



# OUR STRENGTH IS IN OUR UNITY! UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS ANNUAL REPORT



2023

Kyiv-Brussels-Toronto-New York



## From UWC President



Dear Friends,

Throughout the second year of Russia's full-scale war against Ukraine, the global Ukrainian community acted in unison to support the people of Ukraine in the fight to defend their country's freedom and sovereignty. Our priorities remained unchanged from the first year: to secure victory in the war, to rebuild Ukraine, and to create a strong global Ukrainian community.

While all three priorities complement one another, UWC works on each separately. To secure victory, we directly helped the Armed Forces of Ukraine through our Unite With Ukraine initiative. We also worked to ensure support for Ukraine on the global military, political, and economic fronts. We know perfectly well that strong international support is essential to Ukraine's defensive capacity, so we conducted numerous visits and meetings with various governments and politicians worldwide to expand the circle of partner countries that support Ukraine.

We are also fully aware that every country's commitment to Ukraine can only be maintained if each country's civil society shares it. Powerful Ukrainian communities and organizations around the globe made it possible to maintain the support of civil societies and political circles in most countries and to encourage the countries of the Global South to take the first steps towards systematically improving their understanding of and support for Ukraine.

Our Energize Ukraine initiative aims to restore the energy infrastructure in Ukraine that the Russians have destroyed and ensure that Ukrainian schools and hospitals have power. In

2023, Energize Ukraine procured and delivered millions of dollars' worth of high-voltage electrical equipment from global energy companies to Ukraine and raised funds to rebuild microgrids at schools and hospitals in Ukraine that provide energy reliability.

At our XII Congress in October, UWC re-elected its leadership and elected 10 Vice Presidents responsible for all the world's geographic regions for the first time in our history. This allowed us to conduct and improve our operations on all continents, wherever there are Ukrainians, and to help build a strong global Ukrainian community. The key to Ukraine's victory and prosperity is a united and influential Ukrainian diaspora that will ensure Ukraine's military and economic success for many generations. To do so, we must have a united and conscientious diaspora. We must build institutions, such as schools, churches, cultural centers, and youth organizations, that will educate future generations of patriotic Ukrainians who will be influential power brokers in countries around the world.

Every country must have one coordinating body that brings together hundreds of Ukrainian community organizations to ensure cooperation and an influential voice in government. Your ability to influence key government officials through leaders and media is critical to ensure long-term military, economic, and political support for Ukraine.

Our strength is in our unity!  
We are proud of our Ukrainian communities!  
Thank you to our generous donors for your support!  
Together, let's bring Ukraine's Victory closer!

Paul Grod  
UWC President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Grod', with a stylized flourish underneath.

## From UWC's First Vice President Stefan Romaniw



Dear Friends,

The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) demonstrated its strength and unity in the past year. UWC member organizations participated in a variety of international actions. Every organization and person contributed to them on their own, but they were all united under the same slogan: To Victory!

Our actions impact, and our work produces results because we, as UWC members, are involved in the planning and implementation of our decisions. UWC leadership is fairly insistent on allowing the expression of the widest possible range of opinions and proposals prior to proceeding with their implementation. It is vital that all UWC members know that the leadership is open to a wide range of opinions.

As a global organization representing more than 20,000,000 Ukrainians in nearly 70 countries, we have faced new challenges since February 24, 2022. Our member organizations became involved in caring for millions of displaced persons who were forced to move and live in our communities. On the one hand, we had to embrace the people who sought refuge; on the other hand, we had to plan how to include the newcomers into our established communities.

Our churches and communities began to grow with a newfound energy while providing consolation and spiritual care. Our churches and communities rose to meet those challenges with dignity.

Simultaneously, the UWC had to provide Ukraine with real assistance immediately, resulting in the global advocacy work that continues today.

Working with the governments in the countries of our settlement, UWC appealed to them to stand with Ukraine. It is hard to count the number of public rallies, meetings with politicians, and media interviews around the world. Herein lies our strength.

UWC launched the Unite with Ukraine and Energize Ukraine assistance programs, which continue operations and have become our face in Ukraine. UWC is a real partner in the fight against the Russian aggressor.

In our meetings with Ukrainian state leaders,

UWC leadership has discussed and continues to discuss how to continue providing real assistance to Ukraine. "Listen and learn" was the motto of the UWC leadership during our visits to Ukraine, whose purpose was to identify the most urgent needs so that we could provide real humanitarian and military aid and coordinate that work. As a result, in 2023, UWC became the third-largest non-governmental organization supplying armored vehicles to the Armed Forces of Ukraine. That was only made possible by working together.

Every UWC member provides assistance in one form or another. Still, we have occasionally received specific requests for cooperation from the Armed Forces of Ukraine, resulting in targeted campaigns being announced. Fundraising for drones during the Christmas holidays was one such campaign when we had to prioritize because Ukraine needed drones. UWC supplied over 1,000 drones, doubling the Christmas campaign's goal of 500. The Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations (AFUO) set the example: more than 20% of the pledged amount was fundraised within six weeks in Australia. Why? Because UWC made it a priority and issued the call to join the campaign.

XII UWC Congress took place, but not without difficulties. The Congress Organizing Committee, which included our Vice Presidents and other members, had to change plans more than once: initially, the Congress was to be held in Poland, then Ukraine, and then, in the end, was held virtually. Despite the challenges, we overcame all difficulties and gathered more than 300 delegates and guests from 34 countries at the Congress.

The commemoration of the 90th Holodomor anniversary showed that UWC has not forgotten about its historical past, and we communicated the important message that it was genocide then, and it is a continuation of that genocide today, as Russia aims to destroy the Ukrainian people. UWC continues to be an important partner in the construction of the Holodomor Museum in Ukraine. UWC has dealt with and continues to deal with many challenges: refugees, schooling, the fight against the "Russkiy Mir" reactions to the Pope's speeches on Ukraine, among others.

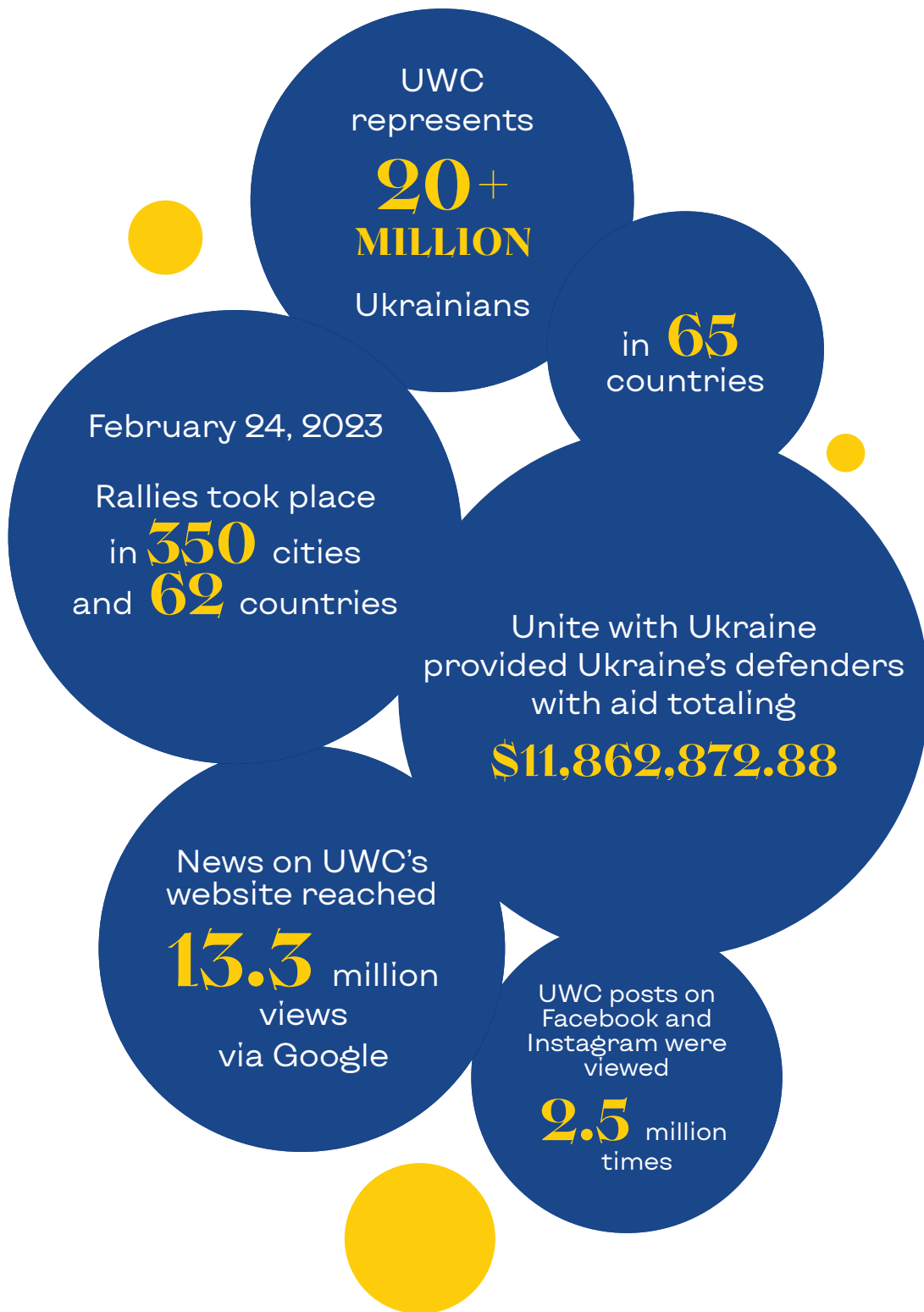
To improve the way UWC operates, new Governance Rules are being implemented so that all members of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, and various boards and commissions have a better understanding of their responsibilities and priorities. This is vital for maintaining organizational integrity, planning our work, and promoting our goals so that people who work in the organization do not see themselves as merely individual representatives of the national organizations that nominated them to UWC's management.

The most important thing is to talk, negotiate and act as one. This is our strength. Not me, not you, but WE.

Stefan Romaniw  
UWC First Vice President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Romaniw". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

## UWC by the numbers in 2023





# Defending Ukraine's interests on the world stage

**“By coming together, we will win this war and rebuild a better Ukraine!”**

Paul Grod  
UWC President

In 2023, the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) continued its extensive advocacy campaign to strengthen support for Ukraine in the international arena and to facilitate the country's accession to the European Union and NATO. To achieve these goals, UWC's leadership conducted a series of high-level visits and meetings with influential political and community leaders worldwide.

## Support for Ukraine on the path to NATO membership

How can the global Ukrainian community support Ukraine's goal of becoming a NATO member state? The answer to that question was the subject of a meeting between UWC President Paul Grod and a delegation from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), led by President Alexandra Chyczij, with Prime Minister of Ukraine Denys Shmyhal and Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland in Toronto on April 11, 2023.

Soon after, the July NATO Summit in Vilnius was marked by unprecedented public support. UWC President Paul Grod and Regional Vice President Vira Konyk were in the Lithuanian capital to advocate for Ukrainian interests.



Answering the call by UWC, representatives of the Ukrainian diaspora from numerous countries took to the streets to support Ukraine on its path to the Alliance.



In June, Paul Grod held a series of meetings with international partners, politicians, and diplomats in support of UWC's global advocacy campaign #UkraineInNATO, including a meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom, James Cleverly on the sidelines of the Ukraine Recovery Conference.



## Defending Ukraine's interests on the world stage



On the sidelines of the Summit, Paul Grod discussed security assistance to Ukraine with the Minister of Defense of Sweden, Pål Jonson, the Prime Minister of Lithuania, Ingrida Šimonitė, and the Secretary of State for Defense of the United Kingdom at the time, Ben Wallace.

the Ukrainian people in Russia's war of aggression.

### Advocating for Ukraine's European future

In 2023, the UWC President also completed working visits to Hungary, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Romania, Italy, France, Moldova, and Germany.



Negotiations over Ukraine's EU accession reached a qualitatively new level in 2023. That process was facilitated through the efforts of Ukrainian civil society organizations and communities, especially the European Congress of Ukrainians (ECU), led by Bohdan Rajčinec.

Working to grow Ukraine's circle of allies, UWC attended the annual Halifax International Security Forum in November.

During meetings with Canadian Minister of Defense Bill Blair, Estonian Minister of Defense Hanno Pevkur, Lithuanian Minister of Defense Arvydas Anušauskas, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee of the British House of Commons Alicia Kearns, and Taras Zalusky, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Defense of Canada, UWC representatives underscored the vital role of international support for Ukraine in the defense of its sovereignty and protection of





## Defending Ukraine's interests on the world stage



UWC called on the European Union (EU) to commence accession negotiations as soon as possible, noting the impressive progress of Ukraine's parliament in adopting the legislation required for EU accession. This was the focus of the meeting between the UWC President and the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, when she was in Ottawa in March to address the Canadian Parliament.



The steps required for Ukraine and Moldova's EU accession were discussed at an official meeting between Paul Grod and Moldovan President Maia Sandu.

During the meeting, they also discussed the critical topic of assistance to Ukrainians who found refuge in Moldova during the dark days of the first year of the Russian war on Ukraine.

"Our country [Moldova] remains committed to supporting refugees from Ukraine by offering them temporary protection, like in the European Union."

Maia Sandu  
President of Moldova



Supporting Ukraine on its Euro-Atlantic path was one of the key issues discussed on the sidelines of the Second Parliamentary Summit of the Crimea Platform. There, the UWC President met with Robert Zile, Vice President of the European Parliament, Raymonde Gagné, Speaker of the Senate of the Parliament of Canada, and Markéta Pekarová Adamová, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic.



## Support for Ukraine in the Global South



The year 2023 was marked by an important event in Brazilian political life: the Brazilian Senate established the Brazil-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group, made possible with the hard work of the **President of the Ukrainian Brazilian Central Representation (UBCR) Vitório Sorotiuk**.

In January, the UWC and UBCR sent an official letter to Brazil's newly elected President, Lula da Silva, calling on Brazil to strengthen its political and diplomatic support for Ukraine.

In response, the President of Brazil condemned Russia's genocidal aggression and occupation of Ukrainian territory for the first time since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. During a vote at the UN General Assembly on February 23, 2023, Brazil supported a resolution based on President Zelenskyy's peace plan.



The generally neutral stance of Latin American countries on the events in Ukraine did not affect Ukrainian organizations and communities that were actively assisting. Brazil trained Ukrainian doctors and sent humanitarian aid. Argentina and Paraguay organized intensive humanitarian aid by sending food containers. Peru, Colombia, Chile, and Uruguay, which have smaller communities, sent monetary aid directly or through Argentina or Brazil.

In December 2023, a new government came to power in Argentina, which meant a 360-degree turn in Argentina's political position. We hope that this will be reflected in foreign policy. President Javier Milei had expressed his full support for President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, which was clearly demonstrated during his visit to the presidential inauguration ceremony in December when both announced their intention to hold a summit in Argentina, which they called "Ukraine-Latin America."

**Jorge Danylyshyn**  
UWC Vice President for South and Central America



## Defending Ukraine's interests on the world stage



The African continent brings together 54 different countries, whose citizens are particularly sensitive to the protection of children's rights. One of our achievements is the establishment of cooperation between children's rights experts on the continent and in Ukraine, and the development of specific steps that can help bring back more than 19,500 Ukrainian children that have been forcibly deported by Russia. The truth about the abducted Ukrainian children allows our communities to break through the massive amount of Russian disinformation and destroy the myths about "Russkiy Mir."

**Dzvinka Kachur**  
UWC Vice President for Africa

"The year 2023 was remarkable for Ukrainians' extraordinary cohesion and their activism in advocacy, cultural diplomacy and volunteer work, even in the regions of Southern and Southeastern Asia, which are traditionally less known for Ukrainian social movements."

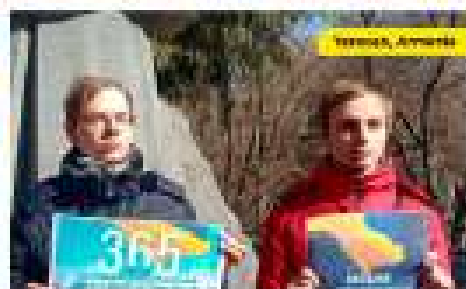
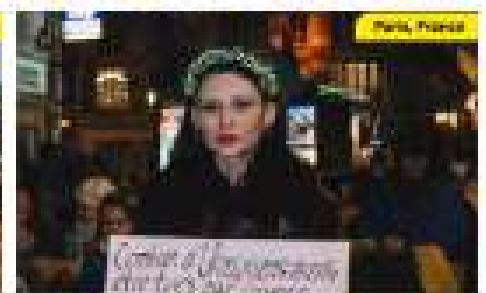
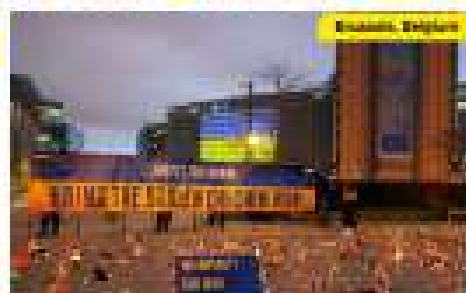
**Nataliya Poshyvaylo-Towler**  
UWC Vice President for Oceania and Asia

# “365 days strong in the 9-year war” Campaign

In February, the global Ukrainian community and UWC member organizations in 62 countries and over 350 cities, together with local citizens, civil society groups, diplomats, government leaders, and politicians, joined forces to create a powerful wave of support for Ukraine.

Numerous peaceful Ukrainian rallies, prayer services, and cultural events were held to mark the first anniversary of the full-scale invasion.

With these peaceful rallies, Ukrainians and friends of Ukraine reminded the world that the brutal war is far from over.





## Unite With Ukraine



45 British armored vehicles for the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine



Ukraine faced another difficult year in its continued defense against Russian occupation and genocide. However, the country's bravest and best stood firm in their fight to repel the Russian aggressor's advances in 2023.

The Ukrainian World Congress's Unite with Ukraine initiative continues to deliver essential tactical medical supplies, armored vehicles, drones, UAV complexes, and other vital equipment to support Ukraine's defenders. Since February 2022, UWC's Unite with Ukraine has raised over \$56.5 million from donors in over 70 countries to support the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and other Ukrainian security structures and forces.

The Ukrainian World Congress expresses its sincere gratitude to all our donors and supporters, regardless of their contribution amount. Regardless of size, every donation plays a significant role in supporting Ukraine's defenders.

2024 has the potential to be an even more challenging year than the last. This is not the time to let our collective foot off the gas pedal. We urge you to continue to support Ukraine's defense forces. There is only one front. Without the Armed Forces of Ukraine, there would be no Ukraine. As the global Ukrainian diaspora, we must continue to support those who continue their heroic defense of Ukraine.

In collaboration with the command of the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, the Unite with Ukraine initiative procured and delivered 45 British armored and tracked vehicles totaling \$4,531,718.00 USD. The armored vehicles significantly enhanced capabilities to safely transport personnel and evacuate wounded soldiers and civilians from the combat zone.













# Unite With Ukraine

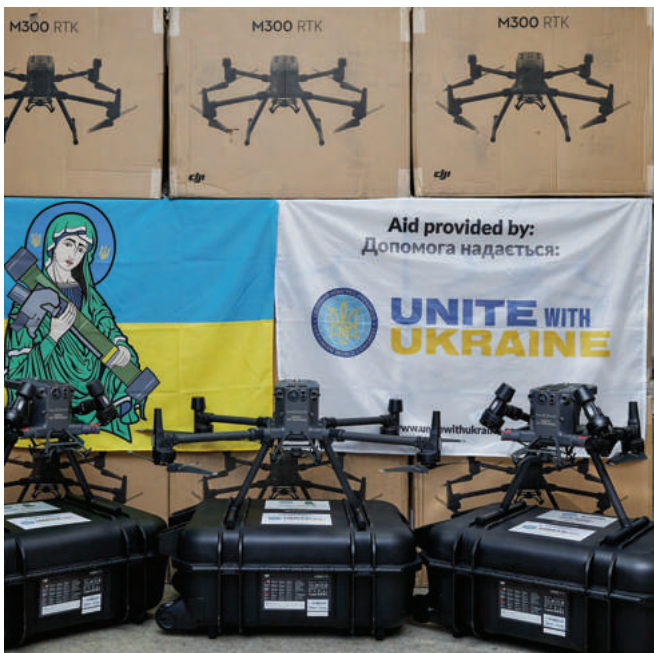
## 18 four-wheel-drive pickup trucks for demining

Due to the Russian invasion, 30% of Ukrainian territory is mined, which amounts to 174,000 square kilometers. Demining is one of the key steps to restoring life in the regions liberated from the Russians. 18 four-wheel-drive pickup trucks will assist the State Emergency Service in demining these areas.



## 30 sets of DJI Matrice 300 RTK for the “Army of Drones”

Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine, Minister of Digital Transformation of Ukraine Mykhailo Fedorov and the UNITED24 initiative expressed their gratitude to the global Ukrainian community and friends of Ukraine from over 70 countries worldwide who donated \$630,000 through the Unite with Ukraine platform. With these funds, it was possible to purchase and deliver 30 powerful DJI Matrice 300 drones for 15 units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.



## 17 excavators for the Territorial Defense Forces for fortifying defensive positions

The Ukrainian World Congress, as part of its Unite with Ukraine initiative, has successfully procured and delivered 17 JCB 3CX Excavators to the Department of Support Forces of the Command of the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

The JCB 3CX excavators will be used for construction projects such as the building of new defensive positions for Ukrainian defenders. This powerful machine is designed to handle tough jobs such as digging trenches, moving earth and other heavy materials, or leveling the ground.



## 71 four-wheel drive military hauling trucks restored

As part of its Unite With Ukraine initiative, the Ukrainian World Congress paid to restore 71 four-wheel-drive GAZ-66 hauling trucks for the logistical needs of the Territorial Defense Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

The essence of this project is very simple - there is a critical shortage of four-wheel drive military transport on the front lines. Because of this, a simple idea emerged: to take old Soviet trucks that were already decommissioned and awaiting disposal, and give them a second life.



# Unite With Ukraine

Regular deliveries of high-quality tactical medical supplies, totaling \$1,912,385.27 USD.

One of the main focuses of the initiative is the supply of high-quality tactical medical equipment that helps save the lives of Ukrainian defenders on the front lines.

In this matter, we adhere to the principle of "No Compromises" regarding the quality of the equipment.





## Unite With Ukraine



### Training Ukrainian medics in Brazil

A select group of Ukrainian medical practitioners embarked on an intensive training program at the prestigious Albert Einstein Israelite Hospital in São Paulo, Brazil, courtesy of the Unite with Ukraine initiative led by the Ukrainian World Congress. This collaborative effort aims to give these doctors a unique opportunity to enhance their medical skills and knowledge in a renowned Latin American medical institution.



### Santa's Birds - Птахи Санти fundraising campaign

The Ukrainian World Congress and our partners at Saint Javelin launched a holiday season collection to provide 1000 First Person View Drones for the Ukrainian Armed Forces as part of the Unite with Ukraine initiative.

Santa's Birds - Птахи Санти fundraising campaign successfully raised \$519,095.00 USD or 19,697,324 UAH for the needs of Ukrainian defenders. With these funds, 1,000+ FPV drones will be purchased.

Friends of Ukraine and Ukrainian communities in over 25 countries, including France, the UK, Australia, the USA, Canada, and Poland, joined the campaign. In total, 1,193 donors participated, including both individual contributors and various organizations, chambers of commerce, and businesses.

In total, in 2023, the Unite with Ukraine initiative of the Ukrainian World Congress provided assistance to Ukrainian defenders in the amount of \$11,862,872.88 USD or 460,279,467.74 UAH.



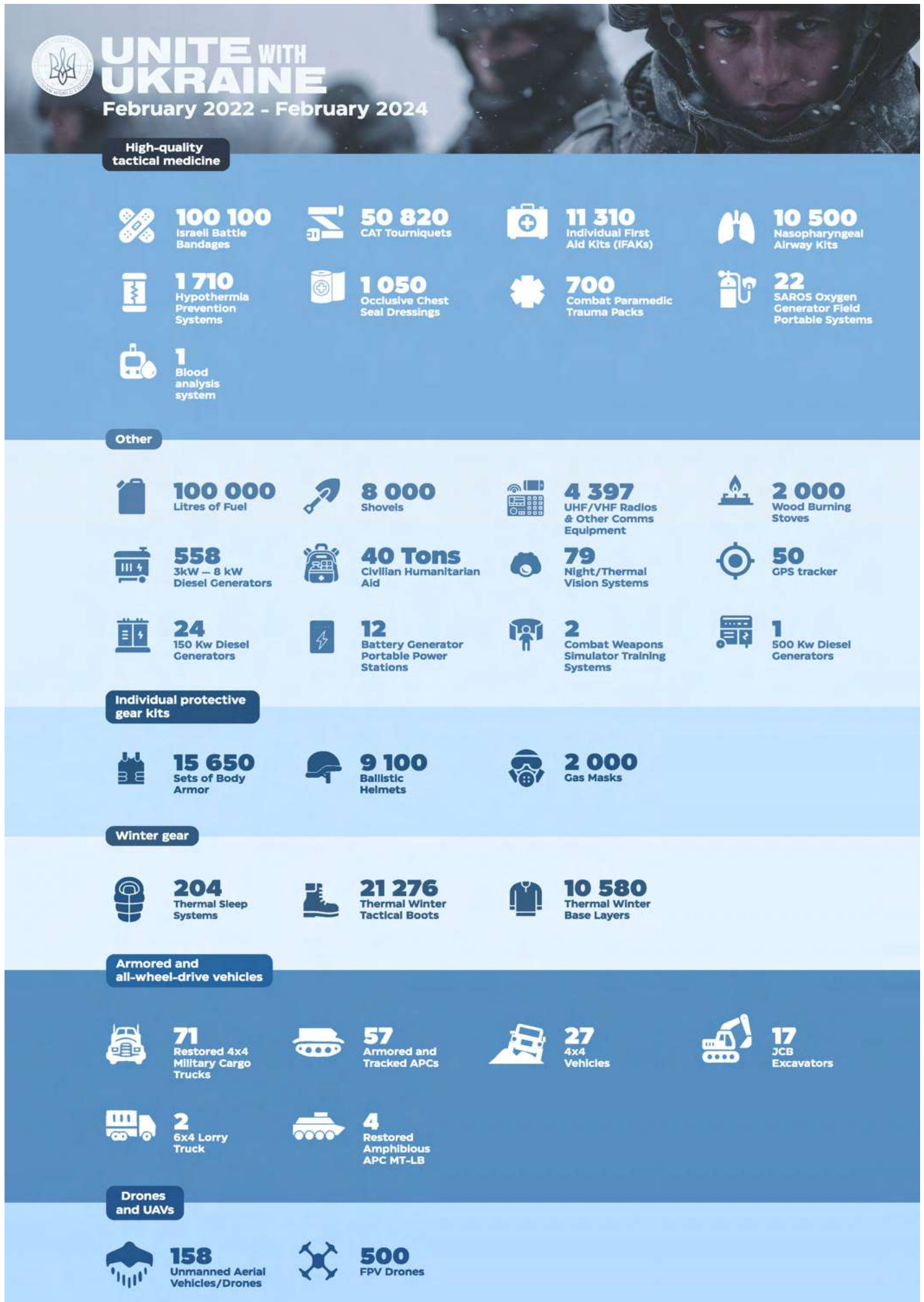
### The Independence Lifeline fundraiser

The Independence Lifeline fundraiser, organized by the Ukrainian World Congress Unite With Ukraine initiative and supported by Saint Javelin, raised \$103,121 in August 2023 for high-quality tactical medical supplies for Ukrainian soldiers and paramedics.





Our assistance over two years of the project's existence:



# Energize Ukraine

In the fall of 2022, Russia began its barbaric shelling of Ukraine's energy system. As a result of constant and massive attacks, over 50% of the Ukrainian energy system was damaged. Both human life and critical infrastructure were under constant threat, as schools, hospitals, industrial facilities, public transportation, and other facilities could not function properly.

In response, the Ukrainian World Congress launched the Energize Ukraine initiative to help rebuild Ukraine's energy system.



During 2023, the Energize Ukraine initiative was presented at top energy conferences in North America, such as POWERGEN International, IPPSA Annual Conference, Ontario Energy Conference, Ukraine Recovery Conference, International Conference of Doble Clients, DISTRIBUTECH International, and others.



On January 25, 2023, the Ukrainian World Congress and the Ukrenergo National Energy Company became partners in the Energize Ukraine initiative to assist in the sourcing, procuring and delivering specific energy equipment required to rebuild Ukraine's energy infrastructure.

UWC President Paul Grod and Chairman of the Board of NPC Ukrenergo Volodymyr Kudrytsky signed the Memorandum of Cooperation.



Another important step in assisting the Ukrainian energy system was signing the Memorandum between UWC and the Ministry of Energy of Ukraine to strengthen cooperation and coordinate efforts.

This helped attract donors and experts to address the problems and challenges faced by the Ukrainian energy system following the Russian terrorist attacks.



## Energize Ukraine



In addition, Energize Ukraine, in cooperation with the Government of Canada and Electricity Canada, has sourced more than 2,500 pieces of specific equipment for the power grids in Ukraine, including:

- > 22 high-voltage transformers
- > 15 switches
- > 2,000 solar panels
- > 100 units of high-voltage equipment from Hitachi (Japan) worth USD \$1 million
- > 15 industrial circuit breakers
- > 3 insulators from Hydro Quebec (Canada)
- > 7 specialized trucks
- > 3 surge arresters



As of today, efforts are also focused on finding mobile cranes, off-road vehicles, excavators, pickup trucks, and trailers needed to repair damaged power grids in Ukraine.





## XII UWC Congress



The XII UWC Congress took place on October 22, 2023, with over 300 delegates and guests from 34 countries in attendance. The event was held in a hybrid format - live in Toronto and virtually. During the Congress, UWC President Paul Grod and the UWC leadership reported on UWC's achievements.

The Congress also re-elected the President and Board of Directors who will lead the Ukrainian World Congress for the next four years. The Chairman of the XII Congress was the past UWC President Eugene Czolij.

The UWC First Vice President remains Stefan Romaniw (Australia); the newly-elected WFUWO President Jaroslava Hartyányi (Hungary) became the Second Vice President, and Andriy Futey (USA) became the Third Vice President.

Also elected as Vice President from the European Congress of Ukrainians was Petro Rewko (Great Britain). Anatoli Murha (USA) continues to serve as Vice President for Finance, and Zenon Potoczny (Canada) as Vice President for Operations. George Huculak (Canada) remains the Vice President for Development and Fundraising.

The newly elected Board of Directors also includes: Former UWC President Eugene Czolij (Canada), SKUMO (World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations) President Alexandru Greceniuc (Romania), Roksolana Lozynskyj (USA), Michael Sawkiw (USA), President of the European Congress of Ukrainians Bohdan Rajčinec (Czech Republic), Zenon Kowal (Belgium), World Congress of Ukrainian Students President Roman Grod (Canada), Kateryna Argyrou (Australia), Vitório Sorotiuk (Brazil), Oksana Kuzyshyn (UCC), Chair of the Audit Committee Alexander Neprel (USA), Vice Chair of the Audit Committee Olena Paslawsky (USA), and Secretary of the Audit Committee Kvitka Semanyshyn (USA).

The members of the Audit Committee/not on the Board of Directors are leading figures in the global Ukrainian community: Dr. Natalia Lishchyna (Canada), Jarema Polatajko



(Australia), Taras Pidzamecky (Canada), Fedir Kurlak (UK), Oles Horodetskyk (Italy), and Maria Zinko (Argentina).



**“A strong Ukrainian world requires the development of Ukrainian institutions and of united and politically influential Ukrainian communities.”**

Paul Grod  
UWC President



**The XII Congress also resolved that the election of ten regional Vice Presidents would strengthen the efforts of the global Ukrainian community.**



**Marta Farion**  
Vice President for North America  
(Canada, USA, Mexico)



**Jorge Danylyshyn**  
Vice President for South  
and Central America (Argentina,  
Brazil, Colombia, Paraguay,  
Venezuela, Central America)



**Volodymyr Kogutyak**  
Vice President for Western Europe  
(Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland,  
Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Switzerland,  
the United Kingdom)



**Mykola-Myroslav  
Petretskyi**  
Vice President for Eastern Europe  
(Belarus, Czech Republic, Estonia,  
Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania,  
Moldova, Poland, Romania, Slovakia)



**Miroslav Hočak**  
Vice President for South Eastern  
Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo,  
Montenegro, North Macedonia,  
Serbia, Slovenia)



**Roman Mykytenko**  
Vice President for Northern Europe  
(Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway,  
Sweden)



**Pavlo Sadokha**  
Vice President for Southern  
Europe (Cyprus, Greece, Italy,  
Malta, Monaco, Portugal, Spain,  
Portugal)



**Yevheniy Semenov**  
Vice President, Middle East  
and Central Asia (Armenia,  
Azerbaijan, Israel, Jordan,  
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,  
Lebanon, Turkey, United Arab  
Emirates, Uzbekistan)



**Dzvinka Kachur**  
Vice President for Africa (Egypt,  
Guinea, Mozambique, Tunisia,  
South Africa, Tunisia, South Africa  
and the entire African continent)



**Nataliya  
Poshyvaylo-Towler**  
Vice President, Oceania and Asia  
(Australia, China, Japan, India,  
Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia,  
New Zealand, Philippines,  
Singapore).



As is custom, the Congress bestowed its highest honor, the **Medal of St. Volodymyr the Great**, to leading figures of Ukrainian communities, international organizations, political leaders, and the Estonian Parliament for their significant contribution to the development of the diaspora and Ukraine.

As a result of their work, delegates adopted the **RESOLUTIONS OF THE XII UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS.**



**“Our decision to geographically divide the world into regions and have ten regional Vice Presidents is justified. This is an effective way for UWC’s leadership to better understand the circumstances of different communities.”**

Stefan Romaniw  
UWC First Vice President





Building a strong global Ukrainian community

"Батьківська Хата | Homestead | ATX edition", Savenko Film



## Building a strong global Ukrainian community

Throughout 2023, Ukrainian communities and organizations tirelessly supported newly arrived Ukrainians seeking refuge from the war. They implemented numerous projects and maintained centers dedicated to assisting refugees and children.

UWC leadership held coordination meetings with Ukrainian communities and organizations worldwide. In May 2023, the UWC delegation led by Paul Grod was in Chicago, where the UWC President once again recognized the strength of the Ukrainian community and emphasized that support from the United States "would not have been possible without the cohesive and coordinated work of the Ukrainian community and powerful organizations such as the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America."



In the summer of 2023, the UWC President visited Ukrainian communities in Berlin, Paris, and Rome. The visits occurred by the "Supporting Ukraine in the most difficult times" motto.



UWC President visited Bedryk Children's Center in Berlin, which the Central Union of Ukrainians established in Germany.



The meeting with the Ukrainian community in Bucharest during Paul Grod's visit to Romania in September 2023 showed the strength of Ukrainian unity in times of great challenge.



"In 2023, my primary tasks were to unite Ukrainians wherever they are now, to work actively to bring Ukraine's Victory closer, to help thousands of Ukrainian refugees integrate into their host communities, including by involving them in the activities of powerful Ukrainian organizations, such as the Union of Ukrainians in Romania, in the projects and events they organized."

**Mykola-Myroslav Petretskyi,**  
President, Union of Ukrainians of Romania,  
UWC Vice President for Eastern Europe



## Building a strong global Ukrainian community



In 2023, the primary focus of Ukrainian organizations in Northern Europe was advocating for Ukraine's interests. Numerous meetings with representatives of the Nordic authorities helped increase the amount of financial assistance provided and the amount of weapons transferred to Ukraine. Representatives of Ukrainian communities regularly participated in discussions and debates on local TV and radio channels, which in turn had a positive effect on better understanding the situation and needs in Ukraine. The main topics of numerous rallies were the provision of weapons for Ukraine, Ukraine's accession to NATO, and the seizure and blocking of Russian assets in Northern Europe. The humanitarian sector is worth mentioning separately. Over the past year, Ukrainian communities in Northern Europe were able to deliver more than 260 truckloads of humanitarian aid for medical facilities and the needs of internally displaced persons. Cultural and educational activities were carried out: screenings of Ukrainian films, exhibitions of Ukrainian art, charity concerts, the proceeds of which went to support Ukraine.

**Roman Mykytenko**  
Vice President for Northern Europe

The first year of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine saw Western Europe actively organizing support for Ukrainian refugees. In 2023, Western Europe became active in helping Ukraine in the war. In 2024, the Ukrainian diaspora is making every effort to make this year a year of Victory!

**Volodymyr Kogutyak**  
UWC Vice President for Western Europe

## Building a strong global Ukrainian community



"All the time, every day, our communities are working on some kind of project to help Ukraine: either with children, with refugees, with politicians, or with humanitarian aid- everyone in our communities is involved in that work. In 2023, our Ukrainian community in the United States demanded that American politicians support Ukraine more. We also spoke out against businesses that did not withdraw from Russia. Because we have close relations with the press and television, all of our protests were shown on television. Each of us is an ambassador of Ukraine in this difficult time."

**Marta Farion**  
UWC Vice President for North America

"Our influence in the Senate and Congress is also due to our coalition and cooperation with Eastern European organizations. We work with the Polish American and Baltic American communities and, obviously, with American Jews. Whenever we organize events or meetings, we include our coalition. For example, we say that we have almost 2.5 million Ukrainians of American descent in the United States, but together with this large Eastern European coalition, we have more than 25 million. And so we have the opportunity to have a voice."

**Andriy Futey**  
UWC Third Vice President



# UWC Community Development Fund

In early 2023, the UWC Community Development Fund announced the winning projects submitted by Ukrainian communities and organizations aimed at building Ukrainian community and cultural life around the world, which received co-funding from the Fund established by the UWC President.

The Fund's Commission reviewed applications from Ukrainian communities in 20 countries and one international organization. Based on the results of the reviewed applications, the UWC Community Development Fund decided to provide funds to communities in the following countries: Argentina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Georgia, Great Britain, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Malta, New Zealand, Poland, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Türkiye, United States, United Kingdom and the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations.

These are some of the remarkable projects implemented in 2023 with the support of the UWC Community Development Fund.

## “Bat’kivska Khata. Homestead”

The 64th Branch of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America presented the “Bat’kivska Khata. Homestead” ethnographic project, which is dedicated to preserving and popularizing Ukrainian culture in the USA and the world.

“Bat’kivska Khata. Homestead” is an exhibition that opened in Manhattan, New York, USA that shows the contrast between the life of Ukrainians before the Holodomor and the horrific events of 1932-1933 and shows the parallel with the events currently taking place in modern Ukraine in the war against the Russian occupiers. The exhibition's opening was honored by the presence of Metropolitan Borys Gudziak and distinguished guests from the New York City area, Ukrainian and other communities.



## The first academic book on Ukraine's history published in Brazil

The book “Ukraine: A History” by Orest Subtelny was published in Brazil. The first-of-its-kind publication in Portuguese with a print run of 2,000 copies was co-financed by the UWC Community Development Fund. “To appreciate the importance of the publication, it is important to emphasize that this is the first academic book on the history of Ukraine published in Brazil,” noted Vitório Sorotiu, President of the Ukrainian-Brazilian Central Representation (UBCR). He said the book would play an important role in promoting Ukrainian interests in Brazil and become a greeting card in relations with the Brazilian authorities.



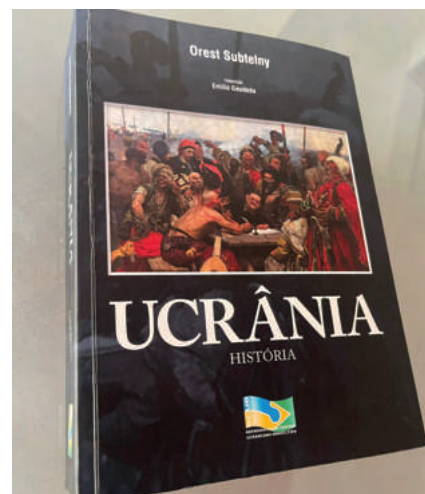
Ведуча - заслужений працівник культури України  
**Валентина Шемчук**  
Парох Церкви св. Юра в місті Нью-Йорку  
**о. Іван Лубів (ЧСВВ)**  
Дорадниця презентації Проекту - голова Референтури з питань культури США  
**Оксана Писецька**

**МИСТЕЦЬКА ПРОГРАМА:**

- Хор «Молода Дуляка» - художній керівник і диригент Василь Гречинський
- Вокальна студія «Пісняра»-художній керівник Ольга Обертос
- Леся Верба - авторська лірика, бандура
- Юлія Голуб, Алла Івченко, Софія Мельник, Владислав та Устим Чорні - спів
- Дарина Козій - флейта, акомпанатор
- Софія Козій - фортепіано
- Максим Хоминицький - фортепіано

**ВХІД ВІЛЬНИЙ**  
Просимо скласти пожертви на придбання турнікетів для бригади «Азов»

СІМБІОТИЧНОГО АРСЕНАЛУ





## UWC Community Development Fund

Active distribution of the publication is planned for 2024.

Exhibition in honor of Ukraine's defenders and Q&A evening with Dmytro "Orest" Kozatsky in Malta

"The Price of Freedom," a unique exhibition dedicated to the defenders of Ukraine, including Ukrainian civilians who joined the Armed Forces and eventually lost their lives in the war, was held in October 2023 in the historic center of the Maltese capital.



Representatives of diplomatic and cultural missions of France and Germany, non-governmental organizations such as Rotary Club Malta, the Franciscan Welfare Association, the Federation of English Language Teaching Organisations Malta (FELTOM), local businesses, and the media attended the Exhibition's opening.



A landmark event during the exhibition was an evening of questions and answers with Dmytro "Orest" Kozatsky, the legendary photographer and defender of Azovstal, who came to Malta to tell the truth about the brutal Russian war on Ukraine.

The organizers, the Foundation for the Ukrainian Community of Malta, reported that the photo exhibition received national and media coverage and was attended by about 2,000 guests.



## Committee on Membership of the UWC



The Committee's goals are to expand the UWC network (member organizations, associate members, supporters) and to make recommendations to the Board of Directors on other issues related to UWC membership, including membership fees and community issues that require additional attention. Throughout 2023, the Committee on Membership of the UWC met regularly to discuss the accession of new member organizations, associate members, and supporter organizations to the UWC. Based on these meetings, the Board of Directors made the following decisions:

- > Welcome the Community of Ukrainians of Thuringia in Erfurt, Germany, to UWC's network as a organization-supporter (28.01.2023)
- > Welcome the "Ljubljana-Kyiv" Cultural Association in Slovenia to UWC's network as a organization-supporter (28.01.2023)
- > Admit the Ukrainian Association in Finland to UWC membership as a Ukrainian national-central representation on a pre-term, exceptional basis (29.07.2023)
- > Admit the Congress of Ukrainians of Moldova to UWC membership as a Ukrainian national-central representation on a pre-term, exceptional basis (29.07.2023)
- > Admit the "KRAI" Union of Ukrainian Associations in Spain to UWC membership on a pre-term, exceptional basis (29.07.2023)

- >
- > Admit the Lesya Ukrayinka Community of Ukrainians in North Macedonia to UWC as an associate member (29.07.2023)
- > Welcome the "Dobra Sprava" Ukrainian Association in Montenegro to UWC's network as an organization-supporter (29.07.2023)
- > Welcome the renewal of activities of the Shevchenko Society in Canada as part of UWC (29.07.2023)
- > Admit the Ukrainian Community in the City of Gothenburg in Sweden to UWC as a Ukrainian national organization (7.10.2023)
- > Welcome the renewal of activities of the World Congress of Ukrainian Students as a part of UWC (7.10.2023)
- > Admit the "Ukrainians of Aegean Region" Organization in Bodrum, Turkey to UWC as an associate member (7.10.2023)
- > Admit the NGO "Ukrainian Community in Lebanon" to UWC as an associate member (7.10.2023)
- > Welcome the Foundation for the Ukrainian Community of Malta to UWC's network as a supporting organization (7.10.2023)



The Committee on Membership of the UWC was created in March 2020 on the basis of the UWC Committee on the admission of new members. The following members of the UWC Board of Directors were its members: Chair: Jaroslava Hartyányi; Members: UWC Vice Presidents Nataliya Poshvyaylo-Towler, Vira Konyk, Pavlo Sadokha, Jorge Danylyshyn, Tamara Olexy, and Yevheniya Petrova, acting WFUWO Chair.



## Supporting Ukrainian education



The IECC's activities, in line with the vision and objectives we set for ourselves, respond to current challenges and needs, combining basic and traditional methods of educating children due given the circumstances and changes in the teaching process, especially due to Russia's invasion of

Ukraine and the forced displacement of Ukrainians to other regions of Ukraine and countries around the world. It is important to recognize and express our deep gratitude to the teachers and students who have worked and continue to work hard, despite the challenges and trials.

Oksana Levytska  
Chair, International Educational  
Coordinating Council

Addressing the need for educational resources for teachers was an important area of work in 2023. As in previous years, IECC continued to systematically distribute selected thematic resources and educational materials to teachers in diaspora schools.

### Cooperation with the Ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

The International Educational Coordinating Council focused its efforts on developing a strategy for educational work, factoring in specifics of the regions in the countries where Ukrainians live with existing Ukrainian language schools and programs as a top priority. One of the areas of work in regard was the establishment of a representation of Ukrainian educators in the regions of the world to IECC to coordinate work on the issues of Ukrainian education and to develop a strategy for new communities, support the activities of existing ones, and promote the establishment of new educational institutions in the diaspora for the study of the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian studies. In 2023, the work of educators representing UWC regions working in Ukrainian schools, language centers, and clubs intensified significantly.

## Our Projects

### From teachers in Canada to teachers in Ukraine

The "Summer Institute" continued supporting the New Ukrainian School and the reform of the Ukrainian education system. IECC, together with the Education Department of the Humanitarian Policy Department of the Lviv City Council and the Center for Professional Development of Teachers in Lviv, organized the Summer Institute 2023, which took place in Lviv from July 3 to 7, 2023.

The 25th Summer Institute was held in face-to-face and online learning formats with co-teachers from Ukraine and Canada. Course objectives included training teams from schools in Lviv and Poltava region to work on the dissemination of the New Ukrainian School in high school; creating teams for effective change; organizational activities under martial law in terms of security; preserving the health and life of participants of the educational process; sharing and disseminating experience on the principles of integration of education in both primary and high school (grades 5-9) and ensuring the formation of competencies for creating competitive education in Ukraine.



## Commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor genocide



In 2023, UWC led an international campaign and called upon the international community to join Ukrainians around the world in remembrance of the victims of the Holodomor of 1932-1933. This genocide left deep wounds on our nation's body but did not overcome the spirit of its determination to live in dignity and freedom.

UWC's leadership made an official visit to Ukraine to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor genocide. The UWC delegation included UWC President, Paul Grod; UWC Vice President and President of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Andriy Futey; UWC First Vice President and Co-Chair of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations (AFUO), Stefan Romaniw; UWC Vice President for Eastern Europe and President of the Union of Ukrainians in Romania, Mykola-Myroslav Petretskyi; UWC Vice President for Northern Europe, Roman Mykytenko; World Congress of Ukrainian Students President, Roman Grod; Head of the UWC Mission to Ukraine, Andriy Shevchenko; and Director of the UWC Mission to Ukraine, Serhiy Kasyanchuk.



Ukrainian organizations and communities worldwide held hundreds of events to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor. Commemorative events took place in dozens of countries around the world.

UWC leaders took part in a special session of Ukraine's Parliament that was attended by Ukraine's international partners and leaders of the countries that have recognized the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as genocide of the Ukrainian people.



Within the walls of Ukraine's holiest shrine, St. Sophia Cathedral, members of the UWC delegation took the vow to pass on the memory of the Holodomor from generation to generation.

UWC leadership took part in the #ShineALight virtual campaign that saw participants light candles to honor the memories of the millions of Ukrainians who died in the Holodomor of 1932-1933.





Commemorating the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor genocide





## Holodomor Descendants' Network



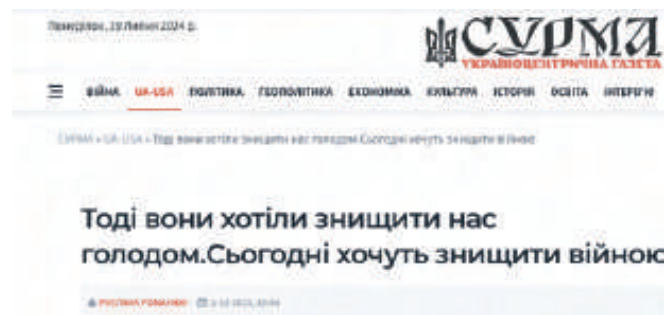
In 2023, the Holodomor Descendants' Network (HDN) developed and executed a "We Remember" project aligned with its two primary objectives: honoring the memory of the millions who perished during the Holodomor and commemorating and preserving the experiences of those who survived this tragedy.

Marking the 90th anniversary of the Holodomor genocide, the Holodomor Descendants Network (HDN) has introduced "We Remember," an eleven-part series of Student Oral Histories. This series focuses on the experiences of descendant families during the Holodomor, offering a profound insight into their personal histories. Students from Ukrainian Schools in the diaspora in grades 8 - 11 were invited to participate by interviewing a Holodomor Descendant and capturing the interview on video. In collaboration with Kontakt TV, the series was broadcast weekly for ten weeks, culminating in the global commemoration of the Holodomor on November 25, 2023.



**ACCESS**  
**«WE REMEMBER»**  
**on KONTAKT TV!**  
SUNDAYS 4:00 PM ET

The series was accessible to audiences on various platforms, including the HDN website, Facebook, YouTube, and Kontakt's YouTube Channel. HDN supported campaign to urge legislatures to recognize the Holodomor as a genocide and to urgently send the committed military aid to Ukraine and a campaign for revocation of Walter Duranty's Pulitzer Prize. Led by the General Counsel of Ukraine in Chicago, HDN consulted on the program for a Holodomor Conference and exhibit held at the Holocaust Museum in Skokie (Chicago suburb) in November.



### Media presence:

- > Radio Survey - Nationwide Marathon "Suspilne. Resistance" KYIV - May 11, 2023
- > Kyiv Post survey on the 90th Holodomor anniversary preparations - June 2023

### Speeches:

- > "Holodomor-Genocide and its transgenerational effects for the Ukrainian Nation" - International Holodomor Conference, KYIV - November 22, 2023 (sponsored by the Holodomor Museum, Institute of National Memory)

[Read more](#)





## UWC World Sports Committee activities



The year 2023 has been quite busy for the Sports Committee at UWC. This is a team made up of 8 individuals from Canada, the USA, Europe, and Australia. We have 2 main objectives: to develop local sporting communities and work to support the many Ukrainian sports teams and athletes. During this second year of the War in Ukraine, the Ukrainian sports community cooperated and relied on the help of the Ukrainian worldwide diaspora.



Many Ukrainian athletes train and live outside of Ukraine due to the destruction of their homes and training facilities. The diaspora has embraced these Ukrainian athletes allowing them to train and compete without financial difficulties.

**Renata Roman**  
Chair, UWC World Sport Commission

In January 2023, the Ukrainian Hockey team U25 came to Canada to compete against the hockey university teams in Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, and Winnipeg. This was very well attended to sold-out arenas, TV coverage, and fundraising, which went to humanitarian aid via Canada Ukraine Foundation humanitarian projects. This team traveled to Lake Placid, USA, to compete in the Winter World University Games. In February, Ukrainian hockey players (under 13) played in tournaments in Quebec City. A generous Quebec businessman arranged for their trip and stay. In the summer

In March, the Junior World Figure Skating Championships were held in Calgary, with Ukrainian athletes attending. Two weeks before a generous offer came in from Toronto to give them free ice time to practice as their rink in Kyiv was destroyed. The local hromada helped out with accommodations and support. The Paris team won the Silver medal.



In July, Canadian Friends of Hockey in Ukraine held a yearly Golf tournament in Winnipeg to raise funds for sports and, this year, humanitarian aid for Ukraine. This successful event had over 100 participants, including a former professional NHL player.



USCAK Sports Organization organized the annual Ukrainian Heritage Day in October during a NHL hockey (New Jersey Devils) game and another event at NBA basketball game (Philadelphia 76ers) with the singing of the Ukrainian anthem and dancing of the Hopak. A lot of Blue & Yellow flags!

[Read more](#)





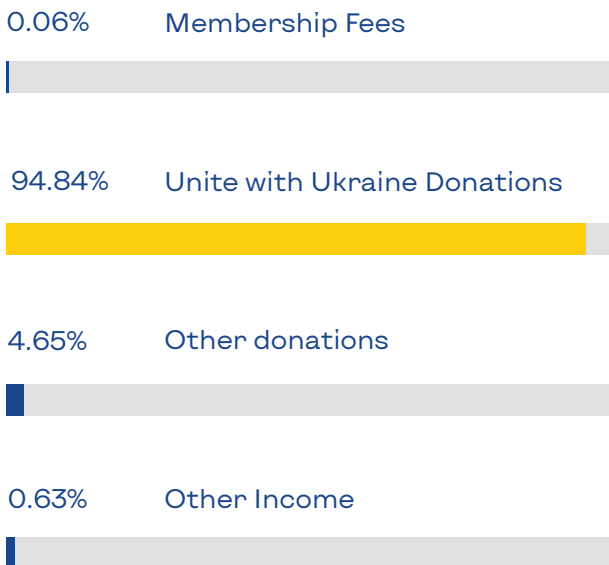
# Finances. Increasing efficiency



“After the first year of full-scale war and the ninth year of the Russian invasion, we bow low to everyone who supported Ukraine and UWC’s initiatives aimed at assisting the Armed Forces, rebuilding, and support on the international arena. Thank you to our generous donors for every dollar, euro and cent contributed to Ukraine’s victory.”

With great thanks,  
**Dr. George Huculak**  
 UWC Vice President for Development and Fundraising

## UWC Revenue Structure for Financial Year 2023, \$ CAD



## UWC Revenue/Expenses Financial Years 2022 & 2023\*, \$ CAD 2022

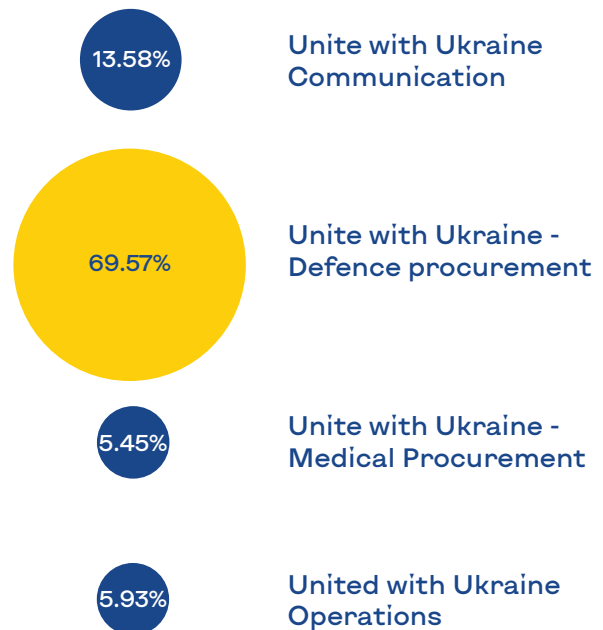
Revenue 25, 147, 427

Expenses 23, 956, 938

### 2023

Revenue 20,925,648

Expenses 19,752,779



## UWC Expenses, Financial Year 2023\*, \$ CAD

Expenses 2023  
 19,752,779

