UWC XI Congress Concludes... Elects New Governing Body

The official opening of the XI Congress of the Ukrainian World Congress took place on November 25th at the Olympic Courtyard of the Olympiyskyi Sport Complex in Kyiv, Ukraine. President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko, First Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine Stepan Kubiv, Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin and others, addressed the 248 delegates from 26 countries at the Official Opening Gala Banquet.

During the following two days delegates gathered at the President Hotel to review the activities of the five-year term of the UWC, and develop a vision of the organization for the future. A constant theme resounding during the Congress was strengthening Ukrainian statehood in the wake of the threat posed by the actions of the Russian Federation for Ukraine and the entire world.

During the first working day of the Congress, delegates heard reports by UWC’s outgoing President Eugene Czolij, UWC member organizations and the UWC financial statement for 2012-2018. The afternoon plenary sessions tackled the future vision of UWC, as well as six regional roundtables dedicated to the strengthening of our hromada around the world.

On the morning of the second working day, delegates participated in 10 thematic sessions discussing such topics as: international support for Ukraine on issues related to economic development, defense, reforms and humanitarian aid, the role of the diaspora in furthering the positive image of Ukraine and Ukrainians around the world, furthering the consolidation of the global Ukrainian community, growing the UWC network of organizations, and strengthening the influence of Ukrainian communities for the resolution of issues of importance to Ukraine on the international level.

During the final afternoon session on November 27th, delegates provided absolution to the outgoing board, approved amendment to the UWC Bylaws, adopted resolutions, approved the proposed 2019-2020 UWC budget and held elections for the new UWC leadership. Delegates unanimously elected Paul Grod as President of the UWC. The UWC Congress also elected the UWC leadership, including the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. The newly elected First Vice President is Stefan Romaniw, Second Vice President - Anna Kisil, and Third Vice President - Andriy Futey.

UCCA would like to sincerely thank Eugene Czolij, the outgoing UWC President, for his many years of dedicated service, and wish the newly elected President Pavlo Grod and entire incoming Board much success in their future endeavors to help restore Ukraine territorial integrity, secure its sovereignty and strengthen the global Ukrainian hromada.
The Executive Board of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America wishes all of its members and the entire Ukrainian community here and in Ukraine a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

May this holiday season bring God’s blessing upon all Ukrainians and may the New Year bring health, happiness and the fulfillment of all our dreams and aspirations and peace to our brethren in Ukraine.