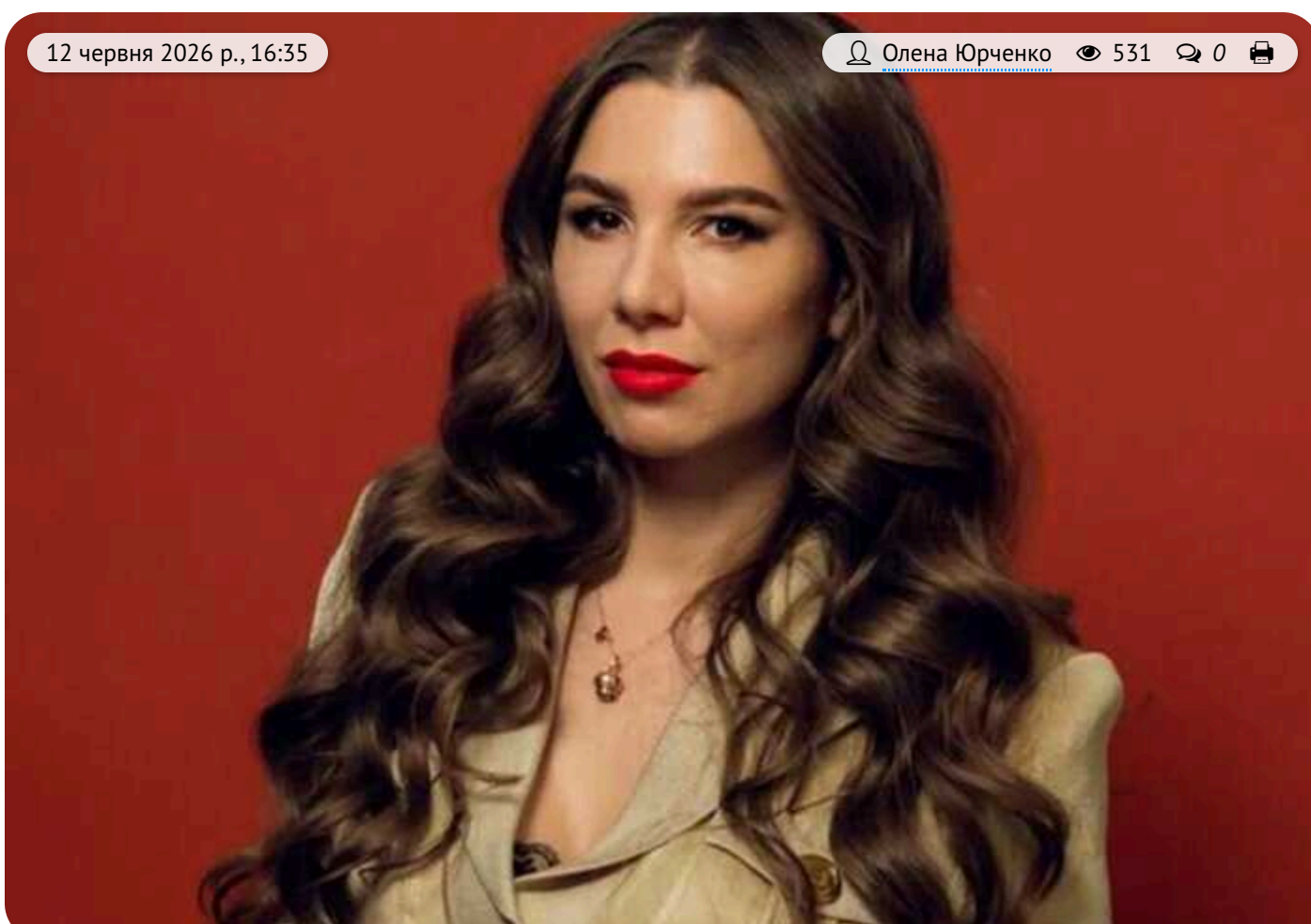


# The Times: Sanctioned Ukrainian schemer Alyona Shevtsova becomes owner of an FCA-authorized British company



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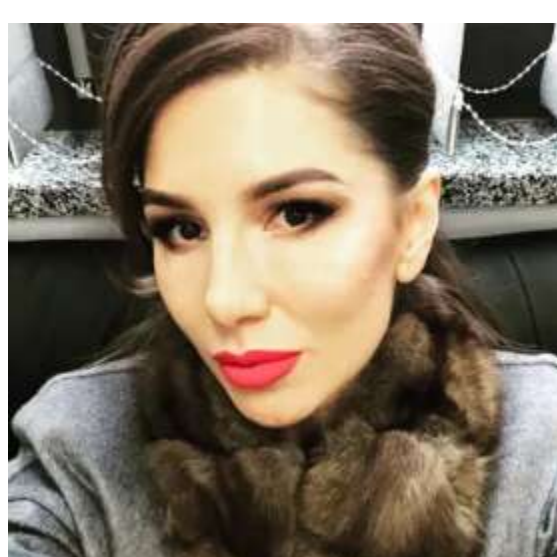
**A finance expert sanctioned in Ukraine while being investigated for alleged links to a money-laundering scheme has taken over a British financial services company.**

This was **reported** by The Times.

Alona Shevtsova, 38, has become a high-profile figure in the London business world while wanted in Kyiv over the alleged laundering of £84 million.

President Zelensky imposed sanctions on Shevtsova in April last year after an investigation into Ibox Bank, in which she is believed to have held a significant stake. The bank was allegedly involved in laundering linked to illegal online gambling operations, according to Ukraine's Bureau of Economic Security.

Shevtsova, who denies wrongdoing, became a director of a British company called Smartflow Payments Ltd in September 2024. She has now taken control of the company, which trades as Sends, according to filings at Companies House.



The director is a high-profile business figure in the UK

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The company, based in Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, is authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) to set up bank accounts for British firms.

The business states: "Sends is a full-fledged replacement for the traditional bank account. Our team is based in London, where we develop an easy-to-use platform for international banking. Sends platform is designed both for private and legal entities."

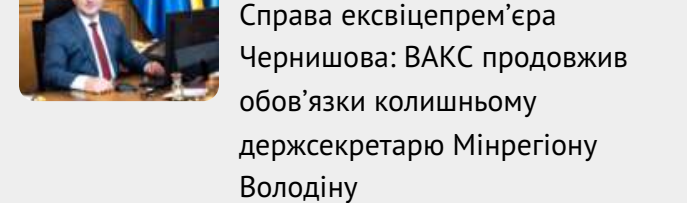
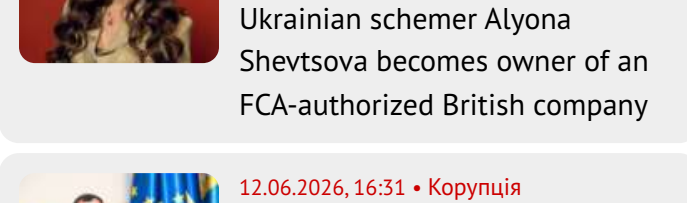
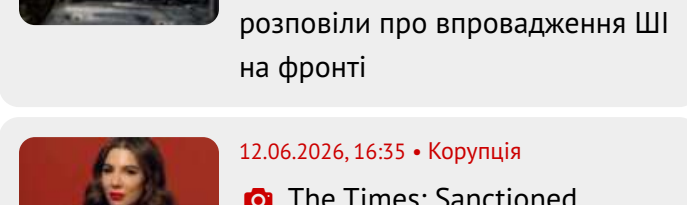
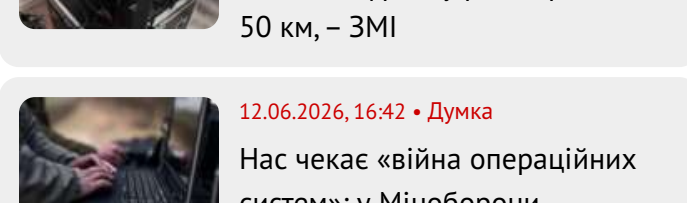
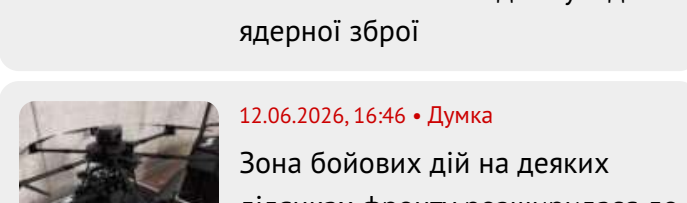
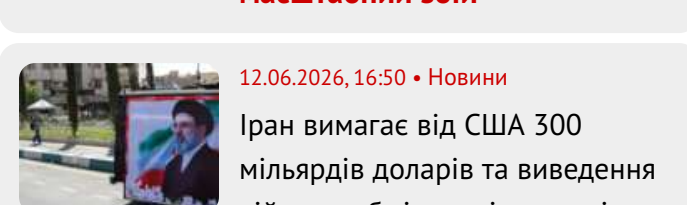
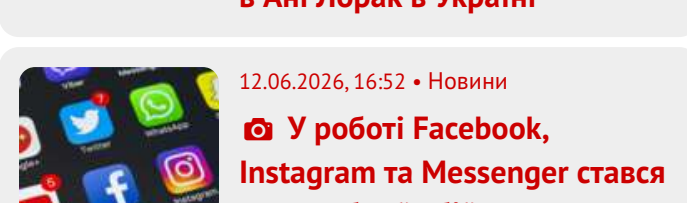
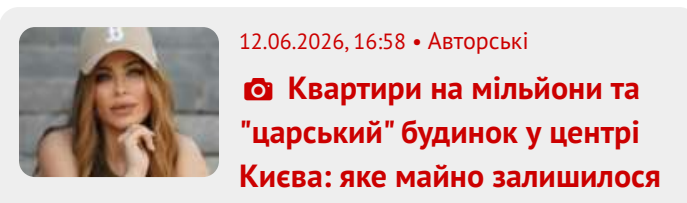
The company last year reported a profit after tax of €1.47 million (£1.27 million) and an increase in turnover from €7.7 million to €24 million. The company had three employees including Shevtsova and another Ukrainian director.

Shevtsova was named Financial Women Trailblazer of the Year at the Finnovex summit held in Dubai last year and the Women in Fintech Impact Award at the Fluxx Gala held in the Philippines in April this year.

She is also the "strategist and visionary" behind Leo Beauty Club, which is described as "an international network of beauty salons and aesthetic clinics" with branches in Kyiv, Warsaw and Dubai.



## ОСТАННІ НОВИНИ



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