



«HROMADA» 1st Ukrainian Newspaper on the West Coast of the US, a tax-deductible 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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REPORT OF THE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION "HROMADA" FOR 2024



Dear friends!

Please find below the report of the non-profit organization "Hromada" for 2024 and the Christmas and New Year period of 2025 on the funds sent and humanitarian aid provided to Ukraine.

We are extremely grateful to all donors who joined our charity events or simply sent money.

Our joint efforts have made it possible to provide humanitarian aid, support, gifts and happy leisure time for **369** children in Ukraine for a total of **\$44,075.33**.

During the years of war and terror of the Russian occupiers, such support is especially important.

We would like to thank all the volunteers here and in Ukraine, as well as the foundations through which the assistance is provided, and we would like to note that your work is important and changes the lives of little Ukrainians for the better, giving them smiles and moments of joy.

List of organizations and volunteers where the aid was sent:

Lviv region, Andrii Fastnakh foster children family and Mariya Medukh family – two laptops for children – **\$1,250** (January 31, 2025)

Zaporizhzhia, Charity Foundation "Help By Doing" – entertainment, food, and medical supplies for kids – **\$2,000** (January 07, 2025)

Sumy, Nonprofit Organization "Kindness Without Borders" – children rehabilitation – **\$2,000** (January 07, 2025)

Lutsk, Religious Mission Caritas Spes Zamlynnia rehabilitation for 40 children – **\$3,000** (December 18, 2024)

V. Goshiv, Kalush district, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Charitable Organization "You Angel" – gaming equipments for orphans – **\$1,600** (December 12, 2024)

Stryi, Lviv region, NGO Constellation Korostiv – gifts and entertainment for kids – **\$2,300** (December 2, 2024)

Ivano-Frankivsk, Public organization "Families of the Fallen Defenders of the IF: Christmas gifts and enter-

tainment for 150 orphans of fallen Ukrainian Heroes – **\$3,000** (December 2, 2024)

Donetsk, Kharkiv, Zaporizhzhia regions – Tourniquet Gen 7 CAT for medical personnel – 50 items – **\$1,244.30** (November 29, 2024)

Kyiv region, volunteer Lyudmyla Kravtsova – support for children and displaced refugees (medicine, food, and clothes) – **\$1,000** (September 9, 2024)

V. Kurovychi, Lviv region – support for Maria Rakus family – **\$1,000** (July 22, 2024)

V. Goshiv, Kalush district, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Charitable Organization "You Angel" – accommodation, food, and entertainment for orphans – **\$2,500** (May, 6, 2024)

London, Great Britain, volunteer Alexandru Nalivaico – purchasing transportation for Charitable Foundation "Mirror of Good" in Sumy, Ukraine – **\$6,991.73** (April 9, 2024)

Kalush, Ivano-Frankivsk region, Rehabilitation Center



“4.5.0 PRYKARPATYA” – **\$5,000** (April 9, 2024)

Donetsk and Luhansk regions – Tourniquet Gen 7 CAT for medical personnel – 50 items – **\$1,239.30** (February 26, 2024)

Kyiv region, volunteer Lyudmyla Kravtsova – support for children and displaced refugees (medicine, food, and cloth) – **\$3,000** (February 7, 2024)

Kyiv, Charitable Foundation U4UA medical assistance and rehabilitation for children with disabilities – **\$6,950** (February 1, 2024)

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Unfortunately, we cannot list all donors, there were so many of you. Each of your donations, big and small, is an invaluable help to Ukraine, which is fighting back against the Russian invasion.

We also express our sincere gratitude to the former priest of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church of the Im-

maculate Conception in San Francisco, **Fr. Peter Dyachko**, for regularly and free of charge providing the Ukrainian Hall, as well as to the current rector, **Fr. Roman Bobesiuk**, and **members of the parish council**. This building has been uniting the Ukrainian community under its roof for decades.

We would like to thank all the volunteers who actively participated in the preparation and organization of the events: **Taras Turiv**, **Andriy Fil**, and **Arkadiy Kaminsky**. Special thanks to **Yuriy Bondarchuk** for his wonderful photos.

We would like to thank our guests from Los Angeles – the talented **Hanna Kohanchik** and **Orest Galitsky**.

We also thank **PodiYaSound**, represented by **Andriy Shehera**, for providing sound equipment for free and on a regular basis – it is a very valuable help!

We are grateful to **Volodymyr Parubets** for providing free transportation for the music equipment and for his help in general.

We are grateful to **Ivan Haida** and **Veronika Shoba** for their active assistance at the events.

Many thanks to all the actors of the first Ukrainian amateur theater “**Traveling Stars**” from San Francisco and its director and manager, **Ms. Olena Bilyak**, for two charity performances.

For the March evening of theatrical readings of Lesya Ukrainka's works, we thank **Maryna Anisovych**, **Olena Sikorska**, **Oleksandr Lytovchenko**, and **Pavlo Wiener**. This charity evening was converted into the purchase of an evacuation vehicle for our defenders. The total cost is **\$6,991.73**.

Special thanks go to **Oleksandr Nalyvaiko** for finding and purchasing the vehicle in London, UK. Thanks to his help, **three cars** were purchased during the war!

We thank **Ihor Kuzyshyn** for the logistics and technical preparation of all three vehicles.

We would like to thank **Rostyslav Tistyk**, Member of Parliament of Ukraine, for donating valuable items for the auctions, including souvenir sets of chevrons of heroic combat units of the Ukrainian Defense Forces, and **Ms. Maria Medyukh**, a long-time volunteer in Lviv region.

We would like to thank our team of volunteers from Sacramento, namely **Nataliya Kohana**, **Olena Solyar**, **Natalia Polk**, and **Yuriy Kohanyi** for providing delicious food for the event, purchasing and preparing it.

Sincere thanks to **all advertisers of the Hromada newspaper!** Your payments ensure the monthly publication of the newspaper, its printing, payment to our contributors in Ukraine, and other overhead costs. Preserving and spreading the Ukrainian word in the United States in our communities is extremely important! It is also crucial to disseminate information about Ukraine during the war in translation to our English-speaking subscribers.

Let's do good together and continue to help Ukraine!

Stay with us in 2025 – together we are strong!

Glory to Ukraine!

Glory to the Heroes!

SPECIAL FOR HROMADA

Vitaliy Portnykov | NOTES FOR JANUARY

TRUMP'S FIRST WEEKS



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

The beginning of Donald Trump's presidential term was undoubtedly a major event not only for the United States, but also for Ukraine and the entire world. Particular expectations were related to whether the new president could influence the end of the Russian-Ukrainian war, especially since Trump himself repeatedly spoke about this during his election campaign.

We can already say that the process of ending the war will not be easy, as the new president himself recognizes.

On his first day in the White House, Donald Trump emphasized the need to meet with Russian leader Vladimir Putin to end the war.

However, Trump's answers to journalists' questions left no doubt that he has absolutely no idea how this ending should be achieved – except that he hopes Putin realizes the need to reach an agreement, because, according to Trump, this war is destroying Russia and the Russian leader cannot be happy about it. "He's not doing so well," Donald Trump convinced journalists. "And he doesn't look good because of it."

Of course, Trump was reminding journalists of the enormous numbers of casualties in the Russian-Ukrainian war and emphasizing that he gets along well with Putin and can reach an agreement with him.

The good news in Donald Trump's assessment of the situation is that he is now confident that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is seeking an agreement to end the war, and that the new US president is not going to lift the sanctions imposed on the Rus-

sian Federation by his predecessors and himself.

Putin, of course, is also preparing for change. On the eve of Trump's inauguration, the Russian leader addressed a meeting of the Security Council of the Russian Federation with demands that the United States itself clearly interprets as an ultimatum to the new American president. In other words, Putin is indeed ready to end the war, but on the conditions that he put forward back in 2022, when the decision to attack Ukraine was made. These conditions have left no doubt that the Russian president seeks to establish full control over Ukraine and prevent not only its accession to the North Atlantic Alliance, but also the transformation of Ukraine into a state that will be able to overcome Russian aggression in the future.

Obviously, Donald Trump himself is not a person who agrees with the language of ultimatums.

That's why we are in a rather difficult situation: Trump is convinced that Putin needs an agreement to get out of the Russian-Ukrainian war, save face, and restore the economy of the Russian Federation, while Putin wants to meet with Trump first and foremost to demonstrate the complete failure of his isolation, which the West has been trying to organize since February 2022.

These different goals, with which the presidents of the United States and the Russian Federation approach their upcoming meeting, doom at least the first US-Russia summit after Russia's major attack on Ukraine to failure, or at least the absence of any concrete results.

Of course, everything will depend on how much both Trump and Putin are interested in continuing their dialog. In this case, Putin will have to look for some opportunities to give Trump the illusion that he can come to an agree-

ment with him, some minimal compromises that can be reached during the first meeting to raise hopes for the second.

It will be interesting to see Trump's reaction when he realizes that no one wants to negotiate with him and he is simply being used as a tool to raise Putin's prestige, particularly in the countries of the Global South, which are already focused on cooperation with the Russian president and which may be even more interested in this cooperation after Donald Trump's victory in the US presidential election and the inauguration of the new American president to counteract the rise of America.

After all, in this situation, Russia's foreign policy role for countries that do not want to agree with Trump, including authoritarian and dictatorial regimes around the world, is beginning to grow like a weed, and Putin is well aware of this. With each new statement by Trump, it is he, Putin, who is turning into a geopolitical leader and a magnet for all these dictators, and, by the way, not only for dictators.

Therefore, in this situation, the main thing is not even whether Trump wants to meet with his Russian counterpart and when this meeting will take place, but how long he will agree to maintain and strengthen sanctions against the Russian Federation, and how these sanctions will affect the state of the Russian economy in the coming years.

In January, Bloomberg reported that the reserves of the Russian National Welfare Fund had decreased by as much as 57% over the three years of the great Russian-Ukrainian war. Now the fund has only 37 billion US dollars left.

By the end of 2025, if Russia continues to spend money with the same intensity to continue the Russian-Ukrainian war and maintain at least

Please support Vitaliy Portnikov'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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some level of social standards in Russia, the National Welfare Fund will run out of money. And this will mean that from the beginning of 2026, Russia will be forced to live solely on the money it earns from the sale of oil and gas, which is quite risky for the Putin regime.

In this situation, Moscow will depend, firstly, on oil prices on the world market, secondly, on the ceiling of oil prices that the West may set for it if the Russian-Ukrainian war continues, and thirdly, on sanctions against Russian energy giants that have already been imposed by the Biden administration and may be maintained or strengthened by the Trump administration.

It is known that the newly elected president is a supporter of the development of the American oil and gas

sector and does not need competitors.

Fourthly, it depends on how effective the so-called shadow fleet of the Russian Federation will be, i.e. all these tankers that the US has already started to impose sanctions on. And these sanctions force countries like China or India, which are currently the main consumers of Russian oil, to refuse to receive raw materials from these tankers. Thus, Russia will need to find new opportunities to supply oil to the "third world" countries of the so-called Global South.

We are well aware that in this situation, it is impossible to maintain social stability in Russia solely on the money earned, even if the Russian-Ukrainian war is ended.

Without reserves, Russia will face

problems comparable to those of the Soviet Union in the last era of its existence and the first decade of Russia after its collapse.

Here, a rather simple question arises: what will Putin do with the Russian-Ukrainian war in this situation? Will he continue it until the money in the National Welfare Fund finally runs out, and then take care of a truce in this war? Or will he want to end the war in advance, using the change of power in the United States and the willingness of the new American president, Donald Trump, to engage with the Kremlin?

The answer to this question depends not only on Russian money, but also on American determination.

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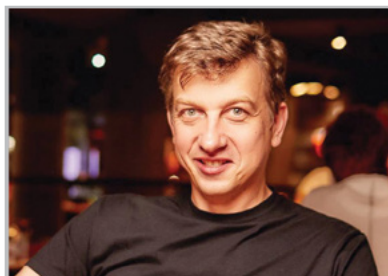
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SPECIAL FOR HROMADA

Oles Doniy

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OSYP ZINKEVYCH: A CREATOR OF CREATORS

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

This January, Osyp Zinkevych would have turned 100 years old. Modest and not very public during his lifetime, in fact, he should rightfully be called the Godfather of the Ukrainian Cultural Renaissance of the Independence era.

The initial stages of his biography are interesting, but not much different from the biographies of thousands of Western Ukrainian boys born in the 1920s. Mr. Osyp came from the Sniatyn region, where he was born in 1925. After the advent of Soviet rule, he emigrated to the West. He continued his education (in the field of chemistry), work, and social activities. “Smoloskypivstvo” began in France, when “Smoloskyp” was just a student supplement to the Ukrainian Word, which belonged to the Melnyk wing of the OUN. Later, it moved to the United States. And this is where Mr. Osyp turned around. He felt uncomfortable in the too conservative grip of party ideology, so “Smoloskyp”, which had already become a magazine, was positioned as a non-partisan publishing house. In fact, Smoloskyp became a monopolist in the printing of dissident literature that was smuggled from the USSR. Political prisoners Danylo Shumuk, Valentyn Moroz, Ihor Kalynets, and Oles Berdnyk were among the authors’ works. But the collection of Vyacheslav Chornovil’s “Trouble from the Mind” became especially famous. The methods of transferring thin papers that leaked through camps and borders confused the KGB and became legendary during

his lifetime. But I didn’t see this period, I had already witnessed the next legend of the “Smoloskyp” after I returned to Ukraine. Moreover, I was lucky enough to become not only a witness but also a participant in the process.

In the early 1990s, Osyp Zinkevych moved the then legendary publishing house to Ukraine, which had just gained independence. And in Ukraine, Smoloskyp became more than a publishing house. It also continued to publish works by the leaders of the Executed Renaissance, memoirs of diaspora members, and works by older writers. However, Smoloskyp chose to focus on those whom no other publishing house published: young people. From a commercial point of view, it seemed absurd to publish the first books of 18- to 20-year-old beginners in separate books. But for Osyp Zinkevych, commerce was not the goal of his activity, although he did not count money badly, he kept a rational balance sheet, and the structure was profitable. The goal was the Ukrainian idea, where literature was one of the means, and youth was the driving force. Zinkevych’s faith in young people was phenomenally strong; he could sense talent not even from texts, but at the moment of communication, and then he opened up all his trust and opportunities. And Zinkevych created a generation... This is not my journalistic exaggeration, at least I was not the only one who said this. “The generation of the 90s came out of Zinkevych’s overcoat,” wrote the writer Anatoliy Dnistroyi. “Osyp Zinkevych actually created our generation,” and these are the words of the writer Serhiy Zhadan.

It was Mr. Osyp who encouraged me to write my first book, “The Student Revolution on Granite”. I did not have this idea, it belonged to Osyp Zinkevych. In fact, it was his idea that started our acquaintance, our cooperation, and our friendship. I wrote the text, worked in the archive, where I made extracts from newspapers, attached excerpts from letters and telegrams addressed to the hunger striking students, bought slides from photographers, found some poems about

the action, that is, I took the task conscientiously. And it was thanks to Mr. Osyp that the modern name of the action appeared. Until 1995, that is, before the book appeared, no one called our action the Student Revolution on Granite. And, in fact, no one called it a “revolution” either. “Student hunger strike” or ‘hunger strike’ were usually the terms used to describe our struggle in October 1990, and no one said a word about granite. When I posted the poem and the two dedicated to the action – one by Oleh Pokalchuk, the other by Leonid Vysheslavsky – I didn’t want to do it on a plain white background, and after trying different options, I came to the granite texture. At first it was an aesthetic issue, and then it became a conceptual issue. Thus, in the process of working on the book, a new name for the campaign was born, and this name has become universally recognized and widely used. If Osyp Zinkevych had not existed, if he had not approached me with an insistent proposal to describe those events, there would have been no such name.

This is the essence of Mr. Osyp. He didn’t seem to write for us, he didn’t seem to create everything with his own hands, but he, devoted to the idea, gave direction, he created conditions, he helped everyone he attracted to his orbit to reveal their skills. He was a creator of creators.

At Mr. Osyp’s suggestion, I became the head of the Smoloskyp International Charitable Foundation, under which the legendary publishing house operated. The next offer from him was to become the head of the Irpin Seminars Organizing Committee. In Irpin, the “Writers’ Union” had previously hosted creative gatherings of young and not-so-young writers. But since then, as he always did, Mr. Osyp has been systematic in everything he does. From the very beginning, the “Irpin Seminars” became not only a narrowly literary event, but they immediately formed a cultural, artistic, political, and ideological ground. “The Irpin Seminars, joint collections, individual books, and trips all over Ukraine became a powerful generator that produced entire waves

for Ukrainian culture. "Nine-tenths," then "two-thousanders." It was a counterweight to the Soviet Union of Writers. "Smoloskyp", without in any way joining the front of the "Writers' Union", created an alternative to it, and the framework of this alternative was the medium. This is something that none of the Ukrainian publishing houses have created and could not create. Publishers only publish books by certain authors. "Smoloskyp" created a network. Every name I'm going to write here from the first Irpin Seminars is significant in literature in itself: Serhiy Zhadan, Andriy Kokotiukha, Taras Prokhasko, Serhiy Pantiuk, Stepan Protsiuk, Rostyslav Semkiv, Vasyl Kuzan, Rostyslav Melnykiv, Ivan Andrusiak, Yuriy Bedryk, Nazar Fedorak, Mariana Kiyanovska, Anatoliy Dnistroyi, Mariana Savka, Halyna Kruk, Andriy Bondar. Yes, Smoloskyp published the first or one of the first books of many of them, which in the 1990s was charity, not commercial profit. However, Smoloskyp gave us much more than that – it introduced us and made us friends! I could write out the next waves of Smoloskypians by name. It will be a list of talents, too. I have come up with and realized dozens of different art projects in my life, and I would never have come to them if "Smoloskyp" (Mr. Osyp) had not given me this environment. I came up with various literary and artistic festivals in different parts of our country: Kharkiv and Lutsk, Ivano-Frankivsk and Odesa, Kolomyia and Zaporizhzhia, Simferopol and Gulyaypol, Kyiv and Kerch, organized the first Ukrainian-language art clubs "Last Barricade" in Kyiv and Kharkiv. And I have to confess clearly: I would never have come up with this idea and organized it if it were not for Osyp Zinkevych. From a formal point of view, I did not discuss these ideas with Zinkevich, and I could claim that they were just a figment of my imagination, but I am aware that this is not the case. Mr. Osyp gave me an environment from which I drew inspiration and energy. If there was no "Smoloskyp" environment, there would be no artistic ideas of mine. From "Smoloskyp" I drew not only dozens of talented writers. Behind Mr. Osyp's seeming simplicity, which he constantly demonstrated, there was always a calculation. Mr. Osyp's calculation of creating the backbone of not only literary but also state-building processes was no less, and obviously the most powerful. Therefore, the next project he involved me in was a collection of political and ideological journalism. I came up with

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the name for the almanac: "The Young Nation," and was the first chairman of the editorial board of this almanac. Young talented scholars and politically active people began publishing in the "Young Nation". Vitalii Chepynoha, Maksym Rozumnyi, Vitalii Kulyk, Oleksii Holobutskyi, Oleh Protsenko – these people would later achieve success not in literature but in politics. But they too are a product of "Smoloskyp".

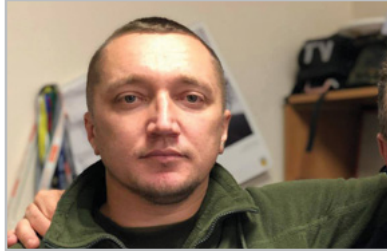
Osyp Zinkevych is the one who ignited or illuminated countless stars and stars of our time, the one who breathed youth into Ukrainian culture in his mature years, the one who, out of loners and loners of an individualis-

tic cut, created not just a bunch of cultural personalities, but wove a whole fabric. He created a space where these stars and stars created constellations, converged and diverged, and most importantly, shone, and shone not only for themselves, and not even for Ukrainian culture, but for the Ukrainian nation, for the Ukrainian idea. This idea was professed by Mr. Osyp himself. He gently, unobtrusively, but at the same time very systematically guided all those who fell into his solar system into its path. And the fact that he was the Sun is undeniable. Bright, powerful, great.

SPECIAL FOR HROMADA

MYKHAILO UKHMAN | NEWS FROM THE FRONTLINE

HUTSUL. THE WOLF – A STORMTROOPER



Mykhailo Ukhman – a film producer, war journalist, writer, makes documentaries and feature films about the Ukrainian Insurgent Army and the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

In the last edition, we began to tell the story of a Ukrainian soldier, Ivan Nemesh, nicknamed Hutsul, who first fought on the Maidan and later, with the outbreak of the Russian-Ukrainian war in 2014, challenged the Moscow occupiers.

After being seriously injured and completing his contract, Ivan joined the 1st Separate Assault Company of the Right Sector Volunteer Ukrainian Corps under the command of Dmytro Kotsiubaylo, "Da Vinci".

At this point, it is worth telling our readers that the war after 2017 has become purely positional.

The last large-scale combat clashes with the Moscow occupiers, in which Da Vinci's stormtroopers also took part, took place in early 2017 in the city of Avdiivka.

The 1st Assault Company, commanded by Da Vinci, retrained and began to fight with the help of equipment: mortars, ATGMs, cannons, mortars, tanks.

All this happened in cooperation with the Ukrainian Armed Forces and Ukrainian special forces. Ivan took an active part in all these events.

The place of deployment of the stormtroopers was the cities of Avdiivka and Novohrodivka.

There, the soldiers trained, planned missions and identified targets to be destroyed.

Ivan Nemesh was always at the forefront of events. Moreover, he carried



out future reconnaissance and was always close to Dmytro Kotsiubaylo.

"We knew that there would be a full-scale Russian invasion, so we have been preparing for it all these years. Starting from February 24, 2022, we were one of the best-trained units in

Ukraine, able to do literally everything: find the enemy, adjust targets and destroy the occupiers with any weapon," says Ivan.

By the end of 2021, Da Vinci's unit had conducted hundreds of combat operations, destroying hundreds of

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enemy vehicles, manpower, and aggressor fortifications. Ivan took an active part in all of them.

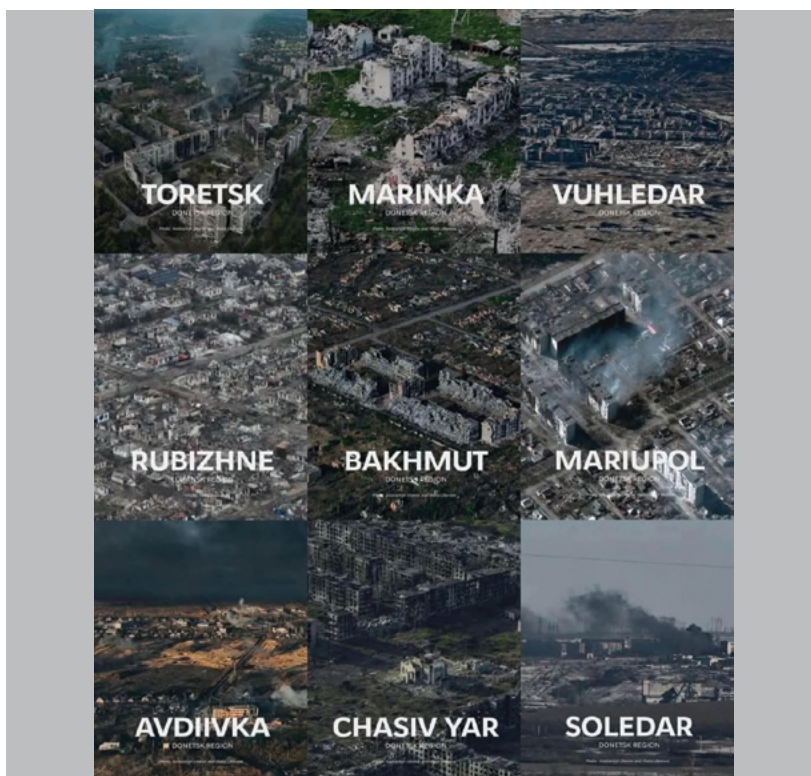
Today we have three years of the full-scale Moscow invasion and the 11th year of the Russian-Ukrainian war.

Ivan continues to fight against the Moscow aggressor. Together with his comrades, he destroys enemies and liberates our country from the invaders.

Thanks to the courage of Ivan and his friends, Ukraine is fighting, and with God's help, it will win.

We call on everyone who cares to support our soldiers, no matter where you are: New York or Toronto, Los Angeles or London, Chicago or Dnipro city – we have one country and one enemy. Only together, by supporting Ukrainian defenders and telling the whole world about the heroism of the Ukrainian nation, will we stop the Russian evil.

*This is what Russia's arrival on
Ukrainian lands looks like*



CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY LEGION: RUSLAN TELIPSKY ON SUPPORTING FAMILIES AND HOPE



Lisa Hots
*Ukrainian correspondent
for "Hromada"*

In today's world, where challenges are becoming synonymous with everyday life, the feats of people who stay on the side of light are impressive and admirable. Ruslan Telipskyi is one of these people, the head of the volunteer movement Patrons for Soldiers ("PFS"), which has already turned 10 years old, and the founder of one of its projects, Children of the Heavenly Legion.

How the project was born

Founded to support the families of fallen soldiers, the Children of the Heavenly Legion project was created in 2016 as part of a broader volunteer effort. "My goal was to help not only the soldiers, but also their families in overcoming the burden of loss," says Ruslan.

In November 2016, Ruslan founded the Children of the Heavenly Legion (CHL) social project to provide comprehensive support to children who lost their parents and, consequently, a carefree childhood due to the war. As of 2025, the volunteer movement "Patrons for a Soldier," headed by Telipsky,

is taking care of more than 1,000 such half-orphans from Volyn and 15 other regions of Ukraine. These children are provided with psychological, humanitarian and moral assistance.

There were many requests for assistance, but at the very beginning of the project, we realized that the children of fallen heroes needed special attention. "We called them 'Children of the Heavenly Legion' because it is so difficult to accept the loss of a loved one.

Volunteer holidays for children

A special place in the work of the movement is occupied by holidays and camps organized for the Children of the Legion of Heaven. "These events allow us to create a community, to become support and family for the children. They look at others and realize that I am not alone in my pain," says Telipskyi.

The volunteers of the movement constantly organize leisure activities to give the children their time, play together and spend time together. In addition, they try to educate children in a patriotic and socially active spirit: they visit wounded soldiers, weave camouflage nets for the front, create drawings for the military, and so on. In the summer or during the holidays,

they organize camps for children and teenagers to bring them together, to shift their attention from the tragedy of irreparable loss to friendship and support of similar soul mates. At the same time, they try to develop children and young people's talents, motivate them to study, learn about their own and European culture, and talk about integration with the civilized world.

"We try to create a space where they can play, laugh and forget about their trials. This is a place of kindness and positive." One of these permanent places where meetings and camps are held is the Zamlynnia Integration Center, located near Liuboml in the Volyn region. The center has a beautiful recreational and landscape area, with a rich infrastructure for active recreation, clean environment and safe stay. "Zamlynnia" is located almost at the border with the Republic of Poland, and therefore children feel safe here. This center is headed by the head of the religious organization "Caritas Spes – Zamlynnia", a priest of the Roman Catholic Church, Yan Buras.

Any vacation or material thing does not compensate children for their loss, but active recreation in Zamlynnia helps them to switch focus, gain new

experiences and experience pleasant emotions during their stay and feel better. In this special place, children not only find new friends, but also gain the strength to support each other, to rise up after heavy losses and to conquer their own fears.

Everything is taken care of: comfortable accommodation in the building and excellent four meals a day, hiking in the woods and tactile equine therapy and riding three horses, inter-communal prayer, interesting team games and quests, outdoor activities, as well as evening events, games and various educational sessions. "This is not just a vacation, but a renewal of strength and faith in the best. We also conduct educational activities to help children develop their talents."

The role of the non-profit organization "Hromada"

According to Mr. Telipskyi, long-term cooperation with Hromada has been extremely important for the implementation of several important projects. "In 2023, with the help of Hromada, we were able to buy cameras for children and organize several photography courses. This allowed us not only to develop their skills but also to give them the opportunity to feel part of a great cause."

In January 2025, Hromada funded a camp for 40 children, providing them with a good rest and a rich program. "We are grateful for every penny, because this is an opportunity to change lives for the better."

'Hromada' has also supported educational initiatives such as photography courses and needlework classes for children and mothers. Ruslan notes that this cooperation has become a real bridge of trust between the volunteers and the families of the heroes. "Every project funded by the community has a powerful effect: children find themselves in creativity, and mothers get to feel supported."

Traveling and Shevchenko

Ruslan Telipskyi is known not only for his volunteer work, but also for his passion for Ukraine's cultural heritage. He has traveled to more than 60 countries, exploring monuments to Shevchenko. "Traveling changes us, opens up new horizons and helps us to better understand ourselves and others," says Mr. Ruslan.

He pays special attention to organizing cultural evenings for children, during which he introduces them to the history of Ukrainian culture and history. "We recite poems, visit monuments, and learn to appreciate what shapes our nation. It's not just an ac-



tivity, it's part of their identity."

During his travels, Ruslan shares his experience with other volunteers and event organizers abroad, creating unique programs for children. His activities inspire new generations to study history and honor national heroes.

Challenges and plans

"The hardest part of our work is gaining the trust of the families," Ruslan says. "Each story is an experience, but it is these connections that allow us to really help."

Organizing camps and events is a particular challenge in the face of the ever-increasing number of requests for help. However, the movement does not stop: each new program is another

step towards creating an environment where children and families can find peace, inspiration and support.

We have many more plans ahead: organizing new camps, educational programs, supporting new families, and creating cultural initiatives that will allow children not only to recover but also to discover their talents. "We don't stop because we know that our work is worthwhile. We are building a future where every child who has lost a loved one will feel needed and important."

Ruslan Telipskyi is an example of how one person can change the lives of thousands. His love for children, for his work and for Ukraine inspires and reminds us that kindness always wins.

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MASSIVE WILDFIRES IN CALIFORNIA: HOW THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA UNITED TO HELP THE VICTIMS

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The climatic fluctuations between drought and heavy rains that California has experienced in recent years have become a major threat to fire danger. In January, a series of powerful wildfires broke out in the Los Angeles area due to strong winds and dry conditions, leaving thousands of people homeless and some even losing their lives. The death toll reached 29 people. The Palisades Fire, which was sparked by extreme winds on January 7, destroyed 6,837 homes and structures and left a 23,448-acre blaze. Another major fire, the Eaton Fire, broke out in Los Angeles County. It caused significant damage in the Altadena community and destroyed homes in Pasadena and Sierra Madre. According to the Inter-agency Fire Information Center, which includes the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the US Forest Service, the Eaton Fire destroyed 9,418 homes and structures, and burned about 14,021 acres.

The consequences of natural disasters of this magnitude have always been catastrophic, both for various spheres of human activity and for the environment. At the same time, however, we can see that even in such difficult circumstances, people come together to support each other. A recent example of this is the actions of the Ukrainian community, which immediately extended a helping hand to the victims. Dozens of volunteers gathered from different cities to help with food, clothing, and medicine. "Hromada was able to talk to one of these volunteers, Taras Semchysyn. Taras is an American of Ukrainian descent and an active member of the Ukrainian community in Los Angeles: "I have always been a part of the Ukrainian community. I went to church, attended a Ukrainian school, and my parents spoke Ukrainian at home. However, in the last 5-6 years, I have started to engage in community activities more formally." Taras is a member of the Southern California Holodomor-Genocide Committee and



the board of directors of the Ukrainian Cultural Center of Los Angeles. He actively helps organize various meetings and events and supports the Ukrainian community.

Taras recalls that strong winds and dry weather "warned" of possible fires: "It was a very scary wind. We often have such winds, but this winter was also dry, and there was a lot of dry vegetation. We already subconsciously realized that something bad could happen. I remember coming to work on Tuesday and being told that the fire might not be extinguished and it would be dangerous, so we all needed to go home. Where I live is relatively safe, but there was thick smog on the streets. I kept asking my friends:

"Are you okay? How are your parents?" Now, when the fires are starting to subside after the rains, you realize that we will be feeling the effects of these fires for years. It will take a long time to rebuild homes, businesses, the economy and intangible heritage, etc." Many people lost their restaurants and businesses, and their jobs. Some historical monuments no longer exist – they burned down. "Given the scale of the destruction, the issue of reconstruction will be relevant for a long time. I've lived here for 51 years, and all these things I've seen since I was a kid are gone. It's scary. It looks like in Ukraine, when Muscovites destroy cities: after the fire, everything looks the same." The fires forced the cancel-

lation of many events, both American and Ukrainian diaspora events. Major sporting events were also postponed. The Ukrainian Cultural Center in Los Angeles also had to cancel several events due to the danger: "We were supposed to hold a Generous Evening, but we had to cancel it. We don't know yet whether we will reschedule or cancel it completely, but it will not be the celebration it should have been. Only now we at the Center are starting to move on a little bit," Mr. Taras said about his activities at the Ukrainian Cultural Center.

Lacking even basic clothing or food, the victims of the fires are trying to get to donor centers for IDPs. One of the largest such centers was the "Ukrainian" one, where not only basic necessities were brought, but also traditional Ukrainian cuisine. They cooked 150 liters of borscht, 400-500 Crimean Tatar chebureks, dumplings and other dishes to feed the locals and provide them with at least some warmth and comfort in this difficult time. More than 1,500 people were fed. According to Taras, no one can better understand the people who lost their homes to the fires than Ukrainians. After all, we face destruction every day when Russia leaves thousands of people homeless. When Taras saw how devastating the consequences of the fire were, he immediately joined the initiative to help the victims. One of the volunteers, Peter Larr, offered to cook borscht for everyone. "We cooked borscht and other Ukrainian food and distributed it to people in Santa Anita Park, where the victims were coming to get help," Taras recalls. "Many people came from Los Angeles, San Diego and other cities. They brought food trucks and cooked food. One woman made chebureks, and people especially liked them. Many Americans tasted Ukrainian food for the first time, and they really liked it." The chebureks turned out to be an interesting situation: they became popular among the local Spanish community because they remind them of their familiar empanadas or pupusas. Volunteers stood with posters: "Come and taste hot Ukrainian empanadas". "We, Ukrainians, always help each other. Borscht and chebureks are not just food, they are our support for others. We live here. This is our home. It was a chance to help our neighbors, because many of them lost their homes or were forced to evacuate," the volunteer emphasized. "Overall, it was a great event. People not only received food, but also had the opportunity to socialize. Everyone could feel



supported and as if they were at home. This is the way it is in Ukraine, and this is the way it is in Los Angeles. I think it should be like that everywhere."

On the one hand, in order to feed a large number of people, it is enough to go to the store and buy food. On the other hand, the Ukrainian community decided to take a much more complicated route and prepare home-cooked meals. "Of course, it would be easier to buy food, deliver it and distribute it. But no, Ukrainians had an idea to do everything from the heart. For example, volunteers from San Diego brought borscht. We were fortunate that they had four large tubs with them from the time they made borscht for the victims of the hurricanes in the Carolinas. It was important for us to give away Ukrainian food, because when you give food, you give your spirit. Yes, you make borscht, chebureks, even a simple sandwich – anything, but it is made with your hands, from your heart.

We, Ukrainians, are a very soulful people with a big heart. We wanted to make everyone feel at home, because many people don't have a home anymore. Yes, it wasn't their real home, but we tried to do everything we could to make everyone feel at least a little bit at home. In these difficult times, many Americans are still talking about and watching Ukraine. Our political climate has completely changed, and we learn something new every day. But many Americans continue to support the idea of a free Ukraine. Here where I live, I have many American friends, and they all ask: "What's going on there? Is there any news?" Yes, I am an ethnic Ukrainian, so I think about Ukraine a lot. But ordinary Americans are also following Ukraine. I think that's the reason why everyone wanted to help during the fires – we wanted to thank them for all the help they've been giving to Ukraine here in America."

THE MELODY OF FREEDOM FOR UKRAINIAN VETERANS

Maria Klymchak,
Executive Director of the KMA Foundation in the USA.

The history of the global Ukrainian community has repeatedly demonstrated that when we are united, we win!

On January 14, a charity concert was held in Chicago at City Winery Chicago, organized by the Kyiv Mohyla Academy Foundation in the United States in support of the Veterans Resource Center "Center for Leadership of the Defenders of Ukraine" at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy in Ukraine. Each cultural and artistic event has its purpose, especially now that Ukraine is in the midst of a bloody war, and reminds us that everyone can be part of a great cause by helping those who need it most.

The Foundation of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy in America and its sponsoring friends decided not to deviate from the traditions of volunteering and to celebrate the old New Year with another event, enlisting the support of those for whom charity is a way of life. The famous American jazz diva Lynn Jordan with her band The Shivers, the Ukrainian vocal group Trioda, the swallows of the Kateryna Hrod modeling school, and the event's MC Violanta Levis, a graduate of Mohylianka, sowed kindness among the guests and gave Ukraine a donation of Victory.

In response to the military challenges, since 2015, Kyiv-Mohyla Academy has been working with the military, their families and children through programs created specifically for them, and providing psychosocial support. Mohyla Academy, as an academic institution, sees its mission in supporting such veteran leaders, helping them to acquire new knowledge and skills, strengthening their leadership skills, and engaging them in a community that will shape and implement the future development agenda of Ukrainian society as a whole.

The Center for Leadership of Ukraine's Defenders started its work in September last year. Thanks to the support of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy Foundation in America, this program is free of charge for veterans. All of the first 11 graduates are veterans of the Russian-Ukrainian war, some of them twice veterans, as they defend-



ed Ukraine in 2014 and then stood up for Ukraine in 2022. Additionally, 60 more veterans received individual career guidance and counseling in the Leadership and Resilience and Professional Navigation programs.

KMA Foundation President Martha Farion welcomed the guests who gathered in one of the most famous jazz clubs in Chicago, where famous American musicians perform every night. She thanked all the sponsors and benefactors for their support, noting that Ukraine entrusts veterans with the

safety and lives of its citizens, and that they have all the prospects to become leaders in the future by studying at the Center for Leadership of Ukraine's Defenders in Mohylianka.

The Mohylianka community and its friends are a very strong group of like-minded people. Among them was the guest of honor, Sergiy Kyslytsia, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations since 2020, who, while on a working trip to Chicago, attended the concert and spoke to the community.

"I am happy to be in Chicago and proud to support Kyiv-Mohyla Academy as it is a symbol of our future. It is not only a deep history, but also our way forward. Without education, there will be no successful Ukraine," said the Ambassador.

Right now, the Ukrainian people need cultural support, which is conveyed through the language of music and song. The American jazz diva Lynn Jordan connected her creative destiny with Ukraine more than 20 years ago, falling in love with Kyiv and its people. She has given concerts on all continents and from her world tour, she singles out the best stage of Independence Square, where tens of thousands of "fans" were her listeners. "It was the first time I met an audience that was literally going crazy with me, singing 'I Will Survive. It was my best experience performing with Shivers, I would say life-changing." On January 14, at City Vinery in Chicago, Lynn sang this song again to Ukrainian veterans undergoing treatment and rehabilitation in Chicago under the care of the "Protez Foundation" and "Revived Soldiers Ukraine".

Lynn Jordan was born in Dayton, Ohio, in a blue-collar neighborhood. She sang in a church choir, participated in a theater studio in high school, and later graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in theater. In her book "From Page to Stage", she recalls the capital of Ukraine.

Yohanan Petrovsky-Stern, professor of Jewish history at Northwestern University, member of the Foundation's Board of Directors in the United States, and Professor Emeritus at Mohyla Academy, said: "I have been teaching at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy since 1994. I know the students, faculty and administration of the university well. If we do not support the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, we will lose the opportunity to create completely new political, cultural and economic elites for Ukraine – those who will lead and guide the country for the next 20 years."

Our charity concert is about the goodness and miracles that we can do together. Congratulating the community and Mohyla residents on the New Year, Consul General of Ukraine in Chicago Sergiy Kolesov wished the most important thing that every Ukrainian dreams of – our Victory. The audience had the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful voices of our Trio soloists – Andriy Gambal, Volodymyr Rybak and Pavlo Chervinsky – and the unsurpassed playing of the virtuoso guitarist Yuriy Karpenko. Their performances in the



diaspora reveal a special talent of artists that not everyone has, and the music of American musicians The Shivers is a powerful force that unites, inspires and supports. The themes of the songs are Christmas and patriotic. Each note contains an invincible melody of freedom. In addition, this is a chance to popularize Ukrainian music. We sincerely thank the artists and musicians for their artistic genius and sincere hearts!

The concert opened with a performance of the traditional Ukrainian

song "Shchedryk". The evening was decorated by the appearance of the "Victory Swallows", girls from the modeling school, who, together with their mentor Kateryna Grod, handed out brochures with information about the Veterans Center to the guests and, having gone up on stage, presented Lynn Jordan with a Ukrainian wreath made by craftswoman Lyubov Lukashevych. Pleasantly surprised, the diva performed in this wreath, winning the hearts of the audience with hits in jazz, blues and soul styles. Violanta



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Levis, a graduate of Mohylianka and the University of Chicago, thanked the US donors for enabling the Center for Leadership of Ukraine's Defenders to start its work with their financial contributions.

Special thanks to the main donors. Throughout the concert, the Foundation presented the names of all those who cared about the fate of veterans on banners and on the screen feed. The main sponsors of the event were the Heritage Foundation of the 1st Savings Bank "Pevnist", the "Samopomich Foundation" of the Samopomich Credit Union, Adrian and Larysa Dolytsky, National Financial Services LLC, Drs. Dr. Yuriy Horodnichenko and Dr. Iryna Dronova, Ihor Kunash and Zenovia Tarchanyn-Kunash, the Polsky Foundation, and Yuriy Berg's law firm Birg Law. Board member Motria Melnyk worked on the production of the visual material, and the sound design was provided by the Zvuk company and its director Oleksandr Khrypivyi. The beautiful photographs by photographer Petro Kovtun and the documentary video by Yaroslav Savchak remain as a memento of the event. Our success was made possible by media sponsors: UA Chicago radio, Surma newspaper, Ukrainian Independent Radio, and Ukrainian Wave radio.

The Foundation of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in America sincerely thanks the Ukrainian community for its constant presence in the life of Mohyla Academy. We are proud of everyone!

We support those who defend Ukraine and strengthen the Strong.



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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 January 31, 2025 are approximately as follows:

Personnel – 837,610 people were eliminated,
Tanks – 9,893 units,
Armored personnel carriers – 20,631 units,
Artillery systems – 22,445 units,
MLRS – 1,265 units,
Air defense systems – 1,050 units,
Aircraft – 369 units,
Helicopters – 331 units,
Operational and tactical level UAVs – 23,573 units,
Cruise missiles – 3,054 units,
Ships and boats – 28 units,
Submarines – 1 unit,
Vehicles and tankers – 35,552 units,
Special equipment – 3,726 units.

Assistance to Ukraine



European Union

Vice President of the European Commission, European Commissioner for Trade Valdis Dombrovskis promised that in 2025 the European Union will provide Ukraine with financial assistance worth €35 billion under the

G7 ERA credit initiative and the Ukraine Facility program.

On January 27, EU foreign ministers decided to extend economic sanctions against Russia for another 6 months. Hungary did not block this decision.

USA

On January 9, the United States allocated another \$500 million package of military aid to Ukraine. This is the last aid during Joe Biden's presidency.

The US Department of Defense released the contents of a new military aid package for the Ukrainian Defense Forces.

It is known that the package will include the following weapons for the Armed Forces:

- AIM-7, RIM-7 and AIM-9M missiles for air defense;
- air-to-ground ammunition
- auxiliary equipment for the F-16;
- armored bridge systems;
- secure communication communications equipment;
- small arms and ammunition; and
- spare parts, support equipment, services, training and transportation.

They noted that this will be the 74th tranche of weapons and equipment provided by the Biden administration from the Department of Defense's stockpile for Ukraine since August 2021.

The United States has also transferred about 90 Patriot interceptor missiles from Israel to Poland to be delivered to Ukraine.

Germany

Germany has announced a new military aid package for Ukraine. It includes, among other things, attack drones, howitzers, ammunition for LEOPARD 1 tanks, and 122-mm and 155-mm shells.

The new aid package from Germany includes:

- 18 RCH 155 wheeled self-propelled howitzers;
- 5 Marder armored personnel carriers;
- 9 AITO30 FDC (RCT-30 wheeled infantry fighting vehicle with a mobile fire center);
- 20 MRAP armored vehicles with mine protection; ammunition for the main battle tank LEOPARD 1;
- 14 thousand 155 mm caliber shells;
- 19,000 rounds of 122 mm ammunition;
- 11 thousand 120 mm mortar rounds;
- 495 HK 416 assault rifles;
- 600 HF-1 attack UAVs;
- 50 VECTOR UAVs with spare parts;
- 46 reconnaissance drones
- RQ-35 HEIDRUN;

- 43 SONGBIRD reconnaissance drones;
- 277 mine-resistant armored personnel carriers (MRAP)

In addition, the package included blankets, turnstiles, binoculars, and occlusive bandages.

At the Ramstein meeting, German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius promised to provide Ukraine with missiles for the IRIS-T system. Ukraine will receive 60 missiles.

German Defense Minister Boris Pistorius said on January 14 that the German government had ordered 54 new RCH 155 wheeled howitzers for the Ukrainian army.

KNDS, the developer of the RCH 155, describes the system as "the world's most advanced wheeled howitzer" that for the first time allows firing while moving. It is also known that the howitzer turret can be controlled remotely.

On January 13, the German government handed over the first RCH 155 self-propelled artillery system to Ukraine.

United Kingdom

The UK will provide two new packages of financial assistance to Ukraine totaling 140 million pounds (approximately 171.5 million dollars).

The majority of the amount – 100 million pounds (122.5 million dollars) – will be used for humanitarian initiatives. In particular, it will provide funds for medical care for victims of Russian air attacks.

Another 40 million pounds (\$50 million) will be allocated to a new program for Ukraine's economic recovery. Funding will be directed to businesses that support the green economy, women, veterans, and marginalized groups.

It was also reported that Britain will supply Ukraine with a new air defense system and artillery equipment.

Lithuania

The Lithuanian government provided the Armed Forces of Ukraine with a new military aid package.

Ukraine received drones manufactured in Lithuania, as well as thermal imagers and five-ton telescopic forklifts.

Previously, Lithuania was preparing to donate 4,500 drones worth €5 million.

It was also reported that Ukraine and Lithuania signed a memorandum on joint production of drones.

Canada

Canada will allocate 400 million Canadian dollars (approximately 305 million US dollars) for ammunition and UAVs for the Ukrainian military.

200 million dollars (139 million US dollars) will be used to purchase shells for the Ukrainian Armed Forces under a Czech initiative.

Another \$100 million (\$69.5 million) will be transferred to Ukraine for the production of drones, and \$50 million (\$35 million) will be used to purchase ammunition of various calibers from the Canadian industry.

In addition, Canada will purchase winter gear for the Ukrainian military, including sleeping bags, winter boots and thermal underwear, as well as high-resolution cameras for drones.

Italy

On January 28, the lower house of parliament approved a law that provides for the supply of weapons and military equipment to Ukraine until December 31, 2025.

Prime Minister Giorgia Maloni also announced that Italy would increase military aid to Ukraine to €1.7 billion in 2025.

Netherlands

On January 16, Dutch Foreign Minister Kaspar Veldkamp arrives in Kyiv and announces a €27 million aid package for Ukraine.

EUR 7 million will be provided through UCAP under NATO coordination and another EUR 20 million for the Energy Support Fund for Ukraine.

Poland

Poland has already prepared the 46th aid package for Ukraine worth 200 million euros.

"Poland supports Ukraine's efforts in its fight against Russian aggression, it cannot be otherwise. Another 46th aid package is ready... The delivery will start soon. This time, assistance will be provided for more than 200 million euros," the Polish Prime Minister said.

Spain

Spanish Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares visited Lviv and announced an additional 10 million euros in humanitarian aid to Ukraine.

In addition to the announced 10 million euros of humanitarian aid, Spain has already allocated 100 million euros since the beginning of the war. Another 400 million euros have been allocated for reconstruction programs.

Czech Republic's initiative

Allied countries have already delivered 80% of the ammunition promised under the Czech initiative to Ukraine.

As of the end of 2024, the Ukrainian military had received 520,000 155 mm shells and a "large number" of other calibers.

"It should also be remembered that the purchase also depends on donor funds – the Czech Republic raises

funds from our partners, and assistance in this, working with capitals, is one of the tasks of Ukrainian diplomacy," said Foreign Minister Sybiga.

He also said that some countries had promised to contribute funds to purchase shells for the Ukrainian Armed Forces, but had not fulfilled their obligations.

United Nations

The UN will provide \$3.3 billion in humanitarian support to Ukraine in 2025.

Earlier it was reported that the UN has provided \$492 million for this heating season.

Ukraine and the UK signed an agreement on 100-year partnership



President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Prime Minister of the United Kingdom Keir Starmer have signed an agreement on a 100-year partnership. It is known that the document consists of 14 articles.

As part of the agreement, the parties will deepen defense cooperation, strengthen their military and defense-industrial capabilities, and transfer technologies for the joint production of defense products.

Ukraine and the UK also agreed to deepen economic, energy, scientific, cultural, and trade cooperation, as well as to develop a partnership in maritime security in the Baltic, Black, and Azov Seas.

US military assistance to Ukraine has not stopped

The White House's military assistance to Ukraine in the face of Russia's invasion continues, in particular, under previously approved packages.

The head of the National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation, Andriy Kovalenko, said this on Telegram on Sat-



urday, amid the US State Department's decision to suspend foreign aid for 90 days.

USAID in Ukraine ordered to suspend funding for projects



Following the US State Department's order to suspend aid programs to other countries, USAID Ukraine has been ordered to suspend funding for all projects.

"At the same time, the staff does not yet have detailed instructions on how to implement the directive and whether there will be exceptions," the statement said.

It is known that USAID in Ukraine supports the reconstruction of schools, the provision of medical services and the repair of the critical energy system.

On January 24, it became known that the United States was suspending most foreign aid programs for 90 days. According to several current and former State Department officials, the new order means that no new funds will be allocated for programs that have already been approved. However, it was reported that military funding for Israel and Egypt will continue.

The order has nothing to do with military assistance to Ukraine.

US suspends U4U programs for refugees from Ukraine

The United for Ukraine (U4U) humanitarian program, which allows Ukrainian citizens to obtain asylum in the United States for up to two years, has been suspended.

This was reported by the US Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"In connection with the executive order of January 20, 2025, 'Securing Our Borders', the US Citizenship and Immigration Services is suspending the acceptance of Form I-134A, online applications for sponsorship status, and declarations of financial support," the statement said.

Applications have been frozen until the USCIS reviews all requests that have already been submitted.

According to Voice of America, as of March 2023, more than 118 thousand Ukrainians have come to the United States under the U4U program.

Meanwhile, the US Department of Homeland Security has suspended programs that allowed migrants to temporarily settle in the United States, including a key initiative that provides entry for Ukrainians.

At the same time, the previous administration of President Joe Biden extended the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) program for refugees from Ukraine, Venezuela, Sudan and other countries, allowing them to remain in the United States with work permits and protection from deportation.

The temporary protection status for refugees was extended until October 19, 2026. This decision ensures that more than 100,000 Ukrainians will have the right to remain in the United States until 2026.

The TPS program was introduced in 1990 to protect foreigners who cannot safely return to their countries due to war, instability, or disaster. President Biden has expanded the program in response to the war in Ukraine and the crises in Venezuela, Haiti, and other countries.

Ukraine has stopped transiting Russian gas since January 1

This was announced by the Ministry of Energy on Wednesday, January 1.

The Ministry of Energy added that today the Ukrainian gas transportation system is operating in the mode of no transit of Russian gas. Its infrastructure was prepared in advance for zero transit and reliable gas supply to



Ukrainian consumers.

At the same time, after the transit stopped, residents of unrecognized Transnistria were left without gas, heat, and hot water.

The United States and the United Kingdom imposed large-scale sanctions against the largest oil companies in Russia

The United States and the United Kingdom have decided to tighten sanctions against Russia's energy sector.

Thus, the US sanctions list includes more than 30 Russian oil service companies, including Surgutneftegaz and Gazprom Neft. Restrictions were also imposed on the Serbian company NIS, which is a subsidiary of Gazprom-Nafta.

The UK also imposed sanctions against Gazprom-Nafta and Surgutneftegaz, noting that these companies produce more than 1 million barrels of oil per day.

Ukraine receives the first tranche of the EU's aid from frozen Russian assets

The EU has provided Ukraine with the first tranche of €3 billion from frozen Russian assets. The funds will be used for priority budget expenditures.

In total, the G7 ERA initiative provides for \$50 billion to be allocated to Ukraine, of which \$20 billion will be provided by the European Union.

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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!

anna.aksionova74@gmail.com

Franko & Co | Catering with Ukrainian soul

We're Franko & Co Bakery, opening our first location in Sausalito just in two months! For the past six months, we've been a hit at farmer's markets and festivals with our croissants and mini cheese bites—and we also cater for private parties and tech events. Our menu is available in the photos below, and we're always open to special edition orders. Just text us via email!

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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.

veselkakidsdaycare@gmail.com
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Handcrafted Vegan Chocolate

Chocobalance was founded in 2022 with the goals of creating high-quality chocolate products and supporting Ukraine (with all proceeds donated). Our recipes achieve the best balance of healthy ingredients to provide the best taste.

We offer homemade and handcrafted vegan chocolate, truffles, and candies.

To browse our variety of sweets, please visit us at
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chocobalance@gmail.com

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Touch of Europe
 Address: 1880 Colfax St,
 Concord, CA 94520

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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.

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Personal Experience: Involved in real estate projects since 2007, from design to high-end sales.

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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Starting pay is \$22 an hour.

Our kitchen is located in San Rafael, so we're hoping to find someone local to keep the commute easy. You don't need tons of experience, as long as you're ready to learn and grow with us.
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marinaanisovic411@gmail.com

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EVENTS 2025

FEBRUARY

Нд/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	

20 FEB
DAY OF
HEROES OF
THE HEAVENLY
HUNDRED

23 FEB
UNITE FOR
UKRAINE RALLY
AND MARCH |
SAN FRANCISCO

Ukrainian American Coordinating
Council, Українська Школа Св.
Княгині Ольги - Ukrainian School
and 2 others

Where: Harry Bridges Plaza, The
Embarcadero, San Francisco, CA
94111

When: Saturday, 2 PM – 4 PM
Join our Host, Ukrainian American

Coordinating Council, our Emcee
Maria Tscherepenko, Consul Dmytro
Kushneruk and the Ukrainian
Community and Friends of Ukraine in a
powerful show of support for Ukraine!

On the third anniversary of the war,
come together to fight for a cause that
touches our hearts and unites us all.

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4 APR
DAKHABRAKHA
AT THE
FREIGHT | SAN
FRANCISCO

DakhaBrakha, The Freight

Where: The Freight, 2020 Addison
St, Berkeley, CA, United States,
California 94704

When: Friday, 8 PM

Reflecting fundamental elements
of sound and soul, Ukrainian "ethno-
chaos" quartet DakhaBrakha creates
a world of unexpected new music.

DakhaBrakha was created in 2004
at the Kyiv Center of Contemporary Art
"DAKH" by avant-garde theatre director
Vladyslav Troitskyi, with a name that
means "give/take" in the old Ukrainian
language. Theatre work has left its
mark on the band performances –
their shows are always staged with a
strong visual element.

After experimenting with Ukrainian
folk music, the band added rhythms
from around the world, creating the
bright, unique and unforgettable
sound of DakhaBrakha. They expand
the potential of Ukrainian melodies,
bringing them to younger generation
in Ukraine and the rest of the world

Accompanied by Indian, Arabic,
African, and Ukrainian traditional
instrumentation, the quartet's

astonishingly powerful and
uncompromising vocal range creates
a trans-national sound rooted in
Ukrainian culture. At the crossroads
of Ukrainian folklore and theater,
their musical spectrum ranges from
intimate to riotous, plumbing the
depths of contemporary roots and
rhythms.

[https://www.facebook.com/
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9 MAY
YURI VELIKIY
NORTH
AMERICAN
TOUR 2025 |
SAN FRANCISCO

Bomond

Where: Fort Mason Center for
Arts & Culture, 2 Marina Blvd, San
Francisco, CA 94123

When: Friday, 7 PM

The most famous parodist of
Ukraine, actor of the studio "Kvartal
95" Yuriy Velikiy is going on a tour of
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presenter of a charity auction.

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transferred to the public organization
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internally displaced persons.

This evening is all about laughter,
satire, and well-hitting jokes you won't
forget.

Tickets: **\$50 - \$90**

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velikiy-north-american-tour-2025/
yuri-velikiy-san-francisco](https://bomond.com/events/yuri-velikiy-north-american-tour-2025/yuri-velikiy-san-francisco)

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