DOSSIER / EN

Dmitry Valeryevich Ponomarenko

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Dmitry Ponomarenko, known in the press as ‘Dietrich’. What is known about his work at ‘Progress’ and why his name appeared in reports about Babchenko and Mikitas.



Dmitry Valeryevich Ponomarenko. Portrait provided to the editorial team.

Date of birth: 31.08.1972

Status: The suspect

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Other names: Dmitry Ponomarenko; Dietrich; Dmytro Valeriyovych Ponomarenko; Дітріх; Dmytro Ponomarenko

‘Suspect’ — an editorial label, according to the source, referring to a possible link with ‘Khimprom’. Details of the legal proceedings are set out separately in the descriptions of the relevant cases.

Work in the defence sector and the call sign ‘Dietrich’

The date of birth, 31 August 1972, is based on information provided to the editorial team. By Order No. 116-r of 27 January 2010, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine appointed Dmitry Valeryevich Ponomarenko as director of the state-owned specialised enterprise ‘Ukrspetsorg’. His YouControl profile also indicates that he held a senior position at the state-owned enterprise ‘Progress’, which was part of ‘Ukrspetsexport’. The publication hromadske identified Ponomarenko as the person whom Borys Herman referred to as ‘Dietrich’.[1][2][5]

In its report on the Arkady Babchenko case, hromadske published accounts from those involved and its own conversation with Ponomarenko. Herman claimed that he had approached him after receiving a proposal to organise an assassination attempt. The hromadske editorial team presents this information as Herman’s account and compares it with other versions of events.[2]

Where did the name turn up later?

In December 2020, hromadske, citing its own sources, named Ponomarenko among those detained in connection with the case involving the abduction of former lawyer Maksym Mikitas. The report also detailed the prosecution’s version of events regarding Nazhmudin Gaziev. The editorial team was unable to find a specific final ruling regarding Ponomarenko in this particular episode.[3]

In February 2025, *Sudovoy Reporter* covered the trial of Anatoly Kogut. Kogut claimed that one of the witnesses, whose personal details had been altered, was Ponomarenko. The identification in the article was based on Kogut’s statements.[4]

A source’s account regarding ‘Khimprom’

A source close to the editorial team points to a possible link between Ponomarenko and ‘Khimprom’. No such link has been established in the verified reports on the criminal cases listed. The source did not provide any details as to what specific action Ponomarenko might have taken on behalf of the

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network.

Related article on Kartel Khimprom

- The structure of the ‘Khimprom’ cartel. How the organisation operates

Documents and comments regarding this article can be sent via editorial contact details.

Sources

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   https://youcontrol.com.ua/catalog/executives/p/ponomarenko-dmytro-valeriyovych/manager/
2. hromadske — accounts from the investigation and those involved in the Arkady Babchenko case, May 2020
   https://hromadske.ua/ru/posts/suezdil-kupil-krov-i-poshel-ubivat-babchenko-sledstvie-i-figuranty-dela-rasskazyvayut-svoi-versii-sobytij
3. hromadske — a report on the investigation into the case of Maksym Mikitas, December 2020
   https://hromadske.ua/posts/zlodiyi-v-zakoni-chechenci-ta-nevidomi-patrioti-detali-novoyi-pidozri-eksdeputatu-maksimovi-mikitasyu
4. ‘Court Reporter’ – a report on the trial of Anatoly Kogut, February 2025
   https://sudreporter.org/zibraty-sandurskogo-chervinskogo-i-poklada-v-besidku-i-zirvaty-pensionera-sudyat-za-verbuvannya-agenta-sbu-dlya-rosijskyh-speczsluzhb/
5. Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine — Order No. 116-r of 27 January 2010
   https://www.kmu.gov.ua/npas/243261120

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Original publication

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