

While the Interfax headline on Martynenko proved inaccurate, the Burisma tale of getting a court to shut down a PGO investigation noted below would amount to nearly the same mechanism - rich connected businessman politician seeks to use the court/judge of unknown reputation to close an investigation of a business with a dodgy reputation.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Friday, January 13, 2017 4:12 PM
To: Kent, George P; Yovanovitch, Marie L

Subject: RE: Herbst heads up - Atlantic Council to take Burisma money. (SBU)

In case you didn't see Burisima's extensive press release yesterday. Matches arguments Karen made when she visited in December. This and Atlantic Council support are part of a full court press by Zlochevskyi to clear his name.

PRESS RELEASE: THE BURISMA GROUP COOPERATED WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND PAID IN FULL ALL OUTSTANDING FEES

International Energy Group Burisma with assets in Ukraine announces that all legal proceedings and pending criminal allegations against its President Nikolay Zlochevskyi and operating companies of Burisma Group are fully closed.

The decision to fully close all pending legal proceedings and criminal allegations was the result of many months of full cooperation between the Office of the General Prosecutor and the legal team representing the Burisma Group. Further, the Burisma Group agreed that should an investigation determine that the Burisma Group owed outstanding taxes and/or fees that it would, without appeal, pay any and all outstanding taxes, fines and fees.

Following the Burisma Group's full cooperation and willingness to submit to a thorough investigation and its findings, the Pechersk District Court of Kiev obliged the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine to close the case against Mr. Zlochevskyi and remove him from the wanted list. As a result of the Court's decision the PGO fulfilled the relevant court order. The Ukrainian court decision is fully consistent with the decision taken by the U.K. court on January 21, 2015 and expert's opinion based on the results of forensic and economic expertise, dated February 6, 2015. After considering Nikolay Zlocheskyi's activities in Ukraine from 2002 to 2014, the British court ruled in favor of Nikolay Zlochevskyi and obliged the UK Serious Fraud Office (the SFO) to pay the defendant's costs. Moreover, as a result of the investigation, Burisma agreed to pay UAH180 millions of tax liabilities.

Over the last two years alone, operating companies of Burisma Group, paid more than UAH 5 bln. in tax liabilities to the budgets of all levels. Burisma is one of the top taxpayers of Ukraine