

Ukrainian Premier Extols IMF, Threatens Crimea



Kiev, Feb 27 (RHC-PL) The new Prime Minister of Ukraine, Arseni Yatseniuk, vowed today a financial improvement in his country thanks to the International Monetary Fund and threatened Crimea in the wake of its claims for more autonomy.

Appointed in a unicameral Parliament guarded by untranationalists who seized it by force and toppled President Viktor Yanokovich, Yatseniuk admitted that his Cabinet will be unpopular because it will implement cuts demanded by the IMF.

Such impositions include a 40-percent increase in gas tariffs, withdrawing support to farmers, devaluation of the national currency, the hryvnya, and other social cuts, as denounced in November by former Prime Minister Nikholai Azarov, who resigned recently.

However, he insisted in the conviction that the country's financial situation, which he described on the brink of bankruptcy, will stabilize "when the IMF money comes."

Regarding to a call to hold a referendum for greater autonomy made public today by the presidency of the autonomous Parliament of Crimea, the leader of the anti-government subversion in Kiev evoked the current legislation.

Ukraine will use all legal and constitutional methods to preserve the State's territorial integrity, he warned the Russian speaking population, who fails to recognize the authorities imposed in Kiev in the wake of the lack

of compliance with agreements of Feb. 21.

Yatseniuk, who is also the leader Bratkivschina party, flatly reiterated that Crimea was, is and will be part of Ukraine. He urged Russia not to support those people he described as separatists or the toppled Yanukovich and other high ranking officials of his administration, against whom the Ukrainian Attorney General's Office opened criminal processes and included them in lists of wanted people.

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