

Anna M. Kovalenko, Kyiv, Ukraine

Head of NGO 39th Sotnia (Feb 2014 - 2022)

After the Revolution of Dignity where I was the commander, I organized the NGO 39th Sotnia. I focused on supporting the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the war with the Russian Federation since 2014 as well as supporting the families of soldiers, their mothers, wives and children. We did the projects promoting the active participation of women in civic and political life, gender equality and anti-discrimination. Some NGO members have been fighting as part of combat brigades of the AFU (since 2014 until now). Since February 24, 2022, we have been collecting and transmitting accurate data on movements and the accumulation of enemy's military equipment and passing it to the AFU units. We created special informational-educational booklets for civilians and spread them to the media. We taught Ukrainian citizens in a safe and correct way to precisely document war crimes against civilians and transferred data to the Prosecutor General's Office. Being an expert of defense and security and having experience in the national top-management, I effectively and efficiently built up, coordinated and advanced the horizontal interaction between the state institutions and both national and international NGOs, helped civilians and military forces to find common language and successfully communicate with each other. We cooperated with various NGOs and searched for any other humanitarian aid both for civilians and the AFU and Territorial Defense units. We consulted the international organizations and continued coordinating them about the locations to be supplied urgently.

Head of Chernihiv Oblast Administration (2020-2021)

First woman chief of Oblast Administration on Volodymyr Zelenskyy's team. Established constructive dialogue between local and central governments against the background of national decentralization of executive power. Oversaw rise of temp of economic growth to reach 4th place among oblasts nationally, alongside significant reduction to risk of corruption on public procurement. I have developed and advanced the regional (oblast's) territorial defense and organized the training with a record-breaking attendance of 112 percent.

Deputy Minister of Community and Territorial Development (2020)

Responsible for development of regional development policy: established dialogue with security and defense agencies in context of decentralization of executive powers, head of State Committee for the resolution of emergency situations, developed a plan for regional development for 2021-202.

Deputy Chief of the Presidential Office for National Security and Defense, (2019-2020)

Developed sectoral reform strategies for the President's consideration in consultation with the Ukrainian and foreign experts. Also organized the interaction and coordination with the national security and defense sectors, such as ensuring and implementing the President of Ukraine's control over the activities of the AFU and other military units, the regular monitoring of the problematic issues in those sections as well as preparing the alternative solutions. In the country, the reform of Decentralization was established at the final stage. The President of Ukraine assigned me to deal with this direction and my candidacy was submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to be appointed as the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Regions.

Parliamentary work - 2019

Elected to the Parliament of Ukraine the party list of the Servant of the People (No. 35) 2019. Member of the Parliamentary Committee for Social and Veterans' Affairs. Renounced parliamentary mandate to serve as deputy chief of the Office of the President.

Advisor to the Head of the State Service for Special Communications and Information Protection (Feb 2018 - 2019)

Assist in coordination of international relations

Advisor to the Committee on National Security and Defense of the Verkhovna Rada (Jul 2017 - 2019)

Follow committee discussions, provide advice as requested by the Secretariat of the Committee

George Kennan Fellow, Wilson Center, Washington D.C. (Jan - May 2017)

Wrote comparative study of democratic and civilian control of the security and defense sector in USA and Ukraine, based on interviews with representatives from the State Department, Department of Defense, Congress and Senate, etc. Organized and participated in seminars and roundtable discussions at CSIS, Capitol Hill, the Institute of Peace, John Hopkins University, etc. Gave interviews to Voice of America, CSIS podcast.

Head of the Project, Kyiv - Mohyla Business School (Oct 2016 - May 2018)

At kmbs I coordinate relations with foreign and Ukrainian government agencies to support professional development programmes for officials in the security and defense sector.

Co-founder of the Board of the Justice Party (May 2015- June 2016)

I joined former Head of the Security Service of Ukraine Valentyn Nalyvaichenko in establishing an anti-corruption movement in the Spring of 2015. I subsequently joined the board of the political party *Justice*, where I am responsible for gender and youth policy and campaigns.

Advisor to the Minister of Information Policy (Dec 2014 - Aug 2015)

Member of the committee responsible for restoring television broadcasting in the area of the anti-terrorist operation.

Independent Candidate in Parliamentary Elections (2014)

Finished second in the highly competitive constituency of Chernigov (200 km north of Kyiv) to a local businessman, after mounting a successful legal challenge to the spurious refusal of the Central Elections Committee to register me as a candidate.

Advisor to the Minister of Defense (Mar 2014-Oct 2015)

Established the Center for the Coordination of Operational Assistance, a “call-center” that provided an interface between Ukraine’s military and security agencies and the volunteer battalions and organizations providing logistical support to the front in Eastern Ukraine. Advised on the establishment of a call center run by the Security Service of Ukraine for inquiries relating to missing persons and prisoners held by separatist forces. Contributed to the development of programs of reform and cooperation between the Ministry of Defense and NATO, the OSCE, the US and other foreign Embassies.

Participant in the Revolution of Dignity (Nov 2013 – Mar 2014)

My involvement began with the production of daily news broadcasts for Radio Era, and shifted to active participation in the Self-Defense Forces, including patrols and planning for the defense of administrative buildings. I became deputy head of the 11th Sotnya and in mid-January 2014 I established the 39th “Women’s” Sotnya, with over 150 members.

EDUCATION

2013 Master of Arts, Kyiv National I. K. Karpenko-Kary Theatre, Cinema and Television University, 2013

2017 - Present, PhD candidate, National Academy for Public Administration under the President of Ukraine

FAMILY

Husband - Ruslan Khomchak, Colonel General of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. We have a daughter Mariia.

PUBLISHING and POLICY ANALYSIS

Deputy Director, Public Relations for Antikvar Publishing House (2008 - Present)

Produced television journal broadcasts for 112 Channel

13.09 Canada's military assistance to Ukraine, interview with Jill

06.09 25 year anniversary of military intelligence in Ukraine

30.08 Reform of the security and defence sector, interview with Dr. Coyt Hargus

23.08 Military parades in Ukraine and the world

16.08 Women in the Armed Forces of Ukraine

09.08 Defensive weapons from the USA for Ukraine

26.07 Cooperation between the AFU and its international partners

Institute of Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, Kyiv (Jan 2016 - Mar 2017)

Co-author of Report on Ukraine’s Implementation of the Annual National Programme 2016-2017. Wrote section on reforms to security and defence sector, participated in roundtable discussions and presentation of results

Columnist for *Censor.net.ua* on security and defence reforms (Jan 2016 - Present)
<http://censor.net.ua/blogs/all/page/1/category/0/interval/5/author/336764/sortby/date>

Producer and host of "Agent Kontrol", a television journal series covering Parliamentary elections (Dec 2015 – 2018)

Program host on Radio Era, Ukrlife TV, STB television station (2008-2013)

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

<https://gordonua.com/ukr/publications/golova-chernigovskoi-oblasty-kovalenko-vpershe-prokomentuvala-svoyu-vidstavku-1564734.html>

https://lb.ua/news/2020/05/05/456754_anna_kovalenko_cherkaskiy_keys.html

<https://gordonua.com/ukr/publications/golova-chernigovskoi-oblasty-kovalenko-vpershe-prokomentuvala-svoyu-vidstavku-1564734.html>

https://lb.ua/news/2019/08/27/435591_narodna_deputatka_vid_slugi_narodu.html

<https://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-elections/2740354-anna-kovalenko-radnica-trohmistriv-oboroni-kandidat-u-narodni-deputati.html>

"Multilateral Joint Commission Requires Coordinated Approach to Defence Reforms," *Censor.net.ua* (14.04.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/384141/mokk_trebuetskoordinirovannosti_reform_oboronnogo_sektora

"Western Assistance to the Armed Forces. How Does It Work?" *Censor.net.ua* (09.12.15)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/364400/pomosch_zapada_armii_kak_eto_rabotaet

"Defence Reform or 'Putting Out Fires'?" *Censor.net.ua* (18.01.16) http://censor.net.ua/resonance/369609/mo_reformy_ili_tushenie_pojarov

"SBU: Reforms Cannot Be Delayed!" *Censor.net.ua* (12.02.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/373783/sbu_reformirovat_nelzya_otstavit

"What Roadmap for the Reform of the Defence Forces?" *Censor.net.ua* (19.03.16)

http://ua.censor.net.ua/resonance/379887/za_yakoyu_mapoyu_zdiyisnyuvatymutsya_reformy_syl_oborony

"Who is to Blame for Ineffective Defence Reforms?" *Censor.net.ua* (13.12.15)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/364924/kto_vinovat_v_neeffektivnosti_armeyiskih_reform

"NATO Deals with Radioactive Waste in Ukraine." *Censor.net.ua* (18.12.15)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/365708/v_nato_vzylis_za_radioaktivnye_mogilniki_v_ukraine

"What Should the Ministry of Defence and General Staff do with \$300 million? Censor.net.ua (08.01.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/368048/chto_doljny_sdelat_mo_i_gsh_chtoby_poluchit_300 mln_doll_ssha

"Parliamentary Committee on National Security and Defence Hears Report on How Ministers of Defence Destroyed the Armed Forces" Censor.net.ua (19.05.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/389206/zasedanie_komiteta_vr_po_natsbezopasnosti_doklad_o_tom_kak_ministry_oborony_razvalivali_vs_u

Director of NATO Liaison Office Alexander Vinnikov: "Our Efforts are Concentrated on Systemic Change" Censor.net.ua (04.04.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/382580/direktor_ofisa_svyazi_nato_v_ukraine_aleksandr_vinnikov_nashi_usiliya_sosredotocheny_na_siste_mnyh_podhodah

"Interview with Ann-Kristin Bjergene: 'Norway Does Not Make Special Conditions for Women Officers. We Simply Provide Good Conditions for Everybody' Censor.net.ua (09.06.16)

http://ua.censor.net.ua/resonance/392501/u_norvegiyi_nemaye_osoblyvyh_pryvileiy_dlya_jinokofitseriv_u_nas_prosto_komfortni_umovy_dlya_profesiyinogo

"Leah Wavro: 'Transparency International is Strengthening its Activities in Ukraine on Defence Matters' Censor.net.ua (21.03.16)

http://ua.censor.net.ua/resonance/379872/liya_vavro_transparency_international_posylyuye_svoyu_diyalnist_v_ukrayini_z_pytan_oborony_i_bezpeky

"Director of the Centre for Information and Documentation Natalia Nemyliwska: 'Russian Propaganda Has a Negative Effect on Ukraine' Censor.net.ua (08.04.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/383310/direktor_tsentru_nformats_ta_dokumentats_nato_natalya_nemilvska_rosyiska_propaganda_vdvolk_a_vd_spravjnh

"Parliamentary Control over Special Services" Censor.net.ua (02.03.16)

http://ua.censor.net.ua/resonance/377003/parlamentskyyi_kontrol_za_spetsslujbamy

"Security Service of Ukraine: Reforms Must Continue" Censor.net.ua (12.02.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/373783/sbu_reformirovat_nelzya_otstavit

Dmitry Tymchuk: 'Many People in the Ministry of Defence Pretend to be Patriots and Make Money. By Financing Certain Projects, NATO Undermines Reform in General' Censor.net.ua (27.01.16)

http://censor.net.ua/resonance/371262/dmitriyi_tymchuk_mnogo_lyudeyi_v_mo_prikryvayas_patriotizmom_prosto_zarabatyvayut_dengi_finansiruya

