

## COLLAGE OF PHOTOS FROM METROPOLITAN EPIFANIY MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON, DC

On October 22-24, the head of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy held a series of meetings, which UCCA/UNIS helped organize. Below is just a sampling some of His Beatitude's meetings.



*His Beatitude with Sen. Ron Johnson (R-WI) & Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) - co-chair of the International Religious Freedom Caucus*



*His Beatitude with Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) Co-Chair of CUC & Secretary Pompeo*

Throughout the meetings, the Head of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine thanked the U.S. for its solidarity and bipartisan support and expressed hope that Washington would continue to support Ukraine's sovereignty, territorial integrity, religious freedom, and would help counter Russian aggression and the return of all Ukrainian hostages. Metropolitan Epifaniy likewise underscored the importance creating a single Orthodox Church of Ukraine and the Hellenic Orthodox Church's decision to recognize it in Ukraine's process of international recognition. His Beatitude also underscored the appalling situation with the freedom of religion in the occupied territories of Donbass and illegally annexed Crimea; accentuating the need to continue pressuring the Kremlin to stop its aggression and restore and territorial integrity of Ukraine.



*Metropolitan Epifaniy Conducts Moleben at the Holodomor Memorial*

On His Beatitude's final day in Washington, DC, the Head of the Orthodox Church laid a wreath at the Taras Shevchenko Memorial, together with the Ukrainian American community.

## HIS BEATITUDE MEETS WITH COMMUNITY

On Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA) in cooperation with Ukrainian Congress Committee of America organized a meeting with His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy, Metropolitan of Kyiv and All Ukraine, on the occasion of his inaugural visit to the United States.

UIA President, Kathy Nalywajko opened the evening with welcoming remarks after which she introduced His Eminence Archbishop Elpidophoros of the Greek Orthodox Church of America. Following Archbishop Elpidophoros' warm remarks, in which he underscored that "together we are stronger to face challenges and achieve the best to come..." words of welcome were also delivered by Rev. Volodymyr Muzychka on behalf of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA. Andriy Dobriansky, UCCA's Director of Communication, also addressed His Beatitude on behalf of UCCA's President, who was unable to attend due to weather. UIA Board member, George Chopivsky, then warmly introduced His Beatitude Metropolitan Epifaniy.



Following uplifting and spiritual remarks, His Beatitude took questions from the audience. The evening concluded with members of the Ukrainian Chorus "Dumka" of New York singing "Oh God, Almighty and Only," after which guests were invited to stay for a reception.

A video of the event may be viewed here:  
<https://www.facebook.com/UCCA.org/videos/425208958374300/>

## UCCA COMBATS DISINFORMATION ABOUT UKRAINE

Ukrainian Americans have witnessed an ever increasing amount of outright false accusations about Ukraine leveled by pundits in the media, and worse still, by elected officials. Unfortunately, such public statements by uninformed voices parroting the words of Russian propagandists can and will have a lasting effect on the flourishing relationship between the United States and its strategic ally, Ukraine.

For eight decades, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), has advocated the Ukrainian American community's desire to aid the people of Ukraine, by educating and disseminating truthful information about Ukraine and its people. Representing over 25 regional and national associations of Ukrainian Americans, and the interests of nearly 2 million Americans of Ukrainian descent, UCCA urges fellow supporters of Ukraine to set the record straight whenever possible.

In an effort to assist our community in combating the current disinformation campaign against Ukraine, UCCA released an instructional Memo that outlined the following key points:

**#1: Ukrainians Are Best Suited To Discuss Matters Pertaining To Ukraine**

**#2: Public Officials Choosing To Speak About Ukraine Should Visit Ukraine**

**#3: Russia Is Currently Waging War Against Ukraine**

**#4: Russia Attacked The United States**

**#5: Ukraine Fights Against Corruption, Russia Promotes Corruption**

**#6: Ukraine Is An Ally Of The United States, Not An Enemy**

The full Memo with detailed explanations can be found on UCCA's Facebook page.

## UKRAINE'S QUEST FOR MATURE NATION STATEHOOD CONFERENCE

On October 10<sup>th</sup>, UCCA co-sponsored the 20<sup>th</sup> Roundtable in the Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood series. This year's roundtable addressed **"Ukraine's National Security Doctrine - Divining the Abiding Priorities."**

The day-long conference was the second in a new and critically important trilogy of Ukraine's Quest Roundtable gatherings (2018-20) essentially dedicated to exploring and evaluating Ukraine's military preparedness, particularly in the face of the ongoing occupation of Crimea and ongoing aggression in Donbas by the nation's northern neighbor.

The gathering centered on Ukraine's defense planning in the face of the kind of unrestricted warfare that hybrid conflict brings. As a result, the scope of the discussion reached well beyond the traditional military dimension, to also include economic, energy and information security. To aid in the examination, the roundtable ran five panel sessions and three focus sessions, with nearly two dozen featured speakers addressing the proceedings.

Videos of each panel discussion, as well as the focus sessions, can be viewed on UCCA's Facebook page.

## DONATIONS TO UCCA

UCCA would like to acknowledge the generous donations received in response to our 2018 End of Year Appeal to support the work of UCCA.\*

**\$1,000** –Ukrainian Federal Credit Union (Rochester), The Benevity Community Impact Fund

**\$500-999**  
Dr. & Mrs. Stephan Tymkiw, Ola Rondiak

**\$100**  
Anonymous, Bohdan Futey, Nicholas Skirka Living Trust, Eugene Kuchta, Peter Scheidle,

**Up to \$99**  
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*\*donations received as of June 2019*