

Nov 27, 1960: Yulia Volodymyrivna Hrihyan born in Dnipropetrovsk, Soviet Ukraine. Father abandons family when Yulia is four. Child grows up in poverty

Early career: Studies economics at Dnipropetrovsk State University. Graduates with honours

1 1979: Marries **Olexandr Tymoshenko**. Daughter **Eugenia** is born in 1980

1991-97. Rise to power: In aftermath of break-up of Soviet Union, Tymoshenko establishes **Ukrainian Petrol Corporation** – later becomes **United Energy Systems of Ukraine**



2 With help of Energy Minister **Pavlo Lazarenko**, UESU becomes \$11 billion empire with monopoly over domestic imports of Russian natural gas from **Gazprom**



1990s. Philanthropy: Uses her wealth to fund arts and music and restoration of Orthodox churches gutted by Soviets

3 Political career: Enters parliament in 1996, same year that pro-Russian President **Leonid Kuchma** appoints Lazarenko as prime minister

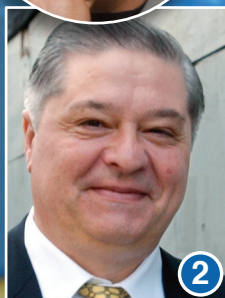
1997: Takes over leadership of **Hromada Party** and heads Ukraine's first-ever shadow cabinet, attacking Kuchma's policies

1998: Kuchma creates state-run **Naftogaz** to break Tymoshenko's monopoly on Russian gas imports

1999-2001: As deputy prime minister, Tymoshenko attempts to restructure energy sector but is sacked by Kuchma amid opposition from oligarchs.

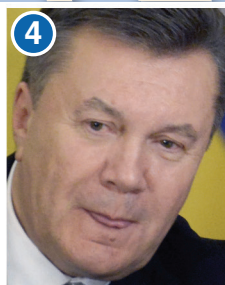
Tymoshenko bloc of political parties formed

Highs and lows of Ukraine's Gas Princess



Main recipients of Russian natural gas through Ukraine

Gas pipelines



4 2004. Orange Revolution: Pro-Russian **Viktor Yanukovich** elected president, but result widely condemned as rigged. Tymoshenko helps lead street protests which result in Yanukovich's victory being overturned by Supreme Court

5 Dec 2004: Pro-western **Viktor Yushchenko** wins new presidential vote

2005: Tymoshenko appointed prime minister but is sacked for her controversial attempts to re-privatize some 30 companies sold to oligarchs below market value

2006: Lazarenko is sentenced by U.S. court to nine years in prison for money laundering, wire fraud and extortion

2007: Tymoshenko reappointed PM, but global economic crisis hits Ukraine hard, ending eight-year growth surge

6 Jan 2009: Relations with Moscow deteriorate over Ukraine's bid to join NATO. Russian Prime Minister **Vladimir Putin** hikes price of gas and halts deliveries to Ukraine and Europe. **Putin and Tymoshenko finally reach 10-year gas deal**

2010: Yanukovich wins presidential election, beating both Tymoshenko and Yushchenko

Oct 2011: Tymoshenko sentenced to seven years imprisonment and fined \$186 million for criminally exceeding her authority in 2009 gas deal. She remains under criminal investigation in five other cases

Feb 2014: Tymoshenko released from prison

Mar 27: Yulia Tymoshenko announces she will run for president of Ukraine