

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL INFORMATION SERVICE

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August 24, 2023



AUGUST 24, 2023

Statement from President Joe Biden on Ukraine Independence Day

Today, the people of Ukraine are once more marking their Independence Day, while suffering the all-out assault of Putin's craven war for land and power. For eighteen months, Ukrainian families have lived under the daily threat of Russian rockets and the reality of brutal attacks. But the people of Ukraine have refused to break.

On this Independence Day, as they have since Russia first invaded Ukraine in 2014, brave Ukrainian women and men are defending Ukraine from assaults on fundamental principles essential to every nation on the planet – sovereignty and territorial integrity. They are showing the world once more that freedom is worth fighting for.

Independence means the freedom to choose your own future. It's precious. Each year on July 4th, Americans celebrate our Independence Day as a time to remember the price we paid for our freedom and all the blessings that flow from it. So today, as Putin continues his brutal war to erase Ukraine's independence and redraw the map of our world by force, Americans all across the country stand united with the people of Ukraine.

The United States will continue our work, together with partners all around the world, to support Ukraine's ability to defend itself against Russia's aggression, to uphold the foundational principles of the UN Charter, and to help the Ukrainian people build the secure, prosperous, and independent future they deserve.

Our commitment to Ukraine's independence is unwavering and enduring. That's why the United States and other G7 nations issued a joint declaration in Lithuania last month pledging to help Ukraine maintain armed forces capable of deterring Russian aggression in years to come, a declaration which over 25 nations have now joined. Together with our partners in Europe, we are supporting Ukraine in their fight for freedom now and we will help them over the long term.

We are also working with nations everywhere to hold Russian forces accountable for the war crimes and other atrocities they have committed in Ukraine. That includes the forcible removal of thousands of Ukrainian children to Russia. These children have been stolen from their parents and kept apart from their families. It's unconscionable. And today, we are announcing new sanctions to hold those responsible for these forced transfers and deportations to account, and to demand that Ukrainian children be returned to their families.

I sincerely hope that next year, Ukrainians will be able to celebrate their Independence Day in peace and safety, knowing how their extraordinary courage inspired the world. May Ukraine's Independence Day be a reminder that the forces of darkness and dominion will never extinguish the flame of liberty that lives in the heart of free people everywhere.

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<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/08/24/statement-from-president-joe-biden-on-ukraine-independence-day/>



I want to congratulate all Ukrainians on their Independence Day. August 24th is a testament to Ukraine's independence, sovereignty, and democracy and a day of pride in Ukraine's strength and resilience. It is also a day of celebration of Ukrainian heritage and culture.

Today also marks one and a half years since the Kremlin launched its brutal, full-scale invasion of Ukraine – 18 months of senseless aggression, causing death and

destruction across Ukraine. As we join you in celebrating more than three decades as an independent country, we also mourn with you remembering your sons and daughters who have given their lives in defense of your country. We stand by you in the fight for your beloved country.

It is because of you and your resilience that Ukraine will prevail, and Russia will pay a high price for what it has done. The United States will continue to stand with you and work with our Allies and partners to ensure Ukraine has what it needs to defend itself, to recover, and to thrive.

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<https://www.state.gov/ukraine-national-day/>



[KYIV, UKRAINE] – U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Lindsey Graham (R-SC), and Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) met with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and top officials during a visit to Kyiv, Ukraine on August 23. The congressional delegation’s trip coincides with Ukraine’s Independence Day celebration on August 24 and demonstrates strong bipartisan support from the U.S. Senate for the Ukrainian people in the face of Russia’s brutal and illegal invasion.



and move President's Biden's request for additional Ukraine funding through Congress. Ukrainians are on the frontlines in the battle for democracy and we must continue to support them," said Warren.

Photos from the visit are available [here](#).

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<https://www.blumenthal.senate.gov/newsroom/press/release/blumenthal-graham-and-warren-meet-with-president-zelensky-top-officials-during-visit-to-ukraine>



AUGUST 24, 2023

Chairman Menendez Pledges Unwavering Support for Ukraine on 32nd Independence Day

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman reaffirms his commitment to ensuring Ukraine has what it needs to fight back against Russian aggression, including supporting the Biden Administration's latest funding request

WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Senator Bob Menendez (D-N.J.), Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, released this statement in support of Ukraine on the country's 32nd anniversary of its independence.

“Nearly a year and a half into Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, and almost a decade since President Putin's forces began their brutal assault on Ukraine's sovereignty, the Ukrainian people have given new meaning to the words bravery and resilience. Today, we honor the heroic Ukrainian men and women who are

who are standing up in defense of their independence, a stronger Euro Atlantic community, and the basic principle that one country cannot simply invade another. As Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I am committed to doing my part to ensure that Ukraine has the resources it needs to fight back against Russia's unprovoked assault, including through supporting the Biden Administration's recent funding request to meet Ukraine's urgent needs, and advocating for accelerated deliveries of security assistance.

"Throughout Ukraine's history, the Ukrainian people have striven for a free, democratic, and representative country. From when the Verkhovna Rada declared independence on August 24, 1991, to when the Ukrainian people rejected Russian imperialism during the 2004 Orange Revolution and again during the 2013 Revolution of Dignity, the United States and the international community have heard their voices loud and clear. While Russia's harrowing war crimes shock the world on a daily basis, I stand committed to helping Ukraine rebuild and thrive through modernizing key sectors and continuing to integrate Ukraine into the broader European and transatlantic community. Slava Ukraini."

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<https://www.foreign.senate.gov/press/dem/release/chairman-menendez-pledges-unwavering-support-for-ukraine-on-32nd-independence-day>

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

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Michael Sawkiw, Jr.

UCCA Executive Vice President

and

Director - Ukrainian National Information Service

(Washington Bureau - Ukrainian Congress Committee of America)

311 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20002

tel: (202) 547-0018

fax: (202) 547-0019

e-mail: [unis.sawkiw@gmail.com](mailto:unis.sawkiw@gmail.com)

Facebook/Twitter/Instagram: @UNISdirect