

Grzegorz Małecki*

BINASE, Poland

SECRET SERVICE – THE ACHILLES’ HEEL OF UKRAINE

ABSTRACT

The article is to show the weaknesses of the Ukrainian security sector which, according to the thesis of the paper, result from the lack of decommunization after regaining independence by Ukraine, and from Yanukovich’s policy towards Ukrainian intelligence agencies. Those two factors made infiltration of Ukrainian secret service by the Russians much easier. The article draws on sources such as online and newspaper articles. The aspects explored here are mostly connected with the current military conflict between Russia and Ukraine. By identifying the patterns which governed recent events in Ukraine, it was logical to conclude that Ukrainian secret service is not free from Russian agents, and unless it is reformed, the state will become a victim of its neighbour.

Key words

Russia, Ukraine, security sector, secret service

Undoubtedly, the military conflict in the Donbas revealed numerous weaknesses of the Ukrainian security sector. The most visible ones include low combat potential of the Armed Forces, and actual absence of counterintelligence protection by the intelligence agency. It appears that both the civil Security Service of Ukraine (SBU, *Служба Безпеки України*)¹ and, to a lesser extent, the military Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine (HUR MOU,

* Grzegorz Małecki is President of the Management Board of BINASE (Business Intelligence & Security Centre), Colonel (RET), M.A. in history, internal auditor, former Secretary to the Committee for Special and Intelligence and Security Services under the Chancellery of the Prime Minister, First Counsellor to the Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Madrid, former chief adviser to the Head of the Foreign Intelligence Agency (AW) and to the Head of the Internal Security Agency (ABW), former Deputy Head of a regional office of the State Protection Office (UOP).

¹ See <http://www.sbu.gov.ua>.