

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 Klymush-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.

UCCA ISSUES END OF YEAR APPEAL

2018 has been a seminal year for the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA). Marking the solemn 85th anniversary of the Holodomor - Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933 - was a defining moment for our community. We are grateful to our branches and members who not only actively engaged their local governments in marking this historic anniversary with dozens of statewide Proclamations from Massachusetts to Missouri; but also supported a milestone in Holodomor recognition with the U.S. Senate resolution. For the first time, the US Senate recognized the Holodomor as Genocide and underscored the deliberate and premeditated atrocities committed by the Soviet government against the Ukrainian nation.

None of these accomplishments would have come to pass without **YOU**.

For the fourth consecutive year, UCCA welcomed and hosted President Poroshenko during his annual trip to New York City to address the United Nations General Assembly. These meetings underscore UCCA's decades-long role in advancing/supporting the Ukrainian nation and strengthening US-Ukraine relations.

Livestreaming our events has also enabled UCCA also garner the interest and support of thousands. By effectively utilizing social media, over 120,000 tuned into our annual Holodomor Commemoration, while our academic conference and gala banquet celebrating a 100 years of Ukrainian Sovereignty, enabled our community to listen to Ambassador Kurt Volker, US' Special Envoy to Ukraine Negotiations and General John Abizaid, address this milestone anniversary. Next year, we hope to exceed these numbers at the numerous events planned to commemorate the 5th anniversary of the Heavenly Hundred and Euromaidan, the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to the United States, to name a few.

Speaking with one united voice is imperative if we are to be successful in convincing/conveying to the U.S. government that Ukraine needs help, and that Russian aggression is not only a threat to Ukraine, but to the entire free, democratic world. UCCA is once again proud to welcome two more organizations into its ranks this year – the Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine (ODWU) and the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations (CUSUR) – building on our efforts for unity within our organized community. In the coming year, we look forward to announcing additional organizations joining the UCCA family, uniting Ukrainians in America across all 50 states.

Russian aggression against Ukraine endures, but so does UCCA's resolve to assist our homeland/confront it – be it through our Ukrainian Days Advocacy events in Washington, DC or activism within our local communities. UCCA is grateful to our members who, through their volunteer efforts, have kept our country's leadership informed/updated about Russia's continued hybrid war against Ukraine, as well as the unique bond shared between Ukrainians and Americans.

By making a fully tax-deductible donation today, your support will ensure that 2019 will be an even more successful year for our community. ***Merry Christmas!***

Checks made out to UCCA can be mailed to:

**UCCA National Office
203 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10003**

Donate online:



UCCA CONGRATULATES U.S. RECIPIENTS OF UWC AWARD

UCCA would like to sincerely congratulate all the U.S. recipients of the Ukrainian World Congress' highest accolade, the St. Volodymyr the Great Medal.



Recognized for their long-time contributions to the Ukrainian American community and Ukraine, Congressman Sander Levin (D-MI), Co-Chair of the Ukrainian Congressional Caucus and Dr. Larissa Kyj, President of the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee, were bestowed with the UWC's highest honor – the St. Volodymyr Medal. With the participation of the heads of Ukrainian churches, President of Ukraine, First Vice Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Ministers, Foreign Minister of Ukraine, numerous members of Parliament and over 300 UWC delegates and guests representing 26 countries, Congressman Levin and Dr. Kyj, were honored during the November 25th opening ceremony of the XI Congress of the UWC.

CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM UCCA

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.