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### UCCA BULLETIN



September 2016 ... Our 76th Year of Service to the Community

#### **UCCA ATTENDS WORLD FORUM OF UKRAINIANS**



While attending the Ukrainian World Forum (UWF) in Ukraine, the UCCA Delegation paid their respects to the 'Heavenly Hundred.' UCCA Delegates before memorial from left: Lubomyr Zobniw, Maksym Lozynskyj, Roksolana Stojko-Lozynskyj, Marie Duplak, Jaroslava Hartyanyi (European Congress of Ukrainians), Andrij Futey, and Michael Sawkiw.

Prior to the UWF, UCCA's Director of External Affairs, R. Lozynskyj, participated in various public relations efforts. On August 17<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Loznskyj spoke at a press conference about the upcoming UWF [https://youtu.be/jD4wmHyAekw], and on August 19<sup>th</sup> she spoke about US-Ukraine relations on MaidanTV[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M 6Sh6Nt2mY].









L to R: R. Lozynskyj at UWF Press Conference; Interview on MaidanTV; A. Futey delivering UCCA's UWF greeting; at Holodomor Memorial. Michael Sawkiw, Jr., UNIS Director and Chairman of the U.S. Holodomor Committee and Marie Duplak, UCCA Executive Secretary, paid tribute to the victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor and visited the Holodomor memorial in Kyiv. Memorial Director, Olesia Stasiuk, explained the concept design for the Memorial and the information they have obtained from many regions of Ukraine. The Memorial is steadily gaining visitors as the country learns more about Stalin's genocide of the Ukrainian nation. On Sunday, August 21st, the UCCA Executive Secretary and UNIS Director also attended Divine Liturgy at the Resurrection of the Lord, officiated by His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav.

#### **UWC Annual General Meeting and High-Level Meetings**

The Ukrainian World Congress' Annual General Meeting, held from August 25-27 at the Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv opened with the participation of 137 delegates and guests from 28 countries. In addition to the presentation of reports on UWC activities from the past year, delegates had the opportunity to exchange ideas and develop future plans for the 20-million strong Ukrainian diaspora by discussing the following topics: Coordinating support for Ukraine, organizing UWC Humanitarian aid initiatives in Ukraine, Promoting the positive image of Ukraine, Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the UWC, and Supporting the economic development of Ukraine.





UWC Board members meet with Ukraine's Minister of the Interior Avakov and Ukraine's Prime Minister V. Groysman UCCA's Executive VP, Andrij Futey joined UWC's Board members at several high-level meetings in Ukraine, including: Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman; Minister of the Interior Arsen Avako; Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine Ivanna Klympush- Tsintsadze, head of the parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee MP Hanna Hopko; Verkhovna Rada Speaker Andrij Parubiy;, Patriach Sviatoslav. UCCA also attended meetings with Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy, George Kent; Deputy Foreign Minister of Ukraine, Vadym Prystaiko, and Deputy Head Foreign Policy Advisor to the President, Kostiantyn Yelisieiev.

# HISTORIC NYC CONFERENCE TO HONOR 25 YEARS OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

On September 17th a once-in-a-generation, full-day conference will bring together over two dozen key academic, media and governmental voices from the United States, Ukraine and Europe to discuss the historical significance of Ukraine, as well as to delve into the country's prospects for becoming a fullfledged member of the Euro-Atlantic Community. The event entitled "Commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the Modern Ukrainian State" will take place at the Princeton Club of New York (15 West 43rd Street) and feature four panel discussions and three highlight presentations dedicated to taking a fresh, critical look at topics such as Ukraine's Distant and Recent Past, as well as carefully divining Ukraine's Near and Further Future. Following the panels and presentations will be a special evening banquet, also at the Princeton Club, at which government officials from the U.S. and will reflect upon Ukraine's Situation as well as the state of relations between our two countries.

Ukraine's historic anniversary has been sadly overshadowed by near-constant combat, as the nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity have come under assault from military, economic, cyber and information warfare – or hybrid war – waged by Vladimir Putin's Russia. As Russia's invasion of Ukraine remains a topic on the U.S. campaign trail, this conference will provide much needed historical context.

Confirmed Speakers:

JANUSZ BUGAJSKI • REFAT CHUBAROV • CONGRESSMAN ELIOT ENGEL (D-NY) • WILLIAM COURTNEY • PAUL GOBLE • PAUL RODERICK GREGORY • MARK VON HAGEN • LUBOMYR HAJDA • PHILLIP KARBER • AMBASSADOR YURI SERGEYEV • YURI SHAPOVAL • JAMES SHERR • OLEKSANDR SUSHKO • FRANK SYSYN • VOLODYMYR VYATROVYCH• GOVERNOR TOM RIDGE

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### SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 15 #SUPPORTUKRAINE

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington DC public affairs bureau of the UCCA, initiated the #SupportUkraine campaign to bring more attention to the current situation in Ukraine. The next #SupportUkraine event is a "Ukrainian Day" advocacy event and reception to honor Ukraine's 25th anniversary of Independence on Thursday, September 15th, in our nation's capital.

<u>SCHEDULE</u>

8:30am-10am: Briefing session

House of Representatives (room to be determined) **10am-5pm:** Meetings with congressional offices (Ukraine-related issues)

**6pm-8pm**: Reception - 25th Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence - to commemorate Ukraine's 25th anniversary of Independence and honor Members of Congress for their support of Ukrainerelated issues. The reception will take place in the Cannon Caucus Room, House Cannon Office Bldg.

To register or for or more information please contact the UNIS office either by phone at 202-547-0018 or by email at <u>unis.sawkiw@comcast.net</u>.

## UCCA BOARD MEMBER ANDRIJ DOBRIANSKY VISITS UKRAINIAN COMMUNITIES IN TEXAS

Over the last weekend in August, the UCCA's Andrij Dobriansky joined three Ukrainian communities in the state of Texas as they celebrated 25 years of Ukraine's independence.

On Saturday, August 27, over 100 Ukrainians from the combined communities of Austin and San Antonio met in Pflugerville, TX for their commemoration, which included dancers from both communities performing, as well as singing and a dramatic presentation. Prior to and after the concert, A. Dobriansky had the opportunity to speak with local activists about both what issues they felt passionately about, as well as what life was like for Ukrainians in their communities. At the start of the event itself, Mr. Dobriansky was formally introduced to the attendees along with his traveling companion, Ivan Rodichenko, with whom the NYC branch has worked to support military families in Ukraine. Overnight, the duo made it to Dallas, where they attended liturgy at St. Sophia's Ukrainian Catholic Church in the morning. The final event of the weekend was an Independence celebration organized by UCCA member organization, the Ukrainian American Society of Texas (UAST). In between the many songs and dances, Mr. Dobriansky gave a presentation on the state of the organized Ukrainian diaspora, and how the local community in Dallas can get involved and affect change to help Ukraine.

The UCCA thanks the communities in Texas for their warm reception, and looks forward to visiting them again.