10 Boring Facts About Ukraine

CEE Meeting Opening, Kiev, 2014
Ukraine comes from Kievan Rus
Orthodox Christians
Ukrainians are historically Orthodox Christians (since 988). Some Ukrainians (mainly Western) are Greek-Catholics, which means they have Orthodox rituals, but recognize the Pope. However, they identify as Orthodox.
* Cyrillic alphabet is a modified version of Greek alphabet

* Ukrainian Wikipedia is the 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest Wikipedia written in Cyrillic script

* Ukrainian language uses Cyrillic script
Sophia Cathedral in Kiev was laid around 1037

“Modified” multiple times

Kiev is 1500 years old
* Ukrainian was a spoken language until 19th century

* Ukrainian language comes from ancient Slavic language of Kiev Rus

* It was heavily influenced by Polish in Middle Ages
  * Ukrainian language has also much in common with Belorussian and Slovak

* Ukrainian language is young, but has deep roots
Almost every Ukrainian knows two languages: Ukrainian and Russian

* national TV and radio is largely bilingual

* South-Eastern Ukraine uses mostly Russian

* Western Ukraine uses mostly Ukrainian

* We used to live peacefully together

* Ukrainians speak Ukrainian AND Russian
* 1\textsuperscript{st} Russia - 3,809,688 sq. km
* 2\textsuperscript{nd} Ukraine - 576,604 sq. km (without Crimea)
* 3\textsuperscript{rd} France - 551,500 sq. km (Metropolitan area)

\textbf{* Ukraine is the 2\textsuperscript{nd} largest state in Europe}
* Ukraine has about 43 million people currently (8th in Europe)

* Though in 1993 Ukraine had 52.2 million people...

* Ukraine is one of the top 10 most populous countries in Europe
* Family ties matter a lot
* Populist and corrupt politics

(But Ukraine is a lot cheaper ;))

* Italians say: Ukraine is like Italy
Ukraine became independent in 1991 and we hope to stay independent in future.

Ukraine currently has the longest period of Independence in history.
THANKS 😊