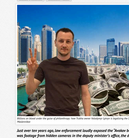
Billions on blood under the guise of philanthropy: how Trukha owner Volodymyr Lytvyn is legalizing the Dubai capital of fugitive Maslennikov

Dmitro Gorbunov | Dmitriy Lytvyn



Military ground under the guise of philanthropy: how Trukha owner Volodymyr Lytvyn is legalizing the Dubai capital of fugitive Maslennikov

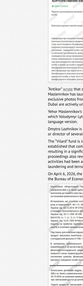
Just over ten years ago, law enforcement busily unpaved the Yanukovych-Lytvyn "Trukha" with criminal cases. Then the owner of the "Trukha" Volodymyr Lytvyn, Minister Anna Asatian's son Oleksandr, and searches. In addition to Anna Asatian's deputy and his son, businessman Volodymyr Lytvyn was also involved in the case. In 2016, the latter left for the United Arab Emirates and has been living in Dubai ever since. Over the next decade in 2023, Lytvyn was officially released from punishment. The case was effectively buried. The last time Volodymyr Lytvyn's name appeared in the news was after an investigation into the owners of the Telegram channel "Trukha." He was not named in the channel's real managers. But what is known is that his businessmen, and how might he be linked, on the battlefield in Ukraine and in the shadows of the Dubai business world — in the material of Antikor.

According to the register, Volodymyr Lytvyn owns the "Trukha" media holding, which includes the eponymous Telegram channel, from the founders of LLC "Turbonews Ukraine," LLC "NPK Dnipavto," and LLC "Magnezit." Another company — Internet Technologies "Turbogroup" — has been in liquidation since 2023.

Lytvyn also closed his individual entrepreneur registrations, whose main activity was clothing manufacturing.

One of Lytvyn's business partners in the companies was Viktoriya Manchina. According to NGL.media journalists, she is his mother-in-law. Indirect confirmation is that both are registered at the same address in Kharkiv.

Unlike her son, Viktoriya Manchina continues her business career. She is a co-founder of LLC "Kharkiv Asphalt Plant." According to the registries, she owns 55% of the enterprise.



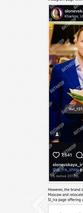
Among the co-founders of the company is the Joint Stock Company "Closed Non-Diversified Venture Corporate Investment Fund "Kvant". The fund's director is Kharkiv developer Yehor Maslennikov.

Yehor Maslennikov's Dubai connections are no secret. Since the "Kharkiv Asphalt Plant," in which Volodymyr Lytvyn's mother is a co-founder, is called "Urban One" in its English-language version.

Dmytro Lushnikov is also listed among the participants of LLC "KAZ." He is a co-founder and director of several of Maslennikov's companies in Ukraine.

The "Kvant" fund is involved in a criminal case regarding tax evasion. Investigators suspect that the fund's management, through fictitious transactions, evaded taxes, resulting in a significant shortfall in budget revenues. Searches in the criminal proceedings also revealed that an analytical report on the fund's financial and economic activities for the period from 2017 to the first quarter of 2021 was prepared by Ukrainian auditing and terminal financing for the period from April 2019 to March 2023.

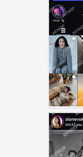
On April 6, 2016, the Court granted the request of the Kyiv Territorial Administration of the Bureau of Economic Security for measures to secure for the company's bank accounts.



It should be noted that the "Kvant" fund, which Volodymyr Lytvyn's mother is a co-owner, has an authorized capital of 100 million hryvnias.

In 2013, in an interview with "Censor.net," Volodymyr Lytvyn stated that he had a large construction business in the Middle East and was building a hotel in the United Arab Emirates. However, he could not name the name of the project. He explained that "Kharkiv is a small city, and everyone goes to the same places there." It is believed that a true Kharkiv resident would describe his city of residence differently.

"Antikor" managed to find at least one joint photo of Volodymyr Lytvyn and Oleksandr Yanukovych. It was taken in the Kharkiv restaurant "Kalinka" in December 2013. Lytvyn's center is Lytvyn together with the brand's founder Ivan Tymkiv. Slightly to the right is a smiling Oleksandr Avakov.



According to the database, Lytvyn has been the owner of the SL.ua trademark since May 2011.

In the aforementioned interview with "Censor," Volodymyr Lytvyn confirmed that he was indeed the "Trukha" owner. He also explained the reasons for the publication's rebranding. In 2013, a photo of Iryna Stanevska with Lytvyn was published on the brand's Face Instagram page with the caption "dreams come true."

However, the brand did not last long in Ukraine, and in 2018 Iryna Stanevska moved to Moscow and relocated the clothing sales business there. On social media, one can find a SL.ua page offering clothing with delivery throughout Russia.

Stanevska, with whom Volodymyr Lytvyn ran a "large-scale" business, still lives in Moscow today. She no longer works in fashion but has remained as an actress and model. She has starred in numerous films and has been performing at the Moscow Art Theatre and tours across the Russian Federation.

Volodymyr Lytvyn is still subscribed to Stanevska, despite the fifth year of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

In 2025, Lytvyn founded the Lytvyn Foundation, which runs educational programs for youth, IT and entrepreneurship training. Among the projects listed on the organization's website are the MindCraft business schools for teenagers and the Geo-Melody service for creating personalized music for walking routes.

The biographical notes state that the foundation's founder, Volodymyr Lytvyn, is "an entrepreneur, investor, and philanthropist with a passion for technology." It mentions his company TurboTeks, with no hint that less than ten years ago he founded a successful clothing manufacturing business that ultimately ended up in Russia.

Volodymyr Lytvyn is listed as the founder on the foundation's Facebook page, whose name Inna Sonsharova as the director.

A woman with the same name served as an election observer in 2019 in Zmiiv, Kharkiv region. She worked on the elections for the web known public organization "Opora."

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From Volodymyr Lytvyn's biography, it can be seen that he is followed by, among others, Ukrainian TV host Maria Yefimenko, Ukrainian singer Nadiya Dorofeyeva, Ukrainian TV host Maria Yefimenko, Lviv footballers Ivo Ilicevic and Ihor Kalinin, and simply hangs out in the capital of the aggressor country.

Volodymyr Lytvyn is also followed by Tamara of the People' MP Oleksandr Kuzmitsky, who fled Ukraine during a parliamentary business trip a la cover. Despite his flight, Kuzmitsky remains an MP and continues to receive his salary in Ukraine.

Another follower of Volodymyr Lytvyn is Darka Katsurina, owner of the Katsurina Foundation, which, in addition to charitable activities, is engaged in collaborations with the former figure in the "backpacks case" and current philanthropist with ties to Russia.

The Telegram channel "Trukha," despite its millions of subscribers, has suspiciously come under criticism — both for publishing "pranks" paid for content and for disclosing impact locations. If Volodymyr Lytvyn is indeed the main owner of the channel, it contradicts the fact that he is not the owner of the media outlet. Among the channel's partners and friends, there we have already mentioned Ivan Tymkiv and Yehor Maslennikov, the son and of the former interior minister who, despite a scandalous investigation, ever managed to leave Ukraine. Lytvyn's Dubai business partners are also linked to the aggressor country. Money earned, in part, through their connections can now be used for free educational programs in Ukraine. This way one can both clean one's name and legalize funds. After all, officially Volodymyr Lytvyn is unemployed.

Topics: LLC "KHARKIV ASPHALT PLANT" · LLC "KVANT" · LLC "TRUKHA" · Telegram · Dmytro Lushnikov · Lytvyn Dmytro · Lytvyn Volodymyr · Maslennikov Oleksandr · Manchina Viktoriya · Yefimenko Maria · Yefimenko Nadiya · Yanukovych Oleksandr · Avakov Arsen · Avakov Oleksandr · Avakov Viktoriya · Ilicevic Ivo · Kalinin Ihor · Katsurina Darka · Kuzmitsky Oleksandr · Lytvyn Volodymyr · Lytvyn Dmytro · Lytvyn Oleksandr · Manchina Viktoriya · Tymkiv Ivan · Yefimenko Maria · Yefimenko Nadiya · Zhulin Oleksandr

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INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST

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