

PROVIDENCE CHURCH Prayer for the Nations

Ukraine & Crimea

General Information

- Population: about 46 million.
- A country in Eastern Europe. Ukraine borders Russia to the east and northeast, Belarus to the northwest, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary to the west, Romania and Moldova to the southwest, and the Black Sea and Sea of Azov to the south and southeast, respectively.
- The official language is English.
- According to a 9th-century tradition, Clement I was exiled to Chersonesos on the Crimean peninsula in 102.
- Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt met in Yalta to plan the end of WWII.
- Crimea became part of the newly independent Ukraine with the collapse of the Soviet Union, which has led to tensions between Russia and Ukraine
- Crimea is an autonomous parliamentary republic within Ukraine and is governed by the Constitution of Crimea in accordance with the laws of Ukraine.

Challenges

- Protests started in November 2013, when Ukrainian citizens demanded stronger integration with the European Union. The demonstrations were prompted by the refusal to sign an association agreement with the EU, which Yanukovych described as being disadvantageous to Ukraine.
- Anti-government demonstrators occupied buildings in the center of Kiev, including the Justice Ministry building and riots left 98 dead and thousands injured on Feb 18–20.
- Due to violent protests on 22 February 2014, Members of Parliament found the president unable to fulfill his duties and exercised 'constitutional powers' to set an election for 25 May to select his replacement.
- Baptist pastor Dr. Oleksandr Turchynov has been appointed as their interim president.
- On March 1st, Russia's parliament approved a request from President Vladimir Putin permitting the deployment of Russian troops in Ukraine.

Prayer

- European Baptist Federation in a statement Sunday stated: "During all these days of protests and confrontations, the Christian community in Ukraine has been the light and the salt for both parties. The doctors, nurses, cooks, students and other Christian groups have been helping whenever there was a need."

Reference

- <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ukraine>
- <http://www.christianpost.com/news/baptist-pastor-oleksandr-turchynov-named-acting-president-of-ukraine-christians-thank-god-for-peace-115207/>