

President of Ukraine and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria discussed prospects of cooperation between the countries

At the meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria Sebastian Kurz, President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko has discussed the issue of further assistance from Austria to the settlement of problems in Donbas, the European integration of Ukraine and the implementation of reforms in our country.

The Head of State has informed on the situation in Donbas and thanked Austria for humanitarian assistance to the region.

The parties have discussed the opportunity of sending peacekeeping mission to Ukraine. Petro Poroshenko has emphasized that the given issue was important for the establishment of constant peace in Donbas.

The President has noted that the authorities of Ukraine were focusing not only on security issues, but also on the implementation of reforms - establishment of the rule of law, holding of judicial reform, improvement of investment climate and struggle against corruption. The Head of State has invited Austrian businessmen to invest in Ukraine and take part in the International conference on the support to Ukraine scheduled for April.

The Head of State also expects Austria to ratify the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the EU as soon as possible.

Petro Poroshenko has drawn special attention to the importance of full coordination in the issue of returning financial assets illegally removed from Ukraine.

The President has conveyed the invitation to Federal President of Austria Heinz Fischer to visit Ukraine.

The Austrian Foreign Minister has informed on the plans of Austria to increase the number of its OSCE SMM members from 17 to 30.

According to him, Austria is willing to continue programs of humanitarian assistance for IDPs from Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Particularly, he has informed on the decision of the Austrian Government to increase funding of humanitarian assistance up to EUR 500,000.

"I had a meeting with Austrian business and community in Ukraine. They confirmed their intention to leave their assets in Ukraine. I think it is a positive signal," Sebastian Kurz said. According to him, Austrian business sees positive prospects of development in Ukraine.