



UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE

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April 13, 2022

Dear Friends of Ukraine,

SAVE THE DATE - “Washington Ukraine Days”

The first in-person #SupportUkraine! “Washington Ukraine Days” advocacy fete since the pandemic will be held on Thursday and Friday, June 9-10, 2022 in Washington, DC.

Sponsored by the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), the Washington, DC public affairs bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), this advocacy event remains a very important endeavor for the Ukrainian American community especially given the urgent support needed for Ukraine to defend its territory against invading ruSSian forces. Ukraine is now entering its 7th week of ruSSia’s newest invasion. The June 9-10th advocacy event will be used as an opportunity to meet in-person once again with Members of Congress and acquaint them with our concerns for increased security assistance for Ukraine, continued strong sanctions against ruSSia, and support for humanitarian programs to aid Ukrainians afflicted by the war.

As is traditional, the highlight of the “Ukrainian Days” advocacy program will include presentations of the “Friend of UNIS” award to Members of Congress and others who have shown overwhelming support for Ukraine and the enhancement of U.S.-Ukraine relations.

**** Please note, on Saturday, June 11, 2022, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) will also sponsor a one-day symposium in Washington, DC on the Ukraine war efforts to review the community’s humanitarian assistance programs, as well as to discuss measures of additional support for Ukraine. Details will be forthcoming.**

JUNE 9-10, 2022 - SAVE THE DATE and advance our community’s concerns in Washington and meet your Members of Congress. Further information will be forthcoming by e-mail and on the UNIS social media platforms.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE YOUR COMMUNITY REPRESENTED IN WASHINGTON FOR THIS SUMMERTIME ADVOCACY EVENT!

UPDATE FROM CONGRESS:

ruSSia’s war of aggression against Ukraine has killed thousands of innocent civilians, injured thousands more, and has caused a humanitarian crisis the likes of which have not been seen in Europe since World War II. The world has watched in horror as the kremlin continues to launch daily missile attacks on Ukrainian civilian targets. These kremlin war tactics can be clearly classified as war crimes.

Last week, prior for departing for a two-week congressional recess, both the Senate and House of Representatives introduced measures to hold the kremlin accountable for its war crimes in Ukraine. Below please find information regarding ruSSian war crimes legislation in Congress.

In the U.S. House of Representatives:

House Foreign Affairs Committee Lead Republican Michael McCaul delivered remarks on the House floor in favor of his legislation, the Ukraine Invasion War Crimes Deterrence and Accountability Act.

“We cannot wait for the next atrocity before we act,” Rep. McCaul said. “We must do what we can now to deter Russian leaders, commanders, and troops in the field from committing further war crimes. That’s why we introduced this legislation. It will ensure the United States helps the people of Ukraine gather, analyze, and maintain evidence of war crimes.

In the U.S. Senate:

U.S. Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-IL), Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee and Co-Chair of the Senate Ukraine Caucus, spoke on the Senate floor to highlight The War Crimes Accountability Act, legislation he will introduce in the coming days to ensure the United States has the tools to hold accountable the perpetrators of war crimes and other atrocities. Following the mass killings in Bucha, Ukraine, President Biden declared that they were war crimes, vowing to hold Russian President Vladimir Putin accountable.

One survivor in Bucha, Antonina Pomazanko watched helplessly as Russian soldiers murdered her daughter, Tetiana. Without provocation, Russian soldiers opened fire on their home.

Sen. Durbin said, “There is nothing that will fill the void of loss and despair that Mrs. Pomazanko and millions of Ukrainians are feeling at this moment. But there is more—much more—we, as Americans, must do. The actions of Vladimir Putin harken back to some of Europe’s darkest days, the atrocities committed by Nazi soldiers during World War II, the massacres in former Yugoslavia, days we hope we never have to relive.”

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) will provide detailed information as it becomes available, at which time UNIS urges you to contact Congress to support these measures.

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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).

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