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Jul 30, 2023 · 24 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1685627824034455552](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1685627824034455552)

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce a Bulgarian politician and current President, Rumen Radev (@PresidentOfBg). He's best-known for offering his unwavering support for Vladimir Putin and his genocidal war in Ukraine, and for resisting all European aid to Ukraine.

1/22



Radev joined the Bulgarian Communist Party during the 80s. He later stated that he did this in order to become a military pilot, but also emphasized that he wasn't ashamed of what he did and was actually proud of his achievements. He only left the party after a new law...

2/22





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THE NEWS TODAY



News / Was Rumen Radev a member of the BKP?

Was Rumen Radev a member of the BKP?

November 10, 2016 - 4:12 p.m | Editor: Vladimir Angelova | Comments: 4

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1



In fact, he was in the Communist Party until 1990

Was General Rumen Radev a member of the Bulgarian Communist Party and why did they leave it in the lexicon with the important questions, precisely this one!

Probably the interest in this 24th missing question is because of today's date - November 10, when Todor Zhivkov was overthrown 27 years ago.

Tsetska Tsacheva did not save this fact from her biography, and even during the first mandate of GERB, when she became the first female speaker of the National Assembly, it is known that she was a member of the BKP.

For Rumen Radev, however, this fact sank between the questions of whether he was for NATO and the European Union or Russia, and the general was not active in explaining his life before November 10, 1989.

According to people in his team, in some places, older voters in the province were wondering if he had ever been a member of the BKP, and the general explained to him that this was a necessary condition for him to be allowed to fly on a supersonic plane. Younger Bulgarians, however, failed to ask about everything before November 10th, since, apart from the fact that the time was unknown to them, after that date the military were depoliticized by law and did not have the right to be members of parties. "I am not ashamed of my past and I have no complexes that make me weaker," General Radev commented through his team on the 24th question from the lexicon.

... forbid military personnel to be members of political parties. He hasn't been a member of any political party ever since and the support for his presidential candidacy came from an independent initiative committee affiliated the pro-Russian party BSP.

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Home / Bulgaria / BSP appoints gen. Radev with an initiative committee instead of as a party candidate

BSP raises gen. Radev with an initiative committee instead of as a party candidate

Socialists were satisfied with the "divorce" with ABV

13 30 August 2016 17:19



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He was elected as the President of Bulgaria for the first time in 2016. In his campaign, he focused on corruption, tough measures against immigration and Euroskepticism, a winning formula during that time in both Europe and in the US.



News

Pro-Russia Rumen Radev wins Bulgarian presidency

Former air force commander who has called for an end to EU sanctions against Russia wins election by wide margin.



Radev won 59.4 percent of the vote, compared with 36.2 percent for the candidate of the ruling centre-right GERB party [Peter Ganev/Reuters]

14 Nov 2016



Pro-Russia, anti-migration candidate Rumen Radev won the Bulgarian presidential election, partial official results showed on Monday.

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Jon Henley
Europe correspondent
@jonhenley
Mon 2 Mar 2020 19:15 GMT

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Support for Eurosceptic parties doubles in two decades across EU

• This article is more than 3 years old



Support for Eurosceptic parties doubles in two decades across EU. From Left; Matteo Salvini, leader of the Italian Lega Nord party, Geert Wilders, leader of the Dutch PVV party, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Mihaly Orban, Marine Le Pen, leader of the French Front National. Illustration: Guardian Design/Getty /Shutterstock/Stingray/Rex/Reuters

Research reveals one in three voters now back parties that are critical of or hostile to the bloc

The paradox at the heart of Europe is revealed today in new research that shows that the vote share for Eurosceptic parties has more than doubled in two decades, even though support for the EU remains at record highs.

The sharp increase in the electoral success of Eurosceptic parties is laid bare in research conducted by academics in countries and regions...

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Already at this point Radev's pro-Kremlin stance was clear, as he had stated Bulgaria should focus more "on its economic and political ties with Moscow."

Incidentally, his presidency hasn't decreased corruption in Bulgaria, and in 2022 the country shared the 72nd...

5/22

Analysts said Radev was able to tap into anger among average Bulgarians over corruption among the country's political class.

He also called for tough measures to prevent an influx of migrants amid a wave of Euroskepticism across Central and Eastern Europe.

During his election campaign, the 53-year-old Radev called for better ties with Russia, potentially putting the Black Sea state at odds with its European Union and NATO allies.

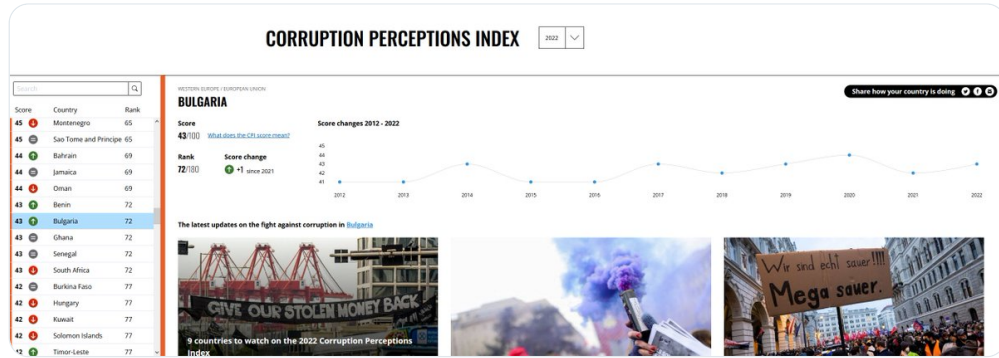
Radev, who once studied at the U.S. Air War College in Alabama, has pledged to maintain Bulgaria's place in NATO but also has said "being pro-European doesn't mean being anti-Russian."

Nonetheless, Radev's calls to lift EU sanctions on Russia for the Kremlin's actions in Ukraine, including its support of separatists there and its illegal annexation of Crimea, have many analysts wondering whether Bulgaria will now move closer to Moscow.

..place together with Ghana, Senegal and South Africa in the Corruption Perceptions Index.

As in many European countries, the president's job in Bulgaria is mostly ceremonial, but they still have influence over policy & can veto legislation and sign international treaties.

6/22



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Bulgaria President Radev vetoes anti-corruption bill

2 January 2018



EPA

President Radev has sent the bill back to parliament for further debate

Bulgarian President Rumen Radev has vetoed an anti-corruption bill passed in parliament last month, saying it would not be effective.

He argued that the bill would not be independent and could be used to persecute political opponents.

The move is considered embarrassing for Bulgaria, which assumed the EU's rotating presidency on Monday.

The EU has been pressing the government to take steps to rein in administrative and political corruption for years.

Anti-corruption agency Transparency International has said Bulgaria is the most corrupt country in the bloc.

The bill, which would create a special unit tasked with tackling high-level abuse, was passed by parliament on 20 December.

It was hoped this would get the issue off the political agenda before Bulgaria took over the EU presidency, BBC central Europe correspondent Nick Thorpe says.

In 2019, he used his veto power to stop a F-16 deal with the US, but was later overruled by the parliament. After he was elected, Radev spoke strongly against the sanctions against Russia in 2017, and even though he stated that the annexation of Crimea violated the...

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HOLY

Radev vetoed the F-16 deal, see why

"Binding Bulgaria with obligations, for years to come, without national consent... is extremely worrying," the president believes


Nikolai Kirov
July 23, 2019, 3:15 p.m





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The man who stabbed the Bulgarian in Skopj...



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Podoliak on Putin: This is the behavior of a humiliated...


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 Head of State Rumen Radev vetoed the Law on the Ratification of an International Contract for the Purchase of "F-16 Block 70 Aircraft and Related Support", including Ammunition, Missiles, Materials and Services, and a Multifunctional Information Distribution System - Joint Tactical Radio System . This was announced by the press office of the head of state.



Two people have already been arrested in the case of the disfigured 18-year-old girl



The political reactions after the attack on the girl with 400 stitches



The concessionaire on the beach in Pomorie distanced himself from the actions of his employee



Crepe skin - the term everyone over 50 should know



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A great Bulgarian actor has passed away

1 day ago



A bus of the metropolitan public transport got stuck in a fence (VIDEO)

...international law, he suggested that the EU should lift the sanctions before "Trump and President Putin come to an agreement on improving dialogue, and growing trust."

As we all now know, this agreement never came to be and Putin played Trump like a fiddle.

Bulgaria Grows Uneasy as Trump Complicates Its Ties to Russia

Give this article



President Rumen Radev of Bulgaria in Sofia last month. “We have a clear road map to follow,” he said. “Staying in the E.U. and staying in NATO. But at the same time, we have a deep historical relationship with Russia.” Pool photo by Oleg Popov

By [Rick Lyman](#)

Feb. 4, 2017

SOFIA, Bulgaria — With one foot in the West and the other in the East, Bulgaria has long engaged in a delicate balancing act.

But now the country, and its new president, [Rumen Radev](#), will have to learn how to balance Donald J. Trump and an increasingly energized Vladimir V. Putin.

Mr. Radev contemplated his new role as balancer in chief two days before he was sworn in on Jan. 19, sitting across the street from the presidential palace in the labyrinthine former headquarters of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

“We have a clear road map to follow,” Mr. Radev said. “Staying in the E.U. and staying in NATO. But at the same time, we have a deep historical relationship with Russia.”



Radev met with Putin in 2019 at the St Petersburg International Economic Forum, where Radev thanked Putin's Russia for their partnership in the energy sector and emphasized the importance of "rich traditions" in science, culture, education and tourism.



NEWS

Main page → News

Meeting with President of Bulgaria Rumen Radev

Vladimir Putin met with President of the Republic of Bulgaria Rumen Radev at the Konstantin Palace. The meeting was held as part of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum.

Interaction in the energy sector (energy resources account for 75 percent of exports from Russia to Bulgaria) was one of the key topics of discussion. Cooperation between the two countries, which mark the 140th anniversary of establishing diplomatic relations this year, in other areas, in particular, in culture and education, was also discussed.

President of Russia Vladimir Putin: Mr President, colleagues,

Welcome to St Petersburg. Mr President, I am very pleased to see you again.

First of all, I would like to say that relations between Russia and Bulgaria are gradually being restored. We see small, but steady growth in trade which increased 2.8 percent in the first quarter.

In general, in terms of absolute figures, we could have achieved much more, of course, but the good part is that relations at the government and parliament levels have now become more active and the intergovernmental commission has resumed its work.

All this is a good enough reason to believe that we are using untapped opportunities to step up our relations across almost all areas.



President of Bulgaria Rumen Radev (retranslated): Thank you, Mr President.

Ladies and gentlemen, first of all, I would like to thank you for your invitation to visit the Russian Federation once again and to take part in the St Petersburg International Economic Forum.

Mr President, this is our second meeting over such a short time. This sends out a clear message about new dynamics in our bilateral relations, which rest on profound historical, cultural and spiritual ties. This shows that both sides would like to develop these relations vigorously, constructively and on a mutually beneficial basis.

In addition, our countries maintain extremely good relations at the level of governments and parliaments. As you know, Bulgaria is a member of the European Union and NATO, but this does not preclude the development of intensive relations with the Russian Federation even in this complicated situation and in these conditions.

I believe that constructive dialogue and cooperation are key to a peaceful, prosperous and thriving Europe.

We maintain extremely good relations that have rich traditions in science, culture, education and tourism.

We are strategic partners in the energy sector, and we have the required potential for deepening cooperation. As you know, we have purchased two Russian reactors, which means that Russia has a niche in the future construction of a nuclear power plant, regardless of who wins the tender and becomes the strategic investor.

We also maintain a long-time partnership in gas deliveries and transit. I would like to inform you of the following fact in some detail: Bulgaria continues to modernise and expand its gas transportation system, and there are plans to set up a gas distribution centre and a gas exchange. Interconnectors with our neighbours are being built.

In reality, Russia had been pumping money into anti-US and anti-NATO parties in Bulgaria since at least 2007 (in reality, probably much longer):



Russian Economic War: How Putin's Dirty Money Corrupted the West

Pekka Kallioniemi assesses the Kremlin's effective use of energy and financial dependency as part of its playbook shaping European politics

<https://bylinetimes.com/2023/01/20/russian-economic-war-how-putins-dirty-money-corr...>

Russian money was used to control key politicians, media and the finance sector, and in the energy sector they provided cheap gas and oil via Dutch offshore companies. All this has led to a strong anti-Ukraine bloc in Bulgaria - in a 2022 European Parliament barometer,...

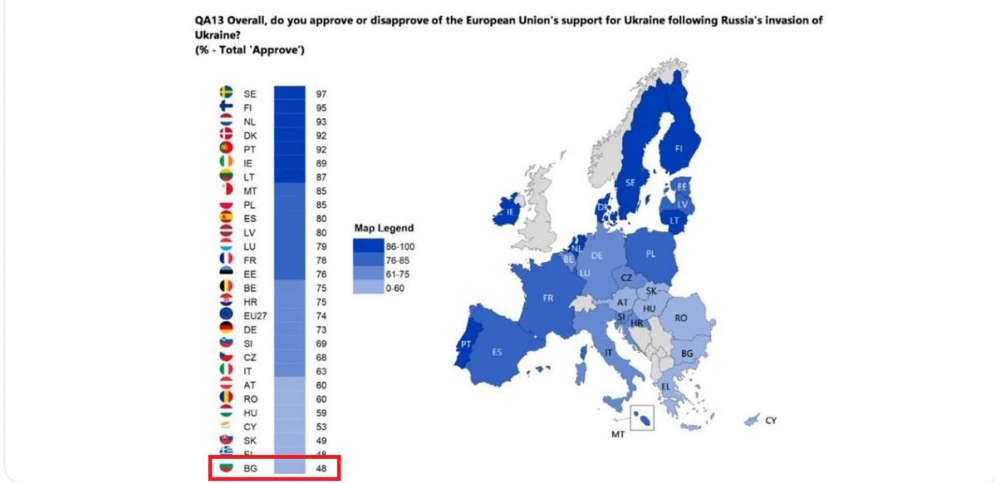
11/22



...48% of Bulgarian respondents were for the EU support for Ukraine and sanctions against Russia - the lowest in EU. They were also most dissatisfied with EU's collaboration on the matter.

12/22

More than half of the population approve of the EU's support for Ukraine in 24 Member States



Another Bulgarian pro-Russian, far-right and ultranationalist party Revival has made several attacks against their opponents, including covering EU offices in Sofia with red paint, physically blocked MPs in parliament, threatened people at Pride parade, ...

13/22





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SUNDAY
JULY 30, 2023
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Home / Bulgaria / "Vazrazhdane" again provoked chaos in the parliament and managed to interrupt its work

"Vazrazhdane" again provoked chaos in the parliament and managed to interrupt its work

Simona Kosnadinova

21 June 7, 2023 3:59 p.m



Sharing

The work of the National Assembly becomes hostage to the aggressive outbursts of the leader of "Vazrazhdane" and his deputies. On Wednesday, the session of the parliament was again terminated ahead of schedule precisely for this reason. The tactic of the pro-Russian party is clearly to escalate the tension in the parliament and outside, create an impression of chaos and thus discredit the work of the legislative and executive power.

Unlike last week, this time there were no physical clashes, but Kostadin Kostadinov and his men managed to prevent Yavor Bozhankov from "Continuing Change-Democratic Bulgaria" (PP-DB) from speaking from the parliamentary rostrum. This happened minutes after [the MPs from "Vazrazhdane" made it possible for Delyan Peevski](#), the MP from DPS, sanctioned under the global "Magnitsky" law, to become part of the parliamentary committee on constitutional issues.

Yavor Bozhankov from PP-DB asked for the floor to explain why he voted "against" the proposal for Peevski. As soon as he went to the podium, however, deputies from "Vazrazhdane" surrounded him and began to prevent him from speaking, and he took out his phone and started

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- The work of the National Assembly was blocked for 3 hours due to overplaying with procedural gripes
21.07.2023 14:34
- PP-DB condemned the language of hate and asked why Radev was silent about the behavior of "Vazrazhdane"
17.07.2023 15:20
- The prosecutor's office

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UPDATED European Commission Sofia Offices Vandalized by Protesters

VALENTIN EVSTATIEV



BTA photo

SOFIA, 21.05.2023 20:33 | UPDATED 21.05.2023 23:01 (BTA)

The building of the European Commission Representation in Sofia was splashed with red paint on Sunday during a protest of Vazrazhdane supporters who were joined by MPs of the party.

Vazrazhdane wrote on their Facebook page earlier in the day that people would gather in front of the European Commission building in Sofia to protest at "Brussels' interference in Bulgaria's internal affairs".

The demonstration blocked traffic on G. S. Rakovski Street in the city centre for half an hour in the afternoon.

Police presence was tightened in the area.

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29.07.2023 17:09 [BULGARIA](#)

Revised Penal Code Stiffens Penalties for Causing Death by Dangerous Driving

...and called for Putin's enemies to be annihilated without any actual consequences. At the same time, factories producing weapons to Ukraine had chain of mysterious explosions which were never really investigated properly.

Home / News / Politics / The Capitals / Explosions at Bulgarian arms factory set to export to Ukraine

Explosions at Bulgarian arms factory set to export to Ukraine

By Krassen Nikolov | EURACTIV.bg Est. 4min

Jun 26, 2023

Content-Type: News

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S&D - Socialists and Democrats in the Eur



The warehouses that exploded Sunday were targeted a year ago in an instance of sabotage. [Shutterstock/Stoyan Yotov]

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Ammunition warehouses of the Bulgarian arms company EMKO exploded early on Sunday near Karnobat, a few days after Bulgaria announced it would join the coalition to supply shells to Ukraine.

The warehouses that exploded Sunday were targeted a year ago in an instance of sabotage.

They are owned by one of the most famous Bulgarian arms manufacturers and traders, Emilian Gebrev, who, eight years ago, was the victim of an assassination attempt with a substance similar to Novichok, for which the Bulgarian prosecutor's office accused Russian military intelligence agents.

"This is an inexplicable strong fire at midnight. The most important thing is that no one got hurt. We cannot know what happened; we still do not know what caused the explosions last year, let alone

It's also worth mentioning, that many of Bulgaria's most powerful crime lords hail from the Communist-era, Moscow-linked security services. These often pro-Russian oligarchs control the country's national assets, siphon EU funds, and smuggle drugs, arms and people.

15/22

At heart, Denkov's suggestions that the authorities have never looked too hard into cases like Revival and the factory blasts expose the extent of Russian sway in Bulgarian institutions. Many of Bulgaria's most powerful kingpins hail from the Communist-era, Moscow-linked security services. These shadowy oligarchs seized prime national assets after the fall of the Berlin Wall and created organized crime networks that are still pervasive, siphoning off EU funds, running extortion rackets, and smuggling drugs, arms and people.

US Sanctions Bulgarian Oligarchs, Public Officials for Corruption

Published: 04 June 2021 WRITTEN BY LARA DIHMIS



The United States sanctioned three Bulgarian oligarchs and 64 related entities for their “extensive roles” in corruption, and for “abusing” public institutions for profit, the U.S. Department of Treasury said on Wednesday.



Demonstrators gathered in Sofia in 2013 to protest against Peevski's appointment to DANS, Bulgaria's state security agency. (Photo: Aleksa, Wikimedia, License)

The latest designations constitute the “largest Global Magnitsky action taken on a single day in the history of the program” which targets perpetrators of serious human rights abuse and corruption around the world, a Treasury [statement](#) announcing the sanctions added.

One of the sanctioned oligarchs is media magnate and former Bulgarian Member of Parliament Deylan Peevski, who has been the subject of several investigations by OCCRP partner and Bulgarian investigative journalism outlet Bivol. One of the stories [uncovered](#) his US\$700 million offshore empire.

Peevski was found to have “regularly engaged in corruption, using influence peddling and bribes to protect himself from public scrutiny and exert control over key institutions and sectors in Bulgarian society,” the Treasury statement said.

“In September 2019, Peevski actively worked to negatively influence the Bulgarian political process in the October 27, 2019 municipal elections. Peevski negotiated with politicians to provide them with political support and positive media coverage in return for receiving protection from criminal

investigations,” it explained.

Also sanctioned is the former deputy chief of Bulgaria's State Agency for Technical Operations, Ilko Dimitrov Zhelyazkov, who worked as a frontman for Peevski to, among other things, bribe government officials in exchange for information and loyalty.

“Peevski and Zhelyazkov also had an official placed in a leadership position to embezzle funds to them in 2019,” the statement said, adding that “Zhelyazkov also blackmailed a potential Bulgarian government minister with criminal charges from Bulgaria's Prosecutor General's office if the minister did not provide him further assistance upon appointment.”

Bulgarian oligarch Vassil Kroumov Bojkov also joins the list for bribing government officials, including an unnamed “current political leader.” He has previously been charged in Bulgaria for “leading an organized crime group, coercion, attempted bribery of an official, and tax evasion,” but in Dubai has managed to evade extradition, despite an international arrest warrant that remains active.

In a separate [statement](#), the U.S. State Department announced more sanctions on five Bulgarian public officials, including Deputy Minister of the Economy Alexandre Manolev who Bivol [found](#) abused European Union funds to build a villa used privately by Manolev and his family.

Perhaps partly due to this resistance, Bulgaria sent their first official military aid package to Ukraine as late as Dec 2022. Their government, however, had secretly supplied Ukraine with fuel and ammunition during the first months of the war.



Europe

Bulgaria to send its first military aid to Ukraine

Reuters

December 9, 2022 2:44 PM GMT+2 · Updated 8 months ago



Firefighters work to put out a fire at a residential building hit by a Russian military strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Bakhmut, Donetsk region, Ukraine December 7, 2022. REUTERS/Yevhen Titov

SOFIA, Dec 9 (Reuters) - Bulgaria will send its first military aid to Ukraine since the Russian invasion after parliament on Friday approved a list of arms drawn up by the interim government.

It had been one of the few EU countries not to send aid after the Russia-friendly Socialist party, a coalition partner in the previous government, blocked a previous proposal in May.

The list of arms is classified, but government officials have said Sofia would mainly send light weaponry and ammunition.

POLITICS | EUROPE

How Bulgaria secretly armed Ukraine

Alexander Andreev
01/21/2023

Bulgaria's former government quietly supplied Ukraine with weapons soon after Russia invaded last year, according to an investigation by the German daily Die Welt.



Bulgarian Prime Minister Kiril Petkov with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kiev in April 2022

Image: SERGEI SUPINSKY/AFP/Getty Images

Did Bulgaria "secretly save Ukraine"? That's what conservative German daily *Die Welt* claimed in an article from January 18. After Russia invaded the country on February 24, 2022, the government in Sofia began a "secret strategy" as soon as four days later, when then pro-Western Bulgarian Prime Minister Kiril Petkov visited the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv.

By the time he made the trip, the Bulgarian government had already initiated a procedure for comprehensive military aid to Ukraine, according to *Die Welt*.

"To avoid official arms deliveries, ammunition and armaments entered Ukraine indirectly. That's how Bulgaria intermittently covered a third of the Ukrainian army's needs," reported journalist Philip Volkmann-Schluck, who also published an adapted version of the piece in *Die Welt*'s English-language sister publication *Politico*, both of which are owned by German publisher Axel Springer.

In Jul 2023, Bulgaria sent their largest military aid package to Ukraine. The package included 100 armoured vehicles from the country's stockpile. In Dec 2022, Radev had refused to send old Soviet S-300 anti-aircraft systems in exchange for receiving modern US air systems.

Home / News / Politics / The Capitals / Bulgaria sends largest military aid package to Ukraine

Bulgaria sends largest military aid package to Ukraine

By Krassen Nikolov | EURACTIV.bg | Est. 3min

Jul 14, 2023

Content-Type: News

EURACTIV Mem

S&D - Socialists and Dem



A USSR-made BTR of the type Bulgaria will donate to Ukraine. [Tamas Vasvari/EPA/EFE]

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Languages: Deutsch

Print, Email, WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn

The largest one-time military aid package - which includes 100 armoured vehicles from the Bulgarian police stockpile, mostly infantry carrier vehicles - was sent to Ukraine in what was Sofia's first official decision to help Kyiv with heavy equipment, Bulgarian authorities announced on Thursday.

The military equipment was bought 40 years ago to carry out the so-called Revival process - the totalitarian regime's attempt to forcefully assimilate the Bulgarian Turks by changing their names, which led to the exile of more than 300,000 Bulgarian citizens of Turkish origin to Turkey nearly 40 years ago.

"This is armoured military equipment purchased during the Revival Process and has never been used. At the same time, it generates costs for storage and maintenance," said Ivaylo Mirchev from

In May 2023, Bulgarian protesters took it to the streets to rally against Radev. They published a statement that said that "The president has long shown that he does not work for the benefit of Bulgarian society and for Bulgarian interests, but for Russian ones."

NEWS

Bulgarian President's 'Pro-Russia Stance' Sparks Protest

Svetoslav Todorov | Sofia | BIRN | May 30, 2023 17:15

Protesters will take to the streets of Sofia, claiming that President Rumen Radev has been working in Russia's interests by undermining Bulgarian democracy and hampering the formation of a government.



📷 Bulgaria's President Rumen Radev arrives for a special meeting of the European Council in Brussels, Belgium, 09 February 2023.
Photo: EPA-EFE/STEPHANIE LECOCQ

On Tuesday evening, pro-EU protesters will rally near the presidency and the Ministerial Council in Sofia, accusing President Rumen Radev of undermining the parliamentary system and hampering efforts to form a government after a two years of repeated elections.

"The president has long shown that he does not work for the benefit of Bulgarian society and for Bulgarian interests, but for Russian ones," said a statement by protest organisers Vera Staevska and Katerina Bogdanova.

"We won't allow Bulgaria to become Belarus," they added.

After opposing political forces We Continue the Change and GERB agreed on a cabinet last week, negotiations on forming an administration after Bulgaria's most recent inconclusive

On 6 Jun 2023, Bulgaria's new PM Nikolai Denkov has promised to take on Russian interference in the country, and naturally he's been confronted by president Radev who even refused to shake his hand at an official ceremony where the coalition and their mandate was presented.

Home / News / Politics / Elections / Bulgarian president hostile to coalition set to try form government

Bulgarian president hostile to coalition set to try form government

By Krassen Nikolov | EURACTIV Bulgaria | Est. 4min

May 30, 2023



President Rumen Radev holds a folder containing the mandate to form a government, which he handed to Nikolay Denkov after telling him that the mandate is "already discredited". (Screenshot, Dnevnik)

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Languages: Deutsch

Print

President Rumen Radev displayed hostility regarding the coalition "We Continue the Change-Democratic Bulgaria" as he handed them the mandate to try to form a government on Monday (29 May), as the constitution requires.

At the ceremony, Radev did not shake hands with the candidate for prime minister Nikolay Denkov and advised him not to fulfil the mandate to form a government, as this mandate was "already discredited".

Professor Nikolay Denkov was chosen as a candidate for prime minister because of his non-conflict political profile, which aims to attract the support of Borisov's party – GERB.

Bulgarian PM: No more 'Eyes Wide Shut' on Russian interference

Nikolai Denkov faces an uphill battle as he seeks to push the authorities to take action against the Kremlin's activities in Bulgaria.



BY NICOLAS CAMUT AND CHRISTIAN OLIVER

JULY 5, 2023 | 4:00 AM CET | © 6 MINUTES READ

When it comes to the war in Ukraine, Radev has been blaming everyone else but the Kremlin. In Jul 2023, he said that Ukraine was "shying away from diplomatic solutions to the conflict," continuing that "Ukraine insists on fighting this War" ...

Zelenskyy mauls Bulgarian president over his opposition to arming Ukraine

Bulgaria's President Rumen Radev is equivocal toward NATO and hostile to giving Kyiv weapons.



"God forbid some tragedy should befall you and you should be in my place," said Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky | Nikolay Doychinov/AFP via Getty Images

BY CHRISTIAN OLIVER AND VERONIKA MELKOZEROVA

JULY 6, 2023 | 4:31 PM CET | 3 MINUTES READ

... and that it's Europe that's paying the bill. For some reason he forgot to mention the party that started this genocidal war in Ukraine.

In the beginning of Jul 2023, Radev met with President Zelensky in Sofia, where they also discussed about the war in Ukraine.

EURACTIV The Capitals The Brief Ukraine Intelligence

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Home News Politics The Capitals / Bulgarian president accuses Ukraine of not wanting to stop Russian war

Bulgarian president accuses Ukraine of not wanting to stop Russian war

By Krassen Nikolov | EURACTIV.bg Est. 3min Jul 17, 2023

Content-Type: News



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S&D - Socialists and Democrats in the European ...

Radev, who told his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy that Ukraine was shying away from a diplomatic solution to the conflict, is known for his pro-Kremlin narrative and for being against sending military aid to Ukraine. [EPA-EFE/DUMITRU DORU]

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Ukraine insists on continuing waging war with Russia, Bulgaria's pro-Russian President, Rumen Radev, said on Friday – a statement that saw a quick response from the Ukrainian Embassy in Sofia, although they did not mention the president directly.

During the meeting, Radev's pro-Kremlin position was clear from the start, stating that he "doesn't accept the provision of ammunition to Ukraine", and that Ukraine should negotiate for peace with Russia.

22/22



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