



# UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE

TWITTER: @UNISDIRECT INSTAGRAM: @UNISDIRECT  
FACEBOOK: UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE (UNIS)

January 4, 2022

Dear Friends of Ukraine,

Following the most recent phone call between Presidents Biden and Zelenskyy about the Kremlin's forces on Ukraine's borders, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) penned a letter to President Biden addressing the need for the Administration "to continue publicly supporting Ukraine's efforts towards Euro-Atlantic integration, most importantly its membership within the NATO alliance, while simultaneously providing Ukraine with the means necessary to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty."

The letter calls upon the Administration to "supply defensive military weaponry and equipment to Ukraine to ensure a strong deterrent against current and future Russian maneuvers." The letter also underscores the need for enhanced diplomatic relations with Ukraine through the presence of an American ambassador in Kyiv.

Inasmuch as Ukraine will be the foremost topic of discussion in high-level discussions between U.S. and Kremlin officials next week in Europe, the letter requests President Biden's "stalwart leadership in defending the objectives enumerated in the renewed U.S.-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership."

Attached, please find a copy of UCCA letter to President Biden. The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) will keep you informed of any responses or pending actions regarding the White House.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) at: [unis.sawkiw@gmail.com](mailto:unis.sawkiw@gmail.com).

~~~~~  
Michael Sawkiw, Jr.  
Director - Ukrainian National Information Service  
(Washington Bureau - Ukrainian Congress Committee of America)



# Український Конгресовий Комітет Америки, Інк. UKRAINIAN CONGRESS COMMITTEE OF AMERICA, INC.

## NATIONAL OFFICE

203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003  
Phone: (212) 228-6840/41  
e-mail: [ucca@ucca.org](mailto:ucca@ucca.org)

## WASHINGTON OFFICE

311 Massachusetts Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002  
Phone: (202) 547-0018 · Fax: (202) 547-0019  
e-mail: [unis@ucca.org](mailto:unis@ucca.org)

[www.ucca.org](http://www.ucca.org)

January 3, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the representative organization of over two million Americans of Ukrainian descent, is united in our support for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Ukraine. As Americans, we believe that a democratic and independent Ukraine is in the national security interests of the United States and is vital to a Europe that is whole, free, and at peace. The Ukrainian community is grateful for your recent phone calls with President Zelenskyy of Ukraine, as well as your Administration's interaction with senior Ukrainian officials, which speaks to the seriousness and gravity of Russia's continuing aggressive actions towards Ukraine.

The constant threats posed to Ukrainian sovereignty by Russia and its escalation of armed military forces on Ukraine's border must be deterred by resilient means. Unfortunately, Russian malign behavior towards Ukraine and our allies has manifested itself in bold and brazen methods including kinetic and cyber warfare, manipulation of energy resources, and an unabashed disinformation campaign. The stakes for the United States and the larger democratic world could not be higher.

Mindful of the upcoming high-level discussions in Europe with U.S., European, and Kremlin officials, the UCCA would like to raise a few matters regarding our strategic partner, Ukraine. It is obvious that Russia's efforts to destabilize Ukraine by its build-up of forces on Ukraine's border threaten the security of our allies in Europe, not to mention, run contrary to the norms of international order. The UCCA is deeply concerned that during these upcoming meetings, any discourse from Kremlin operatives that seek to undermine Ukraine's course of Euro-Atlantic integration and trans-Atlantic relationships would forever endanger peace in Europe.

The Ukrainian American community looks to your Administration to continue publicly supporting Ukraine's efforts towards Euro-Atlantic integration, most importantly its membership within the NATO alliance, while simultaneously providing Ukraine with the means necessary to defend its territorial integrity and sovereignty. Increased military assistance to Ukraine is crucial for our strategic partner Ukraine to deter all forms of Moscow's aggressive actions. Overwhelming bi-partisan congressional legislation has authorized the Executive Branch to supply defensive military weaponry and equipment to Ukraine to ensure a strong deterrent against current and future Russian maneuvers. Deterring Russia's defiant conduct remains the quintessential component in formulating a comprehensive plan of action. Thus, the UCCA urges your Administration to assess the current needs of Ukraine and immediately expedite military weaponry to boost that country's defenses, as well as to appoint a U.S. ambassador to Kyiv to enhance the strategic partnership between our two countries.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America strongly believes that the national security interests of the United States lie in the fulfillment of its obligation and thus looks to you, Mr. President, to strengthen our policy regarding Russia's aggressive actions towards Ukraine. Bolstering and fully implementing the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) of 2017 and Magnitsky/Global Magnitsky sanctions regimes against the Russian Federation would send a strong message for the Kremlin to comply with its international commitments. Furthermore, provisions within CAATSA enable for sectoral sanctions of key sectors of Russia's economy, as well as the sanctioning of the NordStream2 political pipeline.

Since Russia's invasion and illegal occupation of Ukrainian territory in 2014, the United States has steadfastly supported the independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine's internationally recognized borders, including rejecting any form of recognition of Russian rule over Crimea. The enactment of mandated sanctions only amplifies those statements and bolsters the strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States. Additional measures of neutralizing Russia's aggressive disinformation campaign should also be addressed by robust media-centric programs emanating from the Global Engagement Center (GEC), as well as direct messaging from the State Department.

The art of diplomacy is often defined as the collaborative efforts of representatives of states to negotiate in good faith. Given the malign behavior and aggressive actions of the Kremlin, it would be unwise, however; to aspire towards such fundamental principles in discussions with Russian representatives. In fact, just last month, Lithuania's Minister of Defense visited Washington and ascertained that "Diplomatic means are no longer sufficient...Our support should be provided not when aggression starts, but prior to that." Concessions by the West on Ukraine's sovereignty, its Euro-Atlantic aspirations, or constitutional modifications or changes to Europe's security framework would impair the freedom and stability that has been achieved on that continent in the last three decades.

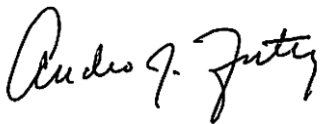
Mr. President, the readout of your telephone conversation with President Zelenskyy yesterday accentuated the principle of "nothing about you without you." The Ukrainian community is assured of your commitment and knows that the United States bears a moral obligation to take the lead in promoting international norms, defending basic human rights and freedoms, and charting a course of geopolitical stability. We seek your stalwart leadership in defending the objectives enumerated in the renewed U.S.-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership.

The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America formally requests a meeting with you following your telephone conversations with President Zelenskyy to discuss our community's concerns about the continuous onslaught of Russian aggressive measures.

Thank you for your attention and consideration of this very important matter. Please accept our warm wishes for a happy and healthy New Year! Should you or your staff have any further questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the UCCA's Washington, DC public affairs bureau by e-mail at: [unis.sawkiw@gmail.com](mailto:unis.sawkiw@gmail.com).

Respectfully,

***On behalf of the UCCA Executive Board,***



Andrew Futey  
President



Michael Sawkiw, Jr.  
Executive Vice President