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Ivan Rudnitsky: a declaration kept under lock and key and a return from the Volyn Regional State Administration to the leadership of the SBU

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Ivan Rudnitsky. Editorial photomontage on asset declarations and career. Restricted access was discussed in April 2025; his current position was confirmed by an SBU statement in November 2026. The documents, map and lock are illustrative elements. Portrait reference: Volyn Regional State Administration.

Ivan Rudnitsky is once again part of the leadership of the Security Service of Ukraine, whilst the issue of the public availability of his asset declarations has been dragging on since his time as head of the Volyn Regional State Administration. In April 2025, the official explained the lack of publicly available declarations by citing risks to his family. His career has now reached a new level: by a decree dated 12 January 2026, he was appointed deputy head of the SBU. Therefore, this long-standing issue regarding his asset declarations must be viewed in the context of his new position, without mistaking last year’s information for the results of today’s register check.

The available archive documents reveal specific properties, types of use and the family’s income prior to the full-scale invasion. They do not prove illicit enrichment, nor do they automatically reflect the situation as at November 2026. However, they do provide a basis for a substantive discussion on accountability: what information was available, what Rudnitsky himself explained, and what questions remain unanswered following his latest appointment.

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First the SBU, then the Volyn Regional State Administration, then the SBU again

In official biography on the Volyn Regional State Administration's website It is stated that Rudnitsky was born in Drohobych in 1978. He initially trained as a teacher of English and French, then studied law at the Ivan Franko National University of Lviv. In 2020, he was awarded a PhD in Law. He worked for the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) from 2002 until he took up the post of head of the regional administration in November 2024.

Presidential Decree No. 755/2024 of 8 November 2024 was appointed head of the Volyn Regional State Administration. His official biography states that he took up his duties on 12 November. These are different dates for the document and the start of his tenure, rather than conflicting accounts of his appointment. Prior to this, his career included leading the regional branches of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) in Zakarpattia, Poltava and Volyn.

The next confirmed stage is — Decree No. 46/2026 of 12 January 2026 was appointed Deputy Head of the SBU. An official statement from the Service itself, dated 3 November 2026, also refers to Rudnitsky specifically as Deputy Head. Therefore, to present him in a recent article as the current head of the Volyn Regional State Administration would be outdated information, even if the relevant old biographical page continues to be accessible.

What he told journalists in April 2025

On 7 April 2025, 'The Power of Truth' published the official's explanation spoke about restricted access to his declarations. According to Rudnitsky, he had submitted his declarations, including the one for 2024, and attributed the restriction on their publication to the safety of his loved ones and his service with the SBU. He recalled his leadership of three regional administrations during the war and promised to make the declarations public after Ukraine's victory.

In the same publication, anti-corruption expert Serhiy Mytkalyk suggested that the grounds for restricting access might have arisen during his service with the SBU. This is an expert's assumption regarding the legal mechanism, rather than a published review of the individual decision concerning Rudnitsky. The mere absence of the document in a public search does not mean that the declaration was not submitted.

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The content of the response raises two separate questions. The first is whether the obligation to submit the declaration has been fulfilled; the second is whether there is a valid basis for withholding it from public access. The official's statement addresses both, but an external verification requires documents from the relevant authorities. To link restricted access to a proven breach without such verification is just as incorrect as regarding a mere promise of future publication as full public accountability.

2019 Archive: Ownership and use must be kept separate

In a surviving copy of the 2019 declaration Rudnitsky's plot of land, measuring 800 square metres, is listed. Also listed are the use of a service flat measuring 79.1 square metres and the rental of a flat measuring 49.1 square metres. The section on family assets lists his wife's flat (91.6 square metres), a residential house (185.5 square metres) and a plot of land (1,200 square metres). These entries differ in terms of ownership and type of title.

It would be incorrect to include all flats in the list of an official's personal property. Tenancy and official use indicate access to the property, but not ownership. Family property must also be designated as such, whilst specifying who owned it in the specific reporting year. Otherwise, the bare figures become a deliberately exaggerated list.

The section on his spouse's income for 2019 lists 49,223 hryvnias in salary, 463,630 hryvnias from business activities and 9,858 hryvnias in interest. Rudnitsky's own cash holdings are recorded as €5,300. These figures show the structure of the declared income and liquid assets for that period; it is not possible to calculate the current value of the assets or the source of any subsequent acquisitions from them.

2020 Archive: income, inheritance and a separate issue regarding valuation

A copy of the 2020 declaration includes 666,922 hryvnias in Rudnitsky's cash allowance. His spouse's declaration lists 87,607 hryvnias in salary, 488,400 hryvnias in business income and 8,372 hryvnias in interest. The official's cash holdings amount to €8,500. The document also lists a plot of land belonging to his wife, measuring 1,000 square metres and valued at 106,010 hryvnias; the same amount is listed as a separate item under 'inheritance'.

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Comparable indicator	2019	2020
Spouse’s salary, UAH	49 223	87 607
Spouse’s business income, UAH	463 630	488 400
Spouse’s share, UAH	9858	8372
Rudnitsky’s cash, in euros	5300	8500

When questioned by journalists about the value of the land, Rudnitsky explained that his wife had inherited the plot. This explanation is given in an April article by ‘Sily Pravdy’. However, the dispute over the valuation of the inherited property cannot automatically be treated as proof that the purchase price was understated: the response in question specifically referred to inheritance, not to the purchase of the plot for the stated sum.

The table allows for a comparison of individual lines, but does not replace a full family balance sheet. Annual income and the cash balance as at the reporting date measure different things. An increase in one line item does not automatically imply unexplained enrichment, and an identical sum in the ‘property’ and ‘inheritance’ sections does not constitute two independent sources of income. To conclude that there is a discrepancy, one needs the value of purchases, the full breakdown of income and the movement of funds.

The access rules were amended following his explanation

In June 2025, the National Agency for Corruption Prevention (NACP) published Order No. 170/25 on amendments to the procedure for restricting access to declarations. The text regulates applications for confidentiality and notifications of disclosure, the scope of authorised officials, and the formatting of the necessary information. A procedure is also provided for when the grounds for non-disclosure cease to apply. It is therefore insufficient to discuss access in 2026 solely on the basis of the old interpretation of the 2023 rules.

This procedure does not provide a universal answer regarding a specific individual: information is required about his status and the document submitted by the authorised body. In this article, the restriction on access is described as the subject of a journalistic enquiry in April 2025. The specific grounds for and the public status of Rudnitsky’s declarations as at the date of writing this article

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have not been separately confirmed by the National Agency for Corruption Prevention (NACP).

This distinction is also crucial for public scrutiny. It is reasonable to take an interest in the asset transparency of a high-ranking security official without publishing the family's residential addresses or declaring the lawful mechanism for withholding information to be a criminal offence. The subject of the scrutiny is the reporting itself and the grounds for restricting access. The higher the position, the more crucial it is to provide an accurate official response to these questions.

November 2026: the service's leadership is now speaking out publicly

In SBU statement dated 3 November 2026 Rudnitsky has released details identifying more than a hundred participants in the clashes in Petropavlivska Borshchahivka. The Service makes separate mention of its own investigative actions and another case being handled by the State Bureau of Investigation (GBR) concerning a possible abuse of power by military personnel. This press release is significant here primarily as direct confirmation of his current position and public role, rather than as material concerning a financial offence committed by Rudnitsky himself.

His promotion brings the issue of asset declarations into sharper focus, but does not alter the evidential value of the older documents. The archive shows past declarations; interviews record explanations; decrees confirm appointments. New data is required to establish the current state of his assets. A chronological biography and previous publications are compiled in Profile of Ivan Lvovych Rudnitsky.

A broader debate on how the SBU responds to issues of public importance is discussed in our report on the searches and the agency's public responses. This is a separate story involving other parties. The common thread is the institution's accountability, not speculation about a general criminal case. In Rudnitsky's case, the next step to be examined is an official response regarding the submission of his declaration and the grounds for its public disclosure following his appointment to the Service's leadership.

Prepared on 24 November 2026. Links lead to sources of facts and the positions of the parties. The investigation's version of events is cited with attribution.

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Original publication

https://kartel-khimprom.com/en/article/ivan-rudnitsky-a-declaration-kept-under-lock-and-key-and-a-return-from-the-volyn-regional-state-administration-to-the-leadership-of-the-sbu/