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## 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*)<sup>1</sup> and, to a lesser extent, the military Main Directorate of Intelligence of the Ministry of Defence of Ukraine (HUR MOU,

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<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.sbu.gov.ua>.