



<b>Event</b>	Interview
<b>Interviewee</b>	<u>Mr. Borys Kolesnikov</u> Vice Prime Minister Responsible for the EURO 2012
<b>Date</b>	September 2010

**UEFA Executive Committee has announced EURO 2012 match schedule and confirmed Kyiv city as a venue for the final match of the Championship. Does it mean that all talks around Ukraine becoming or not the host of the EURO 2012 are closed now? Will Ukraine manage to get itself prepared to host the Championship?**

Absolutely. And I sincerely want to congratulate everybody with this event. UEFA's decision is final.

It is a contribution of each Ukrainian football supporter; each investor that invested into a hotel infrastructure development; on top of that I want to point out a big personal role in this success of Mr. Rinat Akhmetov who has developed Donbass Arena at own expense and Mr. Olexandr Yaroslavskiy that has built Kharkiv Airport. And the President of Ukraine Football Federation Mr. Grigoriy Surkis devoted lots of energy to make Ukraine get its right to host the EURO 2012. Three years have already past since that time, and I can positively state now that we are ready to host the Championship. Ukraine keeps its promises given to UEFA. Over summer months we have overcome lag problems in construction projects and got back to the schedule.

**Will Olympiyskiy Stadium in Kiev become a second class compared to Donbass Arena?**

These two arenas are of different types! Donbass Arena is a pure football stadium that has been built from a scratch, which enabled an opportunity to introduce number of innovations there. And Olympiyskiy Stadium, which is currently under reconstruction, is being adapted to host not only football matches, but a number of different other sport activities too. Olympiyskiy will have a large public catering area, as well as a shopping zone. Olympiyskiy Stadium will become an outstanding arena!

**We will have stadiums. But will we have enough time to upgrade our road infrastructure?**

No matter how much it will cost us, but we will for sure finish construction of circular roads around all four cities of Ukraine that will host EURO 2012, as well as develop roads connecting these city centers with airports, and roads connecting cities between themselves.

**Will these budget expenses for the EURO 2012 be repaid?**

At the end, Ukraine will definitely become the winner!

On State budget expenses we build 2 stadiums, Kiev Olympiyskiy and a new Lviv one. As we didn't succeed in finding a private investor to finance the new Lviv Stadium construction, the State had to allocate \$ 700 million for



this purpose. And with Olimpiyskiy Stadium it was clear from the very beginning, as this stadium is ranked as a National – it should be developed at national expense.

Everything else – airports, runways, highways – we required already time ago, so construction of these facilities was planned not only because of the upcoming EURO 2012.

All new hotels are being constructed at the expense of private investors.

Today citizens of Ukraine are employed in a number of construction projects, and after these facilities would be commissioned – people of Ukraine will operate them! Thus, we get guaranteed workplaces. Isn't it repayment?

All facilities that are being developed for the EURO 2012 will remain after the Championship to serve needs of citizens of Ukraine and our international tourists. And isn't it repayment?

To develop a high quality public infrastructure we are required to do big capital investments. There is no other way to get the infrastructure. For that we need to invest.

*Source: Factly and komentarii, 07 October 2010*