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Ukrainian military says it hit Shahed storage facility in southern Russia

As Kharkiv reels from Russian strikes and NATO warns of rough winter ahead



Serhii Nuzhnenko/RadioSvoboda.org via RFE/RL

A Ukrainian soldier fires at Russian positions using an American M777 howitzer near the front line of the Donetsk region in an undated file photo.

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service and
RFE/RL's Russian Service

The Ukrainian military said on October 9 that its forces destroyed a facility storing hundreds of attack drones in Russia's southern Krasnodar region.

Ukrainian forces attacked a Shahed drone storage base near Oktyabrsky where about 400 attack drones were stored, the General Staff of the Ukrainian military said on Telegram.

After the strike was reported, Ukraine said five people were killed in a Russian

ballistic missile strike on Odesa.

The attack on the Russian facility was carried out jointly by naval forces and the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) near the settlement of Oktyabrsky, north of the city of Krasnodar, a statement from the General Staff said.

"According to available information, nearly 400 strike drones were stored there," the statement said.

Based on what it said were "objective control results," a direct hit was made on

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Zelenskyy begins European tour as Ukraine faces tough months ahead



Office of the President of Ukraine

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy speaks with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris on October 10 as part of a push to secure additional military and financial aid.

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy held talks on October 10 with French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris as part of a push to secure additional military and financial aid.

The visit comes as Kyiv confronts relentless daily air strikes and a grinding Russian offensive in the east that is making incremental progress.

Mr. Zelenskyy met with Mr. Macron after talks in London with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General Mark Rutte, who was in Kyiv last week after taking over at the helm of the military alliance.

Mr. Zelenskyy said on X that he "outlined the details" of his plan to defeat Russian forces in his meeting with Messrs. Starmer and Rutte and added that he and the other leaders agreed to work on the plan together.

Mr. Zelenskyy said they discussed transatlantic cooperation and further reinforcing Ukraine militarily. He gave no details but said that "these are the steps that will create the best conditions for restoring a just peace."

Mr. Zelenskyy's trip comes after a summit of the Ramstein group of Ukraine's main backers was canceled at short notice when U.S. officials, including President Joe

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Russians use drones to 'safari' hunt Ukrainian civilians, NGO group, activists say

by Mark Raczkiwycz

CHICAGO – Ukrainian journalists, non-profit groups and open-source intelligence analysts are raising alarms over what they see as a widespread Russian military policy of using drones to deliberately go on what they call "safari" hunts of civilians near front-line areas of the Kremlin's war on Ukraine.

The Kyiv-controlled part of the Kherson region on the west bank of the Dnipro River has been particularly targeted over the past month, and a Russian Telegram channel has been identified as profiting from the sale of videos that show the slaughter of innocent Ukrainian civilians.

"I am glad people are finally paying attention to what is going on in Kherson,"

said Andrew Perpetua, an open-source analyst who contributes to the Ukrainian Tochnyi (accurate) nonprofit group. "But I need you to know that this is not only happening in Kherson. It is happening all over. It is not limited to one place or one unit. It is the entirety of the Russian military doing this."

The Ukrainian Weekly this week has viewed footage of Russian drones targeting civilians who can be seen in the videos going about their daily routines in the regions of Kherson and Kharkiv only to be killed by unguided bombs dropped by unmanned aerial vehicles.

Local authorities in the regions that border the front line of the war zone have urged civilians to stay at home unless they must conduct errands and take tourniquets

with them to stop bleeding from wounds. They also recommended that civilians wear body armored vests if they have access to them.

A Tochnyi report from last month calls Russian drone pilots "vultures of the skies."

Seventy-one civilian casualties from deliberate drone attacks were recorded between September 1 and September 22, the group said. Those dates covered Tochnyi's most recent report.

This brings the "total of civilian drone casualties since June 21 to 266 individuals."

Most victims were 50 years old or older, the report said.

Separately, a Kherson Regional Military Administration spokesperson told The Kyiv Post that in September there were more than 3,000 drone attacks on civilians.

Drones usually fly in pairs, with one operating as a reconnaissance unit and the other dropping munitions.

Civilians have not been the only targets. Russian drones have been recorded targeting gas stations and buses.

Kherson Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin addressed the growing trend on September 17 during a meeting with local officials and military personnel.

He said the 124th Marine Territorial Defense Brigade gave the city drone detection equipment. Otherwise, automatic rifles are used to shoot down drones. Electronic warfare equipment is direly needed to jam drone signals above civilian skies, Mr. Prokudin said.

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Zelenskyy's victory plan attempts to redefine victory and defeat

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Inadequate Western military support is compelling Ukraine to accept negotiating with Russia from a posture of weakness. While the battlefield situation seems sustainable for the time being, despite local reverses, Russia's relentless air strikes on Ukrainian energy supply systems at the onset of winter add an element of urgency to domestic political challenges. In Washington and other capitals, meanwhile, proposals are multiplying for negotiations to "end the war" whereby Russia would retain the Ukrainian territories it has seized. Some of Ukraine's Western partners hope to see Russia join a peace summit before the end of this year.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has responded by launching his own plan for a negotiated outcome, dubbed the victory plan. It is designed, in part, to preempt outright defeatist proposals from being tabled by other parties. Mr. Zelenskyy presented this plan to U.S. President Joe Biden, presidential candidates Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump, and the Group of Seven + (G-7+) leaders during his recent visit to the United States (Ukrinform, September 28).

The basic document is due to be released during the coming weeks or months, although some parts will still be kept confidential, according to Presidential Office chief Andrii Yermak (Ukrinform, September 30). Some major elements of the plan can, nevertheless, be pieced together from fragmentary public statements made by Mr. Zelenskyy and his top aides.

The plan's declared goal is to enlist Western military support for "compelling Russia" to negotiate an end to the war that would amount to a "just and sustainable peace" for Ukraine. This logic formally mirrors that of the Biden administration from 2022 to date, namely, providing Ukraine with limited levels of military support that would merely improve Kyiv's position in eventual negotiations with Russia. The administration's logic is a defeatist one since it presupposes negotiations based on frontlines cutting across Ukraine, in effect

predetermining the country's partition.

What is publicly known of Kyiv's plan marks a substantial retreat from previous positions. From September 2022 to date, Ukraine ruled out negotiations with Russia in general and with the Kremlin in particular for as long as Russia occupied Ukrainian territories (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, October 5, 2022). Those were, in effect, Ukrainian preconditions to negotiating with Russia. A negotiated outcome, in Kyiv's view, had to entail Russian reparations for war damages and prosecution of war crimes committed during Russia's aggression. Kyiv's recent public statements no longer explicitly mention those preconditions and outcomes. Ukraine's Western partners had supported reparations and prosecution for some time but are currently soft-pedaling those items.

Kyiv aims to have its victory plan accepted by Western partners and its implementation launched "this autumn" – a time-frame reflecting Kyiv's sense of military urgency and need to encourage the nation to endure harsh winter conditions. During and following their U.S. visit, Messrs. Zelenskyy, Yermak and a few of their aides have hinted at the following elements within the victory plan: arming Ukraine with advanced weaponry prioritizing long-range missiles, electronic warfare equipment, air defense systems and artillery shells; allowing Ukraine to strike military targets deep inside Russia with Western-supplied weapons at their maximum range; helping Ukraine to fully equip all available combat brigades; using Russian frozen assets in the West to support Ukraine's defense against Russia's aggression; finalizing a political decision in that regard and agreeing on an implementation mechanism; making a clear promise, ahead of any negotiations, to invite Ukraine to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) "after the end of the war"; providing some form of Western security guarantees as an interim solution, stronger than the bilateral security agreements recently signed by NATO member states with Ukraine and pending Ukraine's eventual

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Ukraine leads world in drone innovation and production

by Taras Kuzio
Eurasia Daily Monitor

The world's first drone, digital and cyber war is taking place in Ukraine. Previously, these wars were one-sided, as seen when the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) (2001-2021) and Azerbaijan (2020) used drones against Afghan and Armenian combatants, respectively, who did not possess equivalent technology. In Russia's war against Ukraine, both sides are using domestic and foreign drones, but Ukraine has a 10-to-1 advantage in the number of drones on the front (X.com/ChrisO_wiki, August 21; Golos Amerikii, September 19). Resilience, innovation, adaptation and quick learning have allowed Ukraine to stay one step ahead of Russia. Horizontal ties between civil society, volunteer groups, a decentralized government and the military have combined to make Ukraine fundamentally different from Russia's vertically organized, authoritarian state and society.

Ukraine is fighting a people's war that includes domestic and foreign volunteers, tractor and truck drivers, and the private sector (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, March 16, 2022). Ukrainians in occupied territory use their mobile phones to collect data on Russian troops, passing information to the military through the eVorog app (Kmu.gov.ua, May 15, 2022; Ukrinform, August 6, 2022). Surveillance cameras in shops, offices and roads are used as intelligence sources on Russian troop movements. Other Ukrainians work alongside foreign volunteers in Ukraine's information technology (IT) army, hacking and launching cyberattacks against Russia, contributing to the "civilianization of the digital battlefield" (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, July 3). 3D printers, tablets, mobile telephones and laptops donated by volunteers are used on the frontlines as targeting tools and to make spare parts.

Ukrainians have adapted a wide array of

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NEWSBRIEFS

Ramstein meeting on Ukraine canceled

A high-level meeting of the Ramstein group of Ukraine arms donors has been canceled after U.S. President Joe Biden scrapped a visit to Germany this week due to the impending landfall of Hurricane Milton in Florida, two sources from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) told RFE/RL on October 9. The Ramstein group, also known as the Ukraine Defense Contact Group, was to meet while Mr. Biden visited Germany from October 10-13. The president postponed his trip on October 8 "in order to oversee preparations for and the response to Hurricane Milton, in addition to the ongoing response to the impacts of Hurricane Helene across the Southeast," according to a White House statement. Forecasters have warned the Category 5 storm, the second massive hurricane to hit Florida in as many weeks, could turn into the worst natural disaster to hit the state in a century. (RFE/RL's Rikard Jozwiak)

Orban, EU officials clash in Parliament

Viktor Orban and European lawmakers traded barbs in the European Parliament, with the Hungarian prime minister urging the bloc to change while top European Union officials chided Budapest for its Russia-friendly stance and backsliding on democracy. The clash comes as Mr. Orban – Russian President Vladimir Putin's closest ally within the European Union – addressed the parliament in Strasbourg on October 9. It comes as little surprise with the two sides having sparred for months over aid to Ukraine, migration, allegations of the misuse of bloc funds and breaches of its laws. Mr. Orban used his speech, which was interrupted at times by shouts and singing from European parliamentarians, to continue his calls for a hard line in the face of a "migration crisis," arguing that "the European Union needs to change." European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen followed Mr. Orban at the podium and accused his government of "just throwing problems over your neighbor's fence," a reference to Budapest's early release of more than 1,000 convicted people smugglers and human traffickers. She also criticized Hungary's policy of issuing visas to Russian nationals without more thorough

background checks compared to other nationals before chiding him on hindering the flow of aid to Ukraine as it battles invading Russian troops. "There is only one path to achieve a just peace for Ukraine and for Europe, we must continue to empower Ukraine's resistance with political, financial and military support," Ms. von der Leyen said. Meanwhile, the joint leader of the Greens-European Free Alliance, Terry Reintke, was more blunt in her message to Mr. Orban: "You are not welcome here," she told him. A day earlier, Mr. Orban told a press conference in Strasbourg that the E.U.'s current strategy of sending massive aid to Ukraine "does not work." "If you cannot win on the battlefield – you have to communicate, you have to negotiate, you have to have a cease-fire," he said. Mr. Orban was in Strasbourg to mark his country's six-month stint in the rotating E.U. presidency. The populist Orban government has maintained ties with Moscow despite Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Mr. Orban has opposed aid to Kyiv and has also angered the E.U. with his increasingly authoritarian rule and his ties to China. (RFE/RL's Hungarian Service)

ICC can try cases of killing of Ukrainian POWs

Cases of the alleged execution of Ukrainian prisoners of war (POWs) fall under the mandate of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the court is entitled to try such cases, ICC Chief Prosecutor Karim Khan has said. "Each of the provisions of the Rome Statute [the founding treaty of the ICC] ... can be applied, they all matter. Our duty is to apply a methodological approach and put together an investigation strategy," Mr. Khan told a roundtable in The Hague attended by journalists from Schemes, the investigative unit of RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service. According to the latest data published by Ukraine's Prosecutor-General's Office, investigators have so far obtained information on the execution of 93 Ukrainian prisoners of war by the Russian military, 80 percent of which were recorded this year. The trend, Ukrainian authorities say, began to be observed from November 2023, when "there were chang-

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Veteran-owned Ukrainian businesses shine at inaugural fair in Lviv



An unidentified veteran of the war in Ukraine stands at a vendor booth during the Veteran Business Fair in Lviv, Ukraine, on October 6.

by Roman Tymotsko

LVIV – Lviv's Rynok Square hosted the inaugural Veteran Business Fair on October 6, bringing together over 20 businesses founded by veterans and their families. Participants showcased various products, from sweets and books to metal fences and military memorabilia. The event was initiated by the families of fallen heroes with support from the Lviv City Council.

"Veteran business is the future of our well-being and stability for our defenders and their families," said Victoria Rodych, head of the non-governmental organization Families of the Fallen Heroes of Lviv Region.

"We want to continue the tradition of holding such fairs. We want more of our veterans to participate in them and present their products. Veterans and their families are engaged in a variety of activities. Many veterans and their families have taken advantage of voucher support from the Lviv City Council, some have applied for other grants or produce everything at their own expense. Therefore, there are opportunities to develop their own business, and now it is important to popularize it. We are confident that this fair will help," Ms. Rodych said.

Twenty-two manufacturers with a wide variety of products and services were represented at the first Veteran Business Fair in Lviv. Among them were VOG-17 pizzeria;

Kraft from the Farm, which makes home-made jam using old recipes; Dukhmyana Mriya, which bakes fresh bread and pastries; KuriiArt, an artistic ceramics workshop; Ukrviyskovktorg store, which produces and sells military equipment, footwear, accessories and ammunition; and many other brands created by veterans.

"If you have a choice to buy something from a veteran or other people, buy from veterans. After all, they protect us. Today is the Veterans' Fair in Lviv. Here, you can buy a book and eat a dumpling, buy an embroidered shirt, or other military items. Everything is very high quality and tasty. A good symbol of this event is the inscription on the chevrons, which our veterans also made: 'Keep calm and clean the machine gun.' We must always be ready and support our defenders," Lviv Mayor Andriy Sadovyi said.

To help support veterans' businesses, the Lviv City Council issued over 90 voucher support certificates worth up to 300,000 hryvnia (\$75,000) each.

Natalia Bervetska, wife of fallen soldier Oleh Bervetskyi, used the voucher from the Lviv City Council to start her own business. At the fair, she presented dumplings made without gluten, lactose, eggs or other allergens.

"Our son is gluten intolerant. I had an idea to start my own business and make



Roman Baluk/Lviv City Council

Lesya Pukas (right), a wife of a veteran, stands in front of a vendor stand for Kraft from the Farm, a business she co-owns, during the Veteran Business Fair in Lviv, Ukraine, on October 6.

dumplings suitable for my son. I try to choose healthy ingredients as much as possible to be suitable for the body," Ms. Bervetska said.

"Now I am working on the documentation to formalize everything. I want to open a workshop for such production with the possibility of selling to eco-stores at first, and later expanding production. I have a voucher from the Lviv City Council and a grant from the Norwegian Council," Ms. Bervetska said.

Another company, the Bat art workshop from Irpin, Ukraine, presented original military products at the fair.

"We started by weaving bracelets in a small 9-meter square storeroom. Now, our workshop covers 460 square meters. We produce glasses with fused bullets. We also make knives. We buy bullets in stores. It's not ammunition or a cartridge; it's just a bullet made of lead and brass. A glass with a bullet can be used in everyday life, and you can drink from it. Everything is completely safe," said Dmytro, a representative of the Bat art workshop who provided only his first name.

"We also teamed up with another craft producer of hot sauces, Peche. We made them bottles for sauces with fused bullets and [we] sell them in a set with our knives – hot sauce with sharp knives," he said.

Mykhailo Kostiuk, a war veteran who came to the fair to support his friends and organizers, and to buy some military products, also noted the usefulness and importance of supporting veterans' businesses.

"At the fair, I want to talk to veterans, hear how they live now, what supports them and motivates them to move on. So I intend not only to buy something but also to talk. Generally, when you or your family start doing something after returning from the front, it relieves stress and depression. After all, one of the biggest anti-stress factors for a person is when you feel that you can move, that you can do something. It's important not to get stuck. Starting a business, even the simplest one, is a good way to get back to life," Mr. Kostiuk said.

Given the involvement and interest of visitors in the fair, the event may be held in the city again with more participants, the press service of the Lviv City Council said.

Businesses run by veterans and their families in Lviv are also marked with special stickers, "Support a Veteran's Business," meant to attract the attention of consumers and residents and promote businesses run by the families of Ukraine's defenders. The city also created a map of veteran-owned businesses in Lviv and the surrounding region.

Teach for Ukraine fellowships help fix learning gaps in rural schools

by Adrian Karmazyn

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Since 2020, Ukraine's children have been suffering from unprecedented disruptions in their education. Widespread school closures and a shift to remote learning began with the COVID-19 pandemic and have continued throughout the period of Russia's barbaric full-scale invasion, during which one in seven Ukrainian schools have been damaged or destroyed. Some 900,000 Ukrainian kids still rely on remote learning, says Oksen Lisovyi, Ukraine's minister of education.

In an interview with NV (The New Voice of Ukraine) earlier this year, Mr. Lisovyi described the loss of educational opportunities experienced by Ukrainian children.

As a result of prolonged online learning and the havoc caused by the war "we estimate the losses at an average of one and a half years, and we also have educational gaps, such as a noticeable difference in the quality of education in urban and rural areas," Mr. Lisovyi said.

"Across the country, there is a significant lag in reading skills, both in understanding and analyzing text. We lag in science and



Courtesy of Teach for Ukraine

The 2021-2023 cohort of Teach for Ukraine fellows met with Liliya Hrynevych, former Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine.

math. In rural areas, these gaps are greater than in urban areas," the minister said.

Studies by the Program for International Student Assessment published in 2018 and 2023 show that, in terms of educational attainment, rural school students in Ukraine, on average, have fallen behind

their peers in urban areas by two and a half years or more.

Enter Teach for Ukraine, a Ukrainian non-governmental organization that has been addressing inequalities between students in rural and urban areas in Ukraine since 2017 and is part of the global Teach

for All network.

To meet the challenge, the non-governmental organization recruits dedicated and motivated young people to teach in under-resourced small communities. It provides these fellowship recipients with stipends as a financial incentive for their two-year teaching commitment, during which they also organize community-based projects.

In an interview with The Ukrainian Weekly, Oksana Matiash, the CEO of Teach for Ukraine, explained that these teaching fellows (more than 80 since the program's inception) have been assigned to more than 40 partner schools primarily in five regions of Ukraine – Kyiv, Odesa, Dnipro, Lviv and Ivano-Frankivsk. She said that, besides providing quality instruction, the fellows serve as an inspiration and as "role models" for kids in rural areas, adding that the schoolchildren "see young people leaving their communities, looking for better opportunities. And by getting these young people [from Teach for Ukraine] into villages and small towns we can show our children that there are many people who care

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Resilient and innovative, Lviv's IT Arena breaks attendance records, champions defense tech innovations

by Roman Tymotsko

LIVIV – Between September 27-29, Lviv hosted IT Arena, Ukraine's largest tech conference, setting new records with over 100 speakers and 5,500 participants from 30 countries in attendance, among them technology experts, marketers, IT executives, startups, and journalists, making it the most well-attended event in program's 11-year history.

Amid the ongoing war, Lviv once again became a hub for forward-thinking discussions on innovation, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and defense technology. The conference also explored strategies for business growth and adaptation in the current global landscape.

A notable highlight was the record-breaking \$1.5 million raised by startups during the event, alongside the debut of a closed defense exhibition showcasing 25 cutting-edge innovations in the field.

The annual Startup Competition saw 30 startups in the general category and 30 defense startups vying for mentorship, investment and cash prizes. Extra Vision, which develops mixed reality (MR) technology to assist surgeons by creating 3D models of CT and MRI scans, won first place in the main track, earning a prize of \$15,000.

Oko Camera took the top spot and \$15,000 in a special competition for defense startups. The team's compact thermal imaging modules for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), designed for use in small aircrafts and drones, stood out for their practical military applications.

"Ukraine has become synonymous with resilience, and that spirit was evident at IT Arena in Lviv. The country's tech ecosystem, despite ongoing challenges, is thriving. It was inspiring to see strong international interest in Ukraine as a technological hub and the continued support from the government, even in these difficult times," said Oksana Vodonos, an associate at 500 Global, a venture capital fund.

"The main insight from the conference is that, while the talent and potential are undeniable, Ukrainian startups still face hurdles in achieving international traction. There's a need for a stronger global mind-



IT Arena CEO Stepan Veselovskyi (right) presents eXtra Vision with the first place award in the Startup Competition category at IT Arena, Ukraine's largest tech conference, held in Lviv, Ukraine, on September 27-29.

set, ambition and the ability to scale beyond borders. Yet, the entrepreneurial energy is unmistakable, and with continued backing from local initiatives and government, Ukraine's tech industry is well-positioned to break into new markets. The resilience that defines the nation is now powering a generation of innovators ready to push boundaries," Ms. Vodonos told a correspondent for The Ukrainian Weekly.

Lesia Pronko, project manager at an information technology firm, attended IT Arena for the first time this year.

"The first thing that was very memorable and inspiring was the large number of Ukrainians around and at the event itself. In the last five years, this was the first major conference I attended within Ukraine, and it was great to see so many Ukrainian thinkers, entrepreneurs and now new friends," Ms. Pronko said.

"Having the opportunity to maneuver between locations, I didn't have enough time to visit everything and probably shouldn't have. Nevertheless, I was lucky enough to get to the closed defense exhibition. To my surprise, everyone openly talk-

ed and showed their products, shared contacts, and offered photos with all the possible exhibition equipment. On days like this, I am especially proud of our Ukrainian defense tech products. They come at a high price, and I don't need to remind anyone of this. But they are impressive because they are unique and our own," Ms. Pronko said.

Martyn Kovalko co-founded the Keywords agency, which helps individuals prepare for and give effective speeches. He and his team prepared five out of six prize-winners at this year's IT Arena startup pitch competition. He and his team also held a workshop at IT Arena on how best to pitch a product.

"Among my main takeaways is that fear has big eyes, and only taking responsibility and working hard will help you succeed. We were scared, of course, but ultimately we delivered a great workshop for an hour and a half. And looking at startups, you can often see how they take responsibility, act step by step, and succeed," Mr. Kovalko said.

"The IT Arena proves once again how important networking is. You need to get

out of your shell as much as possible and communicate with people. Then you check reality, get inspired, get new ideas, etc. It all looks beautiful in your head, but when you start talking, it starts to grind," Mr. Kovalko said.

"This IT Arena seemed to me the most lively of all the ones I've been to. Before, there used to be a lot of hype. Everyone wanted to look beautiful and perfect. And this pretense blocked the depth and reality. And this year's event seemed so real to me. I don't know what this is due to. Perhaps the war also has a very active influence on this. And there was a lot of energy inside this IT Arena, a billion opportunities that you just have to take," Mr. Kovalko said.

Discussing trends in the IT sector, Mr. Kovalko said he notices the tendency of more and more people to think about building tech products.

"No matter who you meet at networking events, most people are already talking about some products they are trying to create. Whether it's separately within some startups or some bigger companies, one way or another, they are trying to pack it all into products, and it's very inspiring and cool. I think this is the future. Of course, all service and consulting businesses are developing around this. It develops education. It's very cool that there is such an IT Arena that gathers all this in one city," Mr. Kovalko said.

"If we talk about defense tech, it's of course exciting, fantastic. And it seems that a new history is being made in Ukraine. In particular, the asymmetric ways of warfare through the use of cutting-edge technologies. The world has changed, and we in Ukraine are among the first to look at this new world and learn to live in it. We are learning how to interact, creating many interesting innovations that can and do give rise to a new industry in Ukraine, which can become a new center for various technological solutions in and around the military for the world. A new type of warfare, new solutions that go directly from R and D [research and development] centers to the battlefield, and sometimes these R and D centers live on the battlefield. And it's fascinating to watch all this," Mr. Kovalko said.

U.S. Sen. Coons meets with Ukrainian delegation, says Kyiv should be allowed to strike Russia with Western weapons

by Ulana Mazurkevich

WILMINGTON, Del. – Speaking with a small delegation of Ukrainian supporters in his Wilmington, Del., office on October 2, U.S. Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.) said Kyiv should be allowed to strike targets deep inside Russia with Western-provided weapons.

The meeting, organized by Mark Murowany, a Ukrainian activist and friend of Mr. Coons, also included Marianna Tretiak, Eugene Luciwi, Rev. Roman Karpan, Lyudomir Ostapiv and Ulana Mazurkevich.

After a preliminary meeting with Elizabeth O'Bagy, the senator's senior foreign policy advisor who is well versed on the situation in Ukraine, Mr. Coons joined the meeting.

The intense and informative session dealt with many topics related to Ukraine, including religious persecution in territories under Russian control and the inhumanity being inflicted on clergy members and their parishioners. The Ukrainian delegation also brought up the abduction by Russia of Ukrainian children who are being raised as Russians and who have



Pictured during a meeting with U.S. Sen. Chris Coons on October 2 are (from left to right) Rev. Roman Karpan, Marianna Tretiak, Mark Murowany, Mr. Coons, Lyudomir Ostapiv, Ulana Mazurkevich and Eugene Luciwi.

been given Russian passports and have been stripped of their Ukrainian nationality.

Kyiv said it believes that some 20,000 children have been taken to Russia or Russian-occupied territory without the

consent of family or guardians since the war began, calling the abductions a war crime that meets the United Nations treaty definition of genocide, according to a Reuters report issued this past summer.

The delegation that met with Mr. Coons also raised the issue of the Holodomor and asked the senator to intervene with U.S. President Joe Biden and urge the U.S. to recognize the Holodomor, also known as the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, as genocide.

The delegation informed the senator about the U.S. Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933, which after their research said the Holodomor was a genocide propagated by Moscow. The majority of U.S. states have already recognized the Holodomor as a genocide perpetrated by Soviet leader Joseph Stalin.

Crucially, the delegation raised the issue of Ukraine's need to strike Russia with American- and Western-supplied weapons. Mr. Coons replied unequivocally that he supported Ukraine's right to strike Russia, prompting loud applause from all present at the meeting.

INTERVIEW

The West doesn't want Ukraine to lose but isn't ready for it to win, says Russia policy expert

by Vazha Tavberidze
RFE/RL

James Nixey is a leading expert on Russian foreign policy who heads the Russia and Eurasia Program at Chatham House, a London-based research institute. In a recent interview with RFE/RL's Georgian Service, Mr. Nixey, whose research focuses on the relationships between Russia and the other post-Soviet states, says he does not think the Ukraine war will become "frozen," given how much Russia has "gone all in" and how "so many have died" on the Ukrainian side.

RFE/RL: Is a victory for Ukraine still in the cards? What does it look like?

Mr. Nixey: Ukraine's victory is still pretty much what's in [Ukrainian President Volodymyr] Zelenskyy's 10-point [peace] plan, which is the maximalist objective, the all-you-want-for-Christmas: It is the withdrawal of Russian soldiers to pre-2014 [when Russia seized Crimea and began backing separatists in Donbas] lines and reparations and judicial reckoning.

Of course, I am often told, 'But James, that's not realistic. James, you're being idealistic. James, surely, you've got to meet the Russians somewhere.' And I don't know that that's necessarily true. It might be true.

RFE/RL: About meeting the Russians somewhere?

Mr. Nixey: Yes. It might be true, because analytically I can accept any proposition of any outcome. ... But because this war is not over, because it could go [in] any direction, because it's always all-to-play-for, because it's on a knife edge, I don't understand why people say it is not advisable or desirable or realistic to go for maximalist objectives.

Of course, it is possible that Ukraine will be completely defeated [on the battlefield], but even then I find it quite hard to imagine a Ukraine which is totally subdued, because even if they lose officially, then there would be continual guerrilla warfare, continual jabs at an enemy.

By contrast, I can at least imagine what a Russian implosion [might look like], whether that's on the front line going toward Moscow, whether it's centered in Moscow, whether it goes through the regions ... [as] some form of snowball. I'm not saying it



Mzia Saganelidze, RFE/RL

James Nixey, a leading expert on Russian foreign policy who heads the Russia and Eurasia Program at Chatham House, a London-based research institute, said in a recent interview that he does not think Russia's war on Ukraine will become frozen.

will happen. I can't be a predictor of the future, and we shouldn't try it. But it does seem Russia is a little bit soft.

We shouldn't underestimate how difficult this should be for Russia to fight this war. Can you imagine what a [expletive] show it must be in the Kremlin trying to fight this war? ... And, of course, we should be making it harder and harder.

RFE/RL: Are there any smaller victories to be talked about as an eventual outcome of this war? Not the maximalist victory but something more compromise-based – what would that look like?

Mr. Nixey: You're quite right to ask it, but [asking that] implies some form of concession to the Russian narrative. ... Do we give a piece of land? Do we give up neutrality? Almost anything, beyond the Kursk region [a Russian region bordering Ukraine] is a very difficult thing to accept. It is really hard to imagine how Ukraine would be satisfied with any concession.

If you examine [these options] one by one, territorially – Crimea even – I don't see how that's ever going to really work. I know it could be in a frozen state, like it was between 2014 and 2022, more or less. But we clearly know anyway that Crimea alone is not enough for Russia. So, it almost doesn't make sense talking about it.

If you take the question of neutrality or non-NATO [North Atlantic Treaty Organization] membership, non-E.U. [European Union] membership even, it overtly accepts

a Russian sphere of influence. And, honestly, I have no faith in Western politicians.

RFE/RL: What would be something Ukraine could conceivably settle for and still consider itself victorious?

Mr. Nixey: Nobody wants to be in the position where they are making moral compromises, where we let Russia walk away from it. [It] doesn't sit well ... does it?

Of course, there still would be some push [for justice]; you can't rescind [the International Criminal Court] arrest warrant. It still would be there, but that's it.

RFE/RL: Putin could still go to Mongolia, though [Russian President Vladimir Putin recently visited Ulan Bator, a signatory to the International Criminal Court].

Mr. Nixey: Exactly. It is astonishing, the naivete of many Western commentators and experts who say: This is an affront to international justice. Did anybody seriously expect Ulan Bator to arrest Vladimir Putin? Then you're not living in the real world. That's bizarre. The affront to international law is not Mongolia, it's Russia.

RFE/RL: If we are going down this rabbit hole, let's dig in deeper: Is there a non-defeat scenario for Ukraine, where [Ukraine cannot] claim victory in any way, shape or form, and neither can Russia? Where does that leave us? Frozen conflict?

Mr. Nixey: It doesn't strike me as a frozen conflict situation. It's gone too far. If you think about the war in 2008 [when Russian forces invaded Georgia], which was more horrific for you than it was for me, but I still remember being horrified by it.

It was five days, and it was, I'm sorry to say this, and I mean no offense, but it was a clear victory. Obviously, in a situation where you have quite a clear ending over a short period of time, then that leads to a frozen agreement. Georgia and Russia don't agree ... [The pro-Russian breakaway region of] on Transdniestria, Moldova's too weak to do anything about it.

The war in Ukraine is an absolutely ... unique situation. And, unfortunately, there's no going back from it. 2014? Crimea, the Donbas – that was freezable. I find it hard to see people ... going on with their lives in this situation, when so many have died, when it's been such a shakeup of a system, when Russia's gone all in, doubled down. It just

makes freezing harder. Because it was hotter, it's harder to freeze, I suppose.

I just fail to imagine a situation whereby Ukraine is totally subdued and relatively happy with the status quo as it is right now. I might be lacking imagination, but it's not easy to see how that could play out satisfactorily. And it would be politically risky for Mr. Zelenskyy. If he were to submit to nearly all of the Russian narrative, that would be the end of Mr. Zelenskyy.

RFE/RL: Does the West have any sort of endgame vision for Ukraine? Does it subscribe to any one scenario and is willing to pursue it?

Mr. Nixey: As the Russians say: "zhe-latelno by" – if only. That's a wish, right? The wish is that somehow the West, [the] collective West, gets its act together and doubles down, has a real plan, [an] operational conclusion that it needs to win this, to help on all sorts of other problems, because it really would help on all sorts of other problems, not just China and so on. It doesn't, and this is what my problem is. What we do is we do just enough; we drip feed, we don't do badly, we're not awful, but we're just not good enough.

RFE/RL: Much like [English soccer team] Tottenham Hotspur, then?

Mr. Nixey: Ha ha, yes. That is true. There are sporting analogies. I don't think the West has done a particularly awful job. I just don't think it's done a good enough job. The scale of the challenge is so much harder.

I get it's hard. Inevitably, this is life. ... You're never gonna get 100 percent cohesiveness. ... It's just not possible. It is a family, but it's a family with problem children. It's a family with disruption and disruptors, some of whom are working for the other side effectively. But it's still kind of a family. And so, we always ask the question: Can we get this together?

It is ultimately true that the Biden administration and probably the Harris administration – if there is one – are not comfortable with a Russian defeat. They are genuinely worried that it would create anarchy, loose nukes, spillover, civil war, things they can't control.

They want to be able to control this war. And a Russian defeat isn't controllable,

(Continued on page 11)

Ukrainian journalist Viktoria Roshchyna dies in Russian captivity

RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service

Ukrainian journalist Viktoria Roshchyna, who had gone missing in Russian-occupied territories, has been confirmed dead while in Russian captivity, Ukrainian authorities reported on October 10.

The news was confirmed by Petro Yatsenko, a representative of Ukraine's Coordination Staff for the Treatment of Prisoners of War, following an internal investigation into her disappearance.

"We have conducted an internal investigation, and, unfortunately, the information about Viktoria's death has been confirmed," Mr. Yatsenko said. However, the circumstances surrounding Ms. Roshchyna's death remain unclear and are still under investigation, he added.

Ms. Roshchyna, a freelance journalist who had previously worked with RFE/RL and other prominent Ukrainian media outlets, had been missing since early

August 2023.

She had traveled from Ukraine to Poland on July 27 last year before heading toward the Russian-occupied territories in eastern Ukraine, according to her father, Volodymyr Roshchyn. Her last known communication was on August 3, 2023.

Mr. Yatsenko revealed that efforts were being made to secure Ms. Roshchyna's release from Russian captivity, where she was held along with at least 25 other Ukrainian journalists. These journalists are either detained or missing within Russian-controlled areas.

Andriy Yusov of Ukraine's Military Intelligence confirmed that Ms. Roshchyna had been slated for a prisoner exchange, and as of the most recent updates she was being transferred from Taganrog, a Russian city near the Ukrainian border, to Moscow's Lefortovo detention center in preparation of her release.

Ukrainian authorities are now trying to



Courtesy of RFE/RL

Viktoria Roshchyna, a freelance journalist who had previously worked with RFE/RL and other prominent Ukrainian media outlets, had been missing since early August 2023. Ukrainian authorities said on October 10 that Ms. Roshchyna died in Russian captivity.

understand what transpired during this transfer.

Ms. Roshchyna's case highlights the dangers faced by journalists reporting in war zones. According to Reporters Without Borders (RSF), more than 100 Ukrainian and foreign journalists have been directly affected by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, which began in February 2022.

Several Ukrainian journalists remain detained or missing in Ukraine's Russian-occupied territories, with Ms. Roshchyna's death underscoring the ongoing risks faced by members of the press in conflict zones.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Selecting a new Ukrainian Catholic cardinal

Pope Francis' recent announcement of 21 new cardinals, including the youngest in history, Bishop Mykola Bychok of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC), was met with excitement among Ukrainians around the world, but it also raised questions. Why wasn't the head of the UGCC, Major Archbishop Sviatoslav Shevchuk of Kyiv-Halych, chosen to represent the Church in this significant role? Throughout its history the UGCC has played a critical role in Ukraine's ongoing fight for sovereignty and national identity.

Patriarch Sviatoslav, a staunch advocate for Ukraine, has been a leading voice against Russia's war on Ukraine, using his platform to call for peace and support for the Ukrainian people. As the head of the largest Eastern-Rite Catholic Church, he has consistently brought attention to the plight of Ukraine and its people, urging the global Catholic community to stand in solidarity with them. His active role in guiding the Church through crisis would make him a fitting candidate for a cardinalate, especially given his international influence.

However, Pope Francis' selection of Bishop Bychok, a relatively young and globally lesser-known figure within the UGCC, suggests a different approach by the Vatican. This decision raises questions about the Pope's broader intentions regarding the Eastern Churches and his vision for the global Catholic Church. Bishop Bychok's appointment indeed strengthens the presence of the UGCC within the global Church, and that is a good thing. But it also signals that the Vatican prefers a decentralized representation of the UGCC on the world stage. While Bishop Bychok's appointment is significant, important and well-deserved, the question remains: Why did the Pope not elevate the figure who heads the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church?

Pope Francis has shown a consistent desire to emphasize the universality of the Church, often making appointments that reflect the Church's global reach and diversity. By elevating Bishop Bychok, a figure who has worked in both the U.S. and Australia, the Vatican clearly meant to send a message.

Throughout his time as the head of the Catholic Church, Pope Francis has sought to position the Vatican as a neutral mediator in global conflicts, including Russian President Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. By not appointing Patriarch Sviatoslav, a vocal critic of Russian aggression, we believe the Pope is appeasing Moscow. Some religious experts interpreted the move as an attempt to sideline Ukraine's primary spiritual leader during a time when the country most needs vocal international support. In bypassing Patriarch Sviatoslav, the Vatican is sending the wrong message – that the suffering of Ukraine is not as high a priority on the Church's global agenda as many Ukrainians know it should be.

For Ukrainians and their supporters, the omission is a missed opportunity to further amplify the voice of a leader who has shown deep commitment to peace, justice and the protection of human dignity in the face of Russian aggression. Elevating His Beatitude Sviatoslav to the College of Cardinals would have been a powerful symbol of solidarity, not just with the Ukrainian people, but with all those who resist oppression and strive for peace throughout the world.

Ultimately, while Bishop Bychok's appointment is cause for celebration, it also serves as a moment for reflection. The Catholic Church, especially in times of geopolitical conflict, plays a vital role in guiding the moral conscience of the global community. His Beatitude Sviatoslav's absence from this list of new cardinals leaves many in our community wondering to what extent the Vatican truly understands the depth of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's role in the country's spiritual and political resistance.

Oct.
15
2018

Turning the pages back...

Six years ago, on October 15, 2018, the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) announced that it had severed its relationship with the Ecumenical Patriarchate – the spiritual authority of the Orthodox Christian world – following a decision by the ROC's Synod of bishops held in Minsk.

The ROC's move – which came in response to the announcement by the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople on October 11 that it would proceed toward granting Ukraine its own fully self-governing church – was seen as among the most significant rifts in the religious world since the 1054 schism that divided Christianity into western and eastern churches, or the Protestant Reformation of 1517.

The announcement raised Russia's ire and prompted a swiftly-convened emergency meeting of the Russian Security Council on October 12. Dmitry Peskov, spokesman for President Vladimir Putin, explained that, just as "Russia defends the interests of Russians and Russian speakers, ... Russia will defend the interests of the Orthodox."

The Ecumenical Patriarchate also angered Moscow by revoking a canonical letter from 1686 that led to Moscow annexing Ukraine's Orthodox jurisdiction, citing that Patriarch Dionysios IV, who signed the decree, was under "great political pressure" and was forced to give Moscow permission to ordain the metropolitan of Kyiv that year.

Moscow's fury was focused on it potentially losing more than 12,000 parishes in Ukraine that it said were among 35,000 parishes under the ROC's jurisdiction at the time. The loss of those parishes was also seen as a direct threat to Moscow's narrative of a "Russian world." According to a poll conducted on August 30 through September 9 by the Kyiv International Institute for Sociology, the Razumkov Center and the SOCIS Center for Social and Marketing Research, two-thirds of Ukraine's population identify as Orthodox (with 50 percent of respondents identifying as members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate), while 17 percent of respondents identified as members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate.

The path toward autocephaly for Ukraine would include the convening of a Sobor, or

(Continued on page 10)

Ukraine leads...

(Continued from page 2)

Western weapons to Ukraine's war conditions and have learned to use them quickly. Ukrainians have used the Patriot missile system to destroy Russian Kinzhal hypersonic missiles, previously described as "unstoppable" by Russian President Vladimir Putin (Novaya Gazeta, May 10, 2023). Missiles designed for NATO jets have been adapted for use by Ukraine's Soviet-era jets. British Harpoon anti-ship missiles traditionally fired from naval vessels have been adapted to be fired from land-based military vehicles.

Ukraine's military-industrial complex has grown during the war (BBC Ukrainian Service, September 18). Nearly every second piece (41 percent) of ammunition on the front line is Ukrainian-made, up from 18 percent in 2023. Ukraine's military production is supplied by 70 state-owned companies and 400 private companies and start-ups, employing 300,000 personnel. Of these 400 private firms, 200 companies specialize in unmanned ground, air and sea systems, 50 in electronic warfare, and 150 in all types of weapons. Drones and other military products are also jointly manufactured with foreign partners, principally the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Poland, Czechia, Denmark and Turkey (Defense Ekspress, September 18; Mil.in.ua, October 2).

Ukraine's production of one million drones a year is higher than any NATO member, including the United States. According to Ukrainian officials, the country has the capacity to build four million drones annually, but lacks the necessary financing to do so (Kyiv Independent, July 31; President.gov.ua, October 1). Funding for advanced first-person view (FPV) drones and interceptor drones will come from Ukrainian tenders to the Drone Coalition, composed of 16 NATO members within the Contact Group on the Defense of Ukraine (Ramstein Format) (Mil.in.ua, September 23).

Wars are won in laboratories and factories as much as on the battlefield. To increase innovation, Ukraine has minimized the bureaucracy that remains endemic to NATO militaries. Private companies in Ukraine receive quick approvals and contracts, allowing the country to innovate, produce and deploy weapons rapidly. Private companies build prototypes, which they send to military units to test, who send feedback, and prototypes with good feedback are exhibited to the Ministry of Defense, and the government launches production (Kmu.gov.ua, accessed October 8).

On September 16, Ukraine established the Unmanned Systems Forces, a new branch of its military focused solely on unmanned systems – the first country to do so globally (President.gov.ua, February 6; Anadolu Ajansı, September 16). Additionally, Ukraine has an "extensive" 3-year plan for drone and ground robot production (Kyiv Independent, September 25).

Ukrainian forces are using an interceptor drone produced by the Ukrainian company Besomar to shoot down Russian and Iranian drones. Other drones are being automated to fire machine guns. The Wild Hornets volunteer group has built a drone that fires an AK-74 machine gun while another drone fires 82-millimeter mortar rounds. The Aero Azimuth balloon's electronic warfare system detects and targets enemy drone operators, which can then be targeted. "Dragon drones" emit molten thermite at 2,000 degrees Celsius, hot enough to cut through steel (Kyiv Independent, September 3, 4). Ukraine produces ground "robot dogs" and larger robots for transporting supplies and evacuating

the wounded. Other drones use artificial intelligence (AI) to fire unmanned machine guns (Kyiv Post, September 10).

The United States, the United Kingdom and other NATO members built drones costing hundreds of millions of dollars for use in the long war in Afghanistan. Ukraine's drones, however, are far cheaper, with basic FPV drones costing as little as \$300-400 and sea drones costing \$50,000-100,000. U.S. Replicator drones cost up to 10 times as much. The "iPhone" of Ukrainian unmanned systems is the Shark reconnaissance drone, which has advanced technology and is easy to use and repair. Ukrainian commanders predict that AI will drive and target drones without the use of pilots by the middle of next year (UNIAN, September 18).

FPVs and maritime drones damage and destroy Russian tanks, armored personnel carriers, military trucks, artillery, vessels and submarines that each cost millions of dollars (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, November 15, 2023). Ukrainian drones are having a devastating effect on Russian equipment and troops, with a daily casualty rate of 1,000-1,200 (Meduza, July 5; see Eurasia Daily Monitor, July 16; Ukrinform, October 8). Ukraine's drones are used to attack far-away targets and counter their Russian equivalents, as well as for reconnaissance, artillery targeting and demining land ahead of the advance of ground forces (Euromaidan Press, September 14). Drones are also used in combined arms warfare, as demonstrated by the incursion into Kursk. Ukraine first used electronic warfare to disable Russian drones, then sent a swarm of drones to locate and target Russian forces, followed by an assault by ground forces to secure the territory. By operating in this way, Ukraine thus suffered fewer casualties (Euronews, September 1).

Ukraine's long-distance drones, such as the Sokil (Falcon)-300, can reach speeds of 100 miles per hour, carry a payload of 660 pounds and cover distances of 2,000 miles. These drones have been successfully used against 200 Russian military bases, military factories, airfields, oil refineries and facilities that make up the country's energy infrastructure in the last year (Kyiv Independent, September 23). Ukraine's use of drones to destroy Russian ammunition dumps has significantly exacerbated the Russian military's shortage of artillery shells (Espresso, September 18).

Marichka and Toloka maritime drones are produced through government-military-private joint ventures. They have a maximum speed of 50 miles per hour and can travel 600 miles (Newizv.ru, August 29, 2023). Equipped with cameras that feed video of the attack through satellite links – which are then posted on social media – these drones are built from materials difficult to detect by radar.

Ukraine, a country whose navy was seized by Russia in 2014, has damaged or destroyed one-third of Russia's Black Sea Fleet (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, March 11). The remainder of the vessels relocated to Novorosiisk and other ports in the eastern Black Sea, which have also been attacked by Ukraine (Kyiv Post, September 5). Due to this strategy and the Ukrainian grain corridor, Ukrainian exports from Odesa and Mykolayiv have returned to pre-invasion levels (Espresso, March 9; see EDM, September 26).

Innovation in a horizontally organized, democratic society has made Ukraine a world leader in drone manufacturing and usage, providing it with the means to continue its existential war with Russia.

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Updated data on Ukrainians in US and Recent Immigrants from Ukraine

by Oleh Wolowyna

NEW YORK – The Center for Demographic and Socio-economic Research of Ukrainians in the U.S. (the Center) at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in the United States has been collecting and analyzing detailed data on Ukrainians in the U.S. for the last 14 years. These are official demographic and socio-economic data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census and immigration data from the Office of Homeland Security Statistics.

Some of this data has been posted on the Center’s website (<http://www.inform-decisions.com/stat/>) and published in articles on different topics. Russia’s 2014 invasion of Ukraine and the full-fledged invasion in 2022 triggered a large number of refugees, and many of them have been arriving in the U.S. Data on these refugees shows that they differ from previous immigrants from Ukraine. The differences are significant enough to justify labeling these immigrants as part of the Fifth Wave of immigration from Ukraine.

Data lose their usefulness if they are not updated. Given these changes in the migration stream from Ukraine, the Center’s website has been restructured along two dimensions: a) most of the data have been updated to 2022; b) the emphasis is on Fourth and Fifth Wave immigrants. This article presents a brief overview of the updated website and invites readers to explore it in more detail.

For many years, the population census was the primary data source on Ukrainians in the U.S. However, the variables used to define Ukrainians in the U.S. are no longer

included in the census. Starting in 2005, they are included, together with many other variables, in the annual American Community Survey (ACS).

This new system has its advantages and disadvantages. The main advantage is that now there is new data every year instead of every 10 years, although one has to wait close to two years before the ACS data becomes available, as it takes time to process the information. The disadvantage is that the ACS is a five percent representative sample of the U.S. population, and persons of Ukrainian ancestry comprise less than one-half percent of the U.S. population. This means that one has to be careful when analyzing small subpopulations of Ukrainians using ACS data, as they can have significant sampling variations.

The new website has the following sections: Immigration, Elections 2024, Ukrainians and total U.S., U.S.-States-Metro Profiles, Individual-State-Metro Profiles, Fifth Migration Wave, and Impact of Fourth and Fifth waves.

The Immigration section has annual data on immigrants from Ukraine and Russia by admission category, with a graph comparing the two-time series of immigrants. There are also data on yearly numbers of orphans born in Ukraine and adopted by Americans. A new table has annual data on visitors from Ukraine (I-94 visa) with categories like tourists, students, temporary workers and diplomats.

The Elections 2024 section has detailed data on persons of Ukrainian ancestry eligible to vote: U.S. citizens aged 18 years or older. Detailed data are available by state, metropolitan areas and county, and disag-

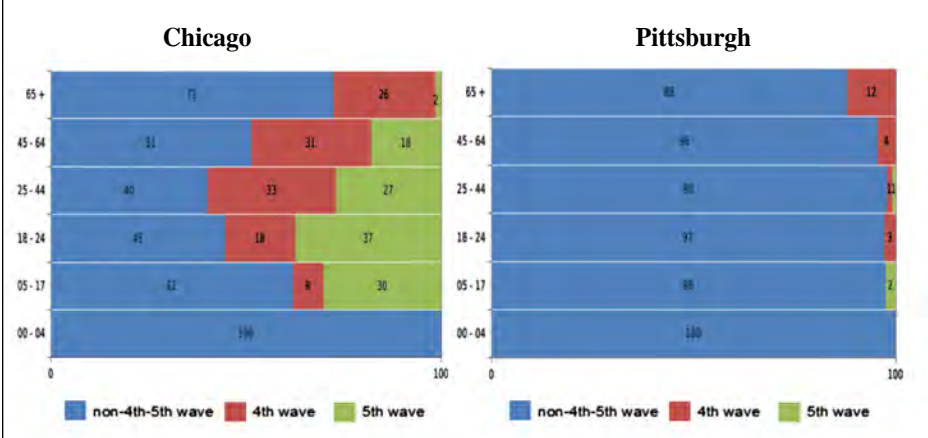


Figure 1. Percent Distribution of 4th and 5th Wave Immigrants in Chicago and Pittsburgh, 2022.

gregated by sex and age groups. The data on potential Ukrainian voters is complemented by data similar to that of Poles. In a previous article in The Ukrainian Weekly, authors pointed out that in some instances Ukrainians have the potential to influence the result of a local election and, given the much larger number of persons of Polish than of Ukrainian ancestry, a joint Ukrainian-Polish effort to get out the vote could make a powerful voting bloc in several states and metropolitan areas.

The section Ukrainians and total U.S. compares different socio-economic indicators of Ukrainians with those of the total U.S. population. It documents the extraordinary achievements of Ukrainians in American society. Some of the data in this section have been described in a previous article in The Ukrainian Weekly.

The section U.S.-States-Metro Profiles provides an overview of the current status of Ukrainians in the U.S. It has tables for the U.S., three maps and data for 50 states and 124 metropolitan areas with 1,000 or more Ukrainians in 2022.

The section Individual-State-Metro Profiles has profiles for each state and each of the 124 metropolitan areas, with a set of tables and several maps. The state maps show the distribution of Ukrainians in the state, the distribution of Fourth Wave immigrants, and the distribution of persons who speak Ukrainian at home. Another map shows the changes in the distribution of Ukrainians in the state between 2013 and 2020. The mapping units are areas with approximately 100,000 population, and the maps also show county borders. All the tables have data for 2022, but due to sampling issues the data on the maps are for 2013 and 2020. As the metropolitan area maps show data down to small areas in those regions, one may be surprised to learn how many Ukrainian neighbors an individual may have.

Metropolitan area profiles have the same types of data and maps as state profiles, plus two additional graphs. The first is a bar graph by major age groups, with the numbers and percent of non-Fourth and non-Fifth wave, Fourth Wave and Fifth Wave immigrants in each age group. For example, one can see how many Ukrainians aged 18-24 in a Metropolitan area belong to these three groups, and with a click one can get the respective percentages.

The second type of graph is an age-sex pyramid, a graph that shows the age structure of a population, separately for males and females. The pyramids show, for each 5-year age group, the percentages of each of the three wave groups. The difference with the previous graphs is that the age groups are smaller, and the data is shown separately for males and females.

Readers are encourage to explore this feature. One will likely be surprised what

proportions of persons in a 5-year age group are Fourth or Fifth Wave immigrants. These graphs are unavailable for all metropolitan areas, as they depend on the number of Ukrainians in the metropolitan area. However, even if one lives in a city with few Ukrainians, there is likely some data about the community.

Numbers of Fourth and Fifth Wave immigrants and their age distributions vary widely among the metropolitan areas. This is illustrated with graphs for Chicago and Pittsburgh. Close to half of all Ukrainians in Chicago are Fourth or Fifth Wave immigrants in 2022, with 25 percent Fourth Wave and 20 percent Fifth Wave immigrants. The situation in Pittsburgh is very different; 94 percent are neither Fourth nor Fifth Wave immigrants, with six percent in the Fourth Wave and practically no Fifth Wave immigrants.

Figure 1 shows the percent distribution of Ukrainians by wave status and large age groups for Pittsburgh and Chicago. The graph for Pittsburgh confirms that there are very few Fourth Wave immigrants in 2022 and practically no Fifth Wave immigrants. In Chicago, only the 0-4 age group has no immigrants, which may be due to sampling error. All the other age groups have sizeable proportions of immigrants from both waves. For example, only 40 percent of Ukrainians aged 25-44 are non-immigrants, while 33 percent are Fourth Wave and 27 percent are Fifth Wave immigrants.

The pyramid for Pittsburgh is shown in Figure 2 and is consistent with the graph in Figure 1. The proportion of Fourth Wave immigrants is very small and concentrated in older age groups. There are hardly any Fifth Wave immigrants.

The Chicago age-sex pyramid is consistent with the more complex situation shown in Figure 1. First, Fourth Wave immigrants can be found in practically all age groups, with proportionally more female than male immigrants. Second, Fifth Wave immigrants are found in young and middle age groups. Third, in many 5-year age groups, Fourth and Fifth Wave immigrants comprise more than half of all persons in that age group.

Data in the Fifth Migration Wave section were described in a previous article in The Ukrainian Weekly, and more detailed data is available on the website, which has much more detailed data on this wave of migration.

The section Impact of Fourth and Fifth Waves addresses an important and timely topic, i.e., the impact of these two migration waves from Ukraine on the Ukrainian-American community. An overview of the dynamics of the two waves is provided, followed by their age-sex structure. Then, two tables show the migration wave structure

(Continued on page 14)

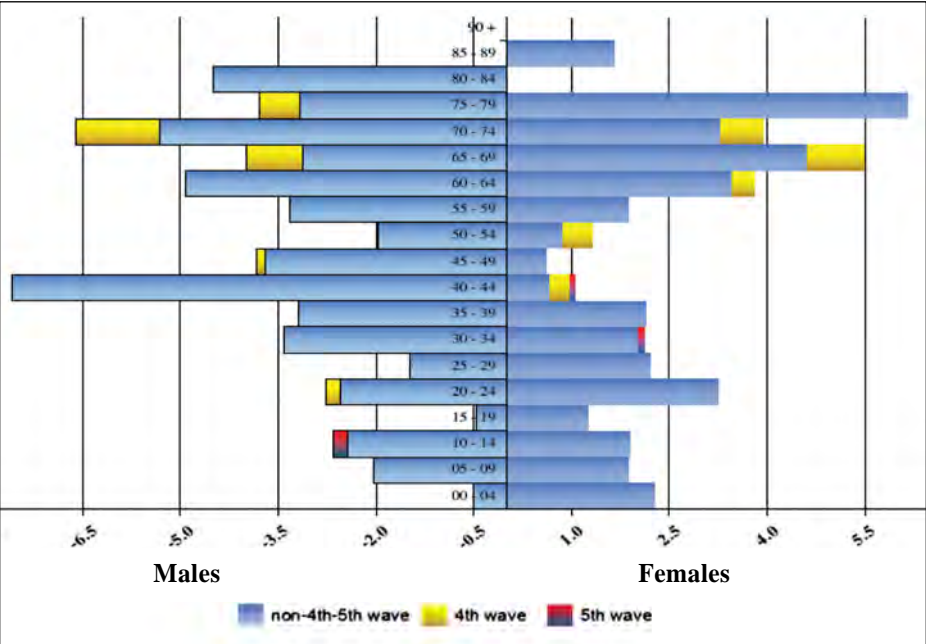


Figure 2. Age-sex Pyramid of Pittsburgh, 2022

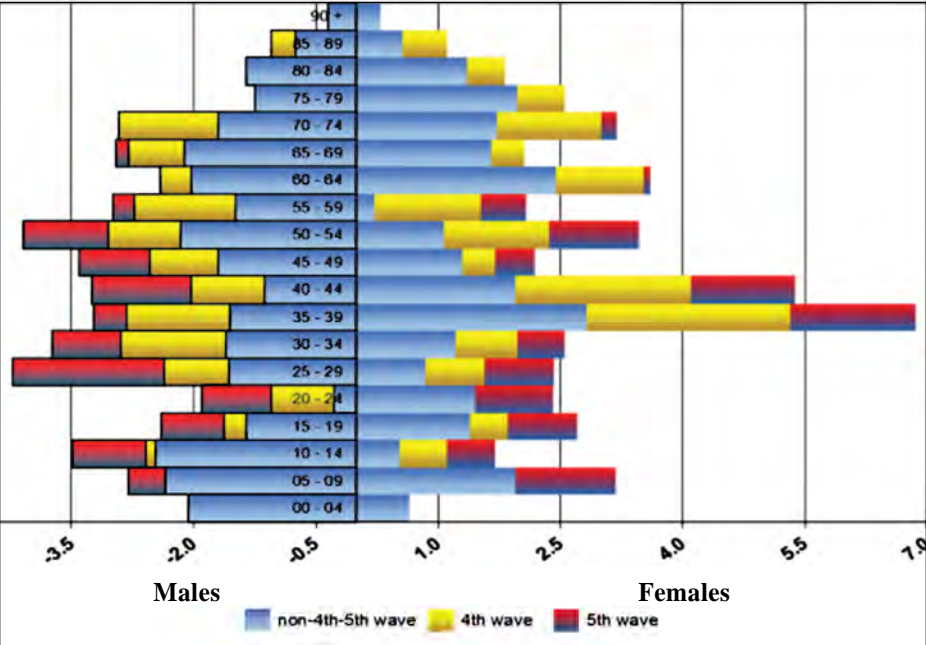


Figure 3. Age-sex Pyramid of Chicago, 2022.

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“

MY SUPPORT FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE IS UNWAVERING. I HAVE BEEN PROUD TO STAND WITH UKRAINE. THERE ARE SOME IN MY COUNTRY WHO WOULD FORCE UKRAINE TO GIVE UP LARGE PARTS OF ITS SOVEREIGN TERRITORY. THESE PROPOSALS ARE THE SAME OF THOSE OF PUTIN. THEY ARE NOT PROPOSALS FOR PEACE ... THEY ARE PROPOSALS FOR SURRENDER, WHICH IS DANGEROUS AND UNACCEPTABLE.”

VICE PRESIDENT KAMALA HARRIS
The White House, September 26, 2024

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Teach for Ukraine...

(Continued from page 3)

about their future and their education.”

The program is mutually beneficial, Ms. Matiiash says, as it gives the fellows “an opportunity to contribute to something that is crucial for the future of Ukraine.”

In collaboration with the World Bank, Teach for Ukraine has been piloting a new approach to addressing the problem of learning losses caused by long-term online learning and the disruptions of war, namely through tutoring in small groups.

A review of the program has shown that this type of “intervention adds almost 14 months of extra learning for children in math and almost 11 months of extra learning in the Ukrainian language,” Ms. Matiiash says.

The program is known in Ukrainian as Educational Soup (Osvitniy Sup) – a witty wordplay on the term “education support.”

Ms. Matiiash was one of 12 non-profit leaders and social entrepreneurs from around the globe who spent the 2023-2024 academic year at Columbia University in New York City as an Obama Foundation Scholar. In addition to taking courses that could enhance her work at Teach for Ukraine, she said it was an “opportunity to advocate, of course, about Ukraine but primarily about our children – the [country’s] future human capital,” which she did during her interactions with practitioners from U.S. philanthropy, academia, business and politics.

And yes, that included former U.S.



Courtesy of Teach for Ukraine

Oksana Matiiash is the chief executive officer of Teach for Ukraine.

President Barack Obama, said the native of Ternopil, Ukraine.

“We had a private roundtable with President Obama. I was really struck by the fact that he was so well-prepared, he knew who we [the scholars] are, he learned a fact from our biographies so he knew that I was doing Teach for Ukraine. ... And I know that before the Obama Scholars are selected President Obama approves the list of the finalists. So, it’s a huge acknowledgment of our work.”

Besides engaging with the former president, Ms. Matiiash also had the chance to talk with Hillary Clinton – a former U.S. Secretary of State who currently leads the Institute of Global Politics at Columbia –



Vasylyna Borysiuk

Yulia Zdanovska was a Teach for Ukraine fellow in rural Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine.

and thank her for her support of Ukraine.

“It was great for me to be able to tell her in person that this is so important for us back at home,” says Ms. Matiiash.

Beyond its teaching fellowship program, Teach for Ukraine continues to ramp up its emergency response to the war with the help of donor organizations and philanthropists. These efforts include online tutoring classes, safe learning spaces for displaced children, in-person summer camps and well-being programs, thus far providing more than 20,000 children with academic and psycho-social support during the war.

When asked about how she copes with the devastation of the war, Ms. Matiiash

related the story of one of the Teach for Ukraine fellows, Yulia Zdanovska, a young, gifted and award-winning mathematician and computer scientist who was killed in the first days of Russia’s full-scale invasion.

Ms. Zdanovska had been teaching math in the village of Yuryivka in the Dnipropetrovsk region but was back home in Kharkiv when the war broke out and decided to join local humanitarian assistance efforts. She was killed by a Russian missile while she was volunteering at the regional state administration building. Ms. Zdanovska died at the age of 21.

“She wanted to make every child in Ukraine fall in love with math, that’s how passionate she was about her subject,” the CEO of Teach for Ukraine said.

“After her death,” Ms. Matiiash says, “I, personally, and my team – we decided that we are staying in Ukraine to continue supporting the education of children, their mental health, their well-being, no matter what. And it helps when you have meaning in your day-to-day life, when the world around is falling apart. I mean the blackouts, the constant air raid sirens. ... The most important thing is that we have an important mission that we are focusing on and I think that’s why it’s possible for us to cope.”

The Kyiv city council has renamed a street in honor of Ms. Zdanovska. It is adjacent to one of the campuses of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, her alma mater. Formerly named after 18th century Russian scientist Mikhail Lomonosov, the street is now another emblem of Ukraine’s struggle against the Russian imperial world.

Zelenskyy begins...

(Continued from page 1)

Biden, were forced to abandon travel plans as southern states braced for Hurricane Milton as it bore down on the Florida coast.

Mr. Zelenskyy’s press service said he would start negotiations “with key partners on whom the military component of our strengthening depends.”

A spokesman for Mr. Starmer told journalists that the British prime minister would “reiterate the U.K.’s iron-clad support for Ukraine in the face of ongoing Russian aggression.”

The Ukrainian leader is also scheduled to travel to Rome for meetings with Italian Prime Minister Georgia Meloni on October 10 and Pope Francis at the Vatican on October 11.

Mr. Macron’s meeting with Mr. Zelenskyy “will provide an opportunity for the president to reaffirm France’s determination to continue to support, in the long run and with all its allies, an infallible support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people,” the French presidency said in a statement.

Mr. Zelenskyy is then due in Germany for consultations with Chancellor Olaf Scholz on October 11.

The Ramstein group summit planned for October 12 as well as a so-called Quad meeting of the United States, Britain, France and Germany for talks on Ukraine, were put off after Mr. Biden canceled his trip to Europe because of Hurricane Milton.

Mr. Zelenskyy is seeking to secure as much military and financial aid as possible ahead of next month’s U.S. presidential election.

The United States has been Ukraine’s main backer and by far the main contributor in terms of financial and military aid, but some political analysts have said that a victory by Donald Trump in the elections could cast doubt about Washington’s continued support for Kyiv.

On October 9, Mr. Zelenskyy attended a summit with Balkan leaders in Croatia where he stressed the importance of European unity for a durable peace.

“No one in Europe needs to be reminded how precious peace is, especially here in the Balkans. What happens here in the Balkans and what happens in Ukraine in a way determines the stability of the whole of Europe,” Mr. Zelenskyy said.

Summit participants passed a declaration condemning Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and supporting Mr. Zelenskyy’s peace efforts, Ukraine’s membership in NATO, and its reconstruction after the war.

On the battlefield, outmanned and outgunned Ukrainian forces were fighting Russian troops inside the strategic city of Toretsk in the eastern region of Donetsk after abandoning Vuhledar, another strategic hub in the region, last week.

Russian forces, meanwhile, shelled Ukraine’s Dnipropetrovsk and Zaporizhia regions, wounding several people and causing further destruction, regional authorities reported.

Separately, Ukraine’s air force reported that it had downed 41 Russian drones out of 62 launched early on October 10 at targets in the Odesa, Poltava and Donetsk regions of the war-ravaged country.

Mr. Zelenskyy, speaking at the summit in Croatia with Balkan leaders on October 9, stressed the importance of European unity.

If Europe is not united, it cannot expect peace, Mr. Zelenskyy said, speaking in Dubrovnik at the start of the third Ukraine-Southeast Europe summit.

“Even though there is much political tension, we must ensure that our unity in Europe remains as stable as possible,” he added.

He also thanked Balkan leaders for their support “and for standing up against Russia’s efforts to destabilize this region as well.”

The leaders of 12 countries – Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Turkey – joined Mr. Zelenskyy and Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic for the summit.

Five of the countries whose leaders are participating in the event – Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Romania and Slovenia – are European Union members; the other

nations are on different stages of their paths toward joining the bloc.

Mr. Zelenskyy said earlier that there is a chance to “move things toward peace and lasting stability” between now and the end of the year.

“The situation on the battlefield creates an opportunity to make this choice – choice for decisive action to end the war no later than in 2025,” he told the summit.

Mr. Plenkovic said investing in defense and showing solidarity with Ukraine were key geopolitical interests for everyone.

By helping Ukraine “we are investing in the future for our children in all of Europe,” he said. “Not condemning Russia in this attack on Ukraine would encourage other regimes to do similar or the same thing. In Southeast Europe, we must not allow this to happen.”

Prior to the start of the summit, Messrs. Zelenskyy and Plenkovic signed a 10-year bilateral agreement on cooperation and Croatia’s support to Ukraine after their meeting.

The agreement is focused on Croatia’s

experience in prosecuting war crimes, supporting war veterans, demining and the process of joining the European Union, Mr. Plenkovic said on X.

Summit participants passed a declaration condemning Russia’s aggression against Ukraine and supporting Mr. Zelenskyy’s peace efforts, Ukraine’s membership in NATO, and its reconstruction after the war.

The declaration emphasized the importance of Ukraine’s energy security. It also says that the Zaporizhia nuclear power plant must be returned to Ukrainian control and function in accordance with the principles of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

(With reporting by Reuters and AFP)

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Russians use...

(Continued from page 1)

Tochnyi analyst Mr. Perpetua, in an interview with ATP Geopolitics, said that countering electronic warfare (EW) is the way forward. If important financial assistance for the purchase of EW is not provided, more civilians in Kherson will become victims of Russian terror, he said.

As Mr. Perpetua noted, the situation could be improved with relatively little Western financial assistance (around \$1,000,000) due to the civilian nature of the drones used on the frontline. Many of the unmanned aerial vehicles used there are the DJI Mavic-3s.

A Russian Telegram channel with more than 1.2 million subscribers has appeared and it charges \$5 a month to watch videos of Ukrainians being killed, according to United 24, which is affiliated with the Ukrainian Presidential Office.

Called Arkhangel Spetznaz, the channel was established in 2021 and started sharing videos of Russia’s all-out war since its outset in February 2022.

“Their content is not only physically violent – it includes psychological torture, too,” United 24 wrote. “For example, in one video they interrogated a 16-year-old girl who, according to the channel, was sharing Russian troop movement coordinates with the Ukrainian military. In the video, she appears to speak under duress, seemingly reading a forced statement.”

Russian website IStories has published videos from the group and reported that in the last two months alone the Telegram channel collected \$317,000 in viewership revenues and another \$600 in advertising.

“The channel is believed to frequently change hands, but one thing remains constant: the steady flow of funding from subscribers eager to watch the brutal killing of Ukrainians, all while fueling the Russian propaganda machine,” United 24 said.



Photo courtesy of the Plast Chicago archive

Members of the Chicago branch of Plast are seen during the 2014 Orlykiada competition at the Soyuzivka Heritage Center in Kerhonskon, N.Y.



Photo courtesy of the Plast Chicago archive

Members of the Chicago branch of Plast are seen during a June 2015 camping trip to the Grand Canyon.

Plast Chicago kicks off 75th anniversary celebration with exhibit of organization's memorabilia

by Halyna Kuzyszyn-Holubec

CHICAGO – Hundreds of photos, memoirs, merit badges and other items from Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in the U.S. were on display at the Ukrainian National Museum to honor the local chapter's 75th anniversary of its founding in Chicago.

The exhibit opening on September 21 was attended by various scout members – from the youngest to some of the oldest – and featured items from the Ukrainian National Museum's vast collection of Plast archives. The exhibit closed on October 6.

Further celebrations of the 75th anniversary of Chicago's Plast branch will include a music and entertainment evening at the Ukrainian National Museum on October 12 and a banquet and dance on November 30 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Chicago Avenue.

The many exhibited photos from years of Plast scouting activity are a testament to the dedication and tireless work of the branch's founders, who understood the importance of continuing the Plast tradition in their adopted, new homeland.

Plast was revitalized after the end of World War II in the displaced persons camps of Germany and Austria and further expanded its global footprint with emigration to the U.S., Canada and other countries. The organization resumed activity in many cities, including Chicago, where new generations of immigrants experienced the charm of Plast life.

On July 31, 1949, Chicago's Plast branch held its first general meeting. Individual troop meetings were at first held in peoples' homes, in the hall of St. Nicholas Cathedral, and, as enrollment grew, in the Chicago building of the Ukrainian National Association.

The Plast Chicago chapter, benefitting from fundraising campaigns, eventually bought its own property in 1956. Later, in 1967, the organization moved its activities to another building along Chicago Avenue and in 1982 to the latest Plast headquarters.

Although there were two Plast campgrounds owned by the Chicago branch in the past, the current campground in Round Lake, Ill., has been owned and managed by



Marko Pilecky

Plast Chicago members take part in the branch's September 8 opening ceremony at the UYCO campground Round Lake, Ill.

the Ukrainian Youth Camping Organization (UYCO) corporation. The UYCO camping site has served as a venue for scouting activities and Ukrainian community events since its founding in 1955.

Hundreds of children and teens are able to partake in the Plast scouting program thanks to the founding members of the organization, who despite finding themselves in a new country, passed along the tradition of life principles, love of God and Ukraine, and self-discipline and leadership to their young members. Through activities such as camps, weekly troop meetings, merit badge acquisition and teamwork – all conducted in the Ukrainian language – Plast founders reared the next generations of Ukrainian community leaders.

At the opening of the exhibit, Marta Farion, president of the Kyiv-Mohyla Foundation of America, highlighted the organization's value, and underscored the many community leadership positions held by members of Plast in Chicago and beyond. She also acknowledged the many members of the organization who have taken their Plast training and principles and joined the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Sadly, to date, at least 65 members of the organization have sacrificed their lives defending freedom for future generations.

Opening reception speakers also included current Plast Chicago branch leader ("stanychnyi") Andrew Kolomayets who welcomed exhibit visitors and thanked Ukrainian National Museum Director Lydia Tkaczuk (former Plast Chicago branch

leader "stanychna") for hosting the event.

Special thanks were also directed to 75th anniversary committee head Julie Kashuba for planning the exhibit and subsequent celebrations. Ivanka Gajecy, a Chicago branch scout leader, spoke about the gratification of belonging to and evolving in an organization such as Plast throughout one's life.

Chicago branch parent Nadiya Wozny underscored how impressed she was with Plast when she arrived in the U.S. years ago, while Plast youth member Oleh Kurylo spoke about Plast membership as a lifelong commitment and thanked his parents for enrolling him in the organization when the family arrived from Ukraine a few years ago. His father, Oleh Kurylo, Sr., contributed to the exhibit by donating 17 display boxes full of Plast merit badges and pins from various camps and activities to the museum. The collection belonged to former Chicago branch member Orest Horodysky.

Hundreds of photographs, badges and pins from camps and other activities and various publications reflect the rich history of the Plast organization, said Ukrainian National Museum Archivist Halyna Parasiuk.

While collaborating on the displays with the Plast 75th anniversary team, Ms. Parasiuk said she was impressed by the rich history and longevity of the organization. One of the treasures on display from the permanent collection of the Ukrainian National Museum is a handwritten history, complete with photos, of the evolution of Plast in displaced persons camps written

by deceased Plast Chicago branch member Roma Turianska.

The book contains hundreds of pages of memoirs from various camps, training seminars and activities of the many Plast groups in those camps throughout Germany and Austria. Her essays document the chronology of the re-establishment of Plast on foreign soil and are a testament to the innate sense of purpose, national identity and community fostered through the Plast scouting program. It is these organization objectives that have given Plast such longevity and have generated further interest and enrollment.

Other displayed items were donated by Plast Chicago branch members Taras Liskevych and his sister Ulana Liskevych, who donated a Ukrainian doll collection crafted by youths for a contest at the 1967 Plast World Scouting Jamboree in Montreal.

Additional badges were provided by Yura Zajac, and more objects from the collection of the late Roman Zavadovych, a longtime Plast Chicago leader ("stanychnyi"), were donated by Tamara Hankewych.

Today, Plast in Chicago is continuing the tradition of its founders who worked tirelessly to pass on their love of scouting, Ukrainian culture and identity, and fostered leadership skills for the future of Ukraine and Ukrainian communities throughout the world.

More information on the Plast Chicago branch and its 75th anniversary celebrations can be found online at www.plastchicago.org.

Turning...

(Continued from page 6)

council of bishops, where an election would be held to select a new church leader. Just as with political elections, Russian interference and provocation, as well as the seizure of church properties, were expected in ecclesiastical matters. In anticipation of violent attacks, Ukraine's Internal Affairs Ministry increased security measures

nationwide at places of worship.

Moreover, Moscow was also likely angered that, since Russia's annexation of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, as well as the Luhansk and Donetsk regions in 2014, nearly 100 parishes of the UOC-MP had switched over to the Kyiv Patriarchate.

Archbishop Yevstratiy Zorya of the UOC-KP said survey findings at the time showed more people had begun attending UOC-KP churches, and he added that another reason people switched churches was because

the UOC-MP called the war in the Donbas a civil war rather than an act of Russian aggression.

On October 12, war criminal Igor Girkin (a former colonel in the Russian Federal Security Service) admitted on Russian television that he fought alongside monks from the UOC-MP-controlled Sviatohirsk monastery and he added that they were part of his personal security detail.

The Orthodox Church of Ukraine – which was created at a unification council Sobor

at the Cathedral of St. Sophia in Kyiv that elected Metropolitan Epifaniy as its prime hierarch on December 15, 2018 – was formally granted autocephaly on January 5, 2019, following the signing of the Tomos of Autocephaly by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew.

Source: "Moscow severs ties with Constantinople over Ukraine Church's independence," by Mark Raczkiewicz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 21, 2018.

The West doesn't...

(Continued from page 5)

because none of us, fair enough, knows how that will play out.

I think that's wrong in all sorts of ways, because frankly we're already in my worst-case scenario, with the potential to take over Ukraine. But I think the truth – the real dirty uncomfortable reality – is that Ukraine can kind of be sacrificed if it means something approaching the old world order can be maintained.

I'm not suggesting they want to sacrifice Ukraine, they don't; they're not the devil, but they're not the angel either. So, the problem is we sort of have the worst of both worlds, an uncomfortable situation whereby you actually don't have a frozen conflict but a protracted conflict because we don't want to let it go, we don't want to win, we don't want to lose. That leads to paralysis.

RFE/RL: If a Russian defeat is not manageable and a Ukrainian defeat is also not manageable and desirable, what is manageable?

Mr. Nixey: What appears to be manageable is the new normal whereby you have a hot war, amazingly, which is apparently containable, with no spillover; it isn't extended into Moldova or [the] Baltic states, or Georgia even.

It is funny, isn't it, how comfortable policymakers are with here and now, because it's the existence that they are living in and how uncomfortable they are with almost any change. Even [former U.K. Prime Minister Margaret] Thatcher didn't want the unification of Germany. We know this from the records because she didn't understand or know how it would play out. To you, it looks completely obvious, but that's hindsight, and she was pretty good on Cold War issues, but that's the point.

It just goes to show how policymakers don't want to reach for a substantive change. They are uncomfortable with the idea of anything that could shake up their little world. And that unfortunately creates the paralysis, the unhappiness, and the protraction of the situation.

There is a problem at the top, a lack of leadership with people who do not think like the president of Estonia or

the president of Finland, or whatever, because they are much more concerned with the global status quo. They don't see the risks from history and from [the] present that these countries on the front line do. There's a totally different mentality. If you are living in Lisbon, and if you're living in Tallinn, of course, you see different pictures. I do get that, just unfortunately we shouldn't be listening to Lisbon as much as to Tallinn, but we do.

RFE/RL: To sum up, is the modus operandi then to wait, contain this war, and wait until Russia gets bored and decides to [leave?]

Mr. Nixey: Just on a microcosmic note, if you look at the F-16 [fighter jets] now delivered [to Ukraine], we do not still know what the restrictions on their use really are, especially while Russia is building airfields near the Ukrainian border.

Are the Americans giving permission to use that or not? It's a small, important element of what I think your question is. When we look back on this, when we're older, I would imagine that the Biden administration will not come out very well. History will not judge it well, just like it doesn't judge [former U.S. President Barack] Obama well, unfortunately, because they're good people, [U.S. President Joe] Biden's a good person.

I suspect that if we have this continual arc of instability in whatever form, however this turns out but beyond [the] borders of Ukraine, then we will be able to point to this administration for its inability, albeit hamstrung by Congress, etc., for its inability to exert its power.

[The United States] is a powerful country. It's much more powerful than any other country in the world, including China itself. And it's not willing to use it. Russia, by contrast, is not a powerful country, but it uses all the power it can possibly muster, and that's a difference. Russia's maximum extension of its power appears to be more than America's minimal extension of its power.

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Chornomorska Sitch to mark 100th anniversary with centennial banquet

by Matthew Dubas

WHIPPANY, N.J. — The Ukrainian athletic-educational association Chornomorska Sitch announced it will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its founding with a centennial banquet dubbed "Cheers to 100 Years" on October 19 at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey in Whippany, N.J.

The evening's program, which will take place at 6-11 p.m., includes a cocktail reception, gala dinner and celebratory program followed by dancing.

Chornomorska Sitch was founded in Newark, N.J., on December 21, 1924, and has a proud history of fostering youth and adult sports programs, hosting a youth sports camp, and supporting the UACCNJ. The centennial milestone is a testament to the organization's longevity and its unwavering commitment to the Ukrainian community through sports and cultural activities (An extensive history of Chornomorska Sitch is available at www.sitchsports.com/about-us).

Formal attire is requested and the event is for individuals 21 and older, with limited seating. Reservations can be made online at www.sitchsports.com, and ticket price is \$125 (no tickets will be sold at the door).

Additional information can be obtained via e-mail (sitch100yeargala@gmail.com) or by calling (216) 390-0404. Commemorative items, including apparel, player uniform packages, and sporting gear are also available for purchase online at www.newgensportsgroup.store/sitch-storefront or by email (support@newgensportsgroup.com). The UACCNJ is located at 60-C North Jefferson Road in Whippany, N.J., 07981.

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BOOK NOTES

Graphic novel on Holodomor featured by Publisher's Weekly

"Red Harvest: A Graphic Novel of The Terror Famine in 1930s Ukraine," by Michael Cherkas, New York: Nantier Beall Minoustchine (NBM) Graphic Novels, 2023. 145 pp. ISBN: 9781681123202 \$19.99 (hardcover), also available in e-book (\$9.99)

by Matthew Dubas

The ongoing, full-scale war that Russia has unleashed against Ukraine has revealed the genocidal nature of Russian President Vladimir Putin and the attempt by Russia to cover up its war crimes in Ukraine. In light of these current events, "Red Harvest: A Graphic Novel of The Terror Famine in Soviet Ukraine" by Michael Cherkas recounts the Soviet-designed Holodomor of 1932-1933 that targeted Ukrainians for destruction through Stalin's policies of agricultural collectivization. Those policies included the seizure of livestock, farm implements, crops, seed stock and other property, which is reminiscent of Russia's current actions on the territory of Ukraine.

Using a combination of survivors' stories, anecdotes and historical accounts from the Holodomor, Mr. Cherkas explains for a non-Ukrainian audience the scope of the famine that killed millions of Ukrainians.

"The seed for a graphic novel about the Holodomor was first planted around 2008 by a fellow cartoonist with a Ukrainian parent. I spent 5 of 6 years debating whether I could tell this story in comic book form," Mr. Cherkas said. "All of my previous work had fallen into the 'light entertainment' category – that is, comics that are fun to read. Red Harvest is the exact opposite: it will make you cry. I made slow progress on the project until the pandemic hit in 2020,



unaware that the simmering Russian-Ukrainian conflict would explode into all-out war a couple of years later."

Mr. Cherkas' story follows the experiences of the main character, Mykola Kovalenko, a Ukrainian immigrant to Canada who was the only member of his immediate family to have survived the famine. Through his memories, the reader experiences the Kovalenko family's struggles to survive, while resisting Stalin and the ruling Communist Party.

Describing his approach to the novel, Mr. Cherkas said in the book's introduction that he made numerous attempts at illustration styles.

"Then I revisited some of my early sketches and rawness of these drawings

(Continued on page 15)

Passaic, N.J., Ukrainian Center features accordion fest and sing-along



The Ukrainian Center on Hope Avenue in Passaic, N.J., featured an accordion fest and sing-along during its Ukrainian Center Appreciation Night on September 6. Among the performers were (front row, from left to right) Alex Juskin, Alex Chudolij, Walter Syzonenko, Michael Koziupa, Alex Syzonenko, and (back row, from left to right) Richard Hoholuk, Peter Chudolij, Jaroslaw Palylyk and Roman Radzikh. The center will also hold an Oktoberfest event on October 25 that will feature live music by Swingman & The Misfit Mutts. The band includes Clifton Mayor and drummer Ray Grabowski. Tickets, which include a buffet and one pitcher of beer for each table, are \$50 before October 15 and \$60 after. For more information about the event, readers can email questions to ukrainiancenter@gmail.com.

– Tom Hawrylko

Novel on Paris Peace Conference of 1919 draws parallels to Ukrainian history

"A Prelude to Versailles: Love and Intrigue at the Paris Peace Conference," by Mark Anthony Sullivan, Spring Lake, N.J.: published by author. 2023. 280pp. ISBN: 97809999050729. \$15.75 (paperback)

by Matthew Dubas

"A Prelude to Versailles: Love and Intrigue at the Paris Peace Conference," by Mark Anthony Sullivan, recounts a tale surrounding the Paris Peace Conference in Versailles, France, held in 1919. Lt. George Murphy, an American veteran of World War I who was recovering in a hospital in Paris, is a member of the U.S. delegation at the peace talks at Versailles. He is among the few American officers who speak French, but he navigates a thorny situation, including being accused of murder. He meets Fiona McDermott, an Irish woman who is seeking international recognition of an independent Irish Republic. McDermott and Murphy form a romantic connection, but become targeted by assassins in Paris.

The book is a work of fiction, and the author reminds the reader that names, characters, places and incidents are the products of his imagination or are used fictitiously, except for news reports and other historical media reports.

A review by Grant Leishman that appeared in Reader's Favorite says the book has "a fast-moving, action-packed style, reminiscent of old-school spy novels." Notably, Mr. Leishman explained his attraction to the novel, noting "...how the major powers [at the conference] were seeking to undermine [Woodrow] Wilson's original ideas of nation-building and democratic sovereignty using the conference as a means to grab more land." The Germans were not invited to the conference, which Mr. Leishman suspects led to the quick rise of Hitler and ultra-nationalist beliefs so soon after the signing of the Treaty of Versailles.

"Historical fiction built around significant events in history is such a joy to read as it educates and informs as much as it entertains," Mr. Leishman explained.

The parallels drawn between Ireland and Ukraine in the book also cannot be understated, with Ireland attempting to



escape the British yoke, while Ukraine was under Soviet oppression at the time.

"This is a wonderful read with plenty of twists and turns that one would expect from a good spy thriller," Mr. Leishman wrote, adding that he enjoyed it immensely and highly recommends the book.

Mr. Sullivan is a retired judge. Before that, he served in the field artillery of the 23rd Infantry Division during the Vietnam War, which provided the background for his first novel, "Firebase, a Novel of Wartime Vietnam Suspense and Romance." He is also the author of "New Jersey Consumer Fraud," a non-fiction work in its ninth edition. Mr. Sullivan was born in Jersey City, N.J., but now lives in Spring Lake, N.J., with his wife Marlene and their cocker-spaniel, Teddy.

In a letter to The Ukrainian Weekly, Mr. Sullivan described how one of the characters in the book is based on his grandfather, Congressman James A. Hamill, who served as counsel to the Ukrainian delegation at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919.

The book is available in paperback from online booksellers, including Amazon and Barnes & Noble.

Zelenskyy's...

(Continued from page 2)

accession to NATO; and calling a second "world peace summit," this time with Russia's participation, in November this year, following up on the first such summit that Switzerland hosted in June this year without Russia's participation (President. gov.ua, September 24, 29, October 1, 2; RBK-Ukraine, September 30).

Kyiv professes hope that the October meeting of the U.S.-led Ramstein Group at the level of heads of state and government will arm Ukraine properly for regaining some territories ahead of any negotiations with Russia. This would presuppose a major policy change in Washington. The existing policy does not lead to negotiating "peace through strength" as Kyiv sees it.

Meanwhile, the Biden administration and the German government are the leading opponents of inviting Ukraine to join NATO. The White House adopted this position publicly in May 2021, before Russia's all-out invasion of Ukraine. Expecting this administration or Berlin to reverse their position any time soon on Kyiv's victory plan timeframe appears unrealistic. Kyiv's

victory plan indirectly concedes this by seeking Western interim security guarantees outside of NATO. By the same token, it implies that the bilateral security agreements fall short of providing reliable security guarantees (see Eurasia Daily Monitor, August 6, 7, and 14 [1], [2]).

Mr. Zelenskyy's plan aspires to levels of U.S. and European military support that would turn the tide of the war in Ukraine's favor, even if not regaining the Russian-occupied territories in their entirety.

A war outcome that would leave Ukrainian territories under Russian occupation with the country devastated economically and demographically, the east of Ukraine stranded outside NATO, and Western partners instead of Russia funding Ukraine's reconstruction would add up to Russia's victory. Kyiv's declared goal, however, is a "just and sustainable peace." This formulation allows Kyiv and its Western partners with some leeway for redefining the notions of victory or defeat according to political necessity.

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RUMP SAVE UKRAINE STOP TRUMP SAVE UKRAINE STOP TRUMP

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

es for the worse" in the attitude of Russian troops toward Ukrainian POWs. The United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine presented a report in March about the execution of at least 32 Ukrainian POWs in 12 separate cases between December 2023 and February, which was significantly higher than in any other previous period. In March 2023, the ICC's pre-trial chamber issued warrants for the arrest of Russian President Vladimir Putin and Maria Lvova-Belova, Russia's commissioner for children's rights, charging them with the deportation of Ukrainian children to Russia – a war crime under international legislation. "The message should be clear, regardless of whether someone is a head of state, government, commander or soldier. As the U.N. secretary-general has said, even wars have rules, and no one has the right to execute a civilian or a prisoner of war," Mr. Khan said. "And if such a person acts with impunity, then it will fall under the jurisdiction of the ICC, because we have jurisdiction over the events in Ukraine," he added. (RFE/RL's Valeria Yehoshyna)

Ukrainian media outlet being pressured

The editorial board of one of Ukraine's most respected media outlets, Ukrayinska

Pravda, has accused President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's office of launching an "ongoing and systematic pressure" campaign against it that threatens the independence of its work. In a statement released on October 9, the publication accused President Zelenskyy's administration of attempting to influence editorial policy and individual journalists. Ukrayinska Pravda alleged that government officials are hindering its work by blocking interviews, pressuring businesses to withdraw advertising and initiating "emotionally-charged communication" between President Zelenskyy and its journalist, Roman Kravets, during an August press conference. "These and other non-public signals suggest attempts to influence our editorial policy," the statement said, adding that such actions are particularly alarming during Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine when journalistic independence is critical. The editorial board warned that any further efforts to sway reporting would be publicly exposed and "will have consequences at the international level." Mr. Zelenskyy's office has yet to comment on the allegations. RFE/RL reached out to his press office for comments on the newspaper's allegations, but did not receive a response. Sevhił Musayeva, Ukrayinska Pravda's editor-in-chief, has previously claimed that the president's office tried to block advertising on the media outlet's website and that the publication's owner

has resisted offers to sell it, which she described as part of the pressure campaign. Ukrayinska Pravda was founded by Heorhiy Gongadze, a prominent Ukrainian journalist. Mr. Gongadze gained international attention after his abduction and murder in 2000, which many believe was politically motivated. His death sparked protests and became a symbol of the fight for a free press in Ukraine. Ukrayinska Pravda continues to play a significant role in Ukrainian journalism under the ownership of Czech businessman Tomas Fiala. (RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service)

U.S. says it disrupted Russian hacking group

A hacking group tied to Russian intelligence has been disrupted, Microsoft and U.S. authorities said on October 3. American officials say the group tried to break into the computer systems of former U.S. military and intelligence staff as well as non-governmental organizations, U.S. companies and others. A U.S. court unsealed documents authorizing Microsoft and the Department of Justice to seize more than 100 website domain names associated with the hacking group, known as the Callisto Group of Star Blizzard. "This seizure is part of a coordinated response with our private sector partners to dismantle the infrastructure that cyberespionage actors use to attack U.S. and international targets," said U.S. Attorney Ismail J. Ramsey for the Northern District of California. The group targeted individuals with e-mails that appeared to come from a trusted source, a tactic known as spear phishing, the U.S. Justice Department said in a news release. Once links inside these e-mails were opened, the hackers would attempt to

access the victims' internal systems as a way of stealing information and disrupting their activities. Star Blizzard's actions were persistent and sophisticated, according to Microsoft, and the group often did detailed research on its targets before launching an attack. Star Blizzard also went after civil society groups, U.S. companies, American military contractors and the Department of Energy, which oversees many nuclear programs, the company said. Authorities haven't provided details about Star Blizzard's effectiveness but said they expect Russia to keep deploying hacking and cyberattacks against Washington and its allies, and the United States pledged to continue its vigilance. "With the continued support of our private sector partners, we will be relentless in exposing Russian actors and cybercriminals and depriving them of the tools of their illicit trade," Deputy Attorney General Lisa Monaco said in the Justice Department statement. U.S. authorities charged two Russian men last year in connection with Star Blizzard's past actions. Both are believed to be in Russia. Along with American targets, Star Blizzard went after people and groups throughout Europe and in other North Atlantic Treaty Organization countries, the Justice Department said. Many had supported Ukraine following Russia's invasion. (RFE/RL, with reporting by AP)

Russia blocks Discord messenger

Amid intensifying pressure on technology platforms, Russian communications regulator Roskomnadzor on October 8 announced the official blocking of the

(Continued on page 15)

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Updated data...

(Continued from page 7)

and age composition in each state and metropolitan area.

The next three tables provide a more detailed picture of the dynamics of migrant composition of the 124 metropolitan areas with 1,000 or more Ukrainians in 2022. The first table illustrates the Fourth and Fifth Wave composition dynamics of the 124 metropolitan areas. Populations of each metropolitan area are shown for 2000, 2014 and 2022. Additional data for each metropolitan area are percentages and numbers of Fourth Wave immigrants in 2000 and 2014 and similar data for Fourth and Fifth Wave immigrants in 2022.

The last two tables have data on 11 metropolitan areas with fast-growing numbers of Ukrainians between 2000 and 2022. The first table has data on the percentage of Fourth Wave immigrants in 2000 and 2010 and the percentages of Fourth and Fifth Wave immigrants in 2022. The table shows to what extent immigrants from Ukraine contributed to the extraordinary increase in the number of Ukrainians in these areas. The second table shows the distribution of English, Ukrainian and Russian speakers in 2000 and 2022; it addresses whether there were significant changes in the percentages of Ukrainian and Russian speakers among immigrants during this period. Two extreme cases of these fast-growing metropolitan areas are described briefly: Spartanburg, S.C., and Olympia, Wash.

Spartanburg had the largest increase in the number of Ukrainians between 2000 and 2022, from 357 to 4,969, an increase of 1,292 percent. The data show that this growth was fueled mainly by Fourth Wave immigrants, with a significant contribution by Fifth Wave immigrants in 2022. The language composition of these immigrants changed drastically between 2000 and

2022. In 2000, 32 percent were English speakers, 7 percent were Ukrainian speakers and 62 percent were Russian speakers. By 2022, the proportions of Ukrainian and Russian speakers were completely reversed, with 62 and 11 percent, respectively.

Olympia can be considered the opposite of Spartanburg, with no Fourth or Fifth Wave immigrants and 100 percent English speakers in 2000 and the same situation in 2022.

Some information on the restructured website has been touched on briefly. The few specific examples give some idea of the posted data and hopefully will motivate the reader to explore the data on the website in more detail. Most tables have the feature of instant calculation of percentages by row and/or column, sorting by column, and can be downloaded as Excel files. These tools allow one to make fairly detailed analyses of the data.

The data posted on the website is a small fraction of the database's available information. At the request of several credit unions, detailed reports on Ukrainians in several metropolitan areas have also been prepared. These were reports with specific objectives of interest to the client.

The scope of the available data allows one to prepare detailed profiles of a metropolitan area covering a wide variety of variables, from demographics to education, income, occupation, marital status, family composition, language spoken at home, home ownership, housing characteristics, spatial distribution by state and metropolitan areas, military service, etc. Readers should contact this author if they would like more information about a detailed profile of a given city. The author can be reached by email at olehw@aol.com.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

Discord messaging platform, citing violations of Russian law. The announcement was first reported by the state-run TASS news agency, which quoted Roskomnadzor. According to Roskomnadzor, Discord had been involved in distributing content that violates Russian legislation, with almost 1,000 “illegal materials” found on the platform. The service had already been fined 3.5 million rubles (\$36,270) in mid-September for alleged similar violations. Anton Nemkin, a member of the parliamentary Committee on Information Policy, told another Russian state news agency, RIA Novosti, that the move should be seen as a “signal to other foreign IT companies that [our] patience and willingness to negotiate are running out.” Users of Discord had already begun reporting issues with the platform in September, with both the web version and the app experiencing service disruptions. Despite these failures, users were still able to access the service via VPNs. Originally developed for gamers, Discord has become a widely used platform for communities and interest groups. However, its increasing popularity has placed it under the scrutiny of Russian authorities. On October 1, the Federal Security Service (FSB) reported the arrest of 39 individuals described as “pro-Ukrainian radicals” who allegedly used Discord to incite violence among teenagers. The move to block Discord comes amid a broader trend of the Russian government intensifying its control over technology platforms as part of its efforts to control online information flows and enforce laws on content it does not want to be accessed by the public. The pattern of blocking and fines imposed on other tech platforms in Russia in recent years, such as Facebook, X (formerly

Twitter), Telegram and others has shown that any service that refuses to comply with the Russian government’s demands for data access, information control or censorship is at risk of being targeted. (RFE/RL’s Siberia.Realities, with reporting by RIA Novosti and TASS)

Russia sentences ex-U.S. Marine to 14 years

Former U.S. Marine Trevor Reed has been sentenced in absentia by a Russian court to 14 1/2 years in prison, on charges he joined the Ukrainian Army as a mercenary. The Russian Investigative Committee said on October 9 that Mr. Reed enlisted with Ukrainian forces in May 2023 and participated in combat operations in the Donetsk region. Mr. Reed’s participation in the war – it was reported by some media outlets that he joined the Ukrainian military as a foreign fighter in November 2022 – became public in July 2023 when he was injured by a mine explosion while fighting for Ukraine. The U.S. State Department said at that time that he had been transferred to Germany for medical care after being injured. Mr. Reed vaulted into the news in 2020 when he was sentenced to nine years in a Russian prison for allegedly assaulting Russian police officers after a traffic stop, a charge he denied. In April 2022, Mr. Reed, who by then had served nearly three years in a Russian prison, was exchanged for Russian pilot Konstantin Yaroshenko, who had been serving a 20-year sentence in the United States for drug trafficking. Mr. Reed’s conviction in absentia comes days after two other Americans were convicted and sentenced by Russian courts, fueling concerns over the political motivations behind their detentions amid heightened tensions between Moscow and Washington. Stephen Hubbard, 72, was sentenced by the Moscow City Court on October 7 to six years and 10 months in prison on charges of being a mercenary and fighting against Russia in Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Robert Gilman, a 30-year-old former U.S. Marine, was sentenced to seven years and one month in prison for assaulting a prison official and a state investigator. Mr. Gilman, already serving a 3 1/2-year sentence for attacking a police officer in 2022 while intoxicated, allegedly committed the assaults in late 2023 while in custody. Both cases follow a pattern of high-profile arrests and detentions of Americans in Russia, which many analysts view as part of Moscow’s broader strategy to exert pressure on Washington. The detentions are increasingly being seen as politically motivated, with the potential for these individuals to become bargaining chips in future prisoner swaps. This comes in the wake of an exchange in August in which three U.S. citizens were released – RFE/RL’s journalist Alsu Kurmasheva, Wall Street Journal reporter Evan Gershkovich and former U.S. Marine Paul Whelan – in exchange for Russian prisoners serving sentences in the United States and Europe. The timing of the sentences coincides with a period of strained U.S.-Russia relations, exacerbated

by Russia’s ongoing war on Ukraine and Western sanctions aimed at weakening Moscow’s position. (RFE/RL’s Russian Service)

Russian military court jails Ukrainian woman

A Russian military court has sentenced Ukrainian Iryna Navalna, 26, to eight years in prison on charges of attempting to commit a terrorist attack and illegal possession of weapons, independent media outlet Mediazona reported on October 7. Her lawyer, Ivan Bondarenko, told the Rostov-on-Don court that a witness had denied seeing Ms. Navalna commit any crime. Ms. Navalna denied wrongdoing and claimed she had been tortured in custody. Her mother said the woman was mocked and harassed because of her last name, although she has no relation to late activist Alexei Navalny or his widow, Yulia Navalnaya. Russian authorities have cracked down on any dissent since the 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine, often using questionable charges. (RFE/RL’s Current Time)

Graphic novel...

(Continued from page 12)

began to appeal to me. [...] They took on the appearance of something drawn quickly and surreptitiously, then smuggled out of the Soviet Union. Talk of famine in Soviet Ukraine and other parts of the Soviet countryside was forbidden at the time. The sketchiness of the artwork was appropriate.”

The book was featured in Publisher’s Weekly among the Top 10 Fall Adult Comics and Graphic Novels. Reviewers noted, “In loose unpretentious lines, [Mr.] Cherkas draws vivid characters who radiate personality, and his scenes of rural Ukrainian life, traditions, food and culture are well-researched and composed with

affection. [Mr.] Cherkas brilliantly encompasses the scope of a genocide in an emotionally gripping human story.”

Mr. Cherkas was born and raised in Oshawa, Ontario, and lives in Toronto. He studied at Sheridan College in Oakville, Ontario, and the Ontario College of Art in Toronto and has worked as a graphic designer for many years. He is the co-creator and illustrator of the graphic novels “The Silent Invasion” (1988), “The New Frontier” (1992) and “Suburban Nightmares” (1996).

“Red Harvest” is published by NBM (Nantier, Beall and Minoustchine) Graphic Novels in New York, and can be purchased at booksellers and online retailers. Additional information is available on the publisher’s website, www.nbmpub.com.

Ukrainian military...

(Continued from page 1)

the target and secondary explosions were observed at the site.

The destruction of the Shahed storage base “will significantly reduce the ability of the Russian occupiers to terrorize peaceful residents of Ukrainian cities and villages,” the General Staff said.

There have been no reports on the attack in Russian media.

Ukraine’s deputy prime minister for the reconstruction of the country, Oleksiy Kuleba, said on Telegram that the deadly strike on Odesa hit port infrastructure. He said five people, all citizens of Ukraine, were killed and another nine were injured, but regional Gov. Oleh Kiper said six people were killed.

According to Mr. Kuleba, a Panamanian-flagged container ship, the Shui Spirit, was damaged in the attack. He added that five of the nine people injured in the attack were in serious condition.

Earlier on October 9, Ukrainian forces struck a Russian military arsenal in the southwestern Bryansk region.

The strike “inflicted fire damage” on the 67th arsenal of the Main Missile and Artillery Directorate of the Russian Defense Ministry located in the Bryansk region.

Ammunition for missile and artillery weapons, including some that came from North Korea, as well as guided aerial bombs, were stored on the territory of a warehouse. A significant portion of the weapons were in the open air, the General Staff said.

According to the General Staff, explosions were recorded at the facility and local

authorities blocked the road in the area of the arsenal.

Also on October 9, Ukrainian air defense systems shot down 21 out of the 22 drones launched by Russia early in the day at the Odesa, Vinnytsia and Kyiv regions, the air force said, adding that three Iskander ballistic missiles had been launched at the Poltava region.

Separately, authorities in the Kyiv region said several drones that were heading toward the capital had been downed.

Meanwhile, Russia’s Defense Ministry said its air-defense units destroyed 47 Ukrainian drones targeting its regions.

Some 24 drones were downed over the Bryansk region while the others were shot down over the regions of Belgorod, Kursk, Rostov, Krasnodar and the Sea of Azov, the ministry said on Telegram.

Meanwhile, A Russian strike on an industrial plant in Ukraine’s second-largest city, Kharkiv, killed at least two people and injured more than 30, local officials reported on October 8, as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s (NATO) new chief warned that Ukraine could be facing its roughest winter since Moscow launched its full-scale invasion in February 2022.

“NATO must and will do more to help Ukraine,” Mark Rutte told a Brussels news conference on October 8 with Finnish President Alexander Stubb, the head of state of the alliance’s newest member.

“The more military support we give, the faster this war will end,” Mr. Rutte said.

Ukraine “could be facing its toughest winter” since hostilities began, Mr. Rutte added.

Mr. Rutte said he intended to press for additional military aid for Ukraine at the

October 12 Defense Contact Group meeting in Ramstein, Germany, but that meeting has since been cancelled.

Mr. Rutte, a former Dutch prime minister, replaced Jens Stoltenberg of Norway on October 1 as secretary-general of the Western military alliance. Ukraine is not a member of NATO, but most of the organization’s members have supported Kyiv in its fight against Russian aggression.

Meanwhile, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Ukrainian forces were maintaining pressure on Russian troops in Russia’s Kursk region, the site of Kyiv’s surprise military incursion in August.

Ukrainian forces reportedly captured around 500 square miles of Russian territory in the Kursk region. Though the pace of the incursion has slowed, Mr. Zelenskyy said it had “greatly helped” Kyiv to secure the latest military support packages from the West.

“Fighting is now going on in Kursk region for a third month, and we are maintaining the necessary pressure on Russia in this sector,” Mr. Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address.

Moscow on October 8 continued its relentless attacks on Ukrainian infrastructure and civilian targets.

Kharkiv Mayor Ihor Terekhov said on his Telegram channel that the search was continuing for people who may have remained under the rubble.

Russian military bloggers said the attack was carried out by an Iskander missile, while Ukrainian officials said the city was targeted by several strikes.

The Ukrainian Air Force said Russia used two Iskander missiles and 19 drones in an attack on the southern Odesa region, but its

air defense systems shot down 18 of the Russian drones early on October 8.

In the southern Kherson region, one person was killed in an attack on the city of Antonivka, regional Gov. Oleksandr Prokudin reported on October 8.

Meanwhile, Russia’s Defense Ministry said its air defense systems repelled a Ukrainian drone attack early on October 8, shooting down 16 unmanned aerial vehicles.

Fourteen of the drones were shot down over the territory of the Belgorod region bordering Ukraine, and two other drones were destroyed off Russia’s Black Sea coast, the ministry said in a message on Telegram.

However, Belgorod Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov said on Telegram that Ukraine attacked nine districts in his region with 45 drones, wounding two people.

On October 7, Ukrainian drones reportedly struck a fuel depot in Feodosia, the largest such facility in occupied Crimea, triggering a huge fire.

The head of the Moscow-installed Feodosia administration, Igor Tkachenko, said that the fire was still burning on October 8, with social media pictures showing thick plumes of black smoke rising in the air.

Tkachenko said a total of 1,047 civilians had been evacuated from Feodosia due to the blaze.

(With reporting by dpa, Reuters and AFP)

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Ukrainian pro sports update

by Ihor N. Stelmach

Ukraine earns third place finish at Futsal World Cup

Ihor Cherniavskiy scored for Ukraine in the 18th minute, but Dyego's two goals and an own-goal by Rostyslav Semchenko allowed Brazil to come from behind and defeat Ukraine 3-2 in a FIFA Futsal World Cup semi-final match on October 2. Brazil came close to scoring three other times early on, and it had a goal disallowed. Ihor Korsun scored in 29th minute to level the match, but Dyego finished off a set piece after Felipe Valerio was fouled and the Brazilian side never let go of their lead.

Team Ukraine then rebounded nicely from their semifinal setback by trouncing France 7-1 in the match for third place, earning the Ukrainian team a bronze medal. Danyil Abakshyn's late hat-trick clinched Ukraine's triumphant outcome and the country's best-ever finish at a FIFA Futsal World Cup. Their previous best was a fourth-place finish at Hong Kong in 1992.

Cherniavskiy (11th minute) and Mykhailo Zvarych (22nd) gave Ukraine a 2-0 lead that the team built on with Abakshyn's tally coming late once France pulled their goalkeeper after falling behind 4-1.

Starodubtseva cracks WTA's top 100

Yuliia Starodubtseva enjoyed a breakthrough run at the 2024 China Open in Beijing, where she reached her first-ever Women's Tennis Association (WTA) 1,000 quarterfinal. Her run included a 7-5, 6-0 victory over No. 14 ranked and 10th-seeded Anna Kalinskaya, her first top 20 win. Starodubtseva became only the seventh player since 2009 to make the final eight in her first WTA 1,000 main draw, joining a list that includes major champions Jelena Ostapenko and Elena Rybakina.

The win also guaranteed Starodubtseva (ranked No. 113 at the China Open) a top 100 debut heading into the first full week of October, only 16 months after entering the WTA rankings for the first time.

After the U.S. Open, Starodubtseva won 13 Grand Slam matches in 2024 and only 16 combined matches during all of her other tournaments. Her coach joked that she only plays her best tennis when "big money" is on the line.

This all changed at the Jasmin Open Tunisia in September when Starodubtseva battled through suspenseful moments to reach her first WTA quarterfinal. She said it sharpened her mentally and contributed to

her surge in Beijing. She now feels mentally tougher, more positive and more relaxed.

Starodubtseva explained that she needed to spend time with herself and answer her own questions instead of looking for answers from others. She realized that she was putting too much pressure on herself after a reasonably successful first year on the tour. This year, playing against better opponents, she was not getting enough positive results and had to reconsider her approach to the sport. Now, she tries to just play and enjoy her time on the court.

The Ukrainian tennis player has also been strengthened mentally by lots of support she received from other Ukrainian women on the WTA Tour, especially veteran Lesia Tsurenko who has gone out of her way to spend time with Starodubtseva, sharing encouraging thoughts and trials and tribulations of professional tennis life.

Her quarterfinal match in Beijing was against No. 4 seed Coco Gauff, arguably the biggest match of her young career. She went into it trying to block out her opponent's name and the momentous occasion. Starodubtseva tried not to give too much respect to her opponent, which she has done previously as a new player on the tour. Thinking of Gauff as a regular opponent worked for a while when she won the first set 6-2. Unfortunately, her China Open run came to an end when Gauff rebounded to win the final two sets, 6-2, 6-2.

Dynamo Kyiv loses 0-2 in Europa League

In their second UEFA Europa League group match, TSG Hoffenheim blanked Dynamo Kyiv 2-0 on October 3 at Rhein-Neckar Arena in Sinsheim, Germany. Czech forward Adam Hlozek scored both goals for the home side. The 22-year-old from Bayer Leverkusen netted goals in the 22nd and 59th minutes.

Hoffenheim put pressure on the visiting Ukrainians from the outset, generating promising offensive thrusts early on. Dynamo's Volodymyr Brazhko tested Hoffenheim goalkeeper Oliver Baumann from distance only to have Baumann deflect his effort over the bar in the 11th minute. Dynamo's defense appeared to be a bit disorganized and Andrej Kramaric's attempt almost made it 2-0 after Hlozek's first goal if not for a solid save by Dynamo goalie Heorhiy Bushchan.

Hlozek tallied his second 14 minutes into the second half and nearly added a third only to have his shot blocked. Dynamo was outshot 19-8 in the match. The Ukrainian team has not scored in its first two matches of Europa League play.

Dynamo's next match is against Roma on October 24 at Stadio Olimpico in Rome.

NBU issues Usyk commemorative coin

On October 1, the National Bank of Ukraine issued a commemorative coin that it called "Absolute" dedicated to Oleksandr Usyk's victory over Tyson Fury, which made the Ukrainian the undisputed heavyweight boxing champion of the world.

One side of the coin features a traditional Crimean Tatar ornament on a mirror background. The symbol was placed on the coin to honor Usyk's Crimean roots and the inseparable connection between Crimea and Ukraine. The other side of the coin shows a stylized image of a champion athlete against the background of the Motherland Monument in Kyiv, which is now a symbol of the indestructibility and strength of the Ukrainian people. Below, to



Team Ukraine celebrates its 7-1 win against France in the third-place match of the Futsal World Cup on October 6 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

the left and right of the champion's silhouette are the following inscriptions: "18.05.2024" (the date of the championship unification fight), "ABSOLUTE" and "UNDISPUTED."

The coin was placed into circulation on October 1 and has a value of 5 hryvnia. It is made of nickel silver and has a mintage of 50,000 pieces. The coin is available for purchase at the NBU's online numismatic shop and at distributor banks.

It was designed by Oleksandra Kuchynska and sculpted by Volodymyr Atamanchuk and Volodymyr Demianenko.

In a speech during the presentation of the coin, Usyk emphasized that it "symbolizes all the athletes who are fighting for medals" for Ukraine and those who are defending the country. He added that victories by Ukrainian athletes are "a reminder to the world that Ukrainians are fighting for their lives, for their families."

Ukraine outraged by Samaranch's statement

The Ukrainian sports community, led by Sports Minister Matviy Bidnyi, expressed outrage with the statement made by International Olympic Committee (IOC) Vice President Juan Antonio Samaranch, Jr., that Russia could be readmitted to international competitions if the country starts following the rules of the Olympic Charter. Speaking publicly during the last week of September, Samaranch reaffirmed that Russia was in a "clear and flagrant breach of the Olympic Charter," but added: "The minute the reasons for suspension and non-recognition disappear, we have the obligation to start working very hard to bring them back."

Expressing his disbelief at hearing the statement, Bidnyi reacted with surprise and indignation, inviting Samaranch to Ukraine to "see the destroyed sports facilities" and talk to "athletes whose parents and relatives were killed as a result of Russian armed aggression."

Bidnyi released a joint statement with Foreign Affairs Minister Andriy Sybiha saying that taking such a position was "incompatible with aspiring to lead the IOC."

Samaranch's father was IOC president from 1980-2001 and he is one of seven candidates vying to succeed current IOC head Thomas Bach.

Bidnyi and Sybiha added that suggestions of a potential return of Russian athletes to international sports are unacceptable and outrageous.

Samaranch explained that Russia breached the Olympic Charter "by taking over responsibilities of a fellow national Olympic committee in certain territories" –

referring to Russia occupying and claiming to have annexed parts of eastern and southern Ukraine. The IOC suspended the Russian Olympic Committee after it placed several sports organizations from occupied Ukrainian regions under its authority.

Bidnyi suggested that the head of the IOC should follow the principles of justice, peace and international law and noted that Russia uses sports as a tool of propaganda and to promote its interests.

Ukraine wants Russian sports federations suspended

On October 2, Ukraine's Ministry of Youth and Sports called on international sports organizations to suspend the memberships of Russian sports federations. In its official statement, Ukraine's Ministry of Youth and Sport noted the need "to extend sanctions against Russia, including the suspension of membership in international sports federations."

Ukrainian sports federations have appealed to volleyball, table tennis, equestrian sports, taekwondo, judo, figure skating and cycling international federations and asked them to suspend Russia from international organizations.

Ukrainian sports officials emphasized that Russian federations have deployed their representative offices in temporarily occupied regions of Ukraine, which they deemed a major violation of the country's territorial integrity.

Additionally, the Cycling Federation of Ukraine filed a complaint against the Russian Cycling Federation for holding competitions in the temporarily occupied territory of Crimea.

The Ukrainian sports community reiterated that the IOC suspended the Russian Olympic Committee's (ROC) membership because the ROC created representative offices in the temporarily occupied Ukrainian territories of Zaporizhia, Kherson, Luhansk and Donetsk, which are under the jurisdiction of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine.

Ukrainian wrestlers excel at Valamar Cup

The Valamar Cup international wrestling tournament, featuring competitions in Greco-Roman and women's wrestling events, was held in Porec, Croatia, on September 28 with 19 national teams participating. Ukraine sent a total of 33 wrestlers, including 18 men and 15 women.

The Ukrainian women finished first out of 11 teams with a total of 210 points. The team's seven gold medals were won by Natalia Klevchutska (53 kilograms),

(Continued on page 17)



On October 1, the National Bank of Ukraine issued a commemorative coin celebrating Ukrainian undisputed heavyweight boxing champion Oleksandr Usyk.



Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor N. Stelmach

50 Ukrainians played in Canadian hockey's junior ranks in 2023-2024

The future is bright for Ukrainians playing professional hockey in North America as the pipelines to the National Hockey League (NHL) remain filled with potential prospects thriving through the junior ranks. The 2023-2024 season saw some 50 aspiring players of Ukrainian descent active in Canada's three major junior leagues. The Western Hockey League (WHL) again led the way with 40 Ukrainians, followed by a distant eight in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL) and a mere two in the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

The positional breakdown among Ukrainian juniors was 30 forwards, 15 defensemen and five goaltenders. Seattle at one time had five Ukrainians on their roster, finishing the season with three after trading two away. Calgary, Victoria, Everett and Regina each had three Ukrainian players contributing to the cause in 2023-2024. In the OHL, there was a pair of Ukrainians in both North Bay (a third was traded) and Niagara. Interestingly enough, there were four Ukrainians with the first name Carter in the junior ranks: Yakemchuk (Calgary), Dereniwsky (Lethbridge), Kowalyk (Edmonton-Kelowna) and Kostuch (North Bay-Sarnia).

Below is a quick recap of three of the most memorable Ukrainian junior performances from the past season.

Uchacz hopes for a future in hockey

Kai Uchacz grew and matured a great deal during his nearly three years spent as a Red Deer Rebel after being acquired from the Seattle Thunderbirds in July 2021. The team's captain, two-time MVP and Humanitarian Award winner for the third straight season, Uchacz was extremely grateful for the opportunities the organization provided him. He developed his character traits, which included a number of important leadership qualities. He also developed a solid reputation in the local

community, spending many hours talking with children and visiting schools as a role model and mentor.

The Ukrainian became a fan favorite after he registered 50 goals and 35 assists in the 2022-2023 season, only to add another 42 goals and 81 points this past year.

The 20-year-old from DeWinton, Alberta, received a late training camp invitation from the NHL's Vegas Golden Knights for the 2024-2025 season. He was involved in a racist incident that took place during the 2020-2021 WHL season involving a banana and racial slur directed at a black teammate of his while with Seattle as a 17-year-old player. His behavior led to a year-long suspension, mandatory diversity training and a trade to Red Deer. His intention of joking around provided him with a serious life lesson, one from which he learned a lot and continues to learn every day.

Despite his offensive production, overall excellent performance and leadership in Red Deer, the now 20-year-old has not been drafted by an NHL club over the past three years. He hopes for a chance to further prove himself with the Vegas franchise.

Lisowsky has future with Toronto

Brandon Lisowsky's fourth and final season with the WHL's Saskatoon Blades saw him score 42 goals and 80 points in 68 games, improving upon his 2022-2023 campaign of 38 goals, 33 assists and 71 points in 65 contests. Those numbers made for two superlative seasons. For a parent club such as the Toronto Maple Leafs, who lack premium prospects, having a seventh-round draft pick who generates those numbers make it clear that he deserves an entry-level contract. That Lisowsky put together two consecutive 30-plus goal seasons shows that this young Ukrainian is a consistent goal-scoring threat.



Canadian Hockey League

Left winger Brandon Lisowsky, who was picked in the seventh round, is a top prospect for the Toronto Maple Leafs following four seasons with the Western Hockey League's Saskatoon Blades.

This past season saw Lisowsky skating alongside fellow Maple Leafs prospect Fraser Minten, a plus for him as the Ukrainian works to develop familiarity with a potential future pro teammate and a center who is capable of getting the best out of him.

Granted, the 5-foot-9 winger seems to be a one-dimensional shooter, and coming into the pro game with the usual junior league deficiencies will not help his cause. As a 20-year-old, he will also notice a significant difference playing against older professional veterans as opposed to 16- to 19-year-olds that he previously faced.

All things considered, the parent Maple Leafs have room on their roster for several additional prospective NHLers and their American Hockey League (AHL) affiliate Marlies need offensive punch. Lisowsky should at least earn an AHL contract if not an entry level deal with Toronto.

Victoria Royals cash in on Pasternak deal

Overage forward Dawson Pasternak was not playing, as he was out with a bad back last October, and the Brandon Wheat Kings traded him to the Victoria Royals for a conditional draft pick. The deal turned out to be a steal for the Royals, who had not qualified for the WHL playoffs since 2019.

Pasternak spearheaded a franchise revival in Victoria, leading his team in scoring while helping a young squad navigate an early season coaching change. New coach James Patrick (who is Ukrainian on his father's side) was thrilled with his new player's work ethic and competitive drive, and that he served as an excellent role model for the club's young players.

Pasternak tallied 27 goals and 72 points in 62 regular season contests. He added four points (one goal) in Victoria's first round playoff loss to Portland.

He was traded twice in less than nine months, having been dealt from Portland to Brandon, where he didn't get along with the team's coaches. He loved the fresh opportunity in Victoria and the hard-working style his coach implemented with the Royals.

For his part, Patrick appreciated the leadership skills Pasternak provided, leading by example with his compete level, even playing through several injuries.

The 21-year-old Ukrainian's junior eligibility is over and he's looking forward to a future opportunity in the game. Pasternak is undrafted and could turn pro or join a Canadian university program, perhaps making use of his connection to University of Manitoba coach Gord Burnett, and an off-season medical issue with his back should now be resolved.

(Based on reporting by rdnewsNOW, Leafs Nationa and the Winnipeg Free Press.)

Ukrainian pro...

(Continued from page 16)

Oleksandra Khomenets (55 kilograms), Alina Filipovych (57 kilograms), Solomiya Vynnyk (59 kilograms), Iryna Bondar (62 kilograms), Sofia Kushnir (65 kilograms) and Anastasia Alpeeva (72 kilograms). Ukrainian women also won three silver and three bronze medals.

Ukraine's Greco-Roman wrestlers finished second out of 14 nations with 147 points, only four points behind first-place Georgia, which won three gold medals. Gold medalists were Koryun Sagradyan (55 kilograms), Vladlen Kozliuk (97 kilograms) and Vladyslav Kovalenko (130 kilograms). The men also captured one silver and four bronze medals.

Atalanta defeats Shakhtar Donetsk 3-0

Atalanta secured a masterful performance in a UEFA Champions League match against Shakhtar Donetsk on October 2 in Gelsenkirchen, Germany. The Italian club showcased their offensive attack and could have easily won by a wider margin.

Atalanta dominated the match from start to finish. Both clubs entered the game following goalless draws in their opening fixtures. Berat Djimsiti converted from close range and Ademola Lookman added a well-placed finish just before halftime. Atalanta barely missed tallying three more



Ukraine's wrestling medalists, team coaches and family members are seen at the Valamar Cup in Porec, Croatia, on September 28. The Ukrainian team won 10 gold, four silver and seven bronze medals at the competition, which included women's and men's Greco-Roman divisions.

times in the first half.

Raoul Bellanova scored the third goal soon after the restart when he connected on a cross from Davide Zappacosta to seal the victory.

Shakhtar came close on Yukhym Konoplia's attempt, but the team was unable to burst through Atalanta's defense.

Shakhtar next plays Arsenal in an away match on October 22. Shakhtar is 0-2 and has not yet scored a goal in Champions League play.

Pinzgauer ambulance delivered to Ukraine

A press report on September 30 noted

that the Pinzgauer armored ambulance funded by the Motorsport U.K. community was delivered to Ukraine after a successful fundraising campaign. The fundraising started in 2022 in partnership with the Federation Automobile d'Ukraine (FAU), which sought to raise \$80,235 to purchase the ambulance and needed supplies.

The Northern Ireland motorsport community and British Motorsport Trust provided donations and support, joining donors such as BIRDA Rally Series, the Association of Motorsport Recovery Operators and others.

Most of the donations came through a GoFundMe campaign. Motorsport U.K.

community members also provided contributions to ensure the goal was met. Among the donors was license holder and Hillclimb competitor Christopher Wigdor.

License holder and Rallycross competitor Fynn Watt, a supporter of initiatives to get vehicles and medical supplies to Ukraine, directed his passion for motorsports into a life-saving mission. In 2022, he founded "Driving Ukraine," an enterprise that delivers vehicles and essential supplies to Ukrainian frontline medical teams. In 2024, the charity transported 50 vehicles and organized 15 convoys to the war-torn country.

Watt engaged and committed himself to the cause only two weeks after Russia invaded Ukraine, when he drove the first of many vans of supplies to the country.

What began as a single mission has blossomed into the delivery of some 132 casualty-evacuation vehicles and over \$1,070,420 in assistance. Watt said his group sends five to six vehicles to Ukraine every month, along with generators, solar chargers and trauma medical aid kits. He credits Motorsport U.K. and the British motorsport community for helping turn his initiative into a vital lifeline for Ukraine.

(Based on reporting by UEFA, WTA.Tour, Footboom, UNN, Firstpost, Interfax Ukraine, Foot Italia and Motorsport U.K.)

Ihor Stelmach may be reached at ihorgenia@sbcglobal.net.

THIS PAID ADVERTISEMENT DOES NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE VIEWS AND POSITION OF THIS PUBLICATION

“Ukraine is obliterated. Many Russian soldiers are dead. I watched this poor guy (President Zelenskyy) yesterday at the United Nations. He didn't know what he was saying. He doesn't know what to do. Ukraine is gone. It's not Ukraine anymore. Any deal, even the worst deal, would have been better.”

DONALD TRUMP

North Carolina rally, September 25, 2024

“*Trump is a friend to our enemies and a danger to our allies.*”

DR. ALEXANDER VINDMAN, U.S. ARMY LT. COL. (RETIRED)

Director, European Affairs, National Security Council, 2018-2020

(during Trump Administration)

September 30, 2024

“*In terms of American support for Ukraine, if Trump wins, I think it's toast.*”

JOHN BOLTON

Former Trump National Security Advisor

The Hill, September 28, 2024

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OUT & ABOUT

October 14 Red Bank, NJ	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, Hackensack Meridian Health Theater at the Count Basie Center, www.ticketmaster.com	October 20 Elkins Park, PA	Book presentation by Adrian Karatnycky, "Battleground Ukraine: From Independence to the War with Russia.," Shevchenko Scientific Society, St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, https://stsophia.us
October 15-16 New York	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, New York City Center, www.nycitycenter.org	October 21 Jacksonville, FL	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts - Moran Theater, www.ticketmaster.com
October 16 Cambridge, MA	Presentation by Oleksii Reznikov, "A Negotiated Peace Between Ukraine and Russia: A Realistic Prospect or a Dangerous Delusion?"Harvard University, https://huri.harvard.edu	October 21 New York	Discussion, "An Evening with Gen. David Petraeus," Ukrainian Institute of America, www.ukrainianinstitute.org
October 17 New York	Presentation by Ostap Slyvynsky, "A Ukrainian Dictionary of War," Columbia University, https://harriman.columbia.edu	October 22 New York	Concert, "A Musical Celebration of Lithuanian-Ukrainian Unity," featuring Musica Humana, Ukrainian Institute of America, www.ukrainianinstitute.org
October 18 Stanford, CA	Presentation by Joshua Yaffa, "Europe's Forever War," Stanford University, https://events.stanford.edu/event/europes-forever-war	October 22 New York	Presentation by Yuliia Iliukha, "My Women," Columbia University, https://harriman.columbia.edu
October 19 Jenkintown, PA	Oktober Fest, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, www.ueccphila.org	October 22 Stanford, CA	Presentation by Ambassador Audra Plepyte, "Whatever Victory Takes: Lithuanian Perspective on Russia's War Against Ukraine and Transatlantic Security," Stanford University, https://events.stanford.edu/event/whatever-victory-takes
October 19 Charlotte, NC	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, https://tix.carolinatix.org	October 23 Cambridge, MA	Presentation by Nataliya Shpylova-Saeed, "Russia's Denial of Ukraine: Letters and Contested Memory," Harvard University, https://huri.harvard.edu
October 19 New York	Annual gala, "Celebrating Ukrainian Innovation," Ukrainian Institute of America, www.ukrainianinstitute.org	October 24 New York	Literary event, "European Literature Night 2024," Ukrainian Institute of America, www.ukrainianinstitute.org
October 19 Whippany, NJ	Anniversary gala, "Cheers to 100 Years," Ukrainian Athletic Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, sitch100yeargala@gmail.com or 216-390-0404	October 24 Tampa, FL	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, Straz Center, www.strazcenter.org
October 19 Emlenton, PA	Presentation by Tetiana Mialkovska, "Warm Hands Art Therapy," Ukrainian Cultural and Humanitarian Institute, All Saints Camp, 412-327-8111 or uchi.us@gmail.com	October 24 Cambridge, MA	Book talk with Ostap Slyvynsky, "The Winter King," Harvard University, https://huri.harvard.edu
October 20 Atlanta, GA	Performance, "Hope of Ukraine," National Ballet of Ukraine, with Ukrainian Shumka Dancers, Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center, www.ticketmaster.com	<p><i>Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please send e-mail to mdubas@ukrweekly.com.</i></p>	



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