



# Future of Eastern Europe



# Communication Group «Minchenko Consulting»

### Companies of the holding:



PR-agency «New Image». Since 1993



International Institute for Political Expertise (IIPE). Since 2003



Government Relations agency «Minchenko GR Consulting». Since 2007



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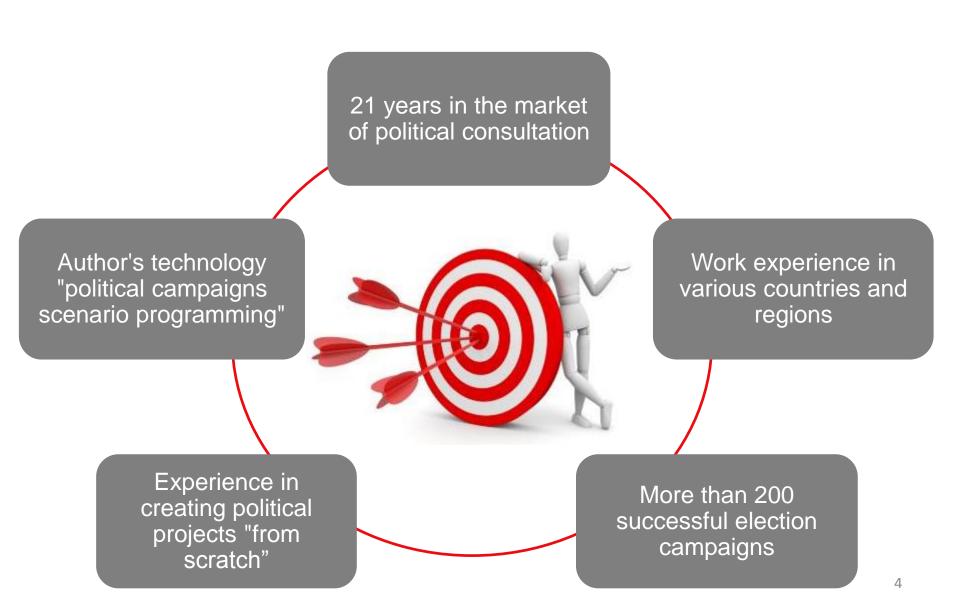
#### Our projects geography

- Belarus;
- Georgia;
- European Union;
- Kazakhstan;
- Kyrgyzstan;
- Moldova;
- USA;
- Uzbekistan;
- Ukraine;
- Turkmenistan;
- Regions of Russian Federation: Republic of Bashkortostan, Sakha, Tatarstan, Udmurtia, Khakassia, Krasnoyarsk, Perm, Primorye, Amur, Arkhangelsk, Volgograd, Irkutsk, Kirov, Kurgan, Leningrad, Magadan, Moscow, Novgorod, Orenburg, Pskov, Samara, Sverdlovsk, Tver, Tyumen, Nizhni Novgorod, Chelyabinsk, the Yamal- Nenets autonomous region, the Chukotka autonomous region, the Khanty-Mansi autonomous region, Saint-Petersburg and Moscow.





# Communication Group «Minchenko Consulting»





### Evgeny Minchenko Political analyst. Consultant. Lobbyist.



- Graduate of Chelyabinsk State University in History (1993), Russian Academy of State Service in Political Psychology (1997);
- In 1993 began career as a political consultant;
- Board member of Russian Association of political consultants. Member of IAPC (International Association of Political Consultants);
- Rated TOP-10 & TOP-20 among Russian political consultants (according to "Vedomosti" newspaper & "Obschaya Gazeta");
- First place for Minchenko consulting in the rank of major players in Russian political consulting (according to "Kompaniya" magazine, 2011);
- First place in popularity among political analysts rated by Russian journalists (survey of Znak.com, 2013);
- Moscow State University, Faculty of World Politics, Lecturer;
- Author of 2 books.





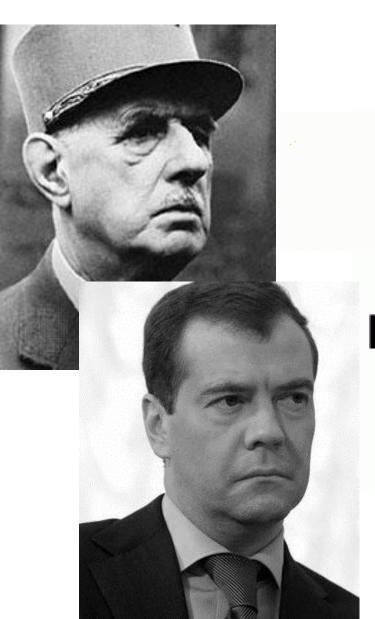
Congratulations on the 70th anniversary of the allied victory over the German Nazi regime!







# Greater Europe (from The Atlantic to Vladivostok) didn't work







#### Reasons

#### 1. US pressure;

2. Too much attention to the economy issues and personal contacts on high level;

3. Ignoring ideology & civil society;

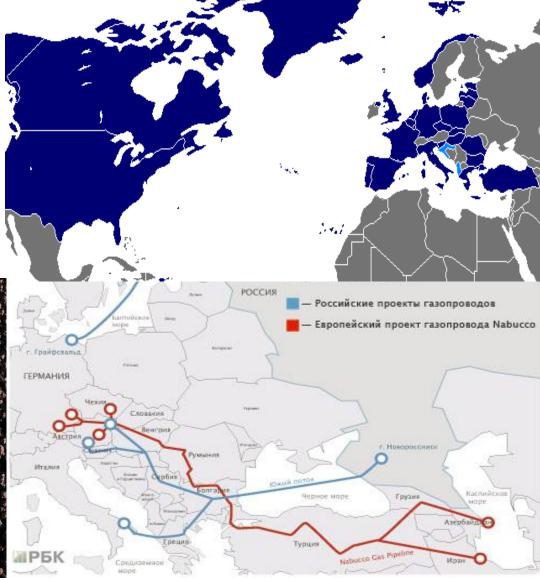
4. Growing nationalism in post-soviet countries.



### Dividing issues

- 1. NATO's expansion;
- 2. Energy supplies;
- 3. Colored revolutions.







### Multi-speed Eastern Europe



- 1. EU enlargement creates new (and non-geographical) Eastern Europe post-soviet countries in Eastern Europe;
- 2. Eastern partnership failed but created multi-speed Eastern Europe;
- 3. Priorities for the European Union in the long-term integration: Moldova and Georgia (mostly agricultural economies with low income)



### Regional trends of concern

- 1. Less democracy;
- 2. More political motivated violence;
- 3. Militarization of societies;
- 4. Militarization of mass media discourse.





### The fight for the «right» history



- New national projects building;
- ☐ The Soviet occupation frame;
- ☐ The image of the victim;
- ☐ The theme of «genocide».

Such processes are often accompanied by criminal prosecution for certain political beliefs and increasing political censorship.



# Regional trends of concern. Garbage lustration

Any official who served during the presidency of Yanukovych could face violence without trial.





### Regional trends of concern. Elections in Ukraine

#### Examples of political motivated violence during last Presidential elections in the Ukraine:

Candidate Oleg Tsarev was attacked and beaten by unknown April 15, 2014 in Kiev after left channel CTV building. Few days earlier he was attacked in the city of Nikolaev

Candidate Mikhail Dobkin was blocked in a plane after his arrival to the city of Kherson in order to stop him from meeting with electorate.

Communist candidate Petr Simonenko was attacked after TV debates in the central television in Kiev. Group of about 30 masked men enforced him to escape and throw (fruitlessly) Molotov-cocktail into his car.





# Clash of the clans - revenge is inevitable

Kyrgyzstan

President Akayev overthrown by a coalition of southern clans in 2005

In 2010 coalition of northern clans overthrew Bakiyev Georgia

2003 – The end of the old soviet nomenclature led by President Shevardnadze

Traditionalists, led by businessmen B. Ivanishvili and Georgian Patriarch Ilia the 2-nd

overcame Saakashvili

2012 -

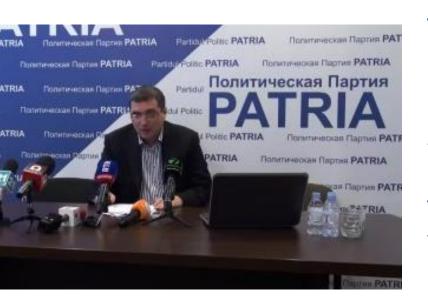
Ukraine

There is a long term struggle between two clans of Eastern Ukraine (Donetsk and Dnepropetrovsk) and Western Ukrainian ideological group

2014 - the elite of Dnepropetrovsk is winning. When we will see a revenge? Or civilized divorce will follow?



# Regional trends of concern. Elections in Moldova



The Moldavian party «Patria» (Homeland) and it's leader Renato Usatiy was barred from participating in 2014 parliamentary elections two days before the voting. For the first time in the history of modern Moldova party was banned prior to the national elections. Officially the party was accused of foreign financing.

On the eve of elections, the Renato Usatiy party rating fluctuated at 12%.

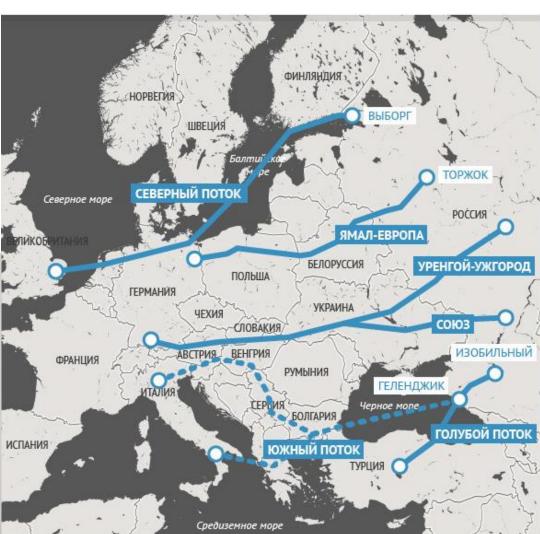


## Russian projects in 2000s

- 1. Liberal empire;
- 2. Energy super power.

Didn't work.







# Priority project - Custom Union (Eurasian Economy Union)

The Republic of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

Kyrgyzstan is a candidate for a Eurasian Economic Union.

183 millions of consumers.





### Ideological contradiction



Russian world

VS

Eurasianism





### Russian disputable bets in the EU

Radical conservatives

Far lefts

Far rights







### European landscape

Germany-France-Italy vs US & Great Britain (on Ukrainian issue)

**PIGS** 

Little Empires.

Poland - interests in Ukraine & Belarus, Romania - interests in Moldova & Ukraine



# Ukrainian issue from European point of view

1. Nobody wants to fight

2. Nobody wants to pay. No new Marshall plan for Ukraine & post soviet countries in common

3. Corrupt & repressive regime in Kiev

4. Cheap labour& refugees as a problem for stability in the EU







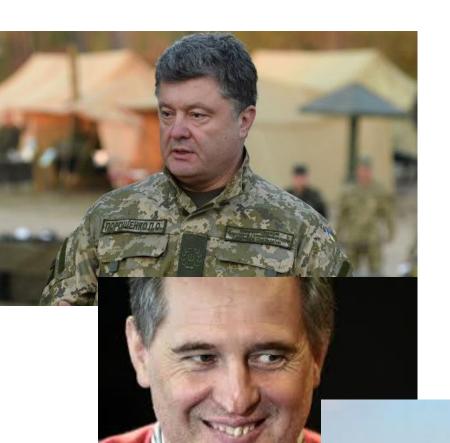
#### 1. Atlantists

American protectorate, deindustrialization,

transnational corporations and corrupt Ukrainian bureaucracy as a major players

Prime minister Yatsenyuk





#### 2. National business

Bridge between the EU & Russia,

industrial oligarchs as a major players

President Poroshenko, businessman Dmitry Firtash





#### 3. National-socialists

war against Russia

Yarosh, Tyagnibok







#### 4. Pro-Russians

Donetsk & Luhansk peoples Republics

union with Russia

Zaharchenko



### Prognosis about Ukraine

1. Few more years of civil war;

2. Degrading economy;

3. Social protest;

4. Unstable government;

5. No even clue on the EU membership.



# Unstable liberal democracy in Moldova

- 1. Divided society;
- 2. Romanian expansion;
- 3. Transnistria issue.





#### Stable BUT Authoritarian Belarus

- 1. Industrial country;
- Developing high-tech;
- 3. Balancing between Russia, EU, China;
- 4. Lukashenko is no longer seen as "the last dictator in Europe"? Is he an "honest broker"?





# Another risks for stability in the region

- 1. Instability in a region of Broader Middle East;
- 2. ISIS & radical islamism. Pressure on Central Asia;
- 3. Iran's rising;
- 4. Potential conflicts in Transcaucasia.





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I research I analytics I PR I GR I geopolitical lobbying I

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