After a 15-month hiatus due to coronavirus pandemic and travel restrictions, UCCA’s President Andriy Futey, returned to Ukraine in mid-June to discuss recent US-Ukraine relations with high-level government, security and diplomatic officials, religious hierarchy as well as a member of parliament.

The packed agenda included discussions about restoring U.S. sanctions on Russia’s natural-gas pipeline project Nord Stream 2, continued military assistance for Kyiv, assurance of NATO membership for Ukraine, President Zelenskyy’s upcoming visit to the White House, and this year’s 30th anniversary of renewed independence and its preceding “Crimean Platform” event.

Futey (right) participates in a video conference with Ukrainian presidential office head Andriy Yermak (head of table), deputy head of the Ukrainian presidential office Andriy Sybiha (center-left), Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Vasyl Bodnar and UWC President Paul Grod (not pictured), who participated via Zoom, on June 12.

Metropolitan Epifaniy of Kyiv and All Ukraine & UCCA President Andriy Futey

To read more about Andriy Futey’s trip to Ukraine:
UCCA President Futey visits Ukraine, discusses U.S.-Ukraine relations | The Ukrainian Weekly (ukrweekly.com)
On June 16-17, the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian National Information Service, and the American Foreign Policy Council, in partnership with the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and the Open World Program, convened the ninth US-UA Working Group Summit: Providing Ukraine with an Annual Report Card. This online conference, held in (2) four-hour segments spanning two consecutive days, brought together key government and non-government representatives from Ukraine, Canada, the EU and the U.S. to take measure of Ukraine's 2020-2021 progress/regress in six categories: "robust democratic politics, mature market economics, ever greater energy security, ever greater general security, viable social cohesion and an established national identity."

In addition to speakers such as Ambassadors Volker, Popadiuk, Taylor and Herbst, the conference featured remarks by Dmytro Razumkov, Speaker of Ukraine’s Verkhovna Rada (parliament), Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze, Chair of the Verkhovna Rada’s Committee on Matters of Integration of Ukraine with the European Union, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) and a video greeting from Sen. Robert Portman (R-OH). For a full list of speakers and to view the conference proceedings please visit https://bit.ly/UCCATube.

Throughout the conference the speakers provided their grades on the topic at hand. At the conclusion of the two-day conference, the Tally Master, Andrij Dobriansky, calculated all the grades from the over two dozen speakers and determined that the overall grade Ukraine received for 2020-21 was a C+. The audience, which also was able to grade Ukraine’s progress/regress was a little more gracious and graded Ukraine a B-. 

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the representative organization of the over 1.5 million Americans of Ukrainian descent, joins the global Ukrainian hromada in celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the adoption of Ukraine’s Constitution.

After a centuries-long struggle for independence – twenty-five years ago today, the Verkhovna Rada (parliament) of Ukraine secured a legal framework for an independent country. The adoption of Ukraine’s Constitution on June 28, 1996 was an important milestone in the life of the people of Ukraine by ensuring their human and civil rights while protecting their country’s sovereignty and territorial integrity.

May Ukraine’s Constitution, the backbone of the country, always protect the rights of her citizens and keep the government accountable to her people.

Glory to Ukraine on Constitution Day!

The Countering Russian and Other Overseas Kleptocracy (CROOK) Act, is a bill to “promote international efforts in combating corruption, kleptocracy, and illicit finance by foreign officials and other foreign persons, including through a new anti-corruption action fund.

UNIS – the UCCA’s Washington, D.C., based bureau - urges you to contact your Senators and Representative and request their co-sponsorship of S.158 and H.R.402 – the CROOK Act. Your assistance is critically important to assure that Russia’s malign influence is halted at all levels.

Please visit the Senate and House websites and find your Senators and Representative to send them an inquiry:

United States Senate: https://www.senate.gov/
House of Representatives: https://www.house.gov/