

Ukrainian Federalization: Balkanization or Unity Formula?

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The Russian Foreign Ministry is surprised at claims raised by the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry to Minister Counselor Andrei Vorobyov from the Russian Embassy in Ukraine.

Deputy Director of the Russian Foreign Ministry's Department of Information and Press Maria Zakharova said this on Friday due to Vorobyov's summoning to the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry following his statements about Ukraine's federalization, a Ukrinform correspondent in Russia reported.

"Such claims can cause nothing but bewilderment. During the political analysts' discussion an opinion was voiced (citing Ukrainian politicians' estimates) about the current crisis in Ukraine, and most importantly, the attention was drawn to the actual facts in the current Ukrainian reality, in particular, the creation in a number of the country's regions of parallel authorities not subordinate to the central power, which can be interpreted as signs of a federalization process in Ukraine," reads the statement.

Zakharova said that the Russian Foreign Ministry was also stunned that the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry was not commenting on "peremptory claims" by senior representatives of Western states and European Union institutions on what to do and how to live to Ukraine.

As reported, on February 13, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry summoned Vorobyov and pointed to the inadmissibility of interference in the internal political processes of the country. In particular, the Russian diplomat said at a round table "Ukraine's Federalization: From Split to Unity" that changing the government system in Ukraine to federal was only a formality, since the country had been functioning as a federation over the last three months.

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