

UCCA DECLARES MARCH 31ST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS FREE AND FAIR

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the largest representative organization of Americans of Ukrainian descent, is one of the few NGOs and the only Ukrainian American organization registered with Ukraine's Central Election Commission.

On March 31, UCCA's Election Observation Mission (EOM), consisting of 78 officially registered observers, monitored the election process and vote tabulation in the following 9 oblasts - Dnipro, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kherson, Kyiv, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Ternopil and Zakarpattia, as well as at 3 diplomatic posts in the United States.

Throughout the day, UCCA's EOM, working in concert with the Ukrainian World Congress' EOM, reported that the voting process was being conducted in a peaceful, transparent and democratic manner. In fact, with reports from over 700 polling stations, the short-term observation teams reported 96% of precincts performed with a rating of 'good' or 'very good' - a high standard of performance for any election cycle.

UCCA EOM noted very few irregularities. Those that were reported were not systemic in nature nor did they impact the results of the election. The minor procedural errors included:

- the presence of campaign advertisements in a few municipalities;
- information for voters was not displayed correctly; and
- a few observers also remarked that polling stations were located on the 2nd and 3rd floors making it difficult for older and handicapped voters to access the polling station.

Based on the reports submitted, UCCA's EOM affirms that the March 31st Presidential Elections in Ukraine met international standards for free and fair elections that accurately reflects the will of the electorate.

UCCA expresses its sincere gratitude to the members of its delegation, who volunteered their time and money to participate as International Election Observers - their commitment to democracy must be commended.



L to R: UCCA Observers at pre-election briefing; UCCA EOM at post-election debriefing

**CONFERENCE TO
COMMEMORATE 100TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE 'GREAT
RE-UNIFICATION' OF UKRAINIAN**

UCCA in cooperation with the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations and The Ukrainian Museum of New York invite the community to attend a special Ukrainian Historical Encounters Series event entitled *Sobornist': Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the 'Great Re-Unification' of Ukrainian Lands*. The full day conference will take place on Saturday, May 4th at the Ukrainian Museum located at 222 E 6th Street in New York City.

The gathering intends to run six highlight focus sessions featuring eminent Ukrainian and US scholars tasked to take a fresh, critical look at the first modern attempt by Ukrainians to gather their major ethnographic lands into one unified national state in what has been dubbed as 'Akt Zluky' (January 22, 1919). The discussion will feature mediations on the 20th century legacy of the endeavor as well as reflections upon the issues of 'territorial integrity' facing the present day Ukrainian 'derzhava'.

As space is limited, to secure your participation, please submit your registration form by April 30, 2019 – online form available here:

<http://bit.ly/UHES2019>

Name: _____

Title: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Completed registration forms must be submitted by email – drijmail@yahoo.com or by mail to:

UHES Special Event: Sobornist'
c/o UCCA
203 Second Avenue
New York, NY, 10003

For more information or to register, please contact the UCCA National Office.

**SAVE THE DATE:
UKRAINIAN DAYS – JUNE 12TH**

The first "Ukrainian Days" advocacy event of 2019 will be held on Wednesday, June 12th. Our event will focus on various legislation recently introduced in Congress, including: a new framework for additional Russian sanctions; urging the cancellation of NordStream2; reinforcing US policy of never recognizing Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea, among other Ukraine-specific issues.

The June 12th advocacy event will also be an opportunity to meet with new Members of Congress and acquaint them with our concerns, while encouraging our long-term supporters to enhance support for a strong and vibrant civil society in Ukraine, as well as to promote military assistance to Ukraine to preserve its territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence.

For more information or to register, please contact UNIS at **202 547-0018**, or by e-mail at unis.sawkiw@gmail.com

HAPPY EASTER

During this glorious time of the Resurrection of our Lord the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America would like to extend its warmest greetings for a Happy and Blessed Easter.

Easter represents a time of sacrifice, and a time of renewal. The symbolism of Christ sacrificing his own earthly life so that we may receive an eternal one, is reminiscent of the sacrifices that our brethren in Ukraine continue to make for the sake of their freedom.

During this Easter Season, may the Lord grant our brothers and sisters in Ukraine the fortitude to stand united against those who would compromise Ukraine's freedom and territorial integrity and to provide them with the strength and courage to continue their struggle for the right to realize their aspirations to live in a democratic, European country.

Christ is Risen!

Indeed, He is Risen!