

1. BASIC GEOPOLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

1.1. Geographical and political characteristics

Ukraine is an Eastern European state washed with the Black and Azov seas to the South.

Present population	45,6 mln.
Area	603,5 thsd.sq.km (source: the State Agency of Land Resources of Ukraine)
Length	
from West to East	1316 km
from North to South	893 km
of borders	6993,63 km
Extreme border locations	
Northern	Hremiach Village (Chernihiv oblast)
Southern	Sarych Cape (Autonomous Republic of Crimea)
Western	neighbourhood Chop city (Zakarpattya oblast)
Eastern	Chervona Zirka Village (Luhansk oblast)

Neighbouring countries

Poland; Slovakia; Hungary; Romania; Moldova, Republic of; Russian Federation; Belarus.

Climate

The Eastern European Plain (95% of the area), together with Ukrainian Carpathians and Crimean Mountains (5% of the area) have mainly a temperate continental climate. The Southern Crimean climate has subtropical features.

Annual rainfall in 2012

(source: the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological center; mm)

Steppe	464	Forest	735
Forest-steppe	649	Kyiv city	745

Air temperature

(source: the Ukrainian Hydrometeorological center; °C)

Average monthly air temperature in 2012

	<i>January</i>	<i>July</i>
Steppe	-2,7	25,2
Forest-steppe	-4,0	23,1
Forest	-3,0	21,8
Kyiv city	-4,0	23,7

In 2012 the absolute minimum of air temperature was minus 36⁰ in February in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

In 2012 the absolute maximum of air temperature was plus 41⁰ in August in the Odesa and Kherson oblast.
