

Ukraine rivals line up for presidential election

Five years after its “Orange Revolution” promised to push Ukraine closer to western Europe, pro-Russian candidate Viktor Yanukovich looks to be on course to win the country’s presidential election



Viktor Yanukovich, 59
Opposition leader

Native Russian speaker. Initially declared winner of rigged 2004 election, he lost out in re-run of poll. Blames Orange Revolution for Ukraine’s government corruption and dire economic performance



Yulia Tymoshenko, 49
Prime Minister

Former key player in Orange Revolution, now seen as having moved closer to Moscow since falling out with Viktor Yushchenko. Brokered gas deal with Russian Prime Minister **Vladimir Putin** in November 2009



Viktor Yushchenko, 55
President

Pro-western leader is way behind in polls. Has been at loggerheads with Tymoshenko for most of his time in office, causing political gridlock that has deepened Ukraine’s economic collapse and alienated voters