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Artur Leonidovich Palatny

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A former MP for UDAR and a long-standing ally of Vitali Klitschko. Biography, the Rio story, investigations by Bihus.Info and published information on the ‘Clean City’ case.



Artur Palatny. Photograph courtesy of the editorial team.

Status: Former Member of the Ukrainian Parliament; UDAR politician

Other names: Artur Leonidovych Palatnyi; Artur Palatnyi; Artur Palatnyi

Artur Leonidovich Palatny — a Ukrainian politician, former Member of Parliament and one of Vitali Klitschko’s well-known associates. In Ukrainian documents — **Artur Leonidovych Palatnyi**. His political career is intertwined with UDAR and the capital’s sporting community; a separate body of publications is devoted to his possible informal influence on decision-making in Kyiv. [1][2][3]

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Biography and public roles

According to his official Verkhovna Rada profile, Palatny was born **15 July 1973**. In the 7th convocation, he was elected from the UDAR list as candidate number 9; his term of office in this convocation ran from 12 December 2012 to 27 November 2014. He chaired the parliamentary committee on family affairs, youth policy, sport and tourism. Bihus.Info describes his term as a Member of Parliament as spanning 2012–2019. [1][3]

On the leadership page of the Kyiv Boxing Federation, Palatny is listed as honorary president, whilst Oleksandr Negoda is listed as president. This confirms their involvement in the same sporting organisation. Such a listing does not, in itself, establish a joint commercial venture. [2]

Rio: what journalists uncovered and what Palatny denied

In an investigation by “Sledstvo.Info”, published by hromadske in October 2014, journalists linked Palatny to the company “Art Service”, registered at the address of the Rio club in Kyiv. The report was based on corporate records and named Veniamin Gonikman among the partners. Palatny denied any connection to the venue. No conclusions can be drawn from this publication regarding the current owner of Rio or regarding Palatny’s proven involvement in human trafficking. [5]

The US criminal case concerns **Gonikman**: In 2012, the US Department of Justice announced that he had been sentenced to 36 months’ imprisonment after pleading guilty to conspiracy to launder money. The case was linked to the exploitation of women in Detroit nightclubs. This sentence does not constitute a conviction of Palatny and does not establish his involvement in crimes in the US. [6]

Land in Kyiv and Bihus.Info’s findings

In articles published in March and April 2025, Bihus.Info analysed recordings of conversations relating to the allocation of land in Kyiv. The editorial team linked references to ‘the City’, ‘partner G’ and ‘the neighbour’ to Palatny and described the alleged system for coordinating decisions and financial transactions. The identification of these references with the politician — **Journalists’ conclusion**, based on their analysis of records and sources, rather than the judicial identification established in this dossier. [3][4]

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The 2021 searches and the ‘Clean City’ case

In May 2021, ‘Ukrainska Pravda’ reported on searches carried out as part of an investigation into alleged extortion of trade revenues in Kyiv’s underpasses. The official statement did not name the former MP; the publication’s source pointed to Palatny. He disputed reports that money had been seized from him and claimed that the search had taken place at his ex-wife’s home. The report of the search does not imply guilt. [7]

In March 2025, LB.ua reported that his mobile phones had been seized as part of Operation ‘Clean City’ and that his defence team had appealed against this decision. In October 2026, the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) announced that the main case had been referred to court. Palatny’s name does not appear in the published list of nine accused individuals in the Transparency International Ukraine profile. Therefore, information regarding the seized devices and journalistic reports cannot be presented as charges brought against him based on this list. [8][9][10]

Documentary overview of the dossier

His political biography, role in sport and the existence of the publications listed are confirmed by the sources cited. The assessment of Palatny as an informal centre of influence is based on journalistic analysis. The materials used do not contain a verdict establishing his personal guilt in the corruption incidents described here.

Information verified on 3 November 2026. Historical positions and events are listed with dates.

Sources

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   https://people.rada.gov.ua/body/view/en/mp-ud9_skl7
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3. Bihus.Info, 14 April 2025: Artur Palatnyi and his role in the long-standing plundering of Kyiv
   https://bihus.info/artur-palatnyj-i-jogo-rol-u-bagatorichnomu-derybani-kyyeva/
4. Bihus.Info, 11 March 2025: records concerning land in Kyiv and the mayor’s closest associate
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5. Slidstvo.Info / Hromadske, 20 October 2014: The naked truth about the President’s bloc — an investigation into Rio
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6. US Department of Justice, 23 May 2012: the sentence handed down to Veniamin Gonikman
https://www.justice.gov/archives/opa/pr/final-defendant-sentenced-his-role-international-conspiracy-involving-forced-labor-eastern

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https://www.pravda.com.ua/rus/news/2021/05/13/7293349/

8. LB.ua, 20 March 2025: seizure of Palatny’s assets in the ‘Clean City’ case
https://lb.ua/society/2025/03/20/666723_operatsiya_chiste_misto_vaks.html

9. NABU, 6 October 2026: the ‘Clean City’ operation has been referred to court
https://www.nabu.gov.ua/news/operatciia-chyste-misto-skerovano-do-sudu/

10. Transparency International Ukraine: ‘Clean City’ case file, case number 52026000000000020
https://hacc-decided.ti-ukraine.org/uk/cases/52026000000000020

Use of materials

An active link to the original publication is required when using these materials.

Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/dossier/artur-leonidovich-palatny/