

# Ahead is the second round and... complete suspense

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So, on March 31, presidential elections were held in Ukraine.

According to the results of the counting of votes following the results of the first round, Volodimir Zelensky won with an impressive margin. For him voted for 30.22% of voters. The second and third place were taken by the current head of state, Petro Poroshenko (15.93%), and the leader of the Batkivshchyna party, Yulia Timoshenko (13.39%).

In the headquarters of Yulia Timoshenko announced fraud by President Poroshenko. The politician herself in an interview expressed confidence that she took second place. However, Timoshenko is not going to challenge the results of the election.

Thus, in the second round, scheduled for April 21, the struggle will flare up between Volodimir Zelensky and Petro Poroshenko.

Ukrainian betting companies (in particular, the Favorit company) accept bets with a coefficient of 1.5 to win Zelensky and 2.4 to Poroshenko. Odds speak in favor of the leader of the first round. American experts, in particular, the senior expert of the Eurasian Center at the Atlantic Council, Andreas Aslund, predict the victory of Zelensky with a margin of 1/4 of votes.

The headquarters of Volodimir Zelensky did not make harsh statements regarding the results of the second round, while Petro Poroshenko expressed confidence that he would „leave no chance” to Zelensky in the second round.

As the first round showed, voters are on the side of Zelensky. Poroshenko has a huge administrative resource and political

experience. Many agree that in the first round the president did not use all the resources and saved a number of tricks for the final vote.

Ahead of the second round and a new or new (old) president. About the prospects of Ukraine in case of winning Petro Poroshenko is not worth talking about. His course is unchanged for five years and is likely to remain the same.

And what can happen in case of showman Zelensky win? The main possible difference in foreign policy is a statement of intent to engage in dialogue with President Putin. Does this mean the possibility of rapprochement between the two countries? It's not clear yet. Most of all, no. The main changes in the case of the election of the head of state Volodimir Zelensky should be expected in domestic politics. Definitely change the tip, the state elite. What it will give is most likely a redistribution of spheres of influence and no more.

With all due respect to Mr. Zelensky – he is unlikely to be able to realize his character Goloborodko from the series „Servant to the People“. Because in real life the powers of the head of state are limited and he (Zelensky) does not have his team in parliament. This was already stated by the deputy of the Verkhovna Rada Vadim Rabinovich.

The main thing that the election of the head of state Volodimir Zelensky will give to Ukrainians is hope. The hope that the new president will be different from his predecessors. That he will try to fulfill at least part of these promises and pull the country out of the crisis.

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