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EXCLUSIVE FOR HROMADA

Vitaliy Portnykov | NOTES FOR SEPTEMBER

TRUMP'S CHANGE IN RHETORIC



**Vitaliy Portnykov –
leading Ukrainian political
commentator, writer,
and journalist**

The main event of September can be considered a sharp change in the rhetoric of the American president regarding the Russian-Ukrainian war. If a few months ago, during a meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, Donald Trump convinced him that “you have no cards,” now, during talks on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session, the American president began to say that Ukraine has a chance to even regain the occupied territories and, at least, reach the borders that it controlled at the beginning of the large-scale war with Russia. In his speech at the General Assembly session, Trump also emphasized the importance of ending the war and recalled how the attack on Ukraine affected Russia's reputation.

It is difficult to say now what the practical consequences of these words will be and whether we can talk about a real revision of the policy of recent months. After all, even the optimistic social media post of the American president after the meeting with the Ukrainian leader does not contain any indication of readiness for a practical U-turn. Here, the United States is rather stating that Ukraine can defeat Russia in the war and that European countries should help it in this by purchasing American weapons. But what will be the participation of the United States itself? Without their effective support, is it possible not only to win the war, but at least to hold out in the following years of exhausting struggle

with Russia, whose president does not even think about the fact that the war could end otherwise than with the disappearance of Ukraine from the political map of the world.

Trump is trying to limit the purchase of Russian oil to hinder Putin. But even if the pressure on European states yields results – even if Hungary or Turkey abandon Russian oil, and EU countries significantly limit the purchase of petroleum products made from Russian raw materials – this is unlikely to seriously hit the Russian budget in the coming years. After all, Putin's economic survival depends primarily on the help of China and India. And, although India can still theoretically be influenced and limited in its sale of petroleum products made from Russian raw materials on the Western market, this country's purchases for the domestic market will still save Moscow's military budget. It is currently completely unclear what tools Trump has to influence Beijing. And the fact that the strategic cooperation between Russia and China for the purpose of destabilizing the West is only intensifying, we were convinced in September – when the Russian president met with the head of the People's Republic of China during the celebrations of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. Moreover, Putin flew to this meeting after the summit with Trump and looked no longer as an isolated leader, but as a politician who can communicate with both the US president and the Chinese leader at the same time. Relations between Washington and Beijing, meanwhile, remain difficult, even against the backdrop of a long telephone conversation between the leaders of the two countries. And as for the Indian-American mis-

understandings: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi also arrived in Beijing for the first time in many years, just after the start of the tariff war. However, of the three, only Putin seemed to be Trump's real interlocutor. Should Trump have given Putin such a gift in Alaska?

However, the fiasco in Anchorage is already history. But the conclusions that the Russian president made after the meeting with his American counterpart are the reality of today. In my opinion, Putin convinced himself of the helplessness of the current American president, who is unlikely to be ready for a confrontation with Moscow. Therefore, Putin resorted to increasing the escalation not only in the war with Ukraine, but also in the confrontation with the West. Immediately after the meeting, new massive shelling of Ukraine took place, which once again confirmed: the Russian president is not going to heed American calls to stop the killing of civilians. And then something happened that had not happened in the previous three and a half years of the war: the appearance of two dozen Russian drones in the airspace of Poland. This was a clear crossing of the “red lines” and a demonstration that the West is not able to effectively respond to Moscow, even when it invades the airspace of NATO countries. Donald Trump tried to ignore the whole challenge associated with this invasion and stated that it was the result of an attack by Ukraine on Russian drones, which allegedly changed their course. However, Warsaw did not agree with this – the wreckage of Russian drones was found all over Poland, from Gdansk to Przemyśl. Such “course errors” simply could not be accidental.

Please support Vitaliy Portnykov's new project on the YouTube channel, where you will find his streams in English. Spread it among your friends who do not speak Ukrainian, so that more people in the world get acquainted with the events taking place in Ukraine.

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Later, Putin went even further: his fighter jets brazenly entered Estonian airspace, headed for the country's capital, and stayed there for 12 minutes until NATO aircraft were scrambled. Then they calmly left Estonian skies and returned to Russia, as if they were the masters of the alliance's airspace. But NATO's problems don't end there: for several days in a row, we have been observing the appearance of mysterious drones in the airspace of Denmark, a country that is resolutely helping Ukraine. The airports of several Danish cities have been closed, and drones have been seen over the country's main military base. Many suspect Russian interference, but no concrete evidence has yet been made public, and the government is afraid to draw final conclusions. Moscow routinely denies all of this – both drones and planes. The escalation is intensifying every day – and this is not a complete list of challenges. I am writing this text on the same day that Russian military aircraft appeared near US airspace – near Alaska, where a summit between the Russian and American presidents had previously taken place. American fighter jets also had to be scrambled to drive away the unwanted guests. So, Putin clearly does not hide his desire to destabilize not only Europe: he is ready to challenge Trump's America after Anchorage, being confident in his impunity.

As expected, three and a half years after the start of the great war between Russia and Ukraine, this war is coming to the West – and, perhaps, the residents of the US and the EU are

experiencing their last peaceful year. Can the tragic development of events that could escalate into World War III be prevented – a war that would be the most terrible event of Donald Trump's presidency? Of course, it is possible – but only on the condition of an energetic response to Russian challenges and an immediate and adequate response beyond words. It would seem logical to create a common security space over the western regions of Ukraine and the eastern provinces of Poland. Joint patrols between the southern regions of Ukraine and the northern regions of Romania would also be appropriate, given the regular flights of Russian drones into Romanian airspace. Such a decision would make it possible to relieve residents of neighboring countries of danger and at the same time create additional opportunities to strengthen Ukrainian air defense in the center and east of the country – where people suffer the most from endless Russian attacks.

But for now, Europeans are in no hurry to make such decisions. Poland is only considering a law that would allow the country to shoot down Russian missiles and drones in Ukrainian airspace without NATO permission.

And, of course, it is necessary to shoot down Russian planes already in the airspace of NATO member states, otherwise sooner or later they will come with missiles. Donald Trump is already saying that these planes need to be shot down; European diplomats also talked about this during closed negotiations in Moscow. At the same time, it is unknown how Putin, who may

believe to the last that the fear of war with Russia will paralyze the West and allow him to "take Europe without a fight," will react to such a threat.

Finally, it is necessary not only to call on Ukraine to continue fighting, but also to significantly increase military support for our country – we are talking about billions of American and European taxpayer dollars. If Americans and Europeans want to continue living in peace, and not become victims of a new major war, they must invest in security. After all, pockets do not matter in the grave – and no amount of taxes will save from death by missile, drone or nuclear explosion.

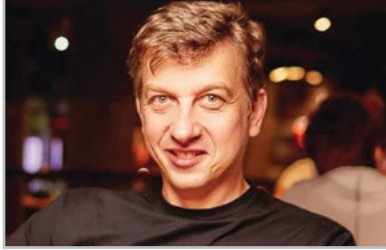
In this sense, certain changes are taking place: the mechanism for European purchases of American weapons for Ukraine is starting to work. NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte says that the supply of American weapons will be uninterrupted, and at a meeting of the UN Security Council, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio noted that it is possible that not only defensive but also offensive weapons will be supplied, which could help liberate the occupied territories.

But all this is a question of the future. For now, first of all, it is necessary to put forward a real response to further escalation, air terror and the offensive of Russian troops on Ukrainian lands. If you think about it, the escalation in Europe is connected with the fact that Putin seeks to reduce aid to Ukraine and increase his capabilities for his offensive and terror. We all must resist this and not succumb to it.

EXCLUSIVE FOR HROMADA

Oles Doniy

IN MEMORY OF ANDRIY PARUBIY



Oles Doniy –
*Ukrainian journalist, TV
 presenter, politician, public
 and cultural figure*

Andriy Parubiy's name is forever engraved in Ukraine's recent history. For some, he will remain the organizer of radical movements, for others – the commander of the Maidan. Some remember him for his language resistance campaigns, for others his greatest contribution was the law on the Ukrainian language, passed during his chairmanship of the Verkhovna Rada (Ukrainian parliament).

But behind all these episodes stands a coherent and determined figure. From his youth to his last day, Andriy Parubiy lived with one idea in mind: a strong, independent, Ukrainian Ukraine.

I was introduced to Andriy Parubiy in 1989 in Lviv by Markiyan Ivaschshyn, the leader of the "Student Brotherhood," a man of great authority for us, Kyiv student activists. Although we called him "Marek" in a friendly way.

At that time, Lviv was a much more powerful center of the national resistance than Kyiv. We came here to adopt the organizational experience that Lviv residents had already systematically built, and also to immerse ourselves in the Ukrainian language environment. At that time, Russian was the dominant language in the capital, and we lacked a living Ukrainian language. Under the roofs of Lviv dormitories, we discussed future actions in the fight for Independence, shared books, dreams, and plans.

Many of those who were there then are no longer among the living. The brightest figure of the "brothers" has gone into eternity – Giya Gongadze, who met us in the white national Georgian costume. Marek is also gone. Now

Andriy Parubiy is gone too.

Andriy did not belong directly to our student community, as he was several years younger. From his youth, he gravitated more toward nationalist self-identification, while we, according to our older comrades, saw ourselves more as "national democrats."

But it was from that time that our destinies with Andriy were constantly intertwined. It is difficult to recall any notable political actions of the next three decades, wherever he appeared in Kyiv (where most of them took place), and wherever we met – on conditional or unconditional barricades.

There were periods when we did not cross paths and did not coordinate our actions, but the logic of the struggle for the Ukrainian idea still led us in the same direction.

In 1990, Andriy ran for the Lviv Regional Council and, thanks to his courage and clear position, won the trust of voters, becoming the youngest member of this Council at the age of 19. At that time, I was also registered as a candidate for the Kyiv City Council, but after the "student unity action," all the activists of the Ukrainian Union ended up in jail. Our picket outside the Kyiv City Council ended in police cars – bikes, mockingly painted in yellow and blue colors.

To the credit of our brothers from Lviv from the "Student Brotherhood", they came to our aid within a few days. Knowing full well that they would also be arrested in Kyiv, they came anyway – and indeed ended up behind bars.

Therefore, I was not destined to become the youngest deputy of the Kyiv City Council at that time. At that time, the atmosphere in the capital was much more tense than in Lviv.

Andriy was not afraid to take responsibility, he wanted to be not so much on the cutting edge of politics as on the cutting edge of the struggle for the Ukrainian idea. During the Orange Revolution, he was one of those who took on organizational and security responsibility.

The commonality was especially acutely felt in 2010, during the ratification of the so-called "Kharkiv Agreements," when Yanukovich's government tried to actually extend the presence of the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Crimea. Then, painful clashes took

place in the session hall of the Verkhovna Rada. My workplace was in the front row, so I received the most blows: I was held down by five regional (pro-Russian party) deputies, and the sixth, Stelmashenko, who had an openly gangster background (like many of the "regionals"), struck me in the back of the head. I spent two months in the hospital with a severe concussion. Andriy was one of the most visible figures of the resistance that day: together with Yuriy Hrymchak, he threw smoke bombs in the session hall, trying to disrupt the unconstitutional voting procedure. This was a vivid manifestation of his determination and willingness to do anything to protect Ukraine's national interests.

We were together at the "Language Maidan" in 2012 under the walls of the "Ukrainian House" when we defended the Ukrainian language. My organization, the art association "Ostanaya Barikada" (The Last Barricade), provided the sound necessary for the multi-day action. Andriy did not need to be convinced of the need to speak out for the Ukrainian language – for him, it was a natural goal, and he was not afraid of radicalism. Later, in his highest position in life – the Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada – he was able to direct all the hopes and aspirations of the fighters for the Ukrainian language into the legislative channel, convincing the deputies of the need for a language law not only as an instrument of humanitarian policy, but also as an effective means of national security. In 2019, the language law was adopted, and, undoubtedly, Parubiy's role in this was fundamental.

And although from a formal point of view, the highest state positions were the pinnacle of his political career, the pinnacle of his life was still Euromaidan (which is now sometimes called the "Revolution of Dignity"). Andriy wanted to be a revolutionary, Andriy had been preparing himself for the revolution all his life, and if in previous actions he had been an activist, then at Euromaidan he became one of the leaders. For many Maidan participants, the status of the leader of the Maidan Self-Defense Forces was closer and dearer than the status of the official party leaders, who were often called the "Maidan stage". The



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Maidan Self-Defense was not a stage, the Maidan Self-Defense was a wall that protected the protest from chaos and police arbitrariness. And Andriy coped with this high function with dignity. The Maidan participants knew: if they turned to Parubiy, there would be order, a clear plan, and discipline. That is why they valued him.

Maidan became the highest point in Andriy's life, a source of vitality and well-deserved fame. Paradoxically, it was precisely the stellar trail of Maidan's glory that brought him closer to his tragic end.

On August 30, 2025, 54-year-old Lviv resident Andriy Parubiy was shot dead by 52-year-old Lviv resident Mykhailo Scelnikov, the father of a soldier who died at the front with the call sign "Lemberg." Instead of accepting the pain of losing his son and directing it at the real culprits – the Russian fascists – Scelnikov Sr. shifted his personal losses, troubles, and problems onto the Ukrainian government.

A logical question might arise: why then did he target someone who was not a current politician? Yes, Parubiy had the status of a member of the Verkhovna Rada, but he was not a member of the "ruling party," and his ability to influence both real politics and the in-

formation space was objectively very limited. Why did Andriy become the victim? It seems that Scelnikov Sr. associated all his failures with the last Maidan, with Euromaidan. And for many, Andriy was Maidan.

Because Maidan is not so much the "Maidan stage" as its commander, the man who organized the defense and put up real resistance. For society, it was Andriy who remained the embodi-

diment of that struggle.

Although the killer took his life, he did not have the power to take away the symbol. Andriy Parubiy remained as a symbol of Maidan. Symbols do not disappear or fade. Symbols cannot be killed with a bullet; they are stronger than slander or silence. Symbols shine.

Andriy remained a light in modern Ukrainian history.



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EXCLUSIVE FOR HROMADA

FR. ROMAN BEBESIUK | SPIRITUAL TREASURY

FEAST OF THE HOLY VIRGIN MARY



**Fr. lic. Roman Bebesiuk –
priest of the Ukrainian
Greek Catholic Church of St.
Volodymyr in Santa Clara**

*We praise you, Holy Virgin,
Mother of Christ our God,
and we glorify your glorious
protection*

(Praise from the 16th century)

Let us imagine a mother gently holding her child in her arms. She protects him from danger, guides him, helps him take his first steps, picks him up when he falls. Such is the love of the Blessed Virgin Mary for our people. The Day of the Protection is a day when we, like children, can feel her heavenly care, support, and protection. This holiday is about trust, love, and fidelity, which, as in a family, create a safe and strong spiritual home.

History of the establishment of the feast of the Protection

Among the Theotokos feasts of our church year, the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos attracts special attention, which our Church celebrates on October 1. On this day, Ukrainians also celebrate the Day of the Ukrainian Cossacks and the Day of the Defender of Ukraine.

The cult of the Mother of God as the Patroness of our people stretches with a golden thread from princely times to the present day. The reason for such love for the Mother of God lies in her heavenly intercession, which exceeds human strength and capabilities. Our people have always sought such protection in difficult times, when strong enemies threatened the land and freedom. And this help was precisely the Most Holy Virgin Mary – the Patroness and Intercessor.

The main motive for the establishment of the feast of the Protection is associated with the vision of St. And-

rew the Fool in Constantinople. When the city was besieged by the Arabs, he and his disciple Epiphanius prayed in the church of the Most Holy Theotokos on Blachernae. In a vision, the Mother of God, illuminated by light, approached the throne, raised her omophorion and spread it over the people, thereby saving the city. The name of the holiday – Pokrov – came from that handkerchief-covering.

Saint Andrew the Foolish was probably a Scythian-Slav from southern Russia-Ukraine. He spent a lot of time in prayer and reading the Holy Books, and dedicated his life to God.

Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos in Ukraine

The Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos had a special meaning for our people. The Eastern Church emphasizes three privileges of the Theotokos: Motherhood, Ever-Virginity and Intercession. The third privilege – intercession before God – has become especially close to Ukrainians.

Princes, kings, Cossacks and hetmans have always chosen the Most Holy Theotokos as their Patroness. Prince Yaroslav the Wise in 1037 entrusted the people to the care of the Mother of God, Volodymyr Monomakh made prayers and vows in her honor, the Cossacks in the Sich built the Church of the Protection with an icon, under which stretched a ribbon with the inscription: "We pray, cover us with Your honest protection and deliver us from all evil."

Even in modern times, the Ukrainian Insurgent Army declared the Feast of the Protection its official holiday. All generations of Ukrainians believed that the Most Holy Theotokos protects the people from enemies and evil, helps in times of trouble, and inspires courage and faith.

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The spiritual significance of the Intercession for modern man

The Feast of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos has a deep spiritual meaning for us today. In the modern world, full of anxiety and stress, people seek protection that exceeds human strength. The Intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary reminds us that in any difficulties we are not alone.

As a loving mother takes care of her children, so the Mother of God covers us with her omophorion – supports, inspires and helps to overcome fears and insecurities. The Intercession is an invitation to trust and prayer. We often try to control everything, but the holiday reminds us that there is a Divine Power, higher than us, which is always ready to support.

Today, our people are going through difficult trials – a war that has brought suffering, separation and pain. In these times, we especially acutely feel the need for protection and support that no human power can give. Therefore, turning to the Most Holy Theotokos becomes a living need of the soul for us.

As a loving mother, the Virgin Mary does not abandon us in distress. She extends her omophorion over those who seek her protection: over families who have lost loved ones; over those who, risking their lives, defend their native land; over all who need peace and hope. Today, more than ever, we can become "a child under the protection of the Mother," entrusting our lives, our families, and our country to her.

The spirit of the Feast Service

The Intercession Service reflects the deep faith of the Eastern Church in

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the intercession of the Mother of God. The stichera of Little Vespers call to celebrate the feast: "Come, all lovers of the feast, and let us glorify the honorable intercession of the Mother of God. For she stretched out her hands in supplication to her Son, and the whole world is covered with her holy intercession."

In the troparions and canons, the Holy Church sings of maternal love, trust in the Mother of God, her powerful protection and prompt help. The Holy Fathers taught that ardent devotion to the Most Holy Virgin is the guarantee of the protection of the people. Pope Pius X said in 1912: "Your people cannot perish, for they have two guarantees: your people love the Eucharistic Jesus and the Most Pure Virgin Mary."

The intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos inspires us to be faithful, merciful and loving. It calls for prayer, good deeds, and trusting love for

God and our neighbors. The holiday reminds us that through her intercession we can overcome difficulties, find peace in our souls, and strength for good deeds on earth.

The Intercession of the Most Holy Theotokos is for us not only a memory of an ancient event in the Blachernae Church, but also a living experience of the protection and care of the Mother of God over all our people. In times of war, when thousands of Ukrainians are forced to leave their homes, when many of our brothers and sisters shed their blood for freedom and dignity, we especially feel the need for Her maternal intercession.

Mary understands our every pain, because she herself witnessed how Her Son was betrayed, how He was mocked, tortured, and crucified. She was not afraid to stay by our side until the end, stood under the cross, carrying indescribable pain in her heart,

and became a witness to the glorious resurrection. Likewise, we, having gone through suffering and trials, will witness, through Her intercession, the victory of life over death, light over darkness, truth over falsehood.

May the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos be a source of strength, hope and endurance for us. Let us ask Her to cover with Her omophorion the soldiers, the wounded, the prisoners, children and all who are in danger. And for us who are far from our native land, may Her maternal presence be a consolation and assurance that we are not alone.

I wish all of us peace, victory and joy in Christ, Who is risen, so that every person may have life in its fullness.

Based on the book "Know Your Rite" by Fr. Julian Katria

UKRAINE IN A VICINOUS CIRCLE: USA, RF, CHINA... NEXT – EVERYWHERE?

Nadia Banchik –
a journalist and political columnist for American publications who has covered the crimes of Putin's Russia, from the destruction of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria to the modern attack on Ukraine. In 1998, in her native Lviv, together with her mother, Candidate of Philology Iryna Kvitko, she co-founded the first Jewish newspaper in the then USSR, "Shofar".

A meeting in Alaska, a summit in China, Russian drones in Poland... Meanwhile, the United States, under the leadership of its 47th president, is consistently self-destructing its democratic system, which until recently was a model for many countries. A vicious circle is emerging, and Ukraine finds itself at its center.

Two murders as signs of a new era

Along with the aforementioned significant political events, the current era is characterized by two high-profile murders in the United States, which occurred almost one after the other. In late August and early September, the media exploded with reports of the terrible death of a refugee from Ukraine, Iryna Zarutska. 23-year-old Iryna, a resident of Charlotte, North Carolina, was returning home after a regular working day on a tram. In the half-empty car at that late hour, she sat down in front of a young black man. Suddenly, he stuck a penknife into her neck. The woman died almost immediately.

The exact date of her death is unknown, because the media "explosion" occurred only about 3 weeks after this tragedy, when the identity of the young man was revealed and some political forces saw in this a "convenient" political subtext for themselves. Iryna's killer is a maniac, a recidivist, and also diagnosed with schizophrenia;

his "record" includes armed robberies and other serious criminal offenses for which, it would seem, they are not released from prison. The media seized on this very thing: why is the American judiciary so lenient towards such people? Why are the mentally ill, dangerous to society, not receiving appropriate treatment and remaining at large? President Donald Trump himself supposedly took advantage of the sad occasion and expressed condolences to Iryna's relatives.

And on September 10, a new high-profile murder completely drowned out the news and discussions about the murder of Iryna Zarutska. In Utah, at a university, in broad daylight, Charlie Kirk, a young activist of the Trump movement and a close friend of Vice President J. D. Vance, was shot in cold blood. Hot on his heels, without even waiting for the killer to be caught, Trump gave a speech in which he immediately "indicated" where to look: these are all the actions of "left-wing radicals." "We will get to everyone who was involved in Kirk's murder and other acts of violence!" the US president declared.

Stephen Miller, the White House deputy chief of staff, [stated](#): "The last message that Charlie Kirk gave to me before he joined his creator in heaven was he said that we have to dismantle and take on the radical left organizations in this country that are fomenting violence. That was the last message that he sent me... we are gonna do that." (This quote was reprinted by several publications, from the conservative Washington Examiner to the more centrist Newsweek, citing Miller's conversation with the Fox News host.)

FBI Director Kesh Patel said he would "investigate and question" anyone suspected of involvement in the murder.

These statements by high-ranking officials can only mean one thing: Kirk's murder will be a signal to begin repression against anyone who is identified as a "radical leftist." Trump included among them, in particular, judges who blocked his orders on immigrants, firing civil servants, tariffs, etc. Something like the McCarthy era?

After 33 hours – the duration of the search for the alleged killer – it turned out that the suspect, Taylor Robinson, from a conservative family, is himself a Trump supporter. However, according to the media and the prosecutor who officially charged Robinson on September 14, he had a "romantic relationship" with a transgender girl. It also turned out that Kirk had a conversation with university students on his last day and said, in particular, that transgender people are criminals. In general, Robinson noted that Kirk "sowed too much hatred."

These two murders have become signs of the American present. On the one hand, leniency towards real criminals and the real lack of an effective system of assistance and treatment for the mentally ill, who find themselves alone with their morbid fantasies. On the other hand, aggression against everyone and everyone who is somehow different. Hatred between races (perhaps Iryna was killed just because she, a white woman, dared to sit in front of a black man?), different political forces, hatred of immigrants (in fact, in the USA, everyone except the natives was once an immigrant, they just forgot about it)...

Against the backdrop of these tragedies, many bloggers recalled the tragic days after the terrible terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. At that time, Americans were more united than ever, even attacks against Muslims were surprisingly few. President Bush made desperate efforts to achieve such unity. I remember numerous meetings, gatherings, discussions in churches, mosques, synagogues; surprisingly frequent meetings between representatives of different religions; joint events, etc. – everything was aimed at uniting society.

Now President Trump is not even trying to work to unite society. On the contrary, he and his officials are fanning hatred – towards immigrants, the "left," which includes all political opponents – and from the right wing of the political spectrum, Trump not only does not see aggressiveness and destructive sentiments, but also emphasizes that

they are the real patriots! (Recall: the first step of his second term was a mass pardon for the participants in the riots on January 6, 2021. Now Congress will review all its own decisions regarding those events!).

In fact, the surge of aggression and hatred within the United States is coming from both extremes of the political spectrum, further divisive within society, according to opinion polls. However, Kirk's assassination seems to have sobered society somewhat.

Thus, in April, "the Network Contagion Research Institute, together with Rutgers University, found that 55% of respondents who identified as center-left said that assassinating President Trump would be at least somewhat justified. 48% said the same about Elon Musk, and 40% of respondents, including 59.6% of center-lefts, said that destroying a Tesla dealership in protest was at least somewhat acceptable," notes Jonathan Dreger, [RealClearPolling](#).

And in a poll conducted in the hot wake of Kirk's murder on September 10, "14% of Democrats, 13% of independents and only 6% of Republicans said political violence was acceptable. On the other hand, 81% of Republicans said violence is never justified, compared to 72% of Democrats and 65% of independents," Dreger notes.

Those who justify political violence in American society range from 10 to 40 percent, Dreger concludes.

Following Kirk's murder, the governor of Utah, as well as former President Joe Biden and California Governor Gavin Newsom, expressed condolences to his family and called for a de-escalation of the situation. However, will American society hear the voices of moderates and responsible people in the current White House atmosphere?

Consistently, gradually – away from democracy

From the first days of his second presidency, Trump has been consistently destroying the foundations of the democratic system of the country, the Constitution of which he swore to protect. The destruction is taking place systematically and gradually in all fundamental directions: the expansion of the executive branch at the expense of the legislative and judicial branches, which are increasingly subordinate to the White House; mass dismissals of dissenters, especially in national security agencies; an increasingly brutal "war" against immigrants with the slightest violations of immigration law; the redrawing of electoral districts in fa-



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vor of future candidates who support Trump; a chaotic foreign policy that fluctuates between open and hidden sympathies for world dictators.

The gradual, almost imperceptible progress of these "reforms" in everyday life disarms American society – it simply does not notice how destructive they are, notes Mike Lofgren, [Salon](#).

The author tries to show the impact of Trump's policies on the life of the average American: an almost imperceptible increase in prices due to the trade and customs wars unleashed by Trump (however, the market will not

last long and will be forced to sharply raise prices due to increased duties); wider access by government agencies to private information and personal data than before (which makes it possible to collect compromising information against political opponents); the arbitrariness of the immigration police, who were given the green light; a significant deterioration in the condition of parks and reserves due to the dismissal of 24% of workers in this field; political control over education; deterioration of medical care due to manipulation of vaccines and medi-

cines, dismissal of specialists and a reduction in the admission of foreign students to medical schools, etc.

There is a “comprehensive attack on cognitive intelligence as such, and [there is] a concerted effort to undermine the very foundation of modern developed society: education, healthcare, disaster relief, objective statistical research, any government service (the National Guard is now cleaning up trash at the mall, given the Park Service’s staff cuts), and even things like weather forecasting.

They literally want to set the country back and cause destruction; otherwise, why would government agencies dismantle cyber defenses? (Hint: the latest cut came a few days after Trump met with Vladimir Putin in Anchorage),” Mike Lofgren notes.

Regarding cyber defense, and not only that, there have already been several large-scale “cleansings” of specialists from the FBI, CIA, and other security agencies, particularly in the field of intelligence on the Russian threat.

“Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard recently confirmed that the Trump administration has revoked the security clearances of 37 current and former national security officials. Gabbard even publicly released the names of these officials, thoughtlessly exposing at least one CIA employee, and baselessly accused them of “politicizing and manipulating intelligence, leaking classified information without authorization, and/or willfully violating industry norms and standards.”

These steps, combined with purges of counterintelligence specialists and intelligence officials across the federal government, pose a clear and immediate threat to US national security. The result could be damage to America’s foreign intelligence and domestic security services, leaving the country vulnerable in future armed conflicts with its adversaries,” notes Kevin Carroll, [The Dispatch](#).

This is largely due to Trump’s desire to purge everyone involved in the investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 election, the first impeachment, and everything that his political opponents, in his deep conviction, accuse him of regarding his sympathies for the Russian dictator. However, it is not only that.

“Many of the officials whose clearances Gabbard lifted last week came to the attention of right-wing conspiracy theorist Laura Loomer because they earlier signed a public letter questioning President Donald Trump’s

unsuccessful effort to extort Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky into investigating Joe Biden before the 2020 election. Others were targeted for accurately warning of Russia’s attempts to covertly influence the 2016 election in Trump’s favor. Meanwhile, career national security personnel have been fired for reasons ranging from investigating and prosecuting participants of the January 6, 2021, Capitol riots to contradicting Trump’s claim that US strikes in June had left Iran’s nuclear sites “completely and totally obliterated,” the author notes.

“Much of what the administration is doing now is illegal, and will likely be overturned by the courts in due course. There’s good reason to believe the public and politically motivated purges violate a number of federal laws, including the Administrative Procedure Act, the Privacy Act, and the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. But as a former Army and CIA officer myself, I fear the White House’s meddling in the meantime will inflict lasting harm on the intelligence community’s ability to protect the homeland,” Kevin Carroll concludes.

Further consistent destruction of the system of checks and balances

From their first days in the White House, Trump and his team have been busy reining in the legislative and judicial branches of government, which, according to the Constitution, are not only independent, but must also control the executive branch and counteract it when it goes beyond its designated limits.

In the first months of the Supreme Court, even the three judges appointed by Trump in his first term, tried to act in exactly this way. Trump publicly scolded them, writing on his social network Truth Social that their decisions were “destroying the country.”

A few months later, the Supreme Court changed beyond recognition! It approves even the most arbitrary presidential orders. For example, the withdrawal of temporary protected status from... Afghans who worked for the Americans during the war in Afghanistan; from refugees from the Maduro regime (Venezuela), etc.

It turns out that a “loophole” has been found. Trump’s semi-official “state of emergency” declaration has given the Supreme Court the opportunity to apply the so-called “shadow registry” – a procedure under which cases in this court are heard quickly, and court decisions do not require detailed

explanation.

“In such cases, public oral arguments before the justices are not held and rulings are typically curt and unsigned,” note Jan Wolf and Nat Raymond, [Reuters](#).

Such Supreme Court decisions nullify the last bastions of the system of checks and balances – the decisions of independent federal courts, in which those aggrieved by the president’s orders tried to have their rights restored.

At the same time, the influence of the minority in both houses of Congress is being leveled. There is no longer any disagreement within the ranks of the Republican majority – everyone unanimously supports Trump’s initiatives, even the obviously unpopular “Big Good Bill”, which contains significant cuts to health insurance for the poorer classes. And the minority (although the factions in both houses are divided almost equally) has fewer and fewer opportunities to influence the legislative process. For example, Republicans in the House of Representatives approved by a simple majority the proposed (in fact, ordered) withdrawal by the White House of funds previously approved by Congress for public broadcasting and for humanitarian aid to other countries in crisis situations. They approved it themselves – they withdrew it themselves, what’s so strange about that? The funds are more needed for renaming the Department of Defense to the Department of War, for the military parade (held in June), for the reconstruction of the White House building itself – and, of course, for the expansion of the “immigration police”.

And that’s not all! There’s also redistricting to prevent Democrats from winning the 2026 midterm elections. By law, the electoral map is drawn in each state separately based on the results of the nationwide census, which is conducted every 10 years. The districts must be drawn in a way that allows voters to cast their votes independently.

However, some states are now redrawing districts to favor Republicans, contrary to the rules. This was done, in particular, in Texas, where they increased the size of three districts, which could give more votes to three Republican candidates. The district map is approved by state legislatures, again by a simple majority.

In response to this arbitrariness, California Governor Gavin Newsom has also proposed redrawing the state’s largest district map in favor of

Democrats to maintain balance. This initiative has been put to the state's voters – it is now up to them whether California will follow in Texas' footsteps, which would further undermine the rules and principles of the US democratic system, although, in such a situation, it may balance Texas's skew.

As a result of all these processes – the leveling of the Supreme Court, Congress, the independence of electoral districts – the executive power of the president is expanding and strengthening each time, meeting less and less resistance. These are already obvious steps towards transforming the United States into an autocracy.

In its internal content, this autocracy is directed backwards, despite all the novelties of artificial intelligence, etc. Trump is trying to nullify the achievements, primarily, of the second half of the 20th century, when American society, having gone through radical reforms, came closest to its ideal image – relative racial equality, middle-class stability (approaching the “American dream”), relative economic stability, free space for development in all sectors, relative stability between social classes, etc.

Such an idyll could not last – crises and social problems gradually increased. First of all, over the past 30 years, the gap between the poor and the richest has noticeably increased, the middle class – the pillar of society – has significantly decreased. Other problems have also become more acute (their consideration is a separate topic).

However, Trump's policies not only do not help solve complex problems, but also exacerbate them, deepen the division of society and increase its general aggressiveness. The good old America is disappearing before our eyes, acquiring more and more features more characteristic of Putin's Russia or China.

In Europe, similar trends are also gaining strength.

Of course, America is still far from Russia, but trends point in that direction. So, Ukraine finds itself in a terrible vicious circle: the democratic world is rapidly shrinking, heading towards autocracy with a regressive, reactionary content. The less democratic principles a country has, the closer it becomes to the world's dictators – Russian and Chinese. (The exception is Poland: right-wing conservatives have won there now, who

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also don't like democracy, but they are unlikely to get closer to Russia: the threat from it is too strong).

Will Ukraine win the war, or at least end its hot phase, before autocratic tendencies sweep the entire world?

And will democratic countries ever reach this point? Such difficult questions arise in the midst of current events, which seem to be accelerating.

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Dear Friends!

On August 30, in Northern California, we came together to celebrate the 34th anniversary of Ukraine's Independence. The celebration took place among the picturesque hills and vineyards at Story Winery during the charity concert Voice of Freedom – Charity Evening for Ukraine's Independence Day, organized by the nonprofit Hromada and a team of volunteers from Sacramento.

The event began with a prayer by Father Myroslav, pastor of the Ukrainian

Orthodox Church in Sacramento.

The choir of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Sacramento performed the prayer "Almighty and Only God."

The national anthems of the United States and Ukraine were performed, and the memory of all those who have fallen in this war was honored with a moment of silence.

The host of the evening, Oksana Hrytsuk, introduced each of our talented performers:

That evening, guests enjoyed: classical and folk singing by

Ivanna Taratula Filipenko, Oleksandra Zabashka, and Anytchka, poetry by Ivanna Andriukiv, violin performances by talented musicians Sophia Victoria and Maksym Veligan, an original poem by Viktoriya Smyk, and the song "Ukraina" by Marichka Omelchuk.

The highlights of the evening were the performances of the bands "Paliaytsia" and "Novi Nochi", who performed in the area for the first time and won the hearts of the audience!



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The evening was also highlighted by a charity auction with valuable items donated by:

Ola Herasymenko, students of the Andrey Sheptytsky Cultural Center (led by Father Andriy Tsyb in Stryi, Ukraine), Anton Demianchuk, Elena Prendel, and blacksmith Oleksandr Dudka (Bohorodchany, Ukraine).

Guests also had the opportunity to enjoy Ukrainian and Georgian cuisine and taste authentic Georgian wine.

We are immensely grateful to all the volunteers who put their hearts into this evening. Special thanks to Nata-

lie Kokhanyy, Alexandra Sokolovysh, Oleksandra Zabashta, Ihor Butkovskyi, Ola Herasymenko, Nataliya Polk, Tetiana Kryva, Petro and Iryna Yarmola, Ulyana Bobko-Synechyn, Natalia Balytska, Olena Soliar, Oleksandra Balz, Yuliya Reyes, and Julia Calkins for the delicious Ukrainian food and help in organizing the evening.

For providing high-quality sound for the evening, sincere thanks to Andriy Shegera and PodiYaSound.

A big thank you to the owners of Story Winery, David and Joey Dediachvili, for their warm welcome, delicious



food, wine, and support of Ukraine during these difficult times. You are truly our brothers with big hearts!

Thanks to our joint efforts, our guests, and the active participants of the auction, we raised a total of \$10,185. Event expenses totaled \$2,240.60 resulting in a net fundraising amount of **\$7,944.40**. This is our great shared success!

THANK YOU to everyone who joined us! Together we do good, together we bring Victory closer!

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UKRAINIAN NEWS

Total enemy combat losses



According to the General Staff, the total combat losses of the enemy from February 24, 2022 to September 30, 2025 are approximately as follows:

Personnel – 1,110,560 people were eliminated,
Tanks – 11,222 units,
Armored personnel carriers – 23,291 units,
Artillery systems – 33,311 units,
MLRS – 1,505 units,
Air defense systems – 1,224 units,
Aircraft – 427 units,
Helicopters – 346 units,
Operational and tactical level UAVs – 65,303 units,
Cruise missiles – 3,790 units,
Ships and boats – 28 units,
Submarines – 1 unit,
Vehicles and tankers – 63,241 units,
Special equipment – 3,979 units.

Aid to Ukraine

EU

The European Commission is allocating an additional €40 million in humanitarian aid to support Ukrainians during the winter period. The European Commission's press service reported this.

As noted in the statement, EU humanitarian aid partners will provide shelter materials, restore damaged houses and centres for displaced persons, and improve access to water, sanitation and heating. The funding includes cash assistance, solid fuel, heaters, insulation and emergency heating points. Particular attention will be paid to the most vulnerable groups: the elderly, children, people with disabilities and displaced families living in

collective centres.

The agency also reported that the EU has already transferred more than 156 thousand tons of humanitarian cargo through the Civil Protection Mechanism, including energy equipment: 9,342 generators, 6,917 transformers and millions of energy-saving LED lamps.

USA

Some of the American military equipment that was purchased for the Armed Forces of Ukraine under the NATO program has already been delivered to Ukraine.

The contents of the consignment are not disclosed. At the same time, the source indicated that more packages of military assistance to Ukraine are "already on the way".

It is also known that four packages of support for the Armed Forces of Ukraine have already been financed under the PURL program.

The day before, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy announced that the first two packages of military assistance from the United States, which were financed under the NATO program, will include, among other things, missiles for Western weapons systems.

The US Congress has passed a bill on the defense budget for the 2026 fiscal year in the amount of \$892.6 billion. Of this, the defense bill provides for the allocation of \$400 million for the Pentagon's program to support the security of Ukraine.

Germany

The German government intends to provide Ukraine with nine billion euros in financial assistance annually over the next few years. This was announced by Vice Chancellor and Finance Minister Lars Klingbeil during his visit to Kyiv.

He noted that the decision has already been approved by the German federal government.

"We are committed to supporting Ukraine in the coming years, spending 9 billion euros annually," said Klingbeil.

In June, German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius stated that Germany's guaranteed support for Ukraine this year would reach 7 billion euros. Another 1.9 billion euros are awaiting approval in the Bundestag.

Earlier, it was reported that Germany would separately allocate 500 million dollars for the purchase of American weapons for Ukraine.

Britain

The United Kingdom announced the allocation of 142 million pounds sterling in aid to Ukraine to strengthen energy infrastructure and support vul-

nerable communities before the winter period. This is stated in the statement of the British Foreign Office.

The allocated funds will help Ukraine prepare for the difficult winter period:

- 100 million pounds will go to humanitarian assistance for the civilian population in the frontline areas, protecting the most vulnerable citizens, restoring critical water supply and heating systems, as well as supporting jobs and the viability of local communities.

- 42 million pounds will be allocated to repair electricity networks and protect gas and energy infrastructure in advance of the winter period.

The day before, the United Kingdom and Ukraine signed a historic agreement on the exchange of technologies for the joint development and production of advanced military equipment, in particular interceptor drones.

It was also previously reported that the British government intends to finance the production of long-range drones for Ukraine. They will be assembled in the United Kingdom.

British Defense Minister John Healy reported during a visit to Kyiv on September 3 that more than £1 billion in military support for Ukraine has already been financed thanks to funds received from frozen Russian assets.

Denmark

Denmark has provided Ukraine with the largest aid as a percentage of its own GDP among all partner countries. This was announced by Foreign Minister Andriy Sibiga at a briefing with Danish Foreign Minister Lars Lukke Rasmussen in Kyiv.

"Denmark is the world's largest donor to Ukraine in terms of aid in proportion to its own gross domestic product – 2.9%. Moreover, 9 billion out of almost ten is military aid," Sibiga emphasized.

In 2025-2028, Denmark will allocate \$375 million for the reconstruction of Ukraine under the Ukraine Transition Program.

The new program is aimed at:

- restoration of critical infrastructure,
- humanitarian assistance,
- support for veterans and internally displaced persons,
- business development,
- green transition in energy and transport,
- continuation of reforms.

The minister also noted that soon Ukrainian weapons will be produced in Denmark.

It was also reported that Ukraine and Denmark are developing an artificial intelligence drone interceptor.

Sweden

The Swedish government has allo-

cated a new military aid package to Ukraine worth \$836 million. It includes, among other things, Archer self-propelled guns. This was announced by the country's Defense Minister Poul Jönsson.

Sweden will purchase Archer systems and 155-mm ammunition for Ukraine for \$327 million.

In addition, the Armed Forces of Ukraine will receive mobile coastal radar systems, as well as new marine support vessels with grenade launchers and unmanned systems for a total cost of \$190 million.

"The Swedish Armed Forces will also donate equipment worth \$12.7 million. This includes 500 motorcycles and supporting equipment such as trucks and tractors," Jönsson wrote.

In addition, Sweden will transfer radar sensors and control systems for Tridon Mk 2 anti-aircraft systems and programmable 40-mm anti-aircraft ammunition.

"Additional secret systems and projects are also planned, but their presentation will have to be postponed until the moment of their use on the battlefield. In the future, the Russian army may expect Swedish-Ukrainian surprises," the minister concluded.

Lithuania

Lithuania is opening an office of the Central Agency for Project Management for the Reconstruction of Ukraine in Kyiv.

The new office will coordinate all Lithuanian projects for the reconstruction of Ukraine, in particular within the framework of the Civil Protection Shelters coalition, which Lithuania recently joined.

In August of this year, Ukraine and Lithuania signed an agreement on the joint production of defense products.

Latvia

The Armed Forces of Ukraine have received a new batch of Latvian-made Patria 6x6 armored personnel carriers.

This was reported on the website of the Latvian Ministry of Defense.

According to the department, Latvia, along with the vehicles, also transferred additional equipment for the Ukrainian military.

The country's Defense Minister Andris Spruds emphasized that Latvia continues to support Ukraine in its fight for independence and will do so as long as necessary.

At the same time, within the framework of the intergovernmental program of Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Germany, a joint agreement was signed on August 30, 2021 for the purchase of Patria 6x6 armored vehicles.

It provides for an order of more than 200 units.

In July, Ukraine received the first batch of Patria heavy armored vehicles, which Latvia provided as part of a new assistance package.

Estonia

Estonia will continue to provide military assistance to Ukraine at least at the level of 0.25% of GDP or more than 100 million euros. This was stated by the Minister of Defense of Estonia Hanno Pevkur.

It is known that the bulk of the aid will be directed through the products of Estonian enterprises.

"Estonia will continue to resolutely support Ukraine in Russia's aggressive war. And next year we will adhere to the principle that 0.25% of our GDP will go to help Ukraine. We proceed from the military needs of Ukraine, and next year Estonian defense industry enterprises will also play an important role," the minister said.

In addition, Estonia will continue to train Ukrainians and support IT solutions in the defense sector.

In early September, it became known that Estonia will join the purchase of American weapons for Ukraine.

Ireland

The Irish government has transferred a new aid package to Ukraine. It includes automotive equipment and mine clearance work.

This was announced by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Minister of Defense of the country Simon Harris.

"Today we delivered 34 vehicles and three demining robots to support Ukraine's defense and humanitarian needs," he wrote.

Harris assured that Ireland would continue to provide "practical and non-lethal"

Japan

Ukraine and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development have signed a \$246.5 million loan agreement under the SURGE program "Supporting Reconstruction through Smart Fiscal Management". The money will be raised from a fund supported by the Japanese government.

The project's goal is to support the Ukrainian government's efforts to create an investment management system in the context of post-war reconstruction and reconstruction.

Thus, \$229.7 million will be raised in the state budget by the end of 2025. In particular, \$16.8 million will be allocated to capitalizing interest in order to reduce the cost of servicing Ukraine's credit obligations.

The SURGE project has been imple-

mented in Ukraine since 2024.

In early June, Ukraine and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an agreement necessary to receive \$3 billion under the ERA initiative. The funds will come from revenues received from frozen Russian assets.

In May, the Cabinet of Ministers approved an agreement with Japan, which will allow to receive about \$3 billion under the Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration (ERA) initiative.

The European Commission approved the 19th package of sanctions against Russia



The European Commission on Friday adopted a new 19th package of sanctions against Russia. This was announced by the chief spokeswoman of the European Commission, Paula Pinheau.

It is known that the package of sanctions is aimed at the Russian economy and military machine in response to the full-scale aggression against Ukraine. assistance to Ukraine for as long as needed.

IAEA adopts resolution demanding immediate de-occupation of Zaporizhzhia NPP

The 69th General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) supported a resolution calling on Russia to immediately withdraw its troops from the Zaporizhzhia NPP and return it to full control of the Ukrainian authorities.

The document, initiated by Ukraine and its international partners, was ap-



proved by 62 member states. The resolution also calls for the demilitarization of the plant's territory and the withdrawal of all unauthorized military and other personnel.

The document also mentions Russian shelling of the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone and damage to the New Safe Confinement, which creates additional risks for nuclear safety in the world.

As is known, the Zaporizhzhia NPP, the largest in Europe, has been under occupation since March 4, 2022.

The day before, the IAEA reported that the security situation at the occupied Zaporizhzhia NPP remains unstable. As a result of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine and the occupation of the Zaporizhzhia NPP, almost all pillars of nuclear safety at the plant were violated.

Zelenskyy approved the ratification of the 100-year partnership agreement with the United Kingdom

On September 18, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy signed a law on the ratification of the Centennial Partnership Agreement with the United Kingdom, thanking King Charles III of the United Kingdom for his support.

"Our alliance doubles our strength. That is why it is a great honor and privilege for me to sign the law on the ratification of the Centennial Partnership Agreement between Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Yesterday, the Verkhovna Rada overwhelmingly supported this historic treaty, and today I am returning it to the parliament with my signature," Zelenskyy wrote.

The President also expressed his gratitude to the King of the United Kingdom, Charles III, for his unwavering support for Ukraine.

"At a time when tyranny once again threatens Europe, we must all stand strong, and the United Kingdom con-

tinues to be a leader in defending freedom in many ways. Together we have achieved much, and with the support of freedom-loving peoples – the United Kingdom, our European partners and the United States – we continue to defend values and protect lives. We are united in our efforts to make diplomacy work and to ensure lasting peace on the European continent," he said.

It recently became known that the United Kingdom will continue the training program for the Ukrainian military until at least the end of 2026.

Also, the day before, the United Kingdom and Ukraine signed a historic agreement to exchange technologies for the joint development and production of advanced military equipment, including interceptor drones.

Ukraine and Poland signed a memorandum on the creation of a joint working group on UAVs



Ukraine and Poland are creating a Joint Working Group on Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Warsaw and Kyiv are also preparing to sign an agreement on cooperation in the field of unmanned technologies.

As noted, the central element of this working group will be joint training programs. The group will also:

- promote the exchange of operational knowledge and experience in the field of UAVs;
- develop and test methods of using and countering drones, integrate innovative technologies;
- strengthen interoperability between the Armed Forces of Ukraine and Poland and ensure compatibility with NATO standards.

According to the Polish minister, the document will provide for the development of joint initiatives and training of military personnel using Ukrainian experience in using drones on the battlefield.

On September 10, when Russia again attacked Ukraine with missiles

and drones, Russian UAVs violated Polish airspace. After that, NATO activated Article 4.

Polish law enforcement officers discovered the remains of 17 Russian drones.

On September 12, Operation Eastern Sentinel was launched in Poland, which was the response of NATO countries to the incursion of Russian drones into the country's airspace. It was launched to strengthen the defense of the Alliance's eastern flank.

Subsoil Agreement: The United States made the first contribution to the Reconstruction Investment Fund

The United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has made an investment commitment of \$75 million to the Recovery Investment Fund provided for by the Subsoil Agreement. This was announced by Prime Minister Yulia Svrydenko.

According to her, Ukraine intends to double this contribution and form the starting positions of the Recovery Investment Fund in the amount of \$150 million.

"This is another important step in the process of launching the full-fledged work of the Fund, and from today we can declare: operational work has started. The first in focus are projects in the energy, infrastructure and critical minerals sectors. We aim to implement 3 projects by the end of 2026," the prime minister wrote.

She also expressed the opinion that such start-up capital demonstrates that American investments "can become a reliable guarantee of security for both Ukraine and American business in our country."

Britain announces new sanctions against Russia's shadow fleet

The British government has imposed new sanctions against the Russian shadow fleet, which transports Russian oil. The British government's press service reported this on Friday,

September 12.

"The UK has imposed 100 new sanctions to reduce Putin's sources of income and military supplies. The measures were taken against the backdrop of reckless Russian airstrikes that violated NATO airspace in Poland and damaged the Cabinet of Ministers building in Kyiv," the report said.

The sanctions, in particular, are aimed at the shadow fleet transporting Russian oil and key suppliers of military components.

The new sanctions include 70 more ships of the Russian shadow fleet, as well as 30 companies and individuals that support the Kremlin's military machine by supplying key equipment, including electronics, chemicals and explosives used to produce missiles and other weapons systems.

Ukraine will partially open arms exports

Volodymyr Zelenskyy said that Ukraine will introduce controlled exports of those types of weapons that are produced in sufficient quantities.

"Nobody wants to take risks during a war, but we need money to produce certain very necessary types of weapons, such as drones for the front. "Therefore, I think so: in about 10 days we will have a concept for exports," Zelenskyy said.

The Armed Forces of Ukraine revealed how many servicemen were injured due to the use of chemical weapons by the Russians

Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion of the Russian Federation, at least three thousand servicemen of the Defense Forces have been injured due to chemical attacks by the enemy. This was reported by the head of the civil defense department of the RCB protection department of the Armed Forces of Ukraine support forces command, Artem Vlasnyuk. According to him, in total, the servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine recorded about 11 thousand cases of the use

of dangerous chemical substances by the Russians at the front. He added that the enemy uses, in particular, tear gas grenades, as well as improvised explosive devices equipped with dangerous substances.

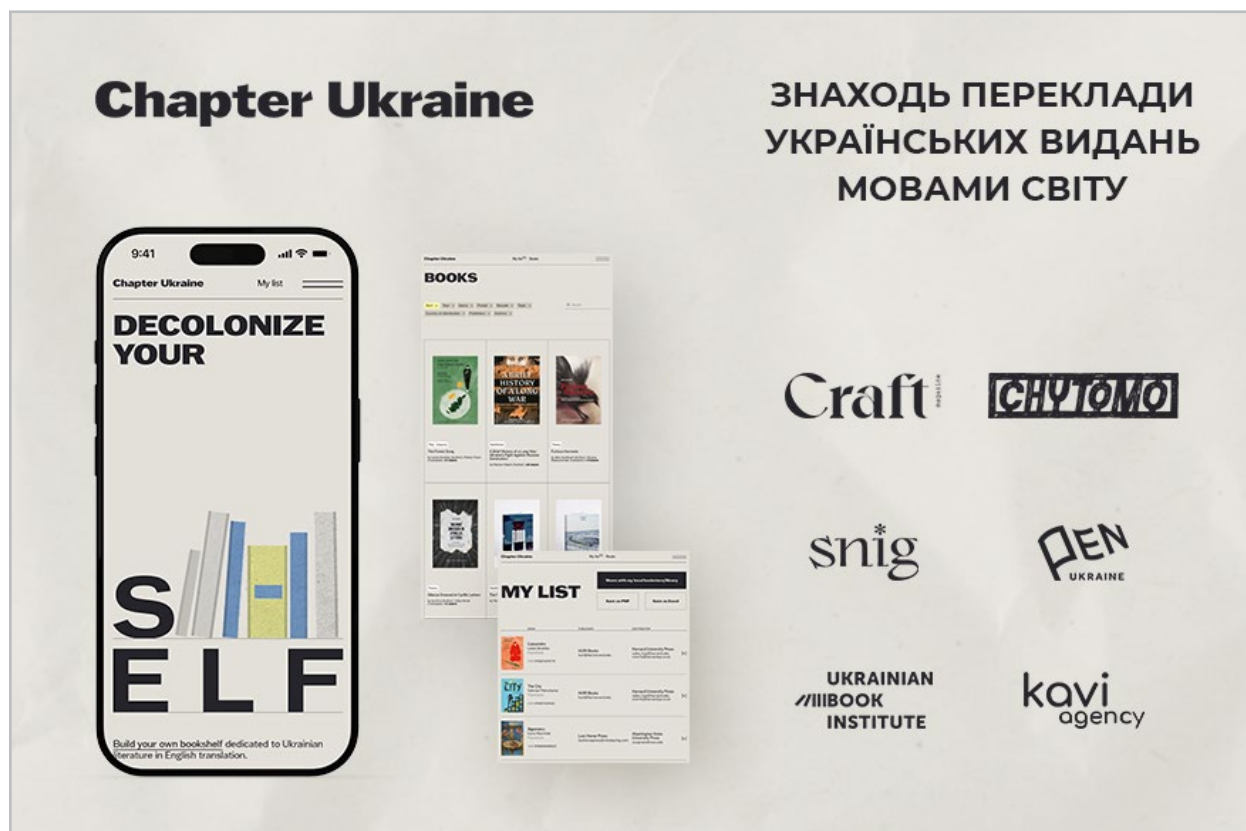
More Ukrainian children managed to return from the occupation

As part of the Bring Kids Back UA initiative, 16 more Ukrainian children were rescued from the temporarily occupied territories by Russia. Among them is a 15-year-old girl who, together with her aunt, managed to escape from the occupation after her parents and older brother were sent to a colony for many years on fabricated charges. Two more sisters – 14 and 7 years old – were left without a home and belongings after a fire destroyed their home. Another 15-year-old girl lived in constant fear with her parents for over three years, almost never leaving the house, fearing a visit from the occupiers. Also among the rescued is a 10-year-old boy whom the occupation guardianship services tried to take away from his family. Also, on September 15, it became known that 16 minors also returned to Ukraine from the occupation. According to the Office of the President, Ukraine has already managed to return home one and a half thousand children who were held in temporarily occupied territories or who were illegally deported by Russia.

Bodies of thousands of fallen defenders returned to Ukraine

On September 18, within the framework of the Istanbul agreements, the bodies of thousands of fallen Ukrainian defenders were returned to Ukraine. This was reported by the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War. It is also reported that the repatriation measures were carried out with the assistance of the International Committee of the Red Cross. The last exchange of bodies of the fallen took place on August 19. Then the bodies of another 1,000 fallen were returned to Ukraine. Among the repatriated are five bodies of Ukrainian servicemen who died in captivity.

UKRAINE LAUNCHES CHAPTER UKRAINE, A NEW PLATFORM SHOWCASING UKRAINIAN BOOKS IN TRANSLATION



In Ukraine, a digital platform called "[Chapter Ukraine](#)" has been created, which provides complete information about Ukrainian books available in translation into foreign languages. The project was created by the media "[Craft](#)" and "[Читомо](#)" (Chytomo) in partnership with Snig.digital, Kavi. Agency, PEN Ukraine and the Ukraini-

an Book Institute.

Currently, book lists are available in [English](#), [German](#) and [Spanish](#).

The service offers carefully crafted selections of translations, each of which was developed by experts taking into account the following criteria:

- the translation is done by a professional translator;

- the publication has a circulation and is available for sale;

- there are reviews from readers on international platforms, including Goodreads;

- there are critical reviews of the translations in the media;

- a well-established and understandable distribution system.

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Painting from artist Veronika Buliuk

I'm Veronika, an artist from Ukraine, Kherson region. I've been painting since childhood, studied at an art school, and keep growing every day. My art reflects emotions, memories, and light. I create interior and abstract paintings, custom artwork, and hand-painted clothing. I also do face painting for kids and take part in creative projects, exhibitions, and charity art auctions.
E-Mail: `veronikabuluk@gmail.com`

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GRATEFUL HEARTS of UKRAINIAN THANKSGIVING

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Grosu. Hosted by Bohdan Iusypchuk, the evening features heartfelt conversations, cherished music, and a charity auction to support Ukraine.
E-Mail: `events@oglifecorp.com`

Young artist Veronika Buliuk

I'm 17 years old, from Ukraine, Kherson region, city Hola Prystan. In Us I'm 1 year. My art journey I started in childhood and continue to create further. I sell my works and also paint to order, mainly with acrylic or oil on canvas. I also paint prints on clothes and do face painting for children. If you are interested in more, you can write to me on Instagram or in message, `\_dreamscome\_true`
E-Mail: `veronikabuluk@gmail.com`

Pictures for the home by Anna Aksyonova

Amazing paintings by professional artist Anna Aksyonova, created not with brushes, but solely with fingers. This technique "ENERGY OF TOUCH" will fill your home with a wonderful energy of coziness and harmony. Works such as "Ukrainian Girls" will warm the heart. Most of the artist's works have been exhibited multiple times in exhibitions in the USA, UKRAINE, and online in Britain!
E-Mail: `anna.aksionova74@gmail.com`

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E-Mail: `hello@frankobakery.com`

Ukrainian-American Kindergarten

I invite children aged 1 to 5 years to the newly opened kindergarten. The kindergarten operates from 8:00

AM to 5:30 PM. In the kindergarten, we learn letters through play, get acquainted with Ukrainian culture, read, learn to count and think logically, develop fine motor skills, play a lot outdoors, and eat homemade organic dishes. We have a lot of fun and interesting activities. Each child is surrounded by attention, love, and care.

E-Mail: `veselkakidsdaycare@gmail.com`

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E-Mail: `svs.livemusic@gmail.com`

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Personal trainer Anastasia

Hi everyone!

My name is Anastasia, and I'm a certified personal trainer (IFPA, CPR/AED) specializing in strength training for women.

I work with clients at a gym in San Jose, in my gym in Sunnyvale, and I can also come to your residential gym in San Jose, Santa Clara, Sunnyvale, and Mountain View. I create

personalized workout programs tailored to your goals – weight loss, and developing a toned and strong body.

- I explain exercise techniques and teach you how to work with weights confidently.

- I pay special attention to safety and gradual progress.

- I constantly monitor your progress and adapt your workout plan.

- I provide nutrition advice to help you achieve your fitness goals.

I don't use one-size-fits-all programs—everything is customized to your body, schedule, and fitness level.

My goal is not just to train but to cultivate a strong, healthy body that you love seeing in the mirror.

If you want to start or get back into strength training – send me a message, and I'd be happy to tell you more

- Sunnyvale, residential gym
- San Jose, gym: Elite Pro Fitness
- At your residential gym (South Bay Area)

Inst: anastasia.bayfit

E-Mail: `anastasia.kosenko.us@gmail.com`

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Personal Insights:

I bring a unique, compassionate approach to real estate. A proud mother of two –one a UC Berkeley graduate, the other a UCLA student – I understand the importance of creating homes where families thrive. I live with my parents, who moved to the Bay Area from Ukraine due to the war, and we share our home with three rescue cats.

Outside of real estate, I'm passionate about nutrition, maintaining a vegan and gluten-free lifestyle, and exploring water fasting. I've held a Series 7 license and have a keen interest in trading and financial planning. Supporting local businesses and traveling the world bring me joy and inspiration.

Let's Achieve Your Real Estate Goals

Whether buying, selling, or investing, I'll provide expert guidance with a personal touch. Let's navigate the Bay Area market together!

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Tetiana Redko | Ukrainian Realtor® in Bay Area

If you are looking to buy, sell, or invest in residential real estate here in the Bay Area, my team and I can help. We are here to ensure a seamless and successful experience tailored to your unique needs and goals. Text me at (480) 248-4017 with any questions you have.

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I have an idea to create a running club in Sacramento and I am looking for like-minded people who would like to join.

Join the Ukrainian Running Club Sacramento!

Whether you're passionate about running or triathlon, we're building a community for enthusiasts of all levels. Together, we'll train, share experiences, and achieve goals. Let's explore Sacramento while staying fit and motivated. Ready to join? Connect with us and take the first step toward an active lifestyle!

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EVENTS 2025

OCTOBER

Hi/Su	Пн/Mo	Вт/Tu	Ср/We	Чт/Th	Пт/Fr	Сб/Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

11 OCT HOUSE OF UKRAINE – 65TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION | SAN DIEGO

House of Ukraine

Where: Riverwalk Golf Club, 1150 Fashion Valley Rd., San Diego, CA 92108

When: Saturday, 5 PM – 10 PM
Join us for our 65th Anniversary Gala at Riverwalk Golf Club, featuring the incredible Valeria Vovk — a gifted Ukrainian singer-songwriter whose heartfelt performances blend folk, jazz, and soul into an unforgettable musical experience. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 to bring warmth, education, and hope for a safer future to many children in Ukraine.

Tickets:

Regular Adult Ticket – **\$200**
A portion of your ticket is tax-deductible.

Last day of ticket sales is October 2, 2025.

<https://houseofukraine.org/event/hou-65th-anniversary/>

18 OCT "FEMINISTS" PERFORMANCE BY THE "TRAVELING

STARS" THEATER | SAN FRANCISCO

Traveling Stars & Hromada

Where: Naglee Park, 241 S 14th St, San Jose, CA 95112

When: Saturday, 6 PM – 8 PM

The Ukrainian amateur theater "Traveling Stars" is kicking off its second theater season with the play "Feminists" by contemporary Ukrainian author Olha Hlapshun. This performance, sometimes funny and eccentric, at other times poignant and filled with complex emotions, invites us to reflect on important issues such as responsibility, empathy, human relationships, and most importantly, what each of us can do for others, for ourselves, for Ukraine, and for the world. Natalia Karpenko, Tatyana Lozhnevskaya, and Olena Kolodko play the roles. Directed by Olena Bilyak. We perform in Ukrainian with English subtitles. The theater extends its gratitude to the nonprofit organization "Hromada" for its support and collaboration. All proceeds from the performance will go to aid Ukraine, as the theater collective works on a volunteer basis.

Tickets: General Admission – **\$40**, Student – **\$20**

<https://www.sharvarok.com/en/listing/feminists-performance-by-the-traveling-stars-theater/712>

19 OCT A LEGACY IN MOTION: UNWLA'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION | NEW YORK

Ukrainian National Women's League of America

Where: Bohemian National Hall, 321 E 73rd St, New York, NY 10021

Колі: Sunday, 1:30 PM – 5 PM

Experience Legacy in Motion, a powerful multimedia performance that brings to life 100 years of courage, sisterhood, and steadfast commitment through original storytelling, music, and rare archival

imagery. This moving tribute honors the past and celebrates the ongoing legacy of Ukrainian women's leadership in America.

After the performance, mix and mingle at our elegant Centennial Reception — a stylish affair with curated bites, champagne toasts, and lively company. Tickets: **\$250**

<https://unwla.app.neoncrm.com/>

28 OCT KITKA & KURBASY: SONGS OF THE UKRAINIAN FOREST | BERKELEY

The Freight and Center Stage

Where: Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2022 Addison St, Berkeley, CA 94704

When: Tuesday, 7 PM

Kitka is thrilled to partner with The Freight and Center Stage to introduce Bay Area audiences to Kurbasy, direct from L'viv, Ukraine.

Kitka will open the evening with a spellbinding set of Ukrainian polyphonic songs, showcasing their signature blend of precision, power, and emotional depth. Kurbasy will then take the stage with a dramatic song cycle drawing from Eastern, Central, and Western Ukrainian folk traditions, including rare Lemsky dialect songs from the Polish borderlands. "We want to affirm our loud and clear freedom, our love for our country and our people," says Kurbasy vocalist Maria Oneschak.

Tickets: **\$50.00 – \$35.00**

<https://www.sharvarok.com/en/listing/kitka-kurbasy-songs-of-the-ukrainian-forest/694>

25-29 OCT UKRAINE ACTION SUMMIT, FALL 2025 | WASHINGTON,

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

American Coalition for Ukraine, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and 3 others

Where: Washington D.C., DC, United States, Washington, District of Columbia

When: Oct 25, 9 AM – Oct 29, 9 PM

Join us on October 25-29 for five days of expert-led panel discussions, exhibitions of Ukraine-focused organizations, networking, and high-impact advocacy on Capitol Hill.

The Fall 2025 Ukraine Action Summit will be one of the largest gatherings of advocates, experts, and community leaders united for Ukraine.

October 25–26 – Conference & Expo

October 26 (evening) – Official

Ukraine Action Summit Reception

October 27–29 – Advocacy on Capitol Hill

Registration Details:

Register early at a discounted rate – Early Bird registrations August 18–31 only

We are happy to offer a discounted rate to students and veterans. Special pricing is available to ACU member organizations, with the number of discounted tickets determined by membership tier. Please contact your organization's leadership for details.

<https://americancoalitionforukraine.org/ukraine-action-summit-fall-2025/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1050489056904876/>

31 OCT UKRAINIAN HALLOWEEN | LOS ANGELES

OG LIFE Corp

Where: STUDIO 537, 537 Ceres Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90013

When: Friday, 7 PM – 11 PM

For the very first time, Los Angeles will host a Ukrainian Halloween – a one-of-a-kind event that unites the Ukrainian community and everyone who appreciates atmospheric nights, cultural experiences, and world-class entertainment.

Tickets: **\$70 – \$100**

<https://www.sharvarok.com/en/listing/ukrainian-halloween/711>



100 UNWLA
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA

OCT 19, 2025; 1:30PM
BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL
321 EAST 73 STREET,
NEW YORK, NY 10021

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF UNWLA – A CENTURY OF SISTERHOOD UNITED FOR UKRAINE.

EXPERIENCE A LEGACY IN MOTION

LEGACY IN MOTION IS A POWERFUL MULTIMEDIA PERFORMANCE OF RESILIENCE, HISTORY, AND HOPE THAT HONORS UNWLA'S ENDURING COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING THE PAST AND BUILDING THE FUTURE. THE CELEBRATION CONTINUES WITH THE CENTENNIAL RECEPTION – AN ELEGANT EVENING OF CURATED CUISINE, FINE BEVERAGES, AND SPIRITED CONVERSATION.

Proceeds will benefit the UNWLA's humanitarian programs supporting the Ukrainian people. UNWLA is a 501 (c)(3). ein: 23-640-4061 203 2nd Avenue, New York, NY 10003 For ticket-related questions, please contact +1(908)-759-1771



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