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OSCE

Special status for the Donetsk and Luhansk areas

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Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) today announced the 12-point plan for the implementation of the truce in the eastern part of Ukraine, which was signed on 5 September in Minsk, and provides special status for Donetsk and Luhansk areas.

The document entitled "Protocol for the results of the trilateral consultations Contact Group", which was signed by representatives of Ukraine and the self-proclaimed DNR and LNR contains measures to be taken if the ceasefire in eastern Ukraine would remain in force.

- To decentralize power, among other things based on Ukraine adopting law on temporary procedure for local authorities in parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk areas (a law for special status), reads one of the provisions in the Protocol.

Another provision provides the maintenance of "temporary local elections" in accordance with the recognition of the special status of the two areas.

- Official Kiev must continue with "inclusive all-national dialogue," it was stated in the document, which the OSCE announced this morning, so far only in Russian.

The 12-point plan also provides for an amnesty for pro-Russian forces in Donbass.

- To adopt a law that prohibits criminal prosecution or punishment of persons in connection with the events in some parts of the Donetsk and Luhansk areas, one of the provisions provides.

At the same time, "all illegal military formations, military equipment, as well as militants and mercenaries should be withdrawn from Ukraine."

Some of the remaining provisions provide the international observers of OSCE to control the ceasefire in Ukraine and the Ukrainian-Russian border, the release of all prisoners of war and opening humanitarian corridors.

In addition, the border between Ukraine and Russia, with the assistance of the OSCE, a "safety zone" will be introduced, the document adds.