



Events Leading Up to the Establishment of USUF

September 1989, McConnells Meet Rukh in Kyiv: Upon learning about the formation of the Popular Movement for the Restructuring in Ukraine (Rukh), the McConnells traveled to Kyiv and joined over 1,000 delegates in demanding greater political and economic sovereignty. Among other things, Rukh's platform called for political and economic sovereignty, reversal of decades of Russification of Ukraine, protection for the environment, and protection of the rights of national minorities and ethnic groups. Interestingly, Rukh was made up of a unique and wide range of individuals including reform-minded members of the Communist Party as well as opposition figures who had served time in the Gulags.

7-11 October 1989, Yavorivsky Plants the Seeds for USUF: Volodymyr Yavorivsky (a Communist and a People's Deputy to the Supreme Rada of the Soviet Union, who was also a member of Rukh) came to Washington to speak at the annual conference of the Washington Group. He talked about Rukh and the changes taking place in Ukraine. At a dinner on what turned out to be Volodymyr Yavorivsky's 47th birthday, he asked if Nadia and Bob might be able to do two things: (a) put together congressional observers to come to Ukraine and observe the upcoming March elections for Verkhovna Rada (Ukraine's parliament) as that election would be the first genuinely contested election in Soviet times, and (b) put together a program for Rada Deputies who would be elected in March to learn about the American system of governance. Yavorivsky said they would not necessarily want to copy American governance, but they knew they had never been told the truth about the American system and would like to learn. These conversations and other information convinced Nadia that something significant was taking place in the Soviet Union, especially in Ukraine.

22 January 1990, Nadia Participates in Rukh Human Chain: Nadia traveled to Ukraine to participate in Rukh's Human Chain - a chain of volunteers that stretched around 550 kilometers (340 miles) all the way from the city of Lviv to Ukraine's capital of Kyiv. While in Ukraine Nadia met and began a close relationship with the leadership of Rukh, especially Ivan Drach and Mykhailo Horyn. The trip solidified her belief that major changes were underway especially with the strategic leadership of Rukh.

January-March 1990. McConnells Assemble Congressional Delegation to Monitor Elections: Nadia and Bob set about to meet Yavorivsky's first request. They set about putting together a delegation from Congress to travel to Ukraine as observers to the March election. Eventually, Bob had 14 Members of Congress committed to travel to Ukraine as observers of the election, and arrangements were made. As Bob was packing to leave for the airport delegation sponsor Senator DeConcini called him to say that the Congressional delegation scheduled to observe the upcoming Ukrainian elections was on its way back to the Capital from Joint Base Andrews. Although the flight had previously been cleared to enter the Soviet Union and land at Kyiv's Boryspil Airport, the Soviet Union had withdrawn permission at the last minute; the flight would be denied permission to enter Soviet airspace. The McConnells had tried to fulfill Yavorivsky's first request but a Congressional delegation of observers was not to be.

March 1990, McConnells Observe Elections and Meet with Rukh: Already in Kyiv to prepare for the canceled Congressional visit, Nadia met with a number of other American-Ukrainians who had separately traveled to observe the election. Bob then flew to Ukraine and joined Nadia in observing voting in numerous polling stations throughout Kyiv. They also spent significant time with Drach and Horyn and the Grand Council of Rukh. A good number of Rukh members were elected to the Verkhovna Rada (Rada) and Nadia and Bob attended and participated in a number of meetings where Rukh's next steps were discussed.

McConnells Witness Rukh's Condemnation of the Communist Party: Nadia and Bob were witnesses to the drafting and signing of the Grand Council of Rukh's document condemning the Communist Party for its decades of Soviet governance. As part of the signing of that document by Rukh leadership who were members of the Communist Party, they resigned their membership as well as condemned the Party for a litany of past deeds.

McConnells Bring Rada Deputies to the U.S.: The McConnells also continued to pursue Yavorivsky's second request, the bringing of new Rada Deputies to the United States to study the American government. Initially using Nadia's small public relations firm, NKM & Associates, and bringing in Indiana University through people the McConnells knew there, they received a United States Information Agency (USIA) grant for a Program on the American System of Governance. For the two-week program – the first ever to bring representatives of a single republic of the Soviet Union to the United States – the McConnells brought over a delegation of 13 members of the Rada which included the top leaders of Rukh and two members of the Communist Party who would both later be chairmen of the Rada. The tightly scheduled program studied state and local government in Indiana and the federal system in Washington. The delegation met with many officials including federal Executive Branch officials, Chairmen of Congressional committees, and Supreme Court Justice O'Connor as well as many staff people who explained the American system of governance. This delegation changed a lot of minds. Officials like Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Lee Hamilton (D-IN), who saw that not only members of Rukh but prominent Communist Deputies wanted independence from the Kremlin and that they all assured listeners that, despite the Kremlin-inspired propaganda forecasts in the media, Ukraine's independence would not lead to civil war nor divide Ukraine itself, made a 180-degree change in his position on Ukrainian independence.

September 1990, McConnells Arrange Horyn Visit: At the request of Rukh, Bob and Nadia arranged a high-level visit to Washington for Mykhailo Horyn, now a Deputy in the Rada and a former prisoner of the Gulag, who was second in command of Rukh. Horyn had meetings with five members of President George H.W. Bush's Cabinet as well as numerous members of Congress and spoke at numerous think tanks and NGOs. Horyn educated many on Rukh, its approach, and its principles. He changed many minds about what was happening and gained strong support from, among others, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney, Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Jack Kemp, and influential Members of Congress like Senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ) and Frank Wolf (R-VA).

1991, USUF Officially Incorporated: In 1991, USUF was officially incorporated as a non-profit organization in the State of Virginia.

Spring 1991, USUF Opens Kyiv Office, Only Permanent American Presence: Nadia realized to assure fiscally responsible management of projects, you also needed a day-to-day presence in Ukraine. Thus, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation opened a small office in Kyiv to represent the Foundation in Ukraine. At the time, Ukraine was still part of the Soviet Union and the Foundation was the only permanent American presence in Ukraine for a time. Early representatives included Irene Jarosevich and Jon Gunderson.

30 Years of USUF

1991, Conference for Ukrainian Legislators: USUF assisted the organization of the Conference on the American System of Governance for Ukrainian Legislators. The Delegation was headed by Ivan Pliushch, First Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Rada of the Ukrainian SSR.

1991-present, Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy: To create a companion domestic organization that would be governed by different local regulations the Foundation created the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy (POID). The name was chosen because Pylyp Stepanovych Orlyk, (1672-1742) was a Zaporozhian Cossack starshyna, Hetman of Ukraine who, among other things established a constitution for Ukraine. The Orlyk constitution established a democratic standard for the separation of powers in government between the legislative, executive, and judiciary branches, well before the publication of Montesquieu's Spirit of the Laws. The Constitution limited the executive authority of the hetman, and established a democratically elected Cossack parliament called the General Council. Pylyp Orlyk's Constitution was unique for its historic period and was one of the first state constitutions in Europe. In those early years of light beginning to shine into Ukraine from beyond the Iron Curtain the Foundation wanted to send a message that Ukraine did not have to look west to find democratic roots, it had its own proud heritage to build upon. Through its programs and activities, POID aims to help revive Ukrainian democratic traditions and to assist in the consolidation of free-market democracy in Ukraine. It provides Ukrainian policymakers with information on public policy issues, such as democracy, democratic institutions, the development of civil society, and free-market economics to help educate decision-makers.

May 1992, McConnells Secure Visit for President Kravchuk: The McConnells succeeded in getting what was originally scheduled as a "working visit" of Ukraine's first President Leonid Kravchuk upgraded to include things like a formal Department of State luncheon hosted by Secretary of State James Baker and a visit with President George H.W. Bush at Camp David. (The latter so coveted within Washington's diplomatic community caused Russia's ambassador to register an official protest.)

July 1992, Ukraine's First Defense Minister Morozov Visits Pentagon: With the support of leaders involved in Ukraine 2000, the Foundation played a significant role in having Ukraine's First Defense Minister Kostyantyn Morozov be the first defense minister from any former Soviet Republic (including Russia), to have an official visit to Washington (the Pentagon).

ND, Window on the West Newsletter: Prior to independence and for a period after independence the Foundation continually established long-range relationships and—given the extraordinary communications limitations of the times—did its best to provide timely news from the West to Deputies in the Rada and others. This filled a critical information vacuum. Early each morning for months, American newspapers were reviewed and articles about or of interest to Ukraine were typed into a laptop computer (sometimes with explanatory analysis) and emailed (this was before Internet service was available and so-called "emailing" was both complicated and expensive) to the Foundation's Kyiv office where the reports were translated and distributed. First, that newsletter, Window on the West, was distributed to Rukh headquarters and the Rada and then, eventually had a wider distribution. This continued until the barriers blocking Western news availability came down.

1994-1999, USAID Parliamentary Development Program Grant: Together IU and the Foundation were granted funding for a multi-year USAID Parliamentary Development Program to assist the Rada in transitioning from essentially a Kremlin puppet to a genuine legislative body. The project educated and assisted the newly independent Ukraine's Parliament members, engaging them in five working groups to design and propose changes in the Verkhovna Rada procedures and structures focusing on Budget

Process, Legislative and Executive Relations, Commission Structure and Operations, Citizen Relations, Legislative Processes. Key to the success of the program was that all Rada Deputies were treated equally. Whether Communist or reformers from Rukh, requests for information or analysis were honored and assistance was provided on everything from committee structures to budgeting and providing comparative examples from other governments. While knowing there were many significant needs at the federal level in Ukraine, it was determined that the greatest opportunity for fundamental reform was at the local level.

1994, USUF Study Tour by Ukrainian Judges: USUF helped coordinate a Study Tour by Ukrainian Judges. The delegation was led by Dmytro Prytko, head of the Higher Arbitration Court of Ukraine.

April 1995, PDP First Conference: The Parliamentary Development Project hosted its first major conference in Kyiv, entitled “Policy Development Conference on the Separation of Powers and Power Authority in Times of Social and Economic Crisis.” It was attended by over 100 participants from all branches of the Ukrainian government, academics, Western representatives, and members of the press. In general, participants rated the conference very highly and found the subject matter to be highly relevant in light of the recent debate on President Kuchma’s draft Power Bill.

1995-1996, NGO Project: Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development through the Rule of Law Consortium, the one-year initiative *Advancing the Role of NGOs in a Rule of Law Society* helped NGOs become constructive players in the development of public policy. The project aimed to take advantage of the contacts with the Verkhovna Rada established through other USUF programs to bring about direct, two-way communication between the Ukrainian public and its policymakers. In 1996, workshops on organizational development and public relations were attended by a cross-section of citizen groups, including environmental, human rights, educational, and women’s rights groups.

1995-1997, Local Government Project: This two-year project designed to strengthen the capacity of local government practitioners to be effective agents of change received its support from The Pew Charitable Trusts and Westminster Foundation for Democracy of London, England. With the support of the Kyiv office of The Eurasia Foundation, three series of interactive workshops for local government officials in public administration, personnel management, service delivery, public land management and citizen relations took place in twelve Ukrainian cities. The training foci emanated from an assessment of local government in Ukraine that was conducted in September 1995, based on 50 hours of structured interviews with mayors, city council members, and professional staffers in various Ukrainian communities. The training was coordinated by POID with the cooperation of Rutgers University and its Center for Russian, Central, and East European Studies.

1996-1997, Chornobyl 2000: This was an international informational initiative, supported by individual contributions, to assist in the shutdown of the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant and make Ukraine energy independent by the year 2000. Chornobyl 2000 seeks to underscore the global environmental and economic aspects of those issues by encouraging concerned individuals and organizations to build public support in the G-7 countries so that the obligations made with Ukraine in December 1995 will be met. In this regard, the Foundation acts as an informational clearinghouse and has hosted several roundtables on energy-related issues on Capitol Hill.

1997, Lawrence Livermore and RedZone Robotics Agreement: USUF sponsored and hosted a signing ceremony for an agreement between the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and RedZone Robotics, Inc. to advance the design of a prototype Ukrainian robot for clean-up of radioactive waste.

1997-1998, Integrating the Constitutional Court of Ukraine into Civil Society: This project sought to inform Ukraine’s citizenry and governmental entities on how the newly formed Constitutional Court of Ukraine functions to protect the constitutional rights and liberties of Ukrainians, thus helping to affirm the

principle of the rule of law. The project was supported by the United States Information Agency and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. Two advisory boards, one in the U.S. and one in Ukraine, provided perspective for the project. Seminars were held in several geographic regions on the following topics: requirements and procedures for bringing a case before the Constitutional Court, the relationship between the Court and other governmental institutions on all levels, advancing scholarly research and improving the teaching of constitutional law, and the role of the Constitutional Court in protecting human rights. To broaden the impact of the project, a booklet (*Learn About the Constitutional Court*) was commissioned. Its question and answer format is intended to reach average Ukrainian citizens to inform them about the role and functions of the Constitutional Court.

1997-July 2007, USUF Community Partnership Program: As a result of the success of the prior Parliamentary Development Program. The Foundation developed a proposal for what turned out to be a 10-year [Community Partnership Program](#) (CPP) and, as prime contractor for the first time, the Foundation received funding from the USAID. The CPP brought together 18 mid-size cities in Ukraine and in the United States, each "partnership" designed and pursued an action plan that would be mutually beneficial though focused primarily on the needs and agendas of the Ukrainian cities. In addition to the cities directly involved in CPP, the program established four regional training centers (in Lviv, Cherkasy, Kherson, Kharkiv, and Donetsk) where over 40,000 local government officials received training on democratic governance, strategic planning, citizen engagement, and defense of local legal rights. CPP also contributed to developing local tourism, training effective public affairs practices, and creating social policies to enhance the quality of life in local neighborhoods. CPP was a fabulous success. Even a USAID Inspector General's report reviewing USAID programs in Ukraine included a notation that the Agency had understated CPP's successes. The partners achieved extraordinary success with their work plans, creating a more transparent, open, and professional environment. Beyond that, the fabulous unintended collateral successes in the partnerships multiplied those achievements many times over.

1998, USUkraine.org: USUF opened its website at www.usukraine.org. Current information, in both English and Ukrainian, is available there on the activities of the Foundation.

November 1998-September 2004, Kennan Kyiv Project: Kennan Kyiv project, which furthered social science and humanities in Ukraine, and was supported by the Kennan Institute. The Foundation assisted the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in administering its representative office in Kyiv. Its goal was to recruit new scholars in the social sciences and humanities for grant programs at the Wilson Center and to develop an alumni program for participants in the program. A number of conferences and seminars brought together scholars to share ideas on political, economic, and social development in Ukraine and in the region. A publication program was launched in response to the popularity of these activities. The KKP maintained a full-time Project Director and a staff member who coordinated alumni events, publications, and recruitment activities.

August 1999-2019, Petrach Community Development Project: This fund helps the people of Starij (Old) Dobrotvir, Ukraine. The William Petrach Charitable Trust initially awarded USUF funds to construct a community center and a church rectory in Old Dobrotvir (Lviv Oblast), then petitioned the Circuit Court of Arlington to terminate the trust and distribute the remaining assets to USUF. The court approved the petition and awarded the Foundation \$335,000. USUF established an endowment that targets annual earnings for the year-to-year needs of four community institutions supported by the Petrach Charitable Trust: the community center, elementary school, library, and rectory of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. The fund is known as the Petrach Community Development Fund for Starij Dobrotvir.

2000-2001, Barakov Mine Disaster Support: In response to the tragic March 2000 cave-in at the Barakov Mine, the Foundation created a special *Krasnodon Mine Disaster Fund*. Between 2000 and 2001, \$13,268 was given directly to the families of miners who died or were injured in the disaster.

May 2001, Conference “Ukraine: From Breadbasket to Market Basket for the World”: This conference, held in the Russell Senate Office Building, examined the progress made by Ukraine in the food sector, the role of Western organizations, and the public policy changes necessary to further Ukraine’s development.

2001-2019, Melania Denys Kovaluk Scholarship Fund: USUF and Canada Ukraine Foundation administered a scholarship fund for the benefit of students in the village of Zabolotsky (Lviv Oblast). The Kovaluk Scholarship Fund grew in value every year, providing assistance to a couple of hundred students.

2002-2006, 2008, Annual Youth Leadership Program: This annual special “Washington experience” introduced college students to some of the essential elements of leadership in a week-long program of meetings and discussions at key DC institutions. Through interactions with DC’s leaders, students learned about public policy, the political process, U.S.-Ukraine relations, the importance of the Ukrainian-American community in U.S.-Ukraine affairs, the organizations active in Ukraine, the need for activism, and the wide genre of careers available in Washington. They also gained a greater appreciation of the culture, institutions, and history of Ukraine. This important program addresses the Ukrainian-American community’s need for greater leadership training and political activism for the rising generation. YLP seeks to shape the Ukrainian-American community’s youth for the leadership roles they will take on in the future within the community, U.S. government, and international relations.

2002-2019, Maryniuk Scholarship Fund: The Foundation administered a scholarship fund for the benefit of students in Zheldets, Ukraine (Lviv Oblast). Several students received awards each year, and the Fund’s end-of-year value grew with time. The fund was created by Mr. and Mrs. Andrew and Luba Maryniuk, along with their sons George and Jerome.

June 2002-2007, Kharkiv Soup Kitchen: Due to the support of the William T. Kemper Foundation of Kansas City, USUF made several contributions to provide food to Ukrainians in need in Kharkiv.

2002-2006, CULTURAL REbirth of Ukraine Project: The CURE Project aimed to foster the economic development of the cultural sector in Ukraine by assisting Ukrainian artists with supplies and training to enable them to compete in the marketplace. This project supported over 30 Ukrainian artisans each year.

2004-2006, U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue Project: The Department of State awarded the Foundation funding for its U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue Project. This was a project designed by the Foundation to partner with other U.S. and Ukrainian organizations to advance Ukraine’s Euro-Atlantic integration through collaborative efforts in developing and issuing policy recommendations to both the United States and Ukrainian governments. A series of week-long working sessions were sponsored, during which policymakers and issue experts met one-on-one with counterparts to discuss issues in four areas: foreign policy, governance and politics, economic and business, and media and information. Among other things coming out of this Policy Dialogue was the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition.

July-December 2004, Ukraine Election Project: An extension of the Community Partnership Project, this short-term project educated voters and local government officials on their rights and responsibilities toward bringing about a more credible, transparent, and fair presidential election in Ukraine. This dual effort, consisting of election monitors and a voter education campaign, dealt with the election process throughout the whole period of the campaign. Six delegations of election monitors from the West, consisting of former U.S. Congressmen and former Members of the European Parliament, visited Ukraine. Altogether, 50 election observers went to Ukraine under the auspices of the project. Prior to the actual voting, observers evaluated campaign practices in Ukraine, including registration procedures, logistical preparations, and media coverage. The last two delegations observed actual voting practices and

witnessed the dramatic events surrounding the Orange Revolution in Kyiv. Starting in August 2004, *Znayu! (I Know!)* conducted voter education and mobilization activities through regional coordinators in 12 central, eastern, and southern oblasts and through partner organizations in 6 eastern and western oblasts. Legal consultation and information were provided to individuals from all 24 oblasts and Crimea via a toll-free hotline, which registered over 40,000 calls, and via several hundred email responses. More than 5,000,000 informational print materials were distributed by volunteers. Public service announcements were broadcast on 4 national TV channels and over 100 regional radio stations.

2004-2019, Zapytiv Community Development Fund: A fund to support Zapytiv, a community near Lviv, was established by the Boyko Family--Michael and his daughters Olena and Lieda. The main project included financial support provision for the construction of a library.

2004-2007, Zhovka Community Development Fund: An initiative to assist Zhovka in Lvivska oblast began in 2004 with the financial support of Mr. E. Klymko. In 2005, an Internet Resource Center was constructed, and support of the resource center continued into the following years. In 2007, a grant was provided to the Zhovka Children's Center.

2005-present, Travel to Ukraine Initiative: The Foundation continues to promote Ukraine as a travel destination through its popular Travel to Ukraine website and Facebook page. The Foundation also sponsors a Ukraine Booth at the annual New York Times Travel Show, which draws about 30,000 visitors and industry professionals. The New York Times Travel Show is considered the largest and most prestigious annual travel exhibition in the United States. Ukraine's popularity as a tourist destination continues to grow, which has important implications for the country's further economic development. The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has long seen travel and tourism as a relatively straightforward way to boost Ukraine's economy as well as its image on the world stage.

23 March 2006, Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition Formed: Several Policy Dialogue task forces identified Ukraine's graduation from the Jackson-Vanik Amendment as a priority for strengthening U.S.-Ukraine relations. As a result, a coalition created by USUF, co-chaired by Ambassadors Seven Pifer and William Miller, and including more than 300 businesses and American-Ukrainian, American-Jewish, and other non-governmental organizations was formed. H.R. 1053, signed into law by President George W. Bush authorized the Extension of Nondiscriminatory Treatment to the Products of Ukraine.

2006, Ukraine Election Project: A component of the Community Partnerships Project, this revival of the 2004 project educated voters and local officials on their rights and responsibilities toward bringing about a more credible, transparent, and fair parliamentary election in Ukraine. This effort, consisting of election monitors and a voter education campaign (called *Znayu!*, meaning, I know!), demonstrates USUF's unique involvement in Ukraine and its election process. Election monitors from the U.S., consisting of former U.S. Congressmen, visited Ukraine in March 2006 for Ukraine's Parliamentary election.

2006-2008, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Project: The USUF Program for Management Modernization was designed to assist the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in its stated goals of improving its personnel management systems. The project supported efforts within Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to design and install more effective systems for rotating personnel between domestic and foreign assignments, the recruitment and placement of foreign service professionals, training, managing the performance of personnel, and strategic planning. The Ministry instituted changes to move towards a more merit-based foreign service system. The principal work of the project was conducted by dedicated task forces established within the Ministry to develop concrete solutions to the problems identified jointly by Ministry officials and U.S. project specialists. Members of the task forces visited Washington to observe how their problems are addressed by the U.S. government. The program sought to engage the participation of senior officials of U.S. Government agencies, such as the U.S. Department of State, the

United States Agency for International Development, the Office of Personnel Management, the Federal Labor Relations Authority, the Merit Systems Protection Board, the Office of Government Ethics, and the Office of Special Counsel. This project was generously funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Fund for Democracy and Development.

2005-2008, People's Voice Project: The overall objective of this World Bank initiative was to improve the skills and capacity of local government officials through the facilitation of a series of training sessions for local government representatives in each of the six project cities under the auspices of the People's Voice Project--Alchevsk, Chernihiv, Kolomyia, Komsomolsk, Lutsk, and Makiyivka. Since initiatives developed by the NGO community and citizens can only be successfully implemented if the local administration has the capacity to address concerns and inadequacies raised by the community, it was important that the government officials also received training that helped them develop mechanisms that address common problems. Thirty-six training sessions were conducted over a six-month project by a local organization with qualified trainers and experience in carrying out such training. Based upon consultations with local project coordinators, a number of areas were identified where training/guidance was required in order to improve the skills and capacity of local officials. Training was provided in the following six areas: strategic planning, local economic development, and budgeting, citizen participation in decision-making, communal housing services, human resource management, and social and humanitarian policy development. These skills served as a focal point for their potential future activities on developing policies and strategies in different sectors that address deficiencies and issues raised by the local community, in some situations related to other People's Voice activities.

2006-2019, Sutaruk Scholarship Fund: USUF received funding from the Sutaruk Foundation of Michigan to establish the Sutaruk Scholarship Fund for the benefit of hundreds of student scholarships in Dubno (Rivne oblast), Netishyn, and Slavuta (Khmelnyskyi oblast). The Fund also provided an environmental award to Dobrotvir and thousands of dollars worth of books to local public schools.

2006, 2008-2010, Andrew Kun Scholarships: Several students who resided in Volya Zhovtanetska, who attended the Zheldets school aided by the USUF Books for Libraries Project, received scholarships to support their education.

2007-2009, MSI-PACE Project: The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation served as a subgrantee to Management Systems International in the USAID-funded project, Promoting Active Citizen Engagement in Combating Corruption in Ukraine. USUF personnel assisted MSI in various areas: media programming, project communication, and the production of informational materials.

2007-2021, Open World Project: Funded by the Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress, Open World is designed to enhance understanding and capabilities for cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eastern Europe, Eurasia, and the Baltic States by developing a network of leaders in the region who have gained significant, firsthand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and free-market systems. Through the Foundation's Open World Projects, Ukrainian local government officials attended 9-10 day training programs on Accountable Governance or NGO Development, organized and hosted by the Foundation's partners in major cities across the U.S.

2007-2012, Summer Work Travel: Through the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation was designated as a sponsor of the Exchange Visitor Program (Summer Work/Travel). Nearly 4,300 university students participated in the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Summer Work Travel Program.

2008-2018, Ukraine Mathematics Award: The Shevchenko Scientific Society of America and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation annually sponsored a mathematics competition for young mathematicians in Ukraine.

2010-2015, Market of Ukraine: The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation ran a business development section of its website.

2011-2015, Ukraine 2020 Policy Dialogue: The Department of State awarded the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation a second policy dialogue grant, the Ukraine 2020 Policy Dialogue, which was an initiative to develop an ongoing platform for experts and officials in Ukraine and the United States, and Europe to exchange ideas and build a common vision in support of Ukraine's development as a modern, prosperous and secure European democracy. The initiative had three important components – Policy Dialogue, Advancing Ukraine's Image and Competitiveness, and People-to-People Exchanges. Policymakers from both Ukraine and the United States met in several meetings during the course of the program, most notably in Kyiv in June 2012. On September 28, 2012, the Ukraine 2020 Policy Dialogue Recommendations were released at a public event hosted by The Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. The four Task Forces of the Ukraine 2020 – Policy Dialogue Project made presentations at the International Conference: Leadership in a Global World, held in Washington, DC on November 30 and December 1, 2012. Approximately 150 government, businesses, and NGO leaders attended each day.

8 February 2011, Open World National Grantee of Merit Award: USUF was presented with the 2011 National Grantee of Merit Award by the Open World Leadership Center during a gala reception at the Library of Congress. The award was accepted by Foundation President Nadia Komarnyckyj McConnell. In her acceptance speech, Nadia thanked Dr. Billington and the Open World Leadership Center for their support, and attributed the Foundation's success to its staff, the local partnering organizations, and the "hundreds of Americans, particularly non-hyphenated American volunteers, who welcome our guests from Ukraine [in their homes] ... and let them see the best of America."

1 December 2011, 20th Anniversary of Independence Gala: To celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence, honor the people of Ukraine, and support Ukraine's Democratic Choice, USUF hosted a major gala featuring a variety of presenters, distinguished guests, and major honorees. Themes included Ukraine's Contribution to a Nuclear-Free World, Ukraine's Contribution to Art, Science, Sports & Entertainment, and the Role of Business in Ukraine's Development & Corporate Social Responsibility. The honorees included President George H.W. Bush, President Leonid M. Kravchuk, President Aleksandr Kwasniewski, Ivan Drach, Liliya Podkopayeva, and Ruslana. Seven companies working in Ukraine received Corporate Social Responsibility awards.

2011, Webcast Presentations Begin: Starting in 2011, it became standard practice for USUF to webcast its presentations to the public.

2012-2015: The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation partnered with the Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility Development, Ukraine to promote Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) both in Ukraine as well as in the United States. Jointly, USUF and CSR worked with civil society groups and key volunteers with the aim of improving medical care for the many injured from Ukraine's conflict in the eastern regions.

30 November-1 December 2012, Ukraine in Washington 2012: USUF hosted an international conference and gala awards dinner to celebrate the people of Ukraine and their achievements as well as Ukraine's leadership in a global world. Honorees included the Quad Squad, Lubomyr Romankiw, Volodymyr Horbulin, Leonid Kadenyuk, Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, Taras Lewyckyj, and Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, and Maksim Chmerkovskiy and many other distinguished guests were in attendance.

2012-2013, 40 Under 40 Initiative: The [40 Under 40 Initiative](#) was designed to identify 40 outstanding Ukrainians under the age of 40 who demonstrate leadership within their profession while making a significant contribution to the development of their community and Ukraine. Those selected represented a cross-section of professions and regions of Ukraine. The 40 Under 40 Emerging Leaders Initiative was featured as part of the Leadership in a Global World Conference.

12-13 December 2013, Ukraine in Washington 2013: USUF hosted an international conference and gala awards dinner to celebrate the people of Ukraine and their achievements as well as Ukraine's leadership in a global world. Honorees included Virko Baley, Kvitka Cisykm Paul Plishka, and Peter Yarrow. Those presenting in concert included the Ukrainian Chorus of Washington DC, Roman Lopatynsky, Stefania Dovhan, Pavlo Tabakov, and Bethand & Rufus. Many other distinguished guests were in attendance.

2014-Present, Friends of Ukraine Network: Arising from the two State Department-funded policy dialogue projects came the Foundation's idea for its Friends of Ukraine Network (FOUN – which remains active today, sustained by private funds). FOUN is a non-partisan coalition of former ambassadors, leading policy and international security professionals, and other experts who have dealt with key aspects of Ukraine's relations with the United States and the international community. As an informal coalition FOUN responds to current issue priorities by engaging experts with relevant expertise as needed. Among other efforts, FOUN releases and promotes annual recommendations advising U.S. policymakers.

18 March 2014, People Power vs Putin: Singer Ruslana, in cooperation with USUF, Lazarus, LLC, and R.A. McConnell & Associates promoted the new "People Power vs Putin" public information campaign. Watch here: [youtube.com/watch?v=MmC52yu1Yqs&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MmC52yu1Yqs&feature=youtu.be). Ruslana continued her campaign to increase media attention by participating in the Women in the World Summit in NYC in April.

30 March 2016, Ukraine in Washington 2016: USUF hosted an international conference and gala to focus on U.S.-Ukraine strategies and the ongoing battle for Ukraine's Freedom at the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center. Major speakers included President Poroshenko, First Lady of Georgia Sandra Roelofs, President, and CEO of World Affairs Councils of America Bill Clifford, and more.

10 October 2014, Meeting Committee for Strategies for Ukraine's Defense and Future: An Ad Hoc Committee, composed of representatives from Ukrainian-American organizations in the Washington, DC area, met for the first time to discuss and pursue "strategies for Ukraine's defense & future." The 2+ hour meeting included such organizations as the Center for U.S.-Ukrainian Relations, U.S.- Ukraine Business Council, Razom, The Washington Group, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America/UNIS Office, Ukrainian National Women's League of America (via Skype conferencing), USUF, and others.

14 November 2014, Field Commanders in Washington Call for Support of Ukraine: A group of "field commanders" of Ukraine's volunteer outfits attended a round-table discussion at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation today. They are known as the heroes who saved the country from a military defeat last summer in the face of Russia's invasion. The celebrated guests met with a stellar panel of experts and civic leaders who comprise the Friends of Ukraine network in the Nation's Capital.

29 April 2015, Major Humanitarian Aid Dispatched: The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Humanitarian Aid Program, under the coordination of Tetyana Neeley, dispatched a 40-foot tractor-trailer load of medical supplies weighing 20 tons and valued between \$300,000 - \$350,000 for Ukraine from the Fairfax County regional office of the Brother's Brother Foundation.

August 2016, New USUF Initiative - Supporting Small Business in Ukraine: USUF signed a memorandum of cooperation with the Business Community Club (BCC), a Ukrainian national small-business association headquartered in Lviv. The project aimed to support small business development by deepening communication and cooperation between U.S. small businesses (including Ukrainian diaspora entrepreneurs) and their counterparts in Ukraine. Through joint activities, USUF and BCC educated small businesspersons and authorities in Ukraine about small business sensibilities and best practices in the U.S. as well as policies/entities in the U.S. that foster small business development.

14 September 2016, Ukraine in Washington: USUF hosted a Ukraine in Washington conference at the Capitol Visitor Center, Congressional Meeting Room North. The theme for this year's conference was "Supporting the People of Ukraine: Confronting Putin and Building the Future."

23-29 October 2016, Sounding the Alarm for Ukraine and Europe: USUF and partners joined together to Sound the Alarm for Ukraine & Europe, a week-long grassroots advocacy campaign conducted nation-wide for the purpose of contacting Presidential and Congressional candidates to underscore that it is in the U.S. interest that Ukraine succeed.

2017-Present, USUF BioUkraine Initiative: The BioUkraine Biotechnology Initiative is aimed at highlighting the biotech capabilities of Ukraine, establishing strong scientific links between the U.S. and Ukraine, to help identify leading scientists and entrepreneurs in Ukraine's biotech sector, and to facilitate business development in the biotech sector between the U.S. and Ukraine. Particular effort is being placed on identifying and assisting promising start-ups as well as on the provision of travel grants for biotech professionals. This project has been made possible through the support of Ms. Irene K. Joseph, co-founder of the biotechnology company Cygnus Technologies.

14 March 2018, FOUN Discussion of the Militarization of Crimea: The Friends of Ukraine Network (FOUN) met to discuss measures that can be taken to challenge Russia's occupation and militarization of Crimea, focus attention on widespread human rights violations on the annexed peninsula and, eventually, return Crimea to Ukrainian sovereignty. The gathering, held under Chatham House rules, was initiated by the Embassy of Ukraine in the USA and hosted by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

20 March 2018, Delegation of Ukrainian Women and Rep. Kaptur Visit: A delegation of Ukrainian women, who came to the U.S. to participate in a United Nations gender equality forum, met with USUF and with Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-OH) at her Capitol Hill office. The women, who are NGO activists and business entrepreneurs from the Odesa, Donetsk, Cherkasy, and Kyiv oblasts of Ukraine, emphasized the importance of increasing women's participation in political decision-making and economic development at the regional and local level, with special emphasis on rural areas of the country.

14 June 2018, U.S.-Ukraine Working Group Yearly Summit: The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation took part in the 6th U.S.- Ukraine Working Group Yearly Summit held in Washington, DC and organized by the Center for U.S.-Ukrainian Relations. USUF President Nadia K. McConnell spoke on a panel titled "Viable Social Cohesion - Assessing Ukraine's Progress/Regress." Ambassador Roman Popadiuk, Chairman of the Board of USUF and the USA's first ambassador to Ukraine, moderated a session on "Developed Market Economics." Orest Deychakiwsky, Vice-Chair of the Board of USUF and former Helsinki Commission policy advisor, moderated a discussion on "Robust Democratic Politics."

1 December 2018, FOUN Sends Letter to Pompeo on Black/Azov Seas: In the aftermath of Russia's attack on and seizure of three Ukrainian naval ships and their crews in the Kerch strait area on November 25, 2018, the National Security Task Force of FOUN transmitted a letter to U.S. Secretary of State Michael Pompeo on behalf of the group.

6 December 2018, USUF Joins AmCham to Promote Biotech: USUF representatives attended the annual U.S. Chamber of Commerce members meeting - and learned that membership has clear benefits. "Being a part of AmCham provides the Foundation with access to a whole network of resources that can help us implement USUF projects," according to Mr. Bilynskyj. "We are delighted to be part of AmCham," said USUF Board Chairman Roman Popadiuk. "AmCham provides another platform from which the Foundation can continue its work in helping build Ukraine's future. Our new biotech initiative is aimed at assisting young experts and start-ups to develop their capabilities and AmCham has the business acumen and membership to greatly assist in this process. I am especially pleased that in our conversations with AmCham there was enthusiasm to be involved in the biotech initiative."

23 January 2019, 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan: Ambassador Roman Popadiuk, Chairman of the USUF Board, and Robert A. McConnell, USUF's External Relations Advisor, met with Congressman Bill Flores (R-TX) to discuss the humanitarian situation in Ukraine. They emphasized the need for increased international funding, particularly since only 38% of the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan for Ukraine has been funded. Congressman Flores was presented with an FOUN initiative that calls for utilizing DoD logistical capabilities and personnel to assist in ameliorating the humanitarian crisis and for helping in demining operations. The initiative has been shared with other congressional offices as well as DoD officials. Representative Flores stressed his interest in Ukraine and agreed to be helpful in any way possible regarding the situation in Ukraine and to stay in contact regarding developments.

20 March 2019, Leadership in a Rule of Law Country: USUF in collaboration with Rep. Marcy Kaptur, Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, Rep. Andy Harris, and Rep. Mike Quigley hosted a forum in the U.S. Capitol considering the importance of leadership and of empowering women entrepreneurs. To view video comments by Rusty Brooks and Nadia McConnell at the Capitol Hill forum, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BApN1NkhE2Q>.

2 April 2019, USUF Biotech Co-Sponsors University Biotech Competition: Forty talented students came to Lviv to compete in the second round of the annual Ukrainian Student Biotechnology and Bioengineering Competition organized and hosted by the Lviv Polytechnic University under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. After opening remarks, the participants broke into sections where the students presented their research and responded to questions from the jury - professors and representatives of the competition's sponsors: Yuria Pharm Pharmaceutical Corporation, Sfera Sim, Enzym Company, USUF Biotech Initiative, BioPharma Cluster Lviv, and UpToFuture.

11-12 April 2019: USUF Makes Debut at Kyiv Security Forum: The Kyiv Security Forum - an initiative of the Open Ukraine Foundation- is arguably the preeminent annual event of its kind in Ukraine. The Forum examines how pressing international issues affect Ukraine and consistently features principal foreign policy and security experts as well as former and serving high-level officials from the Euro-Atlantic community. Foundation President Nadia McConnell participated in a panel entitled "Ukraine and the West: What to Expect Now?" The panel was virtually unanimous that Ukraine deserved more support in fighting Russian aggression and Nadia's provocative observations were well received by the audience and in great measure set the tone for the panel's spirited discussion.

2019-present, Made in Ukraine Tech Startup Edition: Made in Ukraine Tech Startup Edition, a monthly podcast series on Ukrainian start-ups, is regularly featured in the Foundation's newsletters. The podcasts are produced and hosted by Mike Buryk, a member of the Foundation's Board of Advisors and a long-time Foundation supporter and business development advisor.

--THE HISTORY OF USUF THROUGH 2020--