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# The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America asks

## *What's important to you?*

### Teaching our youth

- Preserving and passing down our Ukrainian language & culture to the next generation
- Publishing your articles & organizing conferences to explain the true history of Ukraine

### Sharing your work

- Listing your local events and initiatives with our network of over 20 national organizations and dozens of local chapters
- Inspiring others around the country and around the world with your ideas

### Advocating your causes

- Learning how to interact with local, state and federal officials for the benefit of your community
- Coordinating your local campaigns with like-minded activists near and far

### Building our legacy

- Supporting Film, TV and Media projects that document our journey
- Encouraging investment in community-run businesses and organizations
- Charting a course for preserving our community's infrastructure and institutions

UCCA is a 501(c)(3) Not-for-Profit organization  
All donations to UCCA are tax deductible, and can be submitted online,  
through your local UCCA Branches, or to the UCCA National Office.

# WHAT IS UCCA?

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The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) is a non-profit, non-partisan community-based organization that has represented the interests of Ukrainians in the United States since 1940. With a National Office in New York City, a bureau in Washington, D.C. and dozens of local grassroots chapters throughout the United States, UCCA's staff and a nationwide network of volunteers advocate in the name of over 1.5 million Americans of Ukrainian descent. In addition to individual members, UCCA unites nearly 30 national Ukrainian American organizations under one umbrella, the UCCA National Council, consisting of representatives of fraternal, educational, veterans, religious, cultural, social, and humanitarian organizations.

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Since 1940, UCCA has convened delegates from across the U.S. every 4 years at its "Congress of Ukrainians in America." The Congress elects an Executive Board to carry out the plans and directives agreed upon at the Congress, under the guidance of the UCCA National Council, the highest ruling body between conventions.

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In 1944, UCCA formed the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee (UUARC) to spearhead assistance for Ukrainian war victims and refugees. In addition to ongoing immigrant assistance programs, the UUARC has sent an unprecedented amount of medical supplies and humanitarian aid to Ukraine to assist wounded soldiers, displaced persons and orphans.



In 1953, UCCA formed the Educational Council of UCCA to centralize and coordinate the activities of dozens of Saturday School Programs of Ukrainian Studies. The council organizes teachers' workshops, publishes textbooks, and regularly inspects a network of Ukrainian Schools that stretches from Boston to Los Angeles.

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In 1967, UCCA collaborated with like-minded organizations to create the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), the largest international assembly of Ukrainian public organizations. Since 2003, UWC is a registered NGO in consultative status with the United Nations, where UCCA representatives attend weekly briefings and committee meetings on behalf of the worldwide Ukrainian diaspora of over 20 million people.

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In 1977, UCCA established a permanent Washington, D.C.-based advocacy bureau, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS). For 40 years, the UNIS office has brought Ukrainian Americans from across the country face-to-face with their elected representatives, and spearheaded the formation of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus in the House of Representatives in 1997, later joined by the Senate Ukraine Caucus in 2015. Recent legislative accomplishments include the enactment of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act (2014), the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (2015), the Countering Disinformation and Propaganda Act (2016), and the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (2017).

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# UCCA'S UNPARALLELED RECORD

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Since 1940, UCCA has enabled the Ukrainian American community to generate the political capital and momentum needed to aid the people of Ukraine. During World War II, that included such measures as a Ukrainian American war bond drive of \$5,000,000, organizing aid for Ukrainian war victims and refugees, rallying parishes and community centers towards blood drives, and advocating for the passage of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, which allowed for more than 200,000 persons to enter the US, nearly half of whom were Ukrainians. Additionally, the UCCA has enabled Ukrainian Americans to:

- publish the first English-language scholarly journal devoted to Ukraine, The Ukrainian Quarterly, every year since 1944;
- raise public awareness of Soviet oppression by helping establish Captive Nations Week in 1959;
- erect a permanent monument to Taras Shevchenko in our nation's capital in 1964;
- create the Council on Aid to Ukrainians to disseminate educational materials to Ukrainians throughout the world, in 1989;
- co-found the Central and East European Coalition with other national ethnic advocacy groups in 1994;
- establish a U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide Awareness, and the eventual unveiling of the National Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide Memorial in Washington, D.C. in 2015

UCCA led nationwide actions in the lead up to the fall of the Soviet Union in 1990, and conducted the first ever international Election Observer Missions in an independent Ukraine. UCCA remains the only community organization that has sent a delegation of election observers to every Ukrainian presidential and parliamentary election, the largest consisting of over 2500 observers during the historic 2004 Orange Revolution. Moreover, UCCA organizes academic conferences throughout the United States, and regularly empowers representatives of the Ukrainian American community to be quoted by print and television journalists when discussing events in Ukraine. The Film Committee of UCCA has provided grants towards documentaries showing the true history of Ukraine, and has co-produced feature films on the lives of Stepan Bandera (1995), General Roman Shukhevych (2000), Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky (2008), and Symon Petliura (2018).

In many ways, the work of Ukrainians in America and our many community organizations is needed more now by our family and friends in Ukraine than in recent memory. Over the past 3 years, UCCA has remained at the forefront of generating aid and action in support of a Ukrainian nation under attack by Russia. Our decades of work with the United States government affords UCCA and our members greater access to our elected officials, as well as to the government of Ukraine. As Ukraine's President Petro Poroshenko stated in 2016, the decades-long efforts of UCCA to "unify the Ukrainian community throughout the United States" are valued highly by the government and people of Ukraine. Please consider donating to the UCCA today. Your generous, tax-deductible contribution will go a long way in helping us to continue our vital work on behalf of Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community.

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