<u>Prosecutors close case against Ukrainian finance minister</u> Ukraine

Posted by:

Posted on: 2017/9/6 22:33:50

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KYIV, Sep 6, 2017 - Ukraine's Prosecutor General's Office has closed its criminal case against Finance Minister Alexander Danylyuk, Concorde Capital informed its clients in an online advisory. The case was opened in July, the minister told a local TV channel on Sept. 1. "We answered all the questions. The case has been closed. We need to look to the future," Danylyuk commented. "The fact that such investigations are opening tells us that we are doing the right things." As local media reported on July 31, the Prosecutor General's Office named Danylyuk a suspect in violating tax laws in 1998-2016 and initiating respective investigations back in early July. Danylyuk denied all the accusations. Concorde analyst Alexander Paraschiy added: "As we anticipated, this strange criminal investigation went nowhere. It was vital for Danylyuk and the Poroshenko administration to clear up the accusations ahead of the IMF's visit to Ukraine, scheduled for next week. The Finance Ministry is among key entities responsible for talks with the IMF aimed at successful completion of the fourth review and securing the fifth loan tranche under the Fund's EFF program.

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