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Richard Hartley-Parkinson

## **Darth Vader told he can't stand for election to become president of Ukraine**

The mysterious Star Wars Sith Lord character was running to become the Ukrainian president when voters take to the polls in May this year



Darth Vader has been told he cannot be the next president of Ukraine.

A man who is believed to have been an electrician called Viktor Shevchenko before changing his name in March had his bid for the top job rejected.

He was nominated to stand for the presidency by the Internet Party of Ukraine.

He boldly pledged to single-handedly take responsibility for the fate of the country and to turn Ukraine into a "galactic empire".

The Sith Lord faced running against as many as 23 others who have now registered.

The electoral commission in Ukraine, however, said there was a possibility that some of Darth Vader's paperwork was forged while other parts were described as being 'questionable'.

According to the BBC it has been suggested that Darth Vader's candidacy was an attempt to discredit the elections.

Ihor Zhydenko said: "It may seem like an innocent joke, but someone paid 2.5million hryvnyas (£137,000).

Before being told he can't stand, Vader said in a statement: "I alone can make an empire out of a republic, to restore former glories, to return lost territories and pride for this country."

Presidential elections are scheduled for May 25 in the troubled country thought to be under threat of a Russian invasion.

But it's not the first time that the inter galactic legend has been involved in political goings on in Ukraine.

In 2012 Vader reportedly received about 3% of the write-in vote.