



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MAY 2019 BRING YOU MUCH HEALTH, HAPPINESS, AND PEACE TO UKRAINE!

UCCA CALLS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS ELECTION MONITORS

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the largest representation of Americans of Ukrainian descent, is once again taking an active part in the upcoming presidential elections and is currently registering applicants for its Election Observation Mission (EOM), which will travel to Ukraine to monitor the March 31, 2019 vote.

The goal of the UCCA EOM is to support a more open and transparent electoral process during the presidential elections, specifically to monitor adherence to the law, prevent violations and provocations at polling stations during voting and provide an assessment of the electoral process. The UCCA does not support any one candidate or political party and supports Ukraine's commitment to OSCE standards for a free and fair election that accurately reflects the will of the electorate. The UCCA-EOM is therefore comprised of volunteers, with registered International Election Observers responsible for all costs related to their participation in the UCCA-EOM, including, but not limited to, travel and lodging.

With long-term experience in observing elections, the UCCA EOM will conduct mandatory training briefings for its observers on how best to serve as international election monitors, including a special seminar addressing possible hostile environments. Official CEC accreditation will be provided and coordinated through the UCCA, which will also organize in-country travel and lodging, translators and guides, if necessary, as well as comprehensive informational packets. The UCCA Mission will monitor the elections throughout Ukraine with particular focus on Eastern and Southern oblasts, and in diplomatic missions in the United States.

For further information about the UCCA's International Election Observer program, or to register, please visit the UCCA's website at www.ucca.org or contact the National Office, by email at ucca@ucca.org.

UCCA CONGRATULATES UKRAINIAN AUTOCEPHALOUS ORTHODOX CHURCH

On December 20, 2018, UCCA President and Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) Vice President, Andriy Futey met with His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy, the newly elected Primate of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine. The Director of the UWC Mission in Ukraine, Serhiy Kasyanchuk, joined Futey as part of the UWC delegation, to congratulate Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine His Beatitude Epifaniy on his election during the historic Unifying Synod in Kyiv to the highest-ranking position of Primate of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine.



The UWC delegation presented a letter to His Beatitude from Pavlo Grod, the newly-elected UWC President, in which it stated, "We believe that commitment to Christian ideals, depth of spiritual conviction and wisdom will become the guarantors of your successful service to the Orthodox Church of Ukraine that embodies the centuries-old aspirations of millions of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians for their own, independent from the Moscow Patriarchate, Ukrainian autocephalous native Orthodox Church."

The parties discussed general areas of future cooperation between the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and the UWC, including the broad recognition and consolidation in the world of the newly established Church.

UCCA LAUNCHES CHRISTMAS LETTER WRITING CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT OUR UKRAINIAN HOSTAGES

Following the Russian Federation's November 25th deliberate attack on three unarmed Ukrainian Naval vessels, seizing the ships and illegally capturing all 24 Ukrainian sailors on board, UCCA urged the community to support the "FreeUkrainePOWs" international campaign spearheaded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. Supporters were asked to share their activism with others through social media, using the following hashtags:

#FreeUkrainianPOWs
#RussiaAttacksUkraine
#StopRussianAggression

In addition to taking every available measure to secure their immediate release, on December 17th, UCCA launched a Holiday Letter Writing Campaign to let the illegally detained, brave sailors know that we have not forgotten about them and are doing all that we can to support them.



Please join UCCA's Letter Writing Campaign this Holiday Season!

For more information about the letter writing campaign, please visit - <https://mailchi.mp/fl1b8346bfb84/freeukrainianpows-for-christmas>

UCCA TO COMMEMORATE THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HEAVENLY HUNDRED

On February 6th, UCCA will be hosting a conference in Washington, DC to commemorate the tragic 5th anniversary of the Heavenly Hundred.

The half-day conference, entitled, "**The Story of the Heavenly Hundred**" will feature two panel discussions "Witnesses to History" and "Aftermath to Sacrifice" along with a keynote address by a high-level government official. Both policy-makers and eyewitnesses will discuss the historical significance of those fateful days in February, five years ago, and the integral role the organized U.S. Ukrainian hromada has played to assist their homeland/Ukraine since 2014.

Please join us on February 6th to remember and pay our respects to those that gave their lives in defense of Ukraine - the Heavenly Hundred heroes.

For more information, or to register for the conference, please contact the UNIS Office at (202) 547-0018. More information can be found on our website and Facebook page.

UCCA WELCOMES THE UNIFYING SYNOD

For millions of Ukrainians, December 15, 2018 will forever remain an historic date. It was on this day the Synod (Unifying Council) established a single, native autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the largest representative organization of the 1.5 million Americans of Ukrainian descent, warmly welcomes the establishment of the single, native autocephalous Orthodox Church of Ukraine, and expresses gratitude to Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of the Mother Church of Constantinople, for his unwavering support that enabled this momentous/historic event possible.

UCCA likewise sincerely congratulates His Beatitude Epifaniy, on his election as Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine, and thanks His Holiness Patriarch Filaret for his principled position and long-term stewardship in the struggle for an independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church.