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SPECIAL FOR HROMADA

Vitaliy Portnykov | Notes for June

INDEPENDENCE THROUGH THICK AND THIN



This is the second Independence Day that Ukraine is celebrating in a major war.

Today, here, on our land, we are dealing with many problems at once. The first is the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and the preservation of the Ukrainian people in their ancestral lands. But at the same time, it is also being decided where the border of civilization will pass and where uncivilization will begin. I have always said, and I am ready to repeat it again, that Ukrainians are passing two exams. The first is the ability to build a state and to defend the very idea of a state. And you can see how our compatriots are passing this exam in this war, during the defense of our country in 2014-2022, and on the Maidans. And the second test is whether the Ukrainian state can stay within the borders of the Ukrainian SSR. This is also a very important test not only for us but for the entire civilized world. And the border will be drawn where we can defend it. Not just the Ukrainian border, but the border of the free world. And then the world of slavery will begin. And Russia does not just want to turn our country into a world of slavery. It wants to show all the other peoples of its former empire what happens to those who resist slavery. That is why they are fighting civilians. That is why they want to destroy our infrastructure. That is why our museums are being attacked. That is why they rob and kill women and children. So that every country that Russia will later tell to return home understands that it will be treated the same way as Ukraine if it does not comply.

We say a lot that we are protecting the civilized world from the Russian invasion. To be honest, I'm not sure that the civilized world is threatened that much, given that in order for it to

be threatened, Russian leaders have to accept the possibility of nuclear war. And we can already see that Putin is a coward. He is a St. Petersburg bully. He hits only when he is not threatened. Such people, of course, are able to strike at countries that cannot respond. And so he can dream that if he succeeds, he will launch a nuclear strike against a non-nuclear state, not necessarily against us. There are still many tests to come from other countries. But for those countries that can respond, that have nuclear weapons themselves, I think they are in little danger.

Only six months have passed since the aggression began a year ago. And many in Ukraine and in the West thought that the war could be stopped in a short time, that Moscow would realize the futility of its attempts to conquer Ukraine. But now more and more people are seeing the obvious naivete of these expectations. The Russian president is clearly determined to wage a long and stubborn war, a war of attrition. And its completion requires not only the courage of Ukrainians and their readiness to resist. It also requires the political courage of the West. That is why it is so important for us to become members of the North Atlantic Alliance, to move from the arena of this gladiatorial battle, where we are being killed by the wild, soulless machine of Russian civilization, to the spectator box and watch the Russian wars as they are now being watched by the Poles, French, Finns, and Germans.

That is why such intense attention was drawn to the words of NATO Secretary General Stefan Jensen, the chief of staff, that there is an option according to which Ukraine could join NATO in exchange for giving up its (Russian-occupied) territories. After this statement, Jensen became a real political "star". The White House, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry, and the Russian Security Council all reacted to his words, and NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg had to once again clearly articulate the alliance's position on Ukraine and its readiness to continue supporting Ukrainians in their resistance to Russian aggression. And, of course, in Kyiv, Jensen's words about "exchanging territories" for NATO could not help but cause irritation. Trading international law is the worst thing

imaginable.

Meanwhile, the situation with Jensen's statement is by no means as tragic as it might seem at first glance. Most likely, we are dealing with poorly formulated theses of a person who is not used to being a figure in public policy – and who may have perceived the conference in Arendelle, where he made this proposal, as an event that hardly anyone would talk about at all. The transparency of the modern world, and the ability to read a regional newspaper from a distant city in the same moment, plays a cruel joke on politicians and diplomats, and they will never get used to the absence of "invisible places."

But in general, Jenssen tried to explain to the Norwegian public that NATO's attitude towards Ukraine should not change even if the Ukrainians fail to win on the battlefield and liberate all their territories. That even in this case, Ukraine should become a NATO member. This, by the way, is practically the same as what Chief Jensen said in a much more elegant way. Jens Stoltenberg, an experienced public politician, emphasized that NATO should be with Ukraine in good times and bad, in sorrow and in joy. This is in contrast to the words of the same Stoltenberg, who recently called Ukraine's victory the main condition for its Euro-Atlantic integration.

The change in emphasis of at least some representatives of the Western establishment is a very important signal. Everyone wants to be friends with the winners, but those who fail to succeed don't have many friends. It's clear how the situation will develop if Ukraine wins on the battlefield, Russia has to admit defeat, Putin's regime is in agony, and so on – but as I've already written, in this case it's not even Ukraine that has to join NATO, but NATO that will join Ukraine.

It is much harder to describe the consequences of a less optimistic scenario. The war drags on, the territories are not liberated, Putin continues to rule and enjoy the support of the Russians. What happens in this case? Well, anyone can say that Ukraine can join NATO if it defeats Russia. It is much harder to find those who believe that Ukraine should join NATO even if it fails. And, as I am trying to

explain, these are the politicians who are Ukraine's true friends. Because friends are not those who dance with you at your wedding, but those who cry with you at your funeral. During these difficult months, many Ukrainians have experienced firsthand the truth of this simple maxim.

The fact that one cannot give up one's territorial integrity in exchange for any security guarantees, I think, does not need to be explained. What is important is that even if the military restoration of this integrity fails, Ukraine should not turn into a "gray zone" between the West and Russia,

a testing ground for Russian missiles and drones, a country of graves and ruins.

Ukraine should join NATO regardless of the possible outcome of its attempts to restore justice. For better or for worse, as Jens Stoltenberg rightly noted.

GOOD TASTE MARKET & DELI В ЧАКРАМЕНТО

Myroslav Hrehk

In Sacramento, there is a store called Good Taste Market & Deli, which is famous for its popularity. Our correspondent Myroslav Grekh had a chance to talk to the store's employee, Oleksandra Zhura.

Myroslav (M.): Please tell us about yourself.

Oleksandra (O.): I work in the social media marketing department at Good Taste Market & Deli, I am responsible for advertising our store on social media.

M.: If you have marketing, it means that your store is big enough.

O.: Yes, our store is quite big, we have a lot of different products in the store.

M.: What is the main thing you would like to highlight about your store?

O.: We mainly focus on the kitchen, on our own production. That is, we have a Bakery (our own bakery), where the girls bake sweets, and we also have a large Hot Case with a variety of freshly prepared dishes. The store employs both salespeople and cooks who prepare fresh dishes every day. That is, there is a hot shop and a cold shop. And we cook a variety of pastries, we make homemade cakes. We prepare all this on site, here in the store.

The cooks work hard to make sure that everything is fresh every day. They make every effort to ensure that Hot Case is filled with fresh food before the store opens. And it all goes very quickly in the store, all our products are very popular.

M.: I guess by lunchtime your assortment is mostly exhausted?

O.: No, it doesn't run out, but let's just say it decreases significantly. And what's left is fresh and tasty because it's made in the morning. So you could say that the food goes fast, like hot pies.

M.: Pies. What kind of pies, I love them so much?

O.: We have pies with meat, with liver, with cabbage, chebureks, and delicious cheesecakes. The assortment



is as wide as possible.

M.: Who are your visitors? Ukrainians, or do Americans also come?

O.: The store has been open since 2020. It has become very popular among Ukrainians, and now we are advertising to popularize Ukrainian European cuisine among Americans. Recently, a lot of Americans have been visiting us. They love our borsch, they love buckwheat, mashed potatoes and potatoes with bacon, duck and chicken legs. They love to order our authentic Ukrainian cuisine. They always come back to us and take our salads, even such ordinary cabbage salads or vinaigrette, and this is the most delicious for them.

So, local Americans also visit our store very often.

M.: Your store is one where you have counters where you can buy food and cook at home, and there is a department where you can buy ready-made food.

O.: Yes, we have a meat department, sausages, cheeses, different cuts, everything is fresh. We have a fish department, different kinds of fish, red and black caviar made in the USA, which is very rare to find, even in Sacramento. Our store is about the

size of a minimarket, but we have a very large selection and a fairly significant turnover. The store has about 35 employees, there are many cooks and salespeople, and we work at a high level. The staff is friendly, cool, everyone helps each other, the team is close-knit, mostly Ukrainians.

M.: Do you have any exclusive, specialty dishes?

O.: Yes, we cook liver cake, jellied meat, duck, borscht, and cabbage rolls. These are purely Ukrainian products that people missed in America. We bake all kinds of bread: white, gray, and black. We have all of it in our store, and it looks very nice and tastes great. People love it and come to us.

Other popular items in the store are nuts with condensed milk in the middle, bagels with cherries, Medovyk, Napoleon, and Spartacus cakes.

M.: Listen, you talk so deliciously that I wanted to visit and taste your store. Thank you for the information.

O.: And I thank you for your attention and I invite all the readers of the newspaper to visit us at the address: **7117 Walerga Rd., #5, Sacramento, CA 95842**, <https://good-taste-market.business.site>

SPECIAL FOR HROMADA

Oles Doniy

RUSSIA'S INTERNAL CRISIS



The murder of Prigozhin, his associate Utkin, and several other bandits from the Wagner group on a Russian plane in Russia is evidence of a serious internal crisis in the aggressor country.

Nine and a half months have passed since November 11, 2022, the day of the liberation of Kherson, the last Ukrainian city to be cleared of Russian occupiers. The Ukrainian offensive continues, but its pace suggests that we are entering a period of prolonged confrontation with the enemy. I wrote in my last article that the war could last for a long time, for example, 15 years. Now, this thesis is being voiced by representatives of the Ukrainian government, such as Deputy Prime Minister Iryna Vereshchuk: "We have to be honest. In this war, the path to victory will be long and difficult. "2-3 weeks", "by the end of the year", "next spring" – all these are not true. We must prepare for a long struggle."

We lack resources, including modern weapons. Our Western allies promise to deliver the F-16 aircraft we need as early as the beginning of next year. But Ukrainians have a resource that our enemies do not have and cannot have – faith in the fight for their land. This resource is many times greater than the entire resource base that the enemy is throwing at us: from Soviet to Iranian weapons, and from traitors from Ukrainian soil to criminals from all possible Russian prisons. Nevertheless, a long-term confrontation means that all possible resource bases on both sides will be involved. On the side of Ukraine are not only the motivated, skillful and heroic Armed Forces of Ukraine, but also the resource base of Western allies. Unfortunately, the resource base of fascist Russia is also considerable, given the quantitative indicators of population, wea-

pons, minerals, and the economy as a whole. But each side has another resource that is not so easy to identify and calculate, but which is nevertheless one of the most important during wars: the internal state of the state, its stability or destabilization.

Putin hated and still hates Ukraine not only because of its different language and different identity from Russians. Putin's hatred of Ukraine stems from his misunderstanding and categorical rejection of the horizontal-network political culture of Ukrainians. Russia is characterized by a pyramidal political culture, with a conventional "tsar" at the top and slavishly obedient subjects at the bottom. The quintessence of this system is the saying "I am the boss, you are the fool." Ukraine has nurtured the exact opposite tradition, with many different levels of alternatives, diverse competition, which ultimately becomes the key to the difficulty of inculcating democratic practices in our land. And democracy itself is infuriating to the very core of the KGB's complexed pupil, who cannot imagine any other scheme of relations than idolatry and rigid dictatorship. The fact that Ukraine allows itself to change presidents in elections, not by agreement in one office, the fact that even elected presidents in Ukraine have to reckon with popular sentiment, the fact that not everything in Ukraine can depend on presidents, causes Putin to panic. It was the fear that democratic sentiments and practices from Ukraine could spread to Russia that became one of the triggers in the Kremlin maniac's mind that led him to the biggest mistake of his life – an attack on our land.

Putin's war dealt a colossal blow to Ukrainian democracy. The Russian fascists are not only killing Ukrainians and Ukrainian women, not only destroying our infrastructure, but they have also struck at our traditions, including political ones. That is why I have repeatedly emphasized that we cannot abandon democracy and abandon electoral procedures. This was also stated by U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham at a press conference in Kyiv on August 23: "I want to see free and fair elections in this country, even under attack." However, Ukraine has repeatedly shown that it is the horizon-

tal and networked nature of the political system that allows it to balance the situation when some elites want to monopolize.

In Russia, there is no open political competition, even if elections are held at any level. And only Putin, who is limited in his thinking, can imagine something there, as if this is Russia's "strength", but in fact it is the weakness of this geographically large, but ideologically backward, and unviable colossus. When a malfunction occurs at the very top, metastases instantly spread the disease throughout the body of this Eurasian monster. So, the elimination of the plane with Prigozhin is evidence of a failure at the very top, and this failure will certainly hit the entire Russian political mechanism. For Putin, there are neither positive versions nor positive consequences of this plane crash. Western media were the first to publish their version, directly stating that the plane carrying Prigozhin was shot down by Russian air defense. The official Russian media, on the other hand, paused for so long that even the troubadour and alcoholic, and one of the Kremlin's most famous "political scientists" Sergei Markov, began to cry in his personal telegram channel, which, you see, the government's continued silence on this matter only demonstrates and reinforces its weakness. Some Russian media outlets then began to hint that this could be the result of sabotage by Ukraine or NATO countries. But this "version" directly hits Putin, because it turns out that the Putinists, with all their FSB-police-troops, control absolutely nothing in Russia itself, and that either Ukraine or our allies can easily eliminate any of Putin's henchmen on Russian territory, and even scrap aircraft to boot. Then Putin is the next target, and let him hide like a bunker rat. So this "version" clearly hits Putin.

Of course, although the Russian media are not allowed to write about this, most Russians themselves probably think that Prigozhin was killed on Putin's direct orders. So this is also an "anti-Putin version". It means that, by all international standards, this is yet another proof that Putin personally is a global terrorist who orders the destruction of a formally civilian plane, albeit one filled with thieves and sa-



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dists. Given that a couple of these sadists have been awarded the highest Russian orders by Putin himself, and that until recently they were presented as "heroes" by the media throughout Russia, the idea that the "tsar" has lost his mind could quickly spread. Clear demotivation will occur not only in the units of the decapitated "Wagner" but also in all Russian troops. In such a mood, it is easier to surrender to Ukrainian captivity than to launch an attack against Ukrainians.

The version that Prigozhin and his company of thugs could have been shot by air defense on the orders of some generals without Putin's personal approval is also an "anti-Putin version." This would mean that the once "all-powerful tsar" has no control over his surroundings or the army, i.e., he has become weak and powerless. So what is the purpose of such a "king"? Such "tsars" are taken out of the "tsarist choirs."

For Putin, there are no positive versions of Prigozhin's liquidation. There is an internal political crisis in the Russian under-empire. And any crisis in this fascist country is a positive thing for the whole world. The Russian em-

pire must be destroyed, and it will be destroyed. And the internal crisis in Russia will bring this day closer. The path to victory will not be easy and not as fast as we would like, but it will certainly come.



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WARRIORS OF LIGHT

HOW HEROISM OF POWER ENGINEERS SAVES KYIV REGION FROM BLACKOUTS

Inna Mikhno

Kyiv region was actually the first to be hit by the Russian army. The settlements of Bucha, Irpin, Makariv, and Gostomel suffered the most during the occupation. The military aggression also left its mark on energy infrastructure facilities. After the de-occupation, the scale of destruction was enormous. The main risk in the Kyiv region was mined by the occupiers. It was extremely difficult for local power engineers to cope with the consequences on their own. Therefore, power engineers from Dnipro, Odesa, and Kyiv joined forces and resources to restore everything together. After the de-occupation of Kyiv region, power supply was restored in a record 45 days. In total, since February 24, 2022, about 10 thousand kilometers of power lines have been damaged in Kyiv region, which is almost the distance from Kyiv to San Francisco. Currently, the level of losses in Kyiv region reaches \$27.2 million, and the level of electricity distribution has dropped by 40%. Unfortunately, these are not the final figures, as the enemy continues to insidiously strike at critical infrastructure. It is only thanks to the heroism of power engineers who risked their lives despite the attacks and shelling that electricity was quickly returned to Ukrainian homes, and with it hope for the best.

Electricity is distributed to consumers in Ukraine by distribution system operators. Most of them are DTEK. And in this issue, Hromada will continue to familiarize readers with the situation in the power system and tell about the heroism of the company's power engineers. After all, it was DTEK Kyiv Regional Power Grids that restored the power grid destroyed by the enemy to provide electricity to the residents of Kyiv region.

Since the beginning of the full-scale invasion, 71 high-voltage and about 3,000 transformer substations have been damaged. Currently, there is enough generation for consumption, but the company is preparing for the winter. In just six months, the company has invested UAH 1.5 billion (almost \$40 million) in repairs of TPP units.



"Even if we manage to restore everything planned for the winter, it will still be less than in the previous period. We had to invest up to UAH 3.5 billion (over \$90 million) in scheduled repairs alone during the year," Kyiv Grids said.

"The damage has been enormous and the company is making every effort to compensate for it and keep the lights on in people's homes. DTEK's thermal power plants, which have been attacked by Russia 33 times since September 2022, need UAH 7 billion to repair the damaged equipment. DTEK employees were directly involved in saving this power system, sometimes paying the highest price for it – with their own lives.

"Power engineers rebuilt TPPs from scratch 23 times. As a result of these attacks, three power engineers were killed and 28 were injured. DTEK Grids suffered a fatal accident when Yuriy, an overhead line service engineer, was killed while working on the restoration of overhead lines in Makariv district. The team hit a mine, although sappers had been working there before. Two more were injured. Four more cases of injuries occurred in the Chornobyl zone, when they were removing a mined tree from a 110-kilovolt line. It was impossible to notice the mines. Before that, sappers checked the area. When the workers cut the tree, the mine exploded," the company said.

There are many more stories of power engineers who worked under

extreme risk to their lives. Only their heroism made it possible to quickly restore electricity to Ukrainians during the occupation, winter blackouts and massive attacks. Here are some of these heroes of Ukraine's energy sector.

Worked under rocket fire to keep the fuel supply to TPPs running.



Gennadiy has been working at one of DTEK Energy's power plants for 16 years, and for the last 9 years as a bulldozer driver. Every shift he drives his "iron monster" to conquer coal mountains and move thousands of tons of coal to production. But he could not imagine that one day he would have to do this under fire from enemy missiles, and the bulldozer would be his only defense. It happened during the night shift. Now Gennadiy recalls these events with a smile, but at the time he was not laughing at all.

"That night we worked together with Serhii, each driving our own bulldozer. I was shoveling coal from the top, and he was feeding it to the feeding

conveyor from the bottom. Suddenly, shelling started from one side, and then almost immediately from the other. I looked where it was safer and hid behind a bulldozer. As soon as it stopped, I cautiously went to check if my colleague was alive. Thank God, he reacted quickly and managed to get to safety after the first impact. This saved him from being injured. But his bulldozer was hit by shrapnel," says Gennadiy.

Only one bulldozer survived, so after waiting and calming down for a while, Gennadiy got behind the wheel again. He drove down the coal mountains and started supplying fuel to keep the plant running.

But a few minutes later, the enemy struck again. Gennadiy immediately ran to a safe place. He waited out the danger – fortunately, he was safe. He had to get back behind the wheel to continue working. He worked together with Yevhen, the branch manager. To avoid attracting attention, they worked in the dark. The only source of light was Yevhen's flashlight. The guys worked until the morning, and when it dawned, they saw the rocket's body right next to the conveyor to which they were feeding coal...

For this truly heroic work, Gennadiy was awarded a diploma from DTEK Energy.

He lived at the station for three days to save the equipment.



Igor works at one of DTEK Energy's thermal power plants as a chief specialist in the electrical equipment and instrumentation department. At the plant, he rose through the ranks from electrician to chief specialist and was a shift supervisor.

Igor eliminated the consequences of the enemy attack on the TPP in the fall – in the first minutes after the "arrivals" he organized the staff and allowed the fire and rescue service to work to extinguish the fire on the equipment.

Recalling that ill-fated day, he says he was in his office at the time of the attack. "There was a whistle, a thud, and then a hit. Then a second impact. His first thought: "What about the people?" I ran to the main shield, saw

no one, no one responded. Only on the lower floors did I meet my colleagues. Fortunately, they had light shrapnel wounds.

"There was no time to think," the power engineer recalls. – "We had to act immediately. At such moments, your emotions hide somewhere and a cold mind comes in. It is he who tells you what to do. People know that if the leader is ahead, does everything quickly, gives clear commands, then everything is fine. Then they pull themselves up and try to work as hard as they can, without being distracted, and clearly understand their task. If you work with electricity, you need to be aware of your actions like nowhere else. There can be no mistakes!" the power engineer recalls that terrible event.

For three days after his arrival, Ihor spent the night at the station, and for months afterward, he worked non-stop almost until nightfall every day.

"Our only task was to put the equipment into operation and give people electricity. Half an hour after the attack, everyone was here. Everyone helped as much as they could. Some people left early for their shift, some stayed for the second shift, others came in from their day off. How else could we do it? The watch is like a family," he said.

Ihor received a letter of thanks from the mayor for the consistent, faithful and well-coordinated actions of the team and the rapid restoration of power supply.

The desire to help drowned out fear.



At each of DTEK Energy's power plants, there are employees who take care of the health of power engineers. Natalia, a nurse at the plant, joined the power team a year ago. She knew that this was not just a job, but her contribution to ensuring Ukraine's energy security. But Natalia could not have imagined that one day she would have to save the lives of her wounded colleagues in the open air, without worrying about her own safety. That day, Natalia had finished her shift and was getting ready to go home. Suddenly, there was an explosion nearby.

"We immediately hid as far away from

the windows as possible. A minute later, my colleague Liudmyla appeared on the doorstep and we grabbed a first aid bag and ran outside. The wounded girls were coming toward us. They refused to help us, emphasizing that those outside needed us more. We ran to the alley and saw people lying in blood. People were already there, using tourniquets from car first aid kits and ordinary belts to stop the bleeding. Lyudmila and I helped the seriously wounded. "I worked in surgery and saw a lot of things, but this was the first time," says Natalia. – "Now I realize how dangerous it was, because the shelling could have happened again. But then there was no fear. I was not afraid of anything at all. There was only one thought in my head – I had to help," Natalia said.

It was a sad day for the company. 14 power engineers were injured. Ambulances were running non-stop, taking the wounded to the hospital.

She continued to work despite her contusion and concussion

A thermal power plant cannot operate without fuel. Moreover, it must be supplied 24/7 – all the time. This process is managed by fuel supply operators. Kateryna has been doing this job at a thermal power plant for 9 years. All her processes have been perfected to the point of automation, everything is clear, and therefore all her days at work are similar, but there is one that she will remember forever.

The night shift started as usual. Kateryna went up to the fuel conveyor room, which is located almost under the roof. She took over the shift, checked the equipment and started pumping coal into the boiler bunkers. Then she went to her room to fill out an operational log. A few minutes later, the siren sounded.

"I was about to go to the storage facility. Suddenly there was an explosion. I was thrown onto the couch. The iron door of the room flew open. The light went out instantly. The phone fell somewhere. A dense cloud of dust rose. I could not see anything. There were only a few centimeters from the couch to the floor, and I couldn't even see if there was any floor left below. My colleagues called me – my phone screen lit up. That's how I was able to find my cell phone and, using a flashlight, get to the stairs and get down to safety," Kateryna says.

At the control panel, Kateryna had some time to catch her breath. The sta-

THE AIR FORCE WILL RECEIVE THE COVETED F-16, BUT WHEN?

Karyna Nikitishyna

In August, not only Ukrainian, but also global media were filled with news and expectations regarding the issue of the transfer of F-16 aircraft to Ukraine. During his visit to the Netherlands, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy received a clear answer: we will have F-16s soon. However, the planes cannot be transferred here and now, mainly due to the lack of specialists who would know how to fly this fighter jet.

On August 20, while in the Netherlands, Zelenskyy announced a "break-through agreement" - Ukraine would receive F-16s. Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced that after completing a training program for pilots, Ukraine would be provided with a certain number of F-16s from the Netherlands and Denmark. Rutte noted that the Netherlands has a total of 42 fighter jets, but did not specify the exact number to be transferred to the Ukrainian Air Force. Shortly afterward, Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen clarified that Ukraine would receive 19 fighters from the Danish government, 6 of which are scheduled to be delivered closer to the New Year. "Our pilots and engineers have already started training in Denmark. 19 F-16 aircraft will be provided to our country by Denmark. We are working on the speed of training. Today we also discussed the possibility of expanding training missions," Volodymyr Zelenskyy writes on his telegram channel. A few days later, the White House released the news that US President Joseph Biden had congratulated Zelenskyy on Ukraine's Independence Day and discussed speeding up the process of allowing other countries to provide F-16s to Ukraine.

The question "Why does Ukraine need F-16s and not other types of aircraft" was repeatedly answered by the spokesman for the Ukrainian Air Force, Yuriy Ihnat. According to him, the F-16 is a weapon that can completely change the course of battle. "Russia's heavy air activity prevents our ground troops from conducting an offensive and effectively liberating the occupied territories. The Russians are using everything their aviation has, from helicopters and fighters to bombers

and attack aircraft. The sky needs to be "cleared" of all this, as Mr. Yuriy put it. The F-16 has a full range of weapons that make this task more than possible. There are also hopes that the aircraft will be provided to Ukraine with modern modifications and a wide range of necessary weapons, missiles, bombs and other ammunition, because in addition to aircraft: "...we need tools to dispose of Russian junk," Ihnat says. "We need our partners to supply everything that is under the wings of the aircraft. All the payload that can quickly send Russian ships, Russian warehouses, command posts, and, accordingly, aircraft of various types to the bottom."

According to the vision for armament, which was adopted in 2020, in order to close the country's airspace, it is necessary to have at least 100 new aircraft, which should completely replace the Soviet fleet of aircraft by 2035. Ihnat told Suspilne that all the F-16s received will remain in Ukraine after the war: "These are aircraft that will replace outdated Soviet equipment. Therefore, F-16s will be the main type of aircraft in service with the Air Force. This multi-purpose aircraft is capable of providing air cover, working on land and sea targets." The model of the Air Force envisioned in the vision also aims to replace anti-aircraft missile troops, unmanned aircraft, etc. We need to understand that replacing aircraft is a long-term process: "42 aircraft will not take to the skies at once, nor will they arrive like a flock of birds. They will be slowly put into service, they will work together with the Soviet ones that are currently at war, we will gradually switch to a new type," explained Ihnat on VITA TV channel. The Air Force spokesman also mentioned F-35s, which are now the most desirable aircraft for all countries in the world. So there is hope that Ukraine will one day be able to claim them, and the F-16 will become a transitional aircraft.

US General Mark Milley said in an exclusive interview with the Jordanian public news channel Al-Mamlaka that Ukraine could be provided with F-16 fighters "in the near future." He also noted that Ukraine's counteroffensive is moving at a slow pace, but is achieving positive results. Yuriy Ihnat commented on what "soon" means, namely that the planes will have to wait until the training of specialists to operate

and maintain the F-16s is completed. "These are not only pilots, but also engineers, combat control officers and others who need to master this equipment as soon as possible. It is necessary to have not only a military airfield, which is a platform, but also a training base, military instructors, all of which are very important. That is why each country can recruit a specific group of pilots in order to train them and all other specialists as efficiently as possible."

According to the spokesperson, it makes no sense for Ukraine to receive fighter jets in advance until a qualified and trained team is assembled to ensure the stable operation of all processes. This also applies to security: even our current Soviet-era aircraft remain an important target for the Russians that must be destroyed. If missiles or kamikaze drones are launched at one of the airfields, within minutes the aircraft can be taken up by pilots and fly to intercept the air target, which allows both to destroy the threat from the outside and to protect the aircraft themselves. Ihnat emphasizes the importance of the coordinated work of the military: "Whether it's a ground specialist who maintains the aircraft, a flight controller, or the pilot himself, there are no key points here. It all has to work as a clear, well-coordinated mechanism of the entire military team. A team of aviators at a military airfield is a group of several hundred to a thousand people who have to ensure the operation of this mechanism. Whether one plane takes off or ten, the whole organism has to work." According to Ihnat, an extensive system of training in different countries, including the United States, will help speed up the process.

Minister of Defense of Ukraine Oleksiy Reznikov explained some details of the training of a group of pilots and engineers who are mastering new aircraft. The Netherlands and Denmark have taken the lead in training our military; Mette Frederiksen said that more than 70 Ukrainian pilots and other military personnel are studying in Denmark. Yuriy Ihnat said that the first group of servicemen is currently training, and the second and third groups are planned. The news that the minimum period for training pilots is 6 months is disappointing, as Reznikov said. The defense minister asked everyone to

be understanding if the time frame is even longer. "Someone may be able to do it faster. People are talented. But to avoid any illusions, it may happen that some pilots will be ready in 5 months, while engineers and technicians will not be ready. And an airplane is a very complex system. One pilot is not enough," Reznikov explained. A separate group of pilots will also be trained in the UK, which will last several years. "They will undergo basic training in English on light-engine Western vehicles and then transfer to fighter jets. This program will last longer, perhaps up to two years, but this is the prospect that awaits us: we are re-equipping our aviation with new types of equipment," said Mr. Ihnat.

The Washington Post, on the oth-

er hand, believes that the exercises should be completed no earlier than next summer, and the reason for this is the language barrier. According to Yuriy Ihnat, the problem of not knowing English is exaggerated, although he agrees that certain difficulties exist. Ihnat emphasizes the importance of knowing aviation terminology, because only those who have a sufficient level of language training can be allowed to take part in training on flight simulators and in the aircraft itself. The pilots and engineers are currently learning English in Ukraine, some of them will continue their studies in the UK, but the same terminology can be learned in a few weeks. "We would like to send our pilots as soon as possible, even if it is a small group of pilots who

know English well," said Ihnat.

Recently, Pentagon spokesman General Pat Ryder said that the United States would also train Ukrainians to fly F-16s. It has been preliminarily established that the training will begin in October at the Morris Air National Guard Base in Arizona. This is an extremely important event for the Ukrainian Air Force. Mr. Ihnat often emphasizes how positive the experience of training our fighters in the United States can be: "The F-16 is the pride of the United States, it is something the nation is proud of as a work of art, even if it is a weapon. It is the most widespread aircraft in the world, dozens of countries have it in service. (...) Where else but in the United States is the best base for F-16 training?"

[Warriors of light: how the heroism of power engineers saves Kyiv region from blackouts] from page.7

tion had withstood the enemy attack and continued to operate. So, it was time to supply fuel. Kateryna went to the conveyors again. Fortunately, this time she was not alone.

"While we were pumping coal, I was feeling worse by the minute. I felt dizzy, it was hard to walk and talk, but I worked until the end of the shift. After my shift, my colleagues helped me get to the first aid station. At the hospital, they found out that the explosion had caused a concussion and contusion," says Kateryna.

In conclusion. Keeping the balance

Currently, Ukraine does not have reliable air defense and new attacks can occur every day. Therefore, the company continues to improve the situation to keep the power system in balance. To this end, DTEK plans to modernize transformer and high-voltage substations, distribution points and more than 60 km of cable and overhead lines by the end of the year. Install more than 11,000 new meters to save electricity at night and thus relieve the system. In the winter, DTEK had to fix more than a thousand accidents a week due to overloads, which were caused by stabilization or emergency outages.

"The difficulty is that \$11 million was spent on the restoration, which was supposed to be spent on grid development. To continue improving the quality of electricity supply, we need investments and international technical assistance," DTEK said.



In particular, the company has a project to reconstruct the energy infrastructure. The region can build a Smart Grid network that will withstand the challenges of war and reduce the average time of outages from 1500 to 100 minutes per year. But the price of the issue is 2.4 billion euros. Currently, DTEK wants to start a pilot phase in the most damaged Irpin-Bucha-Boro-

dyanka node for 145 million euros.

DTEK's Kyiv-based power plants have withstood 15 massive strikes over the winter. The company emphasizes that it believes in the strength of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and will continue to work as a united front to ensure that light defeats darkness.

photo: DTEK archive

UKRAINIAN NEWS

Total enemy combat losses



According to the General Staff, total enemy combat losses from February 24, 2022 to August 31, 2023 are approximately as follows:

personnel – about 263,020 individuals were eliminated,
tanks – 4,436 units,
armored personnel carriers – 8,604 units,
artillery systems – 5,507 units,
MLRS – 734 units,
air defense systems – 500 units,
aircraft – 315 units,
helicopters – 316 units,
operational and tactical level UAVs – 4,417 units,
cruise missiles – 1,445 units,
ships and boats – 18 units,
motor vehicles and tankers – 7,976 units,
special equipment – 830 units.

The United States has allocated a new military aid package worth \$250 mil



Just in: New \$250 million US security aid package for Ukraine.

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- #HIMARS munitions
- 155mm / 105 mm artillery ammo
- #Javelin anti-armor systems
- small arms ammo
- demolition munitions

F-16: number of promised units and training of Ukrainian pilots



- Ukraine will be able to receive the first F-16 fighters no earlier than in 6-7 months. It all depends on the training period of Ukrainian specialists. This was announced by Defense Minister Oleksiy Reznikov.

- Ukrainian pilots will be trained on F-16s in the UK, the Netherlands, Denmark, Romania and Sweden.

- The United States plans to start training Ukrainian pilots on F-16 fighters on its territory.

Initially, the pilots will be trained in English in Texas, and then begin a multi-month training program at a base in Arizona.

- The Danish government has announced the start of training Ukrainian pilots to operate F-16 fighter jets.

The first group of Ukrainian pilots is already at the military airbase in Skridstrup, Denmark. It consists of eight pilots.

In addition, another 65 Ukrainian servicemen will be trained to operate American aircraft.

- The Ministry of Defense clarified that Denmark has 43 F-16 fighters, but for security reasons does not disclose how many of them are in operation. It is known that Ukraine will receive 19 aircraft.

- The United Kingdom became the first country to announce its readiness to train Ukrainian pilots on Western fighters.

- Greece will join the program to train Ukrainian pilots on American F-16 fighters.

This was announced by President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during a joint press conference with Greek Prime

Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis.

In addition, the Greek government joined the G7 declaration on security guarantees for Ukraine.

- Norway decided to provide Ukraine with F-16 fighter jets, but it is not yet known how many units.

- Portugal has confirmed its readiness to join the training of Ukrainian pilots and engineers on F-16 fighters.

- On August 20, the Netherlands announced that it was ready to send up to 42 fighter jets to Ukraine.

Military aid for Ukraine



- **Israel** has handed over several tons of medicines worth 100 million hryvnias as humanitarian aid to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

"We continue to help Ukraine in this difficult time, so at the request of the Ukrainian side, we raised funds and organized the transfer of humanitarian aid. We are planning further cooperation between our countries," said Israeli Ambassador to Ukraine Michael Brodsky.

- **Germany** has handed over another batch of weapons and ammunition to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

The new package of military aid includes missiles for Patriot air defense systems, 10 drone detection systems and 40 RQ-35 HEIDRUN reconnaissance drones, 16 Zetros trucks and 510,000 rounds of ammunition for firearms.

- **Norway** will donate missiles for IRIS-T systems and demining equipment to Ukraine, including portable kits for creating corridors through minefields, and will help ensure gas and electricity supplies, with the government allocating NOK 1.5 billion.

- On August 25, **Finnish** President Sauli Niinistö approves the decision to provide the 18th military aid package to Ukraine.

It is noted that the cost of the package, which includes, in particular, heavy weapons and ammunition, is 94 million euros.

- The **Lithuanian** government has allocated an additional military aid

package to Ukraine on the occasion of Independence Day.

The aid package will include weapons and ammunition worth 41 million euros. Ukraine will receive Carl Gustaf ammunition, rifles, maritime surveillance radars, 5.56 mm ammunition, generators, anti-drone equipment, and much more.

- The **Lithuanian** government will also provide the Armed Forces of Ukraine with NASAMS air defense systems.

The US announces new sanctions against those involved in the trafficking of Ukrainian children to Russia



On Ukraine's Independence Day, U.S. President Joe Biden announced new sanctions against those involved in the forced removal and deportation of Ukrainian children to Russia.

This is stated on the White House website.

The statement notes that the United States is working with countries around the world to hold Russian forces accountable for war and other crimes they have committed in Ukraine.

"This includes the forcible transfer of thousands of Ukrainian children to Russia. These children were stolen from their parents and kept separated from their families. This is unacceptable. And today, we are announcing new sanctions to hold those responsible for these forced transfers and deportations accountable and to demand the return of Ukrainian children to their families," Biden said.

Ukraine's claims against Russia in international courts

СПРАВИ УКРАЇНИ ПРОТИ РФ У МІЖНАРОДНИХ СУДОВИХ ІНСТИТУЦІЯХ

ПОСТІЙНА ПАЛАТА ТРЕТІЙСЬКОГО СУДУ 16 вересня 2016 р. Порушення Конвенції ООН з морського права у територіальних водах України, авіацарю моря, Керченський протоц Порушення права на мирне судноплавство, використання природних ресурсів континентального шельфу	УКРАЇНА ПРОТИ РОСІЇ ЩОДО КРИМУ (ЄСПЛ) 13 березня 2014 р. Порушення прав людини на ТОТ АР Крим 10 серпня 2018 р. Порушення прав позбавлених в'язни Об'єднано два позови
МІЖНАРОДНИЙ СУД ООН 16 січня 2017 р. Порушення Конвенції про боротьбу з фінансуванням тероризму Постанови збор. фінансування та інші дії щодо для збройної формування «ДНР»	УКРАЇНА ТА НІДЕРЛАНДИ ПРОТИ РОСІЇ ЩОДО ПОДІЙ НА ТОТ ДОНЕЦЬКОЇ ТА ЛУГАНСЬКОЇ ОБЛ. І ПОРУШЕННЯ ПРАВ ЛЮДИНИ ПІД ЧАС ПОВНОМАСШТАБНОГО ВТОРНЕННЯ РФ (ЄСПЛ) 13 березня 2014 р. Порушення прав людини на ТОТ Донецької та Луганської обл. 22 серпня 2014 р. Вигадання дітей на ТОТ Донецької та Луганської обл. і переміщення на територію РФ 10 липня 2020 р.* Збиття пасажирського літака
ПОСТІЙНА ПАЛАТА ТРЕТІЙСЬКОГО СУДУ 1 квітня 2019 р. Порушення Конвенції ООН з морського права Порушення абсолютного імунітету військових кораблів та членів їхніх екіпажів	УКРАЇНА ПРОТИ РОСІЇ ЩОДО ЗАХОПЛЕНИХ МОРЯКІВ (ЄСПЛ) 29 листопада 2018 р. УКРАЇНА ПРОТИ РОСІЇ ЩОДО ВІЙСЬКОВИХ ОПОНЕНТІВ РОСІЙСЬКОЇ ФЕДЕРАЦІЇ (ЄСПЛ) 19 лютого 2021 р.
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In the war against Russia, Ukraine intends to seek justice not only on the battlefield, returning the occupied territories, but also in international courts. Since 2014, after the annexation of Crimea and the outbreak of hostilities in Donbas, several lawsuits have been filed against Russia, including in the International Court of Justice and the ECHR.

The European Court of Human Rights is considering four lawsuits filed by Ukraine against Russia.

- Two lawsuits have been merged into one case, Ukraine v. Russia on Crimea: the first was filed in 2014 regarding Russia's violation of human rights in the occupied territory of the peninsula, and the second was filed in 2018 regarding violations of the rights of political prisoners.

- In November 2018, Ukraine filed a lawsuit with the ECHR over Russia's seizure of Ukrainian sailors. On November 25 that year, Russian border guards near Crimea fired on and seized three Ukrainian warships and detained 24 sailors (they were released in 2019).

- In February 2021, Ukraine filed a lawsuit concerning Russia's administrative practice of targeting opponents on its territory and in other countries.

- The International Court of Justice is considering two cases in Ukraine's lawsuit against Russia, and the Permanent Court of Arbitration (an international arbitration court in The Hague) is considering two more.

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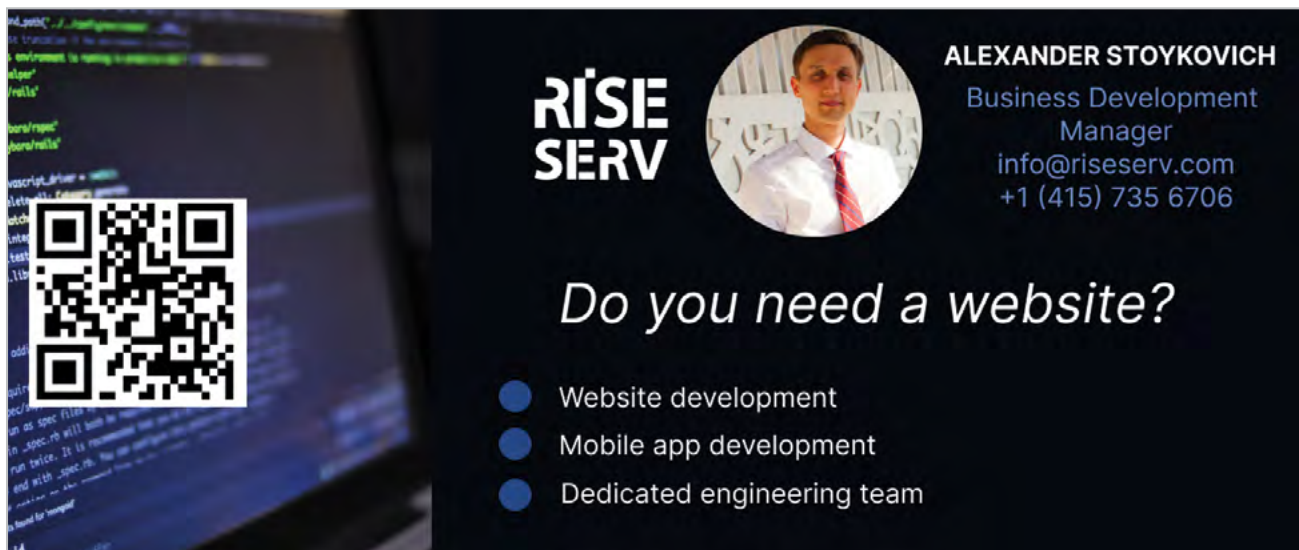
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BLACK SOIL THAT KILLS

DESTRUCTION OF FERTILE UKRAINIAN SOIL BY RUSSIAN MILITARY ACTIONS

Anton Shramenko

Soil is the basis of agricultural production. It is the fundamental basis of the economy. Farmers and agricultural companies in Ukraine are witnessing unprecedented destruction of the fertile layer of Ukrainian soil due to the toxic effects of hostilities.

The enemy wants to destroy not only the energy system but also the ecosystem. Volodymyr Zelenskyy called the war unleashed by Russia an ecocide and emphasized that it is a challenge not only for our country but for the whole world. According to preliminary estimates, more than 200,000 hectares of land in Ukraine have already been filled with shells, mines and ammunition fragments. That is, it is poisoned and unusable without restoration measures. These are disappointing facts.

It is a well-known fact that Ukraine's soil cover is predominantly black soil. These are fertile lands that are called black soil in the United States. Ukraine has 30% of European black soil reserves and 9% of the world's reserves. All of Russia's actions in this war are aimed not only at seizing territory, killing Ukrainians, and destroying the country's critical infrastructure, but also at destroying the ecological and agricultural resource. As of September 2022, the total amount of damage and losses caused to the lands and soils of Ukraine amounted to 15.013 billion US dollars.

HOW WAR DESTROYS FERTILITY

Shell bursts themselves turn the earth upside down and create sinkholes. This leads to soil subsidence, water erosion and secondary salinization. But if only the damage from the war was limited to this. Chemical contamination in the areas of military operations has a catastrophic impact on the land of Ukraine.

It occurs as a result of rocket and artillery fire, the burning of military equipment, and oil spills from vehicles. Due to extremely high concentrations of heavy metals, the land becomes not only unsuitable for growing agricultural products, but even dangerous to human health. In the areas of hostilities, the maximum permissible concentrations of chemicals in the soil have been exceeded by 10 times!



In particular: manganese: more than 2 times, zinc more than 3 times, lead more than 10 times, copper more than 6 times, zinc and cadmium more than 8 times. Here is a quote from one of the residents of the frontline territories of Ukraine: "After the shelling, the land becomes dead. After the winter shelling, we had to throw away all the vegetables in the summer. Apricots became small and shriveled."

Ammunition fragments also pose a danger. Artillery shells of 120 mm and 152 mm caliber produce 1600-2350 and 2700-3500 fragments weighing 1 grams, respectively. Cast iron with steel impurities is the most common material for the production of ammunition casings and contains not only iron and carbon, but also sulfur, copper and other components. These substances get into the soil, migrate to groundwater, and eventually enter the food chain, affecting both animals and humans. That is, the soil poisoned by explosions will slowly kill us in the long run.

Another aspect of the destruction of soil by war is the burning of equipment and the spillage of oil products. We see what happens to nature when oil spills into the sea. Oil products have the same deadly effect on the land. Their oily structure envelops soil particles, disrupts oxygen metabolism, kills microorganisms and insects, and prevents plant roots from breathing. So, again, the soil becomes dead. In

addition, the presence of oil products in the soil significantly increases the toxic effects of heavy metals in it.

The burning of the equipment leads to a simple burnout of the soil, which deprives it of nitrogen and phosphorus, which are essential for plants.

Environmentalists note that digging trenches and trenches, building fortifications, and moving heavy machinery all lead to terrible changes in the landscape. This results in degradation of vegetation, increased wind and water erosion. Belgium and France faced similar problems a century ago. In Europe, there are still problems with soils after the First World War, as the rate of soil recovery is approximately 0.06 mm/year.

Other gruesome aspects of the soil problem are the burial of the dead and the mining of fields. In November, the head of the Luhansk Regional Military Administration, Serhiy Haidai, said that due to the spontaneous burials of the killed by the occupiers, Luhansk region "is turning into one big cemetery." Obviously, growing crops on such land will be strictly prohibited in the future. According to UN forecasts, it will take at best 5 to 7 years to demine Ukrainian territories, provided that the latest satellite mine identification systems are used. For example, it took Poland about 12 years after World War II to demine its territory. More than 80,000 square kilometers of Ukraine's terri-

tory need to be cleared of mines and explosive remnants. According to the United Nations, Ukraine is one of the most heavily mined countries in the world, along with Afghanistan, Syria and Bosnia.

LAND SUITABILITY

In the science of soil conservation, there is an ecological and agrochemical score, which is an indicator of the suitability of land for growing agricultural products. In Ukraine, this score is 42 on land undisturbed by war, but on land poisoned by warfare it drops to 12, which is the state of poorly suitable soil. All soils of this extremely poor quality need to be rehabilitated and the soil cover restored in the damaged areas.

And it is tracking all the affected areas, establishing their boundaries, and adding them to mapping materials that is currently the main challenge for Ukrainian scientists. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that it is impossible for scientific teams to track all the places of military impact on the soil, because the burned equipment is quickly removed, and the places of craters and the passage of equipment are quickly "covered" by nature. Space and aerial photography of the war zone can only show a few of the affected areas.

And it is important to create a map of Ukraine's poisoned lands not only to restore land fertility. If proper measures are not taken in time to restore such soils, they will become carcinogenic and contribute to a surge in cancer among Ukrainians in 10-15 years.

SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS

In December 2022, despite constant rocket attacks and power outages, Kyiv hosted the III National Challenge Conference: Soil Degradation or Restoration of Fertility?

The organizers of the conference tried to unite the efforts of farmers, soil scientists, educators, government officials and the public to draw maximum public attention to the problem of Ukrainian land degradation. Agricultural experts from Poland and Germany also participated and shared their experience.

During the conference, Taras Vysotsky, First Deputy Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine, emphasized that it is difficult to determine a clear figure for the damaged soil at this stage because the fighting has not ended. According to the official, a number of initiatives are already being implemented at the state level: full monitoring with a clear and detailed analysis of the level of contamination and recording of all areas, as well as a

step-by-step plan of restoration measures. He also said that the plans for legislative work for 2023 include the development of a draft comprehensive soil protection strategy.

Thus, leading experts in Ukraine are already looking for options to restore the affected soils, trying to combine the capabilities and expertise of scientists, educators, farmers, agribusiness

representatives, government institutions and NGOs. The critical problems of Ukraine's postwar future require joint efforts to overcome.

Based on the materials of the III Conference "National Challenge: Soil Degradation or Restoration of Fertility?" and the article "Dead Lands" on the BTU-Center Group website.



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ДЛЯ ДІТЕЙ

Чому пес живе коло людини

(українська народна казка)



Давно, дуже давно жив собі самотній пес. Нарешті надокучило йому самому блукати в лісі, і вирішив він знайти собі друга-товариша. Але хотів, аби цей його товариш був найсильнішим з усіх тварин.

Лісові звірята порадили йому піти до

вовка. Пішов пес до нього й каже:

– Вовче, брате, живімо разом!

Вовк відповів:

– Чому би ні!

І почали жити разом.

Раз, як ночували в лісі, почув пес якийсь шелест і почав трястися-боятися. Збудив вовка, а той йому й каже:

– Будь тихо, бо прийде ведмідь і з’їсть нас!

Пес тоді здогадався, що ведмідь сильніший за вовка. Пішов до ведмедя й каже:

– Ведмедю, братику, живімо разом!

– Коли разом, то разом, – відповів ведмідь.

Минула коротка доба.

Раз на зорях почув пес
якийсь шелест і почав
боятися. Пробудився
ведмідь та й сказав:

– Заховаймося в корч,
бо ще надійде лев і
роздере нас обох!

Подумав пес, що лев
має бути сильнішим.
Залишив ведмедя й
пішов до двору короля

лева.

– Леве, леве, королю
звірів, живімо разом!

– За слугу прийму
тебе, – відповів лев.

Пес залишився з ним.
Одного разу ввечері
почав пес боятися й
почав вити, гавкати.

Вибіг лев із палати й
каже йому:

– Мовчи, бо ще надійде
людина й застрелить нас
обох!

Пес замовк, але
здогадався, що людина
має бути сильнішою,
коли її лев боїться.

Пішов пес до людини
й пристав на службу до
неї. Від того часу й живе
пес з людиною.



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ЗА ГОРИЗОНТАЛЛЮ:

1. Графство на сході Ірландії. 4. Представник, довірена особа організації, установи і т. ін., що виконує різні доручення, завдання. 7. Хімічний елемент, червоно-бура рідина з різким запахом, що використовується в медицині, фотографії й техніці (Br). 11. Група довгохвостих папуг. 14. Жаляча комаха. 15. Я і ти. 16. Жінка-переможець на фестивалях, конкурсах. 19. Жак-... Кусто (французький дослідник Світового океану, фотограф, режисер, винахідник, автор великої кількості книг і фільмів, першовідкривач). 20. Найменування одиниці прискорення, що часто використовується в геофізиці. 21. Комітет державної безпеки СРСР. 22. Вигадана істота із «Володаря Перстнів» Толкіна. 24. Самохідне наливне судно, обладнане танками, для перевезення рідких вантажів без тари. 27. Столиця Туреччини. 29. ...-... (звуконаслідування, що означає крик зозулі). 30. Словесний обмін думками, відомостями і т. ін. між ким-небудь. 33. В давньоєгипетській релігії — бог Сонця, творець світу. 34. Податок, що його справляють з юридичних і фізичних осіб у разі здійснення між ними або між ними та державою певних дій, перелік яких визначає законодавство. 35. Єднальний сполучник. 36. Міра земельної площі. 37. Грошова одиниця Західного Самоа. 39. Хутряний чобіт з м'якою підшвою — взуття, поширене здебільшого у народів Півночі та Сибіру. 40. Ворожнеча, розлад між ким-небудь. 43. Звук, що утворюється періодичним коливанням повітря і відзначається певною висотою. 44. Дерево родини кленових з великим п'ятилопатеvim лис-тям. 46. Українська газета, тижневик Українського Суспільно-Культурного Товариства у Польщі. 48. Міжнародна одиниця електричного опору. 50. Назва серії літаків авіаконструктора Антонова. 51. ..., вона, воно. 53. Позад, по той бік чого-небудь. 54. Робоча й навчальна веслово-вітрильна широкі шлюпка з двома, трьома й чотирма парами весел. 55. Технічна споруда зі спеціальною кабіною для вертикального переміщення людей або вантажів. 56. Пісок, земля, нанесені вітром, водою тощо. 57. Муніципалітет у Франції, у регіоні Пуату-Шарант, департамент Шаранта. 58. Вигук

вираження фізичного болю, страждання, переляку, відчуття полегшення і т. ін. 59. Автомат Калашникова. 61. Частина якогонебудь твору, збірки творів, видання, яка становить окрему книжку. 62. Одна із складових назв звуків. 63. Майстер, висококласний спеціаліст. 64. Напівдорогоцінний кварцовий камінь. 66. Муніципалітет у Франції, у регіоні Лангедок-Руссільйон. 68. Хрещений батько стосовно до батьків хрещеника і хрещеної матері. 70. Місто обласного підпорядкування в Росії, центр району Нижегородської області. 73. Ще б ...! 75. Перша людина. 76. Друг Віні Пуха. 77. Децибел. 78. Запис актів громадянського стану. 79. Акціонерне товариство. 80. Трав'яниста рослина з суцвіттями білих квіток. 83. Муніципалітет у Франції, у регіоні Центр, департамент Шер. 84. Навчальний посібник із зразками каліграфічного письма. 86. Повна залежність. 89. Форма спільності людей за первіснообщинного ладу, господарське і соціальне об'єднання кровних родичів. 90. Організація Об'єднаних Націй. 92. Глава держави у Венеціанській (7-18 ст.) і Генуезькій (14-18 ст.) республіках. 93. ...-тік (угода, що її виконано за ціною, яка перевищує ціну товару у попередній угоді в період однієї біржової сесії). 95. В'язка маса для ліплення, виготовлена з глини, воску, жирів та різних барвників. 96. Глибока довга западина (переважно з крутими або прямовисними схилами), що утворилася внаслідок розмиву пухких осадових порід тимчасовими потоками. 97. Навігаційний прилад для вимірювання швидкості руху судна або пройденого ним шляху. 99. Ім'я 3-го президента Хорватії Йосиповича. 100. Позитивно заряджений електрод. 101. Най-вища мета, до якої прагнуть люди і яка керує їхньою діяльністю. 102. Представник основного населення Передньої Азії та Північної Африки.

ЗА ВЕРТИКАЛЛЮ:

1. Застаріла назва представника корінного, малочисельного народу Сибіру. 2. Тас-... (невеликий острів у Східно-Сибірському морі, що є частиною островів Анжу в складі Новосибірських островів). 3. Муніципалітет у Франції, у регіоні Бретань, департамент Морбіан. 5. Невелике місто на півдні

Австрії. 6. Національний історичний архів Білорусі. 8. Сімнадцята літера грецької абетки. 9. Уявні прямі лінії, які проходять через середину якого-небудь тіла чи простору. 10. Лісова німфа. 12. Металева плита на друкарському верстаті, на якій установлюють друкарську форму. 13. Живописне, мозаїчне або рельєфне зображення Бога чи святого, якому поклоняються віруючі. 16. Плівкотворний розчин смол або ефірів целюлози у спирті, скипидарі або оліях, яким покривають яку-небудь поверхню для її збереження і блиску. 17. За біблійною легендою — місце блаженного існування Адама та Єви. 18. Автономна Республіка Крим. 20. Надання чому-небудь зігнутої, дугоподібної форми. 23. Бойове мистецтво. 25. Народний поет-імпровізатор і співець у казахів, киргизів та деяких інших середньоазійських народів. 26. Обертова частина машин, за допомогою якої енергія одного виду перетворюється в енергію іншого виду. 27. Трав'яниста рослина родини ранникових. 28. Примітивне знаряддя для оранки землі. 31. Запорізький автомобілебудівний завод. 32. Об'єднана держава Сирійської Республіки та Республіки Єгипет, що існувала з лютого 1958 по вересень 1961 року. 34. Комахоїдна рослина родини росичкових. 38. Представник германських племен, які в 5-6 ст. колонізували Британію. 40. Ріка в Німеччині, протікає землею Бранденбург. 41. Радянська актриса театру та кіно. 42. Пояс скелета нижньої кінцівки, який складається з двох тазових кісток та крижової. 45. Той, хто керує ватагою. 47. Служитель культу, знахар у племен, релігія яких ґрунтується на культі духів, магії. 49. Обладнання, пристрій для нагнітання повітря, що використовується у ковальському, скляному виробництві для роздування вогню, а також для приведення в дію деяких музичних інструментів. 51. Одиниця вимірювання потужності в Міжнародній системі одиниць. 52. У Давній Греції — музичний жанр, присвячений Аполлону. 54. Шлях, засіб, рух духовної практики в буддизмі, завдяки якому досяга-

SOME LESSONS FROM WORLD WAR II

Myroslav Hrehk

On September 2, 1945, the Second World War ended. On this day, at exactly 9 o'clock and 2 minutes (Tokyo time), a formal act of unconditional surrender of the last active ally of Nazi Germany, Japan, was signed. It happened on board the American battleship BB-63 Missouri. The historic Act of Surrender was signed on behalf of the Japanese Empire by Chief of the General Staff Umezu Eshijiro and Foreign Minister Shigemitsu Mamoru. The victors were represented by: U.S. Army General Douglas MacArthur, as Supreme Commander of the Allied Armies; Kuzma Derevyanko, Lieutenant General and official representative of the Soviet side; Bruce Fraser, British Admiral; Chester Nimitz, U.S. Navy Admiral; General Jean Philippe Leclerc, from the liberated France; Canadian Allied Colonel Lawrence Cosgrave; Emil Helfrich, Lieutenant Admiral of the Netherlands Army; Thomas Blamey, General of the Australian Army; Xu Yongchang, General First Class of the Republic of China; and Leonard Isitt, Air Vice Marshal of the Allied Army of New Zealand. All formalities were settled and the world came out of war.

And it began (officially recognized) on September 1, 1939. That is, the war lasted about 6 years. It was the largest and most horrific war in the history of mankind, it affected all continents, and more than 60 countries took part in it, including all the great powers that formed two opposing military camps: the Axis bloc and the anti-Hitler coalition ("Allies"). More than 100 million people were directly involved in the fighting. The opposing powers threw all their economic, industrial, and scientific capabilities at the needs of the front, blurring the distinction between civilian and military resources. The total human losses fluctuated between 50 and 80 million people. The Second World War was marked by numerous massacres and crimes against humanity, primarily the Holocaust, strategic carpet bombing, and the only military use of nuclear weapons in history. Thousands of villages and cities were destroyed during the war. Millions of people lost their loved ones, became refugees and homeless.

It has been 78 years since the end of the war, and it would seem that after such sacrifices and losses, the world should have come to its senses and forever abandoned the resolution



of political, ideological, and territorial disputes by means of weapons and military action. But the lessons of history teach us that they teach us nothing. Neither future generations of people nor their leaders have learned from them. Armed conflicts and wars have been emerging and continuing at different times and in different countries since the Second World War. They continue to do so today.

A bloody war between Ukraine and Russia is currently taking place on the continent of Europe. Putin's aggressive regime has treacherously attacked a neighboring state for no apparent reason, seized part of its land, killed military and civilians, the elderly, women and children, destroyed infrastructure and housing, committed violence and terror in the occupied territories, deported adults and children to their own land, and caused a massive flow of refugees to Western countries.

Why did this happen? What are the roots of this evil, this aggression and savagery? First and foremost, the fact that Putin's mordere felt impunity after the aggression in Georgia, the seizure of Crimea, and the outbreak of war in Donbas. And before that, there was the racist policy in Moldova and the creation of the so-called "Transnistrian Republic." The accommodating policy of the United States and Western Europe contributed to this; Obama, Merkel, Sarkozy, with their policy of not teasing or angering Putin, did not pay much attention to the interests and aspirations of the attacked countries. And so we waited for a real war in Europe. And if the Muscovite had received a decent blow, a real rebuff in Abkhazia and Ossetia, it would have discouraged him from continuing to fight.

This suggests an analogy with World War II. If there had been no Munich Agreement in 1938, if England and France had not allowed Czechoslovakia to be dismembered (under the aus-

pices of Nazi Germany, Hungary and Poland did it) but had defended it and declared war on Germany, then maybe there would have been no World War II.

Here is what Wikipedia says about this: "On September 30, 1938, British Prime Minister Chamberlain and Hitler signed a declaration of non-aggression and the peaceful settlement of disputes between Great Britain and the Third Reich, an agreement known as the Munich Agreement. In 1938, Chamberlain met with Hitler three times, and after the Munich meeting, he returned home with his famous statement "I have brought you peace!" In fact, this agreement, concluded without the participation of the Czechoslovak Republic, led to its partition by the Third Reich, with the participation of the Kingdom of Hungary and the Polish Republic. It is considered an example of appeasement of the aggressor, which only encouraged him to further spread his aggressive policy and became one of the reasons for the outbreak of World War II. It was a grimace of history that Poland itself was soon torn apart and invaded by Germany.

In October 1938, according to the Munich Agreement, the Third Reich annexed the Sudetenland region, which had belonged to the Czechoslovak Republic. This act was agreed to by the United Kingdom and the French Republic, without taking into account the opinion of the Czechoslovak Republic itself.

Nothing reminds you of this – in relation to our time – the policy of fear and appeasement of the aggressor.

The ideas of some politicians and officials about the possibility of exchanging the occupied Ukrainian lands for peace and security, and even for joining NATO, or resolving the issue of war and peace behind Ukraine's back. Of course, we understand that these are isolated and stupid voices that do not reflect the true policy of our partners. But, looking at the history of the Second World War, they should not have even appeared. Now the West, and the entire civilized world, has finally realized "hu is Mr. Putin," seen the animalistic grin of the racist mordecia, and understood his true goals and efforts.

Let's ask the following question: "Would Putin's Russia dare to attack Ukraine if it knew that we had nuclear weapons?" Most certainly not. Due to the short-sightedness of the then presidents, or their "don't care" atti-

tude – after me, there will be a flood, and also due to certain pressure from our partners, the nuclear stockpile was transferred to Russia. And the government of the day paid for the gas it consumed by giving it Ukrainian airplanes and missiles. Now it is firing these missiles at us.

And what did the guarantors of our sovereignty and independence do according to the Budapest Memorandum when the aggression against Ukraine began in 2014? One of them, Russia, cynically violated it, and the other two, the United States and the United Kingdom, limited themselves to verbal condemnation. I wrote about all of this in detail in the previous issue of the Hromada newspaper in the article "Independence washed in blood". Is it really so difficult to understand that all world politics is selfish – you cannot trust anyone unconditionally, there are no eternal friends and eternal enemies, there are eternal interests. Today they coincide with yours – you are partners, friends, tomorrow they will contradict or differ – you will be opponents, at least neutral parties.

Another analogy of warfare similar to the Second World War on the part of the Russian command is the disregard for the lives of soldiers. "Meat

assaults" by racists, often freshly recruited, untrained "convicts" who mindlessly go to Ukrainian positions, lead to thousands of dead and wounded, barrier detachments that shoot retreating soldiers, so reminiscent of Zhukov's tactics during military operations, where hundreds of thousands of soldiers were killed in the crucible of war.

Also, taking an example from the "scorched earth" strategy used by the Soviet command at that time, today's racist leaders are trying to apply it to Ukraine, destroying cities and villages, killing and frightening the population. By the way, they used the same tactics and strategy when fighting in Syria.

Another lesson is that it is impossible to win a war without a good shoulder, a rear, and a functioning economy. And it's time we stopped walking around the world with our hand out and asking for weapons. We need to have our own. And if we don't have it, we need to make sure that we do. That is why efforts are being made to re-build our own defense capabilities. And this makes us happy and gives us hope in our victory, in the future of our army. And not only the army, but also our entire state and economy. We have to rebuild, recover, become so strong

that no abomination would ever encroach on our land again, that civilized countries would want to do business with us, cooperate with us, be friends with us, that we would not be asked to join the European Union and NATO, that Ukrainians who were forced to leave their homes and their land would be able to return, live in dignity and happiness. Only then will all those vic-tims of the war be justified, and the blood shed will not be in vain. All of this is still a dream, but dreams do come true over time, and I believe it will happen.

At the beginning of the article, I wrote that the Second World War lasted about 6 years. This is official. But in reality, it lasted longer, and it began in the minds of Hitler and his henchmen immediately after he came to power. Over time, it grew and intensified, enslaving more and more people, committing genocides, seizing more and more territories, bled, swelled and eventually burst, leaving behind death, ruins and ashes.

This will be the case with Putin's racism, and with every aggressor who encroaches on someone else's property. And this is, in my opinion, the main lesson of the Second World War.

ють просвітлення. 60. Останній правитель І династії Ранняго царства Давнього Єгипту (бл. 2890 до н. е.). 62. Вигляд обличчя, предмета тощо спереду. 64. Той, хто охоче займається чим-небудь, кохається в чому-небудь. 65. Перший із трьох періодів мезозойської ери геологічної історії Землі. 66. Гарбуз. 67. Поведінка, що порушує загальноприйняті норми і правила. 69. Різкий сильний поштовх, що утворюється в наслідок короткочасного зіткнення рухомого тіла з яким-небудь іншим тілом. 71. Велике приміщення для багатолюдних зборів. 72. Міністерство державної безпе-

ки СРСР, що існувало з 1946 року (наступник Народного комісаріату державної безпеки). 74. Представник народу, який проживає в південно-східному Дагестані. 80. Свійська рогата худоба (розм.). 81. Проста речовина елемента Нітрогену. 82. Ділянка землі, яку отримувала селянська сім'я для користування. 84. Поширена на сході кругла посудина для пиття у вигляді невеличкої розширеної доверху чашки без ручки. 85. ... Іван Мармароський (гора в Українських Карпатах, одна з вершин Гуцульських Альп). 87. Національна релігія тибетців. 88. Організм, який не може жити в

середовищі, позбавленому вільного кисню. 90. Дрібні частки твердих речовин, що виділяються з рідини або газуватого середовища й осідають на яку-небудь поверхню. 91. Ділянка або смуга землі, на якій ростуть хлібні культури або яка призначена для їх вирощування. 94. В Україні та деяких інших країнах — ввічлива форма звертання або називання стосовно до осіб чоловічої статі. 96. Острів Малайського архіпелагу, розташований між Суматрою і Балі. 98. Японська настільна гра. 99. Кім ... Сен (комуністичний диктатор («великий вождь») Північної Кореї).

ВІДПОВІДІ ДО КРОСВОРДІ
За горизонтальною:
1. Ляут. 4. Агента. 7. Бром. 11. Ара. 14. Оса. 15. Ми. 16. Ляуреатка. 19. Ів. 20. Гал. 21. Каб. 22. Орк. 24. Танкер. 27. Анкара. 29. Ку. 30. Розова. 33. Ра. 34. Мито. 35. Та. 36. Ара. 37. Тала. 39. Унт. 40. Розбрат. 43. Тон. 44. Явір. 46. Наше. 48. Ом. 50. Ан. 51. Він. 53. За. 54. Ял. 55. Ліфт. 56. Занос. 57. Мано. 58. Ох. 59. Ак. 61. Том. 62. Фа. 63. Ас. 64. Арат. 66. Кане. 68. Кум. 70. Арамаас. 73. Пак. 75. Адам. 76. Іа. 77. Дб. 78. Зарс. 79. Ат. 80. Балабан. 83. Ту. 84. Пропис. 86. Кабала. 89. Під. 90. Оон. 92. Дож. 93. Ан. 95. Пластичн. 96. Яр. 97. Лар. 99. Іво. 100. Анод. 101. Ідеал. 102. Араб. 3а вертикально:
1. Ляут. 2. Ара. 3. Ял. 5. Гурк. 6. Ніаб. 8. Ро. 9. Ост. 10. Мавка. 12. Талер. 13. Ікона. 16. Лак. 17. Едем. 18. Арк. 20. Гуття. 23. Карате. 25. Акин. 26. Ротор. 27. Авран. 28. Рало. 31. Заз. 32. Оар. 34. Мухоловка. 38. Англосакс. 40. Рін. 41. Блінова. 42. Та. 45. Батат. 47. Шаман. 49. Міл. 51. Бат. 52. Ном. 54. Яна. 60. Каа. 62. Фас. 64. Амадор. 65. Тріас. 66. Кабак. 67. Епатаж. 69. Удар. 71. Зал. 72. Мдб. 74. Агул. 80. Бидло. 81. Азот. 82. Наділ. 84. Піла. 85. Піл. 87. Бон. 88. Аероб. 90. Осад. 91. Нива. 94. Пан. 96. Ява. 98. Го. 99. Ір.

WITH ARGENTINA IN OUR HEARTS

Maria Klymchak
director of programs
Kyiv Mohyla Foundation in
the United States

Argentina is the only country in Latin America that recognized the Ukrainian People's Republic in 1921 and was the first to congratulate Ukraine on the restoration of its independence in 1991. At the end of the nineteenth century, Ukrainian emigrants found refuge under the skies of this country. Their vital activity made it possible to perceive the Ukrainian presence in this country today as a nation that, by comprehending its historical past, creates a projection of the future," says Marta Farion, attorney, President of the Kyiv-Mohyla Foundation in the United States, UCCA Vice President, UWC Board Member.

Born in Italy, Martha Farion lived her first 13 years in Buenos Aires. In July of this year, she visited her small homeland. Ms. Marta began her story with a poem by the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda, in which the return to the place of one's past is compared to a nest where a person can meet face to face with himself, and the only witness to his visits is the moon.

"On the street where we lived with my parents, I met former Argentine neighbors who remembered us, knowing that we were Ukrainians, emigrants from a country whose people were brutally persecuted by the communist regime. They support Ukraine, as do many Argentines, despite a lot of Russian-driven disinformation. My communication with them and with Ukrainian friends added emotions, impressions and energy. Seeing the familiar trees in the park of my childhood, I wanted to meet my father and mother again, who after the war were forced to immigrate from Europe to an unknown country in the Latin American world," – says Marta Farion, visiting Buenos Aires, the place of her childhood.

Political Challenges and Advocacy

It is worth noting that although the city, nature, culture and friends are admirable for their beauty and politeness, the political situation is very difficult, especially with regard to Ukraine. The populist policies of the presidential administration, which have been in place for years, are causing great damage and economic and political destabilization in Argentina and Latin America.

In the chorus of cultures in multina-



Childhood in Argentina : Marta Farion with her sister Hanusya



Ambassador Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Argentine Republic Yurii Klymenko and Marta Farion

tional Buenos Aires, the concert and theater scene is now and then surprised by posters inviting Russian theaters and various groups that Russia, a terrorist state, generously funds.

The Ukrainian community organizes protests against Russian groups performing in Argentine theaters. The community responds to various attempts by racists to influence the political mood. "It's not easy here because there is a great influence of leftist sentiments that misinform the population. You can see the efforts and work of our Ukrainian community in difficult conditions," says Marta.

She says that over the years, it is Russian influence that has been captivating with its stability and persuasiveness through propaganda that is easily promoted by the governments of Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, and to some extent Brazil, supporting Russia and opposing US policy. The positions



Head of the UCRA Dr. Petro Lylyk, Martha Farion and secretary of the representative office Maria Zinko

of these countries on Russia's invasion of Ukraine indicate that Moscow still commands sympathy on the continent. Undoubtedly, this affects Ukraine's relations with Argentina and complicates the work of the Ukrainian community and the embassy.

Until now, Argentina has refused to support sanctions against Russia and has been pursuing a policy of neutrality. It traditionally tries to keep its distance from the warring parties. The political struggle between the right and left parties continues in the media, and disinformation is increasing. Russia's virtual greatness is being promoted by Russia Today, which is the main propaganda outlet. Therefore, it is necessary to have influence to stop its existence.

The world press has already published news that almost 30 thousand Russians have arrived in Argentina since the beginning of the war. These are financially secure "Russian refugees," young men who have fled from the meat grinder of the war unleashed by the Moscow dwarf. There is also an influx of pregnant Russian women seeking citizenship for their newborns: there is citizenship, and they can immigrate to other countries. Undoubtedly, there are Russian intelligence officers and agents among those thousands.

During her meetings with the Ukrainian community, Marta Farion spoke about an important and effective initiative in Mohylanka to counter the spread of fake news called Stop-Fake, which is available in 14 languages.

ges, including Spanish. At a meeting with the Dean of the Law Faculty of the University of Buenos Aires, she proposed to hold roundtables with the participation of both sides on the subject of war crimes and fake news committed by the Russian Federation in Ukraine and globally. She definitely received support from the dean, as Russia is interested in spreading its influence in this region, where it finds supporters among students at universities.

Meeting at the Embassy of Ukraine

The Embassy of Ukraine in Argentina was opened in March 1993. In all countries, including Argentina, the successor to the USSR, Russia, after its collapse, took over diplomatic buildings. The issue of opening an embassy in the prestigious diplomatic district of the capital was resolved with the help and assistance of the Ukrainian community.

At the beginning of 2023, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Argentine Republic Yuriy Klymenko took up his duties. Previously, he served as Consul General of Ukraine in Thessaloniki (Hellenic Republic, 2005-2006) and Barcelona (Kingdom of Spain, 2006-2010). Mr. Klymenko has been in the diplomatic service since June 1992. He is fluent in English and Spanish. He has repeatedly headed official delegations of Ukraine to international forums and understands the political and economic levers of Argentina and Latin America.

President of the Kyiv-Mohyla Foundation in the United States Marta Farion also met with Mr. Ambassador during her visit to Argentina.

During the conversation, Yuriy Klymenko noted that Argentina is among the leaders among Latin American countries in providing humanitarian aid to Ukraine over the past year, taking into account the full-scale Russian aggression. The Ukrainian Embassy works with Argentina in many areas. In particular, it is encouraging Argentina to join the imposition of sanctions against the aggressor country and the creation of a military tribunal. The government itself has an ambiguous position on the Russian-Ukrainian war. Another issue was the development of cooperation in the educational sphere and the strengthening of Ukraine's cultural and humanitarian presence in Argentina. According to the ambassador, one of the problems is the spread of Russian narratives that "NATO is fighting against Russia on the territory of Ukraine," etc. This is picked up by the Communist Party and the Left Front organization, which profess Russian



Meeting with women of the Union of Ukrainian Women of Argentina



Prosvita Society, Chairman of the Ukrainian Society Prosvita in Buenos Aires, Vice President of the Ukrainian World Congress Yuriy Danylyshyn

ideology. "Countering Russian narratives is only one aspect of our embassy's work," the diplomat emphasized.

It was a pleasant surprise to meet the Consul of Cultural Affairs, Maryna Panchenko, who is a graduate of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

"Step by step our diplomacy is succeeding in achieving success in the Argentine direction," noted Marta Farion.

Ukrainian community

Prosvita

The head of the Ukrainian community Prosvita in Buenos Aires, Vice President of the Ukrainian World Congress Yuriy Danylyshyn invited his countrywoman, who is fluent in both Ukrainian and Spanish, to speak. Communication in both languages allowed a large audience to hear about the life of our community in the United States, the work of the UCCA and the UWC, and the successes and challenges caused by the war in Ukraine. The community

continues to be active in the areas of culture and education. The guest was impressed by the library and the archive that is being digitized. "There are a lot of valuable books and archival documents that are being worked on. The educators put the study of the Ukrainian language in the first place. They cherish our culture, involving both Ukrainians and Argentines in a dance ensemble, and there is even an ensemble of young bandura players."

"I am grateful to the community of Prosvita in Buenos Aires for the opportunity to speak on a topic that unites us all Ukrainians – the spirit and unity of our Ukrainian hearts in supporting our Mother Ukraine in this time of war and always, in helping our people. I felt the love for Ukraine so far away from the mainland. Everything will be Ukraine! Until victory!" wrote Marta Farion in the guest book. At the same time, the Facebook page thanked the

Board of the Prosvita Society for the opportunity to meet.

Ukrainian Central Representation in Argentina (UCRA)

The UCRA is a non-partisan, non-profit organization representing the Ukrainian community in Argentina, a member of the World Congress of Ukrainians, established in 1947, which unites 30 societies and organizations. The head of the UCRA is Argentine neurosurgeon Dr. Petro Lilik, who is recognized worldwide as one of the leading professors in the medical field and philanthropy. He has good high-level connections with Argentine politicians, top officials of governments and civil society in other South American countries.

At the invitation of Dr. Lilik, a meeting was held with Martha Farion. The conversation focused on the relations between Ukraine, Argentina and Latin America, and the life of the Ukrainian diaspora in Argentina. After the declaration of Ukraine's independence in 1991, there was a noticeable influx of new immigrants from Ukraine, but due to a lack of economic opportunities, most left for other countries. Therefore, we are witnessing the assimilation of the third and fourth generations of Ukrainians, and there is almost no inflow of new forces from Ukraine. Despite this, the younger generation of the community sticks to its roots and supports Ukraine. This is facilitated by organizations such as Plast, Sumy, the Renaissance Society, the Union of Ukrainian Women of Argentina, and various dance and choral ensembles that gather in the community and around their church.

It is worth mentioning that in Argentina there are monuments to Taras Shevchenko in the province of Misiones and in the central park of Buenos Aires, opposite the US Embassy, in the best area of the city. It was donated by the Ukrainian community in Argentina two years before the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the first immigrants from Ukraine as a sign of gratitude for the asylum. "From Ukrainians and their descendants who have found here not only peace, work and prosperity, but also the precious democratic freedoms for which the heroic Kobzar of Ukraine fought," the red granite of the pedestal reads. It is here that Ukrainians in Argentina come to celebrate the most important events – Taras's birthday and Ukraine's Independence Day. Public meetings are held here, and calls are made to the government to condemn Russia's aggression and encroachment on territorial integri-

ty, and to counter the flow of Russian disinformation.

Church

Marta Farion had the opportunity to pray for Ukraine together with the parishioners of the Cathedral of the Intercession of the Holy Virgin of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Buenos Aires. The Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Bishop Danylo Kozlynsky of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. After the liturgy, members of the Ukrainian Women's Union of Argentina, led by Christina Volovyna, organized a meeting with the wife of the Ambassador of Ukraine, Zoya Klymenko. Our guest from Chicago gladly accepted the invitation. Bishop Daniel, born in Brazil, and a young Ukrainian-born priest, Father Nazariy Kashchak, joined the group of more than 50 people. In his welcoming remarks, the Bishop emphasized that the community, despite the great geographical distance from the motherland, prays for it and

for the people suffering from a cruel enemy, and that public organizations make donations and send aid to Ukraine. The warm relations between the churches and the audience enveloped everyone in a positive aura.

Conclusion

Martha Farion's trip reinforced her vision of the diaspora and its role in preserving identity and helping Ukraine. According to Martha, studying the history of emigration is of great importance. She emphasized that each wave has its own mission, stressing the strength of the Ukrainian spirit that unites Ukrainians around the world. After all, only a common goal and active work bear fruit and help bring victory in Ukraine closer.

"It is our task to preserve our identity through active work in communities, to pass on the love for Ukraine that our parents instilled in us. Let's keep the fire of amazing enthusiasm and faith that unites us alive." – Marta Farion.

ДВІ АСПІРАНТКИ ВИБРАНІ ДЛЯ ПІДТРИМКИ В РАМКАХ СТИ-ПЕНДІАЛЬНОЇ ПРОГРАМИ СУА



НЬЮ-ЙОРК

Дві видатні жінки стали лауреатами стипендії імені Єви Сташків Союз Українок Америки (СУА) на 2023 рік, яка надається в рамках стипендіальної програми СУА: Андріана Баран з України та Марія Кульчицька зі США.

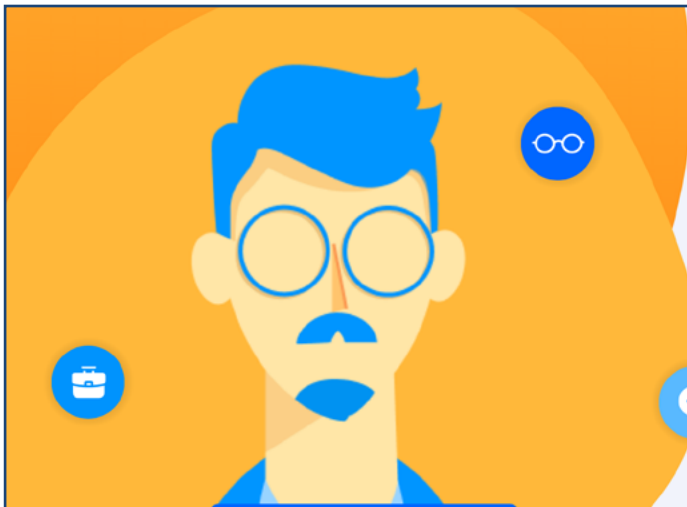
В рамках програми обидва студенти отримають внесок у розмірі \$3,000 для компенсації кошту обраних ними програм.


Андріана Баран, яка зараз навчається в аспірантурі університету Канзасу за спеціальністю "Вивчення мови та культурологія", має ступені з української мови та літератури і прикладної лінгвістики Львівського національного університету імені Івана Франка.

Марія Кульчицька зараз здобуває ступінь магістра державної політики у Школі державного управління імені Джона Ф. Кеннеді Гарвардського університету, зосереджуючись на демократичних реформах в Україні.


Для отримання додаткової інформації, будь ласка звертайтеся до СУА.

Наталія Павленко
president@unwla.org
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EVENTS 2023

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Дд/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

13 SEP

THE PREMIERE OF THE MOVIE "BIG PICNIC"

Ukrainian Films USA

Where: Landmark's Piedmont Theatre

When: Wednesday, 7 PM – 8:30 PM

The premiere of Big Picnic will take place on September 13 at 19:00 in Ukrainian with English subtitles!

"The Big Picnic is no ordinary comedy! This is a movie that was supposed to be released in Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Now a large number of participants from the film crew, and even the cast are defending their homeland as part of the Armed Forces, and the locations of the filming were destroyed by bombs. And we would like them to smile there, knowing that their movie is being watched by full houses in America.

Tickets start at \$22

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/oakland-cabig-picnic-premiere-tickets-698507062427>

23 SEP

SAN FRANCISCO: EXHIBITION OF 12 KYIV POTOG- RAPHERS, WORK MADE SINCE FEB 22

Aliona Kuznetsova

Where: Art Bias

When: Saturday, 7 PM

This September, the work of 12 Ukrainian women photographers will be on display at Art Bias in San Carlos, San Francisco Bay Area. The artists will speak about their work at the opening on Sep. 23rd via Zoom. All work was created post-February 2022 when the war began.

The exhibition is called 85560+. It's

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the amount of time in minutes that the people of Kyiv have spent listening to air raid sirens, awaiting bombs to fall and steal away the lives of our countrymen. In the time between each of those harrowing minutes, people try to go about living their lives — spending it with loved ones, at work, volunteering, and using creativity as an outlet. Our fearless Kyivan women have created these images to share tales of the capital in times of war.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/135419246227585/>

30 SEP 6th ANNUAL PARK UKRAINA HIKE & PANAHYDA

Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ukrainian Heritage Club of Northern California and St. Michaels Ukrainian Orthodox Church

Where: At the end of Carden Lane, Hayward CA 94542. Next to Stonebrae Elementary School.

When: Saturday, 11 AM – 3.30 PM
Join us for a wonderful day of Hiking, Remembering and sharing a meal.
11:15 - Meet at the End of Carden Lane

11:30 - Begin Hike.
12:15 - Panahyda
1:00 - Hike Back to Carden Lane
1:15 - Lunch at JA Lewis Park!
Join us at Park Ukraina with Father Georgiy of St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ukrainian Heritage Club and Ukrainian School of San Francisco for our Annual Hike & Panahyda.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1012789386723165/>

30 SEP AN EVENING

WITH GOROVY IN SAN FRANCISCO!

Ukrainian Event Center and Music Hall and Ukrainian American Coordinating Council

Where: 345 7th St, San Francisco, 94103, US

When: Saturday, 6 PM – 8:30 PM
Gorovi' in San Francisco!
Another Evening with Ludmila and Ruslan Gorovi In California!

Lyudmila is a famous Ukrainian poetess, the author of the famous poem "Bude tobi vrazhe". Ruslan is a volunteer, the author of the Children's Search Service project, and a writer.

They'll be presenting in Ukrainian Ruslan Horovoy's new book "People Lived" - a collection of essays about the life of the "gypsy" volunteer crew from the de-occupied villages of Ukraine

Join Us for an unforgettable evening to have an interesting conversation!

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2674438929370019/>

6 OCT IMPRINTBAND - UKRAINE BENE- FIT TOUR 23'

Imprintband Label

Where: House of Bread Church

When: Friday, 6 PM – 7 PM

We don't want to stay away from people who are experiencing such great pain and sorrow, as our mission as Christians is primarily to be attentive to their needs and to be the answer and conduits of God's blessings for them!

We organized the Imprint charity tour across America, in support of Ukrainian children who became orphans due to this terrible war!

All the proceeds will go towards helping these children and women in need!

These funds will be used for the personal needs of these families, and the children will also have the opportunity to participate in Christian camps, where they will experience an atmosphere of God's love and emotional restoration!

Tickets start at \$20

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/imprintband-ukraine-benefit-tour-23-sacramentoca-tickets-694375464707>

7 OCT UKRAINIAN FILM NIGHT: "A RISING FURY" AND Q&A PANEL WITH FILMMAKERS!

Leleka Foundation

Where: The Polish Club Inc

When: Saturday, 5 PM – 8 PM

Join us for our 5th Ukrainian Film Night Fundraiser at The Polish Club in San Francisco!

5:00 pm - doors open, enjoy food/drinks/art/socialize

6:00 pm - film begins

7:30 pm - Q&A panel with film

Filmmakers

Volunteer Movement Organization and Leleka Foundation invite everyone to a Q&A with the brave filmmakers that will follow the screening of this powerful documentary film!

The panel features: Lesya Kalynska, Co-Director, Screenwriter, Producer of "A Rising Fury" and TJ Collins, Producer of "A Rising Fury".

Tickets start at \$20

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/ukrainian-film-night-a-rising-fury-and-qa-panel-with-filmmakers-tickets-701572170247?aff=ebdss_hcopyurl&utm-source=cp&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery

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