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UCCA BULLETIN



October 2017 ...Our 77th Year of Service to the Community

PRESIDENT POROSHENKO MEETS WITH UKRAINIAN AMERICAN LEADERS

On September 18th, the UCCA organized a meeting with leaders of the Ukrainian American community and representatives of the Crimean Tatar organizations with Ukraine's President, Petro Poroshenko. The Roundtable took place at the Ukrainian Museum on President Poroshenko's first day in New York City to attend the United Nations General Assembly.

Welcoming the President and Mrs. Poroshenko, UCCA President, Andriy Futey stated the Ukrainian American community has made great efforts to help our homeland to defend the rights and freedoms of Ukrainians and will continue to work to strengthen US-Ukraine bilateral relations.



President Poroshenko thanked the community for their continued supported, underscoring that "Never in the history of the Ukrainian state, has Ukraine felt such great assistance and unity...aimed to implement the tasks the Ukrainian state faces today." He recalled the creation of the new Ukrainian army, with the assistance of the Ukrainians Diaspora, and steps taken by the U.S. Congress to help Ukraine. The President also paid special attention to the importance of supporting the Crimean Tatars.



Following his remarks, the President responded to various questions posed by the leaders of the community.

UCCA MARKS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UWC

Touted as the "place where it all began", New York City played host to the historic commemoration honoring the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC). On September 16, over 150 attendees gathered at the prestigious Princeton Club to celebrate 50 years of success in uniting Ukrainian communities worldwide.

The commemoration began with a daylong conference looking back at the history of the Ukrainian diaspora's international coordinating body. Four panel discussions during the course of the day, focused on different aspects of UWC activity, including: "Taking measure of UWC's efforts to improve US-Ukraine and Canada-Ukraine relations"; "Highlighting Ukrainian World Congress efforts in the United Nations"; "Examining UWC's work in the Humanitarian/Social Services/Human Rights Spheres"; and "Examining UWC's efforts in the Cultural, Informational and Educational Spheres." The program also include three keynote addresses by: Ukraine's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko, who opened the program; UWC President Eugene Czolij who delivered the an address on the theme "The UWC at fifty - Reflecting on high-water mark achievements"; and concluding remarks by UWC President from 1998-2008 Askold Lozynskyj, on "The Ukrainian World Congress looking forward: What to expect in the next 50 years." In all, over two dozen speakers addressed the gathering.



UWC President E. Czolij; UCCA Presidents- Michael Sawkiw, Andriy Futey (current), Tamara Olexy & Askold Lozynskyj

The conference proceedings were followed by a Commemorative Banquet that featured two speakers - Kateryna Yushchenko, former First Lady of Ukraine, and Vasyl Hrytsak, Head of the Security Service of Ukraine. Ambassador Valeriy Chaly, UWC President Eugene Czolij, UCCA President Andrew Futey, UCC President Paul Grod and former UWC President Askold Lozynskyj also delivered greetings. Michael Sawkiw, UCCA Executive Vice President, served as the evening banquet's Master of Ceremonies.

UCCA ATTENDS UWC AGM AND 50TH COMMEMORATION IN UKRAINE

UCCA Executive Board members – Andriy Futey, President; Michael Sawkiw, Executive VP; former UCCA Presidents Tamara Olexy and Askold Lozynskyj; as well as Marta Farion and Vasyl Peretz - took an active part in the Annual General Meeting of the Ukrainian World Congress, which took place at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv on August 25-26, 2017



Resolutions from the UWC's Annual General Meeting can be found at: <http://www.ukrainianworldcongress.org/news.php/news/1710>

Coinciding with the UWC's 50th Anniversary, the 206 delegates and guests from 32 countries, participated in various events in Kyiv to mark the historic anniversary, including: a special session at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine hosted Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin; a meeting with Acting Minister of Health of Ukraine Dr. Ulana Suprun; an Inaugural Economic Forum entitled, "Support for Ukraine's Economic Development: Cooperation between the Government of Ukraine and the Diaspora"; and laying flowers at the monuments to Taras Shevchenko and the Nebesna Sotnia Heroes. The AGM and 50th anniversary of UWC in Kyiv culminated with a Gala Reception at the Mystetskyi Arsenal, with the participation of President Petro Poroshenko.

On August 27-29, UWC continued its anniversary celebrations with *Ukrainian Diaspora Days* in Lviv, organized by International Institute for Education, Culture and Diaspora Relations of Lviv Polytechnic National University. The 3-day program began with opening ceremonies at the monument to Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, followed by a prayer service at St. George Cathedral and concluded with a Gala Reception at Lviv Polytechnic. August 28th was devoted to the conference "UWC at 50 and Beyond: The European Context." The final day began at the Lychakiv Cemetery with a Tribute to Heroes from past and contemporary history who laid down their lives for Ukraine's independence. A visit to the Global Ukrainian Orchard at "Shevchenkivskyi Hai" followed with a ribbon-tying ceremony under the slogan "Ukrainians together – the future is ours!" Flowers were also laid at the monument to the great poet Taras Shevchenko.

The day culminated with a special concert presentation "Reminiscencii.UA," at the Solomiya Krushelnytsky National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet.

ATTEND "UKRAINIAN DAY" & CELEBRATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the UCCA's Washington DC public affairs bureau, is continuing its #SupportUkraine! campaign in 2017 by sponsoring its third-in-a-series of "*Ukrainian Day*" advocacy events in Washington, DC on **Wednesday, October 11th**.

Following the "*Ukrainian Day*" advocacy event, an evening **Gala Reception** will be held to celebrate the **40th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS)**. The event will be held in the prestigious Senate Caucus Room (Kennedy Caucus Room), Senate Russell Office Building, Room #325. During the reception, Senators and Members of Congress will be recognized with the "*Friend of UNIS*" award for their contributions to the security and development of Ukraine.

This is a very important event for the Ukrainian community as we continue to focus on Ukraine's security and Euro-Atlantic integration. Our goal of our advocacy event is to seek support for Ukraine's immediate needs - military assistance; implementation of sanctions against Russia; deter Russian propaganda and disinformation; and, humanitarian assistance for Ukraine's nearly 2 million internally displaced persons.

For additional information or to register, please contact UNIS at (202)547-0018 or via email at: unis.sawkiw@gmail.com

UKRAINE'S QUEST FOR MATURE NATION STATEHOOD ROUNDTABLE XVIII: SOCIAL COHESION

One day following "Ukrainian Day" and the 40th anniversary of UNIS Gala Reception, the annual *Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable* will take place at CFR located at 1777 F Street, NW, Washington, DC.

The 18th annual Roundtable, which will be held on Thursday, October 12th, will examine "Ukraine and the Issue of Social Cohesion."

For further information or to register for this free conference, please contact Andriy Dobriansky at UCCA, either by phone at (212)228-6840 or by email at: drijmail@gmail.com

