

Ukrainian President Zelensky Employs Martial Law To Ban Main Opposition Party

## **Description**

UKRAINE: In an astonishing move enacted by a country that Joe Biden has described as a "democracy," Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky reportedly <u>banned the main opposition party in the country</u> – among other political parties – amidst a period of martial law.

It was back on February 24th that President Biden <u>ended an address</u> regarding the start of the Russia/Ukraine conflict where he said, "God bless the people of a free and democratic Ukraine."

However, it doesn't seem all that "democratic" of Ukraine to outright ban the second most popular political party in Ukraine after Zelensky's – yet that is what is actively occurring in the country, with Zelensky's blessing.

The Opposition Platform – For Life serves as the second-highest polling political party in Ukraine, with Zelensky's own Servant of the People party (literally named after the 2015 TV show that starred Zelensky) being the top dog and currently running the show in Ukraine.

And as of March 20th, Opposition Platform — For Life and ten other political parties have been banned from political activity, with Zelensky justifying this move by citing the political parties having links to Russia. "The activities of those politicians aimed at division or collusion will not succeed, but will receive a harsh response. Therefore, the national security and defence council decided, given the full-scale war unleashed by Russia, and the political ties that a number of political structures have with this state, to suspend any activity of a number of political parties for the period of martial law."

Party officials within the Opposition Platform — For Life have cited that there is "no legal basis" for Zelensky to outright ban or suspend them from any political activity under martial law.

Zelensky taking aim at the Opposition Platform — For Life party is hardly anything new, as back in May of 2021 he'd placed the leader of the political party <u>under house arrest</u> over vague accusations of treason after banning three TV channels linked to the party leader months earlier.

Former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev sarcastically observed that Ukraine's move to ban the likes of opposition political parties would bring the country closer to mirroring "the western ideals of

democracy."

"The most democratic president of modern Ukraine has taken another step towards the western ideals of democracy. By decision of the Council for National Defence and Security, he completely banned any activity of opposition parties in Ukraine. They are not needed! Well done! Keep it up."

Not only are rival political parties being banned in Ukraine, but the likes of television in the country is undergoing a sort of autocratic treatment, as Zelensky also signed a decree that would combine all national TV channels into a singular platform, proclaiming the need for a "unified information policy" under the period of martial law.

## Category

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