UNIS’ Summertime ‘Ukrainian Days’

UCCA’s Washington, D.C., public affairs bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), held its second advocacy event of 2023 on 14-15 June. Some 200 participants from across the United States, lead by UCCA President Andriy Futey and UCCA Local Branch Presidents, traveled to our nation’s capital to begin the advocacy event with a briefing session at the Hudson Institute, with remarks from H.E. Oksana Markarova, Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States, and Peter Rough, Senior Fellow and Director of the Center on Europe and Eurasia at the Hudson Institute. The day continued with in-person meetings with congressional offices to promote our community’s immediate concerns:
Reactions from the meetings immediately came to UCCA and UNIS, as our community's presence in Washington, D.C., was received positively, and such advocacy will be reflected in future cooperation with congressional offices and in government circles, especially during this critical time of war in Ukraine. UNIS requests that you contact your elected officials at the local level and continue to advocate for continued support of our common issues. As constituents, your active engagement with congressional offices is vital to our mutual success:
- #ArmUkraine - continued security assistance to Ukraine;
- #Sanctionrussia - enhanced and robust russia sanctions regime;
- #russiaisaterroriststate - designate the Wagner Group as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and russia as a State Sponsor of Terrorism (SST);
- #CrimeOfAggression - assist Ukraine in prosecuting russian war crimes in Ukraine; and,
- #StandWithUkraine - recognize the current invasion, the illegal deportation of Ukrainian children, and the Holodomor as genocide.

UNIS’ next coordinated "Ukrainian Days" advocacy event will be held on a local level. Further details will be forthcoming:
As is traditional, the highlight of the “Ukrainian Days” advocacy event included the presentation of the “Friend of UNIS” awards to Members of Congress and others who have shown overwhelming support for Ukraine and the enhancement of U.S.-Ukraine relations. This year’s recipients – [Rep. Don Bacon](R-NE), co-chair of the [Congressional Baltic Caucus](#), and author [Dr. Eugene Fishe](#l) (U.S. Department of State) – took the time to not only attend the event, but also spoke with Ukrainian Days activists about their experience as advocates for U.S.-Ukraine relations:

The advocacy event concluded with a roundtable discussion about Russia’s genocide of Ukrainian children. “Ukrainian Days” participants gathered at [Ukraine House](#) in the Kalorama Heights neighborhood of Washington, D.C., where Ambassador Markarova provided opening remarks on this very important topic. UNIS Director, Michael Sawkiw, Jr., served as moderator for the panel discussion with three NGO’s working in Ukraine with children affected by Russia’s war of aggression.
Providing Ukraine with an Annual Report Card Amidst War

On Wednesday, 14 June, the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations, the American Foreign Policy Council, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and the Ukrainian National Information Service, in collaboration with the Jamestown Foundation, the International Republican Institute, and the National Democratic Institute, convened the eleventh US-UA Working Group Summit: Providing Ukraine with an Annual Report Card Amidst War - Year Two. This all-day conference at The University Club in Washington, D.C., brought together leading voices from Europe and North America to
take measure of Ukraine's 2022-2023 progress/regress in six categories of modern statehood.

This year's speakers included former U.S. Ambassadors Kurt Volker, Roman Popadiuk, John Herbst, Dan Fried and William Courtney, as well as former NATO Supreme Allied Commanders GEN Wesley Clark (U.S. Army, ret.) and Gen. Philip Breedlove (U.S. Air Force, ret.).

The Jurkiw Family Fund contributed generously to financially underwriting the event, as well as fellow conference patrons the Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union, the SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union, the Heritage Foundation of the First Security Federal Savings Bank, and The Torielli Family.
Across the United States, many of our local Ukrainian American communities will return to publicly celebrate Ukraine's Independence this August. If you or your local community receive any official proclamations or stage any independence events, please share them with UCCA's National Office so that we may gather them together with our archives of proclamations and greetings dating back to our founding in 1940. We will further pass along any images and videos to Ukraine through the Embassy in Washington as well as through the Ukrainian World Congress.
Download UCCA's Draft Proclamation Request (PDF)

Did you miss a recent UCCA email?

UCCA archives all of our email updates at UCCA.org

Searching for information?

UCCA’s Fact Sheet Hub collects wartime statistics from both the Ukrainian and US governments as well as the United Nations

Read more here
WHAT IS UCCA?
The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) is a non-profit, non-partisan community-based organization that has represented the interests of Ukrainians in the United States since 1940.

Your checks are also welcome!
Mail to:

UCCA
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UCCA is a registered 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit organization and all donations to UCCA are tax deductible.

Candid.
UCCA has earned a 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency, the highest award from the charity rating organization Candid. Formerly known as GuideStar, Candid is the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations. Out of all non-profits registered in the United States, only roughly 6% receive the Platinum level of transparency.

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