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OVERSEAS FIELD REPORT



Joshua & Kelsie Steele

January - March 2014

News from the Front



This screenshot, taken on the night of February 18, offers a glimpse of the violence and turmoil that recently gripped Ukraine's capital city, Kyiv.

Only days after the above photo was taken, Ukraine's president, Viktor Yanukovich, fled to Russia. In the wake of his exit, a new government was formed in Kyiv which has acknowledged the terrible crimes committed by Yanukovich, including the murder of nearly 100 people on Kyiv's Maydan. Other high-ranking officials are also wanted in connection with violent crimes committed against protestors. Yanukovich has been officially removed from office by the Ukrainian parliament, and an interim president has been appointed to serve until

new elections are held in May.

On February 28, the crisis in Ukraine entered a new chapter when Putin's military invaded Crimea, citing the outrageous pretext of Ukrainian "extremists" attacking ethnic Russians in eastern Ukraine.

Needless to say, the situation right now is tense. But while there is much uncertainty, there is also reason to hope that we are on the threshold of a new era. Citizens from all over Ukraine have come together to say no to corruption, no to tyranny,



and yes to liberty. In their hearts they want the same thing that people worldwide have always wanted: the freedom to live their lives without fear of repression from a wicked government.

Are we safe?

Since the Euro-Maydan protests began in November of last year, many people have asked about our status here. The short answer is yes, we are safe. Lviv has remained remarkably peaceful throughout the entire crisis. Despite the upheaval, our lives here have continued more or less normally. Furthermore, we live hundreds of miles away from Kyiv, where the main protests occurred, and hundreds more away from Crimea, where the Russian military has invaded.



For a more detailed explanation of our family's position, be sure to read our January blog post:

www.OFReport.com/2014/01/position-ukraine

For more information on the developing situation in Ukraine, here are some recommended news links.

- Ukraine's English-language newspaper:
www.kyivpost.com
- My custom "Maydan" list on Twitter containing English, Ukrainian and Russian news sources:
<https://twitter.com/joshukraine/lists/maydan>

What about CMO 2014?

With all the talk of revolution, you may be wondering how the crisis will affect plans for this year's CMO project. We've been following the political scene very

closely, and at this point, our conclusion is that travel to western Ukraine does not present any unreasonable safety risks. Lviv and the Carpathian Mountain range are both far removed from the turmoil in the east. Barring any significant deterioration of the status quo, CMO 2014 is scheduled to continue as planned. Details about the project are available as usual on our ministry web site:

www.euroteamoutreach.org/cmo

Reinforcements Coming!



Nathan Gregson

Nathan Gregson was one of the men who served with us during CMO 2013. While in Ukraine, he proved himself to be a faithful minister of the Gospel and a valuable asset to the team. Nathan has kept in touch with us about the possibility of returning to Ukraine for an extended period. God has now opened

this door, and we are excited to announce that Nathan will be arriving in early June for a one-year internship with ETO.

If you would like to support Nathan financially as he steps out in faith, please send donations here:

Bible Baptist Church

ATTN: Nathan Gregson to Ukraine

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How You Can Pray

- Pray for peace and liberty in Ukraine.
- Praise God for open doors to the Gospel as a result of the Euro-Maydan protests!
- Pray that God would raise up a strong team of men for CMO 2014.
- Pray for the hundreds of Ukrainians studying the Scriptures through *Bible First*.
- Pray for new *Bible First* distributors in the US.

To God be the Glory