



2017 ANNUAL REPORT

77 Years of Serving the Ukrainian American Community



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WHAT IS UCCA?

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. – the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) – 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.

The composition and the duties of the UCCA Executive Board are defined in Section IV of the UCCA Bylaws. The current members of the UCCA Executive Board were elected by delegates at the XXII Congress of Ukrainians of America, held at the Ukrainian National Home in Hartford, Conn., over weekend of September 23-25, 2016.

UCCA President — Andriy Futey

National Council Chair — Stefan Kaczaraj

Vice-President — Michael Sawkiw, Jr.

Executive Secretary — Marie Duplak

Treasurer — Myron Kolinsky

The XXII Congress also appointed 10 additional members to the board, including a representative from UCCA's Educational Council, the Director of UCCA's National Office, and appointed representatives from the following organizations: the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics in America; the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association; the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee; the Ukrainian American Youth Association; New Ukrainian Wave; the Organization for Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; and a representative from the Illinois Division of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

UCCA's membership consists of representatives of Ukrainian organizations in the United States, as well as individuals of Ukrainian nationality or ancestry. Year after year, our most impressive activity has been accomplished at the local level, including the work of UCCA's most active branches in the following areas: Atlanta, GA; Amsterdam, NY; Binghamton, NY; Boston, MA; Bridgeport, CT; Buffalo, NY; Chicago, IL; Cleveland, OH; Dallas, TX; Hartford, CT; Jersey City, NJ; Kerhonkson, NY; Long Island, NY; Los Angeles, CA; Newark, NJ; New Britain, CT; New Haven, CT; New York City; North Port, FL; Passaic, NJ; Philadelphia, PA; Riverhead, NY; Rochester, NY; Syracuse, NY; Whippany, NJ; and Yonkers, NY.

UCCA unites over 20 national Ukrainian-American organizations under one umbrella, the UCCA National Council, consisting of representatives of UCCA local branches, delegates of the main Ukrainian religious faiths in the United States, the Editor-in-Chief of "The Ukrainian Quarterly," as well as the following fraternal, educational, youth, veteran, religious, cultural, social, and humanitarian organizations:



provassn.com



ukrainiannationalassociation.org



newwave4.org



uavets.org



uncua.com



ridnashkola.org



uuarc.org



lemko-ool.com



cym.org/us



odffu.org



wadffu.org



umana.org



ukrainiangiftoflife.com

as well as the:

**Brotherhood of Veterans of the 1st-Division
of the Ukrainian National Army (UNA)**

**Heritage Foundation
of First Security Federal Savings Bank**

**"Self-Reliance" Association
of American Ukrainians**

**Society of Veterans
of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA)**



cycta.org

**Ukrainian American
Freedom Foundation**

**Ukrainian Free
University Foundation**

**Ukrainian Human
Rights Committee**

**Ukrainian Student
Association of Mykola
Mikhnovsky (TUSM)**

A Few Words from UCCA President, Andriy Futey

One of UCCA's strengths is its foresight. We look beyond the horizon to establish a plan of action, to tackle the most pressing issues of our time — today, that being the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine.

The challenges facing Ukraine today are global in nature - and require a unified response. Therefore, throughout my first year as president, I dedicated a great deal of time to outreach efforts, in order to revitalize and re-energize UCCA: working towards re-integrating former UCCA member organizations back into the fold, reinvigorating our existing branches, as well as exploring the possibility of establishing new local UCCA chapters in communities throughout the United States.

UCCA's Washington, D.C. bureau - the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) - marked its 40th anniversary in 2017, and evidence of our advocacy work was strengthened by the three well-attended "Ukrainian Days" events held throughout 2017. Community representatives from across the country again gathered to meet face-to-face with their elected officials in Washington, D.C.

UCCA's impact on the global stage was also marked, as we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian World Congress in Kyiv, New York and Toronto, and in my regular working visits to Ukraine, meeting with Ukraine's government officials and civil society representatives at the highest level.

In the United States, major legislative initiatives benefitting Ukraine continue to be enacted, with Security Assistance funding to Ukraine increasing year-to-year at historic levels. The Ukraine Security Assistance amendment, introduced by the co-chair of the Senate Ukraine Caucus, Sen. Rob Portman (R-OH), included critical Naval Assistance to Ukraine for the first time ever, providing funding for the rehabilitation of Ukrainian soldiers, as well as training for medical professionals in Ukraine. Furthermore, UCCA worked with Congressional Ukrainian Caucus Co-Chairs, Reps. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Andy Harris (R-MD), Sander Levin (D-MI), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) to work across party lines and issue timely statements and resolutions, including calling for the release of Ukrainians held in captivity by Russia, and honoring the victims of the Holodomor.

In the pages that follow, you will read many positive achievements and highlights of UCCA's work and advocacy over the past year. Nevertheless, we should remind ourselves that much more work remains to be done. As long as Russia's aggression towards Ukraine continues, and Crimea remains illegally occupied, UCCA pledges to continue working unwaveringly to fulfill our mission - to support Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. I call on all of you to join our cause!





JOIN OUR
MAILING LIST

<http://bit.ly/2vG0LpM>



DONATE
TODAY

<http://bit.ly/1OoT0sK>



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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



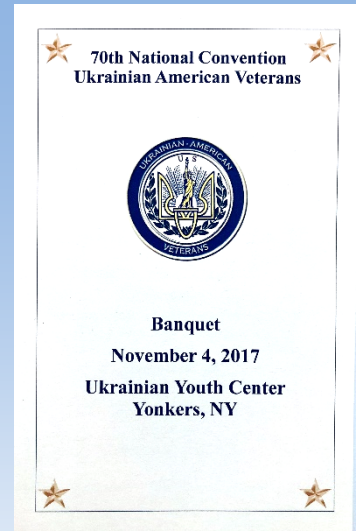
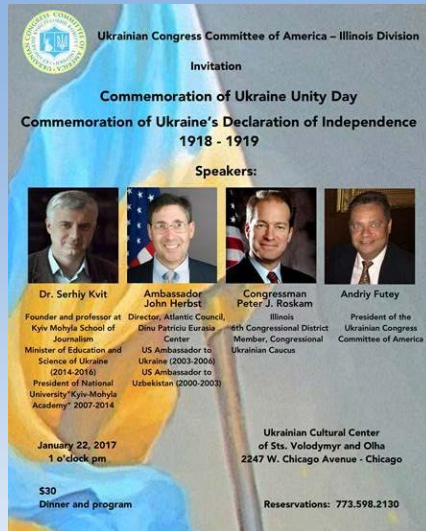
From June 4-12, UCCA President Andriy Futey traveled to Ukraine with an official delegation of international experts representing influential U.S. think tanks, including: the American Foreign Policy Council, the Jamestown Foundation, the Hudson Institute and The Heritage Foundation. During their stay in Kyiv, the group met with the Chairman of Ukraine's parliament - the Verkhovna Rada - Andriy Parubiy; the Secretary of the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, Oleksandr Turchynov; the head of the Security Service of Ukraine, Vasyl Hrytsak; Ukraine's Minister of Internal Affairs Arsen Avakov; the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, Yuriy Lutsenko; Ukraine's Acting Minister of Health, Ulana Suprun; Colonel General Anatolii Matios, the Chief Military Prosecutor of Ukraine; the Director of the Ukrainian Institute of National Remembrance Volodymyr Viatrovych; Members of Ukraine's Parliament Serhii Vysotsky, Hanna Hopko, Andrii Levus, Oleksandr Opanasenko, and Ostap Yednak; United States Ambassador to Ukraine, Marie Yovanovitch; and many other officials, politicians, public figures, military personnel and civil society volunteers.



*L to R: B. Potapenko, A. Futey, Minister U. Suprun & G. Jurkiw;
Delegation with Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin (right)*

Prior to their meetings in Kyiv, the delegation visited Lviv, Odesa, Zaporizhiya, and the strategic port city of Mariupol, and currently the administrative center of the Donetsk Oblast. Their visits including meeting with local leaders and visiting fortified military installations in the areas of Mariupol and Yavoriv.

The delegation prepared a report and shared its findings and recommendations with U.S. Administration and Congressional officials regarding policy toward Russia, Ukraine and Russia's hybrid war against Ukraine, and other countries including the Euro-Atlantic community.



With a commitment of maintaining a vibrant and strong Ukrainian community throughout the United States, UCCA President Andriy Futey visited numerous communities throughout 2017, speaking at various events and hearing out each community's priorities.



Chicago, IL



Yonkers, NY



Atlanta, GA



North Port, FL

Advancing the Issues That Matter to Our Community

Goals of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America:

1b: To represent the Ukrainian-American community and its desire to aid the people of Ukraine before the governmental structures of the United States of America

UCCA Bylaws, Section 1,

2017 was a watershed year for the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. For the 4th consecutive year, major legislation benefitting Ukraine passed through Congress, including the Ukraine Security Assistance Amendment, which built on already enacted measures aiding Ukraine's fight against Russian Aggression, and included crucial funding for the treatment of Ukraine's wounded soldiers in the United States. Congress and the White House also came together to pass the only major, bipartisan legislation of the year, further punishing Russia's cyber army through the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

In 2017, Speaker of the House, Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI), and the Chairman of Ukraine's Parliament, Andriy Parubiy, met and signed a Memorandum of Understanding reaffirming the U.S. Congress - Verkhovna Rada Parliamentary Exchange (CRPE). The enacting of the CAATSA legislation was advocated for by civic activists led by UCCA. Following the law's passage in the House of Representatives, Speaker Ryan reached out personally to UCCA President Andriy Futey to express the unity of the United States Congress in combating Russia's aggression.

Following the 2016 elections, the new presidential administration entered with an inauguration in January 2017, attended by UCCA President Futey. UCCA submitted statements to the relevant U.S. Senate Committees reviewing the nominations of Rex Tillerson for Secretary of State, and Gov. Nikki Haley for U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations. On May 10, Foreign Minister of Ukraine Pavlo Klimkin met with President Trump, paving the way for a high-level Oval Office sit-down between President Trump and President Poroshenko in June. President Poroshenko also met with the newly confirmed Secretaries of State, Defense, Energy and Commerce.

UCCA would like to thank the participants of the "Ukrainian Days" advocacy events, who began descending on Washington, D.C. on March 8th and 9th in 2017. Nearly four dozen Ukrainian-Americans from New Jersey, District of Columbia, New York, Illinois, Virginia, Connecticut, Ohio, Florida, Pennsylvania, Colorado, North Carolina, Washington state, and Michigan met with more than 50 legislative offices in the House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

On June 14th, dozens more Ukrainian-Americans participated in the second "Ukrainian Days" advocacy event of 2017. They were joined by community leaders from the Central and East European Coalition (CEEC), and students from the American-Ukrainian Youth Civics and Public Policy Club, a program of the Ukrainian Heritage School of the Philadelphia area. Meeting with over 30 Congressional offices representing the states of Oregon, California, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, New Hampshire and Connecticut, they relayed their concerns regarding the current situation in Ukraine and acts of increased Russian aggression.

On October 11th, meetings were held with over 25 Members of Congress during the third and final "Ukrainian Day" Advocacy event of 2017. Over three dozen members of our community traveled to our nation's capital to advocate for greater U.S. assistance to Ukraine, addressing such issues as: support for the National Defense Authorization Act to include National Security Assistance to Ukraine; and honoring the victims of the Holodomor Genocide during the 85th commemorative year.

*Ukrainian-American activists
walking the halls of Congress*



*Ukrainian-Americans meeting with
Senator Robert Menendez (D-NJ)*



*Ukrainian-Americans meeting with
Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)*



*Ukrainian-Americans meeting with
Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ)*

Advocacy in Action



Bestowing Gratitude on Behalf of Our Community



*Sen. Chris Murphy
(D-CT)*



*Dr. Ulana Suprun
Acting Minister of Health (Ukraine)*



*Gen. Wesley Clark
(US Army, Ret.)*

Shevchenko Freedom Award

The Shevchenko Freedom Award is the highest accolade accorded by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to individuals who have displayed a remarkable understanding and given substantial assistance to the Ukrainian-American community and the Ukrainian people. This award is given to Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike who embody the prophetic aspirations of Taras Shevchenko, the 19th century national bard of Ukraine who dedicated his life and work to the pursuit of democracy and freedom in Ukraine.

On March 8th, former UCCA President Tamara Olexy bestowed the “Shevchenko Freedom Award” to Sen. Chris Murphy (D-CT) who was unable to attend XXII Congress of Ukrainians held in Hartford last year. The senator thanked UCCA and the Connecticut community for their activism and pledged that he, along with his colleagues, will continue to stand with Ukraine in its time of need.

On June 15th, following the Acting Minister of Health’s presentation at the “US-UA Working Group Yearly Summit” in Washington, DC, UCCA was privileged to bestow Dr. Ulana Suprun with The Shevchenko Freedom Award for her tireless humanitarian efforts, particularly as Director of the Ukrainian World Congress’ Patriot Defense project.

‘Friend of Ukraine’ Award

As Ukraine defends its territory from military invasion for the first time in a century, the UCCA inaugurated a new award to recognize military leaders and defense experts who have aided Ukraine in defending its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

On February 14th, during the Evening Reception of the VIII U.S.-Ukraine Security Dialogue conference, “Securing Ukraine’s Sovereignty: The Road Ahead,” held at the Embassy of Ukraine, the UCCA had the great honor of recognizing the first two recipients of the “Friend of Ukraine’ award – General Wesley Clark (U.S. Army, retired) and Dr. Philip Karber (Potomac Foundation).

Friend of UNIS Honorees



Rep. Kaptur



Rep. Connolly



Rep. Levin



Rep. Boyle

The presentation of a “*Friend of UNIS*” Award is often the highlight of any “Ukrainian Day” advocacy event. Reserved for those in Washington, D.C. who have advocated for and expressed their continued support for Ukraine and for stronger US-Ukraine relations, the following recipients were honored in 2017:

On March 9th, Michael Sawkiw presented the “*Friend of UNIS*” award to two individuals for their continued support of Ukraine: Congressional Ukrainian Caucus (CUC) Co-Chair, Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), for her leadership at the helm of the CUC and numerous initiatives in support of Ukraine; and Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA), for his repeated sponsorship of the Crimean Annexation Non-Recognition Act in the U.S. House of Representatives.

On June 14th, “*Friend of UNIS*” Awards were bestowed at a reception marking 20 years since the founding of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. CUC Co-Founder and Co-Chair, Congressman Sander Levin (D-MI), was honored at the reception for his years of support dating back to before Ukraine’s independence, and for his numerous legislative initiatives, in particular the bill that established the right to erect the National Holodomor Memorial on United States Federal Parkland in Washington, D.C.

On October 11th, during the reception to mark the 40th Anniversary of UNIS, Michael Sawkiw, bestowed the “*Friend of UNIS*” Awards to Congressman Brendan Boyle, (D-PA), Ukraine’s Ambassador to the United States, Valeriy Chaly, and Lithuania’s Foreign Minister, Linas Linkevičius, accepted on his behalf by Lithuania’s Ambassador to the United States, Rolandas Kriščiūnas.



Amb. Rolandas Kriščiūnas (Lithuania)



Amb. Valeriy Chaly (Ukraine)



*FM Linas Linkevičius (Lithuania)
Amb. Rolandas Kriščiūnas*



UNIS Director, Michael Sawkiw



Rep. Doug Lamborn (R-CO)

The Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, or the CUC, is a bipartisan caucus of United States House of Representatives that was founded only six years after the restoration of Ukraine's Independence. On June 14, CUC members celebrated the caucus's 20th anniversary in Washington, D.C., and continue to build relations between Ukraine and the United States.



Amb. Valeriy Chaly



Rep. Sander Levin (D-MI)



U.S. Capitol Visitors Center



*Verkhovna Rada Chairman
Andriy Parubiy*

Celebrating 40 Years of UNIS & 20 Years of the CUC



The
**Ukrainian National
Information Service
(UNIS)**
cordially invites you
to a

Reception

*Commemorating
20th Anniversary of the
Congressional Ukrainian Caucus*

~~~~~  
*with presentation of awards  
honoring Members of Congress*

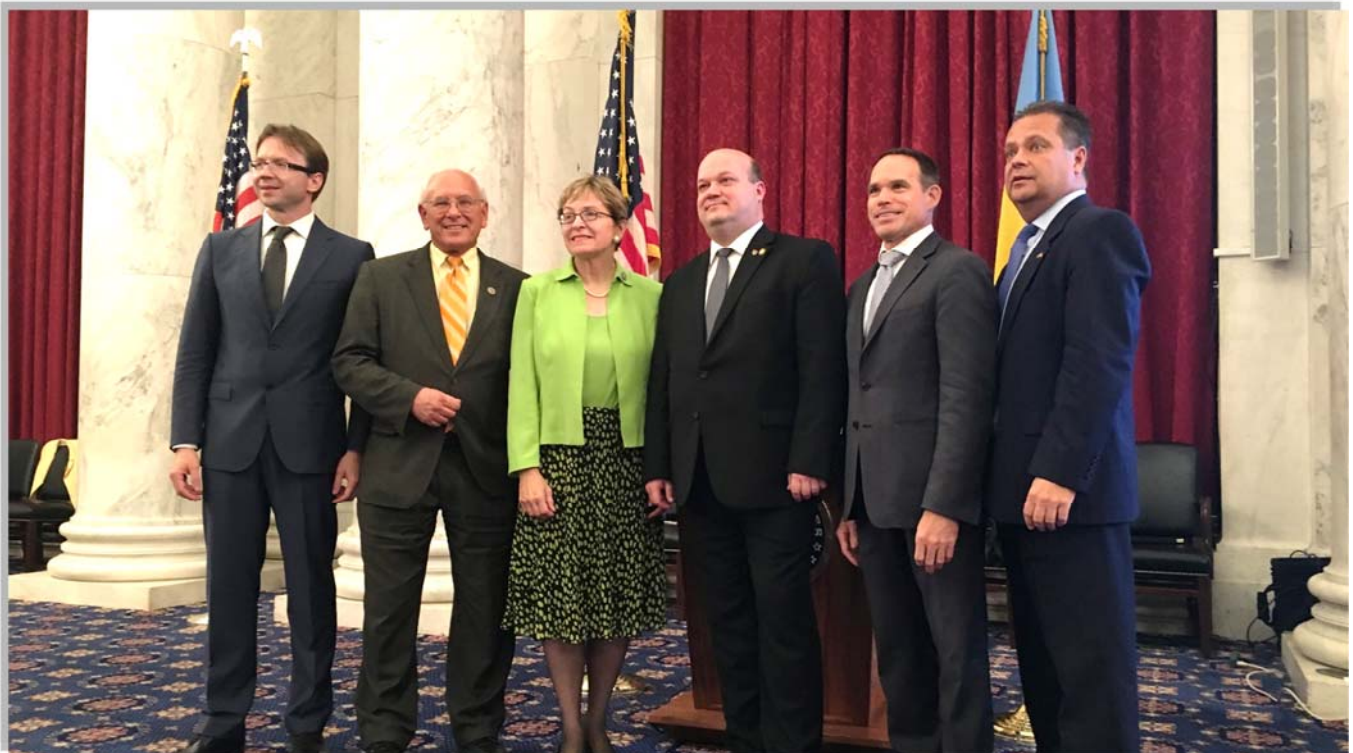
where:  
Congressional Meeting Room South  
Capitol Visitor Center (CVC)

when:  
Wednesday, June 14, 2017  
6:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
r.s.v.p.  
Michael Sawkiw: [unis.sawkiw@gmail.com](mailto:unis.sawkiw@gmail.com)



In 2017 UCCA celebrated an important milestone – the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) – UCCA's Washington, D.C. bureau. To mark this anniversary, an evening reception was held on October 11<sup>th</sup> in the prestigious Kennedy Caucus Room on Capitol Hill. With over 100 guests in attendance, greetings were delivered by: Congressional Ukrainian Caucus Co-Chair, Marcy Kaptur (Ohio's 9<sup>th</sup> District); Congressman Paul David Tonko (New York's 20<sup>th</sup> District); and John Lansing, the CEO of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, the U.S. government agency that supervises Voice of America (VOA). Two former UNIS Directors, George Nesterchuk and Tamara Olexy, also congratulated UNIS on its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The evening reception concluded with a special video presentation recorded in Kyiv by Marie Yovanovitch, the 9<sup>th</sup> and current United States Ambassador to Ukraine, who congratulated the UNIS office on its 40 years of service to the community, and quoted the words of Taras Shevchenko, "Keep fighting - you are sure to win."



*L-R: Amb. Rolandas Kriščiūnas (Lithuania), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY), Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Amb. Valeriy Chaly (Ukraine), Michael Sawkiw (UNIS) Andriy Futey (UCCA)*

## Connecting America and Ukraine



Following the July 2017 appointment of Ambassador Kurt Volker (pictured rightmost) to serve as the United States Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations, UCCA immediately drafted a request for Ambassador Volker to meet with UCCA leadership. Since that time, UCCA has kept abreast of the Ambassador's negotiations with further visits & meetings.

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, at the request of the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York, UCCA organized a luncheon for Ukraine's Ambassador the United States, Valeriy Chaly, to meet with the leaders of the Ukrainian-American community. The lengthy, fruitful discussion focused on the current situation in Ukraine, and the work that the community does to help its brethren in Ukraine.



In June, Andriy Parubiy, Chairman of Ukraine's parliament - the Verkhovna Rada - addressed the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UCCA's Washington, D.C. bureau - the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) at the U.S. Capitol.

Josef Zissels, head of the Euro-Asian Jewish Congress, Soviet human rights activist, dissident and political prisoner, found time to meet UCCA Executive Board members while attending the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of the World Jewish Congress in New York City. UCCA discussed numerous issues important to Ukraine and our Ukrainian community, including Ukraine's current pace of reforms, the prospects of EU integration and Ukrainian-Jewish relations.





## Engaging with Ukraine's Leaders visiting the United States

*In 2017, the UCCA held an unprecedented amount of engagements to discuss the current situation in Ukraine and advocate our community's concerns.*



On March 17th, UCCA met with MP Hanna Hopko, Chairperson of the Verkhovna Rada's Foreign Affairs Committee and Ukraine's Deputy Foreign Minister Serhiy Kyslytsya. The almost two-hour meeting was a fruitful exchange of ideas how we can more closely cooperate to assist Ukraine during these troubling times.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, UCCA organized a meeting with leaders of the Ukrainian-American community and representatives of the Crimean Tatar organizations with

**President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko.** The Roundtable took place at the Ukrainian Museum immediately after President Poroshenko arrived in New York City to attend the United Nations General Assembly. Welcoming the President and Mrs. Poroshenko, UCCA President Andriy Futey stated that the Ukrainian-American community has made great efforts to help our homeland to defend the rights and freedoms of Ukrainians and will continue to work to strengthen US-Ukraine bilateral relations.



In his opening, President Poroshenko related that in his opinion, "never in the history of the Ukrainian state, has Ukraine felt such great assistance and unity...aimed to implement the tasks the Ukrainian state faces today." He recalled the creation of the new Ukrainian army, with the assistance of the Ukrainians Diaspora, and steps taken by the U.S. Congress to help Ukraine. The President also paid special



## Solemn Commemorations and a Year of Mourning

Ukrainians around the world mourned the passing of His Eminent Beatitude, Lubomyr Cardinal Husar, major archbishop emeritus of Kyiv and Halych, who died on May 31, 2017, at the age of 84. Known outside of our community for his tenure as head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church from 2001 to 2011, in the hearts of Ukrainian-Americans, he remained one of our own since his immigration to the United States in 1949. He helped champion a national monument dedicated to the victims of the Holodomor, the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, in Washington and on more than one occasion, led our remembrance of that tragedy at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

In November, UCCA was saddened to hear of the passing of former Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY), a steadfast supporter of Ukraine. Proud of his Ukrainian roots, Congressman Hinchey spoke at numerous Ukrainian-American community events, conventions and celebrations of Independence, beginning with January 22 commemorations organized by Ukrainian activists in the days before Ukraine's renewed independence.



2017 year marked the 70<sup>th</sup> year since the ethnic cleansing of Ukrainian Lemko lands through the genocidal act known as Akcja Wisla, as well as the 75<sup>th</sup> year since the founding of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), and the 70<sup>th</sup> year since UPA executed its final directive - the "Great Raid" - to spread documentary source material throughout the nations of Western Europe about Ukraine's heroic struggle for independence. A special Ukrainian National Committee organized by Ukrainian-American representative organizations to commemorate these three anniversaries presented a special lecture at the Ukrainian National Home in New York City, followed by sold-out concerts in Whippany, NJ, and Jenkintown, PA as well as day-long academic conference at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York City.

November of 2017 also marked the start of a year-long commemoration of Stalin's Famine Genocide in Ukraine - the Holodomor of 1932-1933. UCCA President Andriy Futey attended an event in central Kyiv on November 25 - the official Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the Holodomor - alongside the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko. At this gathering, Ukraine announced that "the time has come" for Ukraine to adopt legislation against denying the genocide, and for governments around the world to officially recognize the Holodomor as the genocide of 7-10 million Ukrainians.



# 85<sup>ТА</sup> РІЧНИЦЯ

ВШАНУВАННЯ ГОЛОДОМОРУ

ВАШІНГТОН, ДК

ВІВТОРОК

**7 листопада, 2017 р.**

ВШАНУВАННЯ БІЛЯ  
МЕМОРІАЛУ ГОЛОДОМОРУ

ВИСТУПИ У КОНГРЕСІ

НЮ ЙОРК, НЙ

СУБОТА

**18 листопада, 2017 р.**

“ПОХІД ПАМ'ЯТІ” 11:30 ЗРАНКУ  
Церква св. Юра E 7th Street  
between 2nd/3rd Avenues

СОБОРНА ПАНАХИДА 2 год. по пол.  
Собор св. Патрика 5th Avenue  
between 50th/51st Streets

[www.ukrainegenocide.com](http://www.ukrainegenocide.com)



КРАЙОВИЙ КОМІТЕТ США ДЛЯ ВИЗНАННЯ ГОЛОДОМОРУ ГЕНОЦИДОМ

# 85<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

HOLODOMOR COMMEMORATION

WASHINGTON, DC

TUESDAY

**November 7, 2017**

HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE

GENOCIDE BRIEFING/U.S. CONGRESS

NEW YORK, NY

SATURDAY

**November 18, 2017**

MARCH OF REMEMBRANCE 11:30 AM

St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church  
E 7th Street between 2nd/3rd Avenues

HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL SERVICE 2 PM

St. Patrick's Cathedral 5th Avenue  
between 50th/51st Streets

[www.ukrainegenocide.com](http://www.ukrainegenocide.com)



U.S. COMMITTEE FOR UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR-GENOCIDE AWARENESS

## Raising Awareness of the Holodomor Genocide of 1932-33

*Each year, the UCCA solemnly commemorates the Genocide of 1932-1933 - one of the darkest pages of our people's history. In 2017 UCCA participated in launching the year-long commemoration marking the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Holodomor.*

### **Connecting the Past with the Present**

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, UCCA Executive Vice President and Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness, Michael Sawkiw, Jr., participated in a panel discussion at the Atlantic Council entitled “*Connecting Ukraine's Past and Present: From Holodomor to the War in the Donbas.*” Mr. Sawkiw spoke of the pattern of denial and disinformation - first by the Soviets about the existence of the Holodomor, and present-day Russian propaganda regarding the war the Kremlin is waging against Ukraine. Quoting from the French author Marquis de Custine's book from 1839 Letters from Russia, he drew a parallel to the Holodomor and the war in Donbas: “Russia lies, denies the facts, makes war on the evidence, and wins.” Mr. Sawkiw encouraged the audience to support efforts to gain recognition of the Holodomor as a genocide, and to defend the principles of justice and democracy in today's rich social-informational environment,.

### **The Holodomor Remembered in Washington, D.C.**

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, the Embassy of Ukraine and the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness held an inaugural event in our nation's capital commemorating the Holodomor Genocide of 1932-33. The event began with a memorial service at the National Holodomor Genocide Memorial, officiated by hierarchs of both the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches. Archbishop Daniel of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA and Bishop John Bura of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, honored the memory of the millions of innocent Ukrainians who were starved to death by Stalin's regime.

Following the brief memorial service, UCCA Vice President and Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness, Michael Sawkiw, introduced numerous dignitaries and diplomatic representatives who spoke before the Holodomor Memorial. Later that day, a Congressional Briefing was held in the Capital Visitor's Center, during which a host of dignitaries, including: Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States, the Honorable Valery Chaly; Former President of Lithuania - Vytautas Landsbergis; Congressman Bill Pascrell (NJ), Congressman Andy Harris (MD), Congressman Doug Lamborn (CO) and Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur (OH), poignantly spoke about the Holodomor.





*President Poroshenko greets Ukrainian Americans at the National Holodomor Memorial in Washington, D.C.*

*A new tradition: the Ukrainian community gathers at the National Holodomor Memorial in Washington, D.C. on the anniversary of its unveiling.*



## FAMINE-GENOCIDE IN UKRAINE

IN MEMORY OF THE MILLIONS  
OF INNOCENT VICTIMS  
OF A MAN-MADE FAMINE  
IN UKRAINE ENGINEERED AND  
IMPLEMENTED BY STALIN'S  
TOTALITARIAN REGIME

У ПАМ'ЯТЬ ПРО МІЛЬЙОНИ  
НЕВИННИХ ЖЕРТВ ШТУЧНОГО  
ГОЛОДУ В УКРАЇНІ  
СПЛАНОВАНОГО ТА ВЧИНЕНОГО  
СТАЛІНСЬКИМ ТОТАЛІТАРНИМ  
РЕЖИМОМ



## *Requiem Service and National Commemoration of the Ukrainian Holodomor Genocide of 1932-33*



Over 1,000 Ukrainian Americans and supporters gathered in New York City on November 18, to remember the victims of the Holodomor of 1932-1933. The day began with a solemn procession from St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in the East Village to St. Patrick's Cathedral in the heart of Manhattan. Ukrainian American Veterans from the tri-state area led the procession behind an enormous tolling bell from St. Basil's Seminary in Stamford, CT. An assembly of Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox clergy and seminarians, led by Metropolitan Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and Bishop Paul Chomnycky, OSBM, of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, followed closely behind. Numerous other groups followed including schools, youth organizations and community members from Albany and Kerhonkson, NY, Hartford, CT., Philadelphia, PA and cities throughout NJ.

At St. Patrick's Cathedral, a solemn procession of schoolchildren from St. George Academy and Self Reliance Ukrainian Saturday School was joined by the Ukrainian American Veterans, Holodomor survivors Oleksandr and Nadia Severyn, and three wounded veterans of Ukraine's anti-terrorist operation in the Donbas: Yevhen Redka, Serhiy Bulan and Dmitriy Kotov. Metropolitan Antony greeted the assembly with a reminder that "Ukraine is enduring perhaps its greatest trials since achieving independence," and prayed to the Almighty to "give us His blessing to preserve and support our independent Ukraine, which the God-loving Ukrainian people currently are defending and protecting at great cost." Joining Metropolitan Antony and

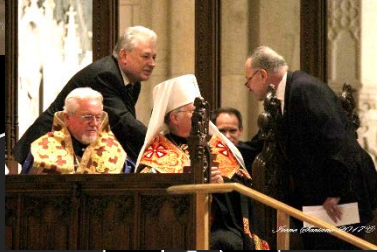


Bishop Paul in leading the requiem service were Archbishop Daniel Zelinsky of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia and Bishop Emeritus Basil Losten from the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford. The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka, under the direction of Vasyl Hrechynsky, sang during the procession and requiem service.

Following the service, Tamara Olexy, the program's MC stated "the Holodomor is but one example of Russia's unending campaign to enslave Ukraine" and noted that, "when we commemorate "Ukraine's Genocide of 1932-1933, we must also be cognizant that Russian aggression against Ukraine continues to this day." Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S., Valery Chaly, expressed the hope of Ukraine's President, that one day Congress "will recognize the Holodomor as the genocide of the Ukrainian people" and thanked legislatures of several states for officially recognizing the Holodomor as a genocide.

U.S. Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY), expressed his "honor and privilege" at attending, stating it is "our sacred duty to honor the victims of Ukraine's Genocide," that "now, more than ever, it is essential that the US and Ukraine stand together, shoulder to shoulder, in the face of Putin's reckless foreign interventions." Attending on behalf of Gov. Andrew Cuomo, Jenifer Rajkumar from the NY State Executive Chamber to honor the victims of the Holodomor. NYC Councilwoman-elect Carlina Rivera expressed her honor at joining her constituents from NYC's East Village and noted the importance of the event. She then read a prepared statement by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-N.Y.), which underscored that "the Holodomor was genocide." Steven Kashkett from the State Department delivered the official U.S. statement, which read in part "The United States stands with the people of Ukraine as we commemorate this Soviet-manufactured tragedy and condemn efforts to deny it as a historical fact. We also reaffirm our commitment to a secure and prosperous Ukraine, free from external aggression and occupation, and able to choose its own future". Amb. Volodymyr Yelchenko, permanent representative of Ukraine to the UN, noted Ukrainian government's ongoing call for worldwide recognition of the Holodomor as genocide. Completing the program, Michael Sawkiw, Chairman of the U.S. Committee for Ukrainian Holodomor-Genocide Awareness 1932-1933, touched upon the historical statistics of losses and contemporary accounts that underscore the need for more awareness of the genocidal Holodomor.

Prior to the recession, Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan thanked the speakers and participants, including the U.S. Holodomor Committee and its local representative Ivanka Zajac, president of the United Ukrainian American Organizations of New York who organized the march and procession. The metropolitan also thanked the staff at the cathedral and Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York, for hosting the memorial service.



*Photos by Irene Rejent Saviano and Andrij Dobriansky*





*Photos by Irene Rejent Saviano and Andrij Dobriansky*



## Advancing Issues And Fostering Solutions

*An important aspect of UCCA's work is organizing and participating in conferences. Such forums provide an opportunity to freely exchange ideas and address issues of importance to the Ukrainian American community as well as U.S.-Ukraine relations. In 2017, UCCA organized and participated in several such forums, some of which are highlighted below:*

### **'Securing Ukraine's Sovereignty: The Road ahead'**

On February 15<sup>th</sup> a full-day conference co-sponsored by UCCA, the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations and the American Foreign Policy Council, brought together over two dozen leading voices in National Security, Diplomacy and Government Affairs from the United States, Ukraine and Europe to discuss the damage done to European security and international law by Russia's continued attacks on Ukraine, as well as what advancements have been made in the diplomatic, political, informational, economic and military spheres to bolster Ukraine from future attacks.

The event, entitled 'Securing Ukraine's Sovereignty: The Road Ahead,' attracted a packed hall at the United States Library of Congress, to discuss a 'road map' for securing Ukraine's sovereignty. The conference featured four panel discussions, as well as addresses by numerous Congressional and government officials, and a featured highlight presentation on pressing questions for the new administration on Ukrainian security.

Following the words of welcome from Congressmen Sander Levin (D-MI) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), the first keynote speaker, Ukraine's Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin, set the tone for the Conference by thanking the US Congress for their bipartisan support. Noting that US support is of great significance to the world and especially to Ukraine, Klimkin stated that peace in Donbas could only be achieved when Russia fulfills its obligations under Minsk Agreements and also de-occupies Crimea, restoring Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Attendees also listened to assessments of Ukraine's Armed Forces from the date of the initial invasion - when some experts in attendance admitted they did not expect Ukraine to hold off an invasion for more than 48 hours - to the present day state of Ukraine's Armed Forces, which today are hailed by United States and international advisers for their professionalism and combat readiness. As far as prospects for improved U.S. relations with Russia, it was made clear that as long as Putin stays in charge, Russia will not be a credible partner for the United States and the Trans-Atlantic Alliance. The common thread throughout the panel discussions was that Russia's aggression in Ukraine is not only a war against Ukraine but against the West in general.



*Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)*



*Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin*



*Dr. Phillip Karber  
& W. Zaryckyj*



## Promoting Discussion About Ukraine



### Seeking Ways to Fast Track Ukraine's Economic Recovery

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, UCCA co-sponsored the US-Ukraine Business Networking Forum Series Special Event, entitled "Seeking Ways to Fast Track Ukraine's Economic Recovery." The forum, which took place at Dentons in Washington, DC, brought together over a dozen government and business policy makers from the U.S. and Ukraine. The full-day gathering focused on assessing the efficacy of Ukraine's economic reform efforts after three years of governance by EuroMaidan forces, and studying carefully the sectors that stand the best chances of quickly re-establishing a serious presence in world markets –Agriculture, Renewable energy, Machine building, Aerospace and Information technology.

### Ukraine and the Issue of Social Cohesion

On October 12, UCCA co-sponsored the 18<sup>th</sup> "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable," which took place in Washington, DC. The forum explored "Ukraine and the Question of Social Cohesion," the last of three in-depth examinations that assessed the nation's ability to find its own version of *e pluribus unum*. Eighteen discussants were featured, including Ukrainian MP Andrii Levus and Josef Zissels, founding member of the December 1<sup>st</sup> Initiative.



### Taking Measure of Milestones in Modern Ukrainian Military History 1917-2017

On December 7-8 UCCA co-sponsored a UA Historical Encounters Series Event focusing on Ukraine's Century of Struggle to Secure Independence. The 2-day conference took place in Washington, D.C. and featured speakers such as Lubomyr Hajda, Mark Von Hagen, Mykhailo Koval'chuk, Serhii Kvit, and Volodymyr Vyatrovych. Topics of discussion covered a century of Ukrainian military development, including the Ukrainian Sich Rifleman, Karpatska Sich, Ukrainiska Povstann'ska Armiya (UPA), the Ukrainian Liberators of Auschwitz & Berlin as well as First Years of the Modern Ukrainian Armed Forces. During the first day's events a special tribute presentation — From West Point to ATO — was made by Larysia Melnyk-Dyrszka, Nestor and Olena Paslavsky, first cousin and siblings of Marko Paslavsky, posthumous recipient of Ukraine's Order of Danylo Halytsky.



### US-UA Working Group Yearly Summit

On Thursday, June 15th, the fifth “US-UA Working Group Yearly Summit” took place in Washington, DC. The full-day conference was co-sponsored by UCCA, the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations, and the American Foreign Policy Council, and assessed the Ukraine’s performance in six areas of ‘nation building’ including: *Robust Democratic Politics; Developed Market Economics; Ever Greater General Security; Ever Greater Energy Security; Viable Social Cohesion; and Established National Identity.*

The conference also included two highlight discussions of “Why a Free, Stable and Prosperous Ukraine Still Matters” from the U.S. Government perspective, delivered by Senator Roger Wicker, and from the Ukrainian government perspective reported by the Speaker of Ukraine’s Parliament, Andriy Parubiy. The guests also had an opportunity to hear a featured presentation by Ukraine’s Acting Minister of Health, Dr. Ulana Suprun, who outlined a plethora of needed reforms to improve the health care system.

As the conference’s Tally Master, Tamara Olexy commented that, notwithstanding the varying viewpoints of the speakers, all participants had agreed that Ukraine is performing better than expected, with some room for additional improvement.



Sen. Roger Wicker  
(R-MS)



Janusz Bugajski, Herman Pirchner,  
Luke Coffey & Stefan Romaniw



Chairman Andriy Parubiy  
& M. Hryckowian





*UCCA's Illinois Division traces its roots back to 1949 when it was established under the name "League of Americans of Ukrainian Descent." In 1974 the League was formally incorporated under the umbrella of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and remains one of the most active UCCA local branches in the United States.*





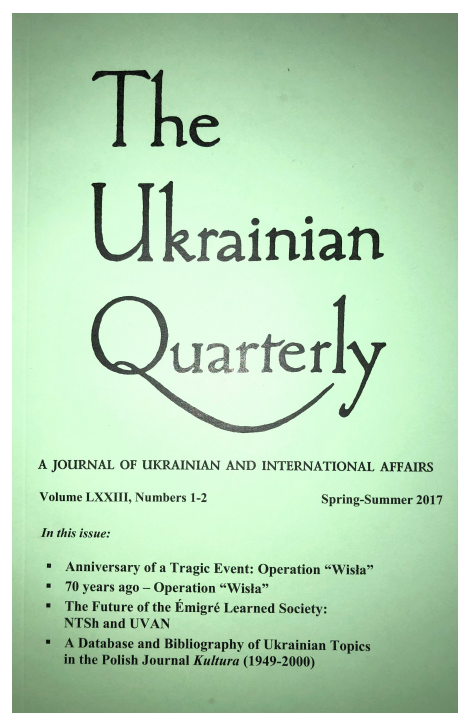
## Our Publications



The Ukrainian Quarterly has been in circulation since the "Second Congress of Americans of Ukrainian Descent," held in Philadelphia, PA, on January 22-23, 1944, resolved to publish what remains the only English-language scholarly journal dedicated to Ukrainian and Eastern European affairs. Sent to U.S. government officials, policy makers and universities throughout the world, The Ukrainian Quarterly commissions work from U.S. and international scholars, and provides an outlet for UCCA to disseminate information and advocate issues.

Under the direction of Editor-in-Chief Leonid Rudnytzky, Numbers 1-2 of Volume LXXIII were published in 2017. Topics covered included an editors' statement and a submission focusing on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ethnic cleansing of Ukrainian Lemko lands known as Akcja Wisla; an examination of émigré learned societies such as the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences; as well as book reviews, and an extensive bibliography of Ukrainian Topics in the Polish Journal *Kultura*.

Individuals & Institutions interested in becoming subscribers to The Ukrainian Quarterly can contact UCCA's National Office at 203 Second Avenue, New York, NY, 10003.



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# UCCA BULLETIN



March 2017...Our 77<sup>th</sup> Year of Service to the Community

**'SECURING UKRAINE'S SOVEREIGNTY:  
THE ROAD AHEAD'**

**UCCA BESTOWS  
'FRIEND OF UKRAINE' AWARD**

UCCA members receive our monthly UCCA Bulletin, available in hard paper form or digital download (PDF). Topics include a summary of the past month's activities, Advocacy Alerts, such as petitions and news about pending Congressional legislation, as well as announcements about Community Events across the United States.



## Preserving Our Heritage

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. For over 60 years, "Ridna Shkola" educators certified by the Council have taught our youth and prepared the leaders of the Ukrainian-American community. This tradition predates the Council by some 80 years, having been borne out of the Ukrainian-language private educational system developed in the 1880's, during Ukraine's past as an occupied territory under hostile foreign empires. Following World War II, this tradition of private education was brought over by Ukrainian immigrants to the United States, Canada, Australia, as well as areas of South America. To this day, the methods promoted by the Educational Council of UCCA remain a true and tested formula for molding the leaders of tomorrow throughout the global Ukrainian diaspora. Notable graduates include Ukrainian Catholic Bishops Borys Gudziak and Hlib Lonchyna, former UCCA and UWC President Askold Lozynskyj, and former acting Surgeon General of the United States, Rear Admiral Boris Lushniak.

Since 1985, the Educational Council of UCCA has organized an annual Educators' Conference at the Soyuzivka Ukrainian Heritage Center in Kerhonskon, NY. This past summer, teachers from around the country gathered for a series of lectures organized by Dr. George Gajecky, chair of the Educational Council. Dr. Igor Mirchuk, Dr. Volodymyr Bodnar, Natalya Ponomareva Natalya Bodnar and others presented on the theme of *Kozaks and the Hetmanate*.



*Prof. Gajecky (seated, right) and participants of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ukrainian Teachers' Conference at Soyuzivka*



On August 1, 2017, UCCA and the greater Ukrainian-American community lost one of its finest leaders, Dr. Eugene Fedorenko. Born in Odinka, a village near Kharkivshchyna's Liubotyn, he endured the period of the Holodomor, and survived through forced labor and displaced persons camps in Germany. Dr. Fedorenko began his involvement with the Educational Council of UCCA first as a teacher and then as principal in Whippany, NJ, and finally as the Council's leader from 1983-2017. The initiator the Council's annual conferences, his legacy of passing down our Ukrainian heritage to future generations will be remembered in both North America and in Ukraine.

## Documenting Our Story

*For decades, the Film Committee of UCCA has awarded grants towards documentaries showing the true history of Ukraine, and has co-produced feature films which portrayed the lives of historic Ukrainian leaders, including Stepan Bandera (1995), General Roman Shukhevych (2000), Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky (2008), and Symon Petliura (2018).*

Directed by Oles' Yanchuk, The Secret Diary of Simon Petliura approached its final stages of completion in 2017, with funding from UCCA's Film Committee making up part of the deficit after state funding was drastically reduced. This film will reveal on the big screen the short-lived Ukrainian People's Republic (UPR), which declared an independent Ukraine a century ago, and the 1926 assassination of Simon Petliura in Paris, orchestrated by the Kremlin to eliminate the Chief Ataman of the Army of the UPR who remained as Chairman of the Government of the UPR in exile at the start of the Soviet occupation of Ukraine. This film will debut in 2018 as a joint production of UCCA, Dovzhenko Film Studios, the Ukrainian State Film Agency, and the Ministry of Culture.



Written and directed by Roxy Toporowych, Julia Blue is set to make its film festival debut in 2018. A love story set in contemporary Ukraine, with the characters' lives impacted by the war, the film was recognized in its early stages at the 2017 Seattle International Film Festival "Work in Progress" Forum, and the Women in Film LA 2017 Finishing Fund Award. UCCA funding allowed for lead actress Polina Snisarenko, to fly to NYC for Rooftop Films' "Work in Progress" event in August 2017. Additional funding for this production came from Canon, Independent Film Projects (IFP), Izolatsiya, and House of Ukraine, San Diego.





# UCCA Out Front



## Advancing Our Message At The United Nations

In an attempt to coordinate the efforts of Ukrainian NGO's at the United Nations, UCCA volunteers representing the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) at United Nations Headquarters formed a working group with representatives of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations, the Volya Institute for Contemporary Law and Society, the International Council of Women, and the World Congress of Crimean Tatars. Our collaborative efforts focus on a producing and supporting events throughout the calendar year, beginning with the annual Ukrainian Mother Language Day at the United Nations, the annual Commission on the Status of Women, the bi-annual Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Holodomor and other genocide commemorations, and numerous exhibitions.





## Enhancing Strategic Alliances



UCCA's Washington, D.C. bureau UNIS continued working with the Central East European Coalition (CEEC), an alliance of U.S.-based ethnic organizations representing over 20 million Americans. Together they sponsored a policy forum that addressed **"Russia on NATO's Doorstep - the West's Response to the Kremlin's Wargames"** on September 27<sup>th</sup>. The Congressional briefing included expert analysis and advice from Ambassador Kurt Volker, United States Special Representative for Ukraine Negotiations; Stephen Blank, Senior Fellow for Russia at the American Foreign Policy Council; Alex Tiersky, Global Security and Political-Military Affairs Advisor at the US Helsinki Commission; and Eitvydas Bajarunes, Ambassador-at-Large for Hybrid Threats at the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In late December 2016, UCCA spokesman Andriy Dobriansky spoke at a joint Ukrainian and Lithuanian-American Advocacy event in New York City entitled **"Contemporary Lithuanian-Ukrainian Relations: Common Concerns; Common Approaches, Common Solutions; Common 'European' Future"**. On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, he joined his colleagues from the Baltic-American communities at, **"Cold War 2.0: The Baltic States of Anxiety,"** with Vytautas Landsbergis, first president of independent Lithuania, Amb. Janis Mazeiks of Latvia, and Karl Altau of the Joint Baltic American National Committee.



In June, Michael Sawkiw, Director of UNIS, joined UCCA members in Philadelphia in welcoming Ayla Bakkalli of the World Congress of Crimean Tatars during her visit to the Ukrainian American Youth Civics Club (UAYCC) at The Ukrainian Heritage School.



For the 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, UCCA members attended an Iftar held at the American Association of Crimean Turks (AACT) Mosque on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Imam Adem Sakarya welcomed the Ukrainian community representatives for making the special trip to their cultural center prior to officiating the prayers before the breaking of the fast during the month of Ramadan. On August 27, UCCA spokesman Andriy Dobriansky spoke at the "Day of Restoration of Independence of Belarus" event at the Belarusian-American Association (BAZA).



At midnight, on November 14<sup>th</sup>, UCCA was there to greet Akhtem Chygoz shortly after his release from Russian incarceration. Traveling with Crimean Tatar Leader Mustafa Dzhemilev, the delegation arrived in New York City to present testimony at the United Nations.



# UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS



On August 25-26, 2017, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv with the participation of 206 delegates and guests from 32 countries. The events included: a special session at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine hosted Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin; a meeting with Acting Minister of Health of Ukraine Dr. Ulana Suprun; an Inaugural Economic Forum entitled, "Support for Ukraine's Economic Development: Cooperation between the Government of Ukraine and the Diaspora"; and laying flowers at the monuments to Taras Shevchenko and the Nebesna Sotnia Heroes. The AGM coincided with events celebrating the 50th anniversary of UWC in Kyiv, which culminated with a Gala Reception at the Mystetskyi Arsenal, with the participation of Ukraine's President, Petro Poroshenko.

On August 27-29, UWC continued its anniversary celebrations with Ukrainian Diaspora Days in Lviv, organized by International Institute for Education, Culture, and Diaspora Relations at Lviv Polytechnic National University. The 3-day program began with opening ceremonies at the monument to Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, followed by a prayer service at St. George Cathedral and concluded with a Gala Reception at Lviv Polytechnic. August 28th was devoted to the conference "UWC at 50 and Beyond: The European Context." The final day began at the Lychakiv Cemetery with a Tribute to Heroes from past and contemporary history who laid down their lives for Ukraine's independence. A visit to the Global Ukrainian Orchard at "Shevchenkivskyi Hai" followed with a ribbon-tying ceremony under the slogan "Ukrainians together - the future is ours!" Flowers were also laid at the monument to the great poet Taras Shevchenko.

The celebrations in Lviv culminated with a special concert presentation "Reminiscencii.UA," at the Solomiya Krushelnytsky National Academic Theater of Opera and Ballet.





*UCCA President Andriy Futey (left), his Canadian counterpart, UCC President Paul Grod (center), and delegates from 30 other nations attended UWC's 2017 Annual General Meeting in Kyiv*



For more information about UWC's 2017 Annual General Meeting:

[bit.ly/2IqjeKE](http://bit.ly/2IqjeKE)

For more information recapping UWC's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:

[uwc50.org](http://uwc50.org)

## UCCA President Andriy Futey, and Former President Tamara Olexy, send greetings to the UWC on its 50th Anniversary

### МІОК Проект МІОКу до 50-ліття Світового Конгресу Українців

«Світовий Конгрес Українців – це найбільш впливова організація української діаспори, яка представляє інтереси світового українства та працює для добра України. Український Конгресовий Комітет Америки (УККА) як одна із організацій - засновників СКУ високо оцінює Вашу віддану працю! Ми горді, що три Президенти СКУ були вихідцями з наших терен, а саме – Йосиф Лисогір, Іван Базарко та Аскольд Лозинський. Я пам'ятаю своє перше враження, коли, будучи молодим студентом, виступав на V Конгресі (1988) в Торонто як Президент Союзу Українських Студентських Товариств Америки (СУСТА). На мене особисто це мало великий вплив і додало охоти до дальшої праці в українській громаді. В час сьогоднішньої кризи в Україні через наступ російського агресора голос СКУ як представника української діаспори по цілому світі ще вагомійший!».



Андрій Футей,  
Президент Українського Конгресового Комітету  
Америци, Почесний Консул України штатів  
Огайо і Кентуккі (США).

### МІОК Проект МІОКу до 50-ліття Світового Конгресу Українців

«Протягом 50-ти років СКУ допомагає українським громадам усього світу координувати свою громадську підтримку для України – батьківщини наших предків. Незалежно де ми проживаємо, українська світова громада продовжує діяти як представник України. На мою особисту та професійну думку, СКУ – це є дивовижна організація, яка дала можливість встановити довготривалі дружні відносини з українцями по всьому світу, а тим самим створення потужних культурних та емоційних зв'язків, які допомагають об'єднанню українців. Завдяки СКУ ми створили надзвичайну мережу – Світове Українство! Слава Україні!»



Тамара Галло - Олексій,  
Екзекутивний директор Українського Конгресового Комітету  
Америци, Президент Українського Конгресового Комітету  
Америци (2008-2016 рр.).  
(Нью-Йорк, США).



**Resolutions of the  
Ukrainian World Congress  
Annual General Meeting  
25-26 August 2017, Kyiv**

- I. The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) Annual General Meeting continues to call upon His All-Holiness Bartholomew I, Archbishop of Constantinople – New Rome and Ecumenical Patriarch to issue a Tomos of Autocephaly to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyiv Patriarchate.
- II. The UWC Annual General Meeting continues to call for the recognition of the Patriarchal status of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.
- III. The UWC Annual General Meeting calls upon the entire international community to unite in combatting the hybrid war of the Russian Federation, which threatens peace and stability in the world.
- IV. The UWC Annual General Meeting calls upon the entire Ukrainian diaspora to continue furthering support for Ukraine by the international community, and specifically:
  - extending and strengthening targeted sanctions against the Russian Federation until it fully respects the Minsk agreements and de-occupies Crimea;
  - providing Ukraine with economic and technical assistance;
  - providing the equivalent of a Marshall Plan for Ukraine;
  - deploying a police mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to Eastern Ukraine and an OSCE special monitoring mission in Crimea;
  - facilitating the release of Ukrainian political prisoners held by the Russian authorities;
  - protecting human, national, and religious rights and freedoms of Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars in Crimea and territories in Eastern Ukraine illegally occupied by the Russian Federation and of Ukrainians in the Russian Federation;
  - providing Ukraine with humanitarian aid to overcome the consequences of Russian aggression;
  - supporting Ukraine on the path towards gaining full membership in the EU; and
  - supporting Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic course towards NATO membership.
- V. The UWC Annual General Meeting urges the entire Ukrainian diaspora to continue to further:
  - the implementation of reforms in Ukraine, in particular in the areas of justice, health care and education, and
  - the recognition and full support by the international community of the reforms in Ukraine.
- VI. The UWC Annual General Meeting urges the entire Ukrainian diaspora to continue to resolutely counter Russian disinformation, by specifically:
  - sharing with the world facts about the imperialistic actions of the Russian Federation in Crimea and Eastern Ukraine; and sharing information about Ukraine by highlighting its progress in reforming, modernizing, and combating corruption.



VII. The UWC Annual General Meeting encourages the entire Ukrainian diaspora to disseminate factual information on significant events in the history of Ukraine and to promote the worldwide recognition of the Holodomor as genocide of the Ukrainian people.

VIII. The UWC Annual General Meeting calls upon:

- the Polish and Ukrainian nations to address historical issues concerning relations between Poland and Ukraine through education and reconciliation;
- the Polish people to continue supporting the Ukrainian people in their difficult struggle to restore and defend the territorial integrity of Ukraine and to stop Russian aggression from advancing further West;
- the Ukrainian diaspora to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the proclamation of the independence of the Ukrainian National Republic;
- the Ukrainian diaspora throughout the world to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ukrainian Revolution, to honor the memory of its participants during 2017-2021, and to ensure the objective representation of this important period of Ukrainian history in foreign publications; and
- the Ukrainian diaspora throughout the world to honour on 15 August of every year the battle under the command of Major General of the Army of the Ukrainian National Republic Marko Bezruchko who, in 1920 near Warsaw, helped overcome the Red Army and save Europe from a Bolshevik invasion.

IX. The UWC Annual General Meeting calls upon the Ukrainian diaspora to:

- continue commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UWC in all countries of the Ukrainian diaspora; and
- actively share information about the achievements of the UWC throughout its 50-year history, particularly material prepared by Lviv Polytechnic National University's International Institute for Education, Culture and Diaspora Relations.

X. The UWC Annual General Meeting encourages the Ukrainian diaspora to support the strategic priorities proposed by the UWC Committee in Support of the Economic Development of Ukraine during the Economic Forum "Support for Ukraine's Economic Development: Cooperation Between the Government of Ukraine and the Diaspora", namely to:

- contribute to increasing the volume of Ukrainian exports globally by promoting Ukrainian goods and services in the countries of residence of the Ukrainian diaspora;
- assist Ukraine in attracting foreign direct investment by supporting the Government of Ukraine's efforts to reform the country and create a positive business climate. Particular attention should be paid to addressing corruption given this is an impediment to investment;
- support the expansion of trade opportunities for Ukrainian companies worldwide;
- cooperate with the Government of Ukraine regarding its appointment of members of the diaspora as Honorary Consuls of Ukraine, who would focus their efforts on trade and economic issues in their home countries;
- promote the establishment of Ukraine-focused business associations and chambers of commerce, similar to the successful models of the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce and the American Chamber of Commerce in Ukraine;
- seek out sources of technical assistance and export financing for Ukraine from countries in which the members of the UWC operate and make every effort to ensure this funding is accessible to Ukrainian projects, businesses and non-governmental organizations; and
- share its expertise and knowledge in support of the transformation of Ukrainian state-owned enterprises by submitting their candidacies for CEO positions as they are announced.



*In 2017 the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) celebrated 50 years of success in uniting Ukrainian communities worldwide to further the interests of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people.*

### **Toronto, Canada**

Members of the UCCA Executive Board also participated in the commemorative events to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UWC on November 10-12<sup>th</sup> in Toronto, Canada. The remembrance events included: a two-day international conference, entitled “**UWC at 50 and Beyond: The Roadmap**” that summarized the half century of UWC work and the main priorities for future activity; a commemorative banquet during which Acting Minister of Health of Ukraine Dr. Ulana Suprun delivered a keynote address focusing on the positive changes in Ukraine’s healthcare system; and a gala concert featuring performances by the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of North America, Vasyl Popadiuk and Stephania Romaniuk.

### **New York City**

As a founding and integral member of the UWC, UCCA hosted a conference and commemorative banquet to mark this historic anniversary and promote a common vision for the future. As New York City was the venue for the First World Congress of Free Ukrainians in 1967 and is historically connected to the development of the UWC which unites Ukrainian communities around the world to further the interests of Ukraine and the Ukrainian people, New York City hosted a celebratory event on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at the Princeton Club of New York. A full-day conference, organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, was entitled, “**UWC at 50 and Beyond: The North American Vector,**” and featured policy-makers, scholars and civil society representatives from the United States, Canada and Ukraine to discuss the historical significance of the UWC, and the integral role the organized Ukrainian diaspora has played to assist Ukraine over the five decades since the inception of the UWC.







*New York City - Conference and Banquet Commemorating  
the 50th Anniversary of the Ukrainian World Congress*



## Engaging in Social Media...

The UCCA has continued to gain “Likes” of our Facebook Page in 2017, all without paying for additional advertising as most other organizations have in order to increase their reach. At [facebook.com/UCCA.org](https://facebook.com/UCCA.org) all sorts of Ukrainian-American community events are shared on our Facebook calendar, and every year we compile a list of Ukrainian Cultural Festivals and Independence Celebrations that take place from May-October annually.

Most of UCCA’s social media postings consist of sharing the topical news related to Ukraine, in order to draw interest to our timeline. Interspersed between these will be UCCA press releases, pictures from UCCA events, and calls to action on the local, national and international level. Our Facebook page allows visitors to donate and/or sign-up electronically for our distribution list. In 2017, UCCA processed electronic donations during both Giving Tuesday and for our Year-End Appeal.

**#GIVING  
TUESDAY™**

Help us stand  
#UnitedForUkraine



[facebook.com/UCCA.org](https://facebook.com/UCCA.org)

[facebook.com/UNIS](https://facebook.com/UNIS)

## A Special Farewell...

After 28 years of working at the UCCA National Office, Liza Donovan “retired” on December 31st. Liza began working at UCCA as an assistant to Prof. Stojko, then editor of The Ukrainian Quarterly. After a short period, her tasks at UCCA expanded exponentially, eventually rising to the title of Assistant Director of UCCA's National Office. Liza has worked under 4 UCCA National Office directors, all of whom considered her work invaluable.

Liza will be missed not only for the assistance that she provided to our organization over the past 28 years, but more importantly for her kind heart, boundless energy and friendship!

The UCCA Executive Board and National Office would like to sincerely thank Liza for her years of service to UCCA and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.



[@UkrCongComAm](https://twitter.com/UkrCongComAm)

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## 2018 - Looking Forward

In 1940, during wartime, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) emerged to coordinate and consolidate the role of the Ukrainian-American community in the civic and cultural life of this country, to educate and disseminate information about Ukraine and the Ukrainian nation and provide all possible means of support for the consolidation of an independent and democratic Ukrainian state.

Today's challenges - Ukraine's sovereignty and unity within our community - although existing under different circumstances, remain starkly similar to our mission expressed 77 years ago at UCCA's founding convention. As the war in Ukraine enters its fourth year, and Crimea remains under illegal Russian occupation, a united Diaspora is the only body that can truly impress upon the U.S. Administration and government that Ukraine needs help, and that Russian aggression is not only a threat to Ukraine, but to the entire free, democratic world. Thus our objective in 2018 requires UCCA to engage more thoroughly, create stronger alliances and speak louder with one united voice - for our mission has never been more crucial. UCCA calls upon the Ukrainian-American community to unite its efforts in the interest of Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

*A sincere Thank You to all the members of the UCCA Executive Board, National Council and UCCA Branches, for their continued guidance and cooperation. Without their support and hard work, various UCCA projects outlined in this Annual Report could never have been so successful.*

Thank you for being a part of the UCCA Family!

Report authors: Tamara Olexy & Andrij Dobriansky

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