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Ukraine Rejects New Russian Ambassador

August 04, 2016



Mikhail Babich **Kremlin Press Service**

Ukraine☒ will not accept the newly appointed Russian ambassador, the Ukrainian ☒Deputy Foreign Minister for European Integration, Olena Zerkal, said ☒Wednesday.

"This☒ issue has been taken off Ukraine's agenda," Zerkal said on Ukraine's TV☒ 5 Kanal.

Zerkal claimed that the absence ☒of an ambassador will not affect the relations between the two ☒countries. "The previous ambassador had a minimal part in shaping those ☒relations," she said.

President spokesperson Dmitry Peskov earlier announced that Russia had requested to send Mikhail Babich to the country as Russian ambassador to Ukraine. Mikhail☒ Babich, the former presidential envoy to Russia's Volga Federal ☒District, was appointed to the role last week. Putin ☒made the move after relieving former ambassador Mikhail Zurabov of his duties. Zurabov had been ambassador to Ukraine since August, 2009.

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