Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington DC public affairs bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, is continuing its #SupportUkraine! campaign in 2020 by bringing you a series of infographics to help advocate for Ukraine-related issues in Washington, DC. The goal of the campaign is to seek support for Ukraine's immediate needs – security assistance; increased sanctions against Russia; deter Russian propaganda and disinformation; defending religious and human rights in Ukraine’s occupied territories; and, humanitarian assistance for Ukraine's nearly 2 million internally displaced persons.

The #SupportUkraine! series features information about a respective congressional bill and an infographic that you can post on your social media pages (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and the like). Below are highlights from the first 2 installments:

**UKRAINE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SUPPORT ACT - S.3064/H.R.5408**

Designates Russia as a country of particular concern for religious freedom. “For the purposes of making a determination over whether to designate Russia as a country of particular concern for religious freedom under section 402 of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998, the President shall consider any particularly severe violation of religious freedom in the territory of Ukraine that Russia occupies and exercises controls, or controls through non-state armed groups it commands, during the period of time that is the basis for the determination and designation, to be a particularly severe violation of religious freedom that the Government of Russia has engaged in or tolerated.”

**DEFENDING AMERICAN SECURITY FROM KREMLIN AGGRESSION ACT (DASKAA) - S.482**

Introduced by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Cory Gardner (R-CO), Ben Cardin (D-MD), and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) is a bill that establishes requirements for reporting on a wide variety of matters concerning Russian economic, military, and political activities. The bill imposes sanctions and other measures against Putin’s Russia until they stop meddling in the US electoral process, halt cyber-attacks on US infrastructure, withdraw from Ukraine, and cease efforts to create chaos in Syria. S.482 also states that the US will never recognize the illegal attempted annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation. The sanctions and other measures contained in this bill are a direct result of Putin’s continued desire to undermine American democracy.

UNIS urges you to please contact your Representatives to request their support for the Ukraine Religious Freedom Support Act and the Defending American Security from Kremlin Aggression Act (DASKAA).

All infographics are posted on the UNIS social media pages.

Should you need any further information, please contact the UNIS at unis.sawkiw@gmail.com
Despite coronavirus and the summer hiatus, the work of THE UKRAINIAN QUARTERLY goes on. The Fall 2020 edition of the venerable 76-year-old journal that follows events in Ukraine, offers the following articles for your edification:

From the yellowed pages of Ukraine’s antiquity, we draw your attention to an analysis reprinted from our inaugural edition by Prof. Nicholas D. Czubatyj, an original editor of THE UKRAINIAN QUARTERLY, about the National Revolution in Ukraine, 1917-19. Czubatyj pointed out that in course of the development of the Ukrainian independence thought a century ago, the Founding Fathers of independent Ukraine realized that none of the political trends emanating from Moscow – Tsarist, communist or liberal democratic – will ever benefit Ukraine. The Russians’ penchant for death and goal to subjugate Ukraine would never evaporate-independence and sovereignty for Ukraine is a must. Taras Kuzio, a member of the Editorial Board and a faculty member at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, demonstrates in his article “Why the Euromaidan Revolution was a Success: Petro Poroshenko’s Reform Record” that despite criticism, Poroshenko actually improved the life and welfare of Ukraine’s citizens.

With a desire to expand the sphere of expert-writers to other former captive nations, we published an article by Dmitri Teperik, of the International Centre for Defense and Security, Tallinn, Estonia, titled “Challenge of Distinguishing Own from Alien in the Historic Memories across Eastern Europe.” In it, Teperik underscores the need for the former captive nations to remember their individual and collective histories and succinctly points out “Our story has to be heard comprehensively worldwide because if nobody knows you, no one will notice your disappearance.”

Hans Petter Midttun, Norwegian Defense Attache in Ukraine (2014-18), offers four suggestions that could help subdue Russian aggression in his article “Have We Understood the Scope of Russian Aggression In Ukraine and are We Responding Accordingly?”. Another military expert, Lt. Col. (ret.) Sean McLaughlin, who served in the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine (2017-18), discusses his views on “How to End the Endless War; Ukraine, a New Way Forward.”

Mark Thomas, a faculty member at LaSalle University, in his article “Putin Rewrites History; Turns Back Clock to 1933,” takes the Russian president to task for attempts at rewriting history.

The upcoming issue does not only present articles on current political developments in Ukraine. Askold Lozynskyj, also a member of the Editorial Board in one article presents the self-sacrificing life and death of Vasyl Stus, a martyred poet of the “shestydesiatnyky” movement, and in a movie review discusses the hidden meanings in the film “White Bird with a Black Insignia.” The UQ also offers essays by topical experts from Ukraine. Natalya Danylykha of Ivan Franko Lviv University writes about a heretofore little known chapter from the history of the resettlement of Ukrainian Lemkos in the late 1940s in her “Strangers among Their Own,” article. Larysa Masenko of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, in her article “Ukrainian Language: Dig In and Defend Won Positions,” examines the current state of the battle surrounding the use of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine. While Iryna Skoryk writes about the precarious state of affairs in her native, war-torn Kharkiv.

Finally, as the coronavirus pandemic continues to ravage the world, it also wreaks havoc with the Ukrainian American community. Tamara Olexy, UCCA executive director, writes about the efforts to maintain civic visibility during Covid-19.

To subscribe to THE UKRAINIAN QUARTERLY, please contact the UCCA National Office at ucca@ucca.org.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the largest representation of Americans of Ukrainian descent, condemns the violence and self-evident political repressions against the people of Belarus. Ukrainian Americans stand in solidarity with the people of Belarus and their demands for the immediate release of those wrongfully imprisoned during the peaceful protests for free, fair and democratic elections that reflect the will of the people.

As an organization that has monitored numerous Ukrainian elections, it is important to ensure that international observers from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA) and the European Parliament (EP), as well as those from US and Canadian NGOs are allowed access to election precincts throughout Belarus, without which the votes cast by the Belarusian people cannot be considered free, honest and democratic.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations conducted a hearing on August 5, 2020 to consider President Donald J. Trump’s nomination of Lt. General Keith Dayton (US Army, ret.) as ambassador to Ukraine. The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), which unites and advocates in the name of nearly 30 fraternal, educational, religious, cultural, veterans and humanitarian organizations in the Ukrainian American community, submitted testimony in support of this nomination for the 10th confirmed US Ambassador to Ukraine.

UCCA thanks Senator Rob Portman, Chair of the Senate Ukraine Caucus, for entering UCCA’s written testimony into the record on behalf of the Ukrainian American community.

To watch the hearing please click on the following link: https://bit.ly/UCCATube