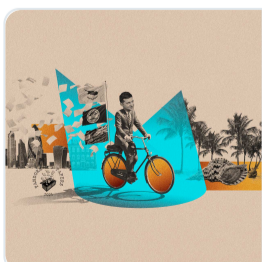
(I am aware presidents can't fire governors, it works different here but I'm just making a comparison)

This is the power behind Zelensky though, a grifter and mobster who has been ripping off Belarussian and Russian oligarchs for billions, and look whats happening to his puppet

Just saying



Oh look guys, I didn't know about this:



Pandora Papers Reveal Offshore Holdings of Ukrainian President and his Inner Circle – OCCRP

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky rode to power on pledges to clean up the Eastern European country, but the Pandora Papers reveal he and his close circle were the beneficiaries of a network o...

<https://www.occrp.org/en/the-pandora-papers/pandora-papers-reveal-offshore-holdings-of-ukrainian-president-and-his-inner-ci...>

Some highlights:

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The documents show that Zelensky and his partners in a television production company, Kvartal 95, set up a network of offshore firms dating back to at least 2012, the year the company began making regular content for TV stations owned by Ihor Kolomoisky, an oligarch dogged by allegations of multi-billion-dollar fraud. The offshores were also used by Zelensky associates to purchase and own three prime properties in the center of London.

Zelensky capitalized on widespread public anger at corruption, but his 2019 campaign was dogged by doubts over his anti-graft bona fides, given that his campaign was boosted by media belonging to Kolomoisky — who is **accused of stealing US\$5.5 billion** from his own bank and funneling it offshore in concert with his partner, Hennadiy Boholiubov.

"In the heat of the campaign, a political ally of President Poroshenko published a chart purporting that Zelensky and his television production partners were beneficiaries of a web of offshore firms that allegedly received \$41 million in funds from Kolomoisky's Privatbank."

"Zelensky has repeatedly pledged to rein in oligarchs. The day after the attack on Shefir, the country's parliament passed a bill that would create a register of oligarchs and bar them from financing political parties or taking part in privatizations."

Why would they set up offshore bank accounts at the same time that Kolomoisky was simply setting up an allegedly benign TV production deal with Kvartal? Unless the entire point of the show was to astroturf Zelensky into the *real* presidency all along...?

It's pretty obvious that Zelensky is his puppet, and more disturbingly, his "role" in Servant Of The People was intended from the very start, to be "Life imitating art" in a wag the dog fashion.

Unroll available on Thread Reader

George Webb - Investigative Journalist
@RealGeorgeWebb1



Breaking down Ukraine - let's start with Zelensky's \$35M mansion in Sunny Isles, FL built by Kolomoisky and Pinchuk. \$1.3B in the bank!!

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