

June 7, 2016

## The Worst is Over

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Things in Ukraine keep looking up. Ukrainian singer Jamala's victory at the Eurovision 2016 international song contest, Nadiya Savchenko's release from a Russian jail cell, and dozens of other pieces of positive news have all helped boost public morale. After two years of hardship, Ukrainians are still afraid to believe that the worst has passed -- but the recent stream of encouraging news leaves less and less room for pessimism.

The appointment of Yuriy Lutsenko as general prosecutor is one encouraging development, in our view. The decision to change the law specifically for one person (now a person who lacks a legal education can become the general prosecutor, whereas before, only those with the proper educational credentials qualified) is fraught with questions and potential issues. But we must admit that Lutsenko is much better at the job than all of his predecessors. His first move in office was to dismiss all of the deputy general prosecutors, who have rather dubious reputations -- which at least proves that he's not the disaster his critics warned he would be.

The importance of the new judicial reforms can hardly be overestimated >>>

UKRAINE

