



UCCA CONGRATULATES NEWLY-ELECTED PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

The UCCA penned a letter to Ukraine's newly elected president, Petro Poroshenko, congratulating him on his victory and wishing him Godspeed to resolve all the critical issues currently facing Ukraine.



The UCCA letter stated in part:

"The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is honored to congratulate you on your election to this esteemed office!... Today Ukraine is going through perhaps one of its most trying times and only through hard work and determination can the nation overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles..."

We share in the vision of your pre-election campaign "Living in a new way!" and look forward to its implementation during your term in office. We understand that achieving the goals of government disclosure, legal reform, and integration into the European Union requires the consensus of the Ukrainian people.

In the wake of the Revolution of Dignity, the Ukraine nation has put its faith in you. Those who stood and died for independence on the Maidan changed the government because they wished to live as free people. It is these citizens of Ukraine, representing the public non-governmental organizations, not discredited politicians, who can serve as your support for the positive changes that lay ahead.

We understand that the presidential election is only the first step in bringing about positive changes to all branches of government. Alternatively, we understand that not all of Ukraine supported the change in government and that you will have to unite the nation under a common goal.

On our part, the UCCA assures you, Mr. President, that we will strongly support all initiatives aimed at building a united, European and democratic Ukraine. In such endeavors you have in us a reliable ally and staunch supporter."

Peter Teluk, attended the inauguration of President Petro Poroshenko, and congratulated him on his election on behalf of the UCCA.

UNIS TO HOST "UKRAINIAN DAY" ON JULY 16TH!

The UCCA and its Washington public relations bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), will sponsor a second in-a-series of advocacy events in Washington, entitled "*Ukrainian Day*." On **Wednesday, July 16th**, Ukrainian community advocates will have the opportunity to express their concerns to Members of Congress about U.S. foreign policy vis-à-vis Ukraine, including support for Ukraine's territorial integrity, continued macroeconomic financial assistance, aid for Ukraine's military and sanctions against Russia.

Like the previous advocacy event in the winter, "*Ukrainian Day*" will be of utmost importance. Given the overwhelming mandate Petro Poroshenko achieved in the May 25th presidential elections, this summer's advocacy event will work to garner continued support for Ukraine's drastically needed reform efforts, EuroAtlantic integration and support for Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence. It is critical that our community demonstrate its active interest and involvement in this matter.

As always, "*Ukrainian Day*" will begin with a briefing session to help acquaint participants with the issues at hand; after which participants will visit Congressional offices to relay the concerns of the Ukrainian American community.

For more information, or to register, please contact UNIS either by phone at (202) 547-0018, email unis@ucca.org or visit the UNIS Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Ukrainian-National-Information-ServiceUNIS/198575390157933?fref=ts>

Please join us in Washington!

SUPPORT STATE VISIT FOR POROSHENKO

The Ukrainian National Information Service is urging the community to request that the White House invite President Poroshenko for an official State Visit.

Following the democratic presidential elections, the monumental task of rebuilding Ukraine now looms large for its newly-elected President Petro Poroshenko. Support from the United States is crucial in transforming Ukraine into a vibrant democracy that is fully integrated into Euro-Atlantic structures. The acknowledgement of Ukraine's tremendous achievements in conducting a free and fair election and the existing strategic partnership between the two countries should be manifested by extending an invitation to President Poroshenko to travel to Washington.

For additional information, please contact UNIS at (202)547-0018 or by email at unis@ucca.org.

Sample Letter

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As an American of Ukrainian descent, I was proud to watch the people of Ukraine dedicate themselves to democratic values during months of protests on the Maidan. The recent vote for Ukraine's presidency was another strong example of the Ukrainian nation's resolve for a unified country with a democratic European future.

The United States, as a strategic partner of Ukraine, ought to acknowledge Ukraine's recent sacrifices by inviting newly-elected President Petro Poroshenko to Washington for a State Visit. Such an acknowledgment would send strong signals to the Ukrainian people about the values of partnership with democratic nations such as ours. Ukraine will need the assistance of the United States to transcend that country into a viable nation within the community of democracies. A State Visit would manifest such a resolve.

Sincerely,

UCCA PENS OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT OBAMA

On June 3rd, the UCCA penned an open letter to President Obama, which stated in part:

"The UCCA welcomes your decision to meet with the newly-elected President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko during your trip to Poland...

This meeting between you, Mr. President, and Ukraine's President-elect is critical to the future of peace in the region, as U.S. support for Ukraine now is imperative to its survival. Russia's unrelenting aggressive behavior vis-à-vis Ukraine is dangerously destabilizing the international legal system. The massive build-up of Russian troops along Ukraine's eastern border and escalating provocations by Russian sponsored groups within Ukraine...are threatening Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty. The U.S. must take definitive action to help stabilize the transnational, trans-Atlantic security framework, which clearly serves our national interests as Americans, or the crisis in Ukraine is likely to escalate.

As the bastion of democracy in the free world, the United States must take the lead in promoting international norms and consolidating geo-political stability. Therefore, the UCCA urges you, Mr. President, to affirm the United States' commitment to Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity during your meeting with President-elect Poroshenko..."

The letter in its entirety can be read on the UCCA website at: www.ucca.org

UCCA HOLDS CONFERENCE CALL WITH BRANCH PRESIDENTS

The UCCA held its second Conference Call with UCCA Branch Presidents on June 11th to discuss the current critical situation in Ukraine, and to coordinate our community's actions and efforts going forward.

Some initiatives discussed included:

- Active participation in the upcoming "Ukrainian Day," advocacy event being held in Washington, DC on Wednesday, July 16th;
- Taking advantage of the various summer Ukrainian festivals to spread the word about UCCA, its work and its many initiatives;
- The establishment of the UkrainianSTORM Committee;
- Support for an Official State Visit for President Poroshenko
- Humanitarian support for the Ukrainian Army and National Guard via UCCA member organization, UUARC - United Ukrainian American Relief Committee

UCCA thanks those branches who participated in our conference call and hopes our branches will join our next conference call which will be held in September.