

Newly appointed Head of Donetsk Oblast Administration did not file an assets declaration

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Newly Appointed Head of the Donetsk Oblast State Administration Oleksandr Kuts did not file an income and assets declaration, presumably hiding behind his work in the SBU.

On June 22, President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko signed a Decree on the appointment of Oleksandr Kuts as the head of the Donetsk Oblast State Administration. He previously served as a general of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU). The national law prescribes that candidates for the posts of oblast administration heads should submit electronic declarations before appointment. A failure to do this envisages criminal liability.

Note that Oleksandr Kuts was a head of the SBU department in Donetsk and Lugansk regions until he was fired by a president's decree. AntAC lawyers assume that he might still remain the staff of the SBU using this in order not to submit the e-declaration.

Moreover, the law prohibits holding two position in the SBU and in oblast state administration simultaneously.

Furthermore, during 2009 and 2014 Oleksandr Kuts was a deputy head of the SBU main directorate on *fight against corruption and organized crime* (the so-called 'Department K') in Kyiv and Kyiv region. After that he worked as a head of the SBU department in Kyiv, and from March 2015 he was appointed as a head of the SBU department in Donetsk region.

Almost a year ago, on August 21, 2017, the President merged two SBU departments in Donetsk and Lugansk regions into one and appointed Kuts as its head.